



Overseas Family School

Middle School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

December is a busy month in Middle School! I want to take a moment to reflect on the opportunities for learning growth that this semester has brought.

One key aspect of this growth is the valuable feedback students receive through their semester reports. These tools are not merely assessments of academic progress but opportunities for self-reflection and improvement. I encourage all students to take the time to review their reports thoughtfully, celebrate their successes, and set goals for areas where they can continue to grow. As parents and guardians, your role in supporting this process is vital—engaging in open discussions about their achievements and challenges helps build resilience and a lifelong love of learning.

This season has also reminded us of the importance of giving back to our community. I am proud to share the success of our recent food collection initiative, which brought together students, staff, and families to support those in need. The generosity of our school community was heart-warming, and I am confident the collected items will make a significant difference for those receiving them. Thank you for helping us instil values of compassion and service in our students.

The Middle School Talent Show will also be a great highlight in December. I am sure it will be an amazing display of creativity and courage as students showcase their unique skills. We are so proud of all of the students who will be participating and grateful to Ms. Patterson and Mr. Currie who have put so much time into making this such a successful event.

As we head into the holiday break, I want to extend my warmest wishes to all our families. Whether you are travelling, spending time with loved ones, or simply relaxing at home, I hope this holiday brings rest and joy. We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready to embrace the new challenges and opportunities of the next semester.

Arin Mares

Arin Mares
Middle School Principal
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Middle School Service Club

The Middle School Service Club has had a very active semester. We have continued to align ourselves primarily with service opportunities already running in the High School with the intention of exposing our Middle School students to projects that they could go on to lead themselves in the higher grades as part of their Community and Service requirement. A number of students under the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) program also made use of the club in order to fulfil their service requirements. We have completed two beach clean ups and have visited the NTUC Nursing Home in Paris Ris in order to care for some of the elderly. We had a fun Christmas celebration with the residents which was well received. During the sessions in school we had a team making notebooks out of recycled paper as well as actively contributing to the Middle School recycling system. A number of students have also been learning how to knit and are hoping to complete squares for Knit a Square in South Africa. It has been a fun and fulfilling club which has continued to serve both the school and local community.

(Jessica Purchase/Salwana Salahudeen - Teachers-In-Charge of Middle School Service Club)



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.





Deputy Principal's Message



It has been an exciting end to the Semester with many events taking place. Firstly, we would like to thank all of our families who donated items to our 'Food from the Heart' food collection. These items will now be distributed to those in need in our local community.

Following the Examination Week, there have been many exciting activities for students to get involved in. Season 2 Tigers sports has also begun and wish all our teams the best of luck in their competitions.

The Grade 7 students have enjoyed an action packed Camp, where they were able to develop the IB Learner Profile attributes of being caring, open-minded and risk-takers. We hope they all had a fantastic time and created some wonderful memories.

Our students in the Study Preparation Program (SPP) will celebrate their success this semester during the SPP Awards ceremony, with many students being rewarded for their hard work and earning promotions to the next level. Finally, students will finish off the semester with a 'Talent Show' to showcase the amazing skills Middle School students have to offer. Students have been busy rehearsing and we look forward to seeing the finalists in the live show!

In January, Grade 8 students and families will start to think about their Grade 9 course selections. Students are encouraged to consider the following over the break: 'what do I enjoy?', 'what am I good at?' and "what do I want to do when I'm older?'. We wish all of our families a restful and enjoyable break, and safe travels to all those travelling overseas. We look forward to your return in Semester 2 and to welcoming all of our new families and students to OFS.

(Hayley Brian – Middle School Deputy Principal)

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Grade 8 Model United Nations Club

Grade 8 Students in the Model United Nations club attended the 17th High School MUN conference at OFS in early November. Our students had the privilege of learning from more experienced delegates in the High School and gained invaluable expertise when it comes to public speaking, negotiating, as well as Model United Nations procedure and protocol. Our more experienced delegates had roles in the Security Council, Interpol as well as the US Senate. These committees have specialised procedures which help to further extend more experienced delegates. The weekend was a great success and our Grade 8 students were responsible for numerous speeches, points of information and amendments. A strong Middle School delegation is also attending Tanglin Trust School's MUN conference in late November to early December.

(Hanna Ucko Neil – MS MUN Coordinator)



Lieu Yen Rivinus – VengaFest

Lieu Yen Rivinus, a Grade 8 student, competed in VengaFest held at the BFF Climbing Center over the weekend of 8 November to 10 November 2024. Qualifying rounds took place on Friday afternoon, featuring over 40 girls in Lieu Yen's age category. After completing six routes, Lieu Yen was the only climber to achieve a perfect score, earning her sole possession of first place and securing a spot in the final round on Sunday. The finals presented a greater challenge, with routes set at a higher level of difficulty than those in the qualifying rounds. Lieu Yen performed exceptionally well, successfully completing three out of four climbs and coming close to topping the fourth. Her impressive performance earned her second place, along with a share of the prize money.

(Hayley Brian – Middle School Deputy Principal)



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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/Philipp Ziegler – Chess Teachers)





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)

Holiday Atrium Concert

Get ready to kick off the holiday season with the Annual Holiday Atrium Concert! We invite you to join us in the atrium on Tuesday, 10 December 2024 for a festive celebration of music performed by our talented Middle School Choir, Orchestra, and smaller group ensembles. There will be two performances: 8:30 am to 8:55 am and 12:45 pm to 1:15 pm. Enjoy a variety of holiday selections that will fill the atrium with joyful sounds and help get everyone into the holiday spirit. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather together and celebrate the season with beautiful music. We hope to see you there – do not miss out on the chance to enjoy these festive performances!

Middle School Student Council

The Middle School Student Council organised 'Movie Lunchtimes' in the second floor activity room to help students relax during the stressful exam period that concluded at the end of November. The two film selections were well received, attracting record student attendance each lunchtime, and students demonstrated great behavior while watching. The Student Council wishes their peers every success with their assessment results and hopes that the films provided a fun outlet during this busy time.

(James Chapman/Teresa Rodriguez Alvarado – Teachers-In-Charge of Middle School Student Council)



Middle School Talent Show

We are excited to announce the Annual Middle School Talent Show, taking place on Friday, 13 December 2024, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm in the school auditorium. This is a fantastic event where students showcase their incredible talents, and we cannot wait to see the performances! Thirteen amazing acts will compete for the Bronze Star (3rd place), Silver Star (2nd place), and the Gold Star (1st place). The talent on display will include a variety of performances, such as ukulele, guitar, singing, piano, traditional and modern dance, and drums. It is sure to be an afternoon filled with excitement and creativity! More than 100 students auditioned for the talent show, and being selected is an incredible achievement. A huge congratulations to all the contestants for earning their spots! Our panel of judges includes five teachers and administrators, who will carefully evaluate each act. We wish all of our performers the best of luck as they take the stage! Do not miss out on this wonderful event – come out and support your talented classmates!

(Nora Patterson – SAL – The Arts)