



Overseas Family School Elementary School

Master Policy:

To maintain a happy, safe and effective school for overseas families living in Singapore

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,

We are now in the final weeks of the academic year and we have had many more significant learning opportunities and school events that have taken place since April. The Elementary School wrapped up April with Earth Month with a focus on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #14 Life Below Water and students in each grade level were focused on meeting some of the objectives of this year's SDG. Our Grade 5 students and staff thoroughly enjoyed going on their long awaited camp, with a day trip to Pulau Ubin being one of the highlights. The recent Global Picnic was also a huge success; from the delectable food, flag and fashion parade, country performances, thrilling rides and games to the various arts and crafts, all of which were made for a truly international day. Our heartfelt thanks goes to the Parent Association, OFS parents, staff and students.



It has also been an equally exciting time for our specialist teachers, as our students and staff held the Grade 5 Graduation, Global Concerts, Performing Arts Concert, Art Exhibition, Math Week and grade level Sports mornings.

As this will be the final newsletter for Academic Year 2022-2023, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and wish our Grade 5 students all the very best as they embark on the next phase of their educational journey into Middle School. To our fifth graders, you have all been wonderful role models to our younger students and it has certainly been rewarding for your Grade 5 teachers and I to see the growth and progress you have made over the academic year.

To our students and families departing OFS, I hope you will take with you happy and positive memories of our school with you. As we move into our June-July holidays, I wish all our families a very well-deserved break and I look forward to seeing everyone in our new academic year. In the meantime, do keep safe and take care!

Penny Liew
Elementary School Principal
penny_liew@ofs.edu.sg



Yearbook 2023 will be available at the School Shop from 26 May 2023.

Dates to remember:	
6 June 2023	Grade 5 Graduation
9 June 2023	Last day of school (Academic Year 2022-2023)
7 August 2023	First day of school (Academic Year 2023-2024)

Visit to Angsana Primary School



On Thursday 4 May, the Junior Student Council (JSC) representatives had the opportunity to visit Angsana Primary School to continue the partnership that was established many years ago. The visit comprised of a formal welcome, an opportunity to explore Angsana Primary School with student guides, and the chance to learn more about Hari Raya. When learning more about Hari Raya, our students were able to explore recipes, clothing and activities. Through this experience, both set of students, from OFS and Angsana Primary School, were able to expand their knowledge of how to become more effective leaders by understanding different perspectives. This will hopefully be a school partnership that continues for many more years.

Annual Uniform & Stationery Sale – Academic Year 2023-2024

No purchases without recently issued OFS Security Pass. Please contact the school at 6738 0211 if you have not received your pass.

ONLINE ORDER

Duration: From Monday, 10 July to Wednesday, 2 August 2023

Website: <https://www.ofs.edu.sg/my-ofs/schoolshop/OnlineSchoolShop.jsp>

Delivery service is available at S\$30.00 per trip.

ON-SITE SALE

Duration: From Monday, 24 July to Friday, 11 August 2023

Venue: OFS School Shop located at Level 2, Administration Block A

Important: All purchases will be charged to your Family Account only.

For more information, please visit:
<https://www.ofs.edu.sg/events/2023/annual-uniform-stationery-sale/>

From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

Welcome All New Parents Coffee Morning

As the academic year draws to a close, the PA wishes all of you a very happy and safe summer. We hope you have enjoyed the events we organised this year, and look forward to seeing all of you again during the "Welcome All New Parents Coffee Morning".

Date: Thursday, 10 August 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Venue: Parent Lounge (Level 4 of Administration Block)

Until then, if you have any comment or suggestion, please feel free to contact our Chairperson by email at: parent_association@ofs.edu.sg. Have a wonderful holiday.



Grade 1 News

Thank you parents for your support in dressing the children in marine animal costumes to celebrate Earth Day. The students looked fantastic and made good connections to the activities organised for them. We are currently working on our final IPC Unit of Work, "The Stories People Tell". The students are having a wonderful time exploring legends, myths, fables and fairytales from long ago and learning about the different ways stories can be told through the written word as well as music, art and drama. In Language Arts, we are looking at Narratives. Students are learning about the written structure of a story where there is a clear beginning, middle and end. In Mathematics, we will be starting our unit on Money where students will explore Singapore coins and add amounts to one dollar. The students were very excited to perform for you at our Global Concert. We hope you enjoyed our dances from around the world. Thank you once again for the wonderful support you have given to the students and teachers over this academic year. On behalf of the Grade 1 Team, I would like to wish you all a very happy, safe and relaxing holiday.

