



Overseas Family School Middle School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

The time has flown by and we have almost reached the end of the academic year. All our students have had an action packed year, full of activities and opportunities, to enrich their experiences. We have made history together.

We welcomed back all our events including, the OFS Global Picnic, Model United Nations Conference in Taiwan and fabulous Music, Art, Drama and Dance (M.A.D.D.) Week, which culminated with a day for students and staff who dressed up as their favourite artistes. A big 'Thank you' to Ms. Nora Patterson, The Arts Subject Area Leader and the brilliant Arts Team for making all this happen.

We also have our SPP Celebration, Middle School Graduation and Homebase get together scheduled for the last week of the academic year.

This year, we had our inaugural Grade 8 Prom Night on Friday, 26 May 2023. This was an opportunity for our Grade 8 graduands to celebrate before their formal graduation on Thursday, 8 June 2023.

Thank you to the whole Middle School family for making this such a memorable and successful year.



Michael Lee
Middle School Principal
michael_lee@ofs.edu.sg



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

Sustainability Club

Students from the Sustainability Club created a pledge board for Earth Week where students could make their own pledge to commit to helping the environment-no action is too small. French 1 students led a workshop on how to make recycled paper. They collected recycled paper around school and in turn they taught other students how to make their own recycled paper in a fun student-led workshop.

(Eileen Pallaris – Teacher-in-Charge of Sustainability Club)



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.

MADD Week





Deputy Principal's Message



I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Middle School students on completing another successful year. It has been fantastic to see our students being able to participate in the many events, performances, sports competitions, camps and other trips again.

We finished the year with our Semester 2 'Examination Week'. These internal examinations are just one of many types of assessment undertaken throughout the year and are designed to help students develop effective procedures and to experience examination conditions. As with all assessment tasks, they are an opportunity for students to show how much they have learnt and progressed.

We will be sad to be saying goodbye to our Grade 8 students, but pleased to be able to celebrate their time in Middle School during the Grade 8 Graduation and Grade 8 Prom Night. We also look forward to welcoming all our new Grade 6 families in August.

In addition, we will be hosting our SPP Celebration to recognise the hard work and progress of our students in the SPP program. It is amazing to see how far they have come in such a short space of time. Congratulations to you all.

Our end of year assemblies are another opportunity for us to look back over the past year and celebrate all we have achieved. We wish all our families a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to seeing you all again in August.

(Hayley Brian – Middle School Deputy Principal)

hayley_brian@ofs.edu.sg

Student Council Representative – Events and Activities

'Bring Anything But A Backpack' day was one of the fun and latest events organised by the Student Council. The focus was to highlight the fact that we should always look to repurpose and recycle what we have whenever possible and this could include the daily backpack many students and staff might bring to school. The Student Council would like to thank the many students who got involved in the initiative. As part of the day, each Homebase nominated a winner to go forward to the lunchtime competition where, judged by a panel of SCR representatives from across the grade levels, they had a tough job to decide the winner with creative and amazing entries including adapted jackets, hats, swimsuits, pillowcases, coat hangers and even a toaster to name but a few! Ultimately, the judges decided that the winner was Feng Yucheng from 8.08 Salwana with his motorised holdall who won a book voucher for his efforts!

In other news, the Student Council has been busy responding to suggestions from their Middle School peers and arranging the Grade 8 Prom for the graduating class of 2023, a beach clean-up and setting up a lunchtime movie club during exam week to allow students to de-stress and relax. The SCR team welcomes further suggestions and thanks the school leadership for their support.

(James Chapman and Teresa Alvarado – Teachers-In-Charge of SCR)



Dutch Remembrance Day

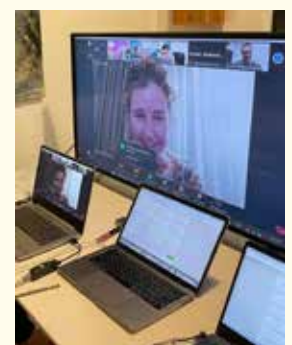
Casharell Kraan of Grade 6 represented the OFS at the Dutch Remembrance Day by reciting a beautiful poem written by herself at Kranji War Memorial. Every year on the 4th May the Dutch community commemorate Remembrance Day to never forget about all the civilians and soldiers who have died since the outbreak of the Second World War. Her poem 'Living with War' conveys the message that we all have a responsibility to prevent war and to ensure that we can live in freedom and peace. Well done Casharell!



Chess Team

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 MS students were Arshaan Prakash, Riddhi Das and Kartik Goel. Once again, a big thank you to all students for making a stand against racism.

(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler – Chess Coaches)



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Health & Social Education Program



In Quarter 4, the Health Social Education (HSE) Program focus is on the theme of collaboration. Elements of collaboration such as active listening, showing empathy, conflict resolution and working together effectively will be covered in Homebase times. There are also HSE sessions this quarter on the topic of changes at puberty. These sessions will be at an age appropriate level for each grade and girls and boys will be separated to address the specific changes within each gender. This will cover both the physiological and psychological changes. Lastly, with the examinations on the horizon, Homebases will be looking at how to put together helpful revision schedules and how to manage assessment stress. All in all, this will bring the academic year to a close and we hope that the HSE input has served to equip the students effectively in the areas of organization, affective skills development, communication and collaboration.

