

SOIS Educator

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017



SOIS Shines at World Scholar's Cup Global Round

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Views from the Head of School, BILL KRALOVEC

Class of 2017 Finishes in Style

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) students receive their exams results on July 6 (IB Results Day). Many have conditional offers from universities and their admission depends on reaching a specified score on the exams. IB Results Day sometimes can determine their future path. A student needs to score 24 points out of a possible 45 to earn the IB diploma. Around 75% of all students pass the exams and only around 200 of the over 150,000 students sitting the May exams, have a perfect score of 45.

The OIS class of 2017 scores from the May 2017 were outstanding, with an average score of 33.3 compared to a world average score of 29.95. Only 5% of all IB candidates score 40 or above. Kai Junge, Airi Wakasa and Corrine Watanabe scored over 40 points, which is 16% of this year's class. Kai scored perfect 7s in his higher level science and mathematics courses, a first for OIS. All OIS students taking the full diploma programme scored 25 or above!

Most of the students this month are off to their universities to begin the next step of their academic career. The students weighed the offers this summer, some after receiving their IB scores. Students are matriculating in the following universities this year:

North America: Pennsylvania State University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Luther College (Iowa),

Emily Carr University of Art & Design (Vancouver, Canada), Savannah College of Art and Design (Georgia), University of British Columbia (Vancouver), University of Alberta (Edmonton), University of the Pacific (California), University of California- Santa Barbara, Chapman University (California) and University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Eurasia/UK: London College of Fashion - University of the Arts, University of Cambridge, University of East Anglia, Nottingham Trent University, Holland IES and Institute of Economics & Finance (Mongolia) and Disciple Training School, Youth With A Mission, Herrnhut, Germany.

Japan: Kwansai Gakuin University, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Temple University, Osaka University, Keio University and International Christian University.

Congratulations to the Diploma Programme teachers, Counselor Melissa Lemug and especially, to our graduates of the Class of 2017!



Views from the MS/HS Principal, KURT MECKLEM

It was good to see so many parents in the classrooms on Thursday evening. Thank you to those who were able to come to Back to School Night. I realize that it takes a good chunk of time on a weeknight but it is an important opportunity to get to know the teachers so we can work together through the year. If you weren't able to come, that is okay. All parents should remember that they can contact their children's teachers at anytime by sending a message to their school email account which is their first initial and last name and @senri.ed.jp. Thus, mine is kmecklem@senri.ed.jp. Please take a moment to fill in this survey to give us feedback on the evening and to help us improve. If you couldn't come clicking on the survey link and letting us know why would also be helpful.

Finishing Back to School Night, in a sense, marks the end of the beginning of the school year. The year is now in full swing and I am looking forward to working with everyone.



**KOOL SOUNDS
@ KITA SENRI**

**クールサウンズ
@北千里**

10月24日 (火)

Tues, Oct 24

4:00-5:30

関西学院千里国際中等部・高等部
関西学院大阪インターナショナルスクールの生徒がお届けするワールドミュージックをお楽しみください。

**Students sing and play world music.
Please enjoy!**

Presented by
Kwansei Gakuin Senri International School
Kwansei Gakuin Osaka International School

School Calendar

September

- 18 Respect for the Aged Day. No school
- 20 Kawamoto Junior High School G8 class visit to OIS 8th Graders
- 22 OIS/SIS MS Social Event
- 27 G12 College Workshop for Parents
- 28 KG School Foundation Day
- 29 ES Parent-Teacher Conferences.
ES No classes

October

- 2 Noh Performance @NHK Hall
- 6 ES Futsal Falcon Cup
- 7 SAT & SAT Subject Tests
- 9 OIS/SIS Sports Day
- 10 Sports Day Back-up
- 11 PSAT Test
PTA Monthly Meeting
- 16 Fusion Cooking for Parents
- 24 Kool Sounds @Kita Senri
- 28 Onohara Halloween

SOIS Triathletes Successful in Suita

The SOIS Running & Triathlon team participated in the Suita City Mayor's Cup Triathlon on Saturday, September 3. The race included a 750-meter swim, 20-kilometer stationary bike ride and a 5.6 run in the beautiful Kita Senri park, located near our school. OIS senior Leola Hara (pictured below) won the women's category and will be able to keep the Mayor's Cup for one year.

All OIS middle school and high school students are invited to join team. The team has practices Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Students participate when they can and are eligible to participate in any of the events. The schedule for this fall season is as follows:

- [Rinku Bayside](#) 10km/5km run - Sunday, September 24, 2017 (park located near Kansai International Airport)
- [Nagai Stadium Run](#) 10km, Sunday, October 1 (home of Cerezo Osaka J-League professional soccer team)
- Katsuoji Long Run - 9:00 AM Saturday, October 14 (a non-competitive run to the famous temple in the Minoh hills)
- AISA Cross Country Race - October 20-21 (high school race in Seoul, South Korea)



Views from the ES Principal, CAROLYNE MARSHALL

At the start of the new school year it is important to build a strong sense of community so new students feel welcomed and returning students feel motivated to learn together. The PYP is a very social programme founded on group-work and collaboration so community is particularly important.

Community is also the last word in the SOIS mission statement so this is a good foundation to focus upon. In the first week of term each grade examined one word of the mission. The students considered the meaning of that word and related it to their own experience. Grade 4 made posters and a skit that demonstrated the meaning of informed "If you give people lots of information they will be informed!" Grade 1 made a large poster that portrayed examples of caring behavior, "We need to help and be kind." KA thought about being creative and noticed they did lots of different artistic activities in class so they posed for photos showing themselves being creative with paint, blocks, shapes and dressing up clothes. KB reflected upon what it means to be individuals and painted pictures of their classmates showing how they are each unique yet also the same, "We like different kinds of play." Grade 5 pondered how you behave if you are contributing and decided that this included "being a good role model, kindness and being principled and school spirit." Grade 2 observed that global included everyone on our earth and "It's about respecting that people are different." Finally Grade 3 investigated what and who makes a community and they found many local examples such as shops and soccer teams. "A community is the world working together. It is families, neighbours, schools and friends. It is a team working together. A community can be a school like here." All the grades contributed their research to our first assembly together and there is a display of this

K-G2 Cafeteria Lunch Menu

September

19	Tue	kitsune udon - wheat noodles in soup with fried bean curd
20	Wed	curry & rice
21	Thu	pork cutlet
22	Fri	cheese omelet with meat sauce
25	Mon	ramen noodles in miso flavored soup
26	Tue	fried fish
27	Wed	chicken fried with bread crumbs
28	Thu	tomato flavored hashed beef rice

October

2	Mon	curry & rice
3	Tue	milanaise rice casserole
4	Wed	fried pork with cheese
5	Thu	hamburger steak and cheese with tomato sauce
6	Fri	rice omelet with demiglace (brown) sauce
10	Tue	milanaise pork cutlet
11	Wed	soy sauce broth ramen
12	Thu	spaghetti with meat sauce
13	Fri	cheese burger

in the corridor outside the classrooms of grades 3, 4 and 5.

Also in the first week of learning together classes discussed and compiled their essential agreements. These are significant documents in every PYP school as they frame how the class community will function. At our second assembly the agreements (including those made by the teaching team), were projected onto a large screen and all the students were asked to identify which grade or group had created them. Most were remembered by their creators and it was interesting to note that the essential agreements made by the teachers were first identified as those made by KA! We then observed connections between the agreements and the most frequently stated agreement was to try our best. A

Library News

Sarah Wakefield, Librarian

This summer we held our first summer reading program at OIS. "Summer's Heatin' Up, Grab a Book and Cool Down" was our theme, and students did a great job of reading and recording all summer. We had nearly 50% of students turn in their reading logs from their summer reading. Students who kept reading logs and made book postcards were rewarded in two ways. Every participant received a book charm that can be used as a zipper pull or placed on a bag or cell phone and students were also entered into a drawing to win an original painting done by our visiting author from last May, Tad Hills.



We drew a winner at our Elementary assembly on the 13 September. Kia Attwood from Grade 5 was our lucky winner!

other most common agreement is respect which is equally important in building community.

Students have already had the chance to practice the essential agreements they signed up to when they met with their buddy classes in the second week of term. A younger grade is paired with an older one so they can share and support each other's learning and broaden their circle of friends. We will continue to develop our elementary community in all sorts of ways throughout the year. On 20th September we will hold an assembly to reflect on global relationships as we commemorate international Peace Day. Please join us in the courtyard at 8:45 to help us promote a strong sense of community beyond OIS.

Introducing the New Faculty *by Bill Kralovec, Head of School*

Probably the most important part of my job as head of the school is recruiting teachers. The quality of the teacher is one of the key factors of student learning. Brilliant, committed teachers equate into a great school. For an international school, we have a very low rate of faculty turnover. The average length of stay at OIS is 6.86 years and in the past seven years, we are averaging 5 full-time teachers leaving.

This year's new faculty is a bit larger than average and it gave the school the opportunity to bring new ideas and teaching techniques to the school. I feel like a general manager of a sports team, evaluating candidates and looking for certain skills, interests, experiences, personality traits, etc. It is a goal of the school to have a balanced and diverse faculty in regards to gender, age, nationality, experience, etc. I believe it makes for a better school.

They arrived literally from all over the world last month, and have been busy settling into their apartments, school, and life in Japan. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to help the newcomers acclimate and feel comfortable and ready to teach. I would like to recognize the business office for all of their outstanding work. Veteran teachers as well volunteered during their summer holidays to come in early and assist with errands and getting them set up in their new homes.



Claudelle Lewis taught the past six years at the Luanda International School in Angola. She is an expert in mathematics teaching, serving as the PYP mathematics coordinator at her previous school. She is from Trinidad & Tobago and has a Master's degree of International Education from Framingham State College in Massachusetts, USA. She majored in Environmental and Natural Resources Management from the University of the West Indies and taught at the International School of Port of Spain on her home island. She will be teaching grade 4 this year.



Kelly Deklinski comes to us from the Leysin American School in Switzerland where she taught general music and band. Her specialty is the trumpet and she is an active member of the International Trumpet Guild. She has a degree in music education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Music Performance from Florida State University. Ms. Deklinski directed one of the largest and finest bands in the USA at Choctawhatchee High School in Florida before moving overseas. She brings passion and enthusiasm to everything she does and

has been hard a work putting her personal touch to the band facilities. She will be the director of our winds bands and ensembles.



Brodie Nicholl will be teaching MYP humanities and English and also IB DP Theory of Knowledge. The Canadian graduated from the University of New Brunswick with honours and earned a graduate diploma of teaching from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. He also has a Masters in Teaching from University College, London. After teaching for 4 years in New Zealand, he recently completed six years at GEMS World Academy Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates. Students gravitate to his exuberant personality and love of teaching, which was shown in his building of a highly successful Model United Nations program at his previous school. Brodie is married to MYP/DP science teacher Michelle Nicholl.



Michelle Nicholl is a true chemist, graduating from the University of Otago in her native New Zealand with a bachelor of science in chemistry and a graduate diploma of teaching, specializing in chemistry and general science. Her dissertation was on the use of English as an

Additional Language in the science classroom. With her husband Brodie, she taught at GEMS World Academy, working in both MYP and DP programs. She also taught biology and chemistry at secondary schools in New Zealand.



Allana Rumble is well known in the international school world for her work in developing the Whole School Global Citizenship program at the Franklin D. Roosevelt School, an IB World School in Lima, Peru. The program really took off due to her leadership, her intense passion

for teaching and young people and her passion for the planet. After earning her degree in Environmental Science from the University of Waterloo in her home country of Canada, Ms. Rumble taught science in Kirkland Lake, Ontario, Magna Carta School in London and the Koc School of Istanbul before her posting in Peru. Allana went on to earn a Masters of Education in Information Technology from Charles Sturt University in Australia. She will be teaching IB biology and MYP science this year.



Jeremy Martin is the new DP physics and mathematics teacher. He comes to us from the Graded School in Sao Paulo, Brazil where he was teaching DP physics. Prior to Brazil, he was the head of the mathematics department at Taylor's College Canadian Pre-University in Subang Jaya, Malaysia. Mr. Martin earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Honours) from the University of Guelph, Ontario in his native Canada. He also has a teaching degree from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Jeremy is married to Lisa Chaleunsouk.



Carrie Buller is teaching MYP design and visual arts this year. She graduated from the University of Memphis, Tennessee, USA with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Education and K-12 visual arts teacher licensure. She has taught visual arts in her home state of Tennessee and at the Yongsan International School of Seoul. Carrie is married to Dan, a professor at North Texas University currently working at the university's joint program with Kansai Gaidai University. They also have two children attending OIS.



Lisa Chaleunsouk will be our Learning Support Specialist. She has a bachelor degree from Waterloo University and her teaching degree and Master's of Education from Queen's University. She was a resource and special needs teacher in Toronto, Thornhill and Belleville, all in her home of Ontario, Canada.



Yuki Ohata is working in the Japanese language MYP and PYP department this year. She comes to us from English Schools Foundation of Hong Kong, where she taught IB DP Japanese language. She is a licensed teacher in the United Kingdom and has worked and lived abroad for many years. Ohata sensei will also be assisting Miyuki Endo in her work at Kwansai Gakuin University to establish a teacher education IB-certification program.

New Students

KA: Emma Algie, Adelaide Buller, Alexa Erofejev, Yuko Fujibayashi, Haneul Kim, Si Hyun Kim, Yuma Kurikawa, Dbaditya Mohanty

KB: Alicia Naomi Igaki, Muhammad Damien Mohd Azrul Razman, Mia Ono

G1: Sean Adachi, Miyu Arimitsu

G2: Kaylee Angkawidjaja, Matias Buller, Changyang (Ian) Chen

G3: Hajun Noh

G4: Sola Matsuda, Noemi Pinsard, Ji Shi Shi

G5: Yoshimasa Anaori, Yu-Chen Wu

G6: Roger Pinsard, Kai Robinson, Yu Shi Shi

G7: Seo Yun Kim

G9: Markus Aaltio, Joshua Clifton, Go Iwabuchi

G10: Yuki Fujita, Yuki Kojima

G11: Dian (Andy) Guan, Asa Hasegawa-Johnson, Niki Heimer, Jyoti Rao, Moeri Shimada, Hoi Tung (Elizabeth) Shing, Ruo Yue (Selina) Sun, Noemi Takapa, Briantama Wanandi

G12: Meg Nakagawa

Important Numbers

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IBMYP coordinator
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Peter Heimer,
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Natsuko Inoue, school nurse
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Student attendance
072-727-2305

*Sabers Sports updates from Activities Director,
PETER HEIMER*

Contact information

Welcome back to school, everyone in the SOIS community. My name is Peter Heimer, longtime English teacher at SOIS, and I am entering my seventh year as the Sabers activities director (AD). Thank you very much for your past support and I look forward to another great year of Sabers athletics. Please visit me in the AD office, room A-240, near the business office. Contact me at pheimer@senri.ed.jp or at 072-727-2137.

Sabers athletics website: sabers.senri.ed.jp

In each *Educator* I provide Sabers updates and reminders. Most tournament dates are listed on the school calendar. For weekend schedules, reports, photos, handbooks, and everything else you want to know about the Sabers, please visit the Sabers athletics website at sabers.senri.ed.jp. Online calendars show upcoming Sabers events, times, and locations.

Sabers athletics Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SabersAthletics/>

Also, to you Facebook users, please join the Sabers Athletics Facebook group for more Sabers updates and photos.

New season, Sabers Sign Up:

<http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/sign-up.html>

The fall sports season is already up and running. Current Sabers athletes have attended pre-season information meetings and have completed the mandatory online Sabers Sign Up. At the meetings, we discuss the importance of commitment to an athletic team and of balance among athletics, academics, music, and other interests. We talk about eligibility requirements and costs. We emphasize the importance of appropriate behavior on and off the playing field, behavior that is consistent with our concept of the 5 respects and with our mission of developing "informed, caring, creative individuals contributing to a global community." We tell students that there are three kinds of sportsmanship: poor sportsmanship, good sportsmanship, and - at the very top - Sabers sportsmanship. We have high expectations of our students.

"Sabers Sign Up" is a pair of online sign-up forms - including parent permission - to be submitted prior to participation. All information and forms can be found on the Sabers website under the Forms tab. All students and parents should read the Sabers activities handbook and complete the Sabers Sign Up - only one time per school year.

Event calendar:

<http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/season-schedule.html>

There is much Sabers activity already. The MS baseball team and MS girls volleyball team have played their first games. The high school girls volleyball team hosted its annual invitational tournament last weekend and travels to Kobe this weekend for another tournament, while the HS boys volleyball team plays in a tournament in Fukuoka. And the triathlon team continues to compete regularly, including the recent Suita City Triathlon in which OIS grade 12 student Leola Hara impressively placed first overall in the women's division.

AISA tournaments:

<http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/aisa-calendars.html>

SOIS enters its ninth year of competition in the Association of International Schools in Asia (AISA). Last year the Sabers won a team championship in boys volleyball and sportsmanship awards in girls tennis and girls soccer. For AISA championship tournaments this fall, the new cross country team travels to Seoul, the Sabers girls volleyball team travels to Yokohama, and the boys volleyball team stays here in Osaka as SOIS hosts the tournament. The Sabers look forward to defending our AISA championships as well as winning new ones.

Sabers Fitness Floor:

<http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/strength.html>

Visitors to the upper level of the Sabers gym will note the addition of new strength training equipment, including two power racks, four barbells, several rubber and metal plates, many dumbbells, benches, rubber mats, medicine balls, battle ropes, elastic bands, ab rollers, and more. Students wanting to use the space must attend an orientation session with Mr. Heimer and submit a parent permission form. Check out the Sabers Strength web page for more information and many photos.



Thank you

Again, welcome back to what will be another exciting school year. Thank you very much in advance for your support of the Sabers activities program and your cooperation with the AD office. Go Sabers!

SOIS Shines at World Scholar's Cup Global Round



30 SOIS students traveled to Hanoi, Vietnam this summer to participate in the World Scholar's Cup Global Round. The goals of World Scholar's Cup to motivate students of all backgrounds to discover new strengths and practice new skills and to inspire a global community of future scholars and leaders. The event is a celebration of learning centered around 4 academic events, including debate, knowledge bowl, collaborative writing, and a challenge test. Included in between these are social events to get students to make connections with others. More than 3000 students from over 50 countries were in Hanoi. All of the students had to qualify for the round through local events.

All of the SOIS students did well, making many friends and learning much about themselves and the topics of this year's event. Several students placed very high in the standings, considering the over 1,000 teams in the two divisions. Grade 9 Emily Yoo finished 44th overall in the junior division. The team of Tyus Sheriff (4th overall), Skye Inada (30th place) and Minami Matsushima (43rd place) won third place in the senior division. SIS English teacher Steve Sheriff won the Coach of the Year prize for his efforts in building the program at our school. Congratulations to all the students and teacher involved in the program!



SOIS students will be traveling to Yale University in November to participate in the WSC Tournament of Champions.

Sports Day: Saturday 9 October (Tuesday 10 October if it rains)

Elementary School

- 8.30: All ES students to homeroom
- 8.45-9.40: KA, KB, G1 & G2 @gym; G3, G4, G5 @pool
- 9.45-10.40: All ES students to the field
- 10.45-11.00: Whole school parade and closing ceremony
- 11.00-11.30: Presentations and celebrations in the courtyard
- 11.30-12.00: Dismissal to parents and lunch in courtyard if desired



Middle & High Schools

- 10.30: All MS/HS students to homeroom
- 10.45-11.00: Opening ceremony
- 11.00-12.45: Morning activities: MS dodge ball, interceptor @gym, HS dodge ball, ultimate frisbee @field
- 12.45-13.10: MS performance @gym; HS lunch time
- 13.10-13.35: MS lunch time
- 13.35-14.05: HS performance, 5 minutes per grade. 1 minute for setup
- 14.10-16.00: Afternoon activities: jump rope, obstacle race, mukade race, tug-of-war, relay
- 16.05-16.25: Closing ceremony
- 16.30: Students dismissed from school

- School buses will operate as usual in the morning but leave at 4.30pm for MS/HS students.
- Cafeteria will be closed. MS/HS students cannot leave campus, so they must bring their own lunch.

SOIS International Fair 2017

OIS International Fair Committee

November 18TH (Sat.) 10:00 - 15:00

Our theme this year is "TWO SCHOOLS TOGETHER"

WANTED!

▶ Volunteers

Seeking many volunteers for preparation on Friday, November 17th and Saturday, November 18th; setting up booths, cleaning up, etc. Any amount of time would be appreciated!

*Please sign up here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfRWssTf5NA8akyCsPF8tUjw1HPW7b_fQmohjl7CUggATaxPA/viewform

*You can also check updates on the International Fair Website:

<https://sites.google.com/a/soismail.jp/2017-sois-international-fair/>

▶ Booth

Please register your booth with the country you represent, from your class, or with your friends! Food, workshop, games, etc.

Who can apply: Parents, students, and school staff

*Please sign up here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHZwojcuPsvMOoRbOafDyOaMqFRhVpJdW12S8XG9-HVcAHBA/viewform>

Sign up form deadline: Sep 21 at 21:00

*First come first serve if the theme is the same.

*The application will not be accepted after the deadline.

▶ Book Sale

Please donate your used books, CD's, DVD 's, and game software. Any language is acceptable as long as they are in good condition.

Receiving goods: Sep 15 - Nov 16

Where to donate: In front of the library

▶ Bazaar

Please donate stuff you do not need (*the items must be NEW.) Food needs to be within the expiration date.

*No alcohol, cigarettes, or used clothing.

Receiving goods: Oct 2 - Nov 6

Where to donate: In front of the library

▶ Sports

Sports and activities such as interceptor, ultimate, and capture the tail. Anyone can join and have fun.

Who can apply: Anyone (depending on the game)

Sign up: - on the day of IF

▶ Entertainment

We welcome anyone who wants to perform solo or in a group; singing or in a band.

*Please sign up from here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBuY0goDR2jy20HW-xMuO57VKYjlO87bvRPKD_zzJrV1P8Q/viewform

Sign up form deadline: Sep 13 at 16:00

*Sign up fee: \500 per person

*The application will not be accepted after the deadline.

[Lip Sync Battle]

Lip singing and dancing in your favorite costume!

*Only students and school staff may apply.

▶ Eco (Plastic bottle caps)

Please take off all stickers on the caps and wash thoroughly.

Receiving caps: Sep 15 - Nov 16

Where to recycle: In front of the library

▶ International Fair Orientation

(Booth, Entertainment, and Lip Sync)

Oct 19, Thu 12:30-13:30 (Parents mainly)

Oct 19, Thu 15:45-16:45 (Students, school staff, and those invited)

Place: The conference room on the third floor

Please contact us if you have any question: oispta-if@soismail.jp