



Overseas Family School

High School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

I am delighted to welcome both our new and returning families to the new school year. For those of you who are new to Singapore, I hope you are beginning to settle in and that your child's experience at OFS is making the transition smoother. It was wonderful to see so many parents and guardians at the High School Back to School Night on Thursday, 29 August 2024. I trust you found the evening both informative and engaging.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate both our 2024 IB Diploma and IGCSE students for their excellent results! The fantastic outcomes are testament to the hard work and dedication given by our students, parents and teachers and is certainly something we are very proud of. I hope this success inspires all our students to keep working towards their goals and realise their full potential.

The beginning of the academic year is always exciting and much work has already begun to create a range of learning experiences, student events, and activities. This semester has already seen the HS Club Fair, the Grade 11 IB Core Info Evening, a Personal Project Workshop, and there is a lot more in store including Grade 9 Camp, the Red Cross Blood Drive, the Lion City University Fair, the Senior UKMT (Mathematics) Competition, and our annual Internationalism Celebration 'CultureFest'. Our competitive sports program is well underway with Tiger's training in a range of sports as well as our outdoor Enrichment Program, where students are learning to sail, paddle board, kayak or wall climb.

The success of our students is built on the strong partnership between parents, students, and the school. In this spirit, you will soon receive information about our upcoming Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences, scheduled for 25, 26, 27, and 30 September. I strongly encourage you to attend these conferences with your child or ward to ensure open communication and effective planning for their continued success.

If you ever have any concerns or comments about the school, please do not hesitate to contact me directly on adam_ashton@ofs.edu.sg.

Adam Ashton
High School Principal

From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

The Parent Association (PA) invites all parents to join us for a Hari Raya (Eid) themed Coffee Morning. Come along and enjoy the food and activities prepared for you.

Date: Thursday, 12 September 2024

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Parent Lounge (Level 4 of Administration Building)

Please sign up via the link below: <https://www.ofs.edu.sg/events/2024/hari-raya-themed-coffee-morning/>

If you would like more information about this or other PA events, please feel free to contact our Chairperson by email at: parent_association@ofs.edu.sg.

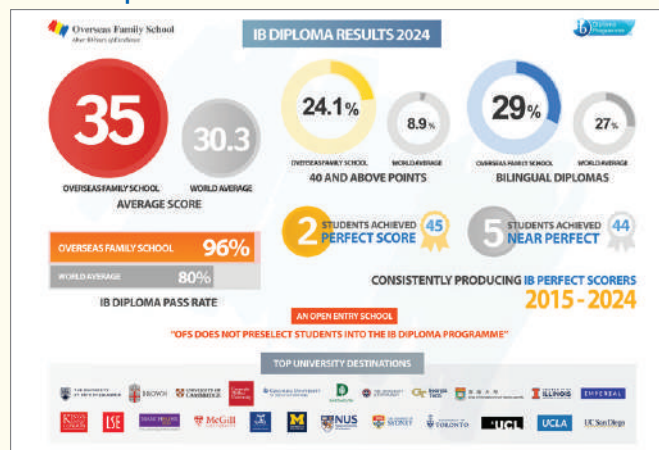


IB Diploma News – Education For Life

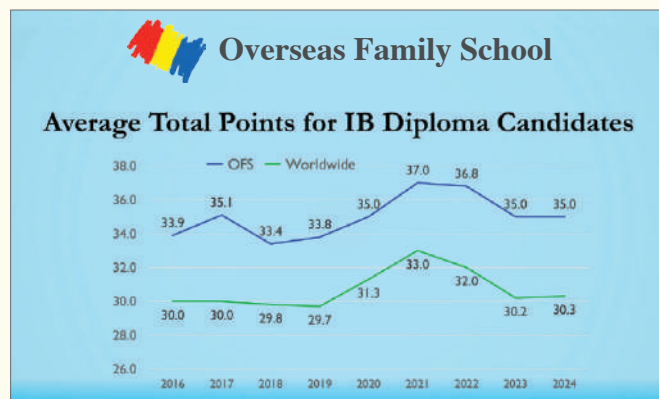
MAY 2024 IB RESULTS

As we embark on a new academic year, I am delighted to share the outstanding achievements of our Grade 12 students in this year's IB Examinations. These results are incredibly impressive, especially considering that OFS follows an open entry policy. This sets us apart from the majority of schools, not only in Singapore but also around the world, which typically pre-select students for the Diploma program in advance.

