



# 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 we near the end of the academic year, it is a time to reflect on the many accomplishments of our students and community. Since August 2025, students have shown strong dedication not only academically, but also through active participation in co-curricular activities and service initiatives. Their commitment to lifelong learning and global citizenship has been evident throughout the year.



Key highlights include outstanding academic results in the IB Diploma Programme and IGCSE examinations, alongside successful university placements worldwide. The Arts program flourished with memorable events such as CultureFest, Alice in Wonderland, the Dance Show, IB Art Exhibition, and Battle of the Bands, all showcasing student creativity and talent.

Partnerships with organisations like the Singapore Red Cross and NTUC Nursing Home have strengthened, providing meaningful service opportunities. International trips to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Spain enriched students' cultural understanding and created lasting memories.

Our Tigers Competitive Sports program saw excellent participation, with notable team and individual achievements. Students also engaged actively in external academic competitions, including Olympiads, Envirothons, Hackathons, and university-level challenges, reflecting curiosity and a pursuit of excellence.

These successes would not have been possible without the dedication and professionalism of our High School faculty, whose commitment has been central to this year's achievements.

To our graduating seniors and departing members of the community, thank you for your contributions, you will be greatly missed. To those returning, I wish you continued success in the year ahead.

Wishing everyone a restful and safe holiday break.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [adam\\_ashton@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:adam_ashton@ofs.edu.sg).

Adam Ashton  
High School Principal



Yearbook 2026 will be available at the School Shop from 28 May 2026

## From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

Congratulations to all our graduating students from High School, Middle School, Elementary School, and Kindergarten! We are so proud of all your hard work and achievements. We also wish all students the very best in their exams and hope everyone receives wonderful results. A big thank you to all our teachers for their dedication and support throughout the year. Wishing everyone a happy, safe, and relaxing holiday! See you in August!

## Annual Uniform & Stationery Sale – Academic Year 2026-2027

No purchases without recently issued OFS Security Pass. Please contact the school at 6738 0211 if you have not received your pass.

### ONLINE ORDER

**Duration:** From Monday, 13 July to Wednesday, 5 August 2026  
**Website:** <https://www.ofs.edu.sg/my-ofs/schoolshop/OnlineSchoolShop.jsp>

Delivery service is available at S\$30.00 per trip.

### ON-SITE SALE

**Duration:** From Monday, 27 July to Friday, 14 August 2026  
**Venue:** OFS School Shop located at Level 2, Administration Block A

**Important: All purchases will be charged to your Family Account only.**

For more information, please visit:  
<https://www.ofs.edu.sg/events/2026/annual-uniform-stationery-sale/>

## IB Diploma News – Education For Life

### GRADE 12

On 17 April, our Grade 12 students marked their final day of school with a blend of joy and reflection. The day included memorable moments such as signing shirts, a touching elementary performance, and a walk down memory lane celebrating shared experiences. The much-loved water fight added to the celebrations, strengthening friendships and creating lasting memories. The final assembly and photo walls offered a meaningful opportunity to revisit their journey.

We extend our warmest congratulations to all Grade 12 students, including those completing the IB Diploma Programme. Their journey has required resilience and dedication, and we wish them every success as they move forward.

### Important Information and Key Dates:

Students will access IB DP results on Saturday, 6 July at 1200 GMT via the IB candidate website using personal login credentials. Candidate codes and passwords are available on the OFS dashboard. Before results are released, students will receive an email outlining remark and retake procedures.

### GRADE 11

For CAS, any experiences during the June–July 2026 holidays must be pre-approved by Ms Julia Hodgson. The deadline for completing all CAS requirements is January 2027.

Students are encouraged to work on their Extended Essay first draft during the break, ensuring compliance with the OFS Academic Integrity Policy.

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](mailto:trapti_trivedi@ofs.edu.sg) and/or Lee Woollard, IB DP Assistant Coordinator & Extended Essay Coordinator, at [lee\\_woollard@ofs.edu.sg](mailto:lee_woollard@ofs.edu.sg).

(Trapti Trivedi – IB DP Coordinator)



## Junior High School News

It has been a month of significant milestones for our High School juniors as they navigate pivotal moments in their academic journeys.

Our Grade 10 students have officially commenced their IGCSE examinations.

