



Overseas Family School High School

Master Policy:

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

Principal's Message

A warm welcome to all new students and families joining us this semester, and a heartfelt welcome back to our returning community members. I hope everyone had a refreshing and well-deserved break! For those celebrating Lunar New Year, "Gong Xi Fa Cai!"



The second semester is always a vibrant and busy time for our students as they prepare for their academic milestones. This includes the IB DP and IB MYP final assessments, as well as the external IB DP and IGCSE examinations. As they gear up for their mock and final examinations, the guidance and encouragement of parents and teachers will play a vital role in their success.

The High School continues to be a hub of activity. The Arts department is hard at work preparing for a production of Macbeth, showcasing the remarkable talent and creativity of our students. Recently, we also hosted key events such as the Extended Essay (EE) Carousel, the Core Expo, the IB DP Collaborative Sciences Project, and the Student Voice elections, which highlight the diverse achievements of our learners. In addition, the High School participated in the annual OFS Whole School Food Drive where students, parents, and staff donated food for Food from the Heart, which supports families in need. This initiative is a shining example of what we can achieve when we come together.

University acceptance season is in full swing, and we are delighted to share that our students have received offers from prestigious institutions including Johns Hopkins, UCLA, Carnegie Mellon, NYU, Georgia Tech, Michigan, LSE, Imperial, UCL, Manchester, Edinburgh, Sydney, Melbourne, McGill, UBC, Toronto, and many more top global universities.

Looking ahead, planning for the next academic year is already underway. Our Grade 8 Curriculum Night on Tuesday, 21 January focused on the transition to Grade 9, while the Grade 10 Curriculum Night on Tuesday, 11 February will provide valuable insights into the move to Grade 11 and the IB Diploma Program in Senior High School.

Adam Ashton
High School Principal



Food from the Heart

The Academic Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year is now available on our website. Stay informed about key dates, holidays, and important events. Please visit <https://www.ofs.edu.sg/calendar/> to view or download the calendar.

IB Diploma News – Education For Life

Wishing everyone a wonderful 2025. I encourage parents to discuss their child's Semester 1 report, acknowledging strengths and addressing areas for improvement.

PIONEER IB WORLD SCHOOL: ONLINE DIGITAL EXAM TRIAL

- Our school participated in the IB DP Digital Examinations Student Usability Trial from November to December 2024, alongside 45 global IB World Schools.
- Our participation contributed to advancing the Diploma Program's innovation, adaptability, and continuous improvement in learning technologies within international education.

The CORE EXPO

- The CORE EXPO took place on Monday, 13 January 2025, where approximately 50 Grade 12 students presented their EE, TOK, or CAS to both Grade 12 and Grade 11 students, with participation being optional but encouraged.
- The event offered Grade 11 students a valuable opportunity to learn about the IB Diploma core components.
- The session was highly successful, with strong engagement from both grade levels.



GRADE 12

Extended Essay (EE):

- Grade 12 students submitted their final EE on Thursday, 16 January 2025, marking the completion of the most important phase of the EE process.
- A special thanks to all EE Supervisors and Mr. Lee Woollard, the EE Coordinator, for their guidance.

Key Dates:

- Monday, 3 March to Wednesday, 12 March 2025: IB DP Mock Examinations (schedule available on the school website, individual timetables provided).
- Monday, 28 April to Wednesday, 21 May 2025: IB Examination period.
- Study leave begins for Full IB Diploma students and Grade 12 course students on Thursday, 17 April 2025.

GRADE 11

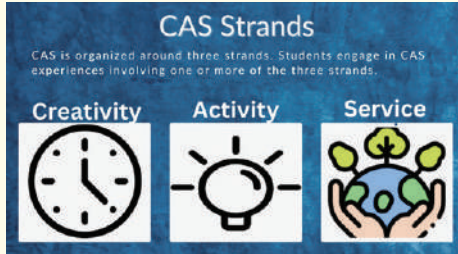
Extended Essay

- The Extended Essay process began in December 2024.
- Students attended an Extended Essay Carousel session in January to understand subject-specific expectations.
- By early January 2025, students were expected to have selected their subject and topic.
- Supervisors were assigned, and students met with them in late January.



CAS

Clubs and activities began on Tuesday, 4 February 2025. By the end of Grade 11, students should have completed two-thirds of their CAS requirements. It is crucial for students to plan and select suitable



experiences during the second semester to meet this goal. For any questions related to CAS, please contact Mr. John James, our CAS Coordinator, at john_james@ofs.edu.sg.

CAS Requirements

- Must be active in CAS over 18 months (starting in G11)
- Complete CAS Requirements over three semesters: two semesters of Grade 11 and the first semester of Grade 12
- Complete a minimum of **two experiences in each CAS Strand** - C, A, and S
- Complete a minimum of eight core experiences that are one semester in length and meet weekly
- Produce meaningful reflections for CAS experiences
- Meet each of the 7 CAS Learning Outcomes at least once
- Complete **three** interviews
- Complete **at least one** CAS Project

We extend our best wishes to all students for a successful Semester 2.

If you have any question 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)

(Images credit: John James – IB DP TOK and CAS Coordinator)

Academic Advisors Update

GRADE 12 PROGRESS

Semester 1 is always a busy semester for our Grade 12 students as they complete their University applications whilst managing their studies. However, their hard work is paying off, and even at this early stage of the process, students have already received acceptances from great institutions such as the University of Bath, the University of Manchester, Imperial College London, University of Sydney, King’s College London, University of St Andrews, University of Warwick, and University College London.

Most decisions from universities (particularly from the US) will not be received until March 2025, but we are very proud of their success! Students have already started applying to Singapore and European universities, and we will continue to support those applications throughout Semester 2.

GRADE 11

With Grade 12 students well on the way with their University applications, our attention now focuses on our Grade 11 students.

Students will start attending appointments with their Academic Advisor (AA) to plan their future goals, courses and university applications. We advise students to research all possibilities open to them to make the most out of this meeting. This is the time to get questions answered and learn about available pathways.

GRADE 10

Grade 10 students are in the process of thinking about course options for Grade 11. Their AA will be available for appointments during Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences to discuss any questions regarding your options. Please make sure you tick the AA box when selecting your appointments. We advise parents/guardians to attend the curriculum night on Tuesday, 11 February 2025 to understand more about the programs and courses students can select from.

(Tamana Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)

Junior High School News

Welcome Back

Happy New Year and a warm welcome to all our students, especially those who have just joined our school community!

In December 2024, Netanya Bhasin, a Grade 10 student, created a realistic model of a survival-friendly environment for her Personal Project, featuring water, food, and natural resources. She donated it to Grade 2 for their IPC unit Land, Sea, and Sky. A great example of learning in action – well done, Netanya!

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).

IGCSE Top of the World in Mathematics

We are thrilled to announce that Liu Zichen, who joined OFS in Grade 4, has achieved an extraordinary academic milestone. Now in Grade 11, Zichen has consistently demonstrated dedication and hard work throughout his studies. Zichen was recently awarded Top of the World in Mathematics (Extended) by Cambridge Education for achieving outstanding results in the May-June examination series. His impressive performance includes 10 A* and 1 A in his IGCSEs. This accomplishment not only reflects Zichen’s commitment but also inspires his peers to strive for excellence. Congratulations, Zichen, on this remarkable achievement!



(Clara Fuentes Torruella – IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator)

From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

Exciting News! The OFS Parent Association is now on Instagram! Follow us at [ofsedu.pa](https://www.instagram.com/ofsedu.pa) for updates on our events and ways to get involved. Stay connected and be part of our school community online.



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CultureFest – Wednesday, 11 December 2024

As the first semester came to a close, our High School buzzed with excitement for one of the most anticipated events of the year – CultureFest. Held every December, this International celebration is a vibrant showcase of the values and traditions that make up our diverse school community. This year, over 300 High School students participated, making it a truly remarkable event.

CultureFest is more than just a performance; it is an opportunity to come together as a school to celebrate what makes us unique and to find joy in the common threads that unite us. The event featured student-led dances and musical performances representing a variety of cultures from around the world. Each performance was the result of weeks of dedicated practice, with students pouring their energy and passion into perfecting every step and note.

The evening was a kaleidoscope of colour, rhythm, and emotion. The dancers and musicians captivated the audience, taking us on a journey across continents, reminding us of the beauty in diversity. CultureFest is a testament to the creativity, leadership, and teamwork of our students. It highlights the importance of understanding and appreciating each other's backgrounds while fostering a sense of unity and mutual respect.

We are incredibly proud of everyone who contributed to making this event a success. Here's to many more opportunities to celebrate our differences and the bonds that bring us together!

(Austin Riedeman – Events Coordinator)



Student Voice's December To Remember

Student Voice wrapped up the semester with an unforgettable December to Remember event, spreading holiday cheer and celebrating our school community's achievements. The series of activities brought students and staff together in the spirit of joy and togetherness, creating memories to last a lifetime.

The festivities kicked off with a cozy movie showing featuring Disney's Frozen. Students gathered to sing along with Elsa and Anna while enjoying snacks and laughter with friends. The atmosphere was warm and magical, setting the perfect tone for the holiday season.

Throughout the week, candy grams added an extra dose of sweetness to our school. Students sent heartfelt messages and treats to friends and teachers, reminding everyone of the power of kindness and connection.



One of the highlights of December was carolling. Student Voice members brought festive melodies to every corner of the school, visiting High School, Middle School, Elementary School, and Kindergarten classrooms. The carollers' enthusiasm and holiday spirit were infectious, brightening everyone's day.

The grand finale was the end-of-semester assembly, a lively celebration of all we have accomplished. Students showcased their talents with music and dance performances, creating a festive atmosphere filled with pride and energy. It was a wonderful way to reflect on the hard work and achievements of the semester while looking forward to the new year ahead.

Student Voice is proud to have organised this series of events, bringing our school community closer together. Here's to carrying this joy and positivity into the next semester!

(Austin Riedeman – Events Coordinator)



Global Recognition: FIDE Gold School Award for OFS

We are proud to announce that Overseas Family School has been awarded the prestigious FIDE Gold School Award. This title represents global recognition of OFS' commitment and success to introducing students to the benefits of chess as an educational tool.

This achievement highlights not only the importance of chess as a tool for intellectual and personal development but also the passion and enthusiasm of our students, teachers, and the wider school community. Dana Reizniece, Managing Director of the World Chess Federation and a former Finance Minister of Latvia presented the award to OFS, on behalf of the FIDE Chess in Education Commission on 12 December 2024.

(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler – Chess Teachers)





Celebrating Milestones: SPP Students Transitioning to Mainstream Classes

We are excited to share the outstanding accomplishment of our SPP Level 3 students in High School, marking their successful transition into mainstream classes in Semester 2. Their success is a testament to their persistence, determination, and progress on their language learning journey.

During the recent SPP Celebration Ceremony, three outstanding students: SAITO Juno, Grade 9 IHAYA Miyato, Grade 10 and KOMOIKE Sara, Grade 11, captivated the audience with speeches about their personal journeys. They reflected on the hurdles they faced when starting out and the significant strides they have made, thanks to the encouragement of their teachers and the collaborative spirit of the SPP program. Their words were both moving and inspiring, highlighting how much they have grown both academically and personally.

These students exemplify what it means to overcome challenges and thrive. Their unique journeys remind us of the strength in perseverance and the richness of multicultural perspectives. As they transition to mainstream classes, we are confident they will continue to excel and inspire those around them.



YOU HAVE GOT WHAT IT TAKES

To our SPP students: As you step into this new phase, remember this—You Have Got What It Takes. Learning a new language is never easy, but you have shown remarkable grit and determination every step of the way.

The obstacles you have faced did not stop you; they shaped you. Whether it is academics, personal goals, or new challenges ahead, believe in yourselves and keep moving forward.

Congratulations on this significant achievement! Every step you have taken has prepared you for what is next, and we are excited to see all that you will accomplish.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to the SPP teaching team, whose unwavering support and guidance have been instrumental in this success. Together, let's celebrate this milestone and look forward to the bright futures of our students.

(Deborah Rogozinski – SA Leader: SPP)



OFS Tigers

Congratulations to these students who have been appointed captains of the ACSIS Season 2 OFS Tigers Sports Teams:

BADMINTON

- 11U Girls – Captain Lakshita Singhi
- 11U Boys – Captain Siddhartha Awasthi
- 19U Girls – Captain Zhou Qiantong
- 19U Boys – Captain Aditya Bhansali

BASKETBALL

- 12U Girls – Captain Ashwathi Menon
- 12U Boys – Captain Rei Yoshida
- 16U Girls – Captain Tejaswini Prasad
- 16U Girls – Vice Captain Aishwarya Mishra
- 16U Boys – Captain Matteo Young
- 19U Boys – Captain Joshua Li
- 19U Boys – Vice Captain Ivan Shishkin

CRICKET

- 12U Boys – Captain Aqeel Boltwala

FOOTBALL

- 14U Girls – Captain Reem Alqahtani
- 14U Boys – Captain Thomas Wailes

NETBALL

- 14U Girls – Captain Saisha Grover

RUGBY

- 16U Boys – Captain Sri Kona
- 19U Boys – Captain Martin Cesbert

SWIMMING

- 19U – Captain Jill Meines
- 19U – Vice Captain Naya Verma

TENNIS

- 19U – Captain Taichi Akasaki
- 19U – Vice Captain Syed Rayyan Ali

TOUCH

- 16U Girls – Captain Noam Yoskovitz
- 19U Girls – Captain Melissa Lucas

VOLLEYBALL

- 14U Girls – Captain Romane Levitte
- 14U Boys – Captain Aditya Surana

Best wishes to you and your teams for a successful Season 2 of sports!

(Gil Levy – Head of Competitive Sport)

