

THE BANYAN



Issue 128

January 21, 2022



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

We have today completed one week of distance learning and I wish to commend everyone for their success in the transition to the online learning platforms. We are in daily contact with the Education Bureau and, like you, paying close attention to the updates issued by local authorities on the COVID prevention and control measures. Our return to campus will be decided in collaboration with health officials and based on expectations of the Ed Bureau authorities. While our distance learning plan is designed to be effective and sustainable in both the short and long term, we can hope for a return to sharing campus again soon.

We wish to invite your feedback on your child's experience of distance learning so far and on our plans themselves (available [here](#)). If you aren't already communicating with teachers, your feedback will help to inform our planning at a class level and as a school. The survey is available [here](#) - your comments are most welcome.

Mindful that distance learning increases student screen time, we can't help but reflect on recommendations for families on the management of technology in the home. This is an anxiety inducing topic that for many of us as parents is wrapped in feelings of guilt. A 2020 study in the US by PEW Research Center found that 71% of parents were concerned that their child (aged 11 or younger) was spending too much time with a screen. Roughly 7 out of 10 respondents felt that the potential harm of smartphones outweighed the potential benefits. [PEW Research](#)

Technology in the household is a hot topic. By thinking, researching and creating time for collaborative conversations, families can build shared and enduring approaches to living with technology. The Washington Post in 2020 published suggestions that help with starting the conversation around how family life and technology can co-exist.

Living Smarter with Tech as a Family ([Source](#)):

1. Set and agree to boundaries and technology limitations (and lead by example).
2. Activate parental control options on devices, and discuss this need with your child.
3. Create family traditions that involve interaction (with or without tech).
4. A child's access to tech should be based on their ability to self-regulate.
5. Use communication apps to stay connected, and use video mode when possible.
6. Make an effort to encourage "in-life" contact - build empathy and social skills through real, in-person expressions of caring.

One final thought for this week relating to working and learning from home. Remember to give yourself a wellbeing boost by including physical activity into your daily routines (and getting away from that desk!). You can do this alone or

make it a family experience. Need some ideas? Find inspiration from the Couch to 2k stories this week. As well, the WHO has a few recommendations for low impact, high value exercises available [here](#).

I will keep you up to date on any news regarding a return to campus. I know I'm not alone in looking forward to getting back to the classrooms, football pitch, the hallways, and the running track.

Warm Regards,

Andrew VanderMeulen

Head of School

Upcoming Events

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 7-11: Book Week

March 15: Parent Teacher Conferences

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

BOOK WEEK: 2022

ZIS



DROP **EVERYTHING** AND READ

LIBRARY
TREASURE
HUNT



BOOK
TASTING



BOOK
BATTLE
ROYALE



CHARACTER
FASHION
SHOW



JUST JUST

READ READ



MARCH 7-11



Perfectly Primary

Can't Stop Learning

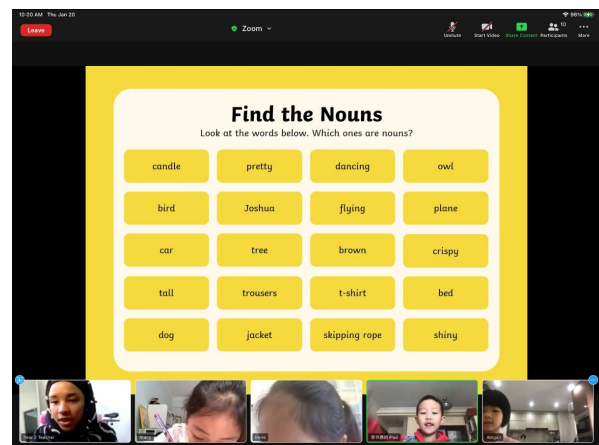
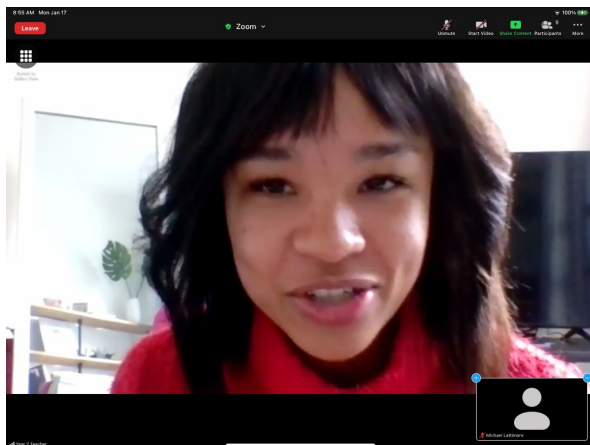
This week our students demonstrated their resilience, flexibility and creativity through their numerous online learning lessons and activities. From discussions, interactive tasks, learning games, crafts and read-a-longs, the children and teachers reminded us that school is not a building but a community of people learning together.