(Aidan Spencer and Hanna Ucko Neill – Middle School Student Advisors)

Service Club

The Service Club has had a very active quarter. We have aligned ourselves primarily with service opportunities that are already running in the High School with the intention of exposing our students to projects that they could go on to lead themselves in the higher grades as part of their Community and Service requirement. A number of students have learnt how to knit and are hoping to complete squares for Knit a Square in South Africa. We have completed two beach clean ups working with the Ocean Purpose Project and finally have visited the NTUC Nursing Home in Paris Ris in order to care for some of the elderly. Our students have been very flexible and stood in the gap to help with recycling in the Middle School as well as support the High School students in building their Earth Week Installation. It has been a fun and fulfilling club and we are excited to see where it leads next year.

(Jessica Purchase and Salwana Salahudeen – Teachers-in-Charge of Service Club)



“Beach Clean Up: Middle School Students Joining Forces to Save Our Seas!”

On Wednesday 3 May, the Student Council in collaboration with the Sustainability Club, led a team of Middle School students to clean up litter and debris at Pasir Ris Beach. Armed with tongs, reusable trash bags, and a positive attitude, the students picked up a variety of trash items that had been left behind by beachgoers. They managed to collect a significant amount of waste, which they disposed of in an environmentally responsible way with the help of the Ocean Purpose Project. This Singaporean social enterprise is the first and only beach clean up in Singapore that converts the trash into hydrogen.

We would like to commend these students for their efforts and commitment to making a positive change in our community. Their actions serve as an inspiration to others and remind us that we can all make a difference in protecting our planet. We would also like to thank Ms. Salwana, Mrs. Purchase and Ms. Pallaris in making this event a success.

We encourage everyone to do their part in keeping our beaches and oceans clean and healthy for generations to come.

(James Chapman and Teresa Alvarado – Teachers-in-Charge of SCR)





Sports News

The OFS Tigers Sports have been immensely successful in Season 3 of OFS' first year competing in the Athletic Conference of Singapore International Schools (ACSIS).



12U Football

The Middle School's 12U Boys Football team are ACSIS Champions!

14U and 16U Basketball

Captain Arvir Randhawa's 14U Basketball team under Coach Elgear's coaching are undefeated in Season 3 and have been crowned ACSIS CHAMPIONS! OFS Tigers' Basketball are on the rise with our 14U Boys team winning the ACSIS League and the 16U team were runners-up while Captain Elyssa Thuan's 14U Basketball girls team under Coach Brieta finished as runners-up in our first year competing in the conference.

14U Boys Tennis

Under Coach Small and captained by Vedant Nogaja, OFS Tigers' Boys Tennis Team have finished as runners-up and silver medalists.

16U Badminton and Netball

The 16U age groups are made up of both Middle and High School players.

Captain Jenny Zhou's 16U Girls Badminton Team are ACSIS Champions while the 16U Boys Team captained by Arsh Agarwal are bronze medalists.

The 16U Netball teams continued to improve, progress and chalk up a number of hard fought and well-deserved wins in their division.

Gymnastics

Didi Tse, led the Gymnastics Team in a number of competitions and won multiple medals throughout the year as well as winning the Bronze Medal in the Level 4 ACSIS Gymnastic Championships.

Swimming

Casharell Kraan and Naya Verma together with Qian Hanchen and Chen Hongxu are set to compete in the Dutch Championships and Singapore Championships respectively during the summer break. We wish them all the very best!

The OFS Tigers have had an extraordinary first venture in the ACSIS Sports Leagues and Championships. Across all the sports and all the age groups, the OFS Tigers have competed in over 320 competitions this school year. The Middle School students involved in our competitive sports programs have set the bar very high for our future OFS Tigers to strive towards and as such, we are even more excited for next academic year's competitive sports seasons where we will look to build on our inaugural success, build more depth into our programs as well as potentially introduce some new ACSIS sports to our current provision. Well done OFS Tigers Middle School Teams! We are so proud of you all!

(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)



Congratulations to Vihaan Raj and Vedant Raj in Grade 8 who recently travelled to Barcelona with the Barca Football Academy in Singapore. After a week long tournament against 48 other teams, their U14 team managed to finish in 2nd place in their division!

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 \$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/>

Taipei American School Model United Nations (TASMUN)

The Middle School MUN Club attended the Taipei American School Model United Nations (TASMUN) in Taiwan in mid-April. Our students were given advanced positions in committees such as the International Criminal Court, Historical Joint Crisis Committee and in Advisory Panels. They did very well, and some of our students even received mentions in the closing ceremony. The students described the conference as 'next level' in terms of procedure, organisation and participation, and it was great to see our students confidently participate in a completely new setting. The Taiwan trip went beyond a MUN experience and provided opportunities for visiting the Shilin Night Market and the Mao Kong tea plantation area up in the mountains surrounding Taipei. The group stopped by Chiang Kai Shek Memorial Hall on the way to Tower 101 and enjoyed a lot of Taiwanese culinary delights. A trip to remember!

(Hanna Ucko Neill – Middle School MUN Coordinator)

