

Issue 143

May 20, 2022





# From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

What a week! Beginning on Monday, we welcomed the IB Evaluation visitors to ZIS - intense days, but fruitful days, an important stepping stone for our school's programming and development. Congratulations to the entire ZIS team for all of the committee work that went into preparing for this evaluation. The exit meeting on Wednesday afternoon provided preliminary feedback that will be followed with a full report due to arrive early in our summer holiday. It's my pleasure to share some of the observations shared by our IB guests:

- ZIS students are open, confident, reflective and knowledgeable able to articulate their understanding and thinking as IB learners;
- Parent feedback was reflective, forward-thinking, and knowledgeable about school programs and IB philosophies;
- Curriculum and school development has matured in promoting international mindedness and the value of global citizenship;

- Initiatives in incorporating data-driven decision making are helping to make informed programming decisions;
- Commitment to ongoing teacher training and professional development is evident, both through internal sessions and through external providers

Moving into the new week, we have a number of events on the schedule - note the Teacher PD on May 27 and the three opportunities for parents - the more we share, the better we are!

**Monday May 23** - Meet with the Head of School to review the ZIS Guiding Statements and to discuss our goals for 2022-23. Come share a coffee in the Parent Lounge at 10am.

**Thursday May 26** - All PYP parents are welcome to learn more about the PYP Exhibition in the ZIS Foyer from 18:00-19:30.

**Friday, May 27** - Teacher Professional Development Day (no school for students).

**Tuesday May 31** - Parent Workshop: "Effective Communication" - discover tips and strategies that are sure to boost our communication skills with our children.

Finally, the 2022-23 Calendar is now published to help you with your planning for the new academic year. Please find it shared on our school website by following this link:

http://zischina.com/calendars/

Once again, congratulations to the entire ZIS team for all that has been achieved in these past five years working towards IB Evaluation. We can wear our IB World School designation with pride knowing how much teamwork, planning, and dedication has been invested in developing our programmes.

Warm Regards, Andrew VanderMeulen Head of School













We are hosting another Parent Workshop!





## Effective Communication

Talking with our children





Tuesday, May 31, 2022 @ 10:00 on Campus







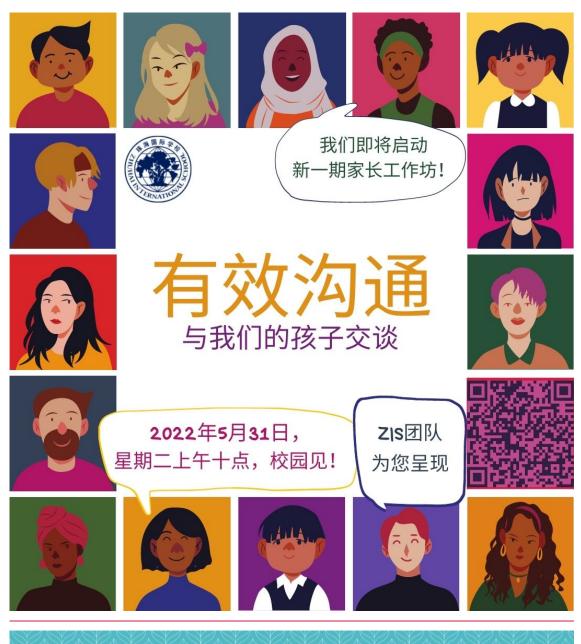












### Upcoming Events

May 24: Lunchtime "Open Mike" sessionMay 25-26: PYP ExhibitionMay 26: Parent Session: PYP Exhibition 18:00-19:30 @ ZISMay 27: Teacher Professional Development Day (no school)May 31: Parent Workshop: Effective Communication 10:00 @ ZISJune 3: Dragon Boat FestivalJune 23: Last Day of Classes

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

## Perfectly Primary

#### **PYP EXHIBITION IS HERE!**

After many weeks of hard work, the PYP Exhibition is here. The Year 6s have been working hard to research different topics and take action about what they have learned.

Next week we will have two PYP Exhibition Presentations. Wednesday Morning for in-school presentations and Thursday Evening for parent presentations.

