



Overseas Family School

High School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

The second quarter of the High School calendar is one of the busiest periods of the academic year. CultureFest rehearsals and preparations are in full swing, and our students are achieving significant academic milestones. Our Grades 10 and 12 students have successfully completed both their Personal Project (PP) as well as the first draft of their Extended Essay (EE), marking an impressive culmination of work spanning over a year and a half. It was truly inspiring to witness their accomplishments at our well-attended PP exhibition in the OFS Auditorium.

Students also had the opportunity to participate in the PSAT, which serves as an excellent platform for them to practice for the SAT and identify areas of strength, as well as areas needing further development. Our Grades 11 and 12 students excelled in the annual Senior UKMT Mathematics Competition, winning several gold, silver, and bronze awards. Additionally, the MUN season has commenced, with students recently completing the MUNUWC conference and are now preparing for the massive MUNOFS event that will be held on our campus.

As global citizens, our students are encouraged to take on leadership roles in projects that positively impact their community. Initiatives include MINDS, RDA, NTUC Health Nursing Home, Red Cross, beach clean-ups, and the UN Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In line with these efforts, this year's Peace Week focused on fostering a culture of peace, featuring a talk by Venerable Phra Goh Adhibalo at our annual Peace Week assembly.

The OFS semester examinations will begin on Thursday, 28 November 2024. Each course examination accounts for 30% of the semester grade, while the remaining 70% is based on assessments completed during quarters 1 and 2. High School students are permitted to take study leave during the examination period with written permission from a parent or guardian. A letter outlining this has been sent home.

Please note that after the examination period, classes will continue as normal until the end of semester one on Friday, 13 December 2024.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at adam_ashton@ofs.edu.sg.

Adam Ashton
High School Principal



IB Diploma News – Education For Life

EXTENDED ESSAY

Grade 12 students submitted their Extended Essay (EE) draft on Monday, 14 October 2024. This core component challenges students' time management and reflection skills while helping them develop an understanding of the necessary steps for a long-term research project. Students are expected to work on the feedback provided by their supervisors on the draft EE and have regular check-in meetings with them. The final EE is due on Thursday, 16 January 2025. Together with Theory of Knowledge (TOK), students can earn a maximum of 3 IB DP points for their EE.

The diploma points matrix

May 2015 onwards

		Theory of knowledge					
		Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	Grade E	No grade N
Extended essay	Grade A	3	3	2	2	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade B	3	2	2	1	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade C	2	2	1	0	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade D	2	1	0	0	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade E	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition
	No grade N	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Many final Internal Assessment deadlines are still to come in the second and the third quarter:**
Group 1 HL Essays, Language Acquisition: Individual Orals, some Group 3, 4 and 5 Internal Assessment (IA) coursework, and the TOK essay amongst them. Students are encouraged to check their calendar to be aware of these dates and ensure their submissions are made before the relevant deadlines.
- **Arts: The IA and early External Assessment uploads will be done in quarter 3.**
- **Students will be finishing their CAS program in quarter 3.**
- **Mock examination week: Monday, 3 March 2025 to Wednesday, 12 March 2025.**

(Trapiti Trivedi – IB DP Coordinator)

From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

We cordially invite you to join us for a delightful Deepavali Coffee Morning on 7 November 2024! Our dedicated Parent Association and parent volunteers are excited to present various performances, engaging activities, and delicious food, all designed to immerse you in the vibrant culture of India. Do not miss out on this wonderful experience!

Event: Deepavali Themed Coffee Morning
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Date: Thursday, 7 November 2024
Venue: Parent Lounge (Level 4 of Administration Building)

Please register your attendance by signing up on the OFS webpage. <https://www.ofs.edu.sg/events/2024/deepavali-themed-coffee-morning/>



Junior High School News



On Thursday, 17 October 2024, Grade 10 students proudly presented their Personal Projects at the MYP Exhibition. From fitness to sustainability and fundraisers, their diverse projects impressed all, including teachers, parents, and high school students. Well done, Grade 10 students!

