



January 14, 2022







From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

This message reaches you from campus today and we are busy preparing for the possibility of shifting to our distance learning plan for our students. We continue to communicate with the local Education Bureau and health department to take the most informed actions and will keep you updated for next week.

Today we advised students to bring home materials that could assist them with distance learning. We have also been double checking that student login credentials are up to date. A regular school day at ZIS already involves varied usage of technology, and so a shift to online learning is not as great a challenge as it could be.

Many of you will recall our most recent distance learning session, the first 2.5

months of the pandemic in 2020. We've kept the topic of online learning at the front of our planning since then and are prepared for the possibility of a return to this format. Detailed plans for Primary and Secondary students will be shared with home should we move to the online learning environment.

Please take note of our safeguarding guidelines for online teaching and learning, published on our website. While much of this sounds like common sense, take the time to look through the details as a parent and discuss any questions your child might have. You can find it on zischina.com here: <u>Safe Online Learning at ZIS</u>.

At the same time, we are about welcome back the intrepid students who return from the Model United Nations event in Guangzhou. This is a favourite academic and personal challenge of our Senior students, and we look forward to hearing their stories and celebrating their achievements. A special thank you to Ms. Fang and Mr. Eric who have led this student excursion and to our parents for their support for experiences such as this.

As always, whenever you have a question or a concern, please reach out to me, Student Services, your child's Head of Section, their classroom teacher, or Curriculum Coordinator. This is especially important in the first days when finding our feet in a distance learning setting, so don't hesitate to write.

Warm Regards, Andrew VanderMeulen Head of School



Our Model United Nations Delegates head off to Guangzhou to represent their countries.









Upcoming Events

January 13-15: Model United Nations January 17-21: Chinese Culture Week January 26: Reports Published & Early Dismissal (12:45pm) January 27-Feb 8: CNY holidays February 9: First day of classes in the Year of the Tiger February 14: Book Month begins March 7: Book Week March 15: Parent Teacher Conferences

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

Perfectly Primary

On the Horizon

Two exciting events are coming up in the ZIS Primary School. Next week, we will have *Chinese Culture Week* and then starting after the Spring Festival, we will have

Chinese Culture Week will start next week (starting January 17th). Every class will explore Chinese culture, read different books and articles, and decorate the doors with calligraphy. The week will conclude on Friday 21st with students and teachers encouraged to wear **RED**. We will have the Year 6 assembly to finish the week.

After Spring Festival, we are very excited to start book month! More information will be shared soon, but this will be a month dedicated to the joys of reading. We will have different reading activities throughout **Book Week** (March 14-18). In addition, we would love for you to come to school to read to our students (especially stories from your home country or even your home language). This is starting to look like a very fun 2022 at the ZIS Primary School.

Kind Regards, Michael Lattimore Head of EY and Primary





DROP EVERYTHING AND READ





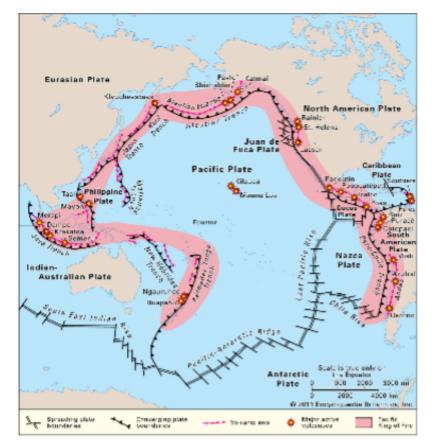
Secondary Segment

Dear parents and students,

This week continued ZIS's subject introductions via Zoom with Chris Butcher delivering an introduction to Individuals and Societies for parents.

"What is I&S?" is a frequent question for parents, but the essential ideas are that it is a combination of History, Geography and Economic themes and units. It fits into the

Humanities field of learning and gets students to consider the impact of History/Geography/Economics on individual people and societies around the world.



I&S is taught across the MYP and then splits into many different subjects at DP level (History, Psychology, Business Management, etc). Student learning is across a wide field of subjects, countries, human needs, time frames and environments. Student learning is not about rote learning facts, but developing a range of skills and investigative practices, so they become critical thinkers, reflective inquirers and caring global individuals.



As part of our reflective practitioner process, this year I&S across the MYP was reviewed and a new 5 year program implemented to take our Year 7s through to their final examination in Year 11. This process aims to build a variety of examination skills and background knowledge into students at all age levels to help their Year10-11 studies be more accessible.



Warm Regards,

Chris Butcher Secondary I&S Teacher

> Lunch Menus, our food safety guidelines, and past editions of "The Banyan" Newsletter are available at <u>zischina.com</u>



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