

THE BANYAN



Issue 122

November 19, 2021



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

Thank you parents for your timely support of the COVID testing that took place this past Monday. It has been a full four days since the testing session and by this point had there been anything to report, we would have heard about it. Your sustained attention to the city's epidemic prevention and control measures plays a large part in keeping our student body safe. Thank you for your continued care and commitment.

The second "Friends of ZIS" meeting of the semester took place this Thursday with the main focus dedicated to the upcoming Santa's Winter Carnival. We continue to move forward with the planned date (December 4) but are mindful

that we may need to shift the event to a school day and to hold it for students only. Consensus is now that the best alternative date is Friday, December 10 which is also an early dismissal day with a 12:45 departure.

Though there were no major events on the calendar this week, this doesn't mean that school hasn't been full of activity! Walk down any hallway, peek in any classroom, and you will have found:

- Primary students designing plans for the festive door decorating contest
- Secondary Mathematicians testing their logarithms and parabolas against students across the globe in an online competition
- Student Basketball coaches training PYP students in dribbling, passing, and shooting skills
- Early Years students decorating 3 houses (straw, sticks, and bricks) to help tell a classic story
- Secondary students undertaking preliminary planning for the Spring International Day
- and much, much more!

Looking ahead on the calendar, you are invited to a special Saturday Sports event on December 11. Registration has already started online (see the QR code on the poster below) - we hope you will join us for the annual Family Fun Run and BBQ.

Have an excellent weekend - be well and stay safe!

Warm Regards,

Andrew VanderMeulen

Head of School

Upcoming Events

**Join us for the Family
Fun Run 2021.**



ZHUHAI
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Scan the QR Code to
pre-register.

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 >



November 26: Parent Workshop "MYP - The Four Criteria" 1:30 online

December 1: Parent Workshop "Safeguarding Policy" 10am Parent Lounge

December 4: Winter Carnival

December 9: Parent Workshop "Approaches to Learning and Personal Project" 2pm Parent Lounge

December 10: Winter Carnival (alternate date)

December 10: Early Dismissal 12:45pm

December 11: Family Fun Run

Perfectly Primary

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

In this newsletter, I would like to share and explain a key feature of PYP:
"Approaches to Learning (ATLS)."

We live in a rapidly developing world. Students have so many different methods of learning and accessing content, and it is for this reason that the IB has the ATLS. The IB says that "These skills are grounded in the belief that learning how to learn is fundamental to a student's education."

The ATLS are categorised into five different groups.

- 1) Thinking skills
- 2) Self-management skills
- 3) Social skills
- 4) Communication skills
- 5) Research Skills

By developing these five skills in our students, we hope that they view learning as something they do for themselves rather than reacting to a teacher's instruction.

In our PYP program at ZIS, we plan these ATL skills into our unit and lesson plans emphasising certain skills depending on the requirements of the unit. However, these skills are always present in learning. Students use their thinking skills in math class. Self-management skills in art to help clean up. Research skills in UOI to learn more about a specific subject leading onto communication skills where they present their learning to the class. And social skills at recess and PE, where they learn to work together and support each other. By developing these skills, students become life-long learners and will be successful in MYP, DP, and beyond.

IBO. *Learning and Teaching*. International Baccalaureate.

Kind Regards,

Michael Lattimore
Head of EY and Primary





Secondary Segment

Dear parents and students,

I am John Emery Miller, the MYP music teacher. I have been facilitating a music songwriting student led journey. I could explain in great depth the process of our experience, but rather than read my words, I have asked some of the students to share their thoughts about the Weekend Warrior Songwriting Camp.

“We learned about improvisation, jamming, and most importantly, writing music from scratch.” *Felix Y10*

“I’ve learned the skill of writing songs and lyrics from dreams and from feelings of what is happening and from what I’ve been thinking of.” *April Y 8*

“I have learned exceedingly much about the creation of musical pieces, music theory, and piano.” *Maite Y7*

"I have developed my skill for making melodies and how to communicate using music with other musicians. This experience made me to be more creative and taught me how to develop my thoughts." *Gyu-in Y10*

"Thanks to the amazing and vast knowledge of Mr. Miller, my eyes were opened to a new perspective of music. Not the precise, structured music I knew, but the abstract, emotional art that sent messages of truth to the listeners." *Tim Y9*

Music transcends everything. Live and Be inspired.

Warm Regards,

John Miller

MYP Music Teacher







MONDAYS after school.
See you on the track!

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

WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL
LUNCH



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