



Issue 173

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From the First Floor

Dear ZIS Community,

This week I had the opportunity to join Ms. Jessy (ZIS Chinese Principal) and Ms. Lilian (ZIS Student Services) in Guangzhou at an Education Conference attended by schools from across the Greater Bay Area. These conferences are always rich with information and ideas and always inspire and prompt reflection among the participants. We are excited to return to campus and build on the energy generated at the event, and part of this means sharing with you, our school community! Here are a few of the quotes that stood out:

"A champion team will always beat a team of champions"

"Every child has a different learning style and pace.

Each child is unique,

not only capable of learning

but also capable of succeeding."

"...Teach your child to sit with those sitting alone.

Teach them to be kind.

Teach them to offer their help.

Teach them to be a friend to the lonely.

Teach them to encourage others...

This is how they will change the world."

This week we hosted a number of prospective families at our Early Years and PYP Open Day. When we welcome guests, its my privilege to introduce the school to them and to set a foundation for the home-school partnership that we know to be so important to their child's success.

There are some ways that you as established members of the ZIS community can build on your foundation:

- Share your feedback and comments through the recently shared Parent Survey. If you did not receive this notice, please contact the office or write me directly.
- 2. Book an appointment to meet you are always welcome to schedule a time to speak with your child's teacher or a member of school leadership.
- 3. Become involved in an element of school life: volunteer for a school project, attend a Friends of ZIS meeting, become involved in a school event (International Day is quickly approaching!)
- 4. Create something new share your ideas and find out what is possible. We welcome a challenge and some of our best problem solving and thinking results when new voices are heard.

You are always welcome to book a time to meet with me - please don't hesitate. It is so valuable when parents communicate ideas and recommendations with us. Tackling topics together openly, we are prompted to re-think and generate novel solutions in the interest of students and the school. Our school is better thanks to parent input, and I hope you find us to always be a place where your sharing and feedback is encouraged. We teach our students that part of thinking critically is being able to appreciate a topic from multiple perspectives - and we are wiser putting this into practice ourselves!

I hope to see many of you at the ZIS Sports Day on Friday, March 31st. Join us for some sporty fun!

Warm regards,

Andrew VanderMeulen Head of School andrewv@zischina.com











Upcoming Events

March 25: First Toddler Play Group

March 31: ZIS Sports Day (Primary & Secondary)

April 3-7: Spring Break Holiday

April 10-14: Spring MAP Growth Testing (Years 3-10)

April 12: TEDx Youth @ ZIS - BOLD

April 15: Math Kangaroo Competition (Primary and Secondary)

April 22: ZIS International Day (TBC)

May 1: Labor Day Holiday





Perfectly Primary

CHINESE as an ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

The CAL program is a part of the language support services in the PYP. This program helps students who take Chinese as an additional language develop their Chinese listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. There are 3

different levels in CAL programme now, CAL 1, CAL 2 and CAL 3.

CAL students are diligent and enthusiastic; they have made incredible advances! In CAL 1, they are learning about hobbies; they can express what they like to do. In CAL 2, they are learning about hobbies and leisure activities. They can not only express themselves but also create dialogues and discuss this topic with their peers. In CAL 3, students are learning about Chinese culture and how to make good use of computers and social media. They can write for practical purposes, such as a school notice, a letter, and a speech. They can talk about the advantages and disadvantages of computers and social media, and give suggestions on how to use them.

Have a look at some pictures showing our students engaged in all kinds of learning activities: CAL 1 students reading a passage about the appearance of a robot; CAL 2 students playing a spy game using the words and expressions they just learned; CAL 3 students introducing the functions and potential problems of WeChat as well as some students singing pop songs. Check out some of their excellent work! We are planning more joint activities for students in this program to allow them to communicate with and learn form each other.

Mandy Deng & Winnie Huang Language Support Teachers











Secondary Segment

DP ART EXHIBITION

This year's Year 13 art exhibition looks at three artists' work: Reuben, Lin Lin, and Simone. Each student's body of work highlights a different concept.

Reuben's pieces look at identity between cultures, reflecting on his experience as an international student. His body of work takes viewers through the various cultures he has interacted with.

Lin Lin is highlighting problems related to the way humans treat the environment and its living organisms. These issues could include pollution, deforestation, overfishing, climate change, and the exploitation of natural resources. His work emphasizes the negative impact that human activities can have on the natural world, and the need for greater awareness and action to address these problems.

Simone is looking at the theme of identity, highlighting issues such as the pressure of societal expectations and their impact on individuals.

The three artists have utilized the process of drawing inspiration from other artists and incorporating learned techniques into their own work to explore their concepts. Working in their studio, they have spent hours experimenting with new materials and practices to generate 10 artworks each--all of which will be displayed March 26-30.

Simone

Year 13

Dear Parents,

I am Jenny from Year 12. I'm organizing a garage sale to raise funds for student government events such as the upcoming spring dance. Instead of throwing away unused items, you can donate the items! Donation boxes are placed in the hallway.

If there are many interested participants, we may open the garage sale to the wider school community. If you are willing to join, please let me know. Feel free to contact me for further details or with any questions.

Thank you!

Jenny Y12







Lunch Menus, our food safety guidelines, and past editions of "The Banyan" Newsletter are available at zischina.com











learn about WELL-BEING at ZIS

learn about BOARDING at ZIS

learn about our ACTIVITIES



As a CIS Internationally Accredited School, ZIS meets and exceeds the standards in the nine domains listed in the diagram.

Being both an IB and a CIS school means upholding the highest standards in:

- · excellence in teaching and learning
- advancing global citizenship
- · commitment to student well-being



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