

KYIV INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

KOZAK KORNER

Friday, August 14, 2020

Newsletter Issue #2



Knowledge • Integrity • Service

AUGUST 2020

- Monday 17 - Friday 21:** Meal Plan Enrollment
- Tuesday 18 - Thursday 20:** New Staff Orientation
- Friday 21:** All Staff Inservice
- Friday 21:** Coffee Chat Meeting @ 2:00pm
- Monday 24:** Ukrainian Independence Day
- Tuesday 25 - Wednesday 26:** All Staff Inservice
- Wednesday 26:** Virtual Open House
- Thursday 27:** First Day of School.
- Saturday 29:** SAT Exams



KOZAK CONNECT

qsi.org/kyiv/kozak-connect

Kozak Connect is how our campus community stays engaged and informed with the latest news and events happening at Kyiv International School.

The Kozak Connect platform includes the Kozak Korner school newsletter; KIS Informer emails; and our social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

During the 2020-2021 school year, Kyiv International School will use **Telegram** as a way to directly communicate with students and parents.

The Facebook Messenger, Telegram, Viber and WhatsApp channels we have used in the past will be phased out.

To get started - click on the icons below.



Kyiv International School is committed to EU General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). All broadcasts are peer to peer, private and secure. At no time is your personal information visible or shared with other subscribers/third party vendors.

ZOOM COFFEE CHAT MEETING

Friday, August 21st , 2:00 PM

On Friday, August 21st, KIS will host a Coffee Chat with any interested parents who would like to join with the school's leadership team to discuss the reopening guidelines, school schedule, and the start of onsite learning at KIS. These meetings are meant to be for parents to ask questions surrounding different topics and will occur regularly throughout the school year. We hope you will join us!



[ZOOM LINK](#)

Meeting ID: **305 272 176**

Passcode: **coffeechat**



VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE & MEET YOUR TEACHERS



Wednesday, August 26th, 1:00-3:00 PM

Kyiv International School is inviting all families to join us in a virtual open house when staff and families can meet with teachers or talk with administration.

Preschool & Elementary

Parents will receive an email from their child's homeroom teacher with an introduction and Zoom ID & Password for the virtual meeting.

Middle School & Secondary

Parents will receive an email with the Zoom ID & Password for all Middle School or Secondary teachers. Zoom rooms will be open for parents or students to join in and meet their teachers, based on their schedule for this school year.

Dear KIS Families

My name is Luke Woodruff and I am the Director here at Kyiv International School.

This year will be my fourth year at KIS and I am looking forward to being a part of this wonderful community once again. I can't say enough about our students, teachers, and parents here and it has been an absolute privilege to see all the amazing things that happen at our school.

Normally, our campus is busting with life and activity, but I do understand that this year we will be starting with many more restrictions in place that limit these activities and the same level of interaction. Regardless of some of these limitations, I hope that all our new families will quickly feel welcome and become a part of the Kozak Nation!

Our first day of school will be here soon and KIS is busy making all sorts of preparations.

This next week we will begin our new staff orientation days and welcome our new teachers to our community, program, and what will be a unique school year. We will also be welcoming back all of our teaching staff this next Friday to begin getting all rooms prepared and training staff on our new procedures. The school will be sharing out a short video to help explain some of the general expectations but plans to use this first couple of weeks to make sure some of these new routines and procedures make sense while adjusting as we go.

We ask that you also help us be prepared by completing the **participation form** to indicate whether you plan for your children to attend school on-site or online. This information helps us to build our class lists and make plans for those attending online.

Participation survey.

Student details.

Student Name

Attendance and Participation

My child will be attending school

I would like my child to participate via online learning from home

Transportation

We plan to use school transportation

We plan to provide our own transportation

*Please note that if you indicate that your child will not attend school and will participate in online learning, you must give the school at least 2 week's notice in order to change to send your child to school.

Submit ↗
Cancel ↶

I know there are many mixed emotions in our community concerning the start of school. Though there will be a familiarity to school, there will also be a number of things that are new and require some getting used to. Your support in the community goes a long way and we appreciate how understanding you have been. No school is operating exactly the same and we have tried to put a plan in place that we feel will best accommodate the needs and capabilities of all our students.

