

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CURAÇAO

## ISC WEEKLY

## NEWSLETTER



International  
School of  
Curaçao

**Dates to remember:**

November 20, 21:  
School Play *Into The Woods*

November 25:  
Elementary Holiday  
Concert (K3-3rd), Early  
Dismissal

November 26, 27:  
Thanksgiving Break,  
No School

December 4:  
Sinterklaas

December 7: Online  
progress reports

December 9-18: High  
School Midterm Exams

**From The Director**

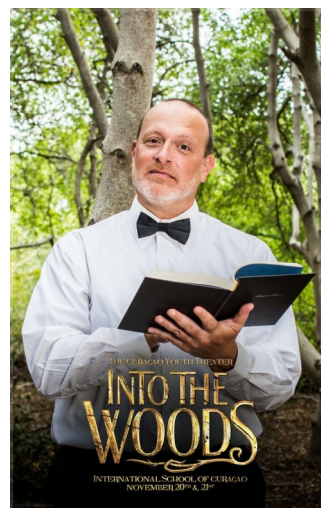
Dear ISC Community,

The *Into the Woods* cast, crew, and musicians have been practicing countless hours over the past 3+ months in preparation for this week-end's performances. In addition to the near 50 people directly involved, the play has also received a good show of support from parents, staff members, and local businesses through various contributions to help ensure the production is a success. More importantly, all who have helped, believe in giving students the opportunity to be part of something they have a passion for and excel in.

Come and share in their success. Besides having the opportunity to watch a live musical performance on stage, proceeds from ticket sales go directly back into the program to help cover production costs and ensure that the Curaçao Youth Theater continues year after year.

See you at the play!

Douglas Vaughan  
Director



***Our Vision: An  
international  
education  
today for the  
global citizens  
of tomorrow.***

**Inside this issue:**

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***Our Mission: ISC educates students from diverse cultures to have the skills to think creatively, communicate effectively, reason critically, and act compassionately.***

## Staff Spotlight: Mr. Ulises Franco

Mr. Franco joined the ISC family in August 2012 and has been both Spanish language teacher and Coordinator of ISC Language Institute from the time he arrived in Curaçao. He has been in the field of language teaching for more than 20 years in different countries, such as Venezuela, France, Jamaica and the U.S.A. Also, he has occupied different teaching and administrative positions at the elementary, middle, high school and university levels. Mr. Franco is passionate about language teaching and pedagogy, world literature, translation, gender studies and cinema. Along with IB Spanish literature and language courses, he also teaches the elective Film Studies in our school. And, as a way of expanding our language offer, ISC will offer *French ab initio* next school year, which will also be taught by Mr. Franco. He enjoys working at ISC because of its multicultural environment and acceptance of diversity. He finds ISC students to have a positive attitude and that motivates him to maintain a good rapport with all his classes. He always expects his students to give their best in their studies and invest in their own future by dedicating quality time to their different subjects. He is always available to help them during his consultations hours and is eager to see them succeed in their endeavors. He likes traveling, reading, listening to all sorts of music genres and going to the movies.



## High School News: The Creation of CURMUN

In July Robin de Zeeuw and myself (Aniek van Kersen) sat down and discussed our passion for Model United Nations (a student representation of the United Nations) and how much it has inspired us to perceive the world with such open-mindedness. Knowing only ISC offered MUN as a class wasn't enough for us; we wanted to share this experience with the rest of the island too. This was the creation of the local club, CURMUN.

CURMUN currently consists of ten enthusiastic students coming from schools including: Radulphus, Verspucci, and KAP. Meeting every Wednesday from 6 – 8 pm, we independently seek to teach students proper THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations) procedure and share different worldviews on issues. In the last month we have debated issues such as Drone Warfare, the Maldives, and The Recruitment of Young Terrorists. Furthermore, we have formally visited the Parliament of Curaçao and held an exclusive interview and mock debate with Alex Rosaria regarding the island of Diego Garcia.

With the intent to teach themes of respect, peace, and justice towards the political world, we show students different perspectives of global issues and encourage them to find ways to solve it and correspond diplomatically.

Overall this project has been an absolute pleasure to endure and we hope to attract many more students across Curaçao.

