

THE BANYAN



Issue 8

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Zhuhai International School: weekly newsletter

FROM THE FIRST FLOOR

Dear Parents,

Roman Payne, author and artist, writes:

A person does not grow from the ground like a vine or a tree, one is not part of a plot of land. Mankind has legs so it can wander.

The pursuit of the outdoors, the wonders of adventure, the call of the unknown - while we all enjoy the comforts of the familiar, we can truly extend ourselves by visiting new places and meeting new people. As we ask our students to be global citizens, we are compelled to offer students opportunities to see the world around them. Our ISTA artists returned from Guangzhou this week having explored the power of theatre. Soon our Week Without Walls excursions will take our students and staff to new experiences.

The excursions and field trips that have been planned offer a variety of local and international destinations. These trips are intense learning immersions and can truly be transformative. We thank all of the trip leaders for their planning and wish them and the students safe journeys. Enjoy the local bakery, the art exhibition, the hills of Yunnan and the adventures on the seas in Thailand and the Philippines. No matter your destination, take hold of the chance to grow!

Warm regards,

Andrew VanderMeulen

Head of School

UPCOMING EVENTS

U14 Touch Rugby @

Guangzhou

November 10

Week Without Walls

November 12-16

Come Together Charity Music Festival

November 17

U19 Basketball @ Guangzhou

November 24

UNICEF Charity Run @ Hong Kong

November 25



Perfectly Primary



In the PYP we are fond of using classroom 'Essential Agreements' to help students have a voice in how they want their classroom to function, and what rules should apply among the students. But 'Essential Agreements' are also used by teachers to help us think about how we want to work together, and the things that we think are most important to doing our job effectively.

This August the PYP teachers reviewed their 'Staff Essential Agreement', and one of the points agreed upon reads: 'We will try to learn from the ideas of others and continue to improve our practice'. An example of this sentiment was on display this past Wednesday, as our PYP staff spent their after school meeting time working together to share their knowledge and learn from each other.

Mr. Daniel, Ms. Louise, Mr. Tom, Ms. Olivia and Ms. Emily had all recently been to Professional Development workshops. On Wednesday each teacher prepared short presentations for their colleagues about what they learned from their Professional Development sessions. These presentations included ideas about how to deepen our use of inquiry based learning practices, how to incorporate the latest Educational Technology into our classrooms, and some of the new approaches to Early Childhood Education.

Each teacher did a fantastic job sharing their new knowledge with their colleagues, and everyone was able to learn something new that can help improve what they do in the classroom.

This is a great example of how the PYP teaching staff is continually working to improve the teaching and learning here at ZIS.

Thanks for reading and have a great weekend!

Best, Regards,
Jordan Rose

Head of Primary & Early Years



Secondary Segment



Middle Years Programme

Diploma Programme

Dear Parents and Students,

A reminder that Week Without Walls is next week. This is an excellent week where students can enjoy outdoor pursuits, cultural experiences and forge new friendships.

We encourage more students to take part in this week next year. These school-life experiences are so important to the socio-emotional development of adolescents.

We wish Mr Luke, Ms Nadene, Mr Alan, Ms Mirjam, Mr Mike and Ms Yan good weather, active fun-filled days and quiet, restful nights. Thank you so much for taking these trips. Without your commitment to the students, this would not be possible.

It won't be a quiet week for those of us remaining at school. New staff will engage in IB workshops all week and Mr Dan, Mr Shackleton and Mr Paul will be plenty busy, helping out PYP in their WWW adventures.

Last week some of the secondary students were lucky enough to be invited to TDK by Mr Frederico Knorr. It was a wonderful opportunity to see science in action in the real world and we are grateful for the opportunity. Mr Knorr and his team were extremely hospitable and created a hands-on experience that was truly outstanding.

Mr Ian Mansfield and Ms Amanda Chang attended with the students and both said "the whole trip was a positive experience for the students! On the tour, many were fascinated by the automated production lines, but they enjoyed seeing the robot demonstration as well. The majority of Year 10/11 commented most favourably on the workshops at the end of the tour: the chance to assemble components; to work in a team, with the sense of competition; and to test the results of their efforts at the end, seemed to appeal the most. This fostered quite a few of the IB attributes we try to foster here at school. We would definitely love to visit again!"

I also have some students sharing their experience:

"Being able to have the opportunity to see a factory, mass produce components used in anything electronic such as varistors and capacitors was an amazing experience. I believe it gave me an insight into the job of a manufacturing engineer. The best moment was learning about how the factory utilizes robots and understanding the rigorous process of testing the robots before implementing them into the production line allowed me to grasp the accuracy they go to before it is up to standard." - **Ethan Fowler, Year 13**

"The most intriguing activity was observing the robot which was programmed to write down some words on the whiteboard as I am interested in engineering. Besides this activity, observing the capacitor assembly lines and experiencing how the varistors are assembled by trying it on our own.... In general, the trip to TDK and various activities in TDK were valuable and very fun." - **Sally Kim, Year 12**

"The applications of physics is something that has always intrigued me. The TDK trip showed us what possible careers paths we can take in the area of physics. In the past 2 years, I have learnt a lot of the theory in Physics and maths but putting these concepts to practice is more difficult. This trip showed us the immense amounts of engineering and innovation it takes to create such devices. It was an eye-opening experience into the world of manufacturing." - **Zak Barker, Year 13**

"We can do a simple process for making different parts of production. It was funny, the process of making a part seemed easy, but when I tried to make it by myself, it was difficult. A slight error could render the whole part useless!" - **Terry Chu, Year 13**

"We met TDK today. I learned that the equipment is usually much more complicated than what you see. I experienced making the sensor. It was really hard but fun. It was a really good visit today!" - **Jaccie Zhao, Year 12**

We are so grateful when the community open their doors and their hearts to share time with our students. Thank you again for this wonderful collaboration.