(Jaya Ward)



Grade 2 News



We traveled back in time to the period of the dinosaurs through our IPC unit "Footprints From The Past". Students became paleontologists at the science lab to excavate little dinosaurs from moulds. They researched the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods to understand how the earth has changed over time. We also looked at the life of the famous paleontologists to learn about their contributions to the field of paleontology. Learning about fossils, extinction theories and the continental drift gave our students a wholesome experience of this exciting IPC unit. Earth Month was another highlight for our Grade 2s. Students participated in a range of activities to mark Earth month celebrations at OFS. The level 6 corridors came alive with students dressed as their favourite marine animals on Earth Day dress up day. Our Grades 2s put up a splendid show at the Global Concert performing to songs from around the world. As the academic year draws to a close, we take this opportunity to thank all our OFS families for their support. We wish you all a safe and fun-filled summer holiday and to all the Grade 2 students, good luck in Grade 3 and keep up all the hard work.

(Sameerata Prakash)

Grade 3 News



The end of the academic year is fast approaching and the Grade 3 learners are thoroughly enjoying their learning journeys. In continuation of Earth Month, our students have explored the environment, with a focus on the world's tropical rainforests including those surrounding Singapore, their inhabitants, biodiversity, and human impact. In addition to their research, each homebase class further deepened their understanding of this topic during the experiential learning provided during the Botanic Garden field trips. In Language Arts, we are focusing on writing persuasive texts using the appropriate structure, grammar and vocabulary. The Grade 3 students shined on the stage during the cultural performances for the Global Concert, showcasing dance movements and rhythms from various national celebrations and traditions. We hope you enjoyed this spectacular show! As the academic year concludes, Grade 3 teachers are proud of the students' amazing efforts and personal goals demonstrated throughout the year. We would like to thank you for your support throughout the year, wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing you in August.

(Camelia Gergely)

Library News

It has been a wonderful year in the library. Library lessons have developed students' skills as library users, researchers and critical thinkers. They have learned to select books that meet their interests and abilities, which gives them a sense of ownership as a reader. I encourage students to keep reading during the holiday. If you are travelling, students can access Big Universe, through our ES Student Page. If you are staying in Singapore, do consider membership to our fantastic public libraries. Lastly, congratulations to our dedicated readers who completed the Radical Reading Challenge! Enjoy the break and happy reading!

(Olivia Burford-Taylor)



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Grade 4 News



I cannot believe we are almost at the end of the school year. What a great year we have all had in Grade 4. We have been busy with the IPC Investigators unit which has involved many visits to the science lab. The students have taken on the role as scientists and showed their understanding of the scientific method and how to create a fair test. In Language Arts the students have produced procedure reports and this has linked in very well with the experiments they have carried out in the science lab. They understand the importance of writing clear and precise instructions to ensure the task is completed correctly. Module 5 saw the students drawing and measuring different types of angles using protractors for the first time. On behalf of all the Grade 4 teachers it has been a pleasure teaching your children and seeing them grow and develop throughout the year. They have all displayed many of the IPC Personal Goals and we wish them all the best for Grade 5.

(Guy Watts)

Music News

What an amazing month we have had in the Music Department! Each grade put on a fabulous Global Concert which celebrated the cultural diversity of our school community. Students performed dances and songs from all over the world which allowed them to understand that music and dance can be linked to cultural identity. We would like to thank all the parents for supporting our shows and helping with costumes at home. We also had a Performing Arts Concert and our final Luncheon Concert. We saw amazing performances from soloists, ensemble groups, choirs and our ES Rock Band. We are incredibly proud of all our students and we hope you enjoyed our musical events!

(Kevin McCabe)

Physical Education (PE)

In PE the students are currently participating in the Target Games and Ball Games units, where they develop their hand-eye coordination and learn how to play football, basketball and volleyball. The students are having a lot of fun while challenging each other to achieve high scores in the bean bag toss, ping pong challenge, badminton bounce, ten-pin bowling and other target games and activities. There has also been great enthusiasm for football, where the students are enjoying re-enacting their heroes' goal celebrations.

