

# Overseas Family School High School

**Master Policy:** 

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

# Principal's Message

March is a particularly busy month for both students and teachers as we approach key academic milestones. Grade 10 and Grade 12 students are completing their coursework for external moderation, while also preparing for their mock examinations.



These exams serve as a valuable opportunity for students to demonstrate their understanding of core concepts and theories. More importantly, they provide critical feedback, helping students identify areas that require further attention before the final examinations in May 2025. Meanwhile, our Grade 12 students continue to receive university offers, marking an exciting time in their academic journey.

March also marks the period when students in Grade 8, Grade 10, and non-IB Diploma Grade 11 finalise their online course selections for the next academic year. We hope the recent Curriculum Evenings, along with student and parent meetings, have provided valuable insights to help guide informed decisions about your child's or ward's educational pathway at OFS.

Beyond academics, our school takes great pride in the active engagement of students in various pursuits, from sports and the arts to community service and field trips. Many of these initiatives are student-led, reflecting their leadership, creativity, and commitment to making a difference. Participation in extracurricular and service activities is not only encouraged but essential to fostering a well-rounded and enriching High School experience.

Education is a shared responsibility, and collaboration between parents, teachers, and administrators remains key to each student's success. If you have any questions or would like to discuss subject selections or other academic matters, please feel free to reach out to the Academic Advisors, relevant Curriculum Coordinator, or your child/ward's Grade Level Coordinator.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:adam\_ashton@ofs.edu.sg">adam\_ashton@ofs.edu.sg</a>.

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Adam Ashton High School Principal

# **IB Diploma News – Education For Life**

#### **GRADE 12**

#### **Information Package**

Students who registered for the May 2025 IB DP examinations will receive an information package, including their exam schedule, regulations, and IB transcript request forms. Transcript requests must be submitted to Ms. Maureen Goh in the High School office before study leave begins on **Monday, 21 April 2025**.

#### **Empowering Student Leaders: A Workshop on Effective Communication**



Grade 12 Senior Committee leaders recently participated in a leadership workshop led by Ms. Eileen Coupin

Pallaris. The session emphasized active listening and included a marshmallow tower activity to develop teamwork and problem-



solving skills. Students found the workshop highly valuable and engaging.

#### Grade 11

- A selected group of Grade 11 students supported the Grade 10 course selection session by sharing insights on their IB
- The Extended Essay (EE) process is in progress, with supervisors assigned and research skills covered in TOK lessons. Once research questions are approved, students should begin their research and data gathering.
- Mr. Woollard and I conducted an assembly about the CORE Expo 2026, encouraging students to showcase their TOK, EE, or CAS work. Early planning and faculty support are key to success.



Please keep in mind that in some subjects, Internal Assessment (IA)
work is already underway and will contribute directly to students'
final IB grades. Students are reminded to follow 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) and/or Mr. Lee Woollard, IB DP Assistant Coordinator & Extended Essay Coordinator (lee woollard@ofs.edu.sg).

(Trapti Trivedi – IB DP Coordinator)

# 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/



# **Junior High School News**

As Quarter 3 end approaches, Grade 9 students dive into their MYP Personal Project, strengthening their ATL skills and reflecting on their learning. Meanwhile, Grade 10 students sit their IGCSE mock examinations, refining their knowledge and exam technique. A crucial period of growth for both!

Chess Art Competition Winners! We are proud to share that all three winners of the School Chess Art Competition in High School are students in Grades 9 and 10! Congratulations to:

#### 1st Place:

Vasundhara Soundaryarajan (Grade 10)



2nd Place: Parthivi Pandey (Grade 9)

3rd Place:

Arav Balaji (Grade 10)



All participants received certificates and a four-month Gold membership to Chesskids.com.

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).

(Aida Blat Palacios – Grade 10 Coordinator and MYP/IGCSE Coordinator, and Clara Fuentes Torruella – Grade 9 Coordinator, Personal Project Coordinator and IB MYP/IGCSE Assistant Coordinator)

# **Academic Advisors Update**

#### **GRADE 12 UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES**

We are thrilled to share the continued success of some of our Class of 2025 graduates! Many of our UCAS applicants have already received conditional offers, including two from Imperial College London, Ayushman Puri for Biomedical Engineering and Wang You for Geology, and Jang Subeen (a 2021/22 graduate of our SPP program) from University College London for Economics. We are also delighted to announce that some of our Art students, Mishka Gupta, Prioska Kharsani, and Ao Jiaxi, have all received offers from the University of the Arts London. We celebrate their achievements and await further updates on all our students' applications.

#### **UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSION IN APRIL**

In April, we will hold online country-specific university information sessions for Grade 11 students considering applying to Australia, Canada, the UK, the US, Mainland Europe, Korea, Japan or any English Language University in Asia. There will also be a National Service information session. More information about the dates and times will be available soon. These sessions are open to Grade 11 students and parents only.

