

THE BANYAN



Issue 35

August 23, 2019



Zhuhai International School: weekly newsletter

FROM THE FIRST FLOOR

Dear ZIS Community,

Welcome back to returning families and a warm welcome to new families. I am very pleased to have you all joining us for the coming school year - and what a year it promises to be!

There will be many opportunities to meet and greet the new members of our leadership team as well as our newly arrived teachers in the coming weeks. Dr. Lana Staton, Head of Early Years and Primary, and Mr. Michael Coffey, Head of Secondary and DP Coordinator, have already started applying their care and expertise to the school. Welcome to them and to our new and returning staff who have all been busy preparing classes for the start of school on Monday, August 26.

The school calendar is available on our website zischina.com as well as on our WeChat subscription account. There you will find a number of events inviting parents to campus, and even more are being planned. These include:

Open Day - Thursday, August 29 (10am-noon)

Another opportunity for prospective parents to visit campus and to witness the energy of the school, busy in the first week of the semester. A sample classroom experience is planned as well as school tours.

Parent Information Night - Tuesday, September 3 (6:00-7:30pm)

A great chance to meet other families, this is one of our more popular info nights with a focus on introducing programmes and getting to know ZIS faculty. Presentations and Q&A sessions will be delivered for each programme: PYP, MYP, and DP.

Sundowner - Saturday, September 7 (6:00-8:30pm)

Help us set the tone for the year during this social night with music, families, and food and beverages. Enjoy the sunset on Qi'ao Island!

These are not the only opportunities to be involved in campus life. We are fortunate to

have the school organization known as "Friends of ZIS" made up of parents and teachers who meet to help build the school. Whether discussing hot-topics in education or planning for a school event, Friends of ZIS is an excellent forum to contribute to the daily lives of our students. Additionally we welcome appointments to meet with parents outside of the events above. You should always feel welcome to book a time to visit campus and meet with us - please email or call the office.

I am excited for everything that is in store for 2019-20. Wishing you all a productive and rewarding school year and thank you as always for entrusting us with the care for your children.

The 2019-20 school year is here!

Warm regards,
Andrew VanderMeulen
Head of School



UPCOMING EVENTS

First Day of School

August 26

Admissions Open Day

August 29

Parent Information Night

September 3

Sundowner

September 7

Mid-Autumn Festival Holiday

September 13





Dear ZIS Community,

I want to personally welcome everyone back to a new school year. I hope you had a rejuvenating summer.

My family and I are new to China, but it already feels like home because everyone here has been so welcoming. The past two weeks I have spent getting to know more about the school, and all it has to offer. I have two children who will also be joining the ZIS family, and we are eager for the 2019-2020 school year to begin.

I have been most impressed with the teachers here at ZIS. This week, they have been busily preparing their classrooms for your child's arrival. Beyond creating beautiful classrooms, the teachers have also been sharing ideas on how to motivate and encourage your child. We have discussed how we can enrich the lives of each student, as we strive to educate the whole child. Here at ZIS there is a culture of collaboration and compassion. It is evident that the teachers are passionate about what they do here, and we are excited to see you all on Monday. In the meantime, if you want to reach out to me at any time, my email address is: alannas@zischina.com.

Warm Regards,

**Dr. Lana Staton
Head of Primary**



Dear Parents and Students,

My first impressions of arriving on the ZIS campus are - what a lush and unpolluted place Qi'ao island is! My second - the ambitious plan set out by ZIS for setting up three IB programmes for Zhuhai residents. Now all teachers are on-campus, my overriding impression is of a switched-on staff full of energy and dedication.

Our new teachers are Danielle Tucker(English LA, L&L), married to Eric Mitzel (Maths), Lin Wenhui (Chinese), Lin Fang (Chinese), Liu Cong (Chinese), Lorenzo Corti (Music), Tony Kietzmann (Design), and Deon Boshoff (PHE). We welcome back returning teachers, who safeguard the school's best practices and traditions and help us new people settle in.

We had our first parents' Open Day today, with numerous sign-ups after the tour of the school. Our next Open Day is next Thursday 10-12 noon, with the tangible difference that student learning will have started and be visible to all visitors!

Our preparations for next week are well under way. New staff have been receiving IB training, and the classrooms are starting to look good. We are setting up an enjoyable orientation plan for all students, and offering Years 7 and 12 extra insight into their new programmes.

Secondary has new wifi, a larger more central staffroom, resurfaced basketball courts and we are upgrading our virtual learning spaces.

We are on track to offer fun learning, develop student's curiosity and nurture their dream of a world at peace with itself and more environmentally sustainable. Welcome to a new school year.

Warmest Regards,

Michael Coffey
Head of Secondary



LS Space



FIRST UNIVERSITY VISIT

Hello again to our ZIS family! To kick off the year, we have our first University Representative visiting us on Thursday, August 29, in the library.

Dr. Colin Crowder is the Director of Liberal Arts and the Deputy Executive Dean of Durham University in the UK. He will be on campus from 10:00-11:00 to speak to our Year 11-13 students about his school and to help them better prepare for the that all important Admissions Essay.

Parents are welcome to join us in the library. We look forward to hearing what he has to say.

In addition, I would like to welcome the three new staff who have joined Swan Han and I here in Learning Services. Jarred Vargus and Andri Cronje will be working with our Primary students, while Jennifer Habel and I spend time on the 3rd and 4th floors with our MYP students.

We are all really excited to begin the year and become (re)acquainted with our students.

Warm Regards,

Mirjam Berghuis
Head of Learning Services



School Tour
参观学校

Introduction to our
IB Programmes

介绍我们的IB项目

Individual
Consultations

Available
答复个人咨询



ZHUHAI
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



OPEN DAY 开放时间

Aug 29, 2019 10am - 12pm

2019年8月29日 上午10-12点

zis@zischina.com
+86 756 3315580



ZHUHAI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Sundowner 2019

黄昏小聚



Saturday, September 7 - 6:00-8:30pm

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