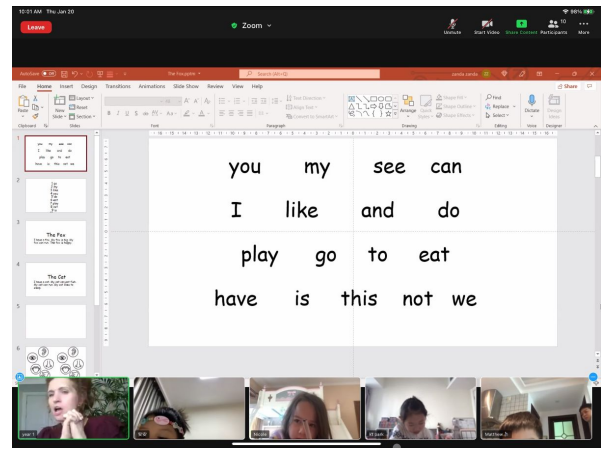
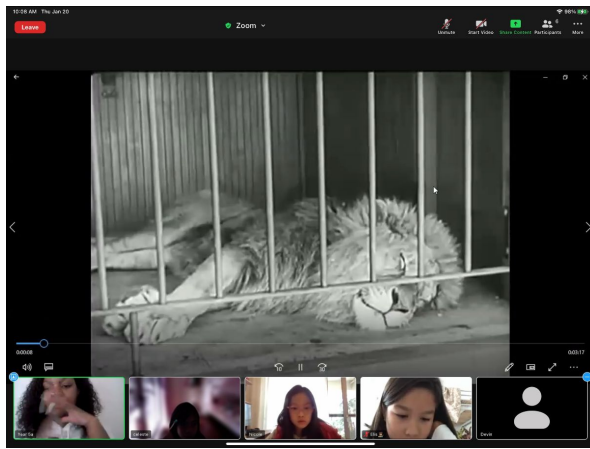
Many of us welcomed a good reason to go outside and get away from our screens. Couch to 2k is a big part of our ZIS culture and you kept it alive and strong this past Monday. Have a look at a few of the photos we received recording our community's efforts to get off of their couches and stretch their legs. Well done everyone!

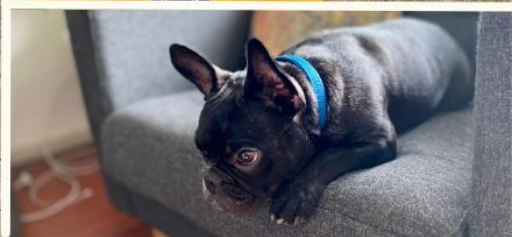
Kind Regards,

Michael Lattimore

Head of EY and Primary









Secondary Segment

Dear parents and students,

Last week, ZIS students participated in Model United Nations (MUN). MUN is a popular activity that helps students learn about world issues, gain perspective about different countries, and engage in valuable communication skills.

Students create positions and make arguments about current world issues. The delegates are each given a country and are placed in committees. The students create resolutions and argue positions on a wide range of topics. These include: the promotion of science, health, education, Group of 20 (World Challenges), and Humanitarian Rights (GA3). There is also a Chinese

Language Committee that debates various points. Many of today's leaders in law, government, business, and the arts participated in MUN as students.

This MUN event was held at UISG in Guangzhou. ZIS's MUN team consisted of 16 delegates and 1 chair. Students left Zhuhai on Thursday and spent the majority of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday participating in debates and writing resolutions within their committees. Our team was one of the most decorated teams at the event. Y12 Nora was awarded the chair position for the Chinese Language Committee. Y12 Simone was awarded the best delegate in the GA3 committee and Y10 Iris was awarded the best delegate in the Chinese Language Committee. This is the highest award given in each committee. The students enjoyed the experience and look forward to attending another MUN event soon.

Warm Regards,

Fang Lin & Eric Mitzel

MUN Supervisors

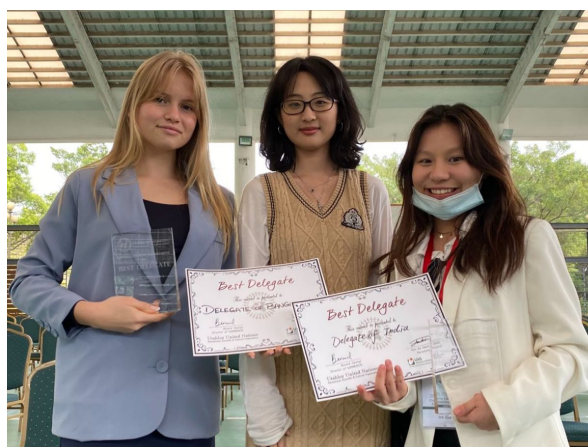
ZIS's MUN team



January 13-15, 2022

**MODEL UNITED
NATIONS**

Utahloy United Nations
Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization



WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL LUNCH



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

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