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) or Ms. Clara Fuentes Torruella, IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator, at (c_fuentestorruella@ofs.edu.sg).

(Aida Blat Palacios – IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator)



MYP Grade 6 – 10 Parent Workshop



An excellent turnout marked the MYP Grade 6 to 10 Parent Workshop on Monday, 14 October 2024, where parents gathered for an insightful presentation led by our respective coordinators, Ms Aida Palacios Blat and Ms. Clara Fuentes, and the Middle School Deputy Principal, Mrs. Hayley Brian.

The workshop aimed to demystify the MYP program, offering parents a comprehensive look into its structure and the intricacies of the assessment process. Parents were taken through the ins and outs of the MYP program and marking rubric, and even had the opportunity to mark a Physical Education activity themselves, followed by a discussion to provide feedback.

This hands-on experience proved valuable for parents, giving them a deeper understanding of how their children are assessed and what skills are being developed through the MYP curriculum.



FIRST MUN CONFERENCE OF THE YEAR: A SUCCESSFUL START!



Several of our High School students attended the UWC East MUN conference from Friday, 11 October to Sunday, 13 October 2024.

Participating in MUN conferences helps students deepen their understanding of global issues while honing essential skills like empathy, critical thinking, and diplomacy. In an increasingly complex and interconnected world, the ability to consider diverse perspectives and resolve conflicts is crucial. Throughout the weekend, delegates tackled real-world challenges tied to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), addressing issues related to healthcare, human rights, the environment, equality, education, poverty and hunger, peace and justice to name a few.

Honourable Mentions:

- Prithwish Kundu (Grade 9), Delegate of Mali in the UNHCR
- Myrah Rawal (Grade 9), Delegate of Venezuela in the HRC
- Arshaan Prakash (Grade 9), Delegate of Germany in H-NATO
- Srishti Sethi (Grade 9), Delegate of South Africa in ECOSOC

Award for the Most Diplomatic:

- Aarav Hooda (Grade 10), Delegate of France in the HRC

A special congratulations goes out to those students who were selected for prestigious Chair roles at the conference. These leadership positions are a testament to their hard work and expertise:

- Vedaant Atreya, Deputy Chair, World Health Organisation (WHO)
- Avani Gupta, Deputy Chair, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)
- Adheesh Salian, Head Chair, Interpol
- Charvi Pitambare, Deputy Chair, Human Rights Council (HRC)
- Astrid Neill, Head Chair, Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)
- Vahein Patnaik, Head Chair, Conference of the Parties, (COP 29)
- Sophia Tirmizi, Deputy Chair, U.S. Senate
- Vimrsh Patnaik, Head Chair, Human Rights Council (HRC)

We are incredibly proud of our MUN delegates, not just for their achievements, but for their commitment to building a more harmonious, peaceful and equitable world through thoughtful dialogue and action.

We cannot wait to see what they accomplish next.

(Neisha Pratt – Deputy Principal, Curriculum)



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Academic Advisors Update

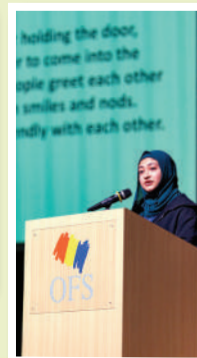
GRADE 12 UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

The university application process enters full swing at OFS this month, with most of our Grade 12 learners preparing their applications to a range of universities worldwide. Academic Advisors have been working with students and their teachers to support this process. A busy time for all!

PSAT

In total, 43 students (21 students from Grade 9, 11 students from Grade 10, and 11 students from Grade 11) completed the PSAT (Preliminary SAT) in October. It is a 2 ½ hour aptitude test and contains evidence-based reading, writing and mathematics sections. It is intended to be a useful practice for the SAT, which assesses students' readiness for college and is part of the admissions requirements of many universities in the United States, Singapore and Hong Kong.