Thank you,

Aniek van Kersen  
Robin de Zeeuw  
Class of 2016



Top picture: 12th grade students Robin de Zeeuw (right) and Aniek van Kersen (2nd from right). Right: CURMUN delegation outside of the parliament building.



**TECH CORNER: THE HOUR OF CODE IS COMING****HOUR  
OF  
CODE**

We live in a world surrounded by technology. And we know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works. But only a tiny fraction of us are learning computer science, and less students are studying it than a decade ago.

That's why the IT class (grades 9 and 10) will join one of the largest education events in history: The Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week (Dec. 7-13).

Last year, more than 15 million students tried computer science in one week. Again this year, we're joining students worldwide to reach 100 million students!

Our Hour of Code is a statement that ISC is ready to teach these foundational 21st century skills and we will continue bringing programming activities to our students during the year.

For more details, please see <https://hourofcode.com>

-Ms. Angie  
IT Department  
#HourOfCode



**“Every girl deserves  
to take part in  
creating the  
technology that  
will change our  
world, and change  
who runs it.”**

— Malala Yousafzai,  
Nobel Peace Prize winner

**Anybody can learn!**  
Start with an Hour of Code  
<http://code.org>



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# The International School of Curaçao Presents

*A Curaçao Youth  
Theater production of:*

# INTO THE WOODS

Featuring a talented cast of musicians and  
actors from 8 different schools!

November 20 and 21, 2015

ISC Gym Auditorium  
at 7:00 pm

Tickets: Naf. 25

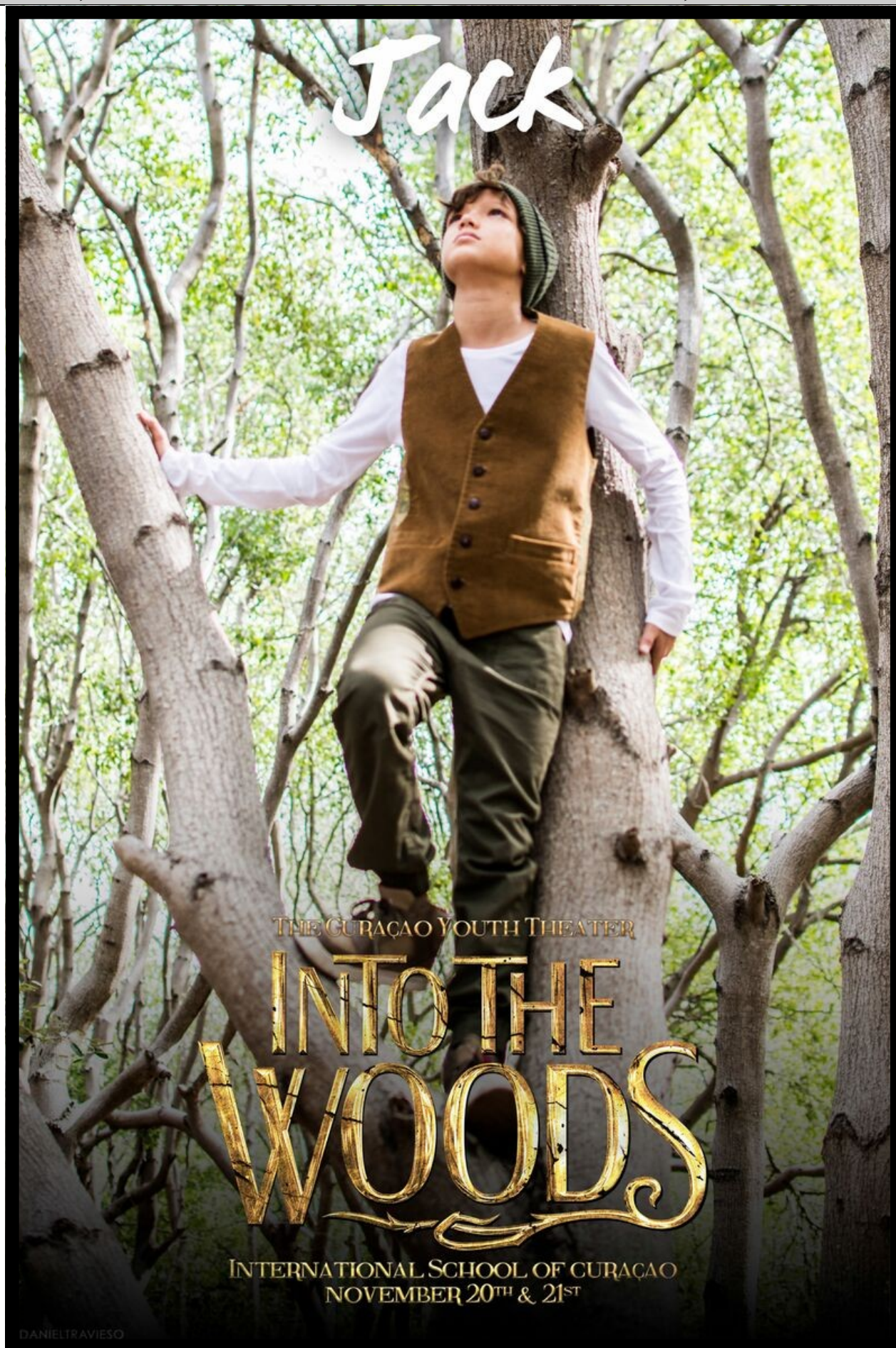
Available at:

ISC Office - Lam Yuen Restaurant

THEA: Candles, Teas, & more - FRO Yiu









## NJHS/NHS Holiday Drive

Dear ISC parents,

Once again it is that time of year when we begin to think of all the things for which we are thankful. As Thanksgiving approaches we know that the holiday season cannot be far off. And the holiday season means the annual Holiday Food Drive is getting underway.

As you may know, NJHS stands for National Junior Honor Society and NHS stands for National Honor Society. The Kayena Chapter at the International School of Curaçao was founded in 1988. The purpose of this chapter is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to set an example for leadership, and to encourage the development of character in students of the International School of Curaçao.

Our goal this year is for everyone to donate as much as possible so that each classroom's box can be entirely donated to a family. We will still be collecting the same items we have in the past: canned and non-perishable foods, basic household supplies, and toiletries. Below, please find examples of items that can be donated. Please make sure that the food you donate has not expired!

**The deadline for receiving donations in the classrooms is: Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 2015**

As members of the ISC community we are fortunate to have an abundance of good in our lives. We have good food to eat and good clothes to wear. Let's take this time to share that abundance with those less fortunate.

The NJHS and NHS wish to thank you for all your support and we wish you a very Happy Holiday Season!

**Non-Perishable Foods/ Alimentos no perecederos:**

Canned Fruits- **Frutas enlatados**

Canned Vegetables- **Vegetales enlatados**

Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken, Spam etc.)- **Carnes enlatados**

Canned Soups- **Sopas enlatados**

Fruit juices (in non-breakable containers)- **Jugos de frutas (en recipientes irrompibles)**

Rice- **Arroz**

Pasta- **Pasta**

Coffee- **Café**

Cereals- **Cereales**

Dry or canned beans- **Frijoles secos o enlatados**

Powdered/evaporated milk- **Leche en polvo / evaporada**

Boxes of crackers- **Cajas de galletas**

Boxes of cookies- **Cajas de galletas (dulce)**

Cooking oil (canola, olive, vegetable etc.)- **Aceite de cocina**

**Cleaning Supplies/ Artículos de limpieza:**

Laundry detergent- **Detergente para ropa**

Cleaning supplies- **Artículos de limpieza**

Paper towel- **Toalla de papel**

Dish soap- **Jabón para lavar platos**

**Toiletries and Personal Items/Artículos de tocador y artículos personales:**

Deodorant- **Desodorante**

Body soap- **Jabón de cuerpo**

Shampoo- **Champú**

Conditioner- **Acondicionador**

Toilet paper- **Papel higiénico**

Toothpaste- **Pasta de dientes**

Toothbrushes- **Cepillos de dientes**



**\*We are unable to accept: expired foods, glass jars and baked or used products.\***

## The Festival of Saint Nicholas (Sinterklaas)

Every November/December in the Netherlands, Curaçao and countries around the world, the festival of St. Nicholas is celebrated. It is one of the biggest and most loved festivals of the year in Dutch communities. Some of you might not be familiar with this tradition, so here is a little background information.