#### **UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSIONS**

We hosted many university visits in Semester One, and Semester Two will see more, including the University of British Columbia and University College Utrecht. We encourage all students and parents to attend these sessions, even if they are not considering those specific universities. These sessions provide valuable insights into various programs and address important topics like the US supplementary essays and the changing UK Personal Statement.

(Tamana Chanrai-Hills – Academic Advisor)

### MY-MUNOFS XV 22-23 February 2025

Our annual Middle School MUN conference was a tremendous success, bringing together over 450 participants over the weekend and representatives from more than 20 schools (including various international schools from Taiwan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand).

A well-deserved congratulations to the dedicated High School students who played a crucial role in organising and running the event. From our







Student Officers and Admin Team to the Executive Committee, their hard work and leadership ensured the conference ran smoothly. Well done and congratulations to all involved!

#### **MUN Executive Committee 2024-2025**

Sophia Tirmizi (Grade 11)

Deputy-Secretary-General
Astrid Neill (Grade 11)
Adheesh Salian (Grade 11)

Under-Secretary-General
Farhan Ahmed (Grade 11)

Adwita Mathur (Grade 10)

Secretary-General

Conference Manager
Devansh Kohli (Grade 11)
Admin Manager
Veda Pingali (Grade 10)
Vedaant Atreya (Grade 10)
Club Manager
Saachi Nishandar (Grade 11)
Communications Manager
Siddhart Saha (Grade 10)

# High School Student Voice – Valentine's Day

Our most recent event struck true, enamouring the student body with lovely games and a pinktastic photobooth! Valentine's Day was



a sweet success, attracting several students to our table of games. Some of the most caring participants, who were able to successfully complete these tasks, were rewarded with chocolates and candies! Ballads could be heard across the courts as well, filling the air with love as the players competed. Later on in the day, a sentimental screening of 'Tangled' garnered an affectionate audience. The movie evoked smiles, laughter and some tears from the passionate viewers!

Now shifting our focus to the future, we look forward to a legendary football competition, as students dribble and shoot their way to the prized title of being the best in school. Matches will be intense, and players will show up ready to give it their all. Following this, Student Voice will also be opening applications in search for



dedicated students with unique perspectives and amazing ideas! Join us in our mission to add spirit and fun to our school journeys – we await your applications!

(Student Voice Tiger's Today Committee)



# High School Design Technology – The James Dyson Foundation Prototyping Workshop

The James Dyson Foundation recently visited the High School Design Lab to host an exciting cardboard prototyping workshop for a group of enthusiastic Design and Visual Art students. It offered a hands-on opportunity to develop their prototyping skills while gaining insight into the design cycle and product evolution at Dyson.

Led by Cindy Yu, Graduate Human Factors and Insight Engineer and Will Thoburn, Supply Chain Operations Engineer, the workshop aimed to demonstrate the importance of iterative design and problem-solving in real-world product development. Through an engaging presentation and hands-on activities, students explored how Dyson's design process evolves from concept to final product, emphasising the critical role of prototyping in refining ideas.

During the workshop, students worked in teams to tackle a prototyping challenge using only cardboard, craft knives, scissors and tape, which mirrors the early-stage design methods used by Dyson engineers. Cindy and Will provided expert guidance, sharing insights into Dyson's approach to innovation, usability testing and the importance of human factors in product design.

By the end of the session, students walked away with a deeper appreciation for the iterative nature of design, as well as new skills that will help them in their own creative projects and the model making components of the new IB Design Technology course now offered in High School.

The James Dyson Foundation continues to inspire the next generation of designers and engineers by providing opportunities like this to connect education with industry practice.

(Lisa Youngson - SA Leader: Design)



# High School Theatre Production proudly presents *MACBETH* by William Shakespeare



In February, the Black Box Theatre proudly hosted the High School Theatre Production of Macbeth by William Shakespeare. The dramatic and tragic tale of questionable morality, about a tragic hero who

and tragic tale of questionable morality, about a tragic hero who suffers a tremendous fall from grace, brought about by greed, ambition and a desire for instant self-gratification.

This play saw the participation of many High School students, from across all grade levels, who undertook roles not just on the stage but behind the scenes too. The roles varied from helping to apply dreadlocked hair extensions and dramatic make-up for the characters of Hecate and her Three Witches, painting sets of stark Scottish standing stones, organising props and lighting lanterns on show nights, organising and sewing costumes to composing all the music/sound effects for the entire play, as well as designing the lighting states and operating the sound, lights and smoke machine equipment on show days.