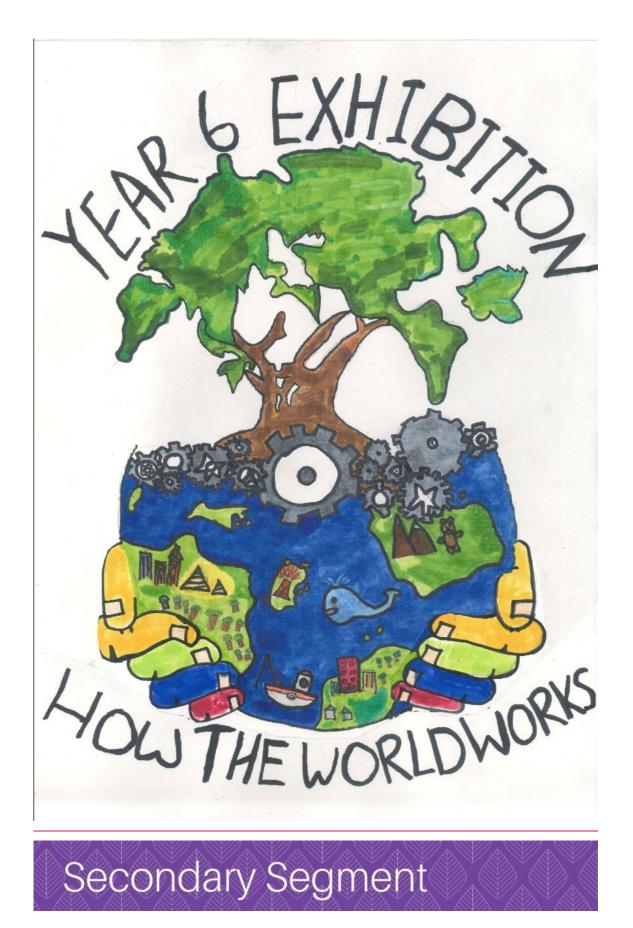
We cordially invite all parents to come and see the Year 6 Exhibition. Every student who goes through the PYP will do an Exhibition, so even if your child is in a lower year group, coming to see the Exhibition is a great way to see what your child is working towards. If you have a child in Year 5, they will be starting their exhibition journey next year, so this is a great opportunity to see what they will be working on in the coming academic year.

Parents, we have a special Exhibition time for you! **Date:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 **Location:** Foyer **Time:** 18:00 - 19:30

Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

I look forward to seeing you there as we support the great work our Year 6 students have done.

Kind Regards, Michael Lattimore Head of EY and Primary



**UNSUNG HEROS** 

I would like to introduce you to the four most unsung heroes of the last year. Maxime Wahl, Terrance Zhang, Finn Barker and Erwan Pare - our student basketball coaches.

Throughout the whole last school year our young coaches have undertaken a great journey from pure boyish love of the game of basketball to a much more mature and professional training instructors. The process was arduous and full of challenges but I am proud to say our junior coaches did a great job.

I will never forget the struggles of the first practices. Confusion, lack of experience and even signs of panic could be seen on the coaches' faces. Thanks to the assistance of Mr Nick Atwater the students understood the basics of organizing a training session which later translated to better athlete participation and enthusiasm. The coaches demonstrated their research skills and made the activities more varied and, to put it simply, more fun.

I was impressed at the coaches' resilience and dedication. For an adolescent it is tricky to deal with a dozen of high-energy kids expecting fun activities. It takes great leadership and perseverance to consistently show up to the sessions ready and enthusiastic about the practice. One of the greatest setbacks was the cancellation of all sport events we organized with other schools. Unfortunately, all of them had to be cancelled due to prevention of COVID. Despite these blows, our coaches kept on running their sessions.

Our boys demonstrated great IB learner profile characteristics throughout this long journey. I would like to reward Maxime for being **Caring** as he always found ways to empathize with our lower primary students. It is a rare trait and needs our recognition. Terrance impressed me with how **Knowledgeable** he was about basketball tactics and drills. Coach Erwan, despite his short stint, amazed me with his **Balanced** approach to his sessions integrating physical exercise with building great relationships within the team.

Let us hope we can build on these experiences next year and build strong teams that will represent our school in tournaments.

Warm regards, Mike Piotrowski Activities Coordinator







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

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