In the next couple of weeks, we will continue to share more information with you. We also hope you will be able to join us for our Coffee Chat on August 21st and our Virtual Open House on the 26th.

Sincerely,



Luke Woodruff
 Director
 Kyiv International School

We will continue to update this section with questions that are submitted to us from the community. **Submit your questions [here](#).**

Can I switch from online learning to on-site? How?

Yes, if you would like to switch from online to on-site learning, you can do this, but will need to give the school 2 weeks' notice. Parents may contact the Director of Instruction to coordinate the change.

What Kind of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will my child be required to use? How will masks work?

5 year-old through High School students will need to wear a masks for the first 3 weeks of school. We understand that everyone is coming from many different places and we would like to be extra careful during this time.

We will reassess the use of masks at that time. We also understand that it may be difficult for some students. We understand that students may feel like they need to adjust their masks, take breathers, or just need a break. Our teachers will help monitor

a reasonable approach to students wearing masks the best that they can. It has been recommended that students have a separate off campus mask used in transportation to school and then switch to their indoor masks upon arrival. This is a similar concept to outdoor and indoor shoes that helps to make sure on campus masks are as clean as possible.



Will children still have the opportunity to have recess and be active?

Yes, we will have regular scheduled recess time and additional spaces for students to be outside and make sure they take the necessary breaks from the daily schedule.

Will there be a reduction of bus fees for Middle School and Secondary students who do not attend every day?

Yes, the business office will reduce accordingly the bus fees for those who do not take school transportation each day.

Is there a plan for if/when someone tests positive for COVID?

Though we have shared generally what actions the school would take in this case, we will share a more comprehensive explanation soon. Transparency and communication will be key when it comes keeping the community safe and informed.

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First Day of Each Term
First Day of School - August 27
 Term 1: 27 Aug - 18 Dec
 Term 2: 11 Jan - 2 Apr
 Term 3: 5 Apr - 22 June
Last Day of School - June 22

First day of Quintile
 Quintile 1: 27 Aug - 22 Oct
 Quintile 2: 23 Oct - 15 Dec
 Quintile 3: 16 Dec - 3 Mar
 Quintile 4: 4 Mar - 23 Apr
 Quintile 5: 3 May - 22 June

School Holidays
24 Aug - Independence Day
12-16 Oct - Fall Break
21 Dec - 8 Jan - Winter Break
22-26 Feb - February Break
8 Mar - Int'l. Women's Day
26-30 Apr - Easter/Labor Day
10 May - Victory Day

❖ First Term

First Day: 27 August (Thursday)

Last Day: 18 December (Friday)

Holidays: 12-16 October (Monday-Friday) - Fall Break/Defender's Day
 26-27 November (Thursday-Friday) - Professional Development Days (**no school**)
 21 December— 8 January - Winter break

Quintile 1: 27 August – 22 October

Quintile 2: 23 October – 15 December

Quintile 3: 16 December - 3 March

Number of school days: 75

❖ Second Term

First Day: 11 January (Monday)

Last Day: 2 April (Friday)

Holidays: Professional Development: 23 January (Saturday)
 22-26 February (Monday – Friday) February Break
 8 March (Monday) International Women's Day

Quintile 4: 4 March – 23 April

Number of school days: 54

❖ Third Term

First Day: 5 April (Monday)

Last Day: 22 June (Tuesday)

Holidays: 26-30 April (Monday - Friday) Easter Holiday and Labor Day
 10 May (Monday) Victory Day

Quintile 5: 3 May – 22 June

Number of school days: 51

Total Number of School Days—180 / The school week is Monday through Friday.



*"Virtually every five year old comes to school eager to learn.
The mission of QSI is to keep this urge alive in every child."*

Message from our Preschool/Elementary Director of Instruction

My name is Mrs. Carpenter and on behalf of our entire preschool and elementary staff, I would like to welcome our new and returning students-we are thrilled you are joining us for the 2020-21 school year! We are looking forward to meeting new faces, revisiting with familiar ones, as well as hearing all about your summer adventures!