(Tamana Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)



Peace Week 2024

Our school marked the International Day of Peace 2024 with a week-long celebration and a special assembly. Organised by the Global Politics students, Peace Week featured engaging lunchtime activities like face painting and bracelet making, fostering a spirit of unity among our community.

The highlight of the week was the Peace Day assembly on Friday, 20 September 2024. Our talented Grade 9 dancers and High School choir showcased their skills, while the winners of the Grade 9 poetry contest captivated the audience with their heartfelt recitals. Ms. Vanessa McConville led us in a moment of reflection with a minute of silence.

Our esteemed guest speaker, Venerable Adhibhalo Phra Goh, enlightened us with his insights on the importance of dialogue and mediation for resolving conflicts. Sharing his experiences in interfaith dialogue and peace organisations in Singapore, he inspired us to work towards a more harmonious world.

The Peace Week celebration was a resounding success, reminding us of the power of peace and the importance of fostering understanding and cooperation among all.

(Sachin Das – Global Politics Teacher)





German Project Field Trips



The Grade 10 MYP phase 3 and 4 German class were working on a project about German enterprises called 'Unternehmen Deutsch', which was organised by the Goethe Institut. This comprised two field trips which helped students to consolidate their knowledge from the unit 'school, educational training and employment'. The first field trip was on Thursday, 29 August 2024 where the class was split into two, one half of the class visited a local

German Brewhouse, Paulaner Brauhaus Singapore and the other half went to BMW. The students interviewed German representatives and gathered information about their business and then created their own product idea for these businesses. After completing the second field trip on Friday, 20 September 2024, it gave them the opportunity to present their product to an audience at the Goethe Institut. The presentations were shared with the two German companies, and will hopefully be considered in future.

At the Goethe Institut, students embarked on a scavenger hunt to learn about the Institut. A representative from the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) provided students with useful insights on universities in Germany, the variety of courses, minimal tuition fees and helpful support systems for foreign university students.

The German students really enjoyed the trip, as it was a meaningful experience to learn about Germany and its culture and gave them an opportunity to channel their creativity to create the product. Overall, the trip was a very nice opportunity to learn more and to enhance German speaking skills.

(Aania Mandloi and Maya Rippel – Grade 10)



Grades 9 and 10 Dance

On Friday, 18 October 2024 our Student Voice team hosted an incredible school dance for our Grades 9 and 10 students in the Black Box Theatre. Students gathered, danced, and enjoyed the good vibes throughout. The event was a great success, bringing the school community together for a night of celebration and school spirit. A big thank you to Student Voice for organising such a memorable event and to all the students who made it an evening to remember!



(Austin Riedeman – Events Coordinator and Science Teacher)

OFS Tigers

"All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them – if you can dream it, you can achieve it" (Walt Disney)

We are bursting with pride to announce that OFS has not one, not two, but three outstanding student swimmers who qualified for, were invited to, and competed on the world stage! They are **Jill Meines (Grade 11)**, **Naya Verma (Grade 10)** and **Lim Jiunn Hern (Grade 12)**. They had the incredible opportunity to represent Singapore and compete at the highest level.

Four years ago, what started as a dream at OFS in the Olympic swimming pool, by OFS student swimmers and OFS coaches, has now become a reality. Jill, Naya, and Jiunn Hern are now competing at an international level as World Cup swimmers, racing alongside some of the biggest names in the sport, including Olympic Champions and World Record holders. The early mornings, late evenings, gym sessions, dedication, perseverance, relentless work ethic and commitment to their sport have paid off.



Jill Meines



Naya Verma



Lim Jiunn Hern

Congratulations to Jill, Naya and Jiunn Hern!

Dreams DO come true!!!

"Greatness starts Somewhere – Greatness starts Here"

(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)

