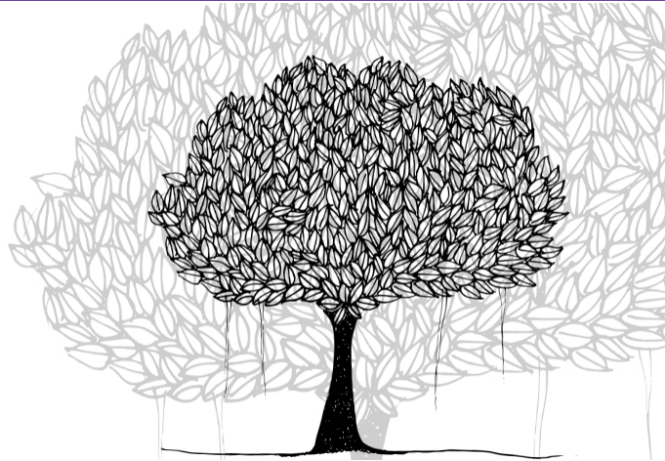


THE BANYAN



Issue 140

April 29, 2022



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

Thank you to all for a wonderful **2022 ZIS International Day** this past Saturday. Congratulations to the Student Committee who organized this special event and to Ms. Fang who supported the planning. Thank you to the students, teachers and parents who shared their home cultures at the various booths - these really made the day! With the performances, project exhibitions, sports fun, and of course the bouncy castle, we were given a powerful reminder of how much fun it is to come together to celebrate our diversity and our community.

Our ZIS community is invited to share in this special event, made more special as it has been planned and organized by a student committee made up of Year 9 students.

Last week, students in Years 3-10 completed their Spring **MAP Growth** tests in

Mathematics, Reading, and Language Usage. We are preparing the reports to share with home and have started analysing the results in our staff meetings. One of the ways we learn from the data is by reviewing the percentage of students who meet their "growth projections" since the last test. We are mindful that students can have an off day, these tests should be considered alongside the assessments from their classes, but still we always want every student showing growth from one test to the next. Using the data, teachers can dig deep into the results for each individual student in order to target instruction in the areas where knowledge and skills are in need for development. For more information on MAP Growth testing, please visit <http://zischina.com/resources/>

Have you had a chance to complete the Guiding Statements Survey? Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts on the mission and vision for ZIS as we steer our school into the next phase of the school's history.

Guiding Statements Survey: <https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/LcBFksv7>

Next week is **Teacher Appreciation Week** in the US and while we have already celebrated our teachers on Teacher Day in China, we think our teachers deserve to have the spotlight shone on them again to show our full appreciation for all they do each day. To each of our wonderful 45 teachers - thank you for sharing your energy and talents with our students!

Thank you to those who were able to join us for the **Health, Safety, and Safeguarding Parent Workshop** this week. Guiding the main points of discussion we addressed four key policies that guide our practice: i) Health and Safety, ii) Safeguarding, iii) Child Protection, iv) Bullying Prevention and Intervention. Discussion included:

- the key role of leadership and teachers in building a Safe School Culture
- the need to prevent and reduce risk while supporting play, adventure, and risk-taking
- the role of training, monitoring, risk assessments, and emergency preparedness
- medical procedures, the school nurse, and emergency contacts
- the value of first aid training for staff and of teaching students essential skills
- planning for extreme weather, air quality, sun protection, and using hazardous materials
- learning from incidents and all "near-misses" to predict and prevent
- safeguarding by pursuing student best interests and protecting from harm
- safe recruitment practices when hiring teachers and staff

- the role student and staff codes of conduct, digital safety, data protection
- the role of Dr. Lana as the **Child Protection Officer**

Thank you as always for your continued support in making ZIS the best place for our students.