Warmest Regards

Vanessa Leah
Head of Secondary

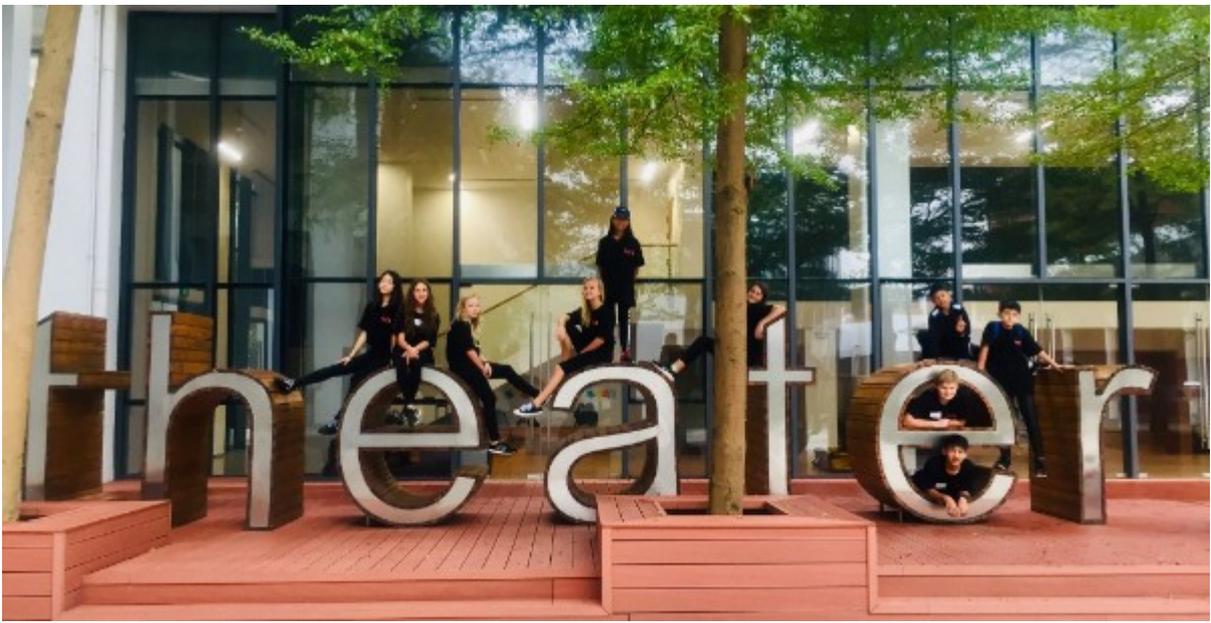


LS Space



An ISTA Weekend

On the first day of November, 10 students travelled to Guangzhou for another excellent ISTA Middle School Theatre Festival. The starting point of the weekend was, "Behind the Label."



After settling in with their host families for a night, our students returned to the American International School of Guangzhou for their first official day of the festival. Each student was placed in an ensemble (this is a French word for "together") that would be their home base for the weekend. Our 10 quickly reached out to make new friends before heading off to a "walk-about."

For the community around AISG, "Behind the Label" was a chance for them to see how the city of Guangzhou changed over time. From a small river town, Guangzhou has boomed into a large city with a population of 14.5 million people in relatively little time. Our visit to an old machine works district allowed us to peel back the shiny modern label and see the Guangzhou of yesterday.

Upon returning to campus, students looked at which labels we place on ourselves, our surroundings and others. What do these labels hide?

Through a variety of workshops on improvisation, character development, masks and more, students were able to explore the world of the dramatic arts with local and international practitioners.

Sunday marked the end of a really exciting journey with a group sharing. Each ensemble presented their own piece, reflecting the journey through the ideas of the weekend. The culmination included all 140 students with a wonderful rendition of "True Colors" by Justin Timberlake and Anna Kendrick.



Mirjam Berghuis
Head of Learning Services

COME TOGETHER

This year's Come Together Community Charity Music Festival is expected to be the grandest yet. More than a thousand visitors are anticipated to take in the excellent musical line up and to enjoy the food and games available. Be sure to spend some time with our student volunteers who will be running four activities in the Game Zone to help support the worthy causes of the CTC. Doors open at 3pm and close at 11pm - make sure you find your way to the LETS Cultural District on Saturday, November 17, you don't want to miss out!

COME TOGETHER COMMUNITY PRESENTS

COME TOGETHER 一起来

11月17日 | 下午3点 - 11点
NOVEMBER 17TH | 3PM-11PM

FEATURING 吹波糖
梅卡德尔
和更多 & MANY MORE!

LIVE MUSIC, GREAT FOOD
GIVEAWAYS, AND MORE

现场音乐, 好食物,
赠品, 和更多



ADDRESS 地址: ZHUHAI,
QIANSHAN, LETS LIVEHOUSE
珠海市前山乐士文化
区乐坊 LIVEHOUSE

 Come Together



How to DANCE



Did You Know?

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





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