

# Overseas Family School High School

**Master Policy:** 

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

## Principal's Message

As I write this, our High School students have successfully completed their first-semester examinations, demonstrating commendable focus, maturity, and a positive attitude toward their studies. This makes the upcoming break especially



well-deserved; a time for students to unplug, recharge, and enjoy meaningful rest and recreation.

This month, our campus was alive with energy and colour, highlighted by the Internationalism Celebration in the auditorium. Students impressed us with captivating performances of cultural music and dance, creating a joyful occasion to reconnect with our parent community and celebrate our school's global spirit.

Reflecting on this vibrant semester, our students have embraced a diverse range of enriching experiences, from field trips and the Personal Project Exhibition to the CORE Expo, PSAT testing, the UKMT competition, MUN conferences, TEDx, Talentime, the Lion City University Fair, Chess Tournaments, OFS Tigers sports fixtures, the School Dance, Food Drive and much more. Their enthusiasm and engagement have truly defined this first semester.

Looking ahead to January, exciting transitions await. SPP students will advance to the next level or join the mainstream curriculum, while some families prepare to begin new chapters around the world. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all departing students for their contributions to the Overseas Family School community and warmly welcome the new families joining us in the new year.

Wishing everyone a safe, restful, and joyous semester break. We look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday, 5 January 2026, ready for another inspiring term filled with learning, growth, and new opportunities.

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

Adam Ashton

(PA) Desk

# High School Principal From The Parent Association

As Christmas draws near and the semester comes to a close, it is a perfect time to pause and appreciate the hard work, dedication, and growth we have all experienced this year – students and teachers alike.

We hope this festive season brings you moments of joy, peace, and relaxation with those you hold dear.

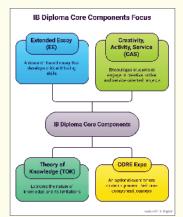
Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, filled with love, laughter, and all the success you deserve. Looking forward to seeing you in 2026!

## **IB Diploma News – Education For Life**

#### GRADE 12

On Friday, 12 December 2025, our Grade 12 students were off timetable for the entire day to focus on the three IB Diploma Program Core components: the Extended Essay (EE), Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS). Students made excellent use of this dedicated time, meeting with their supervisors and subject experts to receive valuable feedback and strengthen their work.

Many Grade 12 students have also chosen to participate in the optional CORE Expo in January 2026, where they



will present their EE, TOK, or CAS journeys to the Grade 11 cohort. Ahead of this event, students attended mini-sessions designed to clarify expectations and received preparation tips from Mr. Woollard and myself. Although participation is optional, it is strongly encouraged, with opportunities to present individually or as part of a group. Judges will be present, and certificates will be awarded.

#### **GRADE 11**

Grade 11 students have now completed Semester 1 of CAS. Students are strongly encouraged by our CAS Coordinator, Ms. Julia Hodgson, to meet as many of the seven CAS learning outcomes as they can and to aim to complete their CAS Project. This will alleviate a lot of pressure when they reach Grade 12.

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 Mr. Lee Woollard, IB DP Assistant Coordinator & Extended Essay Coordinator (lee\_woollard@ofs.edu.sg).

(Trapti Trivedi – IB DP Coordinator)

## **OFS Annual Food Drive**

We are pleased to have commenced our annual OFS Food Drive, in partnership with Food from the Heart, and are delighted to see the many contributions from our school community. The Food Drive has been occurring throughout the month of November, with students from



Kindergarten to High School and staff across all buildings invited to donate non-perishable food items to support local families in need.

OFS has proudly partnered with Food from the Heart for over ten years, supporting their mission to alleviate hunger in the Singapore community. Our High School Red Cross and NYAA students have been actively promoting the event, and the SDGs Club has helped raise awareness about the importance of food security and



responsible consumption. We look forward to updating the community on the generous donations received.

(Julia Hodgson – CAS & NYAA Coordinator)



## **Junior High School News**

Our recent Grade 9 and 10 assemblies highlighted outstanding student leadership. Grade 10 students Arin Jain, Ayaan Sameer and Vedang Jayaram from the Law Academy club spoke in four different assemblies, presenting to Grade 9 to 12 on Singapore's laws regarding vaping. Their confident delivery and clear explanations reinforced the importance of understanding local regulations and making informed choices.

During the Grade 9 assembly, another group of four Grade 10 students, Kayden Francis, Chiharu Mwansa, Prisha Bhandari and Bowen Brouwer, shared practical study tips and exam-preparation strategies. Grade 9 students were a fantastic audience, engaged, attentive, and eager to participate. They asked thoughtful questions and interacted warmly with the presenters, creating a positive and collaborative atmosphere.





We are truly proud of how our students take initiative and contribute to the well-being and growth of our school community. Their involvement reflects the strong culture of care and collaboration we value at OFS. We look forward to seeing all the wonderful things they will continue to contribute next semester.

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 to Mr. Austin Riedeman, IB MYP/ IGCSE Assistant Coordinator, at austin\_riedeman@ofs.edu.sg.

(Aida Blat Palacios – IB MYP/IGCSE Coordinator & Grade Level Coordinator – Grade 10 & Austin Riedeman – IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator, Personal Project Coordinator and Grade Level Coordinator – Grade 9)

### **Academic Advisors Update**

#### UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

We are now processing applications to universities worldwide. Our students will receive their results from December 2025 to April 2026.

So far this application cycle, we are thrilled to announce that some of our students have already received offers from top UK institutions. These include King's College London, University of London (Politics and International Affairs; General Engineering; Business Management with Year in Industry), University College London (UCL) (Cancer Biomedicine MSci), University of Bath (Management with Marketing with work placement), The University of Edinburgh (Biological Sciences), and University of Manchester (Biochemistry; Chemical Engineering; Politics and Chinese; Chemistry).

#### **PSAT RESULTS**

The PSAT (Preliminary SAT) was held in October, and results have now been released to all participating students through their College Board accounts.

We congratulate every student for completing this important benchmark assessment. The PSAT provides valuable insight into individual strengths and areas for growth, particularly in evidence-based reading, mathematical reasoning, and data analysis. Students are encouraged to use these results to guide their SAT preparation, especially by focusing on targeted practice in weaker skill areas and completing full-length Bluebook practice tests. We look forward to supporting all students as they continue preparing toward their university choices.

(Tamana Chanrai-Hills - Academic Advisor)

## MUNOFS XVIII – A Musical Start!

The opening ceremony of MUNOFS XVIII was brought to life by our sensational school band, Untitled, whose performance set the perfect tone for the event.

The talented group performed two hits – "Viva La Vida" by Coldplay and "Do I Wanna Know?" by Arctic Monkeys, delivering a vibrant and energetic start that captivated our delegates.

#### **Band Members:**

Kayden Joy Francis Daksh Gupta Noah Rudra Batolar Debdipto Dutta Vibhas Rao Amogh Dinesh Aarav Darbari

Their performance was a huge success, earning thunderous applause and adding a terrific musical touch to the opening ceremony. Well done to our young musicians for an unforgettable start to MUNOFS XVIII!

(Neisha Pratt - Deputy Principal - Curriculum)





## MUNOFS XVIII - Friday, 7 November to Sunday, 9 November 2025

Another terrific conference saw over 20 schools in attendance and more than 350 delegates participating. Students were actively engaged in collaborating to find meaningful resolutions across a range of committees, from ECOSOC to our newest addition, the Roman Senate.

A special thank you to our guest speaker, Prerna Anand, for sharing her inspiring experiences with the UNHCR and IOM. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Sophia Tirmizi and the Executive Committee for their tireless efforts in leading the club throughout the semester and for their ten months of dedicated planning to deliver a conference of the highest quality. **Secretary-General** Sophia Tirmizi (12)

**Deputy-Secretary-General** Astrid Neill (12) Adheesh Navinchandra Salian (12) Adwita Mathur (11)

**Under-Secretary-General** Farhan Ahmed (12) Bhanuja (10)

**Conference Manager** Devansh Kohli (12) Vivaan Grover (12)

**Admin Manager** Veda Pingali (11) **Vedaant Anand Atreya (11)** 

**Club Manager** Saachi Nitin Nishandar (12)

**Communications Manager** Siddhart Saha (11)

## Grade 6 – 10 MYP Parent Workshop (Monday, 10 November 2025)

A fantastic and hands-on session with a wonderful turnout, giving parents the chance to experience the MYP from a student's and teacher's perspective.

Thank you to the following staff for putting this together:

Hayley Brian (Deputy Principal - Middle School)

Aida Blat Palacios, Lisa Youngson, Austin Riedeman and **Gareth Wailes (Academic Advisor)** 



## TMUN 25' (Friday, 21 November to Sunday, 23 November 2025)



Our final MUN conference of the semester, TMUN at Tanglin Trust School, saw a strong High School delegation of 33 students participate. This year's theme, "A World Polarised," invited delegates to reflect on the widening divides shaping our world.

At its heart, the theme challenged delegates to recognise the dangers of oversimplification, reminding us that effective diplomacy lies not in reinforcing divisions but in building bridges.

We are incredibly proud of all our delegates, who contributed both meaningfully and constructively as we continue to promote global citizenship, open-minded dialogue, and empathy.

We are also thrilled to celebrate our students who were selected to serve in leadership roles throughout the conference. Congratulations to the following who served as student officers throughout the weekend:

**Head Chair – UN Environment Program (UNEP)** 

Arin Jain (Grade 10)

**Head Chair – ECOSOC** 

• Aarav Darbari (Grade 10)

Deputy Chair - League of Nations (LON)

• Bhanuja (Grade 10)

(ICAO)

**Deputy Chair - G7** 

• Prithwish Kundu (Grade 10)

**Deputy Chair - DISEC** 

• Aitreya Ved Thakur (Grade 10)

**Deputy Chair – Future Security Council (FSC)** 

• Aryan Srivastava (Grade 10)

In addition to those chosen to Chair, three of our Grade 10 students were recipients of awards:

Noah Batolar - Most Diplomatic **International Civil Aviation Organization**  Daksh Gupta - Best Delegate **International Civil Aviation Organization**  (Grade 12)

**Deputy Chair - SPECPOL** 

Vice President - ICJ

• Veda Pingali (Grade 11)

• Charvi Avadhoot Pitambre

Vedang Jayaram - Best Delegate Special Political and Decolonisation **Committee (SPECPOL)** 

## High School Beach Clean Up

Over ten Fridays, OFS students have been dedicating their time to cleaning Pasir Ris Beach. Each semester, the club receives over 100 applications, reflecting the strong interest in service among High School students. This initiative is just one of many service opportunities offered at OFS, and the students' commitment and enthusiasm are a testament to the spirit of community and engagement that the school fosters.



Kana Mizuta Grade 10

"This was my first volunteer experience at this school, and I gradually started to look forward to it. On days without much trash, we took walks and enjoyed the fresh air. It was a great experience, and I'd love to join again"



Arvir Randhawa Grade 11

"Joining the Beach clean up Club has been a meaningful experience that allowed me to engage with nature and understand my role in protecting the environment. Through participating in cleanups, I became more aware of how human behavior directly impacts nature and a multitude of other ecosystems. I learned that even small individual actions, such as reducing plastic use, can make a real difference"

The images below show a piece of polystyrene the size of a mattress.





(Richard Petherick - Deputy Principal - Pastoral)

## Grade 12 Biology Students Investigate "Who Did It?" at the DNA Labs



Imagine a crime scene and you are the investigator trying to solve who did it! Recently, our Grade 12 Biology students had the exciting opportunity to step into the role of forensic scientists during their visit to the DNA Labs at the Science Centre Singapore.

This collaborative, hands-on learning experience allowed students to engage directly with advanced scientific techniques used in modern molecular biology. They learned how to use precise instruments such as micropipettes, centrifuges, and PCR machines, and conducted gel electrophoresis to create their own DNA profiles. Adding to the excitement, they also explored fingerprinting techniques using

magnetic dust -connecting their classroom learning to real-world applications in forensic science.

While their PCR samples were running, students took the opportunity to explore the many interactive exhibitions at the Science Centre. The energy and enthusiasm were evident as they returned, buzzing with excitement and sharing what they had discovered.



This experience not only deepened their understanding of biotechnology and genetics but also offered a glimpse into how science is applied in real investigative work. More importantly, it was a memorable and enjoyable day that celebrated both learning and friendship — a fitting experience for our Grade 12 students as they approach the second semester of their school journey.

(Seema Rehan - SA Leader: Life Science)

## High School Musical Set Design Activity

Our students have delivered remarkably advanced artwork by bringing their designs for an afterschool activity to life! Building on the foundation laid at the beginning of the term, the group has progressed from initial sketches and material exploration to the construction and refinement of their final artworks. Students are now confidently applying their creative ideas, sketching backdrops, assembling stage elements, and experimenting with lighting to create artistic visual effects. Their teamwork and communication skills have developed significantly through their collaboration, ensuring that every design detail supports the atmosphere and vibrancy of the upcoming show. All students have





demonstrated impressive ingenuity and innovative thinking, transforming their ideas into tangible designs that reflect both artistic flair and the practical function of a stage. Their sense of ownership and pride in their work is evident in every discussion, brushstroke, and design choice. As the show approaches, the excitement is building! We are incredibly proud of how each student has developed, not only as an artist but also as a problemsolver and team player. We look forward to unveiling their inspiring designs during the High School Musical, a true celebration of creativity and collaboration.

(Ayat Madbolly - Visual Arts Teacher)