



# 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,



As we begin our fourth and final quarter, it has been wonderful to see the many ways our school community continues to learn, grow and connect.

We ended the month of March by celebrating Neurodiversity Week, with the theme being “It is okay to be different.” Staff and students engaged in class based activities and rounded off the week with a whole school event at lunchtime. Students explored various booths to gain a better understanding of how individuals learn, feel and communicate differently as well as encourage active empathy and inclusive attitudes among peers. It was great to see our students and staff wearing mismatched socks on Friday 20 March to celebrate that we are all beautifully different - just like our brains!

Thank you to all parents who attended the recent Parent–Student–Teacher Conferences. These meetings are an important opportunity for students to reflect on their learning and share their progress with both teachers and parents. Your presence and engagement help strengthen the partnership between home and school, and we truly appreciate the time you took to be part of these conferences with your child and their teachers.

In the months of March and April, our K2 and Grade 5 students will begin participating in transition activities designed to help them feel confident and prepared for the next stage of their learning journey. Our K2 students will have opportunities to become more familiar with the routines and environment of Grade 1, while our Grade 5 students will participate in various activities that support their transition to Middle School. 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. These experiences are designed to make the transition both smooth and exciting as students approach these important milestones.

Our Grade 5 students are also eagerly looking forward to their upcoming camp at Changi Civil Service Club. Camps are always a highlight of their final year in Elementary School and provide wonderful opportunities for students to develop independence, teamwork and resilience while building lasting memories with their classmates. Our students can look forward to visiting venues such as Pulau Ubin, Bedok Reservoir Park and Changi Village. Some of the planned Education Outside the Classroom learning experiences include kayaking, boat rides, high ropes courses and camp crafts.

Following the success of our Open House last semester, we are pleased to share that we will be hosting a second Open House for prospective families on 11 April 2026 starting at 10:00am. This will be another opportunity for families who are considering joining our school to learn more about our community, explore our campus and meet members of our team. If you know families who may be interested in our school, we warmly encourage you to share this date with them.

Finally, we would like to extend a warm invitation to all parents, students and friends to join us for the Global Picnic. It is a wonderful celebration of the many cultures that make up our school community, where families come together to share food, traditions and stories. A special thank you goes to our Parent Association for their time, effort and thoughtful organisation of the event.

Penny Liew  
Elementary School Principal  
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Neurodiversity Week

### From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

We’re excited to announce that our biggest event of the year is finally here — the Global Picnic is coming! Countries from all around the world are already gearing up for this incredible moment. We’d love for all OFS families to come along and be part of it. Expect a day filled with amazing food from different cultures, fun games for everyone, and performances that will leave you wanting more. And that’s not all — we’ll also be hosting a Parents Tour in April, giving you the chance to get a real taste of Singapore’s culture and all it has to offer. We can’t wait to see you there!

### Important Dates:

11 April- Open House
18 April – Global Picnic
20-24 April — Earth Week
21 April – K2 to G1 Transition Coffee Morning (K2 parents)
22 April — Earth Week Dress Up Day
20-24 April – Grade 5 Camp (Camp Group A and Camp Group B)
28 April — Performing Arts Concert

## Grade 1 News

It was a pleasure connecting with so many families during our recent Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences to celebrate the wonderful progress our students have made this year. We recently wrapped up our "How Are You?" unit with an engaging field trip to the Yakult factory, where students saw healthy living in action through an insightful look at how their products are made. We are now eagerly looking forward to our next Unit of Work, "The Stories People Tell," as we begin exploring historical and geographical perspectives through tales passed down through the ages. Our learning also took us to the theatre for a delightful performance of *Charlotte's Web*, which sparked plenty of excitement. In Language Arts, the students had a blast making chocolate balls and documenting the recipe's steps. While in Mathematics, we successfully concluded our unit on fractions.

*(Emma Phelps)*



## Grade 2 News



The Grade 2 students have had a busy and exciting month. From making real-world connections during our field trip to the Oceanarium, to sharing their hard work with parents at the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences, and creating beautiful dioramas to showcase their understanding, it has been a productive time for everyone. As a part of the "Land Sea And Sky" unit, students enquired into food chains and animal classification. Our field trip to the Oceanarium gave students opportunities to witness adaptation in the marine world. They applied their new knowledge, skills and understanding of habitats and adaptations to research and create dioramas for the Exit Point. We are excited about our new unit, "Footprints From The Past", which takes us back in time to when Dinosaurs were alive.

