

THE BANYAN



Issue 155

October 14, 2022



Zhu Hai International School weekly newsletter



From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

As another week of the school year wraps up, many classes are approaching the final lessons of their first units of study. When school life gets busy, we are wise to remember to celebrate the daily learning our students are being challenged by and to continue to encourage them to engage and explore in their lessons every week.

This week saw the final **MAP Growth** assessments completed by Years 3-10. Next we will produce the family reports for parents and students - these will take some time to prepare, but expect to receive them before the month concludes.

Next week we welcome six members of the **Council of International Schools** (CIS) accreditation team who visit us virtually from across Asia-Pacific.

Beginning on Monday, meetings with the evaluators and the ZIS committees will discuss the reports and evidence we have submitted for CIS review. There are many accreditations to pursue, but we chose CIS for its thoroughness, high standards, international-mindedness, and the outstanding training opportunities available to CIS schools. Becoming accredited members of CIS means opening doors for all of our stakeholders and reaffirms our commitment to school development. I encourage you to learn more about CIS [here](#).

I would like to thank our 12 committee chairs for their leadership and hard work over the past 18 months. While preparing for CIS they were all also heavily involved in the IB Evaluation that successfully took place in May 2022. Thanks to their dedication to and capacity for school development, these committees have each made a significant contribution to the school in every area: from curriculum and student well-being to safeguarding and technology. Thank you as well to our parents for your continued support of these many projects. A celebration is in the works to recognize all of this investment of time, energy, and talent - congratulations must be shared for the many accomplishments these past months.

Friends of ZIS began preparations for the upcoming **Hallowe'en** festivities with decoration and activities to make this a memorable day for our students. Thank you for giving your time and creativity to this fun event. Our annual costume parade will take place shortly after 9am on the 31st, and parents are welcome to visit (and welcome to wear a costume!). If you are looking for a costume, the Aeon department store at Young Mix Mall and Sam's Club both normally have a selection. Of course taobao has plenty of options if you wish to shop online. The ZIS sustainability club would like to challenge you this year: consider constructing your costume from existing resources - it could be a fun DIY project for your family.

School photographers from Pret-a-Portrait concluded their visit on Friday and soon information will be shared for your orders.

We are launching the **Outdoor Education** offerings to our Secondary students next week Thursday during an info session. This information will be shared with home as well - and if you have any questions, please let me know.

Good luck to our senior boys and girls volleyball teams as they travel to tournaments this weekend. We'll make some space in the trophy cabinet for you!

Have an excellent week ahead and enjoy this weekend - it looks to be prime season to enjoy the outdoors in our beautiful city.

Warmest regards,

Andrew VanderMeulen

Head of School

Upcoming Events

October 17-21: CIS Accreditation Virtual Visit

November 1: Parent Teacher Conferences (no classes)

November 18: Professional Development Day (no classes)

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



Perfectly Primary

MEET CARRIE GU

My name is Carrie Gu and I am from ChaoShan, Guangdong Province. I graduated with a Honours Bachelor of Education specializing in Early Years Education at Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai.

I worked as an assistant teacher at First Leap and in a nursery centre in Shenzhen the summer before I graduated. I also have two years of working experience in an International Kindergarten teaching 2-6 year old kids before working at ZIS.

I love to travel, watch movies and draw.

I also love teaching! I think it is a meaningful job and the most important thing is that I love listening to and talking with kids, knowing what they are thinking about is really interesting.

I am very happy to be part of the ZIS team and I think it will be a great year!

Warm Regards

Carrie Gu

EY Teacher

Secondary Segment

Dear parents and students,

This week, years 7-10 sat for the first of two MAP Growth Tests to be administered this school year. MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) not only measures student growth in the areas of reading, language usage, and mathematics, but also informs instruction and allows for the assessment of strategy. Students and teachers will review these reports once the testing data has been generated, and a family report will be sent home to assist with the support and encouragement of your child.

Interim Reports are scheduled to be released electronically on October 28.
Please check your email inbox.

Congratulations are in order for the newly elected student government officers for 2022-2023:

Y12 Chloe - President
Y12 Andy - Vice President
Y12 Josephine - Secretary
Y12 Jenny - Treasurer

Warm regards,

Danielle Tucker

Head of Secondary

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY ABOUT THE EXTENDED ESSAY

On September 30th we had a celebration of EE completion for the Year 13 students. The goal was to:

- Reward the Year 13 students for their hard work and get a much-needed reprieve from class work. Well done to all the students!
- Get the younger students to see that timely completion of the EE is important in the hope that this would motivate them for performance in the future.

