



Overseas Family School High School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

Writing the last news article for my first academic year as High School Principal has provided an opportunity to reflect on what we have achieved. Since August 2023, our students have exhibited exceptional dedication, not only excelling academically but also investing significant time and effort in various positive activities and community service initiatives, both within our school and beyond. It is clear that our students have embraced the ethos of lifelong learning and global citizenship. Some highlights of the academic year include:



- Our students achieved outstanding academic results for the IB Diploma and IGCSE.
- We saw a notable increase in successful university and college applications worldwide.
- The Arts flourished with a series of engaging events including CultureFest, the High School theatre production of Arsenic and Old Lace, the Kindred Beginnings Dance Show, and Battle of the Bands, showcasing the incredible talent within our student body.
- Our Tigers Competitive Sports program saw enthusiastic participation and remarkable success, with many victories and personal bests achieved by our teams.
- Students embraced external academic challenges such as Olympiads, Hackathons, and University Competitions, broadening their horizons and showcasing their skills.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our High School faculty whose hard work, dedication, and commitment to upholding our high standards have been instrumental in our success this year. As we conclude this school year, I am excited to envision the wonderful initiatives that lie ahead in the next academic year.

To those students, faculty, and families who will be leaving OFS, including our graduating seniors, thank you for your invaluable contributions to our school community. You will be missed, and we eagerly await news of your future accomplishments.

For those returning in the new academic year, I look forward to collaborating with you and your families to build upon our current successes.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to email me (adam_ashton@ofs.edu.sg).

Adam Ashton
High School Principal



Yearbook 2024 will be available at the
School Shop from 24 May 2024

IB Diploma News – Education For Life

GRADE 12

On Wednesday, 17 April 2024, Grade 12 students celebrated their last day of school with enthusiasm and nostalgia. Students had a lot of fun with t-shirt signing, watching a heartfelt performance by the Elementary School students, attending the final Grade 12 assembly and reminiscing by looking back at their memories on the photo walls.

Congratulations to all our Grade 12 students, including the Grade 12 IB DP students, who are completing their IB journey. It has been an incredibly demanding time, testing the resilience, perseverance, and innovation of all involved. I am confident that all their hard work over the last two years will be rewarded, and I wish each of them the best during the next phase of their lives as OFS High School graduates.

Please take note of the deadlines and processes outlined below:

- Students will be able to access their IB DP results at <http://candidates.ibo.org> on Saturday, 6 July 2024 at 1200 hours GMT, using their online password information. Candidate codes and passwords are available in the student details section of the OFS dashboard.
- An email will be sent to all Grade 12 students' OFS email addresses prior to the 6 July 2024 release of results. The email will contain a document outlining the process for remark and retake requests. Students should read this before making inquiries about IB DP results, transcript requests, examination re-marking, or re-taking IB DP examinations.

GRADE 11

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

Please note that any CAS activities undertaken during the June–July 2024 holidays will need to be pre-approved by Mr. James. The deadline for meeting all seven CAS outcomes and completing CAS Project is January 2025.

Extended Essay (EE)

Students are encouraged to work on their first draft of the EE during the June–July 2024 break. Please ensure that the EE fully complies with the OFS Academic Integrity Policy.

If you have any questions regarding the IB Diploma and courses, please feel free to contact me anytime 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

As we dive into the exciting world of the Personal Project (PP), Grade 9 students are embarking on their PP journey with enthusiasm and determination.

Recently, our Grade 9 students participated in their second Personal Project assembly on Monday, 22 April 2024, where they delved deeper into understanding Criterion A and received valuable insights on how to create their products over the summer break.

We are also thrilled to see our Grade 10 students stepping up and supporting their peers in Grade 9 through our Personal Project Support Club sessions. The Grade 10 students have shown incredible leadership and mentoring skills, offering advice, sharing experiences, and providing encouragement to help their peers navigate the early stages of their PP journey.

As we move forward, we are eagerly anticipating the innovative and inspiring projects that our Grade 9 students will develop and present in due course.

Should you have any questions about IB MYP or IGCSE, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at (ab_palacios@ofs.edu.sg) and/or (c_fuentestorruella@ofs.edu.sg).

