

September 20th, 2026

WEEKLY BULLETIN



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YEARS

General Director

Nash Adamson

AIS is strengthened by those who choose to contribute their time and talents to something larger than themselves. Recent days have offered many wonderful reminders of this.

On Friday, we hosted the annual retreat for the AIS Board of Trustees, a group of volunteers who guide our school through their work in governance, finance, strategic planning, buildings and grounds, and institutional advancement. Their dedication has played a vital role in AIS's impact over the past 15 years.



Our PTO's support is unwavering. They are rolling out this year's teacher experience grants, planning upcoming community gatherings, and helped organize our wonderful Independence Day celebrations. Many parents contributed their time and energy to help us celebrate Guatemala, our home and host country, and the close-knit community we have built together.



Monthly Calendar and Upcoming Events

General Upcoming Events:

September 25th: Whole School Assembly

September 27th: PTO Trivia Night at Caoba Farms

October 9th: End of Quarter 1

Fall Fest!

Calendars:

For monthly calendars please see [HERE](#)

Please find the 2026-27 School Year at a Glance calendar [HERE](#)

For a detailed version of this school year's events, click [HERE](#)

Please find the September cafeteria menu [HERE](#)

If you would like to add the AIS Events Calendar to your personal calendar, please see [HERE](#)



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Secondary School

Lauren Streifer and Michelle Acker Perez

STUCO has been busy cultivating pride and excitement across our community. They introduced a brand-new AIS chant, launched a cheerleading club, and organized our first secondary Interaulas this past Friday. We're so grateful for their leadership and can't wait to see what they bring next!



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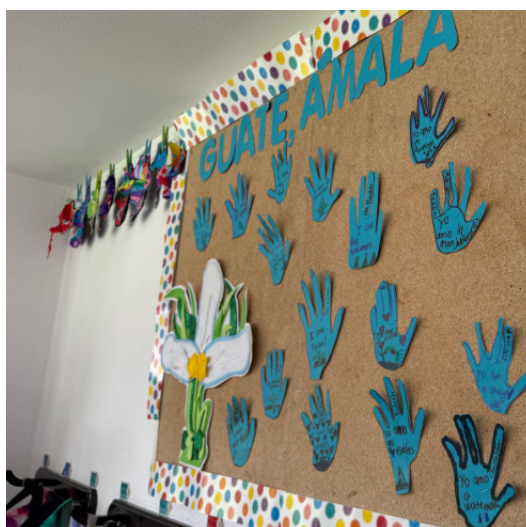
YEARS

Primary School

Natalia Zmaczynska and Sadie Rhinesmith

Wonderful Moments from Independence Day Celebration!

We loved celebrating Guatemala's Independence Day with families last Friday! Additionally, we enjoyed displays outside classrooms where students showcased their favorite parts of Guatemala - from delicious cuisine and majestic volcanoes to beloved national symbols - along with their plans to help care for the country. First graders also sang a beautiful song about Guatemala during our divisional assembly. Thank you all for such wonderful displays of Chapin pride!



Early Childhood Program

Luis Carrillo

Language is our window to connect with the world. The first three years of life are the most intensive period for acquiring speech and language skills. Children develop those skills through an environment rich with sounds and sights and consistent exposure to the speech and language of others. Children vary in their development of speech and language skills. However, they follow a natural progression or timetable for mastering language skills (NIDCD, 2022).

Milestones related to speech and language (NIDCD, 2022; Stanford Children's Health, n. d.)

1 - 2 years

- Knows a few parts of the body and can point to them when asked
- Follows simple commands ("Roll the ball") and understands simple questions ("Where's your shoe?")
- Enjoys simple stories, songs, and rhymes
- Points to pictures, when named, in books
- Acquires new words on a regular basis
- Uses some one- or two-word questions ("Where kitty?" or "Go bye-bye?")
- Puts two words together ("More cookie")
- Uses many different consonant sounds at the beginning of words
- Uses 2-word phrases.

2 - 3 years

- Has a word for almost everything
- Uses two- or three-word phrases to talk about and ask for things
- Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n sounds
- Speaks in a way that is understood by family members and friends
- Names objects to ask for them or to direct attention to them

3 - 4 years

- Hears you when you call from another room
- Hears the television or radio at the same sound level as other family members
- Answers simple "Who?" "What?" "Where?" and "Why?" questions
- Talks about activities at daycare, preschool, or friends' homes
- Uses sentences with four or more words
- Speaks easily without having to repeat syllables or words
- 75% of language is intelligible to a stranger

4-5 years

Pays attention to a short story and answers simple questions about it

Hears and understands most of what is said at home and in school

Uses sentences that give many details

Tells stories that stay on topic

Communicates easily with other children and adults

Says most sounds correctly except for a few (l, s, r, v, z, ch, sh, and th)

Uses rhyming words

Names some letters and numbers

Uses adult grammar

Talk to your child's doctor if they have trouble understanding what others say (receptive language), difficulty sharing their thoughts (expressive language), producing speech sounds correctly, or hesitate or stutter when talking.



Service Learning

Michelle Acker Perez and Sadie Rhinesmith

This year senior student, Gianpiero Ceschia De la Cruz helped launch a new club, AIS Changemakers. After completing his own service hours, Gianpiero saw an opportunity to connect more AIS students with meaningful service opportunities at local organizations.

Last Friday, the club held its first service activity: supporting seniors at Casa María Home through cognitive exercises and conversation designed to sustain healthy brain function and quality of life.

For Gianpiero, the club reflects a family value close to his heart: a love of service. As he puts it, “serving others makes me who I am” and as is often the case, in setting out to help others, we come away with a deeper understanding of ourselves. We’re proud to have a student leader building this kind of community at AIS, and serving our broader community together.



Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Maria Elena Valencia

Boys' Junior Varsity & Varsity Basketball

We are deeply inspired by the commitment, discipline, and teamwork demonstrated by our student-athletes. We want them to feel the unwavering support of the entire Antigua International School family at every game.

We cordially invite our community to come together and cheer on our basketball teams in the Liga Estudiantil Sur-Occidente as they compete in Guatemala City, representing our values with excellence.

Come out and support them on the following game dates:

Sports Uniforms: To purchase official AIS athletic uniforms, please visit the main reception office for full ordering details.

Health & Wellness Activities: At AIS, we recognize the importance of physical and mental well-being. We invite our entire adult community to join our CrossFit and Cross Country sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:45 AM to 7:30 AM. To register, please email mevalencia@antiguais.org

After School Program: For full details on internal offerings and third-party vendor clubs, visit: <https://antiguais.org/actividades-extracurriculares/>





Junior Varsity (JV) Division

TEAMWORK BUILDS TOMORROW

Wednesday, September 23	3:30 p.m.	AIS vs. APDE El Roble	(Venue: Liceo Javier)
Thursday, September 24	3:00 p.m.	AIS vs. Colegio Decroly Americano	(Venue: Colegio Decroly Americano)
Saturday, September 26	10:00 a.m.	AIS vs. Liceo Javier	(Venue: Colegio Alemán de Guatemala)
Monday, September 28	3:00 p.m.	AIS vs. San José de los Infantes	(Venue: Colegio Suizo Americano San Cristóbal)



Varsity Division

HIGHER GOALS BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

Wednesday, September 23	2:30 p.m.	AIS vs. Colegio San José de los Infantes	(Venue: Liceo Javier)
Wednesday, September 30	4:00 p.m.	AIS vs. Liceo Cristiano La Fráter Roosevelt	(Venue: Colegio Decroly Americano)



After School Program Activities September 21–26

DISCOVER • DEVELOP • BELONG

Monday, September 21 (3:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

- **CrossFit (Grades 9–12, Co-ed):** Team Challenge
- **Table Tennis (Grades 3–4, Co-ed):** Introduction to forehand and backhand serves
- **Artistic Gymnastics (Grades 1–2):** Backward roll execution
- **Outdoor Explorers (Co-ed):** Explorer Scavenger Hunt – Students will follow simple clues to find hidden items around the play area

Tuesday, September 22 (3:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

- **Track & Field (Grades 5–6, Co-ed):** Timed trials
- **Chess (U8 Division, Co-ed):** Intro to the chessboard
- **Table Tennis (Grades 7–8, Co-ed):** Rally drills, serves, and returns
- **Artistic Gymnastics (Grades 3–4):** Forward and backward roll sequences
- **Soccer (U15 Girls):** Intrasquad scrimmage

Wednesday, September 23 (2:00 PM – 3:00 PM)

- **Soccer (U13 Boys):** Friendly match vs. Profutbol Antigua Guatemala
- **Soccer (Grades 3–4 Boys):** Friendly match vs. Profutbol Antigua
- **Chess (U8 & U10 Divisions, Co-ed):** Piece placement and setup
- **Table Tennis (Grades 9–12, Co-ed):** Advanced rally drills, serves, and returns
- **Artistic Gymnastics (Grades 1–2):** Backward roll execution
- **Brilliant Minds (Co-ed):** Memory Challenge – Recall a sequence of images in the shortest time possible

Wednesday, September 23 (3:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

- **Soccer (Grades 1–2 Boys):** Friendly match vs. Profutbol Antigua
- **Chess (U8 & U10 Divisions, Co-ed):** Knight's Tour challenge
- **Table Tennis (Grades 5–6, Co-ed):** Introduction to forehand and backhand serves
- **Outdoor Explorers (Co-ed):** Explorer Scavenger Hunt – Students will follow simple clues to find hidden items around the play area

Thursday, September 24 (3:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

- **Soccer (U11 Boys):** Match vs. One Way Community Association
- **Chess (U10 Division, Co-ed):** Intro to the chessboard
- **Table Tennis (Grades 5–6, Co-ed):** Introduction to sidespin and chop serves
- **Artistic Gymnastics (Grades 3–4):** Forward and backward roll sequences
- **Outdoor Explorers (Co-ed):** Adventure Obstacle Course – Balance, jumps, movement, and navigation

Same
Community
Brighter
Futures



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Health and Wellness

Nurse Carolina

When Should Your Child Stay Home?

Keep your child at home if they have any of the following symptoms:

Fever (temperature above 38 °C / 100.4 °F)

Cough or sore throat

Difficulty breathing

Vomiting or diarrhea

Muscle aches, headache, or chills

Fatigue or loss of appetite

When can your child return to school?

They have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication.

Symptoms have improved (such as cough or sore throat).

The recommended time since the onset of symptoms has passed, according to your doctor's instructions.

LET'S GO TO SCHOOL HEALTHY AND PROTECTED!



MY DAUGHTER OR SON IS SICK WHEN SHOULD HE OR SHE STAY HOME?

WHEN THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS ARE PRESENT:

- Temperature greater than or equal to 37.5°C.
- Sore throat, persistent cough, congestion, runny nose and difficulty breathing.
- Persistent nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and cramps.
- Severe headache.
- Weakness and general malaise.

TIPS TO PREVENT CONTAGIOUS DISEASES:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs are spread this way.
- If you are sick, limit contact with other people as much as possible to avoid transmitting the disease to them.
- Visit your doctor and do not self-medicate.
- Have your child's vaccination schedule complete.



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AIS PTO



PTO TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK!

Get your team together and get ready for a night of trivia, laughs, friendly competition, and community fun!

Sunday, September 27th
6:00 PM

Think you've got what it takes to take home the Trivia Night crown?

Save the date, gather your smartest (or funniest) crew, and join us for a great evening with our AIS community.



SAVE THE DATE!

One of our favorite AIS traditions is coming back!

FALL FEST 2026: Harvest Under the Stars

Friday, October 9th

Get ready for an unforgettable evening filled with food, games, activities, friends, and plenty of Fall Fest fun for the whole family!

Mark your calendars and save the date!

More details coming soon.

We can't wait to celebrate with our amazing AIS community!