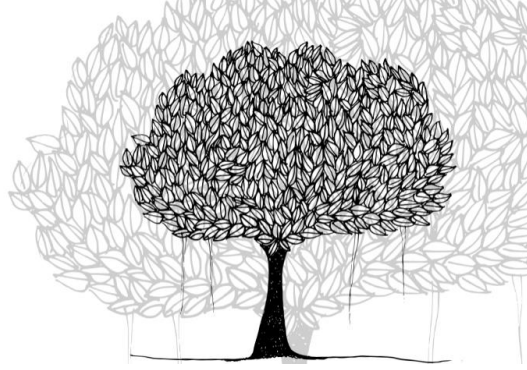


# THE BANYAN



Issue 120

November 5, 2021



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



## From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with teachers this week - Parent Teacher Conferences are an important element of every student's support network. If you have any follow up questions or wish to set an appointment with a teacher or member of school leadership please feel welcome to contact us.

Two items were distributed during the day (and will be sent home with your child if you were unable to attend):

1. **MAP Growth reports** - The trend is up! ZIS students continue to exceed global growth numbers overall. Reading, Language Usage, and Math scores across the classes have us excited for the next round of testing in the Spring. With new goals and targets set, we have new units and topics to cover - the learning journey continues!
2. **Parent ID Cards** - We have ordered more cards as our original order was short (welcome to all of our new families!), but most families have received their 2021-22 Parent ID Cards. Please wear these during any visit to campus and help us to safeguard our community.

**School Photographs** are available to order - viewing cards were sent home with students Friday this week. Orders can be placed at [pret-a-portrait.cn](http://pret-a-portrait.cn) (in English and Chinese) and you will be prompted to input the student's "sitting ID". This is printed on the viewing card. We also have the master list of sitting IDs here in the school office, so if the card is misplaced, please call the school. We are presently arranging a Zhuhai photographer to visit for students who missed the first visit.

Next week we can look forward to two main events:

### **ZIS Cross Country Run - Thursday, November 11**

Good luck to the students as they test their endurance and stamina under the blue Qi'ao skies. The forecast looks ideal for some fast times - not too hot (and not too cold!).

### **Teacher Professional Development Day - Friday, November 12**

Twice a year our teachers devote a day to professional development. Students will be at home and are encouraged to continue their own learning: after their homework is completed it's time to read a book, play with friends, and get active. The main topics for the PD day include:

1. Safeguarding at ZIS
2. Social Emotional Learning at an IB School
3. Whole School Curriculum Review

Guangdong remains today free of any new **COVID-19** cases, but as we watch other provinces respond to the rise of the virus we are reminded to maintain vigilance and to take precautions:

- a. students are to wear their masks while on school transport
- b. hand washing remains a key defense for the prevention of all virus transmission
- c. practice coughing and sneezing etiquette
- d. monitor family health, remain at home when feeling unwell, and report any high temperatures or other COVID symptoms.

Our cleaning staff continue to follow our prevention and control protocols with cleaning and disinfecting classrooms, washrooms, the canteen, and other high frequency zones such as door handles and stair railings. Ultra violet lights are used overnight to further sterilize learning spaces. Thank you to the team for their continued efforts to provide a safe campus every day.

Our student body continues to grow - welcome to all of the new families joining the ZIS community. Our **Year 5 class divides** into two groups beginning next week with Ms. Rebo and Ms. Nicole continuing their work and with Mr. Michael, Mr. Dan, and Ms. Swan building a new classroom space on the third floor (formerly the workout/dance/yoga space). Ms. Swan departs her EAL teaching role and we welcome Ms. Mandy to the team as she delivers the EAL and other language classes. We are presently in touch with new expatriate teaching candidates to take on the role full time and I cannot say enough thanks for the team's flexibility in supporting the school's growth.

This expansion also impacts our **Saturday Sports** activities as Mr. Mike Lee will now be full time from Monday to Friday teaching Physical Education to our Primary students. We will keep the Saturday fun alive with parent volunteers who will lead the sessions - if you wish to get active with us Saturday mornings from 9:30-11:30 you and your friends are welcome to join in.

Warm Regards,

**Andrew VanderMeulen**  
**Head of School**

Hand-foot-and-mouth disease has been reported in various school across the city. HFM disease is a mild, contagious viral infection common in young children and is characterized by sores in the mouth and a rash on the hands and feet. Hand-foot-and-mouth disease is most commonly caused by a coxsackievirus.

There's no specific treatment for hand-foot-and-mouth disease. Frequent hand-washing is the top prevention strategy and close monitoring of your children will identify cases early.

If you suspect a case of HFM disease, please visit your local health clinic to seek medical advice.

## Upcoming Events

**November 11** ZIS Cross Country Run

**November 12:** Teacher Professional Development Day (no classes)

**November 22-26:** Week Without Walls

## Perfectly Primary

### PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES and CROSS COUNTRY RUN

Thank you for coming to our Parent-Teacher Conference on Thursday 4th November. It was great to see so many constructive and positive conversations, and we are sure that the outcomes of these conversations will positively impact our student's learning and growth. Strengthening and developing these home-school relationships ensures that students get the support they need to achieve their full potential. While each session was only 15 minutes, the benefits will be felt throughout the academic year. Thank you again for attending.

Another big school event is our Cross Country Run! Next Thursday, the whole school will be running, and becoming fitter and stronger as students run various length runs. Additionally, this event is a great way to promote house spirit as students will be competing to ensure that their house wins! Another exciting day is coming up at ZIS.

Kind Regards,

**Michael Lattimore**

**Head of EY and Primary**





## Secondary Segment

Dear parents and students,

As student government, our main tasks are planning and organizing events and activities for students, such as Halloween, Christmas carnival, Sports day, and Spring dance. We prioritize what students want and need, and we try our best to produce activities that are both entertaining and meaningful. We are well-practiced assistants when help is needed for teacher-led events or Primary activities.

Student government genuinely cares for the student body, and we are willing to listen to what students want and need at all times. We have representatives from each year group as spokespeople, and they have responsibility to pass on advice or petitions from their class to us. Student government is a great opportunity for all students to communicate and collaborate, and learn about responsibility, organization, and leadership.

After three years' participation in student government, I'm honoured to be the president this year. I'm confident in leading all student government members to achieving our goals, creating values, and making this year awesome!

Warm Regards,

**Y12 Nora**  
**Student Government President**







# WEEKEND WARRIOR

Facilitated by Mr. John Emery Miller

## Songwriter Camp

6 Saturdays  
**October 16 -  
November 20**  
from 10:00-11:20  
ZIS Music Room

**Reserve now**  
Limited spaces  
available!



All MYP  
students  
welcome!



# WHAT'S COOKING?

SCHOOL  
LUNCH



Lunch Menus,  
our food safety guidelines,  
and past editions of  
"The Banyan" Newsletter  
are available  
at [zischina.com](http://zischina.com)

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