(Aida Blat Palacios – Grade 10 Coordinator and IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator and Clara Fuentes Torruella – Grade 9 Coordinator, Personal Project Coordinator and IB MYP/IGCSE Asst. Coordinator)

In Memory of Lukas Hughes

The passing of Lukas on 15 April 2024, has brought profound grief to his family, friends, classmates, and teachers.

Lukas was full of life and radiated warmth and generosity wherever he went. He was always fair and kept it real. His quick wit never failed to uplift everyone around him. Lukas was always there to lend a hand or share a joke. His jokes and laughter could turn even the most boring times into something special.

Whether Lukas was delving into talks about the meaning of life or embarking on adventures, he was always hungry to learn more about the world. Lukas may no longer be with us, but his spirit lives on in our memories, his laughter echoes in our hearts, and his kindness continues to inspire us. Farewell, Lukas. You will always hold a special place in our hearts.

(Aida Blat Palacios – Grade 10 Level Coordinator)



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)

Academic Advisors Update

It has been a busy year for the Academic Advisors – numerous university information sessions, workshops, and guest lecturers have taken place. Recently, we held online Country-Specific University Information Sessions to help our Grade 11 students prepare for their university applications. We will also be offering Common Application and Personal Statement Workshops for our Grade 11 students at the end of this semester.

GRADE 12 UNIVERSITY OFFERS

Our Grade 12 students have started to secure offers to study at a wide range of undergraduate courses from prestigious universities in various countries. Many offers are still pending, but a selection of universities that have offered places to OFS students include:

- **UK:** University of Cambridge, University of Edinburgh, University of St Andrews, Royal Veterinary College, London School of Economics, The University of Manchester, King's College, Imperial College London, University College London
- **Canada:** University of Toronto, University of British Columbia, McGill University
- **USA:** Carnegie Mellon University, Pennsylvania State University, New York University, Boston University, George Washington University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Berklee College of Music, Northeastern University, Maryland Institute College of Art, The New School, Parsons College of Design
- **Australia:** University of New South Wales, Monash University, The University of Melbourne, The University of Sydney
- **Hong Kong:** University of Hong Kong
- **Europe:** University of Groningen, University of Amsterdam, EDECH, ESSEC, Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, Bocconi University, IE University, University College Utrecht, École Polytechnique, The Hague University of Applied Sciences
- **Japan:** Ritsumeikan University College of Global Liberal Arts, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Congratulations to all of our High School students for making it through another busy year!

(Tamara Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)



Recent Mini Fair with European schools: ESSEC (France), IE (Spain), EHL (Switzerland)

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UKMT Hamilton and Maclaurin Mathematical Olympiads

The UKMT Hamilton and Maclaurin Mathematical Olympiads are prestigious follow-on rounds of the UKMT Intermediate Mathematics competition. Only 1600 students globally qualify to sit these Olympiads. This year we had four OFS students who qualified. The esteemed four took on the 2 hour challenge, with 6 Olympiad style questions, on Friday, 22 March 2024. We are pleased to announce this year's outstanding results.

Grade 9 student, HAHM Seojoon, received a Merit award in the Hamilton Olympiad.



HAHM Seojoon

Grade 10 students GARG Arush and TAKAHASHI Ryosuke received a Distinction award in the Maclaurin Olympiad.



GARG Arush



TAKAHASHI Ryosuke

Grade 10 student, NOH Hyeonggyun, received a Distinction award, as well as a Silver Medal for scoring in the top 50 students globally.



NOH Hyeonggyun

Congratulations to these keen mathematicians!

(Jessica Reader – SA Leader: Mathematics – IB MYP/IGCSE)

Grade 11 Geography Field Trip to Barcelona (5 – 13 April 2024)



During our journey in Spain, we were situated in the coastal town of Sitges, just a short distance from Barcelona.

The focal point of our trip was an extensive river study along the Tordera River. Here, students meticulously collected and analysed primary data, including measurements such as depth, width, velocity, gradient, and bedload size. This fieldwork will serve as the foundation for the students' IB DP internal assessment.

In addition to our river study, students delved into the complexities of urban environments through a case study on urban deprivation in El Raval, a neighbourhood in Barcelona. By immersing themselves in the community, students developed a nuanced understanding of the socio-economic challenges faced by marginalised urban populations and the interconnected factors contributing to urban inequality.

