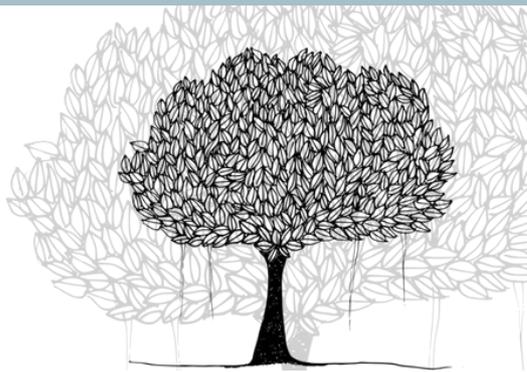


# THE BANYAN



Issue 5

October 20, 2018



Zhuhai International School: *weekly newsletter*

## FROM THE FIRST FLOOR

I am so pleased to announce that we are now full members of the Council of International Schools.

The application for membership culminated in the recent school visit by the CIS representative Dr. Eric Jabal. During his time he met with our Board Chair, Heads and Coordinators, various staff groups, groups of students, and parents. The CIS membership report draws on these meetings and the school documents provided to determine our readiness to undertake the accreditation process. We can now focus on the recommendations offered, and celebrate the strengths noted in the report:

- ambitions to build and govern the best IB continuum school in the region;
- a dedication to intercultural and inclusive education, committed to supporting the school's guiding statements;
- staff, students, and parents who foster a friendly and inclusive school community that engenders a safe, supportive school climate conducive for teaching, learning, and student well-being; and
- recently upgraded and refurbished facilities to support existing students and to prepare for expansion.

Well done to all and thank you to everyone who met with CIS. This landmark is much deserved recognition of everyone who has helped to get us to this point. Membership does not happen in a single year - it takes time and considerable effort to meet their standards. Next we set our eyes on full accreditation and continuing our drive to deliver the very best IB programmes to our students.

Warm regards,  
Andrew VanderMeulen  
Head of School



Learn more about the Council of International Schools at [cois.org](http://cois.org)

## Cross Country

Campus was filled with streaks of yellow, red, green, and blue as runners of all ages set their focus on the challenge of long distance running. Congratulations to all of the students for their fine performances during the Cross Country event this Wednesday.

Every year this event brings out the very best in our young people. Their determination to do their very best and their supportive cheers for

others, no matter the colour of house shirt, are real testaments to the spirit of the day.

Thank you to Coach Mike and Coach Dan for organizing an event and to all of the field marshals, water station minders, and the race officials as well for their support of the student efforts. The morning is always a favourite of the parents, and their voices did much to lift the exhausted runners over the finish line. It really is a special day thanks to everyone's support.

Congratulations runners!



## SUNDOWNER 2018

We hope to see you on Saturday, October 20 from 18:00 - 20:30. There will be music, food and refreshments available. Please see information on parking below.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sundowner**  
Saturday, October 20  
6-8:30pm

**Week Without Walls  
Parent Information  
Night**  
Tuesday, October 23  
7pm

**Hallowe'en Fun with  
FoZIS**  
Wednesday, October  
31

**ISTA @ Guangzhou**  
November 2-4

**Week Without Walls**  
November 12-16



Perfectly Primary



'It's been a great week to be a PYP student! On Wednesday we had our annual ZIS Cross Country Races. It's always a great day when our students come together to race and cheer each other on. All of the students from Nursery to Year 6 competed and tried their best. Thanks so much to the parents who came out to enjoy the fun!

The week ended on a high note as well, as Year 5 presented the PYP Assembly for October. The Year 5 students did a great job sharing their learning from their 'Who We Are' unit of inquiry. To do so, students created role plays in their classrooms to demonstrate what they had learned about the effect of decision making in our lives and shared these for the audience. Well done Year 5!

Have a great weekend everyone,

Jordan Rose  
Head of Primary



Secondary Segment



Dear Parents and Students,

Next week we have WWW meetings with parents to finalise any queries about the upcoming trips. They look like they will be exciting again this year. Fingers crossed the weather is good.

Teachers are currently preparing Interim Reports over the next week or so. These reports are not a full report and have no grades but they will include an early indication for Effort and Academics. I have asked that teachers' comments focus on learning skills like organisation (preparedness for class), participation / asking for help, completion of working class, completion of homework and interaction with others.

All of our students are on individual learning journeys and their needs can be different to others. This is perfectly normal and as the other two components of their support system (teachers and parents), it is our combined efforts in teaching self-management and good study habits that will ultimately benefit the students.

Congratulations to all the students who ran in the cross country. It was a cool day - perfect for running and every student put in a superb effort. 5 laps of the school is not easy for untrained runners but they showed perseverance and did a sterling job. Well done to our top three boys and girls - Micha, Matvey, Maxime, Simone, Melody and Helen. Of course a big congratulations to the winning house on the day - Blue House! A very big thank you to Mr Iddon and Mr Mike Lee for organising the event and to all the staff who helped out as marshals and photographers.

I hope to see everyone at the Sundowner this weekend.

Warmest Regards  
Vanessa Leah  
Head of Secondary



LS Space



## AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES VISIT

Today we had the opportunity to learn from some admissions officers what it takes to study at some top American schools. The insights shared are not unique to that side of the globe.



Successful applications to universities around the world require the following:

1. Research: Which classes, grades, documents and experiences will you need in order to be eligible for a given school or program?
2. Time Management: Don't procrastinate when it comes to applying. Besides the official forms a prospective you need to complete, are the potential tests (ex. IELTS), documents, essays and references that you must compile.
3. Explore: What else is out there? Are there programs you didn't know existed? Ask questions, do some reading, be curious!
4. Don't panic: Nothing is cast in stone. If you don't like your program, you can change. If you don't get into your top choice, find out how a new path can get you there.



Some food for thought from our expert guests:

"What are you going to do with what you learn? How are you going to engage with the world?" Dana, Seattle University Representative

"We love the IB Diploma. We can offer up to 1 year of credit to IB students. The work you put into the IB is worth it." Kenley, Redlands University Representative

Definitely worth thinking about!

**Mirjam Berghuis**  
**Head of Learning Services**

On November 25th our Year 13 student Ethan Fowler will participate in the annual UNICEF Charity Run in Hong Kong. While most charity projects are limited to a one-off money donation, this one enables students to start a running program and raise funds for the most vulnerable kids in Africa.

If you are willing to join the race or contribute to this worthy charity, feel free to visit the official run website <http://run.unicef.org.hk/> or contact Mr Mike Piotrowski, the project supervisor at [mikep@zischina.com](mailto:mikep@zischina.com)





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

[Friend on Facebook](#)

[Follow on Instagram](#)

---

*Copyright © 2018 Zhuhai International School, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

---