I would like to send out a thank you to our amazing office staff. They have been working hard to get materials prepared, new families situated, and new staff oriented to their surroundings. Additionally, I would like to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to our maintenance and cleaning staff. They are working diligently to clean, disinfect and ready the school.

All teachers and support staff spend hours preparing materials and creating socially distance, but amazingly child centered classrooms. The rooms are beginning to look INCREDIBLE!

Please note:

New Family Meet the Teacher will be on Zoom this year! You will be getting Zoom information from your child's new teacher in the coming weeks! Parent Orientation will also be on Zoom this year- I will send out the day and times for each meeting! There will be a chat option for your questions and a presentation to help us all be on the same page this year! I will be recording it and sending it out to all parents that may miss the meeting! Love Zoom!!

This year will look a little different, but we are all part of the Kozak Nation!

We are committed to keeping our students safe and families are a Key to our Success. Mask must be worn from 5 year olds up- please start practicing now! Preschool should come to school in a mask and will be use them for activities outside the Preschool Pod.

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Please help your child understand that this is for their safety and is a non-negotiable, but we will try to make it fun!

Adults will not be allowed on campus, so start thinking of ways to help your child transition out of your car and into the building without your help...we will help them.

Start the morning goodbye early!

We will be following all protocols set forth by the American CDC and the Ukrainian Government! Please monitor your child for any sign of illness!

If they are not feeling well...Please have concern for others and keep them home! We are all one community and we are teaching our children how to respect others and be kind!

As parents, we want our children to be safe and successful in life...that begins now.

Welcome to the 2019-20 School year! Kozaks Rock!!!



Cheri Carpenter

Preschool/Elementary Director of Instruction

cheri-carpenter@kyiv.qsi.org



Message from our Middle School Director of Instruction

Dear KIS Middle School Families,

I hope you have enjoyed a restful and restorative summer! Although summer isn't over for students yet, at KIS we are already planning and preparing.

The block schedule, Kozak 30, and the entire middle school teaching staff will be familiar to returning students.

One new face this year is my own! I am thrilled to be joining KIS as the Middle School Director of Instruction.

My husband (Oliver), son (Carver), and I drove here from Tirana, Albania where I was the Director of Instruction for three years at the QSI school there.

I look forward to getting to know our new and returning families better in the coming weeks.

Information about school procedures and necessary adaptations to help us stay healthy and safe will continue to be announced to the entire KIS community.

However, I wanted to highlight one aspect that will impact the Middle School.

Middle School students will be divided into two rotating groups – each day, one group will be on campus and the other group will join class virtually from home.

Families will receive emails on Monday, August 24th to indicate which rotation group their child has been assigned. Additionally, individual student schedules will also be shared at that time.

This school year promises to be filled with unique challenges and opportunities. Like our Ukrainian namesakes, when KIS Kozaks work together to bravely face challenges, we are unstoppable!

I am honored to be joining KIS and am committed to doing my best to help our community in the coming year.

Together, we are Kozak strong!



Carla Grossman

Middle School Director of Instruction

carla-grossman@kyiv.qsi.org



"KIS offers an academically stimulating atmosphere in which students are challenged to meet their individual learning goals, with an array of academic programs designed to suit the needs of every student."

Message from our Secondary Director of Instruction

Dear Secondary Parents and Students,

I am pleased to welcome you to the 2020-21 school year!

No one expected that we would be in a situation like this current pandemic, yet here we are.

In these times of uncertainty, I am more thankful than ever for the things on which I can rely: family, friends, community. Fortunately for us at KIS secondary, we have a strong school community.

This was evidenced in how well we banded together to deal with the campus closure last school year.

I am so proud of our students and teachers.

At the time of this writing, we plan to open campus for the 2020-21 school year, but with a reduced number of high school students on campus at any time to ensure proper physical distancing.

The high school will be split into two groups. One group will attend classes on campus Mondays, Wednesdays, and alternating Fridays, while the second group attends classes on campus Tuesdays, Thursdays, and alternating Fridays. When students are not on campus, they will participate remotely, Zooming into class daily.

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Students and parents will be made aware by email soon regarding to which group their child belongs. We are still finalizing schedules, but rest assured that siblings will report to campus the same days.

