



# 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 I write this message, our High School students have successfully completed their first-semester examinations, showcasing exemplary behaviour and a positive attitude towards their studies. This accomplishment makes the upcoming break especially well-deserved – a chance for students to unplug, recharge, and engage in meaningful ways to relax and unwind.

This month, our campus was brimming with energy, particularly during the CultureFest Celebration held in the auditorium. Students delighted us with remarkable performances of cultural music and dance, creating a heart-warming opportunity to reconnect with our parent community.

Looking back on a vibrant and eventful semester, our students participated in a wide range of enriching activities, including the Grade 9 Camp, the Personal Project Exhibition, PSAT testing, the UKMT competition, MUN Conferences, our annual TEDx event, Talentime, the Lion City University Fair, Chess Tournaments, OFS Tigers Sports matches, the School Dance, and so much more!

As we approach January, exciting changes await our student body. SPP students will transit to the next level or join the mainstream curriculum, while some families prepare for new journeys around the world. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all departing students for their contributions to the Overseas Family School community and warmly welcome new families joining us in the new year.

Wishing everyone a safe and joyous semester break! We look forward to reuniting on Monday, 6 January 2025, with an array of exciting programs and initiatives designed to inspire our students and support their growth in the year ahead.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [adam\\_ashton@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:adam_ashton@ofs.edu.sg).

Adam Ashton  
High School Principal



## IB Diploma News – Education For Life

### GRADE 12

Below are key dates for students in Semester Two:

- **Friday, 10 January 2025:** Final submission of the Theory of Knowledge essay. Formal written feedback on drafts was provided in December 2024.
- **Monday, 13 January 2025, Period 5:** Grade 12 students will share their EE, TOK, or CAS experiences with Grade 11 students. Participation is optional but highly encouraged, with opportunities to work solo or collaboratively. Judges will be present and certificates will be awarded.
- **Thursday, 16 January 2025:** Final submission of the Extended Essay. Formal written feedback on drafts was provided in October 2024.
- **Monday, 3 March 2025 to Wednesday, 12 March 2025:** IB DP Mock Examinations. The schedule will be available on the school website, and students will receive individual timetables. Language B Orals will be scheduled afterward.
- **Monday, 28 April 2025 to Wednesday, 21 May 2025:** IB Examination period. Full IB Diploma students and Grade 12 course students will have study leave starting Thursday, 17 April 2025.

### GRADE 11

#### Extended Essay

The Extended Essay process begins formally on Wednesday, 8 January 2025, with introductory subject seminars. Students must select their subject and topic by March 2025. Supervisors will be assigned to guide them through their EE journey.

#### Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS)

By the end of Grade 11, students should have completed two-thirds of their CAS requirements. Planning and selecting sufficient engagements in Semester Two is essential to meet this target.

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](mailto:trapti_trivedi@ofs.edu.sg)) and/or Lee Woollard, IB DP Assistant Coordinator & Extended Essay Coordinator ([lee\\_woollard@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:lee_woollard@ofs.edu.sg)).

(Trapti Trivedi – IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator)

## From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

As Semester 1 comes to a close, we want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for all your support. Happy holidays to everyone! May your new year be filled with happiness and success.

We look forward to seeing all of you again in January 2025. If you are travelling, enjoy your trip! Stay safe and healthy.

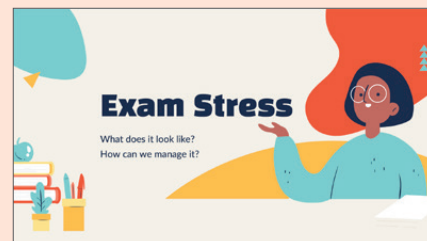


## Junior High School News

In the first week of November, our Grade 9 and 10 students gathered for lively and engaging Grade Level Assemblies. The Singapore Police joined us, sharing valuable tips on understanding local laws. We also presented key insights on Semester Exams and the Academic Integrity Policy. The Welfare Advisors wrapped up with powerful strategies for stress management during exams. Students were fully engaged, taking away practical tips to support their success.

If you have any questions about the IB MYP or IGCSE programs, please feel free to reach out to me at ([ab\\_palacios@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:ab_palacios@ofs.edu.sg)) or Ms. Clara Fuentes Torruella, IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator, at ([c\\_fuentestorruella@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:c_fuentestorruella@ofs.edu.sg)).

