

Views from the Head of School, BILL KRALOVEC

June is the time of year we say goodbye to students, teachers, parents and friends. The transient nature of a segment of our population gives the school a dynamism, but it also affects the emotions and well-being of community members. It is difficult to leave a school and can result in feelings of loss. That is both for the people leaving and the people staying behind. It is with a heavy heart we say goodbye to our departing community members.

David Haske and Jennifer Egan taught for two years at the school. David's chemistry students demonstrated improved Diploma Programme scores from previous years. He also was the coach for the two-time AISA and WJAA high school boys soccer champions. Jennifer showed a great deal of care and creativity in guiding two cohorts of students through our grade 3 curriculum.

Paul Stone devoted 7 years to the students of OIS. Besides teaching DP biology and MYP science, Paul sponsored the E-club which maintains a very successful paper recycling program. He also was an assistant coach in middle school boys soccer and won many championships during his tenure.

Marcella Cooper has been at OIS for three years. Her big smile and enthusiasm won over students and colleagues alike. Mrs. Cooper taught MYP English and Humanities. She led our WASC accreditation self-study process this year and published several articles in EARCOS journals. Marcella will finish her Master's degree from Temple University this month as well.

Elementary students had a great time in their swim carnival last week

Mark Elshout directed the band program for four years. Managing groups of over 50 adolescents to play together is quite challenging, but Mark brought unity to his groups. He also did some important work in setting the foundation for our Middle Years Programme (MYP) curriculum in general music. Mark in his after school time directed the All School Production band.

Briag Dupont and Carolina Sandoval de Dupont contributed to the community in many ways for the past 6 years. Briag taught physics and mathematics in the diploma programme, sponsored student council and led numerous elementary science and other clubs. Carolina built our MYP design curriculum and also taught visual arts classes.

John Van Plantinga brought much enthusiasm and energy to the learning support program the past three years. The large number of students seeking academic support in the learning lab is a testament to his efforts. He also facilitated the aquaponics system in the elementary gardening balcony, coached volleyball and served as the testing coordinator for ACT, SAT and MAP.

We also say goodbye to numerous students and we will miss everyone of them. Best wishes for a successful transition and all of you are always invited to come back and visit.

The OIS Parent Teacher Association will be honoring departing community members with a farewell party Wednesday June 28 after school in the courtyard.

# Views from the MS/HS Principal, KURT MECKLEM

When you walk up to the third floor, you will now see the 11th graders sitting in the senior study area outside the counseling office. Graduation happened in early June, so the juniors have moved in and are already working hard on making their final year in OIS a productive one.

The OIS graduation was very successful and I received a lot of positive comments about the organization of the event. This success was in large part due to the grade 11 and 12 homeroom teachers and the grade 11 families. We have a unique tradition here of the grade 11 students and parents hosting the graduation ceremony and the receptions that occur both before and after it. I would like to publicly thank all of the people involved, especially Mrs. Bobrove who organized the flowers and led the grade 11 students in making the bouquets and the parents who gave up their Friday evening to ensure that the seniors and their families had a memorable night. Thank you!

For the rest of us, graduation doesn't mean it is the end of the year. We still have two weeks left. Juniors have been doing their end of year exams this week and other students will have normal classes right up until the 28th. Thursday, June 29 will be a half day with OIS students dismissed at 11:30 am.

In addition to classes, participants in the World Scholars Cup global round are preparing to go to Hanoi. They will miss the last week of school. If your child is going to Hanoi, remind them that they have to complete make up work in advance.

The first day of summer vacation is June 30. I hope you and your family have some plans to spend some time together. As you plan out your children's holiday, one thing to keep in mind is the "summer slide". This is important for all students but especially those for whom English isn't the language they speak at home. The summer slide refers to the fact that over the holiday, students who aren't exercising their brain will lose some of their capacity to do certain tasks. In subjects that don't come easily to a student, this can be important because those skills are the most likely to regress. If your child isn't likely to speak much English this summer, they should plan on doing some reading to help maintain their skills. There are all kinds of websites and apps that can help students focus on other subjects, too. I'm not suggesting that students don't relax and take a break, that is really important, too, but having a strategy to prevent the slide can help them start next school year on strong footing. There are many resources for this on the internet. This post from parent.co offers some other good ideas.

With summer just around the corner, coming back may seem like a long ways off but to help your planning, students report back to school at 1:00pm on Friday, August 25 for orientation. The first day of regular classes is Monday, August 28. Until then, have a great summer!