Here is some important back-to-school information:

Thursday, August 27

Orientation for Group 1

School starts 8:10 and ends at 15:35.

Students will receive schedules and textbooks, and they will learn important protocols and expectations. They will also visit each of their classes.

Friday, August 28

Orientation for Group 2

School starts 8:10 and ends at 15:35.

Students will receive schedules and textbooks, and they will learn important protocols and expectations. They will also visit each of their classes.

Teachers will provide students with a list of supplies required for each subject. Because we focus on 21st century skills, it is expected that every student will have her or his own laptop to be used at school as well as adequate internet access at home.

I know that there can be many questions and anxieties at the start of anything new, especially a new school year. Rest assured that I am here to assist you, as are all members of the secondary admin team--Ms. Marianna Kotelnikova (Administrative Assistant), Ms. Lindsey Rech (Secondary Counselor and AP Coordinator), and Ms. Randi Assenova (IB Coordinator).

Please, contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

I am excited to start the 2020-21 school year, and I hope that you are, too!



Scott Legan

Secondary School Director of Instruction

scott-legan@kyiv.qsi.org

Message from our AP Coordinator/Secondary Counselor

Nine Kyiv International School students successfully completed the AP Capstone Diploma program this past school year (2019-2020).

Kyiv International School is the only school in Ukraine authorized to offer the AP Capstone Diploma, which is offered to students that earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar, AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing.

In their first year, the Capstone students engaged in group research through the AP Seminar course.

They developed multiple solutions to address

important issues and, after evaluating each one through

a myriad of lenses, presented the process and their conclusions during a formal presentation.



This year, in their AP Research course, each student worked to design and implement their own research project. Several of the students, also, worked with experts in their field of study to help guide them through the rigorous challenges of academic research.

The student research projects were:

- The effect of viewing #foodporn food pictures found on Instagram on the Kiev international high school students' cravings for foods from the hypothetical menu and its effect on the amount of food items requested.
- Examine if the situation with e-cigarette smoking among high school students from grades 9-12 of international schools located in Kyiv corresponds to USA trends.
- Does content, such as lyrics, and videos of modern mainstream hip-hop (new school hip-hop) affect decision making in students aged 15-18 in Kyiv international high schools, which are indulged with it?
- Effects on Audience Reaction and Student Learning with Added Virtual Reality Technology per Unreal Engine 4 onto the School-Wide Performance Arts Curriculum at a International School based in Kiev, Ukraine as Tested Through an Organized Drama Performance.
- Do adolescents aged (12-18) in Ukraine-based international schools have higher intentions of smoking combustible cigarettes than their non-smoking peers, and what are the factors surrounding them.
- How does the perspective on esports vary from different international schools based on students aged between 12 and 18, and teachers which have different cultural and ethnical backgrounds?

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- What pH of acid rain will cause the biggest reduction to the grain yield of *T. Aesticum* in soil from the Kyiv Oblast (Region)?
- Are middle and high school students in 36 international schools located outside of the United States willing to accept insects into their diets via the incorporation of insects into certain preexisting food products?
- To what extent does the speed of a metronome sound affect the simple reaction time of students in international Ukrainian school within students of elementary, middle and high school.

The College Board developed the AP Capstone Diploma program at the request of higher education professionals, who saw a need for a systematic way for high school students to begin mastering critical thinking, research, collaboration, time management, and presentation skills before college. Congratulations to these Kozak Graduates!!!

The 2019/2020 school year was unique.

Despite the world shutting down, students still took AP exams in May. In the late evening hours Kyiv time, students were able to test in their own homes through an online platform that College Board set up to meet the needs of the millions of students who needed to sit AP Exams.



Despite the challenges, the 65 KIS students who tested did a wonderful job! They were able to show vast improvement from previous years undeterred by a global pandemic. This would not have been possible without Ms. Zoromski, last year's AP Coordinator. She put in a lot of extra hours to make sure this was successful!

Thank you Ms. Zoromski!

Way to go Kozaks on all your hard work!

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total AP Students	41	47	57	56	65
Number of Exams	62	88	107	117	144
AP Students with Scores 3+	26	40	42	41	57
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+	63.4	85.1	73.7	73.2	87.7



Lindsey Rech

Secondary School Director of Instruction

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"Extracurricular programs are an integral part of the student life experience for our students and are designed to inspire interest, develop skills, and reinforce the QSI Success Orientations."