Warm Regards,
Andrew VanderMeulen
Head of School







Upcoming Events

April 28-May17: IB DP Examinations

May 2: Labor Day

May 3-6: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 16-20: IB Evaluation Visit

May 24: 10am Parent Workshop: Communicating with our Children

May 25-26: PYP Exhibition

May 27: Teacher PD Day

June 3: Dragon Boat Festival

June 23: Last Day of Classes

...view the school calendar online at <http://zischina.com/calendars/>

Perfectly Primary

HATS & PLAY

We are starting to get to the year when we are blessed with beautiful sunshine and great weather. However, we still need to ensure that our students are safe while playing outside during recess and P.E. classes.

As the temperature increases, we make sure that all of our students are drinking more water. Students have regular water breaks during P.E. Class, and when they come back from P.E., They are also encouraged to drink water after they come back from recess and at often intervals during the day.

This week, the teachers have been sending home messages encouraging students to bring and wear hats during school time. We operate a "No hat, no play" policy for recess. If a student isn't wearing a hat when they go to recess, they are asked to play in a shaded area.

Being outside is a great way to learn, study, and enjoy being at ZIS, but we need to ensure we are protected when we enjoy the outdoors.

Kind Regards,

Michael Lattimore

Head of EY and Primary

Secondary Segment

INTERNATIONAL DAY 2022

International Day is a traditional school event that occurs every year at ZIS. Our school community is culturally diverse, and it is only right that everyone gets a chance to display the unique traits of their nation and celebrate their country. International Day provides such an opportunity, for it is a day where representatives from all nationalities constituting our school are invited to show-off their country on campus, so that the entire ZIS community may learn about and enjoy the special traits of each nation.

This year's International Day was like none before, for it was the first time that this event wasn't organized by the school, but by students. "For the past 10 years, International Day has been organized by the school, but this year, such an important event was handed to a group of Year 9 students. This was very, very surprising to me," states Jason Chen, one of the members of the Y9 International Day Committee, which is the small committee that spearheaded the organization of the event. The other members of the committee had similar thoughts, and were originally intimidated by the high expectations set by the events of the past. Nonetheless, they rose to the challenge and set out to create the best International Day yet.

After months of planning, the day for the event to happen finally came. Early in the morning, the committee and volunteers from the Y9 class came to school and set up the campus to host all of the countries and other pre-planned games and activities. After about an hour, representative from each country also started arriving at school to set up their stalls with food, games and more. As everyone rushed around making preparations for the coming guests, the air was filled with excitement and anticipation for the event. At 10 am, guests started to arrive on campus, filling the air with easygoing laughter and chatter. At 10:20 am, the opening ceremony began, finally starting the event. After some amazing performances, the ceremony was concluded and the hosts led everyone to the track for a parade showcasing all of the countries being represented in this year's event.

After the parade, the main part of the event, named "Around the World in 80 Minutes", began. This is where the guests saw if they can "travel the world" by visiting all of the countries at their stalls, with a time limit of 80 minutes. After completing their visits, they earned a prize. Laughter and chatter, music, and the smell of traditional foods filled the air as everyone started traveling around the campus, visiting each and every country.

Children ran around, playing with friends and visiting countries. Parents sat down, enjoyed beverages and socialized. Teachers and older kids played sports, having fun and enjoying the day. This beautiful scene of the entire ZIS community united and enjoying the event was truly warming to the heart, and proof that this year's event was absolutely perfect.

This year was the first year the school has had International Day since the COVID-19 pandemic happened. The event of 2022 was an opportunity to bring everyone together and celebrate the cultural diversity of our school, while also sending a positive message expressing our unity even in the midst of a global crisis. This year's event was everything the school and organisation committee had hoped for, and so much more. A big thanks needs to be given to Ms. Fang, who was the teacher that spearheaded the entire organization process for the event. She was the one who provided constant assistance to the organization committee and pushed for the allowance for the event to happen, even in the midst of COVID-19. Without her, the event would not have been even a fraction of what it was. Expectations for International Day in the coming years have never been set higher, and no doubt these will be met, if not surpassed.

Warm regards,

Tim - Year 9

Event Organizer









Lunch Menus,
our food safety guidelines,

WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL
LUNCH

and past editions of
"The Banyan" Newsletter
are available
at zischina.com



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