2024 IB Diploma Results



As in previous years the average point total for IB candidates continues to be well above the Worldwide averages.



All students entering Grade 11 are encouraged to enter the IB Diploma program if they choose to do so.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Special commendations go to our two students for achieving a perfect score of 45/45.



JEONG Yujun



KAPOOR Vivaan Jeet

A total of five students earned an impressive score of 44 on their IB Diploma.



BANERJEE Aryan



CHANG Seojeong



JEONG Jiho



RAJESH Adithi



YAO William



As we celebrate the IB diploma accomplishments of our Class of 2024, it is important to recognise that our students are much more than their exam scores. Their time with us has been incredibly rewarding and enriching. We look forward to seeing the paths they will take as they embrace the new challenges and opportunities ahead.

GRADE 11 NEWS

Once again, there is a large cohort of students, many of whom enrolling are in the full complement of IB courses. CAS is an important component of the Diploma Core, and students need to balance their involvement across the three strands: Creativity, Activity and Service each semester. Students should aim to be regularly involved in each strand, ideally on a weekly basis.

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) and/or Lee Woollard, IB DP Assistant Coordinator & Extended Essay Coordinator (lee_woollard@ofs.edu.sg).

(Trapti Trivedi – IB DP Coordinator)

Mathematics focus: Exploring and modelling Marina Bay area

In April 2024, the Grade 11 HL Math Applications and Interpretations students set off on a field trip to Gardens by the Bay. With graphical display calculators in hand, students graphed the Supertrees with logistic functions, fitted parabolic functions around the Flower Dome. We also calculated the cost of producing these buildings using various materials such as glass panels, steel rods and concrete. The students discovered that the Singapore Flyer is not a true circle, but a 56-sided polygon! This trip was an interactive way for students to develop ideas for their Mathematical explorations and apply the skills learned in class to the world around them.

(Kwai Yoke McLoughlin and Meher Grover – Grade 12)



Junior High School News

CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS: IGCSE AND IB MYP RESULTS

We are thrilled to share the exceptional achievements of our students in the recent IGCSE examinations and the IB MYP Personal Project. The results for the May-June 2024 IGCSE series have once again highlighted the dedication and hard work of our students, supported by their families and teachers.

This year, we are proud to announce an outstanding IGCSE pass rate of 99%. The dedication and commitment of our students have truly shone through these remarkable results.

Here are some of the highlights:

- 11 students earned 5 A* grades
- 6 students earned 6 A* grades
- 3 students earned 7 A* grades
- 4 students earned 8 A* grades
- 1 student earned 9 A* grades
- 2 students earned an incredible 10 A* grades



LIU Zichen



UPPALAPATI Samhita Savitri



HANS Kabeer

We would like to extend special congratulations to **LIU Zichen** for achieving 9 A* grades, and to **UPPALAPATI Samhita Savitri** and **HANS Kabeer** for their remarkable achievement of 10 A* grades each.



UPPALAPATI Samhita Savitri



HANS Kabeer



ATHERTON Sean Roland



MUKUNDAPPANAVAR Kshiti Sushil



BHATTACHARYYA Ananya

The success continues with the IB MYP Personal Project results, where five students earned the top grade of 7. Congratulations to **UPPALAPATI Samhita Savitri**, **HANS Kabeer**, **ATHERTON Sean Roland**, **MUKUNDAPPANAVAR Kshiti Sushil**, and **BHATTACHARYYA Ananya** for their outstanding work.

These achievements reflect the hard work, dedication, and excellence that define our student community. We look forward to continued success and growth in the coming year. Once again, congratulations to all our students and their families!