As we reflect on our time in Barcelona, we are immensely proud of our students. Their open-mindedness has enabled them to bridge classroom learning with real-life examples through firsthand experiences. Their dedication to learning (a lot of evenings spent in the classroom at our hotel), along with the support of our committed staff (Mr. Hepburn and Ms. Banerjee), has made this trip a truly transformative experience.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students for their exemplary behaviour throughout.

(Neisha Pratt – High School Deputy Principal and David Pellowe – SA Leader: Humanities)



2024 High School Dance Show – Kindred Beginnings

On 21 and 22 March 2024, OFS High School Dance presented Kindred Beginnings. Our Grades 9 to 12



dance students took the stage by storm with a variety of dance styles, ranging from Contemporary dance, Charleston to Hip Hop. More than celebrating the culmination of students' learning in dance at OFS, the audience got to take a peek into what our dancers experience behind-the-scenes!

(Chia Poh Hian – Dance Teacher)



High School Visual Arts Exhibition (8 – 12 April 2024)

The High School Visual Arts exhibition featured a collection of over 200 artworks, curated entirely by our High School Visual Art students. This showcase represented the culmination of the creative journeys undertaken by our students as part of the Visual Arts courses within the MYP and IB Diploma Program.

Throughout the year, each student had embarked on a unique creative exploration, designing and pursuing their individual paths of artistic expression. These pieces reflected the influences of prominent artists they had studied, the myriad of media and techniques they had experimented with and mastered, and the concepts they had explored within personal, local, national, or global contexts.

We had invited parents, students, and teachers to immerse themselves in the diverse range of creative expressions presented by our young artists. As they wandered through the exhibition corridors adorned with their works, we trust that they found joy and inspiration in this vibrant celebration of artistic talent and dedication!

(Maja Vidanovic and Lara Pang – Visual Arts Teachers)





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 S\$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/2024/annual-uniform-stationery-sale/>



Cambodia Outreach Club

In the rural areas of Cambodia, subsistence farming remains a way of life, and most children have to work in the farms instead of going to schools. The Cambodia Outreach Club is working together with a Cambodian charity called ODA (Opportunities of Development thru Art), responsible for preparing underprivileged children for well-paying careers in the tourism industry by teaching them the English language, as well as computer literacy and foundational subjects.

The Cambodia Outreach Club is responsible for producing teaching aids, which are graciously donated to various ODA schools every year by the Cambodia expedition team. Just this semester, the club's fiercely loyal members worked on laminated alphabet cards to replace our allies' ageing equipment. The members have also been responsible for examining donated educational board games before sendoff, and for the repairs of some constructor kits for the use of teaching STEM subjects.

One of the club's loyal members is currently set to visit Cambodia after semester examinations, and will be one of the lucky few responsible for donating the club's equipment to some of the ODA schools. For two semesters, the club has also been staffed by numerous members of previous Cambodia expeditions, who have been applying their expertise at every turn.

Other than the alphabet cards, board games and constructor kits which have been made this semester, the 2024 expedition to Cambodia will also be responsible for donating the flashcards and sock puppets, which the club made last semester.

The members of the Cambodia Outreach Club are always ready for the opportunity to do such important work, and deeply proud of contributing to the economic and societal development of Cambodia.

(Arsenii Buzakin – Grade 10 Club member)

Battle of the Bands 2024

On Wednesday, March 27, 2024, we hosted the Battle of the Bands 2024, and the night was a blast! There was such a diversity of songs from different genres, and special guest performers really made this event fabulous!



The winning band was Kinda Qualified, comprised of grade nine students, who were energetic and really rocked the crowd, impressing both the judges and the audience. Looking forward to 2025 for the next wave of superstar bands. What a blast!

(Sarah Malloch – SA Leader: The Arts)



OFS Tigers

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

We also built in 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 have swimmers competing abroad in Holland and Canada who are set to be selected to represent their national teams and have qualified for the World Cup to be held in October later this year.

None of this is 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 achievements of OFS Tigers are celebrated with trophies and medals which are presented at our annual Sports Awards event. Save the date for Monday, 27 May 2024.

This second year of competitive sports has been outstanding! Next year we promise to be even better! Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved!

(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)





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, from nourishing salads and gourmet chicken rice to delectable 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!

