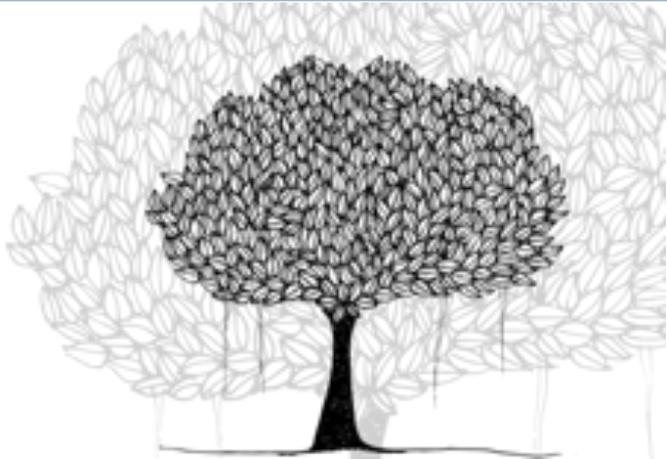


THE BANYAN



Issue 37

September 06, 2019



Zhuhai International School: weekly newsletter

FROM THE FIRST FLOOR

Dear ZIS Community,

Wonderful to welcome so many parents to the Information Night this week. One and a half hours gives us only a snapshot of the school, so more information sessions and workshops are planned to best equip you in support of your children.

Do join us this Saturday from 6-8:30pm for our annual Sundowner – a social night to welcome new families and teachers and to reconnect after the summer holiday. Food, beverages, musical performances and hopefully clear skies will set the tone for the night.

Stoke Trial Week - October 7-11

We are excited to launch academy style football training for the ZIS community. Coach Kane from the Stoke youth program joins us to introduce English football to our young people. Training programs for the rest of October, November, and December will be published shortly and followed with an information meeting on campus.

Boys and girls from Years 1 – 13 are invited to come out and give their football skills a go!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the first Friends of ZIS meeting of the year. This is an important forum to maintain the partnership between school and home, so I am grateful for the chance to have teachers and parents working together for a common cause. Plans to work on the events already on the calendar are taking shape. Minutes from the meeting and the date and venue for the next meeting will be shared shortly.

Warm regards,
Andrew VanderMeulen
Head of School



Dear parents,

I like to look for connections as I walk through campus each week, which seems to produce what I call my word of the week. These themes appear to naturally emerge from classroom to classroom. Last week I talked about all of the fantastic *collaboration* present throughout the classes. This week I've noticed a sense of *wonder* everywhere I look. This is especially prevalent in the nursery and reception classes. I love the look on a child's face when they discover something new. The natural exploration that follows is the beauty of the PYP.

One of our Early Years students found the wings of a butterfly outside and wanted to learn more about it, so her teacher brought it inside to further explore. During recess, a Year 3 student found a toad under the Banyan tree and several other children gathered around as we talked about what it means to camouflage in nature. As educators, we call these 'teachable moments.' Teachable moments are those that are not planned, but are organically produced. There are numerous moments like these every day. Our teachers purposefully allow for wonder and exploration. Our units of inquiry require students to dig deeper into the world around them so that when a teachable moment outside of class presents itself, students are tuned in to *want* to extend their learning.

What is it that has produced a sense of wonder for you this week? I hope to see you all at Sundowner on Saturday so we can collectively experience the wonder of a gorgeous sunset over Qi'ao Island.

Warm Regards,

Dr. Lana Staton
Head of Primary





Secondary Segment



Middle Years Programme

Diploma Programme

Dear parents and students,

We are nearing the end of the fortnightly timetable cycle of Weeks A and B. While there have been some clashes overall the lessons have run well in our corridors on the third and fourth floors. Teachers are busy with planning their summative assessments for the whole year and we are also ascertaining the HL/SL allocations in students' programmes and class timetables. This will be finished early next week.

We will be opening Managebac to parents for the first time this year, not asking parents to use their children's logins. I will soon communicate how to sign in via an email and will share in time for the Parent-Teacher meetings on Monday 14 October. This is the main way we invite parents to see what students are studying and how they are doing in school.

The Parents Information Evening went well. There could have been more time for any one of numerous initiatives but we continue to put on social events and meetings and you are of course invited to contact me for any further details of how we work here.

Sports forms are being collected in quickly this week so we should be ready to start after-school sports next week on Tuesday 17 September. The staff have shown proactiveness, professionalism and sheer flexibility in getting the year off to this good start. The students are working well and if we continue to carefully support each other we will create win-win situation for everyone in our community.

Warm Regards,

Michael Coffey
Head of Secondary



UNIVERSITY FAIR at TIS

On Monday, September 23, our senior students are invited to go to the International School of Macau to participate in their annual University Fair.

This year, we will take students in Year 11 - Year 13 for an afternoon during which they can meet representatives from over 80 universities. Students will be able to explore options from:

- Australia: 6 schools (including the *Australian Institute of Music*)
- Canada: 5 schools (including the *University of British Columbia*)
- Hong Kong: 7 schools (including the *Hong Kong Polytechnic University*)
- The UK: 26 schools (including the *University of Bath*)
- The US: 23 schools (including the *Purdue University*)
- Other: 9 schools from countries including France, the Philippines and Singapore

Students will be driven to the fair by bus and will return home after school hours. More information will go home with students next week.

If you are interested in more detailed information, feel free to contact me via email at mirjamb@zischina.com.

This will be an exciting opportunity for our young people as they look toward life after ZIS.

Warm Regards,

Mirjam Berghuis
Head of Learning Services

ZHUHAI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

VOLUNTEER NOW. LEARN HOW.

**ZIS LIBRARY NEEDS
VOLUNTEERS FOR THE
2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR**

SEE ALAN OR CRYSTAL IN THE
LIBRARY



Zhuhai
International
School

Sundowner

Music
Food, Drink
Family, Friends
&
Qi'ao Sunset

Saturday, Sept 7, 2019 6-8:30pm

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