



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,

Welcome to all our new families to OFS and "welcome back" to all of our returning families. We know that starting a new school year can bring a mixture of excitement, anticipation, and perhaps a few nerves—especially for children moving into a new grade, meeting a new teacher, or, for some of our families, starting at a new school altogether. We have been incredibly proud of how positively our students have approached these changes. They have settled into routines, explored their new classes, made new friends, and demonstrated the resilience and enthusiasm that make our Elementary School so special.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents who took the time to complete our Parent Survey in April 2026. We are very pleased to share that our overall parent satisfaction score was 4.43 out of 5, reflecting the strong trust, confidence, and positive views that our families have about our school and the experiences we provide for our students. While we are encouraged by this very positive result, we also recognise the importance of listening carefully to the areas identified for further development. In particular, feedback relating to assessment (frequency, feedback and preparation) will continue to be an area of focus for us.

As we move into the weeks ahead, we encourage families to keep a few simple reminders in mind:

Allow time to settle

Even when the first week goes smoothly, settling into a new routine takes time. Children may feel tired after school or need a little extra reassurance as they adjust. This is completely normal.

Keep conversations open

Take a few minutes each day to ask about your child's experiences—not only what they learned, but how they felt, who they spent time with, and what they enjoyed. Sometimes a simple "Tell me something that made you smile today" can lead to a meaningful conversation.

Prioritise rest and routines

Consistent bedtimes, healthy meals, and time to relax after school can make a significant difference as children adjust to the demands of a new school year. Establishing a simple home schedule can also help children stay organised, particularly as homework and other school responsibilities begin.

Encourage independence

A new year is a wonderful opportunity for children to take increasing responsibility for their belongings, organisation, homework, and daily routines. Small steps toward independence build confidence.

Be mindful of emotions

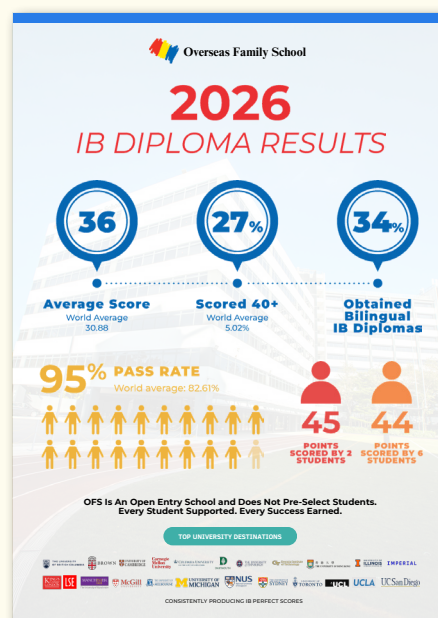
Children do not always have the words to explain how they are feeling. A little extra patience and reassurance can help them navigate new friendships, expectations, and challenges.

Please let us know if we can be of assistance with any queries, comments or concerns you may have at any time. Early communication allows us to work together to support your child and ensure they feel happy, safe, and ready to learn. On a final note, this year is especially meaningful as we celebrate our school's 35th anniversary. We look forward to celebrating this special year together! I wish all our families the very best for the Academic Year 2026-2027.

Penny Liew
Elementary School Principal
penny_liew@ofs.edu.sg



Important Dates:
31 August- Grade 1 to 3 Back to School Night
2 September- Grade 4 and 5 Back to School Night
14 September- Grade 1 to 3 Curriculum Talk
16 September- Grade 4 and 5 Curriculum Talk
25 September- Internationalism Celebrations
30 September- 35th OFS Anniversary



High School's fanstatic IB Diploma Results.

Grade 1 News

What a fantastic start to the new school year! We want to extend a warm welcome to all our new Grade 1 students and their families. The children have adjusted beautifully and are already building a strong foundation for the months ahead. Our learning kicked off with our first IPC unit, "Brainwave". Students explored practical ways to prepare their minds for learning, guided by our big question: Can we get our brains ready for learning? We are excited about our next unit, "Hooray! Let's go on Holiday!". We deeply appreciate your incredible help in launching this school year. From organising supplies and labeling items to completing questionnaires and sending in photos. We are looking forward to sharing an extraordinary year with all of you!

(Emma Phelps)



Grade 2 News



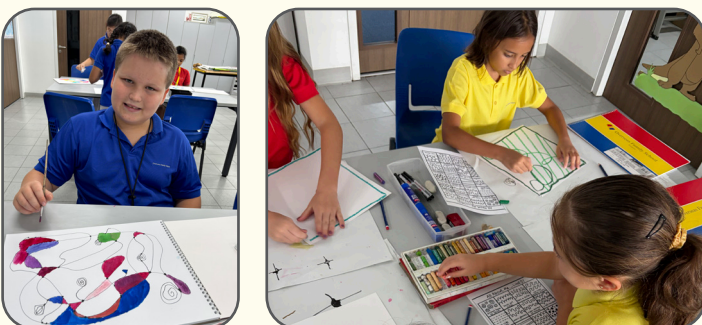
What an exciting and busy few weeks the Grade 2 students have had! They have settled well into their new classes and are getting to know their teachers and new friends. Our first unit "Brainwave" has been a wonderful opportunity to look at the different ways people learn and how we can look after our brain to get the most from it. Our learning journey has taken us on an exploration of the IPC personal goals, KSUs and the importance of the 'Power of Yet'. Students participated in a teacher led skill rotation activity to understand what helps and hinders learning. In Mathematics, we conducted surveys in our classrooms to collect data and learn how to represent and analyze the information using tallies and bar graphs. The students are showing great independence as they get used to the responsibilities of Grade 2. We look forward to a great year together.