(Aida Blat Palacios – IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator)



## Academic Advisors Update

### UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

We are now processing applications to universities worldwide. Our students will receive their results from December 2024 to April 2025.

So far, some students have already received offers from King's College London (English), the University of Manchester (Biomedical Sciences, Management), Durham University (English Literature), Hull York Medical School (Medicine), Loughborough (English with placement year, Bioengineering with placement year), University of Sydney (Chemical Engineering).

### PSAT RESULTS

The PSAT (Preliminary SAT) was held on Tuesday, 22 October 2024 and results were available on Thursday, 7 November 2024.

Our students outperformed global averages in both Reading and Mathematics. On average, our students scored 1161 out of 1520 across all grade levels, while the global average is 954 out of 1520. In Reading, our school's average score was 584 out of 760, compared to a global average of 486. Similarly, in Mathematics, our students averaged 577 out of 760, while the global average was 468. A huge congratulations goes to Samhita Uppalapati (G11), who scored a perfect score of 1520.

(Tamana Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)



## MUNOFS XVII

MUNOFS XVII, held from Friday, 8 November to Sunday, 10 November 2024 was a resounding success. The conference featured 13 diverse committees, including WHO and the U.S. Senate, and welcomed nearly 400 delegates.

It was inspiring to witness delegates collaborating to address contemporary and pressing issues. We were also delighted to host schools from Cambodia and Thailand once again.

Congratulations to our Executive Committee and Secretary-General, Saksham Verma (G12), for organising such an outstanding and rewarding conference.

We would also like to thank Mr. Wang Bowen, our guest speaker.



### MUNOFS XVII EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:



NISHANDAR Saachi  
Nitin (G11)



SALIAN Adheesh  
Navinchandra (G11)



NEILL Astrid  
Eleanor (G11)



TIRMIZI  
Sophia (G11)



GROVER  
Vivaan (G11)



KOHLI  
Devansh (G11)



BILSLAND Natasha  
Roberta (G12)



BHATIA  
Angad (G12)



VERMA  
Saksham (G12)



MAKHIYANI Mitali  
Sandeep (G12)



PATNAIK Kottakki  
Vahein (G12)

(Neisha Pratt – Deputy Principal, Curriculum)



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# UKMT Senior Mathematics Challenge (Thursday, 3 October 2024)

65 Grades 11 and 12 students participated in the 2024 online version of the UKMT Senior Mathematics Challenge. Our students once again performed at an exceptionally high level with just under 30% of OFS students achieving the coveted Gold Level Award (world average approx. 9%), and over 80% achieving a Gold-Bronze award.

Overall 18 students achieved the top Gold Level Certificate, 17 achieved a Silver Level and 18 Bronze Level.

Pride of place this year goes to top scorer, Grade 11 student **Noh Hyeonggyun (Harry)**, who was highest in the school/joint highest in the world with an outstanding perfect score of 125/125. A remarkable performance!



Noh Hyeonggyun



Towako Honda



Ji Sicheng



Dai Ximeng

Very honorable mentions also to **Towako Honda** (Best in Grade 12), **Ji Sicheng** and **Dai Ximeng** who all achieved particularly impressive scores of over 110/125.

Well done to all those who participated, improving their problem solving techniques and critical thinking skills in the process.

If you fancy a go at the 2024 Challenge, please follow the link below.

<https://ukmt.org.uk/senior-challenges/senior-mathematical-challenge>

(Colin Hornell – SA Leader, IB DP Mathematics)

## OFS Chess Festival: A Grand Celebration

What an incredible two weeks at OFS celebrating the World Chess Championship match between Ding Liren and Gukesh Dommaraju! Our festival was packed with exciting activities uniting the OFS community in the spirit of learning, creativity, and fun.

Our Family Chess Tournament brought families together over the board, while students and teachers competed in a lively and unforgettable Students vs. Teachers match. We were honored to host special guests like Kyla Zhao, and FunMaster Mike, along with many other renowned chess players and journalists.

Students from Kindergarten to High School showcased their creativity in a Chess-Themed Art Contest, wowing us with their talent and imagination. Families also enjoyed the Chess Ice Cream Challenge, a fun and interactive puzzle-solving competition.

We even had the amazing opportunity to visit the World Chess Championship match live at Sentosa, an unforgettable experience that added to the excitement of the festival.

