



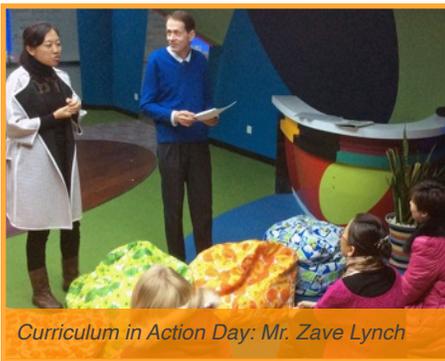
Dear CAIS community, first we would like to thank the parents and guardians who attended last year's PYP Student-led Conferences and the MYP/DP's Parent-



MYP/DP Parent Teacher Conferences

Teacher Conferences. It is a great way for us to share with you the successes of the children, as well as address the areas for improvement.

On Curriculum in Action Day, we were fortunate to have Mr. Zave Lynch talk to us about Parenting the Teenager. Mr Lynch, together with our MYP/DP teacher Ms. Nicola Lynch, successfully raised four children. Three



Curriculum in Action Day: Mr. Zave Lynch

of them have graduated from our school while the youngest is in DPI and is the incumbent Student Council president. Mr. Lynch shared that the best way to deal with teenagers can be compared to your hand – the four fingers are meant to shower them with love while the thumb represents discipline. He also discussed at great length the importance of giving praise and encouragement, and acknowledging their efforts instead of the result.

For our annual Winter Intake Program, the school opened its classroom doors to 32 students from local schools. The selected students experienced first-hand what an international education is, as well as practice their English. Some PYP 4 and 5 students and



January 2015 - CAIS Graduates return for a visit to CAIS to share with our students their experiences attending universities in America and Canada.

the Student Council Officers took turns in welcoming the participants, explaining what a typical week at CAIS would be like, and giving them a tour of the school. Guests were impressed with the students' confidence in public-speaking and their bilingualism. This is a fine example of being good communicators, which is one of the qualities an IB school strives to develop in its students.

We would like to share with you the good news that the board has approved the initiative to seek further recognition from external accrediting institutions. Schools who seek such accreditation demonstrate a commitment to providing quality international education to all members of the school community. Mr. Michael Hayes will take the lead in applying for the **Council of International Schools (CIS)** and **Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)**.

Sincerely yours,
Ann Gaillard
Secondary School Principal/MYP Coordinator



MYP Destination Imagination

Important February Dates

February 9th - First day of semester 2 (Monday). MYP 1 and 3 will be switching subjects in Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Design. The semester 2 timetable has been shared through Managebac.

February 11th - An MYP Celebration of Learning Assembly, PYP Coffee meeting.

- **A Celebration of Learning in the MYP** at 1:00 pm. Parents are invited to attend this special event to witness the wonderful

learning that took place in the previous semester in the subjects listed above

- **PYP Coffee meeting** at 8:00am to 9:30am in the 3rd floor cafeteria.

February 15th (Sunday) is a make-up day and the school-wide Chinese New Year Celebration for Pre-K through DPI students (the DP2 students will continue taking their mock exams). It is important for your children to come to school as this event is meant to enhance the cultural awareness of our expat students while fostering pride for their culture among our host country nationals. The aim of an IB education is to produce internationally minded students, which can be achieved by giving them exposure to cultural events.

March 4th (Wednesday)

- **MYP & DP Coffee meeting** at 08:00-09:30 AM. (Wednesday). Parents are invited to talk with Individuals & Societies Curriculum Leader Mr. James Linder to discuss the I&S assessment criteria and major requirements.
- **The Chinese New Year Holiday at CAIS** is from February 18th (Wednesday) through March 2nd, Monday. **We must all return to CAIS on Tuesday morning, March 3rd.**

PYP Program

As we begin our second term at CAIS, it was observed that the classes have settled into routines and they are looking forward to the last three units of inquiry for the year. This is an exciting time when students are now more confident in demonstrating their ideas and findings. Some even showed powerful action/s from their inquiry and it is amazing how the students are empowered to make a change at home, in school or in the community. We also look forward to the grade 5 Exhibition that will be awaited and appreciated by their families and the whole school.

Here's a glimpse to our current unit of inquiries. In PYP 1, we are inquiring about signs and symbols. Part of it is exploring feelings and non-verbal communications. While in PYP 2, different types of stories are

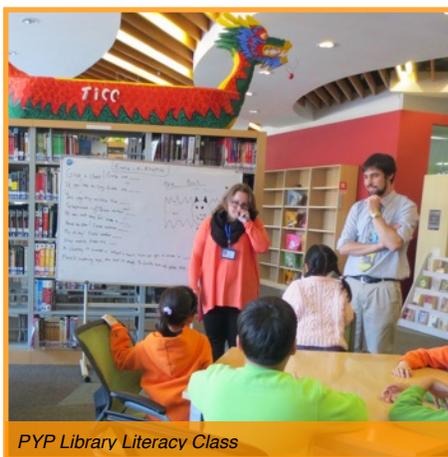


PYP music students use our new Mac Studio



MYP 1 and 3 Individuals and Societies visit the Institute for the History of Ancient Civilizations in the Northeast Normal University

discovered as they read, watch, listen, sing and act them in class. For PYP 3, looking into different rocks, minerals and soil are keeping them on their toes. They are also inquiring on the different layers of the Earth. PYP 4 is very busy with finding more about digital media and how to use them safely. This ensures that we will always have responsible digital citizens.



PYP Library Literacy Class

Lastly, for PYP 5, inquiries on healthy lifestyle and how they can maintain a balanced life is what they are investigating on before they prepare for their exhibition. Everybody is engaged and it would be nice if parents could ask their child questions related to their current inquiries in class. The detailed learning outcomes and highlight of each unit are in a separate newsletter sent to parents by the class teachers.

