



# Overseas Family School

## Elementary School

**Master Policy:**

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

### Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,



Thank you to all our parents who attended the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs), which were conducted on 20 and 21 March 2025. These meetings provided a valuable opportunity to celebrate our students' learning. The partnership between teachers and parents plays a crucial role in supporting student success, and we hope you found the conferences both insightful and beneficial.

We would also like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of 104 talented Grades 4 and 5 students, who brought the musical Frozen Jr. to life. Rehearsals began in October 2024, with students learning lines, songs, and choreography, all while developing their confidence and collaborative skills. Their efforts culminated in three incredible shows that showcased their talent, leaving audiences entertained. This production would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our amazing staff, parent volunteers, and, of course, the students who gave their all on and off the stage. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making Frozen Jr. an unforgettable experience!

We wrapped up March with the incredible Grade 5 EXPO presentations for their IPC unit, The Holiday Show. Throughout this unit, students explored the impacts of tourism and discovered ways to make it more sustainable. The Exit Point provided them with a meaningful opportunity to build confidence as they presented to an authentic audience which included students from different grades, Elementary School staff, and the Grade 5 parents.

As we head into April, join us in celebrating Earth Week from 16 to 22 April 2025 as we focus on SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production with the theme Love Your Food; Zero Waste—Starting with the Food on Your Plate. Throughout the week, each grade will take part in activities to raise awareness about reducing food waste and making sustainable choices. Look out for our pledge board, "Lights Out" initiatives, and a special dress-up day on 17 April to show our commitment to the planet.

**Penny Liew**  
Elementary School Principal  
[penny\\_liew@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:penny_liew@ofs.edu.sg)

Important Dates:	
10 April	Parent Association Hari Raya Coffee Morning Hari Raya Dress Up Day
16-22 April	Earth Week
17 April	Earth Week Dress Up Day
18 April	Good Friday (Public Holiday)
21-25 April	Grade 5 Camp (Camp Group A and Camp Group B)
26 April	Global Picnic
29 April	Performing Arts Concert
29 April	K2 to G1 Transition Coffee Morning (K2 parents)

### From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

**Hari Raya (Eid) Themed Coffee Morning (Thursday, 10 April 2025)**

As part of our cultural diversity in OFS, the Parent Association (PA) warmly invites all parents to join us for a local Hari Raya (Eid) themed Coffee Morning.

Event: Hari Raya (Eid) Themed Coffee Morning  
Date: Thursday, 10 April 2025  
Time: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm  
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/2025/hari-roya-themed-coffee-morning/>

**Global Picnic (Saturday, 26 April 2025)**

The Global Picnic is an international fair that brings together all the families in the school for a day of fun and celebration, as part of an international community. The event will take place on **Saturday, 26 April 2025**, on our campus. We invite you and your family to join us for a day filled with free entertainment, including music, dance performances, demonstrations, bouncy castles, and a variety of food and refreshments from around the world. This is a wonderful opportunity to sample different cultures and enjoy quality time with your loved ones.

Your active participation and pride in your cultural heritage are what make this event so special for the OFS family. Do not forget to bring your camera, sunhat, and OFS Security Pass, along with your best smile. We look forward to seeing you on the day!

### Library News

As always the library is a popular place with our students. As well as their regular library lessons, students can enjoy spending their break times reading or working on the library jigsaw puzzle. In March, books celebrating and featuring Ramadan, Holi and Purim were highlighted and displayed in the library. The students enjoyed reading about the different festivals. Students are encouraged to borrow a variety of books from the library - 2 English books (fiction, picture books, non-fiction, graphic novels), and 1 from Mother Tongue or Foreign Language. Zipped plastic book bags must be used to protect books. Books can be returned during library lessons, before and after school, and at break times.

