Newsletter May/June 2024



Master Policy:

Overseas Family School Elementary School

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

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,

As we head into the final stretch of this school year, we have been very busy with key events taking place such as our annual Global Picnic. Despite the inclement weather this year, it did not dampen the festivities planned. From



the delicious variety of food, entertaining performances, flag and fashion parades to the rides and games, our Global Picnic was a celebration of cultures within our school community. Our heartfelt thanks to the Parent Association, OFS parents, staff and students who worked tirelessly to make this a successful event.

Our Grade 5 students and staff recently had a memorable experience at their annual camp, with a day trip to Pulau Ubin and kayaking being one of the main highlights. We are proud of how they demonstrated their resilience and camaraderie throughout their time away from school and home.

As the academic year draws to a close, we have a robust plan to support a smooth transition for our K2 students coming into Elementary School as well as for our Grade 5 students going into Middle School. In the coming weeks, we have our little kindergarteners visiting our Elementary School and participating in a range of activities to familiarize themselves with their new environment. Meanwhile, our Grade 5 students have already participated in several Middle School activities such as having a visit from the Acting Middle School Principal, Ms. Arin Mares, having a tour of the Middle School, participating in science lab sessions and watching the MADD week rehearsals.

As this will be the final newsletter for Academic Year 2023-24, 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 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 2024 will be available at the School Shop from 24 May 2024.

Important Dates:	
4 June	Grade 5 Graduation
7 June	Last day of school (Academic Year 2023-2024)
12 August	First day of school (Academic Year 2024-2025)

From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

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, 15 August 2024 Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Venue: Parent Lounge (Level 4 of Administration Building)

Chess News



It has been a fantastic year filled with exciting chess puzzles, beautiful tactics, inspiring sacrifices, and chess tournaments.Our students have not only improved their chess skills but also learned the rules of chess tournaments and the importance of fair play. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them for their dedication and growth throughout the academic year.

(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler)



Grade 1 News

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. We hope you enjoyed the dances from around the world at our Global Concert. The children were very excited to perform for you. The teachers are extremely proud of the students for the growth and learning they have shown this academic year. Thank you once again for the wonderful support you have given to the students and teachers. On behalf of the Grade 1 Team, I would like to wish you all a very happy, safe and relaxing holiday.





Grade 2 News



We traveled back in time to the period of the dinosaurs through our IPC Unit of Work, "Footprints From The Past". Students researched the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods of the Mesozoic era to understand how Earth has changed over time. We also looked at the life of famous paleontologists to learn about their contributions in the field of paleontology. Learning about fossils, extinction theories and the continental drift gave our students a wholesome experience of this exciting unit. In Language Arts, students delved into the world of poetry, exploring its many forms. Inspired by Earth Day, they wrote beautiful poems celebrating nature and emphasizing the importance of taking care of our planet. Students put on a splendid show at the Global Concert. As the academic year draws to a close, we would like to 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. They have been researching rainforests and their inhabitants, biodiversity and human impact. During the field trip to Bollywood Farms, the students viewed vegetables, fruits, herbs, spices and medicinal plants. They were introduced to sustainable and ecofriendly farming and the 3R's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. In Language Arts, we are focusing on writing persuasive texts using the appropriate structure and language features. The Grade 3 students shone on the stage during the cultural performances for the Global Concert, showing dance movements and rhythms for 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. We wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing you in August.

(Emma Gregg)

Music News

What an incredible month it has been in the Music Department! Our Global Concerts showcased the rich tapestry of cultural diversity within our school community. Through captivating dances and songs from around the globe, our students developed an appreciation for the connection between music, dance, and cultural identity. We also had our Performing Arts Concert where our talented soloists and ensemble groups took to the stage for an evening of inspiring musical performances. We are immensely proud of our students and we hope that you enjoyed all the concerts as much as we did. Thank you all for your unwavering support and we look forward to many more exciting musical events in the next academic year.

(Kevin McCabe)

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 had 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 over the year. The students have all displayed many of the IPC Personal Goals as the year has gone on and we wish them all the best for Grade 5.

(Guy Watts)

Art News



We have ended our academic year with a fabulous showcase of our Elementary students' artwork in our second Grades 1 to 5 Art Exhibition. It has been wonderful to see so many excited children and families discussing the varied creations and admiring the work of others too. Ms. Wendy and I are very proud of all of the hard work the students have done throughout the year and we wish everybody an enjoyable break. We look forward to seeing our returning students for more art adventures next academic year!