Audiences not only revelled in the spectacular costumes, that were designed to contrast with the stark harshness of the setting, to depict the sad savagery of that historical era but were also left entranced and enthralled by the stupendous and mesmerising acting prowess that was demonstrated on stage by our extremely talented, committed and dedicated performers.

Students learned how special it is to be part of a theatrical experience where friendship bonds are formed and connections are made for life. These students should be proud of all that they achieved, brought about by the endless hours they dedicated from their free time, to ensure this production would be one to be forever etched in everyone's mind. It was our pleasure to present Macbeth to you, our OFS community, and we hope it will be your pleasure to enjoy some special highlights of this play, in all its glory!

(Louise Ballantyne - Director & IB DP/ MYP Theatre Teacher)

# Collaborative Science Project – Grade 11 January 2025



Grade 11 students have recently completed their Collaborative Science Project (CSP) which involved students from all the Group 4 IB subjects (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, DT, ESS, and SEHS). The CSP is an opportunity for students to work together in interdisciplinary groups to solve real-world problems using scientific methods, developing skills such as research and problem-solving skills, communication and collaboration. Students embraced this year's theme which explored the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The

NIRVANA ...

basis of this year's project centred around designing break out style tasks involving a nest of three wooden chests each padlocked with a specific numerical code. Each group was allocated a specific SDG and they designed a series of

challenges to guide participants through a learning journey to crack the codes on padlocks to unlock the next chest. Students fully engaged with this project, forming new and productive relationships within their teams, designing exciting and stimulating activities to challenge their peers. The energy in each room as the task unfolded was infectious, and it was glorious to observe the fantastic collaboration and creativity being displayed. The positive feedback from students was fabulous with many students gushing about their experience. The two day project culminated in an awards ceremony where students were nominated for exemplary leadership, collaboration and creativity and received certificates in recognition of their contribution.



### IB DP Visual Arts Exhibition 2025

This annual event highlights the culmination of two years of artistic exploration and refinement, providing students with an opportunity to share their unique perspectives and artistic journeys.

#### A JOURNEY OF CREATIVITY AND EXPRESSION

The exhibition is the result of months of planning and dedication, where students:

- · Create a selection of their best work, demonstrating technical skill and conceptual depth.
- · Accompany each piece with a written rationale explaining their intentions and influences.
- Plan, design, make, and refine their works for the exhibition.
- Curate their work into a final show that reflects their artistic vision.
- Defend and articulate their purpose and intention in a written form, developing their ability to communicate their creative ideas effectively.



This year's exhibition featured the work of sixteen talented artists:

JIANG Linchuan, KHARSANI Prioska, LI Yixuan, MENON Smita, WU Jui-Hsin (Doris), AO Jiaxi, GUPTA Mishka, JIANG Tianshui, LI Wanhui, LUCAS Melissa, MALVIYA Vaishnavi, SEGALOWITCH Manon, WANG You, OGATA Sara, OKAZAWA Akari, and SHEVCHENKO Arina.

Each student brought a unique voice and artistic vision to the exhibition, creating an inspiring and thought-provoking experience for all attendees.

#### SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS



(Lara Pang - Visual Arts Teacher)

A heartfelt congratulations to KHARSANI Prioska, GUPTA Mishka, and AO Jiaxi, who have been accepted into the prestigious University of the Arts London (UAL). Their outstanding talent and dedication have earned them a place in one of the world's leading institutions for art and design.

We commend and congratulate all our young artists for their hard work, creativity, and perseverance. Their contributions to this exhibition are a testament to the power of artistic expression and the impact of the visual arts in shaping our world.

Thank you to all who attended and supported this wonderful event. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for our promising young artists!

### **OFS Tigers**

Congratulations to all the 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

14U Girls Table Tennis D1 - ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists 14U Boys Table Tennis D1 - ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists

(Team 1)

14U Boys Table Tennis D1 - ACSIS Bronze Medalists (Team 2)

14U Boys Football D2 - ACSIS 6th 14U Girls Football D3 - ACSIS 6th

14U Girls Netball D3 - ACSIS 4th

14U Boys Volleyball D1 - ACSIS 7th

14U Girls Volleyball D1 - ACSIS 6th

16U Boys Basketball D1 - ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists 16U Girls Basketball D2 - ACSIS Champions and Gold Medalists

#### **ACSIS Swimming**

- 5 ACSIS Champions and 5 Gold Medalists
- 2 Silver Medalists
- 2 Bronze Medalists and 3 new ACSIS Records

16U Boys Rugby D2 - ACSIS 5th

16U Girls Touch Rugby - ACSIS 6th

19U Boys Tennis D1 - ACSIS Bronze Medalists

19U Boys Rugby D1 - ACSIS Bronze Medalists

19U Girls Touch D2 - ACSIS 6th

19U Boys Basketball D1 - ACSIS 5th



(Gil Levy - Head of Competitive Sport)