



Overseas Family School High School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

As the newly appointed High School Principal, I am delighted to welcome all our new and returning High School (HS) families. I hope those new to Singapore are beginning to settle in and that their children's attendance at OFS is helping that process. It was lovely to see so many parents/guardians attending the HS Back to School Night on 24 August 2023 and I hope all our families found it informative.



I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate both our 2023 IB Diploma and IGCSE students for their excellent results. Even with a return to the pre-COVID grade thresholds, the fantastic outcomes are testament to the hard work and dedication given by our students, parents and teachers and is certainly something we are very proud of. I hope this success inspires all our students to keep working towards their goals and realise their full potential.

The beginning of the academic year is always exciting and much work has already begun to create a range of learning experiences, student events, and activities. This semester has already seen the HS Club Fair, the Grade 11 IB Core Info Evening, and the IB Extended Essay Exhibition, and there is a lot more in store including TEDx, Grade 9 Camp, the Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, the Lion City University Fair, the Senior UKMT (Mathematics) Competition, Coding Conference, and our annual Internationalism Celebration 'CultureFest'. Our competitive sports program is well underway with Tiger's training in a range of sports as well as our new exciting outdoor enrichment program, where students are learning to sail, paddle board, kayak and wall climb.

The success of OFS students is primarily achieved through the positive partnership between the parents, student and school. In keeping with this idea, you would have received letters about our forthcoming Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences taking place in late September (20, 21, 22, and 25). I strongly encourage parents and guardians to attend these conferences, preferably with your child or ward, to ensure direct feedback and future planning for success.

If you ever have any concerns or comments about the school, please do not hesitate to contact me directly by email adam_ashton@ofs.edu.sg.

Adam Ashton
High School Principal

IB Diploma News – Education For Life

MAY 2023 IB RESULTS

As we begin the new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students on their successful IB Diploma results. Although the International Baccalaureate's grade attainment was lower this year, due to the return of the pre-pandemic academic assessment levels, our class of 2023 has achieved remarkable results. These results have greatly surpassed global averages, with a significant number of our students currently gearing up for higher education at esteemed universities worldwide.



NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

First of all, congratulations to our two students who earned a nearly perfect score of 44 on their IB Diploma!



JAIN Akshita



JIANG Xin

A total of five students were awarded the IB Diploma with 43 points.



HO Qian Kang
Joshua



MISHRA
Mihika



NERLEKAR
Ashwath Dinesh



SHIN
Kyungbin



KODUKULLA
Venkata Surya Sisir

Ten students achieved the IB Diploma with 42 points.



BYUN
Juyoung



EMORI
Yurina



KOMPELLA
Tanmaya



NAMBOODIRI
Maitreyi



SHEIKH
Arsh



SHIN
Jongmin



SMEE Grace
Renate



YOON
Yeo Eun



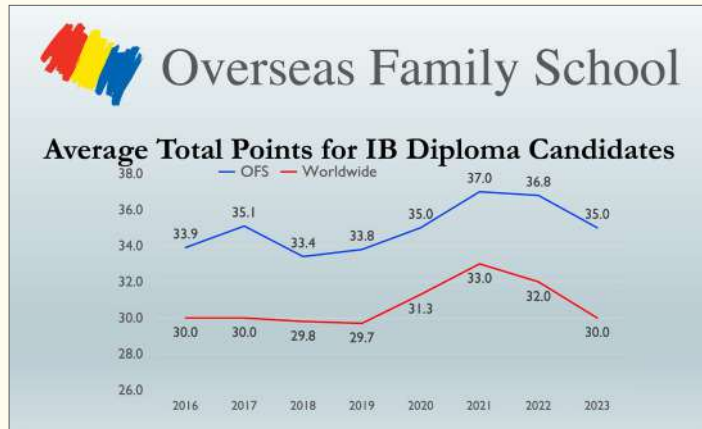
CHOI
Seungwoo



PARK
Si-Hyeon



As in previous years, the average score for our IB candidates continues to be well above worldwide averages.



Our results are impressive, considering that OFS has an open entry policy. This sets us apart from a number of schools around the world, which usually pre-select students for the Diploma program in advance. All students entering Grade 11 at OFS are able to enter the IB Diploma program if they choose to do so.