WELCOME BACK

Greetings to all our Grade 9 and Grade 10 students and their families! We're delighted to welcome back our Grade 10 cohort and thrilled to start this year with our Grade 9 and new OFS students. This year, our Grade 11 students have set an inspiring example with their outstanding IGCSE and IB MYP Personal Project results. We are committed to working together to support your child's growth and success as they transition into high school. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead!

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

(Aida Blat Palacios – IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator)



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Academic Advisors Update

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Throughout the academic year, we will be hosting universities that are travelling in the region.

It has been a busy start to the academic year with university visits from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) and Boston University. We have more university visits lined up for the month of September. These will continue to be advertised in the Gazette, students' Homepage, Learning Portal and the Academic Advisors' website. Parents are welcome to attend as well.

LION CITY FAIR

We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting more than 100 universities from around the world, including the UK, the US, Canada, Europe, and Australia.

Join us on **Friday, 27 September**, during Parent-Teacher Conferences from **2:30 pm to 4:30 pm** in the Auditorium.

Connect with representatives from over **130 universities** worldwide, including:

- **UK:** Imperial College London, King's College, Manchester University, University College London
- **USA:** University of Chicago, Purdue University, Savannah College of Art and Design
- **Canada:** University of Toronto, The University of British Columbia
- **Singapore:** Singapore Management University, Nanyang Technological University, National University of Singapore
- **Australia:** University of New South Wales, University of Melbourne
- **Europe:** ESSEC Business School, IE University, EU Business School

AND MANY MORE!

This is an excellent opportunity to speak directly with the university representatives to learn about programs, admissions requirements, scholarships, and campus life.

(Tamara Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)

Podium Finish at the Singapore International Math Olympiad Challenge (SIMOC) 2024



After his historic Silver Medal and Distinction Award in the UKMT Maclaurin Olympiad, and the top gold medal in the Singapore Math Kangaroo Competition for his grade category earlier in April this year, **NOH Hyeonggyun (Harry)** was invited by SIMOC to join their mathematical challenges during the summer, on 21 July 2024. SIMOC was joined by 32 member nations, and after one full day of thrilling Mathematical games, puzzles and challenges, we are happy to announce that Harry has yet again brought great honor to OFS by winning Gold in the Math Olympiad Contest, Silver in the Mind Sports Challenge, Bronze in the Maths Warriors Challenge, and a podium finish as the 2nd runner up in the Overall Category for Grade 10. Congratulations on a job well done, Harry!

(Regina Brieta – High School Mathematics Teacher)



Grade 9 Welcome

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to High School Grade 9 students! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break, and are ready to embark on your new academic journey. As we open our doors, we are filled with anticipation and enthusiasm to see you all in our High School classrooms.

One of the most valuable aspects of High School is the opportunity to build connections with fellow students and teachers. We encourage you to actively participate in class discussions, collaborate with your peers and seek guidance from your teachers. Remember, we are here to support you every step of the way.

As we look ahead to the coming months, we are excited about the possibilities that lie before us. We have a wide range of enriching clubs and activities, Grade 9 Camp and Student Voice events that will enhance your learning experience.

Be kind to yourself as you settle into life in the High School. If you have any concerns during your time in High School, please do not hesitate to contact us – our doors are always open.

(Richard Petherick and Neisha Pratt – Deputy Principals)



Peer Mentors Host “Connect Sessions” for New Students

On Thursday, 8 August 2024, the High School's Peer Mentor Program welcomed 49 new students across Grades 9 to 12 for an exciting “Connect Session” event. Our goal? To connect, support and guide our new students in their transition to OFS.

The air was filled with excitement and energy as new students eagerly awaited the chance to meet some of their new classmates. Our fantastic Peer Mentor Leaders, guided by Ms. Green and Mr. Finlay, planned an engaging line-up of icebreakers and bonding activities, creating a welcoming and supportive environment for everyone involved.

In addition to the fun activities, the Peer Mentors organised a guided tour of the school, allowing new students to explore the various facilities and resources available to them. Led by the Peer Mentors themselves, the tour highlighted important locations such as the High School office, the library, dining hall, PE changing rooms, nurse's office and the subject-specific classrooms. Our mentors shared helpful insights and introduced them to some key faculty members, including Mr. Ashton, Ms. Pratt and Mr. Petherick, as well as the relevant Grade Level Coordinators.

