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THE BANYAN



Issue 125

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Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

How wonderful to welcome so many families at Santa's Winter Carnival this past weekend. Santa made the journey, outdone only by the Early Years and Primary singers who performed on stage. Thank you for the many donations to the Friends of ZIS bake sale - everything sold out which is great news for the FoZIS account which means great things for ZIS students. Congratulations to Student Government for their outstanding Game Zone and to the champions of the 3v3 basketball tournament: Erwan, Eyup, and Robert.

Tomorrow, you are invited to a special Saturday Sports event: the annual ZIS Family Fun Run. Registration has already started online (see the QR code on

the poster below) - we hope you will join us!

Today we celebrated the season as a staff with a delicious meal catered by "The Garden" and concluded the fun with the much anticipated Lucky Draw. Thank you to all the parents who contributed prizes and to the local businesses who added to list: Papa Romantic, London Lounge, The Garden, and Hestia. Our ZIS community counts on quality, caring professionals and it was an honour to ring in the holidays with each of them today.

Students, parents, and staff are reminded to pay close attention to travel advisories and to register their travel plans with the school using the links shared via WeChat and SchoolPal.

Once we return to campus on Monday, January 3rd we will begin registrations for the next round of after school activities. We are fortunate to offer a number of activities run by students and by parents - if you are interested in leading a new activity for 2022 please do get in touch.

It has been a memorable 2021, full of learning and community fun - and 2022 promises to offer ever more ways for us to build, expand, and flourish. It has been such a joy watching our young people grow this year. Thank you for your continued trust and support. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a wonderful Winter Holiday!

Warm Regards,

Andrew VanderMeulen

Head of School



Upcoming Events

December 11: Family Fun Run

January 3: Classes resume

January 3-7: Year 11-13 Mock Exams

Perfectly Primary

MERRY CHRISTMAS from the ZIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sleigh it ain't so, but it's the end of the Calendar year. The time has flown since the students started back in August. This week has been about all things Christmas to celebrate the upcoming Christmas holiday.

We started the week with the Winter Carnival, where the entire Primary School performed a Christmas song which was a very fun experience for the students. On Monday, classrooms decorated their door with Christmas decorations. The door decorating part is an annual tradition at ZIS, with the winning classes having a celebratory pizza party. Our PYP Student Council chose the theme for this year, and the Senior Leadership Team of ZIS judged the doors. This year's winners are Nursery, Year 1, and Year 5a! The last day of the year is a day for celebrating and having some Christmas fun. Classes held class parties and just had fun together.

From all of us at the ZIS Primary School, we wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and we hope you have an enjoyable break.

Kind Regards,

Michael Lattimore

Head of EY and Primary





Secondary Segment

APPROACHES TO LEARNING in the MYP

When adults reflect back on their school experience, they often feel a tinge of uneasiness and maybe terror. The images of late-night test cramming and survival of countless instruction send an unpleasant shiver down their spine. Most of them come from traditional education systems which focus on transfer of content rather development of students as life-long learners. International Baccalaureate programmes are designed to facilitate the growth of young individuals in a holistic way. One of the tools to reach that goal is the use of Approaches to Learning (ATL) framework.

ATL skills are the foundation of any learning. They are comprised of Communication, Collaboration, Self-Management, Reflection and Thinking, all of which are instrumental in acquisition of new knowledge and skills. In order to ensure the best results, these general skills are broken down into very specific practices. For example, Self-Management category consists of three clusters:

- Organization
- Affective Skills
- Reflection

Each MYP school designs its own ATL chart to foster the growth of all skills throughout the five years of the programme. Subject teachers collaborate in

order to provide students with opportunities to ensure the balanced development of each and every skill.

At ZIS we strive to include the ATLs in every key assessment. Instead of merely testing students on raw content, we encourage them to think in a creative and interdisciplinary way. Take a look at last month's MYP Music submission by Year 10 Gyu-In. Her design of a new instrument is not only aesthetically pleasing but integrated a lot of Thinking and Collaboration skills.

It is our hope that when Gyu-In reaches adulthood, she will reminisce of meaningful learning experiences that have contributed to her personal growth. We believe that the development of ATL skills is the best way to prepare students for their future careers and challenges.

Mike Piotrowski
MYP Coordinator

APPROACHES TO LEARNING



Join us for the Family
Fun Run 2021.



ZHUHAI
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

FAMILY - FUN RUN -

ZIS Families & Friends
BBQ & FUN!



SAT DEC 11 @ ZIS
9:00 Register/Warm Up
10:00 START
BBQ LUNCH & GAMES to 2pm



Scan to Register >



Scan the QR Code to
pre-register.

WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL
LUNCH



Lunch Menus,
our food safety guidelines,
and past editions of
"The Banyan" Newsletter
are available
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