Parent involvement is very important in student's learning. Aside from support from home, we would welcome parent guest speakers to talk about the different inquiries in class. Suggestions on resources, activities, films or place for a field trip that would be relevant to our students' learning will be very much appreciated.

This week, we will be saying goodbye to new friends in class as we end our Winter Intake Program. It was nice to see how our students made the visitors in the class feel welcome and encouraged to join the class activities. It was heart warming to see them assist the visitors in settling down with the



PYP Learning About Signs and Symbols

class routines and provide help and encouragement with the learning engagements.

We would like to congratulate our students and teachers who passed the HSK Exam. They are Daniel from PYP 1, Megan from PYP 2, Rina, Oh Nayeon and Shota from PYP 4, Ms. Monica and Ms. Greta.

Kindly take note that every second Wednesday of the month from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m., we will have **PYP Coffee Meetings** in the 3rd floor cafeteria to have updates, discuss concerns and answer questions that you may have.



PYP Students pass the HSK exams.

PYP Announcements:

- **PYP Curriculum in Action Day will be on February 3.** PYP 1-5 classes will be opening our doors to parents as part of sharing the students' learning experience with you. Watch out for this exciting and enlightening experience in your child's learning journey.
- **PYP Coffee Meeting will be on February 11, 2015.** During that time, we will also have a session on teaching parents how to read aloud to their children. We hope to see you there.

Cherie Roanne A. Montalla
PYP Coordinator



Students search using the CAIS library

DP Program

Tasks and final assignments

By the end of this month, most of the subjects in DP2 will have mostly finished their curriculum. At the same time, this month is the due dates for many of their final assignments, such as Internal Assessment. It is important for you to know this, so you can support and encourage your child at home. For DP1 students, they have covered some of the topics in each subject. They also have many tasks, individual/group works that have to be done. Please check our ManageBac to monitor assignments given by their teacher, and we ask your support to encourage them to work on it at home.

Chinese New year celebration and Make up day:

The Chinese New Year celebration will be held on the 15th of February 2015. It is on Sunday, the same day as make up day. DP1 students will come to school as normal and join the Chinese New Year celebration. DP2 students will not join the celebration as they are in the middle of mock examination.

Mock Examination

In preparation to their final examination, from 9-15 February 2015, DP2 students will have their Mock examination. We are trying to simulate the situation as close as possible with the real final examination. We try to prepare our students to understand and become familiar with the examination conditions, and at the same time teachers will give the exam paper with content as close as possible to the

real examination. Teachers will assess the papers and follow this with exam reflection in class. The Mock test result has an essential impact on the final predicted grade that will be submitted to the IBO at the end of March. This is also another method to assess where we are in the exam preparation, and at the same time it will stimulate student's knowledge and skills.

Subject selection in DP for MYP5 students

To all MYP5 students, we have distributed an IB DP subject selection form and DP entrance requirements. Good subject choices should be subjects that:

1. the student is interested in
2. the student is really capable or good in
3. are required for your child's university application.

We are collecting their subject choices to help us to prepare the programme in the next academic year. Even though these choices are still changeable until November 2015, we encourage you to discuss with your child and choose the subjects wisely. If you have any question please do not hesitate to contact the DP coordinator at school or email at santo@caischina.org

CAS Corner

MYPI Student Chaewon Lee writes:

"In 2015, the 15th of January, we went to a nursing home in for the Community Project Class. The nursing home was filled with old man and woman. They didn't have any family members to talk to, so the students volunteered to massage and be a talking buddy. They were all very tired at the end of the service, but they all said that they felt like they have brought the people more happiness, and the students were willing to go on with the service." - Chaewon Lee

CAS is a two-year project. Please remind and encourage your child to be actively involved in



MYP Community Service Visit to an Eldercare Home

CAS activities, regardless of the number of hours they have achieved: some students have been unexpected absence during CAS time on Wednesday. Also, some students have not wrote any reflections in Managebac, even after weeks of doing the activities, and this might cause them to fail their CAS completion requirement. Keep in mind that even though

there is no Diploma bonus point for CAS, but without all the CAS requirements being completed, a student cannot get a Diploma, regardless of the total score from the other subjects.

Santo Kurniawan
DP Coordinator

Counselor's Corner



MYP Students raising Anti Smoking Awareness for Community Service.

The month of January in Changchun can be cold and snowy. As DP students plan the next 6 months of their time here at CAIS many things need to happen. For DP2 students mock exams are just around the corner. Then I will speak to them about sending their final results in July to universities.

Parents should also be aware that Amy and I can still offer assistance with any college or university applications they may need.

Our DP2 students of course can celebrate that they are making progress on the IBDP and time is slipping by. Amy and I will continue to meet with this group of students weekly to guide them in the journey to a proper university setting. I have been asking the DP1 students to go get a TOEFL/IELTS test done in the next 2-3 months. This is needed for programs all around the world, plus this score will help students plan their list of colleges and universities that they need to think about applying to next fall. We have also asked students to approach teachers about getting letters of recommendation before school finishes in late June. These letters are extremely important for all students to have in their college file before summer break.

So even as we go about our business in the deep dark days of January much work awaits all students here at CAIS. Our teachers are ready and willing to help all students. Students bear the responsibility to ask for what they need to be successful. CAIS can provide a world class education to all students who engage in the learning process.

So as the Chinese New Year approaches I want to wish everyone the best as we go into the new year:

Mike Hayes
Director of University Counseling

Communication

CAIS uses Managebac for programme information and communication.

cais.managebac.com.

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