(Sameerata Prakash)

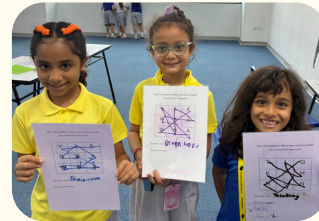
Art News

What a wonderful start to the year in Elementary Art at OFS! It has been such a joy to see familiar faces again, meet our new students, and welcome Mrs Groufsky to the Art Team this year. The art rooms are buzzing with curiosity and hands-on creativity. Students have been diving into a wonderful variety of artistic explorations, experimenting with different materials, techniques, styles, and ideas. From imaginative mixed media projects and playful designs to exploring the world around them and turning everyday observations into creative ideas, our young artists are building their skills while expressing their creativity and individuality. It's only the beginning, and we can't wait for all the artistic adventures still to come!

(Wendy Tan)



Grade 3 News



We are delighted to welcome all our Grade 3 families back for another exciting year and extend a warm welcome to those joining our school community for the first time. We began with our first IPC Unit of Work, "Brainwave," where Grade 3 students explored how the brain works, developed a growth mindset and took ownership of their learning. In Language Arts, they explored poetry through rhythm, themes and creative expression. In Mathematics, we focused on place value, building a strong foundation for the year ahead. The students have made a fantastic start and we look forward to the year ahead!

(Amber Foley)

International Primary Curriculum

The Process of Learning in the International Primary Curriculum - In the IPC, students use the process of learning to understand the significance of the unit they are studying and how they learn best. There are seven stages in the learning process, most are interchangeable with students revisiting their learning and developing their understandings.

The **Entry Point** is an engaging activity that serves as a provocation for the unit, an experience that encourages students to think about the learning that is to follow.

The **Knowledge Harvest** is where students share what they already know about the unit, their prior knowledge and think about areas they would like to enquire into during the course of the unit.

Explaining The Theme is where the teacher provides information on the subjects and content that will be covered during the course of the unit.

Research, Record and Reflection within Activities: teachers plan experiential, exploratory, collaborative research based activities giving students the opportunities to use and develop a variety of skills and acquire knowledge.

Exit Point provides an opportunity for students to share their learning and understanding within the unit.

(Shalini Maira)

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Grade 4 News



It has been a busy first few weeks in Grade 4. Students have shown resilience and adaptability while getting used to life in a new grade level and the differences from Grade 3. Our first IPC unit, Brainwave had the students understand the importance of having a growth mindset when it comes to their studies and all aspects of their lives. This should help them throughout their time in Grade 4 when they will be faced with many new challenges. In Language Arts, Information Report writing is the text type we begin with and students are beginning to understand the structure and different language features used when writing an information report. All their hard work should lead to some interesting reports! For the first few weeks of Mathematics, students have been looking at place value, rounding, standard and expanded and will now move onto working with the four operations.

(Guy Watts)

Physical Education (PE)



Welcome Back to an Exciting Year of PE!

Welcome back to another fantastic school year at OFS! We hope your summer was filled with fun, adventure, and plenty of opportunities to stay active. We are excited to welcome our students back to the gym and onto the courts for another year of movement, learning, and laughter! In Physical Education, our goal is to help every child discover the joy of being active while building confidence, teamwork, and skills for lifelong healthy living. We have already begun the year with Gymnastics and Net Games, where students are developing balance, body control, striking and rallying skills, while learning to cooperate, communicate, and support one another.

PE is about much more than games and sport. Every lesson is an opportunity for students to grow through the IPC Personal Goals. This year, we will place a special focus on being:

- Resilient – trying new challenges, persevering, and learning from mistakes.
- Collaborators – working together, encouraging teammates, and celebrating success.
- Communicators – listening carefully, sharing ideas, and showing respect for others.

We look forward to an exciting year of active learning, personal growth, and plenty of fun. Here's to a fantastic year in PE!

(Christopher Eng)

Grade 5 News

Welcome back to our returning families, and a very warm welcome to those joining our school community for the first time. Grade 5 students have settled in, quickly learning their new routines and actively demonstrating our Personal Goals. We kicked off our IPC unit, "Moving People," with an interactive entry point that gave students a meaningful perspective on the challenges faced by displaced people. In Language Arts, students are honing their storytelling skills as we dive into narrative writing. Meanwhile in Mathematics, we are exploring place value, integers, and building flexible computation strategies to tackle complex problem-solving. Additionally, our newly elected Junior Student Council representatives have received their badges and begun their weekly meetings. We look forward to a fantastic year of growth and achievement!

