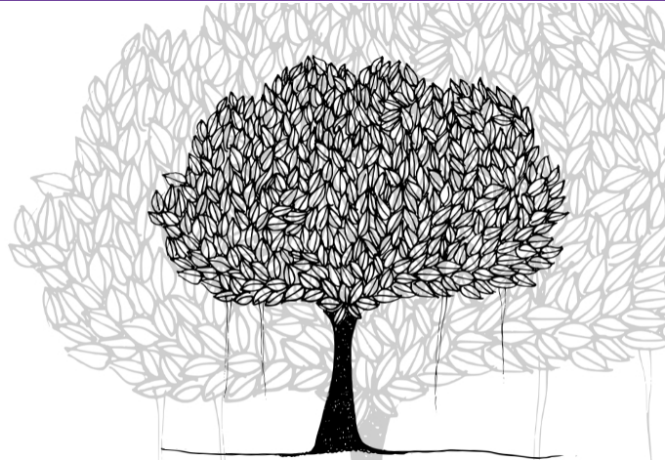


THE BANYAN



Issue 142

May 13, 2022



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

The meteorologists had forewarned us of the rains that arrived this week, but still the magnitude of the deluge amazed and impressed – the power of nature is awesome to behold. Shifting over to online learning for these past three days required flexibility and adaptability on the part of teachers, students, and families – thank you to all for keeping learning alive this week.

Next week we welcome six virtual evaluators from the IB, two each for our PYP, MYP, and DP programmes. Over the course of three days they will interview the ZIS Board, leadership, teachers, staff, parents, and students and will also visit classrooms in action. Thank you to Mr. Daniel Spears our PYP Coordinator who has kept us organized, allowing us to confidently share our campus and programmes through this programme evaluation.

Capturing the essence of IB evaluation in a single sentence, I think it can best

be understood in this way:

IB evaluation is more than check for quality and compliance (which it absolutely is) but it is also a measure of the school's health and growth and its appetite for reflection, development, and innovation.

The IB has earned its reputation as the global leader in education for its focus on empowering students with future-ready skills who are inquiring, knowledgeable, confident, and caring young people. The IB places high value on innovation in our fast-paced world and so they will be looking for our capacity and commitment to equipping future-ready students in stimulating and dynamic learning environments.

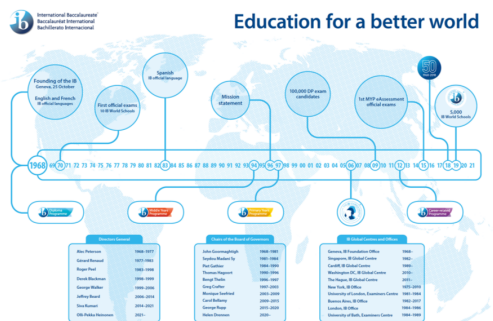
How can we know that the IB and IB schools are innovative?

- The IB Director General, [Mr. Olli-Pekka Heinonen](#), served as the Director General of the Finnish National Agency for Education (2016-21) and is actively engaged with the OECD.
- The [IB Board of Governors](#) is made up of eleven leading voices in education from across the globe.
- The IB framework, policies, and subject guides are consistently reviewed and updated to remain on the leading edge of best practice.
- Learning in an IB school is driven by inquiry, and inquiry fuels creative and critical thinking.
- IB schools attract IB educators and IB-minded educators who are caring, dynamic, and committed to lifelong learning for themselves and their students
- The IB programmes nimbly balance being both rigorous and fluid, allowing for the individual school and classroom to be adventurous, bold, and responsive to student interest and teacher expertise.

Our appetite for feedback from the IB is healthy, we look forward to the conversations next week – the affirmations, recommendations, and commendations will provide valuable input into our planning and decision making as we develop and grow over the next five years with the next IB evaluation in our sights.

A special thank you to the parents who will take the time to meet with the IB this week – your voice and perspective offer an essential window into who we are in 2022 and who we aspire to be in the future.

Warm Regards,
Andrew VanderMeulen
 Head of School



"Education in and for the 21st century is every bit as much about becoming a learner as it is about what is learned. The seamless integration of all four IB programmes and the clear focus on the core element of the learner profile in each programme ensures that all members of the learning community keep that goal sharply in focus."

"We opted for an inquiry based continuum of learning because we want our students to become the ones who ask the questions, not have prefabricated answers ready. By offering all four IB programmes, we can do this in a global context – and it works."

"The IB continuum of education is extremely important as it departs from a single educational philosophy and is then branched throughout the human continuum of development with consistent pedagogical elements. That is what a coherent educational model is all about."

Peter Kotrc,
 Director
 The Berlin Brandenburg International School
 Berlin, Germany

Alfonso García Williams,
 Head of School
 Colegio Williams de Cuernavaca
 Mexico

Glenn Odland,
 Head of School
 Canadian International School
 Singapore

What is an IB education?

The IB continuum of international education for 3-19 year olds is unique because of its academic and personal rigour. We challenge students to excel in their studies and in their personal growth. We aim to inspire a quest for learning throughout life that is marked by enthusiasm and empathy.