KODUKULLA Venkata Surya Sisir, who achieved a score of 43 points, shared the following, "For me, IB was rather overwhelming, especially during the first semester of Grade 12. But this period was what allowed me to strengthen my friendships, discover my passion and temper myself into becoming someone much more capable and determined than I was at the beginning of Grade 11. The very supportive teachers, inclusive school environment and fantastic classmates were key to my growth and ability to be more than what I was when I first joined OFS 4 years ago."

Furthermore, 32.8% of our cohort were awarded a Bilingual Diploma. The ability to speak multiple languages will increasingly prove to be a valuable skill as our world becomes increasingly interconnected. In their role as global citizens, our students have fully embraced their responsibilities.

Jiang Xin, who not only scored 44 points and received a bilingual diploma, shared the following, "IB was a challenging experience I will never forget and forever feel grateful for. It taught me not only academics but also how to present my best self when communicating with others, trying new things, and overcoming difficulties. The very important thing I want to say is a big 'Thank You' to all the support and opportunities given by the faculty at OFS, I feel lucky that I was provided all these on my way to achieving my different goals at OFS. "

As we extend our congratulations for the accomplishments of the Class of 2023, it is important to recognise that our students transcend their IB scores. Their journey with us has been exceptionally fruitful and fulfilling. We are excited to witness the paths graduates choose to take as they embark on new adventures and prospects ahead.

THE EXTENDED ESSAY (EE) NEWS:

Extended Essay (EE): The First Submission for the EE was on Sunday, 20 August 2023. Over the next few weeks, EE supervisors will be giving feedback and advice regarding areas that students can improve upon. The deadline for the Final Submission for the EE is Sunday 22 October 2023 at 10:00pm.

CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE (CAS):

CAS activities continue this semester. The CAS program motivates students to contribute their enthusiasm and unique abilities to benefit others. Through these experiences, students are expected

to cultivate a deeper understanding of themselves, a sense of empathy for others, and develop skills allowing them to collaborate effectively with fellow individuals.

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (TOK):

TOK is an interdisciplinary requirement, intended to stimulate critical reflection on knowledge and experience gained inside and outside the classroom.

GRADE 11 NEWS:

Once again, we have a large cohort of students, with many enrolling for the full complement of IB courses. CAS is an important feature of the Diploma Core, with students needing to balance their involvement across the three strands: Creativity, Activity and Service each semester. Students should aim to be regularly involved in each strand, ideally each week.

If you have any questions regarding the IB Diploma and courses, please feel free to contact me at the school or at my email address (trapti_trivedi@ofs.edu.sg) and/or Lee Woollard, IB DP Assistant Coordinator & Extended Essay Coordinator (lee_woollard@ofs.edu.sg).

(Trapti Trivedi – IB DP Coordinator)

Junior High School News

Greetings to all our Grade 9 and 10 students and their families! We are excited about the opportunity to collaborate with both you and your child, ensuring a year of great accomplishments.

Embarking on a new school year is exciting but at the same time it can be challenging. We hope our students will be "risk-takers", approaching unfamiliar situations with courage and anticipation. Everyday, your child will be "pushed to explore new roles, ideas and strategies" (MYP: Principles into Practice) during their lessons, through curriculum learning and workshops, by independently engaging in MYP Action, within their involvement in a Tigers team, and of course, through the Personal Project.

The IB Learner Profile is the key for your child to gain a better understanding of themselves as students and people. It is in the Junior High School that we see the IB Learner qualities truly flourish within our students. As the year progresses, you will also see a continued effort put towards developing your child's Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills. We know these skills will have a lasting impact throughout the entirety of their High School experience and beyond.

To finish, I would like to congratulate our Grade 11 students as they received very pleasing IGCSE and IB MYP Personal Project results. By now, everyone should have received their provisional IGCSE results on the Cambridge Assessment International Education website. By early October, we will receive the final certificates for both IGCSE and IB MYP.

Should you have any questions about IB MYP or IGCSE, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at (ab_palacios@ofs.edu.sg) and/or Ms. Clara Fuentes Torruella, IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator (c_fuentestorruella@ofs.edu.sg).