This is a demanding period that requires immense discipline and focus, and the examination schedule remains busy until June 5th. We are incredibly proud of the resilience they have shown during the lead-up to these assessments. On behalf of the entire OFS community, we wish them the very best as they work hard to showcase their years of learning and dedication.

Meanwhile, our Grade 9 students have embarked on an exciting new chapter: the MYP Personal Project. This month, students have been busy defining their learning and product goals, brainstorming unique ideas that reflect their personal interests. They have successfully met with their supervisors to finalize their plans and are now looking ahead to the action phase. We encourage students to use the upcoming summer holiday as a productive window to begin developing their products and recording their progress in their process journals.

Finally, both Grade 9 and 10 students have now concluded their clubs for the year as part of their MYP Service and Action. Through these various experiences, students have spent time reflecting on the learning outcomes they worked toward, considering how their involvement has shaped their perspective on community and personal growth.

Congratulations to all students on a successful month!

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](mailto:ab_palacios@ofs.edu.sg) and/or to Mr. Austin Riedeman, IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator, at [austin\\_riedeman@ofs.edu.sg](mailto: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)*



Massachusetts Amherst, University of California Davis, Parsons School of Design, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Otis College of Art and Design

- Australia: Monash University, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney
- Europe: Maastricht University, FH Wädenswil, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Politecnico di Torino, IE University, Utrecht University
- Hong Kong: Hong Kong University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Japan: Sophia University
- Singapore: James Cook University, Singapore University of Social Sciences

### TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

• Congratulations to our High School students for making it through another busy year!

*(Tamana Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)*

## Checkmate to Racism – A Global Chess Celebration of Unity

Our students were proud to take part in this year’s international “Checkmate to Racism” online event. A total of 108 OFS students from ES, MS, and HS joined more than 350 children across 25 teams from around the world- including Hong Kong, Singapore, Sri Lanka, India, Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Cyprus, Germany, Spain, Great Britain, Morocco, Suriname, Argentina, Venezuela, the British Virgin Islands, the USA, Costa Rica, and El Salvador-spanning 14 time zones. Beyond an excellent result, joint 3rd place, the event carried a powerful message: standing together against racism through respect, friendship and unity.

Chess showed us that borders disappear when children play together.

To close this wonderful school year, our OFS Family Team Chess Tournament was a special celebration. It brought together parents and children, playing side by side, sharing moments of joy, teamwork and connection.

*(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler – Chess Teachers)*

## Academic Advisors Update

It’s been a busy year for the Academic Advisors - numerous university information sessions, workshops, and guest lectures have taken place. We’ve hosted a wide range of university information sessions, workshops, and guest lectures, including recent online Country-Specific Sessions. Looking ahead, we’ll be offering Common Application and Personal Statement Workshops at the end of this semester to further support our Grade 11 students.

### GRADE 12 UNIVERSITY OFFERS

Our Grade 12 students have started to secure offers to study a wide range of undergraduate courses from prestigious universities in various countries. Many offers are still pending, but a selection of universities that have offered places to OFS students includes:

- UK: Imperial College London, London School of Economics, King’s College, University of the Arts London, University of Edinburgh, Queen Mary University of London, University of Aberdeen, University of Warwick, University College London, University of Manchester, Durham University, University of Sheffield
- Ireland: Trinity College Dublin
- Canada: University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, Simon Fraser University, Trent University, Queen’s University, McMaster University, Wilfrid Laurier University
- USA: Rice University, Northeastern University, Purdue University, Rutgers University, Western Washington University, University of

## Pre-IB Business Trip to Hyundai

On April 10, Ms Kang arranged for a group of students from the Grade 11 Pre-IB Business course to visit the Hyundai Innovation Centre (HMGICS) in Jurong. The students were able to learn a great deal about how Hyundai is using technology to develop sustainable products and production methods.

The visit included a tasting session using the vegetables grown by Hyundai’s robots, a VR tour of the EV factory in Singapore, with one lucky student given the opportunity to try out a potential future individual travel pod.

The highlight of the tour for both students and teachers was undoubtedly being taken for a high speed ride in a new EV around the Hyundai test track on the roof of the building! Some lucky students were able to do this more than once!