New students had the chance to ask questions and get to know their peers better, fastening a strong sense of friendship and support within the group. The “Connect Session” was a fantastic way to help everyone feel more at ease in their new surroundings and the Peer Mentor Program is thrilled to continue promoting friendships and a sense of belonging for all our students.

We can't wait to see all the wonderful experiences and memories that will be made as our new students explore everything our school has to offer!

(Helen Green – Student Welfare Advisor)





Celebrating Achievements – Study Preparation Program Students Advancing to Mainstream Classes



We are excited to announce the graduation of our High School SPP Level 3 students, marking their successful transition into mainstream classes in August 2024. These exceptional students have demonstrated tremendous dedication and progress on their language learning journey, and we could not be prouder of their achievements.

At the recent High School SPP Celebration ceremony, two outstanding SPP students took the stage to share their experiences and reflect on the significant strides they have made in mastering the English language. Their heartfelt speeches resonated with inspiration and gratitude, highlighting the transformative impact of the SPP program on their lives.

SAITO Yuna (L3 Grade 10) and SEKI Ryusuke (L3 Grade 11) eloquently described the initial challenges they faced in SPP Level 1 and the significant progress they made during their time in the SPP program. Both highlighted the supportive learning environment, the dedication of their teachers, and the camaraderie within the SPP community that contributed to their success in language acquisition.

These students exemplify the resilience, determination, and cultural richness that characterise our diverse student body. As they begin the next chapter of their academic journey in mainstream classes, we eagerly anticipate their continued growth and success.

After the SPP Celebration ceremony, it was truly heartwarming to witness the cultural exchange as our Pre-IB students took the initiative to organize breakout boxes and lead demonstrations on how to solve them. These interactive games promote teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking, requiring students to solve a series of student-designed puzzles and challenges to unlock a series of locks on the boxes.

This vibrant showcase celebrated both the linguistic achievements and the rich cultural diversity within our school community. It exemplified the inclusive environment fostered by the SPP program, where cultural exchange is embraced as a key part of the learning experience. We commend these students for their leadership and for enriching our school community with their unique perspectives and traditions.

Congratulations to all our SPP students, and a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated SPP teachers for their unwavering commitment to fostering language proficiency and cultural understanding.

Wishing our SPP graduates continued success and a bright future ahead!

(Deborah Rogozinski – Study Preparation Program Subject Area Leader and Science Teacher)



Geneva Trip

The Global Politics Geneva trip was an enriching experience for students. Days were filled with visits to iconic landmarks like Lac Lemman and Mont Salève, providing a cultural immersion alongside academic pursuits.

The core of the trip focused on international organisations. Students gained invaluable insights into the workings of the United Nations, its specialised agencies, and the World Trade Organisation through workshops and interactions with experts. Key areas explored included environmental governance, human rights, and global trade.

The trip culminated in a visit to the Palais des Nations, offering a tangible connection to the historical foundations of international cooperation.

Overall, the Geneva trip provided students with a unique opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge to real-world challenges and gain a deeper understanding of global politics.

(Sachin Das – Global Politics Teacher)



OFS Tigers

The theme for our OFS Tigers Sports teams this year is **"Greatness Starts Somewhere"**.

With over 1200 students trying out for 13 ACSIS Season 1 Sports, the OFS Tigers look set to build on the momentum from last year's success with many teams being promoted up to higher divisions.



Greatness Starts Somewhere

Greatness starts with a dream, with motivation, with taking a risk,
Greatness starts with early alarms, with sacrifice, with setbacks
Greatness starts with passion, unwavering support, with a dedicated tribe,

Greatness is earned, it's contagious and it starts with you,
Every day, Every minute, Every moment
Greatness starts somewhere - Greatness starts here

(Swimming SA Campaign 2020)

Wishing all involved with our competitive programs a happy and successful ACSIS Season 1!

(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)