*(Sameerata Prakash)*

## Grade 3 News



Grade 3 students have been engaged in many exciting learning experiences over the past month. As part of the "They Made a Difference" unit, students explored the lives of significant people who helped change the world. To deepen understanding, students went on a field trip to Madame Tussauds Singapore, where they explored exhibits of famous and significant people and learned how they made important contributions to the world. We concluded the unit with a Living Museum for the Exit Point, where students brought a significant person to life by dressing up, sharing facts and presenting their learning. In Mathematics, students completed their unit on fractions and began learning about temperature and time. We are looking forward to starting our new unit, "Vanishing Rainforests", where students will learn about how diverse and unique rainforests are and how we can help protect them.

*(Amber Foley)*

## Languages News

It's been a vibrant season for our Foreign Languages and Mother Tongue departments, where students have bridged the gap between linguistic skills and cultural exploration. Our Grade 1 German FL students dove into the festive spirit of Karneval, learning about German traditions while crafting their own colorful masks to celebrate. Grade 4 FL French students explored the theme of leisure activities, showcasing their communication skills and flair for design by creating unique T-shirt logos and catchy slogans for their favorite hobbies. Meanwhile, our Hindi students made impressive connections to their IPC units; Grade 4 explored the "Going Global" theme by designing international recipe posters with ingredients from around the world, while Grade 5 focused on the "Expo" unit by creating insightful posters advocating for sustainable tourism. One important aspect of the Mother Tongue program is celebrating special events. Our Finnish class celebrated Easter with creative artwork and Father's Day cards were wonderfully written in Spanish. The recent Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences were a great success. It was wonderful to see students take pride in sharing their linguistic growth, providing parents with a clear view of their progress and the diverse learning activities happening in our language classes. .

*(Monica Makkar and Roger Calais)*



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## Grade 4 News



March has been another busy month with many activities going on in Grade 4. It was great to meet all the parents for the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences. Students worked very hard in the Going Global unit and this culminated into a very successful Exit Point. There was a big focus on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and students used their persuasive writing skills to persuade visiting parents that their chosen goal was the most important. They also produced fantastic posters using Canvas to bring awareness to their goal. All students have had the chance to develop the IPC Personal Goals of communicator and collaborator during this process. In Language Arts students have been learning the art of persuasive writing and used this to write about the SDG of their choice. Students have been busy in Math learning about perimeter and area leading towards angles.

*(Guy Watts)*

## Library News



We have had a wonderful time celebrating the diverse ways our minds work during our recent Neurodiversity Celebration Week. Students showed a lot of interest in the vibrant and informative library display, which highlighted the unique strengths and talents of neurodivergent individuals. The students were excellent explorers of the display, engaging thoughtfully with the stories and information shared. It is always wonderful to see so many students reading for pleasure in the library. Whether tucked into a beanbag with a new graphic novel or sharing a favourite story with a friend, our students are truly embracing the joy of getting lost in a book. It is very encouraging to see students taking responsibility for our shared resources. This is an important skill to learn, so we'd like to say 'Well done and Thank You' to all our students who return their library books on time and in great condition.

*(Catherine Kmet)*

## Grade 5 News

It was a pleasure connecting with parents during the Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences and discussing your child's learning journey. Over the past month, Grade 5 students have been exploring sustainable tourism while demonstrating strong collaboration throughout their learning. A key highlight was the Grade 5 Expo, where students presented their projects on sustainable tourism. Through their research, they explored both the benefits and challenges of tourism and its impact on people, places, and the environment. We are proud of the teamwork, resilience, and confidence students showed while demonstrating their understanding to their peers and parents. In Language Arts, students concluded their persuasive writing unit and will move on to explanation writing, while in Math they've been focusing on data handling, learning to create and interpret graphs.

*(Karla Kleist)*



## Art News

Our recent Parent-Student-Teacher conferences were a great success and Ms. Wendy, Ms. Heidi and I would like to thank the many families who came to see our Art rooms transformed into vibrant galleries and to our students who explained the process of their learning so well; there was so much to admire. We have now started our final Units of Work; Grade 1 students are crafting a story box diorama, Grade 2 are exploring the world of dinosaurs, Grade 3 are learning oil pastel drawing techniques, Grade 4s are investigating the properties of printmaking and Grade 5 artists are on a Mission to Mars. Exciting times!