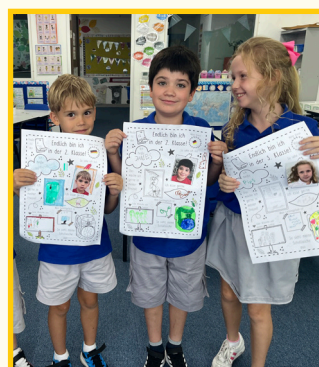
(Karla Kleist)



Languages News

The Foreign Languages and Mother Tongue Departments are thrilled to welcome students back for a vibrant new academic year, which kicked off with dynamic icebreakers and engaging activities across all our language classrooms. German students explored the traditional Schultüte—a colorful cone packed with treats and school supplies—reinforcing their new vocabulary through interactive flashcards and spinning-wheel recall games, while Spanish learners jumped straight into functional communication by mastering everyday greetings and introductions. Meanwhile, Mandarin, French, and Hindi classes shared their personal stories through creative "All About Me" worksheets, with Hindi students also celebrating Indian Independence Day by crafting original slogans and vibrant posters. Powered by this incredible energy from day one, we are looking forward to a fantastic and inspiring year of learning ahead!

(Monica Makkar and Roger Calais)



Library News

It has been wonderful welcoming students to the library, both in their lessons and at lunchtimes. Thank you to the students who remember to bring their A3 plastic library folder to use when borrowing - it really does help to keep library books clean and safe.



We value student choice when it comes to reading for pleasure. Browsing the shelves and making decisions about what to read are skills which need to be practised. Ways to help support reading at home include:

- surround children with books and writing - read signs in the environment, cereal boxes, shopping lists
- model reading in front of your child, it's important that you show you enjoy reading if you want them to believe that reading is fun and fundamental
- read aloud to your child - in this way you can model fluent reading, teach new vocabulary, and enjoy a special connection through a shared experience
- talk to your children about the books they've read. These conversations can be springboards to other activities such as writing, art/craft, baking/cooking, and sports.

(Catherine Kmet)

Sports News

Tigers are back! We are thrilled to launch another exciting season of Tigers sports as our student-athletes prepare to represent OFS in ACSIS competition! Trial turnout across all sports was fantastic, with our Elementary School athletes bringing incredible energy and focus to the courts and fields. It has been inspiring to see our students so happy and active, doing what they love. As rosters take shape, our focus shifts from trials to building strong friendships, supporting one another through every win and challenge, and fostering a positive, inclusive team culture. Go Tigers!

(Bruce Shang – Head of Athletics)



SPP



We welcome the returning students and the many new students to OFS, in particular those who have joined our Study Preparation Program. For students developing their English skills we welcome them to our specialised learning environment, where they will feel safe, comfortable and given many opportunities to advance their English proficiency. For returning students, we look forward to another year of moving forward through the SPP levels and along the pathway to join a mainstream class.

(Roger Calais)

Chess News

Welcome back to all our students and families and a very warm welcome to all our new students! It is wonderful to see the chess room lively again, with familiar and new faces around the boards. We ended last school year with our Family Chess Tournament and a special visit from FIDE Chess in Education guests from around the world. We are looking forward to another great year of learning, playing and enjoying chess at OFS!

(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler)



Music News

We are thrilled to welcome our students back to Level 10 as they begin their musical journey this year. Our goal is to ignite your child's love for music while ensuring they have some fun along the way. Grade 1 students have been working on rhythm and beat through unpitched percussion instruments. In Grade 2, students are developing their skills on the xylophone, while our Grade 3 students are learning a new instrument, the recorder. Grade 4 students are continuing their recorder skills with the C major scale, while in Grade 5, students are learning all about the djembe drum from West Africa. We have also started the auditions for this year's musical, 'Troll Jr.'. We are very excited about the year ahead, filled with musical adventures and celebrations!

(Maya Mitsuyasu)

From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

Welcome back! After a two-month summer break, we returned to school in August. The students are settling back into their routines, and we hope our new parents are also getting to know the school and our community better. September will be another busy month for the PA. 5 September is Teachers' Day in Singapore, and we would like to take this opportunity to wish all our teachers a very Happy Teachers' Day! Thank you for your hard work, patience, and everything you do for our children.

On 10 September, we will have a Police Talk for parents, giving us a chance to learn more about safety and life in Singapore, the place many of us now call home. Everyone is welcome to join. We are also planning a series of parent workshops for different age groups, covering topics such as parenting, communicating with teenagers, supporting children through school and exam stress, and improving communication between parents and children. If you are interested, please feel free to register or email us for more information. We hope to see many of you at our upcoming events!