

# THE BANYAN



Issue 111

August 27, 2021



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



## From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

The 15th school year in the history of ZIS is underway - and it's been a fabulous first week of classes. I want to share my congratulations with the teachers and the ZIS team for all of the effort they've dedicated to preparing classrooms and the campus grounds for the return of students. And how about these ZIS students?! They have arrived ready for the new challenges of the year - their positive energy is infectious... I have no doubt that these wonderful young scholars will lead us in writing the next chapter of the school's history.

All parents are invited to campus on the evening of Thursday, September 2 for Parent Information Night 2021. Refreshments will be available beginning at 5:30pm in our new Parent Lounge (next to the cafe) and the event will begin at 6:00pm in the foyer with a welcome message followed by the opportunity to:

- meet your child's teachers
- collect your child's curriculum guide and other print material
- connect with the school counsellor and the college counsellor
- speak with school leadership
- see the latest updates to campus

Our next event on the calendar is the annual ZIS Sundowner, this year scheduled for the evening of Saturday, September 11. It will be an evening of music, food, drink and fun - a chance to socialize and enjoy the Qi'ao sky as the sun sets.

Beginning this Saturday, August 28, from 9:30-11:30 we welcome ZIS families and friends to our weekly Saturday Sports program. Led by Mr. Mike Lee, Primary PE teacher, children of all ages play games and sports together. Parents are asked to accompany their children and are welcome to join in the fun. Scan the QR Code below to join the WeChat group.

If you have yet to connect with the Friends of ZIS group, scan the QR Code below. Friends of ZIS is for the entire ZIS community - a group that meets to plan events, discuss school life, and exchange ideas and learn more about our school. A date for the first meeting of the year will be set soon.

It's been 15 years since the school's foundation in 2007 - ZIS has come a long way since it's early days. I am so excited to be a witness to what's next for ZIS as our students, staff, and parents lead us into this new school year.

Warm Regards,  
**Andrew VanderMeulen**  
**Head of School**

## Upcoming Events

August 28: Saturday Sport begins

September 2: Parent Information Night

September 11: Sundowner

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## Perfectly Primary

Dear parents,

Welcome to the 2021/22 Academic Year. We have just completed week one, and already we can tell that it is going to be an exciting and fun year.

This week was filled with lots of fun team/community building games. Additionally, teachers and students collaborated on developing the class' essential agreement. An essential agreement is an arrangement between teachers and students outlining the expectations for the class. As this was a collaborative effort, students' had agency as they had their voice heard in how the classroom is managed and maintained, which is important as we progress throughout the year.

This week also saw students completing their DRA and IXL diagnostic assessments. This data provides teachers with an understanding of the students' strengths and areas of improvement, allowing them to differentiate their instruction to accommodate the needs of

all the students. Furthermore, collecting this data now will allow us to celebrate our students' growth at the end of the year as we will know where our students started.

A very excited and fun first week at the ZIS Primary Week. Next week should be equally as exciting as we begin our first Unit of Inquiry!

Kind Regards,

**Michael Lattimore**

**Head of Primary**



## Secondary Segment

Dear parents and students,

I am happy to welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year--with a special welcome to the families who are new to the ZIS community. I trust that everyone's summer holiday was an enjoyable one.

August 23 saw the official kick off of 2021-2022. Secondary students, new and returning, eagerly graced the hallways in anticipation of the upcoming year. Day 1 proved to be an active one. After spending time acclimating in their homerooms and attending an assembly hosted by Mr. Andrew, students eased into their classes and haven't looked back.



Year 7, our newest MYP students, have been faring well as they adjust to the demands of middle school. From technology to class transitions, this group of young individuals is showing their resilience and determination as they navigate the road ahead.

The class of 2022 embarks on their final stretch as they prepare for college admissions and DP examinations. With support from Mr. Tony Kietzmann (DPC) and Ms. Stella Tang (College Counselor), these five students have much to focus on and look forward to.

This first week would not have been possible without the support and dedication of the secondary teachers and administrative staff. A big thank you is in order for all of these hard-working individuals.

We hope to see everyone on Thursday, September 2 for Parent Information Night.

Once again, welcome back!

Warm Regards,

**Danielle Tucker**

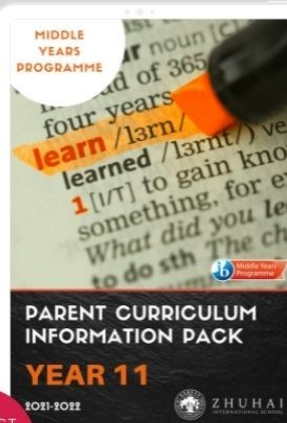
**Head of Secondary**





## PARENTS' NIGHT

Join us at 5:30 in our new Parent Lounge for refreshments. At 6:00 we kick off the evening together. Then make your way to your children's classroom and collect our program guides along the way.



COLLECT  
YOURS  
TODAY!



# PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT







## WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL LUNCH



Lunch Menus,  
our food safety guidelines,  
and past editions of  
"The Banyan" Newsletter  
are available  
at [zischina.com](http://zischina.com)



Scan the first QR code to join our Saturday Sports WeChat group.

Scan the second QR code to join our Parent/Teacher group, FRIENDS Of ZIS.

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