Message from our Athletic Director/Activities Coordinator

After school sports and activities for Fall 2020 will begin on September 14th.

For **Middle School** this includes: Football, Cross-country and Robotics.

For **Secondary School** this includes: Football, Cross-country and Drama.

We are working on the details of how practices and participation will work. Clearly there will have to be some adjustments, but our goal is to provide a safe, meaningful and fun after school program for our Secondary and Middle School students.



Rachel Geary

Athletics Director/Activities Coordinator

rachel-geary@kyiv.qsi.org

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to being back at work and adjusting to the new normal.

Due to the new COVID-19 Protocol and Safety Measures, we have had to make a few changes in Cafeteria rules, menus and how school lunches will operate. We have outlined these changes below for your reference.

Please, note that the first few weeks of implementing these changes may have some trial and errors but we will adjust accordingly. These changes are new for all of us, so we asking for your kind patience and understanding during these initial weeks. We hope that everything will return to normal soon, but now, we have to adjust and prioritize everyone's health and safety first and foremost.

During COVID-19 protocol, all food will be served in disposable ECO-Friendly lunch boxes, glasses and cutlery. As well, no cash payment allowed in Cafeteria any more. That is why we ask you to make all settlements by bank transfer or use for daily payments our internal KFN Debit Card (for students from 7 years old only). To minimize contacts bank transfer is highly recommended. No daily payment option for students 2-6 years old. For this age group monthly prepayment is only possible. All the monthly subscriptions must be prepaid the month before on the 25th at the very latest. If a new closure occurs due to COVID-19, we will credit non-used days of the prepaid monthly subscription to the new school period minus 3 days. If we are notified of a student's absence before 8:30 a.m. on that school day, the lunch for the day of absence will be credited (for monthly meal plan only).

As well there are several new rules for students who will come for lunch to Cafeteria:

1. Before entering the Cafeteria all the students should wash and disinfect their hands well;
2. It is highly recommend to keep distance 1.5m according to the floor marking;
3. No more than 4 people can seat at one table;
4. Students can take off the masks and open the lunch boxes after taking their place at the table.
5. It is forbidden to share the food with friends;
6. After finishing the lunch it is mandatory to put on a clean mask. The used one should be disposed in a special container;
7. The used disposable lunch boxes, cups, cutlery, napkins etc. should be disposed in a special container.

Meal Plans

Age Group	School Attendance	Lunch Location	Subscription	Payment Method
2-4 y.o.	Every Day	Classroom	Monthly Subscription	Bank Transfer
5-6 y.o.	Every Day	Classroom	Monthly Subscription	Bank Transfer
7-10 y.o.	Every Day	Cafeteria	Monthly Subscription / Daily Payment	Bank Transfer / Cafeteria Cash Terminal
11-17 y.o.	Each group (A and B) every other day	Cafeteria / Snack Bar	Monthly Subscription / Daily Payment	Bank Transfer / Cafeteria Cash Terminal

For prices, please, find MEAL PLAN SUBSCRIPTION KIS 2020-2021 in the attachment.

If you have any questions, please, contact us without hesitations by e-mail admin@kfncatering.school or by tel. (050) 311-71-87 (Oxana).

Look forward to meeting you at KIS Cafeteria soon!

Best regards,

KIS Cafeteria Team.

KFN COVID-19 RULES

The following simple precautions may prevent infection:

- 1) **Before entering the Cafeteria, please wash and disinfect your hands well.**
- 2) **Please, keep distance 1.5m according to the floor marking.**
- 3) **No more than 4 people can sit at one table.**
- 4) **You can remove the mask and open the lunch box after taking your place at the table.**
- 5) **It is forbidden to share your food with friends.**
- 6) **No cash payment allowed in Cafeteria! Please, don't forget always have your debit card with you.**
- 7) **When you finish your lunch it is mandatory to put a clean mask on. The used one, please, dispose in a special container.**
- 8) **Please return used disposable lunch boxes, cups and cutlery for recycling.**