



The Principal

I am writing this at 1pm on a Saturday in a hall full of teachers who work with the MYP section of school. We will be here all day and here again tomorrow. The reason is simply because there are big changes in how MYP has got to be taught next year (the IBO have spent many years modifying the curriculum, and these changes will be applied from September), and the school has flown in a trainer from the IBO to ensure we understand these changes. That, of course, means the 25 teachers have just worked a six-day week, then given up their weekend for training, and will then work the next five days: thanks to them for coming to school for thirteen days without a break.

The final PTA of the year will happen at the end of May; the date and request for agenda items will be sent out soon, and everyone is welcome to attend.

With the change in weather we are seeing the usual desire to wear summer clothes by the MYP/DP students. The good news is that the school uniform has a summer selection, and this needs to be worn by students to be allowed into lessons: please support the school by ensuring the uniform is taken to school by your child.

And now the break is over, and I will re-join the training.

- Bryan Manditsch, Principal

Primary Years Program

We are back from our Spring Break and what warms our heart better than the unreliable spring sun is that our PYP student tell us how much they have missed school. We have missed them too and we are very excited to embark on the last part of our learning journey this year – 3rd trimester.

May is full of exciting community outings and events so don't be a stranger and join us in more ways than one.

PYP 5 went to Changbai Shan on a 2-day trip helping their exhibition, **May 6-7th.**

PYP 5 and PYP 4 are hosting an iPad HangOut afternoon to help PYP parents use their iPads, **May 13th.**

We are holding info sessions for parents new to PYP, **May 15th and May 22nd.**

We are celebrating PYP 5 Exhibition night, May 29th. On top of that, there is not a single week without a trip or excursion supporting the units.

PYP Professional Development
PYP has also completed our action research into different PYP standards, which will allow us to update our action plan and prioritize any programme changes and improvements for 2014-2017, when the school undergoes PYP Evaluation by IBO. We have also been working on further programme and curriculum alignment across all grade levels to make sure our units are accessible to all the students and

meet international education standards at the same time.

We have begun work on our last unit 5:

- **Pre-k** 沟通和 **Communities and relationships within and between them**
- **K-1** Journeys help us discover the world, people and their stories
- **K-2** Individuals and groups make communities work
- **PYP 1** Systems are everywhere
- **PYP 2** Marketplaces depend on the ability to produce goods and services that can be exchanged
- **PYP 3** The continual changing nature of the Earth has an impact on people's way of life
- **PYP 4** The developments in digital media changes the way in which people access information and communicate with each other
- **PYP 5** Exhibition Project: *Exhibition Night*, will take place May 29th, Thursday. Students will display their visual and digital work, present for the parents and celebrate their learning together with an entire school community

- Aga Chojnacka, PYP Coordinator

Middle Years Program

Welcome to Term 3! We are at the final part of the academic year and there is a buzz of activities brought about by the milder season. After the long winter, our students are ready to embrace a more healthy, active lifestyle. The school grounds were crawling with soccer players, cyclists, and basketball players on the first day of club. During lunch break, most students stay outside enjoying the beautiful day and basking in the sun. Requests for field trips and class trips are starting to pour in as well.

After five years living abroad, we are sad to say farewell to Ms. Susie who decided it was time to return to her country of origin. Her science classes are now assumed by Ms. Roli in MYP 1, Mr. Sanjeev in MYP 2 and Mr. Luis in MYP 3 and 4. Ms. Deborah becomes MYP 2's homeroom teacher. We are also saying goodbye to Ms. Carol, our MYP teaching assistant, who will be venturing into another field of work.

Some of our students in the English Immersion Program joined their mainstream classes on a moderated or full time schedule. As the MYP 5 Personal Project comes to completion (thanks to Ms. Roli and teacher supervisors who guided the students so effectively as they pursued a variety of topics based on their personal interests), we are now shifting our attention into strengthening the MYP 5's Approaches to Learning skills so that they are able to face the academic rigour of the Diploma Programme with grace and confidence. Ms. Roli will be giving them lessons on the maths needed for science courses. During PSE time, Mr. Micheal Hayes, our college counsellor, has organized some DP preparatory sessions, additional college visits and internship opportunities.

As it is the nature of international schools, some of our students will be transitioning to other countries. Please do allow at least ten working days for us to prepare your school documents.

Some of the things that we are looking forward to this term include the Cambridge examinations that will show our students' achievement in English acquisition, a student-led stage production, a walk-a-thon, the Personal Project Showcase, and of course, the May 24 graduation when we wish our DP students good luck as they transition into the big wide world.

- **Ann Gaillard, MYP Coordinator**

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Diploma Program

Good luck to all DP2 students who will have their final IB examination from 5-23 of May 2014. The schedule has been sent to each of the student and also uploaded on ManageBac. Parents please make sure that you have the correct examination schedule so we can help our students to arrive at school at least 30 minutes before the examination time. Please be informed that DP2 Students do not have to be at school if they don't have any exam on that day. Once they have done the exam, they also can go home right away. This information may be needed to make arrangement for transportation for our children, as they may not want go to school or go home at the same time as other students.

Graduation day

It is our privilege to invite parents of MYP 4&5, and DP1 to the graduation ceremony on the 24th of May 2014, and be a part of our children's happiness as they complete this important milestone in their life. The graduation will at Changchun American International School from 2.30 - 4.30 pm. You can read more details about the event on the official invitation letter that will be distributed via the students. Therefore it would mean a great deal to us if you could grace the occasion with your presence as we believe that for us, the graduation ceremony would not be complete without your being there to witness it. Your presence would add a glow to our special day and make the event a memorable one.

DP1 students need to prepare themselves for the final examination that will be held from 9-13 June 2014. Other than that, they should be reminded to start working on their final assignments such as Extended Essay, Internal Assessments, completing their CAS reflection and others.

Uniform

We are trying to apply our school policy for a better place for educating our children, in this case I am talking about the school uniform. It is a good opportunity for them to show the IB Learner Profile attribute of being principled. Please remind your child to wear school uniform properly every school day except on Friday which is a non-uniform, day where students have the option to wear uniform or give 5 RMB to the class rep if they choose non-uniform. Principal and coordinators will check uniform in the morning in the school lobby. Students who are not wearing their uniform will be asked to meet the uniform requirement by either buying the uniform at school store, or waiting for someone from home to bring their uniform before they are allowed to enter the class. We do appreciate your support.

- **Santo Karuniwan, DP Coordinator**

Counselor's Corner

May and the coming of spring brings spring flowers and IB exams, along with graduation. CAIS has many students taking their final IB exams. These exams result are the product of 2 years of study and TOK, EE and CAS activities. Our senior students have been working hard for the last two years in preparation for these final exams, which will open the doors to great universities all around the world. Many of our graduating students have more than one offer, and some students can pick between different countries. Of course, these students have truly earned the rewards that are coming their way.

Job well done to all the DP2 students. As for the DP1 students, you are midway through your IB journey. As we approach the end of the year, I encourage all of you to continue to study hard and finish the year strong. It will pay in the fall when you return. As for the MYP4 and MYP5, CAIS will offer the full range of college planning support services until July 2nd.

On May 12, San Mateo College will visit our campus and speak about the application process and all the exciting things to do in San Francisco, California. With just a few more weeks left of school we hope to have one more university visit from a Canadian school.

May is lovely month here in Changchun to get outside and enjoy the weather, but only after you have finished all your homework.

- **Mike Hayes, Counselor**

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