



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,

March is shaping up to be an exciting and busy month at our school!

As you may be aware, Japan is hosting the grand World Expo 2025 in Osaka. We were thrilled to welcome the Japanese World Expo team, who visited OFS at the end of February and addressed our Grade 5 students. Our students were excited to meet the Expo mascot, Myaku Myaku and find out more information about the upcoming World Expo. Their visit tied in beautifully as our Grade 5 students are also gearing up for the IPC Expo for their current unit of work, "The Holiday Show". The Grade 5 Expo will provide a platform for students to present their projects and share their insights on sustainable tourism. We encourage you to attend the Grade 5 Expo on Friday, 28 March 2025 and show your support.

Our March Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences will take place soon on Thursday, 20 March and Friday, 21 March 2025. The conferences will provide a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's progress and set goals for the remainder of the school year. Thank you to all parents who have made their online bookings for the upcoming conferences. PSTC schedules for parents will be sent home on Thursday, 13 March 2025 with each child. Please do contact the Elementary School secretaries (es-secretaries@ofs.edu.sg) if you need assistance with changing your scheduled appointments.

Our talented students have been working hard to bring Frozen Jr. to the stage! Performances took place on the evenings of 5 and 6 March in the OFS Auditorium and the students were amazing! A big thank you to everyone who worked hard to make the show a success.

Lastly, transition periods are significant milestones in every student's academic journey. In Quarters 3 and 4, we will be preparing our Kindergarten 2 and Grade 5 students for their transitions into Elementary School and Middle School respectively.

For our Grade 5 students and parents, please note that you now have access to Middle School information on the OFS dashboard. You will be able to find useful links to the Middle School Transition Talk, Middle School/High School Languages Pathways, and the eight IB MYP subject areas.

Finally, to all our families celebrating Hari Raya Aidilfitri or Eid al-Fitr on 31 March, we wish you a joyous celebration, Selamat Hari Raya!



Penny Liew

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



From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

We warmly invite all parents and guardians to our Artificial Intelligence (AI) Parent Workshop, presented by Mr. Mathieu Dooms, High School Teacher, and Ms. Neisha Pratt, High School Deputy Principal. The details of the workshop are:

Date: Monday, 10 March 2025
Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Parent Lounge
(Level 4 of the Administration building)

Please visit the following web page for more information as well as to register your attendance:

<https://www.ofs.edu.sg/events/2025/ai-parent-workshop/>



Upcoming events:

20-21 March	Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences
28 March	Grade 5 Expo
31 March	Hari Raya Puasa
31 March - 4 April	School Holiday

Grade 1 News

This month, our Grade 1 students actively explored the Science, Health and Wellbeing subject areas in our Unit of Work, "How Are You?". We investigated the five key elements of a healthy lifestyle: diet, exercise, sleep, hydration, and hygiene. We also explored famous people from the past who have made contributions to healthcare. During our Mathematics lessons, students learnt about 2D shapes and created pictures and explored the properties of shapes. In Language Arts, we continued with our procedural writing focus. Students enjoyed following recipes to make delicious fruit kebabs and fairy bread. Book Week was a highlight, filled with the joy of stories. We appreciate parents' support in getting the children dressed in their favourite book character costume. They looked fantastic!

(Emma Phelps)



Grade 2 News



The Grade 2 students have had a busy time over the last month. We have been investigating how fish have adapted to thrive in ocean habitats, exploring the various body shapes of fish and how these adaptations help them survive. Book Week was another major highlight. We had many activities over the week including mystery reading sessions, book quizzes, buddy reading with Grade 4 classes, and live online reading with Middle and High School students. To wrap up our week of celebrating reading and books, students showcased their favorite book characters in a fun costume parade.

(Sameerata Prakash)

Grade 3 News



In our fourth unit of work "They Made A Difference", the Grade 3 students have been researching a diverse range of notable individuals, including Martin Luther King Jr., Lee Kuan Yew, and Malala Yousafzai. They continue to expand their knowledge, refine their research skills, and deepen their understanding. Book Week provided students with numerous opportunities to participate in engaging activities, including creating origami bookmarks, a teacher-favourite book quiz, and author studies. It was wonderful to see students dressed up in creative costumes. Grade 3 students are looking forward to sharing their learning journey with their parents during the upcoming Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences.

(Hayley Kinnaird)

Physical Education (PE)

The PE team has completed the first unit for Semester 2 and will focus on 'Striking and Fielding' and 'Invasion Games' for the next 5 weeks. Students will develop hand-eye coordination through striking games (kickball, t-ball, cricket) and apply team strategies in 'Invasion Games' (Handball, Netball, Capture the Flag). Lunchtime Sports are in full swing with 'Captains Ball'. Grades 4 and 5 teams have shown great enthusiasm, with tight matches and everything to play for at the halfway point!

(Mark Sherwin)

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Grade 4 News



February has been another busy month for the students in Grade 4. It was great to see the students dress up as their favorite book characters. You could see how much time and effort had gone into the costumes. Book Week is always a fun time in school and the students had an opportunity to take part in many activities on the dress up day. In "Going Global" the students have been able to create a trade flow chart for their chosen product using Canva to show their understanding of the trade flow and also their ICT skills. This has also led to the students discussing how the world is interconnected and how dependent we all are on one another. We have been studying the UN Sustainable Development Goals and students will focus on one of those goals and gain a deeper understanding on why it is important for the world. In Language Arts, the students are developing a persuasive writing piece linked to the goal of their choice and they will have a chance to present their work during the Exit Point.