The long-lasting impact of the Extended Essay is captured in many student reflections such as “the feeling of self-accomplishment will remain.” For some, the Extended Essay “sparked an ongoing passion for research,” but perhaps the most poignant remark shared by one of the student’s reflection was that researching and writing the Extended Essay had revealed “that I am capable of more than I had ever imagined.” One respondent emphasized the importance of being supported in this endeavour by the presence of a well-designed Extended Essay schedule.

Students have described their struggle with managing the Extended Essay in conjunction with their other DP responsibilities and requirements, but, with the benefit of hindsight, there was a lot to learn from it!

They have 'learned how to manage time in the context of a large project', and 'strengthened the skills of organization and time management'.

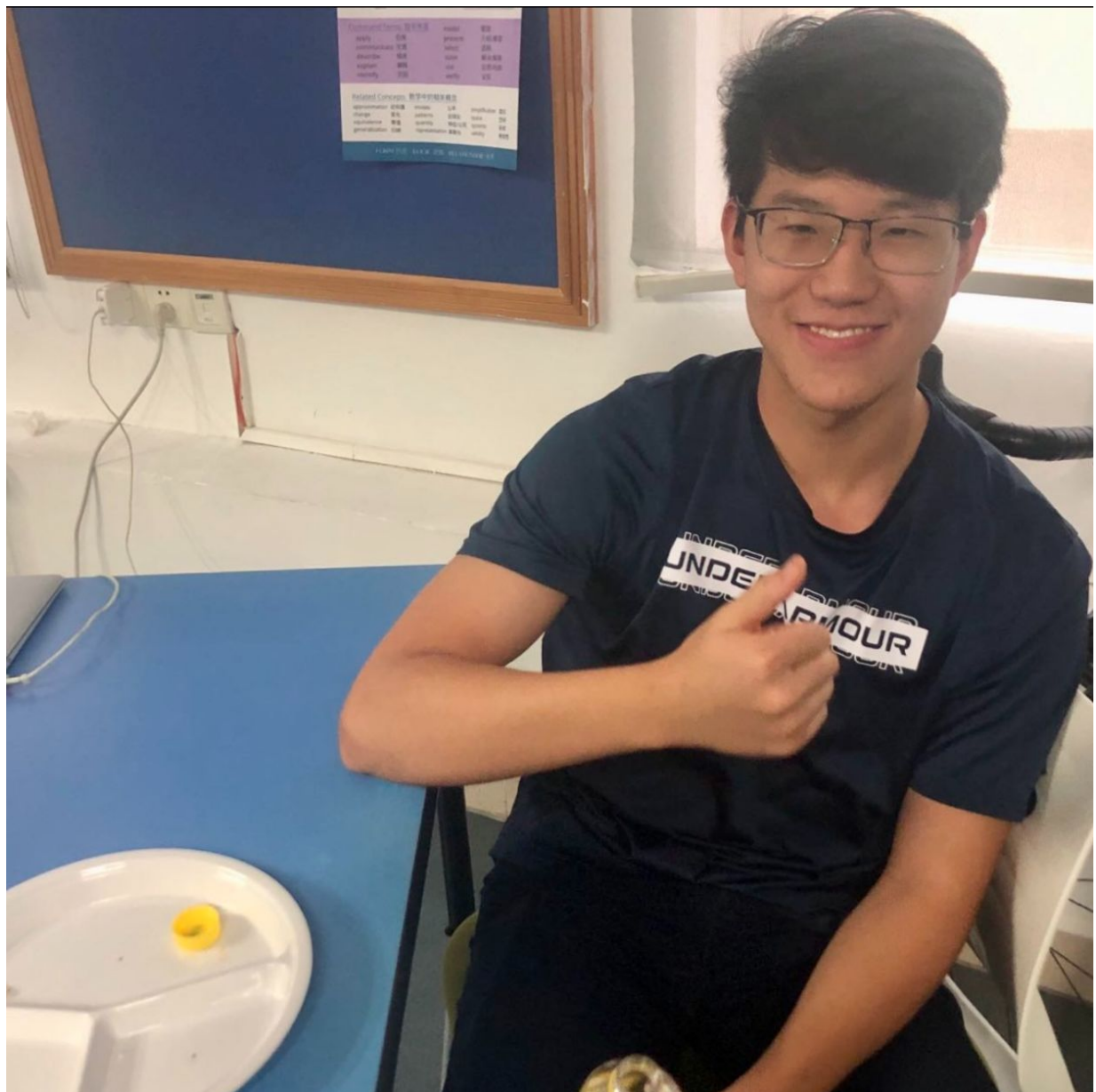
We would like to congratulate the students and encourage them work hard work on their IA's and wish them the best of luck in their studies.

Charlotte Aucamp

Librarian and EE Supervisor







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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