(Rory Hawkins)

Grade 5 News



The students in Grade 5 have finished a very productive academic year. As a great ending to their final Elementary year the students enjoyed a successful camp at Changi and Pulau Ubin, partaking in a variety of team building activities. A fantastic time was had by all. Our final IPC unit, "Fairgrounds", has allowed the students to look into the forces that can be found throughout a fairground and how they are used to create excitement and thrills. The Grade 5 scientists explored friction, magnetism and circuits and looked closely at Newton's Three Laws. The highlight was getting into the Science Lab and working through the Scientific Method to investigate more about these forces through hands-on learning. Our Language Arts procedural writing has connected perfectly with our lab write ups. Students are aware of the importance of writing detailed steps to ensure the activity can be performed successfully. Students dazzled the audience at our final Elementary Global Concert and enjoyed an engaging Grade 5 Sports morning. On behalf of the Grade 5 teaching team, I would like to thank all the parents for your tremendous support throughout the academic year. We wish the Grade 5 students all the best as they move to Middle School.

(Karla Kleist)

Sports News

The OFS Tigers have enjoyed yet another hugely successful season of ACSIS Sports. In Season 3. Congratulations to;

- Coach Grew's 8U Boys and Girls Football Team for their multiple wins
- Coach Traynor and Burgmann's 12U Boys Football Team who are ACSIS CHAMPIONS – Trophy Winners & Gold Medalists!
- Coach Cassie's 11U Girls and Boys Netball Teams for their multiple wins.
- Coaches; Chan, Leaver, Jain and Thomine for the progress and success of the Elementary School Track and Field Age group teams:
 - 8U Girls – 6th
 - 8U Boys – 8th
 - 9U Girls – ACSIS 3rd overall and Bronze Medalists
 - 9U Boys – 4th
 - 11U Girls – 8th
 - 11U Boys – 5th

Congratulations to all our OFS Tigers Teams and thank you to the coaches and chaperones for your work this season and to the parents who came out in to spectate and support. Thank you for representing the OFS Tigers teams and Overseas Family School with such pride and passion.

(Gil Levy)

Art News



We are very proud of our Elementary School artists who worked so hard throughout the year to create such a variety of amazing artworks to display in our first whole school Art Exhibition. It has been great to see Grades 1 to 5 students sharing their artworks with their peers and families and discussing what they might be making next year and what pieces are their favourites. What a fabulous way to wrap up another academic year! We wish all of our students and families a relaxing (and creative) holiday and we look forward to seeing our returning students for more art adventures next year.

(Jennifer Freeman)

Languages News



As we near the end of the year, let's take a moment to reflect on the amazing things we have done in the Languages' classes. It has been a wonderful year of Foreign Language and Mother Tongue learning, as well as celebrating cultures and traditions. Recently it was fantastic to see the Language classes support Earth Week by enjoying some wonderful activities that promoted the message of looking after our seas and marine life. Students drew posters, designed t-shirts, created catchy slogans that promote environmental awareness, wrote a pledge and read language books about the environment. In our final assembly for the year the Grade 1 students thoroughly entertained the audience. We learned how to sing "Head Shoulders Knees and Toes" in Spanish, French and Finnish. There was a fashion show, poetry in Korean and a Hindi dance based on the IPC unit "The Stories People Tell".

(Monica Makkar and Roger Calais)

Chess News



Checkmate to Racism

Well done to all our OFS students who competed in the 3rd edition of "Checkmate to Racism", an international online chess event held on 25 March 2023. OFS took a fantastic second place, only behind East Anglian Junior Chess from the UK, but ahead of the other 11 teams from South America, Europe and Asia. Most successful ES students were Ashwath Kaushik, Ehsan Manas and Isaac Ziegler. Once again big thank you to all students for making a stand against racism.

<https://www.ofs.edu.sg/news/2023/03-25-checkmate-to-racism/>

(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler)

SPP

As the academic year comes to an end, we reflect on the progress of the Study Preparation Program (SPP) students in their English language learning journey. The SPP teachers are proud of their phenomenal growth in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in English and would like to thank the parents for all their support throughout the year. The students' confidence and language abilities have steadily developed as they made new friends in their new classes, participated in a wide range of engaging activities during and after school, interacted with peers and teachers and expressed their ideas and thoughts. To maintain their newly acquired English skills, over the summer break, we encourage the SPP students to read, keep a journal, watch English shows or movies, and practice speaking with friends and family members. They should continue using language resources such as Reading Eggs/ Eggspress, Storyline Online, Epic, Brain Pop, Brain Pop Jr, and BBC Learning English. Last but not least, congratulations to our Grade Five SPP students graduating and moving on to Middle School. On behalf of the SPP team, I would like to wish you a safe, enjoyable and relaxing summer break. We look forward to continuing the language learning process in the next academic year.

(Camelia Gergely)