### Who is Sinterklaas?

Saint Nicholas lived in the 3rd century AD and was the bishop of Myra (Turkey). He was, and still is, revered as the benefactor and protector of children. He died on December 6th, 343 AD, and ever since, the festival of St. Nicholas has been celebrated on that day.

### What are the traditions?

Sinterklaas and his helpers, the Zwarte Pieten, traditionally travel to Curaçao by steamboat, all the way from Spain where they live in a big castle. When the steamboat arrives in the harbor (this year on November 21st, at about 8:30am), hundreds of children will be welcoming Sinterklaas, singing songs, waving and cheering. There will be a parade, and they will spend time visiting the island, and of course wrapping all the presents for the big day!

Sinterklaas is dressed like a bishop, with a bishop's hat ("mijter"), a red mantle and a golden staff. His big red book is full of information about all the children he will visit. He rides a white horse, named Amerigo, and his helpers, the Zwarte Pieten, entertain everybody with acrobatics, funny jokes and candy.

Traditionally, on St. Nicholas Eve, December 5th, Sinterklaas and the Zwarte Pieten go on the rooftops and deliver the presents through the chimney, and place these in the shoes of the children. Of course, since there are no chimneys on houses in Curaçao, Sint and his Pieten find other ways to come in! Children put out their shoe before they go to bed, sing a Sinterklaas song, and usually leave some hay, water and carrots for the horse.



### What do we eat?



In the stores right now you will find the typical cookies and candies related to this festival: speculaas (spiced cookies), pepernoten or kruidnoten (little round spiced cookies), marsepein (marzipan) in all imaginable colors and shapes, taai-taai (cookie), chocolate letters and all sorts of little candies. Traditionally the Zwarte Pieten will toss handfuls of candy around for the kids to grab.

### Songs

There are a lot of Sinterklaas songs; your children will be learning some at school. At ISC all time favourites are: "Zie ginds komt de stoomboot" (See yonder the steamboat) and "Zwarte Piet ging uit fietsen" (Zwarte Piet went out for a bike ride).

Click on the link below for more information. This is a website in English about the origins and traditions of the Saint Nicholas festival. The link brings you directly to the page about celebrations in the Netherlands, but there is a lot of other information about other countries as well. Enjoy!



<http://www.stnicholascenter.org/Brix?pageID=92>

## ISC is Looking for Marketing Officers!

Dear Parents,

We are looking for bright and savvy parent volunteers to join us in developing ISC's Marketing program. They will work directly with the Director, who is very supportive and willing to let the right candidate run with their ideas and manage their timelines.

To apply, you should be a compelling copywriter, confident in writing in a variety of styles, for a number of audiences. You should also have good design skills, be comfortable with social media and have the ability to oversee projects. Responsibilities include supporting ISC's marketing and PR; planning social media campaigns and generating online and offline campaigns to reach potential students.

We hope you will help create something for I.S.C. that could potentially develop into a future program. If you are interested, please send an email directly to Mr. Vaughan (vaughand@isc.cw) before December 15th.



## ISC JOINS TEENER PARADE!

ISC is happy to be joining the 2016 Teener Parade! Students from grades 7 through 12 are invited to sign up for the superhero themed carnival parade which will take place on February 5th, 2016. There was an informational meeting for parents and students on Monday November 16th. We are still looking for participants for the parade! A deposit of NAF. 150, - is needed for registration. For more information please email the committee at: karnaval@isc.cw. Also, for more details of the Carnival in general, click here:

<http://www.curacaocarnival.info/>

## "DOUGHNUTS WITH DOUG"

- Every Thursday morning from 8:00-8:30.
- Sign up in the main office or email Ms. Camille (dijkhuizen@isc.cw). Space is limited.
- Sit with the Director and other parents for coffee or tea- and doughnuts.
- Discuss the direction and future of ISC.
- Share your ideas for a stronger ISC.

The International School of Curaçao (ISC) is a preK-12, accredited, private, nonprofit, coeducational day school recognized by the local government of Curaçao that provides instruction in English. ISC was founded in 1968 and offers a rigorous academic program in order to prepare students who plan to pursue higher learning at colleges and universities around the world.

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