(Aida Blat Palacios – IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator)

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University Information Sessions

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

It has been a busy start to the academic year with student lectures on Medicine and Law from current students at Bristol University, as well as university visits from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) and the California College of the Arts. We have more university visits lined up for the month of September and they continue to be advertised in the Gazette, students' Homebase Learning Portal and the Academic Advisors' Website. Parents are welcome to attend as well.

LION CITY FAIR

Following on from the resounding success of our Lion City Fair last academic year, we are very excited to announce we will be hosting more than 100 universities from around the world, including the UK, the US, Canada, Europe, and Australia on Friday, 29 September 2023.

All students and their parents from Grades 9 to 12 are strongly encouraged to attend with Grade 12 students and their parents invited to attend the session from 2:30pm and Grade 9 to 11 students and their parents are welcome to attend from 3:30pm onwards.

This is an excellent opportunity to ask the university representatives critical questions about the admissions process, entry requirements, and how to write a good admissions essay.

(Tamana Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)



Study Preparation Program Celebration

On Monday, 5 June 2023, Level 3 students from Grades 9, 10 and 11 came together to celebrate the completion of their time in the Study Preparation Program before they join mainstream classes in August. In front of SPP teachers and other staff, two students, NAKAGAWA Hana from Grade 9 and LEE Sungwoo from Grade 10 gave wonderful speeches on behalf of their classmates about their

experiences in SPP before all the students received their certificates from Mr. Ashton. It was a privilege to be part of the students' Study Preparation Program journey and we look forward to seeing all of them next year as they start their mainstream classes.

(Louise Meekings Wong – Study Preparation Program and English Teacher)





Student Voice

Welcome back, everyone! This semester in Student Voice, we began the year with an exciting assembly to welcome our students on a positive note. With a fun dance segment at the start, we then moved onto exciting new clubs for the school year, as well as an introduction to our new teachers through a fun Q&A session. We also witnessed a thrilling and action-packed Wild West themed spirit week! The week consisted of several rodeo-esque activities, such as "Pin the tail on the donkey", Wheelbarrow and Potato Sack racing, lively country music and much more! These activities unleashed the inner cowboys and cowgirls and school spirit. And there is even more to look forward to with our semesterly school dance returning in full swing this October! Stay tuned for more from Student Voice!

Sanjita Verkot, G12 – Tigers Today Committee, Student Voice



Connect Session

On Friday, 4 August 2023, the High School Peer Mentor team played host to 71 new-to-OFS students in our Connect session. Designed to allow new students to learn more about OFS before their first day of school and to meet some of their peers, the Connect session was led by the Peer Mentors and included some fun activities, such as icebreakers and an 'Amazing Race'-style scavenger hunt, which showed them many of the key areas of the OFS

campus, as well as introduced some of the significant members of staff. The Peer Mentors are a carefully selected group of students from across Grades 9 to 12 who help newcomers transition to OFS. Their main aim, with the support of Ms. Green and Ms. Ornela, our High School Student Welfare Advisors, is to "connect", "support", and "guide" new students, making sure all our newcomers feel welcomed. Each new student has been assigned a Peer Mentor, who assists them during the first few weeks of school. It is so much more than just a buddy system; the Peer Mentors have undertaken a commitment and responsibility to ensure the well-being and adjustment of those new to our school.

(Helen Green – Student Welfare Advisor)



OFS Tigers

OFS Tigers has seen its greatest number of student sign ups for the High School 19U and 16U teams. The quality of our student-athletes has improved significantly and as a result so has the standard. A number of teams will move up the ACSIS Divisions playing against stronger teams too. Being selected to the competitive teams is an honour in that students will represent their team, our competitive sports program (OFS Tigers), and the school in competing against some of the very best in the ACSIS leagues and championships. We are so excited to have been able to expand our High School Competitive Sports Program in Season One by offering 3 Volleyball teams, 3 Preseason Basketball teams and a 19U Cricket Team. Season One is underway and concludes on 18 November.

"Tigers on Three, 1-2-3 TIGERS !!!"

(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)



From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

The Parent Association (PA) invites all parents to join us for a Hari Raya (Eid) themed Coffee Morning. Come along and learn more about the traditions and customs from our Muslim community.

Date: Thursday, 14 September 2023

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Parent Lounge (Level 4 of Administration Building)

If you would like more information about this or other PA events, please feel free to contact our Chairperson by email at: parent_association@ofs.edu.sg