(Guy Watts)

Chess News

Over the past weeks, our Grade 1 to 5 students have learned essential tournament rules, how to use a chess timer, the importance of fair play, and how to read a pairing list. This knowledge will help them to be prepared for the National School Individual Championship. During Book Week, some favorite book characters visited the chess room and played exciting games. It was a fun and lively experience, bringing chess and storytelling together.

(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler)



Grade 5 News



February has been an exciting month for the Grade 5 students, packed with a variety of activities during Book Week. The highlight of the week, the Hall of Holograms, allowed students to dress up as their favorite characters and deliver persuasive speeches to encourage their peers to read their books. They explored new authors, characters, and genres to add to their reading lists. A big thank you to the parents who supported this event. In Language Arts, students have honed their persuasive writing skills, incorporating various techniques into their pieces. Additionally, the students connected with our Unit of Work called "The Holiday Show" through a field trip to Siloso Beach Resort, where they learned about the resort's sustainable practices during an eco-tour. They have also been utilising their collaboration and communication skills in preparation for the Grade 5 Expo. We look forward to presenting on Friday, 28 March 2025.

(Karla Kleist)

Library News

From 17-21 February students and teachers participated in our annual Book Week.

Activities included: 'Live from the library' with Middle School and High School students broadcasting stories to the Elementary School classrooms each morning, lunchtime stories read by teachers in the library; including a story read in German, Grade 4 students reading with Grade 2 students, book quizzes and trivia, and book themed classroom door decorations. The highlight of the week was book character dress up day – and what lovely costumes there were. It certainly was a wonderful celebration of books, stories, and information!

(Catherine Kmet)



Languages News



Our Mandarin team kicked off the month with a vibrant celebration in the school atrium, designed especially for our Elementary School students. The air was filled with excitement as children participated in a variety of engaging activities. From Snakes and Ladders games to writing 100 good wishes in Mandarin, the atrium buzzed with cultural immersion. Students also enjoyed coloring their Zodiac signs and capturing fun memories in our Year of the Snake-inspired photo booth. Adding to the festive atmosphere, our Grade 4 Foreign Language Mandarin students put on a dazzling performance, dancing to popular Chinese New Year songs.

The fun did not stop there! Book Week was celebrated with tremendous enthusiasm, igniting a love for reading and storytelling. Our Mother Tongue teachers captivated students with enchanting stories and magical creatures, bringing the pages to life. Our Foreign Language teachers also joined in the literary festivities, drawing inspiration from the adventurous world of Tintin. They shared the iconic comics in their respective languages, introducing students to different cultures and storytelling styles. Beyond Tintin, they also explored other stories centered around exploration and adventure, creating engaging activities that sparked curiosity and imagination.

(Monica Makkar and Roger Calais)

Music News

Composition has been the main focus in Music class recently. Grade 1 pupils have been creating their own 2-bar rhythmic patterns, while Grade 2 and 3 students have been exploring musical form and composing within a set structure. In Grade 4, students are collaborating in groups to write short songs using ostinato patterns. Grade 5 students are composing songs aligned with their Expo Unit of Work, "The Holiday Show". Finally, our ES Musical production of 'Frozen Jr.' was a fantastic success!

(Kevin McCabe)



Sports News

Congratulations to all the Elementary School OFS Tigers who represented the school in ACSIS Season 2 sports and achieved these remarkable results;

- 9U Mixed Netball D1 – ACSIS 4th
- 10U Boys Football D2 – ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists
- 10U Girls Football D2 – ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists
- 11U Boys Badminton D1 – ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists
- 11U Girls Badminton D1 – ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists
- 11U Boys Football D3 – ACSIS Bronze Medalists
- 11U Girls Football D2 – ACSIS Bronze Medalists
- 12U Girls Basketball D1 – ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists
- 12U Boys Basketball D1 – ACSIS 5th
- 12U Boys Cricket D1 – ACSIS 6th

ACSIS Swimming

- 5 ACSIS Champions and 5 Gold Medalists and 3 NEW ACSIS RECORDS
- 2 Silver Medalists
- 2 Bronze Medalists

Looking forward to a successful Season 3!

(Gil Levy)

Art News



We all had a creative time in Art this month! Grade 1 children learnt how to draw overlapping fruits and vegetables, Grade 2 students are using their colour mixing skills to paint their bird sculptures with secondary colours; Grade 3 children are being inspired by many influential artists to create their own mixed media artworks including a collaborative piece, Grade 4 sculptors are adding decorations to their body adornments and Grade 5 artists are painting persuasive posters. We are also looking forward to students sharing their processes of learning in Art with their families in our upcoming Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences. See you there!

(Jennifer Freeman)

New Staff



CAGNEY VAN HEERDEN

My name is Cagney van Heerden and I am originally from a coastal town in South Africa. After teaching in my home country for a few years, I decided to follow my lifelong dream of relocating overseas. Since then I have been lucky enough to have lived and taught in Singapore, Portugal and Abu Dhabi. This has allowed me to gain quite a number of years of teaching experience with different age groups within Kindergarten and Elementary School, as well as being a part of the leadership team. I have thoroughly enjoyed all my journeys but I am so pleased to be here at OFS teaching our lovely Grade 1 SPP students and back at home in Singapore. Both myself and my adorably busy little dog, Bailey, look forward to the many adventures and opportunities to come.