The IB aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students with character; students who can respond to challenges with optimism and an open-mind; students confident in their own identities; students who make ethical decisions; students who join with others in celebrating our common humanity; students who are prepared to apply what they learn in real world, complex and unpredictable situations.

The IB offers high-quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision. An IB education is informed by the values described in the learner profile and:

- centres on learners – the IB student-centred programmes promote healthy relationships, ethical responsibility and personal challenge
- develops effective approaches to teaching and learning – IB programmes help students to develop the attitudes and skills they need for both academic and personal success
- works within global contexts – IB programmes increase understanding of languages and cultures, and explore globally significant ideas and issues
- explores significant content – IB programmes offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced, conceptual and connected

IB learners strive to become inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. These attributes of internationally minded people represent a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond intellectual development and academic success.

IB PROGRAMMES
GLOBAL CONTEXTS
TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE IB
THE IB LEARNER PROFILE
THE IB LEARNING PARADIGM
 Inquiry • Action • Reflection
 Multilingualism and intercultural understanding
 Global engagement
 Broad and balanced, conceptual and connected curriculum

www.ibo.org Education for a better world

The IB continuum of international education

IB CONTINUUM
CONTINUUM DE L'IB
CONTINUO DEL IB

Education for a better world

Upcoming Events

- April 28-May17:** IB DP Examinations
- May 16-20:** IB Evaluation Visit
- May 25-26:** PYP Exhibition
- May 27:** Teacher PD Day
- May 31:** 10am Parent Workshop: Communicating with our Children
- June 3:** Dragon Boat Festival
- June 23:** Last Day of Classes

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

Perfectly Primary

IB EVALUATION and EXHIBITION

Two exciting IB Events are coming in the next two weeks. Next week, we will be visited remotely by the IB as they evaluate our school. As part of their visit, they will watch classes, talk to teachers and leaders, and meet with different school stakeholders. At the end of the visit, they will share commendations and recommendations that we can use to make the school even better.

Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th, we will have our PYP Exhibition. The Year 6 students have been working hard and are excited to share their learning with the whole school community.

The PYP Exhibition is the final project in IB PYP. The PYP Exhibition is a student-led inquiry into an area of interest to the student and uses all the skills and knowledge that the students have attained during their Primary School experience. Every IB PYP school worldwide goes through the exhibition process, and while it may look different in each particular context, the principles are the same.

We are still finalising the details for the parent visit to the Exhibition shortly. Once we have confirmed the details, we will encourage all parents to come and see the Exhibition. This will support our Year 6s and allow you to see what happens at the end of our student's PYP Journey.

Kind Regards,

Michael Lattimore

Head of EY and Primary

Secondary Segment

WORLD SCHOLAR'S CUP

On April 17, two of three MYP Teams from ZIS joined the World Scholar's Cup (Online Round). From 8:30 in the morning to 20:00, the students worked hard in front of a computer and took part in a team debate, collaborative writing, individual challenges, and team competitions. Their hard work was repaid through the many medals earned and the qualification to the global round in August.

Altogether, the two teams won the following:

Gold Medals: 9

Silver Medals: 8

Trophies: 3

One team placed 4th overall in the junior division.

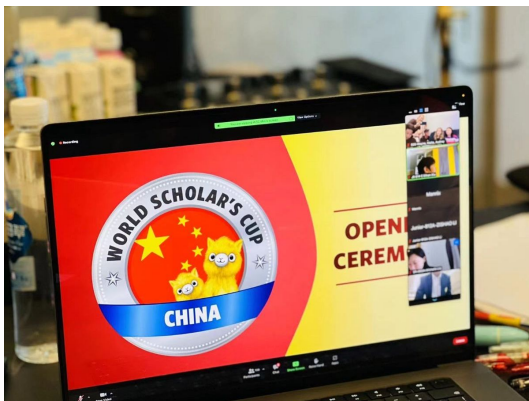
Due to the pandemic, there wasn't an official award ceremony for the students, but the alpaca dolls and prizes have been shipped to Zhuhai, carrying just as much glory, happiness, and pride.

"I think that the experience was eye-opening and quite exhilarating. Last year, my teammates and I tried to join the competition, but it was cancelled due to the pandemic. Then, when we joined this year, it was postponed once again. This online round was a stimulating experience, and what I would imagine to be quite different from having it physically happen. There was a lengthy preparation booklet that covered 6 subjects, and a lot of research was required, and through all that, I learnt a lot of new things; it really helped me look at the world in way that showed me how it was so full of knowledge, and how everyone has a different experience that we should respect- how this knowledge is endless; I didn't know who the Catholic Monarchs of Spain were until then! Also, my teammates and I had never tried debating before, and it was one of the events in the competition, so we picked up a few pointers and tips from here and there. I truly gained a lot of knowledge through this experience, and it feels even better to know that after the hard work, we had such good results." — Year 7, Audrey.

The World Scholar's Cup is an academic competition that hosts four events: a team debate, collaborative writing, scholar's challenge and scholar's bowl. In every event, the students showed unlimited enthusiasm, pride, and hard work while learning new information and many crucial skills.

Warm regards,

**Maite and Audrey - Year 7
World Scholar's Cup winners**



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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