*(Jennifer Freeman)*



## SPP

Students in the Study Preparation Program have continued to develop their English skills throughout the semester under the guidance of our wonderful teaching team. This month we share a little about our SPP3 students. This group of students have reached a higher level of English where they can be placed in a mainstream class. They are still on their language learning journey and they have the opportunity to do further English study during the Languages periods. SPP students from across all the mainstream classes are taught by Mrs Young. Whether it be writing skills, word attack strategies, reading fluency and comprehension, grammar, or the many other areas, students work on the skills that will support their learning in the mainstream class. They continue to study hard as they work through this final level in SPP.

*(Roger Calais)*



## Chess News



### 77th National Schools Individual Chess Championship 2026

Our OFS students participated in the prestigious National Schools Individual Chess Championship, organised by the Singapore Chess Federation and held at the OCBC Arena on 16th and 17th March. The tournament brought together a record-breaking 1,900 players from schools across Singapore. A total of 89 OFS students represented our school, including 60 from the Elementary School. Our students played exceptionally well, achieving a total of 23 medals. Beyond this, we were especially impressed by their focus, resilience and exemplary sportsmanship throughout the event. We are so proud of all our students for their wonderful efforts.

*(Dijana Dengler and Philipp Ziegler)*

## Music News

What an amazing few weeks we have had in the Music Department. A huge congratulations goes out to all our incredible students that took part in the school production of 'Moana JR'. It was a truly remarkable show. We extend our thanks to all the parents who helped out behind the scenes, we could not have done it without your support. In class, students are currently preparing for the upcoming Global Concerts which will take place at the beginning of May. They are excited to share the songs and dances they have been learning that celebrate our diverse school community. We look forward to sharing these events with you soon!

*(Maya Mitsuyasu)*

## Physical Education (PE)

The PE Team had a great time meeting so many families and celebrating our students' achievements at the recent Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences! We're looking forward to an exciting Quarter 4 filled with movement and fun. This term, students will enjoy Target Games and Ball Games, including favorites like Football, Basketball, and Volleyball. Our Lunchtime Sports Program continues with Grade 5 Football and Grade 4 Handball—good luck to all our players! We can't wait for another great quarter of learning, teamwork, and active fun in PE!

*(Christopher Eng)*



## Sports News



Season 3 is officially underway, and our main focus this year has been getting as many students involved in the Tigers program as possible. To make this happen, we've expanded our team offerings to include three teams each for U8 and U12 Football, five Badminton teams, and two Mixed Netball teams. Our Track and Field program started its "no-cut" policy for all Elementary, Middle, and High School students. Where facility space allowed, we also invited students from previous Table Tennis and Badminton trials to come back and train. These teams are now being led by our new professional external coaches to ensure everyone gets high-quality instruction. Our goal for Season 3 was to increase inclusion, and the numbers show we're on the right track. We reached an overall inclusion rate of 88.2%, which means that for every 10 students who tried out, nearly nine are now representing the school on a team. We are very proud of these participation numbers and look forward to a great season ahead. Our swim team is entered into the 56th National age group swimming championships @OCBC Aquatics Centre.

### Tigers Gymnastics Update

Our gymnastics team just finished up a fantastic run at the Junior and Senior National Championships, and I wanted to share some of the highlights. Our Level 4 girls competed this past Saturday. In a very competitive field where awards are only given to the top eight finishers, Aadya Anand did a great job placing 7th on Vault and finishing in the top 15 All-around. A big well done as well to Roni Oren, Marissa Maharani Tosin, Sofia Cianfaglia, and Ziqing Li. The girls performed at a high level, with most of them hitting their personal bests across their events. We also had two of our Elementary Junior girls competing at a higher level for the first time, which was a great milestone for them. Congratulations to the whole team on a successful meet!

*(Bruce Shang - Head of Athletics)*

## International Primary Curriculum

What makes the IPC distinctive is its careful balance between academic rigour and a commitment to developing the whole child. This is achieved through engaging, thematic units that weave learning across disciplines, enabling students to make meaningful and lasting connections. A key strength of the IPC lies in its clear focus on three dimensions of learning: knowledge, skills, and understanding. This integrated approach promotes depth, encourages critical thinking, and fosters personal connections to learning. At OFS, a highlight of the IPC journey is the Grade 5 Expo, which offers students an authentic opportunity to apply the skills they have developed throughout their Elementary School years. Through this culminating experience, students engage in deep inquiry, think critically, collaborate effectively, and communicate their findings with confidence. They demonstrate independence and a strong sense of ownership in their learning. This year, students are exploring the theme of Sustainable Tourism, in the unit The Holiday Show, sharing an important message through their presentations - adopt the right mindset, travel thoughtfully, reduce waste, protect flora and fauna and support local communities!

*(Shalini Maira)*