*(Nigel Whittlestone – SA Leader :Business & Economics)*



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# Barcelona Geography & ESS Field Trip – April 2026

From April 2 to 11, 26 Grade 11 Geography and Environmental Systems and Societies students, accompanied by five members of staff, took part in our annual Barcelona field trip which is now in its fourth successful year. Based in the coastal town of Sitges, just 40 km from Barcelona, students combined academic fieldwork with cultural exploration over seven days.

Working in partnership with the Barcelona Field Studies Centre, students engaged in a series of hands-on investigations linked directly to their IB DP Internal Assessments. These included a river processes and ecology study along the Tordera River, urban environmental quality transects through Barcelona and Sitges, and a coastal sand dune investigation examining the impacts of development on fragile ecosystems. Students collected a range of primary data applying classroom theory to real-world contexts.

Evenings were spent in dedicated classroom spaces analysing data and preparing their IA coursework, with students demonstrating excellent collaboration, organisation, and independence. This immersive experience provided a valuable introduction to university-style learning, where students managed their time, supported one another, and worked towards individual research goals.

Alongside their academic work, students enjoyed exploring Barcelona's rich urban landscape, including its architecture, regeneration projects, and cultural landmarks, as well as relaxing on the beaches and experiencing the vibrant café culture of Sitges.

The trip was a resounding success, with students fully engaging in both the academic and cultural opportunities on offer. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and resilience were commendable throughout, making this another memorable and highly worthwhile experience for all involved.

*(David John Pellowe – SA Leader and Laura Rose Winberg – Humanities)*



# Project ARISE Receives \$2,500 Global Youth Action Fund Grant



Project ARISE, founded by Grade 11 student Rhea Jain, has been named a successful recipient of the IB Global Youth Action Fund, securing \$2,500 USD to expand its impact. The fund is part of the IB's youth initiative portfolio, supporting young people to take meaningful action in their communities in alignment with the SDGs. The 2026 cycle attracted 1,110 applications from 103 countries, highlighting the significance of this achievement.

Project ARISE is a student-led initiative addressing the global gap in financial literacy, particularly among women and youth. Through a combination of in-person workshops and the Orion learning app, the project has already reached over 300 individuals across four countries, with participants demonstrating a 63% improvement in financial literacy. The grant will enable ARISE to expand its workshops, enhance the Orion platform, and extend its outreach to new communities.

Rhea's leadership on ARISE aligns with her journey through the school's NYAA pathway and reflects her commitment to community leadership and service, with the project contributing toward her NYAA Gold Award.

Within the school, ARISE has also grown into a student-led club that engages the wider community in raising awareness, developing resources, and supporting ongoing efforts. From a personal project to an internationally recognised initiative, Project ARISE reflects the impact of student-led action in creating meaningful change.

*(Julia Hodgson – CAS & NYAA Coordinator)*



# Coordinate Geometry comes to life



In a recent mathematics lesson, our class explored the cartesian plane in a creative and engaging way. Instead of working on paper or the board, a giant cartesian plane was set up on the classroom floor by our teacher Mr Burger. We were divided into three groups, and each group received a worksheet containing equations that gave us specific coordinates to plot. Using cones, we physically placed each point onto the large plane.

This activity was very effective because it allowed us to clearly see how coordinates work in real space. Working in groups encouraged teamwork, discussion, and the sharing of ideas, which helped everyone understand the task better. We also learned new mathematical vocabulary throughout the lesson.

At the end of class, our teacher asked us three questions in a friendly competition style, which motivated us to stay focused and engaged. Overall, it was a fun and memorable lesson that helped us learn mathematics in an exciting and interactive way.

*(Eugene Burger – Math Teacher)*

# HS Dance Show: Under The Lights

On the 9th and 10th of April, the OFS auditorium came alive for the spectacular High School Dance Show, "Under the Lights." Our students delivered an unforgettable performance, showcasing a breathtaking blend of technical skill and original creativity. From sharp, synchronized hip-hop routines to emotive contemporary pieces, many of which were choreographed by students and teachers together, the talent on display was a testament to months of hard work, discipline, and artistic passion.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication shown by our performers and the vital support of our backstage crew, AV crew, media team, staff, and parents who made this evening possible. This production was a brilliant reminder of our school's vibrant spirit and the power of the performing arts to bring us all together. To our dancers: you truly shone "Under the Lights," and we cannot wait to see where your talent takes you next!