Grade 5 News

It has been a productive and memorable journey for our students this year. As a great ending to their final Elementary year the students enjoyed a successful camp at Changi and Pulau Ubin. They participated in various team-building activities, fostering camaraderie and creating lasting memories. It was a fantastic experience for all involved. Our final IPC unit ", Fairgrounds", allowed our students to delve into the fascinating world of forces found in amusement parks. Through hands-on learning, our Grade 5 scientists explored friction, magnetism, circuits, and Newton's Three Laws. They even had the opportunity to conduct experiments in the Science Lab, applying the scientific method. This unit perfectly aligned with our Language Arts procedural writing, emphasising the importance of clear and detailed instructions. Additionally, they had a blast during the Grade 5 Sports Morning, engaging in friendly competition and promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. The Grade 5 teachers send our congratulations to all of the students on their graduation as it is a momentous occasion. We would like to also express our heartfelt gratitude to all parents for your tremendous support throughout the academic year. All the best to our students as they embark on their new journey in Middle School.

(Karla Kleist)



Annual Uniform & Stationery Sale – Academic Year 2024-2025

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, 15 July to Tuesday, 6 August 2024 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, 29 July to Friday, 16 August 2024 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/

Languages News









The Grade 2 Languages Assembly was a whirlwind celebration of languages and cultures! Grade 2 Hebrew and German students shared beautiful poems about Spring. We learned how to count to 10 in Korean with a catchy song, followed by a captivating presentation in Hindi about the IPC of Land, Sea, and Sky. Next, they challenged the audience with some tricky Spanish tongue twisters that had everyone giggling. The assembly wrapped up with an adorable song and dance about pandas in Mandarin, complete with some new vocabulary words about these beloved creatures. Language students went green for Earth Day this year, showcasing their language skills and environmental awareness through a series of creative projects. The students channeled their artistic talents into crafting eye-catching Earth Day posters, each featuring slogans in different languages. Beyond visuals, the students also took a more theatrical approach by performing a role play on the topic of climate change in various languages.

Sports News

In only our second year of competing in the Athletic Conference of Singapore International Schools (ACSIS), the OFS Tigers have begun to establish themselves as one of the most formidable international schools participating in competitive sports.

We have endeavored to provide more quality opportunities for training and competing to our OFS community by successfully doubling the number of teams across a range of sports and age groups who competed in ACSIS, making competitive sports more accessible and inclusive.

We have also included new and additional sports to our program, offering Volleyball, Table Tennis, and Chess, all of which have been remarkably successful.

OFS has quickly risen not only through the ACSIS divisions, but also with many sports at the national level where we have finished on the podium achieving over a combined 350 gold, silver, and bronze medals.

Furthermore, the OFS Tigers competitive sports program has developed three National Champions. Two Singapore National Swimming Champions and one Singapore National Gymnastics Champion as well as multiple National gold, silver, and bronze medalists. OFS is also represented in Cricket and Swimming on the Singapore National Team and has swimmers competing abroad in Holland and Canada. These swimmers are expected to be selected to represent their respective national teams, which have qualified for the upcoming World Cup scheduled to be held in October later this year.

This remarkable achievement would not have been possible without the immense contribution and behind-the-scenes support of the stakeholders, the tireless efforts of the Sports Department, the quality of our coaches, the leadership of our team captains, the commitment and work ethic of our students, and the incredible spirit and positive energy from our parents.

The OFS Tigers' achievements are celebrated with trophies and medals presented at the annual Sports Awards event. The second year of competitive sports has been outstanding, and the next academic year promises to be even better.

Congratulations and a heartfelt thanks to everyone involved! (Gil Levy)

Physical Education (PE)

This term, we are delving into Ball Games and Target Games, providing diverse sport experiences. From hockey, basketball, football, to volleyball, students will enhance various technical skills and teamwork. In Target Games, they will refine accuracy with frisbees, dodgeballs, and more, focusing on technical and fine motor skills. There is much excitement with Sports Morning on the horizon at the end of Quarter 4, and the return of Lunchtime Sports for Grades 4 and 5 with Handball. With a blend of skill-building and fun, it's is shaping up to be a memorable term for everyone involved!

(Mark Sherwin)





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MENU REFRESH NEW AND TASTIER CHOICES AWAIT!



We are thrilled to share that we will be partnering with Victus Catering to bring a fresh change to the OFS menu! Victus Catering is part of Victus Group Asia, a highly renowned F&B solutions provider in Singapore with a diverse portfolio of successful restaurant and event space catering, and acclaimed children culinary programs. Since 2018, Victus Catering has served a number of top international schools in Singapore with daily meals that comply with government standards for child nutrition, becoming the caterer of choice for the international schools in Singapore.

Tastier and Healthier

We will soon bring a wide range of delicious and healthy dishes for the OFS community, salads and from nourishing gourmet chicken delectable rice to desserts. Students, parents and staff can look forward to a menu revamp and enjoy flavourful international meals during break time. Stay tuned for a tastier and healthier dining experience at our school dining hall!