Thank you to everyone who made our Chess Festival a truly memorable celebration of learning, creativity, and community at OFS!

(Dijana Dengler – Chess Teacher)







## Cambodia Outreach Club

The Cambodia Outreach club meets on Fridays during lunch to create teacher support aids for the teachers of the Opportunities of Development thru Art (ODA) schools in Siem Reap. This year the teachers from the ODA Schools asked for picture/vocabulary flash cards to be used to teach English. The club members created flashcards that covered types of fruit, vegetables, domestic and wild animals, and various mathematical concepts. Arsenii Buzakin, a member of the OFS TEAM that visited Cambodia in June 2023, has been the student club leader and he shared that his first hand experiences at the ODA schools was interesting. A sincere thank you goes to the club members for their hard work; to Arsenii for leading the activities; and to Mr. Kenneth Sexton for his support.

*(Eugene Burger – Club Supervisor)*

## Student Voice Spooktober

BOO! For our Spooktober event, we decorated an entire floor with witch hats and ghosts hanging from the ceiling, and behind each monster door was a sweet treat waiting for the spook-or-sweetens. After filling up on candy, students moved on to munching on popcorn at a spooky screening of Hotel Transylvania.

A big congratulations to the Grade 10 students for winning the October basketball tournament! With all that height and experience, no one expected anything but the best from these talented sportsmen.

Grades 9 and 10 students ended their spooky week with a dance, diligently decorated by the Student Voice members. The Juniors had a blast jumping and singing along to One Direction, Taylor Swift, and more of their favourite artists! We are eagerly looking forward to the upcoming Senior dance in January 2025!

Our lovely Social Media Committee leader, Ishika Patteri, has managed Student Voice's advertising centre and we are extremely grateful for her and all her hard work. From Student Voice and especially the Social Media Committee members, Ishika, congratulations on being our October member of the month! Additionally, a big congratulations to our Arts Committee leaders Mira Chakravarthy and Vasavi Shah for your hard work and commitment to making our events so lovely!

Student Voice's biggest event is still on the ho-ho-horizon, and it is also the final event of our Senior members, including our amazing President and Vice-President, Ella Purchase and Smita Menon. We will make sure there is lovely weather for a snow ride together with the student body, an experience that will truly be a December to remember!

*(Austin Riedeman – Events Coordinator and Science Teacher)*



## OFS Tigers

### OFS Tigers Dominate in ACSIS Season 1!



The OFS Tigers showcased their athletic prowess during ACSIS Season 1, finishing the season with impressive results that highlight the talent and dedication of our young athletes. The roar of the Tigers echoed as our 12U Girls Badminton team, 11U Boys Basketball team, 11U Boys Tennis squad, 12U Girls Touch Football/Rugby crew, 16U Boys Volleyball team, 12U Girls X-Country runners, 9U Football and 10U Football Teams dominating the sports scene. The OFS Tigers Gymnasts were crowned queens at the coveted Singapore Gymnastics Carnival Level 2!

Not to be outdone, the 12U Boys Badminton, 11U Girls Basketball, and 14U Boys Cricket squads, together with the 19U Boys Basketball Team at the ALBA 3v3 Invitational showcased their competitive spirit and skill and as ACSIS runners up secured Silver Medals.

Bronze medal finishes were achieved by the 14U Girls Badminton, 16U Boys Football, and 14U Boys Rugby teams, as

well as the Basketball 19U Boys 3v3 team as well as the Gymnasts at the Singapore Classic – adding to the Tigers' impressive treasure trove of twinkling medals.

Additional commendations go to our hard-fighting teams that claimed spots in the top eight, including the 12U Girls Netball and 14U Girls Touch Football/Rugby, who put forth commendable performances against tough competition.

With three swimmers competing on the Global Stage at The World Aquatics World Cup, Tigers Gymnasts competing at The Singapore Carnival and Singapore Classic, our 16U and 19U Boys Basketball Teams amongst the Top 3 at The 3x3 ALBA Invitational and our 19U Rugby players competing in the SCC 7s, it has been a busy first season for our OFS athletes.

Congratulations to all the athletes, coaches, and supporters for making this season one for the books. The OFS Tigers have set a high bar for the next season – let us keep the momentum going!

***"Greatness starts Somewhere – Greatness starts Here"***

*(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)*