*(Mathieu Doms – Events & Educational Technology Coordinator)*





## Brewing a Better Future: Grade 11s Explore Business with Purpose



On April 21, our Grade 11 Higher Level Business Management students embarked on an insightful field trip to Bettr Academy. The visit provided a meaningful opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world business practices, particularly in the context of social enterprises.

At Bettr Academy, students explored important societal issues in Singapore, including segments of the population that continue to experience poverty and limited access to opportunities. They also examined global sustainability challenges, with a focus on waste management in developed economies. Through these discussions, students gained a deeper appreciation of how businesses can balance profit with purpose.

A key highlight was learning about Bettr Coffee's role as a social enterprise. Students discovered how the organisation partners with various stakeholders to create positive social impact while navigating the unique challenges of operating differently from traditional for-profit businesses. This included managing financial sustainability while staying committed to social goals, an ongoing balancing act that sparked thoughtful discussion among students.

The group also delved into the complexity of the global coffee supply chain. They learned that over 40 intermediaries can be involved from farm to cup, and that it takes up to five years for coffee plants to mature before harvesting even begins. This eye-opening experience helped students understand the environmental and ethical considerations behind everyday products.

The standout moment of the trip was a hands-on activity where students created their own coffee scrub using sustainably sourced ingredients. This engaging session not only reinforced sustainability concepts but also encouraged teamwork and creativity. Students were delighted to bring their creations home.

Overall, the trip inspired students to think critically about how they can contribute to a more sustainable and equitable world, including potential ideas for their CAS projects within the IB Diploma Program.

*(Jimmy Ni – Business & Economics)*



## From Classroom Idea to Global Recognition: Sudarshan Mahesh's Visionary Achievement in Robotics

What began as a simple Grade 10 personal project has now earned one of the highest honours in student innovation, the "Visionary" Grand Trophy at the International Robotics Olympiad, awarded to the most impactful project.

Driven by a desire to improve elderly care, Sudarshan set out to develop a fully functional prototype of an assistive robotic arm that uses gesture recognition to feed elderly individuals with severe mobility impairments. Recognising that many existing devices are costly and complex, he focused on creating a solution that is both intuitive and accessible. In December 2024, he achieved a breakthrough by enabling the robotic arm to respond to a user opening their mouth using computer vision. That same month, he was placed 5th among 120+ submissions in the Harvard Undergraduate Research Journal competition, presenting his prototype and experimental findings.

Motivated by this achievement, Sudarshan founded the Assistive Robotics Club, bringing together like-minded peers to develop solutions for elderly care. The club actively engaged with the community through a range of innovative projects aimed at supporting individuals with mobility, visual, and cognitive impairments. Over the past year, Sudarshan has collaborated with the Singapore University of Technology and Design to develop a more durable and professional large-scale robotic arm. While upgrading the hardware, he has remained committed to keeping the design cost-effective and reliable for real-world use.

From a classroom idea to international recognition, Sudarshan's journey showcases what students can achieve when innovation is driven by purpose. It also reflects the IB learning experience, where curiosity, initiative, and real-world problem-solving come together to create meaningful change.

We are incredibly proud of Sudarshan's efforts and eagerly look forward to seeing how he continues to innovate and make a lasting impact in assistive robotics.

*(Julia Hodgson – CAS & NYAA Coordinator)*



## Tigers Make a Splash at Swimming Nationals!

Our swimmers delivered a dominant performance at the Nationals in March. Across both the Junior (March 13–15) and Senior (March 17–22) events, the team saw incredible improvement, with 17 of 21 Seniors clocking brand-new personal best times!

A special congratulations to our National Finalists: Jill Meines, Shiv Banerjee, and Ahilya Awasthi. Great job, Tigers!

Season 3 Update: Go Tigers!

Season 3 is off to an incredible start! Our teams are competing with heart, building fantastic chemistry, and it's been wonderful to see so many athletes learning new sports for the first time.

- Top Effort: I am so proud of our Tigers' grit and growth.
- Expert Coaching: A huge thank you to our coaches for their dedication and for pushing our athletes to be their best.

Keep up the great momentum!

*(Bruce Shang – Head of Athletics)*