(Catherine Kmet)



## Grade 1 News

It was a pleasure connecting with our parents during our recent Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs). It was a delight to celebrate the wonderful progress our students have made over the year. Our recent Unit of Work, "How Are You?", culminated in an Exit Point, where students demonstrated their understanding of healthy living. We are now eagerly anticipating our new unit, "The Stories People Tell". During this Unit of Work, we will explore stories that have been passed down through the ages from a historical and geographical perspective. In Language Arts, students had a blast making chocolate balls and then documenting the recipe's steps. In Mathematics, we have concluded our unit on Fractions. Our Grade 1 students enjoyed learning about fractions as part of a whole and making pictures using a range of fraction parts.

*(Emma Phelps)*



## Grade 2 News



The Grade 2 students continued to have a busy time over the last month. We learnt about marine animal adaptations through our field trip to the S.E.A. Aquarium. As we came to the end of our Unit of Work "Land, Sea and Sky" the classes buzzed with creativity. The students applied their understanding of habitats and adaptations to create dioramas for the Exit Point which filled the Grade 2 floor with beautiful displays. Our Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs) provided a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate their learning and share their achievements. In Mathematics, we have been exploring division using various strategies.

*(Sameerata Prakash)*

## Grade 3 News



The Grade 3 teachers extend their heartfelt gratitude to all parents for their unwavering support and open communication, which was especially evident during the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs). This strong partnership plays a crucial role in understanding how best to support our students and help them reach their full potential. Throughout our Unit of Work "They Made a Difference", the Grade 3 students have developed confidence in their research skills, delving into the lives of influential figures. They took great pride in showcasing their knowledge, skills, and understanding during the Living Museum Exit Point, where they brought their chosen historical figures to life.

*(Hayley Kinnaird)*

## Educational Intervention Services

Verbal working memory helps children hold onto sounds, understand sentences, and follow stories while reading. Weaknesses in this skill can make reading frustrating, leading to struggles with sounding out words and remembering information. Parents can help by playing memory games, breaking information into small parts, using visuals, rhymes, and songs, strengthening listening skills, and reading together daily. Encouragement and support are key. If difficulties persist, a speech and language therapist can provide additional help.

*(Debora Marchini da Costa)*



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## Grade 4 News



March has been another busy month with many activities going on in Grade 4. It was great to meet all the parents for the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs). Students worked very hard in the "Going Global" unit and this culminated in a very successful Exit Point. There was a big focus on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and students used their persuasive writing skills to persuade visiting parents that their chosen goal was the most important. They also produced fantastic posters using a graphic design app to bring awareness to their goal. All students had the chance to develop the IPC Personal Goals of communicator and collaborator during this process. In Language Arts students have been learning the art of persuasive writing and used this to write about the SDG of their choice. Students have been busy in Mathematics learning about perimeter and area leading towards angles.

*(Guy Watts)*

## Languages News

The Grade 3 Language Assembly was a vibrant celebration of global cultures! Mandarin students were impressed with a role-play and song about our Personal Goal Resilience. Hindi students dramatized personal safety, a key HSE goal. Spanish students captivated us with the classic tale of Red Riding Hood. French students shared beautiful songs, while German students shared the colorful traditions of Carnival. Finally, Japanese students inspired us with a song about how small things can make a big difference. What a fantastic display of learning and talent!

*(Monica Makkar and Roger Calais)*

## Grade 5 News

It was fantastic to connect with all parents during the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs) and discuss your child's learning journey. The past month was filled with excitement as students worked on their Expo projects, showcasing their learning. Expo celebrated their understanding of sustainable tourism, the pros and cons of tourism, and how tourism impacts people and the environment. Congratulations to the Grade 5 students for their thorough research, teamwork, and courage in presenting to their peers and parents. In Language Arts, they concluded a persuasive unit, while in Mathematics, students focused on data handling, learning to analyze graphs and understand mean, median, mode, and range.

*(Karla Kleist)*



## Physical Education (PE)

On behalf of the PE Team, it was a pleasure connecting with so many parents and sharing the students' success stories at the recent Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs). We are excited for an action-packed Quarter 4, featuring 'Target Games' and 'Ball Games', with student favorites like Football, Basketball, and Volleyball. Our Grade 4 and 5 Lunchtime Sport program will continue with a focus on 'Handball' this term – good luck to all participants! We look forward to another term of growth, teamwork, and fun in PE.

*(Mark Sherwin)*

## OFS Tigers



### A TREASURE CHEST OF MEDALS!

We are thrilled to share the incredible achievements of our OFS Tigers Gymnastics and Swimming teams at their respective National Championships! The National Championships are the highest level of, and, most prestigious competitions in the annual sporting calendar.

#### OFS Tigers GYMNASTICS TEAM

Our hard working and talented gymnasts have flipped, twisted, and tumbled their way to an impressive haul of:

- 7 Gold Medals
  - o Adi Alony, Anaya Tantia, Beatrice Cianfaglia, Kaitlyn Francis, Lee Selene Moon, Utkarshini Mishra, Yuli Weinstock
- 12 Silver Medals
  - o Aadhya Sharma, Alessandra De La Paz, Avneet Randhawa, Jaei Shin, Lou-Ann Courtin Colin, Malu Charret Machado De Barros, Mia Wong, Michelle Mario Francis, Sara Kuramitsu, Sayani Sen, Sofia Cianfaglia, Li Ziqing
- 3 Bronze Medals
  - o Roni Oren, Kim Minha, Omer Komerchero

And

#### OFS Tigers SWIMMING TEAM

The OFS Tigers swimming sensations have made waves at the Singapore Nationals with:

- 2 National Records
  - o Tia Steere on 50m and 100m Breaststroke
  - o These records were set in 2002 and have stood for 23 years
- 2 National Gold Medals
  - o Tia Steere 50m and 100m Breaststroke
- 6 National Silver Medals
  - o Tia Steere 200m Breaststroke, Tia Steere 1500m Freestyle, Jill Meines 200m Freestyle, Jill Meines 1500m Freestyle, Naya Verma 200m Backstroke
- 3 Bronze Medals
  - o Tia Steere 800m Freestyle, Jill Meines 800m Freestyle, Naya Verma 100m Backstroke

We are proud to share that BOTH our Junior Gymnastics and Junior Swimming teams have emerged as the \*TOP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TEAMS IN SINGAPORE\* from these National Championships!

“Greatness starts Somewhere - Greatness starts HERE!”

*(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)*

## Music News

What an amazing few weeks we have had in the Music Department! A huge congratulations to all our incredible students that took part in the school production of ‘Frozen JR’. It was a truly remarkable show. We extend our thanks to all the parents who helped out behind the scenes, we could not have done it without your support. In class, students are currently preparing for the upcoming Global Concerts which will take place at the beginning of May. They are excited to share the songs and dances they have been learning that celebrate our diverse school community. We look forward to sharing these events with you soon!

*(Kevin McCabe)*

## Art News

We celebrated our creative endeavours in Semester 2 during our recent Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences (PSTCs). For two days the art rooms were transformed into a vibrant gallery to showcase our range of artworks; from a giant collaborative painting of ‘The Scream’ to unique body adornments to flocks of colourful birds, there was so much to admire. It was pleasing to see many happy families visiting Level 10 and our students did a fantastic job explaining their creative processes too!

*(Jennifer Freeman)*

## Chess News

### National Schools Individual Championship

Congratulations to all 47 young Chess Knights from Elementary School who successfully competed in the prestigious 76th National Schools Individual Chess Championship, held at Tampines Hub. Well done for giving your best in all nine rounds of rapid chess played on 15 and 16 March 2025. It was the biggest chess tournament ever held in Singapore with 1750 students from Singapore’s local and international schools. Special mention to KAUSHIK Myra, DIWAN Aashi, MEREDITH Penelope Gladys, JHA Abhigyan for achieving great tournament performances, winning medals in their respective age groups. Ashwath KAUSHIK did superbly once again, competing in the Under-20 category and scoring 7.5 points out of 9 games, winning third place against 133 players. In total, our OFS students earned 15 medals and trophies against the best chess players in Singapore. Congratulations to all chess players for taking this important milestone.

*(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler)*

