

World Language Choice in 2012-2013
Elementary School

Once again the Elementary School will offer a choice of world language (Thai, Mandarin or Spanish) in the 2012-2013 school year. Due to Thai government regulations, all new students to ISB (with the exception of those students who will be in the EAL program during World Language time) will need to take Thai for their first complete academic year at ISB. Additionally, we will continue with ALL Thai national students taking Thai as their World Language.

For non-native Thai speakers, our Thai program exposes children to the language and broadens their cultural appreciation through multiple levels of instruction. The Spanish and Mandarin curricula provide a framework for non-native speakers to develop oral and written language skills. Our language choices allow students to carry their language skills with them into the middle school programs and beyond.

What are the parameters?

- Thai national students will be automatically registered in **Thai for Native Speakers**.
- EAL students receiving EAP (English for Academic Purposes) services will automatically be registered in **EAL classes and not take a World Language**.
- All new ISB students will be automatically registered in Thai.
- All non-Thai national students (grades 1-5) will have a choice between Thai, Spanish and Mandarin.
- All kindergarten students will be automatically registered in Thai.
- In order to maintain program continuity, it is not possible to allow students to switch between language choices **once the school year has started**. Please keep this in mind as you make your choice.
- The Spanish and Mandarin programs are intended for students learning these languages. It is not designed to support the literacy development of native speakers.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact either Kelly or Diana in the Elementary School office.

Below, please indicate your child's world language choice for next school year and if your child is currently in EAL, please circle "EAL" and return to their classroom teacher by **Friday, May 18, 2012**.

Name of child: _____ Grade in 2012-2013: _____

Returning to ISB next year? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Unsure*

Modern Language choice (circle one): THAI SPANISH MANDARIN EAL(EAP "pull-out")

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

** If you are unsure about returning to ISB next year, please complete the form so we have it on file*

***The choices indicated here have no guaranty of placement. Depending on numbers, certain language classes may be available to only some grade levels.**