# Library Summer Schedule

The library will be open this summer for middle school and high school students from Monday July 10 to Friday July 21 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. It is closed on weekends. Computers will be available and the circulation service will be functioning. All OIS students can borrow books for the summer from June 20 to August 31. Please see OIS head librarian Sarah Wakefield or principal Mr. Kurt Mecklem if you want to borrow more books than usual. Community members can borrow books until August 31 with double the usual amount of books.

The library will reopen for the school year starting on Wednesday August 23 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. It will be open as usual for the first day of school on August 28.





### Views from the ES Principal, CAROLYNE MARSHALL

Student-led conferences are the highlight of the PYP year for all elementary students and ours were held on 8 June. These conferences enable students to take responsibility for their learning by sharing the process with their parents. Each child, from the youngest in KA to the oldest in G5, organizes and practices the itinerary of their tour. As the students lead their guests around different learning situations and environments, their explanations and reflections demonstrate the range of skills they have learned this year.

At the end of the conference students and parents were asked to reflect on their experience and record their comments. This feedback shows their teachers how each student is progressing from another perspective and also informs future teaching. I have enjoyed reading all the reflections and share some here.

Many parents found the student-led conferences very informative. "The topics that I heard from my son fragmentally were connected by today's conference," said the mother of a G3 student. Those students at the start of the PYP journey in KA clearly gave lively and enthusiastic tours as one mother remarked, "After the conference ended, I thought it was a living education."

Growth in many attributes of the learner profile was observed:

**Reflective:** "I'm glad my son is doing this from a young age so that it becomes a habit and makes him self-aware" (father of a KB student).

**Inquirer**: "She is always curious and trying to learn new things" (mother of a KB student).

**Inquirer:** "It was clear my son had been highly engaged and enthusiastic about his learning" (mother of a G1 student).

Knowledgeable: "I was surprised that my child could read and write

hiragana" (mother of a G2 student).

**Communicator:** "I have seen a big progress in my daughter's ability to explain her thoughts" (father of a G3 student).

**Caring:** "He cooperated with his friends and did a great job" (mother of a G4 student).

Thinker: "She thinks carefully about everything and knows what she's doing. (mother of a G5 student).

**Reflective and principled**: "She reflected well and explained well. I was happy to see that she identified the things she has to improve on" (mother of a G5 student)." Perhaps the clearest proof of a successful conference was noted by the mother of a G5 student who saw her son share his knowledge very effectively and "is a good teacher."

The students really enjoyed their conferences when mum and dad gave them their undivided attention. They sometimes found it difficult to remember the explanations they had rehearsed but also reflected on their personal growth, "I am proud of myself because I did not cry," noted a G2 student.

Learning does not only take place in the classroom so students also guided their parents around the music room and small gym. They showed the skills they have been learning in their classes and mums and dads could practice these too.

Learning from art classes is beautifully displayed throughout the genkan and hallways. Students carefully explained how they had constructed their individual artworks whilst families could enjoy viewing a vast range of interpretations of themes. This exhibition is a gorgeous and unique feature of student-led conferences at OIS and certainly demonstrates the impressive creativity of our students. It also shows the creativity and collaboration skills of Mrs Henbest and the large team of parents who have worked so industriously for well over a week to construct imaginative showcases for all the students' artworks. More displays continue to be added so please visit again.

School Calendar			
lune			
19	OIS/SIS Student Council Cleaning Day		
20	ES Concert		
28	PTA Farewell Party and Movie Night		
29	End of School Year (Half Day of School)		
	School buses will operate as usual on the way to school, however after school all school buses will leave at 11:45am only		
August			
25	OIS Orientation Day		
28	Fall Trimester Begins		
September			
4	MS/HS Joint Assembly		
6	PTA meeting		
7	ES Back to School Night		
9	ACT Test		
14	PTA Welcome Party		
	MS/HS Back to School Night		
K-G2	Cafeteria Lunch Menu		
June			

June		
19	Mon	chicken cutlet
20	Tue	cold wheat noodle
		soup
21	Wed	miso flavored ramen
22	Thu	corn soup & pizza
23	Fri	curry & rice
26	Mon	spaghetti with meat
		sauce
27	Tue	chicken pilaf
28	Wed	fried white fish
29	Thu	CLOSED

Sabers Sports updates from Activities Director, PETER HEIMER

Sabers Athletics Website

### http://sabers.senri.ed.jp

Sabers Athletics Facebook Page

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

### School year end

As the school year draws to a close, June is a relatively quiet month for Sabers athletics – but not entirely silent. The MS badminton club practices diligently, the running club always has events on its schedule, the athletic awards celebration was a success, we are finalizing the athletics schedule for the fall, and we are already preparing for next year's AISA events. Lots still going on. Please visit the Sabers athletics website for more details, including schedules, results, photos, handbooks, sign-up and permission forms, and Sabers TV shows.

### Fall sports: mandatory online sign-up

The fall season starts immediately upon our return in August: HS volleyball, HS cross country, MS baseball, MS girls volleyball. Current OIS 5<sup>th</sup> graders: you'll soon be 6<sup>th</sup> graders, eligible for MS sports – see you in a Sabers uniform soon! All Sabers athletes must submit <u>sign-up and</u> <u>permission forms online</u> (Sabers website under the "Forms" tab). We'll help students with this in August, but you can do this now – it takes only a few minutes, and you have to do it just once a school year.

### Athletic awards celebration

On Friday, June 2, we held our annual Sabers high school athletic awards celebration. Players and coaches reminisced about the year with slideshows and with speeches from the players of the 16 different girls and boys varsity teams. We honored our high school studentathletes with two kinds of awards: 1) team awards for most improved player (MIP), most valuable player (MVP), and Sabers Spirit Award (SSA), chosen by each team's coaches; and 2) two school awards: Sabers Outstanding Athlete of the Year and Dr. Fukuda Scholar Athlete of the Year, chosen by coaches and school administrators.

The Outstanding Athletes of the Year award is presented to Sabers student-athletes, female and male, who have shown high levels of athletic skill, team leadership, and personal determination as a member of at least two varsity teams. Recipients of this award are positive role models and good representatives of SOIS. Leona Benfield (SIS graduate) and Aki Shigeyama (OIS 12, two-time winner) are very deserving recipients: both were captains, MVPs, and/or all-AISA players in their respective sports.

The Dr. Fukuda Scholar-Athlete award is presented to Sabers student-athletes who have achieved high academic levels and have played active roles in school and community service while a member of at least two varsity teams. The winners of this top award show that one can maintain high academic standards and contribute to the school community while participating in sports. The coaches and administrators were very proud to present the Dr. Fukuda Scholar Athlete awards to Haruna Tomiguchi (SIS 12) and Leo Roberts (OIS 12), both firstclass Sabers athletes with very high grades.



Haruna, Leona, Aki, and Leo all epitomize what we expect our Sabers student-athletes to be: full of <u>Sabers</u> <u>Spirit and Sabers Sportsmanship</u>. We congratulate and thank all Sabers players, coaches, administrators, and parents.

### Sabers calendars 2017-18

The <u>calendar for the Sabers fall season</u> is now available for viewing.

The Sabers soon enter our ninth year in the <u>Association of</u> <u>International Schools in Asia</u> (AISA). You can find the <u>AISA calendar</u> on the Sabers website (under the "calendars" tab). The Sabers host two events next year, boys volleyball (October) and math mania/leadership (February). Teams will travel to Seoul, Busan, and Yokohama. Start planning now.

### Thank you

Best wishes for a safe and fun summer holiday. As always, thank you for your support of the Sabers activities program. Please contact me any time: in the AD office, room A-240, near the business office; by telephone at 072-727-2137; or via e-mail at <u>pheimer@senri.ed.jp</u>.

# **Maple Hall Spring Concert**

The SOIS Maple Hall Spring concert was held on 6 June in Minor City's concert hall, featuring the HS Chorus, the HS Strings Ensmble, the HS Wind Ensemble, and the HS Symphony Orchestra. Videos of the event can now be viewed on our YouTube channel: please go to YouTube and search for <u>SOIS Videos</u>, or click this link, to enjoy the wonderful performances.

# **Grade 7 Mathematics**



For those of us who remember learning math in a traditional text book driven class, math in an MYP class can at times seem quite different. While, like traditional classes, we do spend time practicing problems, we also ask the students to extend on those skills and apply them to unique situations.

For example, in grade 7, students are currently working on their probability and statistics unit. They spent the first week learning about basic probability from the textbook. Then, they applied these ideas by playing and analyzing "The Counters Game." In this game, students are given 11 counters to place on a game board containing the numbers 2 to 12. They roll a pair of dice, find the sum, and remove a

### Jeremy Welburn, math teacher

counter each time a number is called. The winner is the first person to remove all 11 counters. While some students thought spreading the counters across the board was the best way to win, our class discussion showed that the sums of 6 to 8 were the most likely to occur. Thus, putting the counters on this part of the game board is the best strategy for winning.

Probability and statistics have historically been an undervalued section of mathematics. However, as we discussed in class, luck has a significant impact on our daily lives. For example, what is the chance we will have a pop quiz today? Or, what is the likelihood of winning a contest?

The summative task for this unit is to create a survey question relevant to the student community. Students will collect data from their peers, analyze the results, and comment on any trends or other conclusions that can be drawn from the survey. Example questions are "how many hours do you spend on social media?" or "what time do you go to bed?" The last week of school will be spent with students presenting their projects to each other and reflecting on the overall process. Learning in an IB inquiry based classroom can be difficult for math students. As students work through different activities and during debriefs, it is important they ask clarifying and follow up questions. They can range from being as simple as "what is a median?" to as complex as "when will we use this knowledge outside of school?" This type of feedback is important as it can guide a lesson into a new, engaging direction. As a parent, one way to support your child with any course is to encourage using time during free periods and after school for additional help. This access time is built into our schedule, which is specifically designed for students to receive any extra support they may need.



### **OIS MS Student Council News**

Sarah Wakefield, MS student council advisor

I would like to thank all of our current members of the OIS Student Council for all of their hard work over the past year. They have been very active and worked hard to offer a variety of activities and events during the 2016-2017 school year. They have hosted water fights, movie nights, organized their Sports Day teams and even created school bags to sell. Well Done!

### 2016-2017 OIS Middle School Student Council

President: Minami Matsushima Vice President: Malka Bobrove Secretary: Oaka Maeda Treasurer: Emily Yoo Translator: Ami Yamamoto As we say goodbye to our current members I would like to welcome our new members who will represent OIS in the coming year. They are an ambitious group and hope to have a fantastic year with events and activities that the entire SOIS Middle School will enjoy.

Good luck!

### 2017-2018 OIS Middle School Student Council

President: Rena Kawasaki Vice President: Dohee Kwan Secretary: Asuka Hong Treasurer: Arisa Yoshikoshi Translator: Janet Jones

# **SOIS Visual Art News**

Finnish photographer and educator Neo Narjis recently visited the school to work with elementary students. The project involved abstract art and the student used their own artwork and took photographs. They learned the basics of digital cameras and worked in small group in the SOIS television studio. They edited hundreds of photographs. The results were so fun and interesting! Each student got to not only pose and use their shadow in a creative way, but also to work collaboratively in the dark and use the camera to take pictures of their friends in a positive manner.

*Kyotographie* is a professional photography exhibition that takes place in Kyoto in May every year. The show is staged in temples and beautiful traditional venues throughout the city. For the first time, this year, they have invited schools to participate in a children's photo contest with the theme of 'Love'. OIS 5<sup>th</sup> graders became curators and helped select the photos from our projections project (grades 1-5) that showed themes such as friendship, love of peace and harmony, appreciation of nature, reaching for love, or joy and beauty. The judges selected a group of OIS elementary pieces to include in the slide show. Two photographs submitted by the students were given awards by an international selection committee.





"Reach" by Aimi Iwamoto, Yoshiya Matsushima & Moa Waahlin (G4)

"Lovely Techno Boy" by Katsu Iwamoto & Taiki Miyake (G2)

Congratulations to all the students and a special thank you to Tomomi Nishibe in the SOIS Tech Department. Without her attention to details and help in the TV studio, this project never could have happened.

### Tad Hills Visits Elementary Classes

### Sarah Wakefield, Librarian

We were honored to have Tad Hills the author of Duck & Goose and Rocket books visit our campus on May 29th, 2017. He wowed the students and teachers with his artwork, personal stories and his elaborate Halloween costumes. The students were able to learn about the creative process of both making characters and also writing stories. Please feel free to check out one of the many books of his we have in the library. and also take a look at the three paintings he left us as a gift, which is now displayed in the children's section. A huge thank you to the OIS PTA which sponsored his visit!



# **Art Exhibition**

SOIS students held their own visual arts exhibition this week and the hallways are filled with works from students K-12. Visiting artists from the community came on Wednesday to conduct workshops with students and parents. Participants learned macrame, kite-making, manga, collage, ikebana, Chinese calligraphy among other techniques. A special thank you to the OIS PTA, parents and art teacher Jennifer Henbest de Cavillo. You can come and see the art for the next two weeks.



### **Health Centre Request**

### Natsuko Inoue, school nurse

All students are required to submit the "Health Record" form at the start of each school year. Even if there are not significant changes, we are required to have an updated form. This will protect the health of our students by having the latest medical information in the Health Center.

Students new to OIS, students in grade 3, 6 and 9 are required to submit a physical exam form.

Both of these forms are sent home with report cards. They are also available to download on the website.

A reminder to parents to check the immunization records for your children. Children ages 11-13 should receive a a DTP (diptheria, tetanus, pertussis) booster. You can find more information regarding the Japanese vaccination schedule at the <u>National Institute of Infectious Disease</u>.

The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, USA also has international recommendations for immunization.

#### 保健室から、夏休み中のお願い

昨年と同様、「Health Records」「Physical Exam」を新 年度に提出していただきます。「Health Records」は全 生徒、「Physical Exam」は新入生全員と、3・6・9 年生が対象です。夏休み中に、病院などで受けて来てい ただきますようお願い申し上げます。前年から、なにも 変更がない場合も、必ず提出していただくようにお願い 申し上げます。また、この機会に予防接種の受け忘れが ないかご確認ください。とくに、11-13歳のお子様はD T II 期の受け忘れがないよう、注意してください。日本 の予防接種スケジュールは以下のサイトで確認できます。

#### NIID 国立感染症研究所

# **Forms and Certificates**

### Student Information & Counseling Centres

If you need any kind of certificate for any reason (transcript, certificate of attendance/graduation/ gakuwari, etc.) please make sure to request it before summer vacation. Office staff will take some days off and may not be able to issue documents immediately during the summer.

To request, please submit "Application for Issuing Certificates" at the Student Information Center.

各種証明書(在学証明書・成績証明書・学割等)は、夏休 み前に申し込んで下さい。夏休みに入りますと、すぐに 対応できない場合があります。

The Student Information Center: Tel: 072-727-2305

#### **Reminder For Leaving Families**

If your child or children are leaving OIS as of the end of June, please turn in a Withdrawal Form (green color) to the Counseling Center as soon as possible. Forms are available at the Counseling Center.

For middle and high school students, there is Sign Out (yellow) form which they need take around to HR and class teachers to receive signatures. Without these withdrawal forms we cannot start the process. Grades for this term will be input and confirmed at the beginning of July.

A School Report and transcript (cumulative record at OIS) will be sent to your current address, unless there is a special request.

6月末で退学を予定されている方は、早目にカウンセリ ングセンターにて手続きをお願い致します。必要な用紙 はカウンセリングセンターにあります。手続きの事で不 明な点がありましたら、カウンセリングセンターまでご 連絡下さい。

### Noriko Truscott Email: <u>ntruscott@senri.ed.jp</u> / Phone: 072-727-5061

Important Numbers

Bill Kralovec, head 072-727-5080 bkralovec@senri.ed.jp

Kurt Mecklem, MS/HS principal/ IBMYP coordinator 072-727-5050 kmecklem@senri.ed.jp

Carolyne Marshall, ES principal / IBPYP coordinator 072-727-5050 cmarshall@senri.ed.jp Melissa Lamug, counselor 072-727-5061 mlamug@senri.ed.jp

Mike McGill, admissions director 072-727-5070 mmcgill@senri.ed.jp

Steve Lewis, business manager 072-727-5090 slewis@senri.ed.jp 072-727-5050 mendo@senri.ed.jp Peter Heimer, activities director 072-727-2137 pheimer@senri.ed.jp

Miyuki Endo, IBDP coordinator

Natsuko Inoue, school nurse 072-727-5050 ninoue@senri.ed.jp

Student attendance 072-727-2305

### SOIS International Fair 2017 | SOIS インターナショナルフェア 2017

**OIS** International Fair Committee

# November 18th (Sat.)

The date is set for the annual International Fair, run by SIS and OIS parents and Guardians. This Fair traditionally envisioned to be the sake of strengthening friendship between the two schools. Our motto/theme this year is "TWO SCHOOLS TOGETHER."

### Wanted!

**1. Booths:** There is a possibility for all of you as OIS PTA members to have a booth at the International Fair to sell items and food. You may also offer games and activities. This year OIS will not have booths arranged by grade, although you can have a booth designated for a certain grade. Ideally, we are hoping for OIS volunteers, from various countries, to introduce something from their country so we have more cultural variety. This is a great opportunity to share something from your country! