



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.

I ask that they look at all aspects of their reports, not just the marks and academics. I hope that students can look at their effort in class, their work as collaborators, their organization in school work, their engagement in clubs and other opportunities. I hope they can look ahead and set goals in these areas too. 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, Mr. Currie and Mrs. Youngson 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 traveling, 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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From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

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!

Food from the Heart



The food collection for Food from the Heart has been a great success, and we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our Middle School families for their generosity.



Deputy Principal's Message



It has been an exciting and energetic end of the semester, with many events taking place to round off the year. First and foremost, we would like to thank all of our families who generously donated to our 'Food from the Heart' collection. These items are now being distributed to those in need within our local community, and your support is greatly appreciated.

Following Examination Week, the campus has been buzzing with activity. We have officially launched the Season 2 Tigers sports, and we wish all our teams the best of luck in their competitions. We also took time to celebrate the success of our Study Preparation Program (SPP) students during their recent awards ceremony, where many were recognised for their hard work and earned promotions to the next level. To finish off the semester, the students are eagerly anticipating the 'Talent Show.' They have been busy rehearsing, and we look forward to seeing the finalists showcase the amazing skills our Middle School has to offer.

Our Grade 8 students recently enjoyed an action-packed excursion to Gardens by the Bay and Marina Barrage to learn about the implications of economic systems and climate change. Looking ahead to January, they will embark on the Grade 8 Camp, which provides a wonderful opportunity to develop the IB Learner Profile attributes of being caring, open-minded, and risk-takers.

January will also mark the beginning of Grade 9 course selections for Grade 8 families. We encourage students to use the upcoming break to reflect on what they enjoy, what they are good at, and what they might want to do in the future to help prepare for these important decisions.

We wish all of our families a restful and enjoyable break, and safe travels to those heading overseas. We look forward to your return in Semester 2 and to welcoming all our new families and students to OFS.

(Hayley Brian – Middle School Deputy Principal)

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Grade 7 Camp

Grade 7 Camp was an exciting and rewarding week that brought out the very best in our students. From cycling to Coney Island to learning sign language, testing their aim in archery tag, and taking to the water for dragon boating, students showed teamwork and plenty of enthusiasm. They pushed themselves on the Action Motion obstacle challenges, supported one another throughout, and even enjoyed a spirited disco one evening. The trip to Adventure Cove on the last day provided the perfect balance of sunshine, water slides, and relaxation. It was wonderful to see students step outside their comfort zones, strengthen friendships, and grow in confidence.

(Jonathan Wilkinson and Lisa Younson – Camp Organisers)



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Model United Nations

In recent weeks, our students took part in two major conferences, MUNOFS XVIII and TMUN25, showing outstanding diplomacy and collaboration. Across a wide range of committees, delegates engaged in thoughtful debate, delivered well-researched speeches, and worked with peers from other international schools to draft and negotiate resolutions. Their professionalism, teamwork, and global awareness were evident throughout both events and we are incredibly proud of the way they represented OFS.

(Jonathan Wilkinson – Academic Coordinator and MUN Coordinator)





Christmas Wonderland Display at Gardens by the Bay

Our Norwegian Grade 5, 6 and 7 students had a wonderful morning at Gardens by the Bay, where they helped decorate the Norwegian tree for this year's Christmas Wonderland display in the Flower Dome. They have been busy in class making handmade ornaments for the tree, bringing a touch of Christmas magic from OFS!

Below are some highlights from the day and be sure to look for the Norwegian Christmas tree when you visit the Flower Dome this season!

(Tonje O'Connor – Norwegian Mother Tongue Teacher)



Middle School Clubs

The Middle School clubs have just wrapped up their sessions, and each one ended on a high note. Students explored new interests, built valuable skills, and discovered talents they did not know they had. Whether they were creating art, playing instruments, or working as a team, kids stayed engaged and excited throughout. The clubs were a great success, and everyone walked away with new knowledge, new friendships, and lots of fun memories. Sign ups for Semester 2 clubs will open in January! Below is a reflection from Aditi Partheban about her experience in the Debate Club.

(Lisa Youngson – Academic Coordinator)

Joining the Debate Club transformed my understanding of effective communication and critical thinking. Initially, my goals were rather straightforward: I hoped to acquire a few public speaking tactics and become more comfortable with impromptu talks. I assumed it would be a simple procedure of being assigned a topic and supporting one side. However, the truth of the club was far more demanding and fulfilling than I could have anticipated. The club not only met, but exceeded, my expectations by challenging me in unexpected ways.

The club's significant concentration on analytical skills was the major factor that helped it overcome my initial beliefs. I rapidly realised that delivering an argument effectively required more than just a strong voice and a confident position. It necessitates an advanced ability to critically analyse information, dissecting complicated issues to discover logical errors in an opponent's reasoning and carefully evaluate the relevance and accuracy of facts and data. In addition, I created powerful, systematic research techniques. This was not about finding a single supporting statistic, but about comprehending complex issues from various angles in order to construct a truly convincing and solid argument. This method prompted me to refocus my personal objectives from simply "speaking better" to "thinking better."

At the end of my time at the club, I had a strong sense of accomplishment and true appreciation for it. The most important gain was a strong understanding of organisation and clarity. I learnt how to frame my views rationally and convey them clearly, impactfully, and clearly, both verbally and in writing. The entire experience was transformative, teaching me essential skills that will serve me well beyond the debate floor and fostering a lasting appreciation for the power of a reasoned argument.

(Aditi Partheban – 7 05 Aumentado)