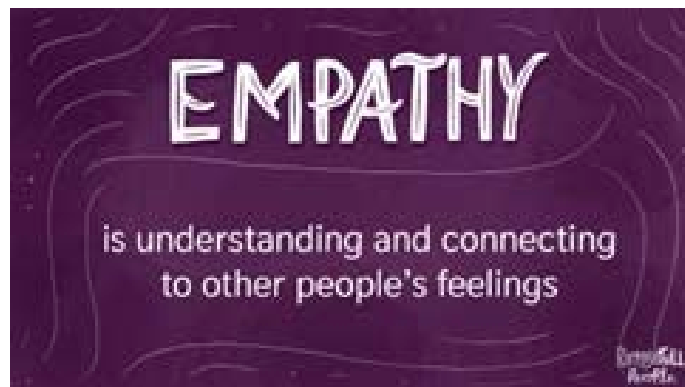




## Primary School Heads-Up - 1/16/26

Dear Primary School Community,

This week, Churchill students learned about the tradition of the *galette des rois* (king cake), a delicious pastry where *une fève* (a bean) is slipped into the cake during the baking process. As a part of the tradition, the pastry is shared with guests and whoever finds the bean is crowned king or queen for the rest of the day.



**From Mrs. Elizabeth Sham, School Counselor**

January guidance lessons with Mrs. Sham will be on the topic of Empathy. This DIS Core Value invites students to practice perspective-taking and kind consideration of others. Here are family newsletters on Empathy organized by grade level: [Early Childhood](#), [Kindergarten](#), [First](#), [Second](#), [Third](#) and [Fourth](#).

### **End-of-Semester Afterschool Activities and Spring Registration**

- Spring registration opened January 1 on Blackbaud and closes Friday, January 16.
- Spring activities start Tuesday, January 20.
- No Homework Help/private tutoring lessons from December 15-January 16. Lessons will resume on January 20.

- For any questions, please email: [cwafterschool@dallasinternationalschool.org](mailto:cwafterschool@dallasinternationalschool.org)

## **Carpool**

I would like to remind our community that the speed limit is **5mph** on campus. Please keep a slow speed when going through the parking lot. For the safety of our students and staff, please carefully read the carpool instructions below. Also, out of courtesy to our families and staff who use the sidewalks—and for everyone's safety—please avoid parking over the sidewalks when backing into parking spaces. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Carpool Instructions and Organization**

#### **ParentPulse Surveying**

To better understand and respond to your needs, we've partnered with ParentPulse, a company that specializes in gathering feedback for independent schools. To learn more, we invite you to watch this [brief video](#).

Moving forward, every parent will receive an invitation every few months to complete a short survey. These surveys will be sent at different times to ensure that we get a diverse range of responses. Your feedback, collected through these brief surveys, will help us address any concerns quickly and make improvements throughout the year.

Please keep an eye out for an email or text from ParentPulse with the subject line clearly stating **Dallas International School**. All information collected is used solely for our internal analysis, and your personal contact details will remain confidential and will never be shared.

Additionally, we want to make it easy for you to communicate with us at any time. Whether you have a question, suggestion, concern, or praise, we've created a [Talk to TIGRE](#) platform. This "comment parking lot" will be open **24/7** and monitored every school day, so you can share your thoughts whenever you need.

### **Coming Up: MAP Testing (GS to 4th grades) Starting next week**

MAP testing will begin next week in Reading and Math for students in grades GS-CM1. Results will be shared with parents through MyDIS and discussed during Parent-Teacher Conferences. For more information, please visit: [MAP Information Letter](#)

### **Coming Up: DIS Family Information Sessions Tuesday, January 20 - Thursday, January 29**

We enjoyed meeting with parents and guardians during December's round of Family Information Sessions that have been designed to provide you with deeper insights into Dallas International School's programs, operations and future direction. If you are able to attend this month's sessions, please register your interest by [completing this RSVP](#). Upcoming sessions at Waterview and online include:

**Tuesday, January 20 (Churchill, 9:00am):** French Education: Overseas and at DIS

**Tuesday, January 20 (Online, 6:00pm):** DIS Academics and Graduation Pathways

**Wednesday, January 21 (Online, 6:00pm):** French Education: Overseas and at DIS

**Thursday, January 22 (Churchill, 9:00am):** Scheduling for Academics and Wellbeing

**Thursday, January 22 (Online, 6:00pm):** Scheduling for Academics and Wellbeing

**Wednesday, January 28 (Online, 6:00pm):** Safety and Security at DIS

**Thursday, January 29 (Churchill, 9:00am):** Safety and Security at DIS

**Coming Up: Deep Dive into FB and IB Program Meetings (Waterview Campus)  
Wednesday, January 21, 6:00pm**

Our Deep Dive Program Meetings will run consecutively on the same evening, from 6pm-7pm and 7pm-8pm, so that parents may attend one or both of these information meetings about our French and International Programs at our Waterview Campus. These meetings are open to anyone who is interested in learning more about our two world-renowned academic offerings here at DIS. Please [click here](#) for more information, and [RSVP for this event here](#).

**Coming Up: Conversation with the Head of Primary  
Tuesday, January 27, 6:00pm**

We will host the second Conversation with the Head of Primary, Mr. Franck Philipp, on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 6:00pm at our Churchill Campus. [Please RSVP to let us know you're coming](#).

**Coming Up: State of the School Address  
Thursday, January 29, 5:30pm**

We hope to see as many of you as possible at our annual State of the School Address on Thursday, January 29 in the MPR. The DIS Board of Trustees and our Head of School, Mr. Jacques Weber, will share insights into our school's current status and progress, as well as the strategic vision that will carry us forward. [Click here to RSVP to attend this event](#).

The program will go as follows:

5:30pm - Student-led tours of the Waterview Campus

6:00pm - State of the School Address

7:00pm - PTO Updates

7:15pm - Refreshments

8:00pm - Event concludes

**Coming Up: Valentine's Day Celebration Details**

## Friday, February 13

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Friday, February 13. It is going to be a free dress day and we encourage students to wear pink, red and/or white. Students will be allowed to bring Valentine's Day cards to exchange with classmates. This will be a student-only event.

Please follow the guidelines below:

- Any students participating must bring cards for every classmate.
- If students want to give gifts or candies, please bring one bag per classmate with candy prepackaged in it.
- For younger grades, such as *Maternelle*, please leave cards blank without names for easier distribution by the teachers.
- Healthy treats are encouraged; candy may not be eaten at school.

In order to avoid any food allergies, students are not allowed to share food. To prevent serious and life-threatening allergic reactions, no nuts or any product containing nuts—including peanut butter or Nutella—are allowed on campus.

## Coming Up: DELF Ceremony at Waterview Thursday, February 26, 6:00pm

Families with a child who took the DELF last year are invited to attend the DELF Ceremony on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 6:00pm at our Waterview Campus. During this ceremony, we will recognize our students' impressive achievements and present the official DELF certificates recently received from the French government. A separate invitation will be sent soon with a link to RSVP.

We will continue to keep you updated on what's happening at the Churchill Campus and please always feel free to reach out to us.

Sincerely,  
Franck Philipp

## On the Horizon

- **Monday, January 19, 2026** - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - **NO SCHOOL**
- **Tuesday, January 20 - Thursday, January 29, 2026** - DIS Family Information Sessions (Churchill and Online)
- **Friday, January 23, 2026** - End of the First Semester
- **Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 6:00pm** - Conversation with the Head of Primary
- **Thursday, January 29, 2026, 5:30pm** - [PTO AGM and State of the School Address](#) (Waterview Campus)
- **Friday, January 30, 2026** - Report Cards Released to Parents

- **Tuesday, February 3, 2026** - Thai-rific Day (Country of the Year Celebration)
- **Wednesday, February 11, 2026** - Lunar New Year Recognition
- **Friday, February 13, 2026** - Valentine's Day Celebration
- **Monday, February 16 - Friday, February 20, 2026** - Winter Break - **NO SCHOOL**
- **Thursday, February 26, 2026, 6:00pm** - DELF Ceremony (Waterview Campus)
- **Wednesday, April 15, 2026** - DIS Photo Retakes (Churchill Campus)

[View the Official School Calendar](#)

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**Dallas International School**



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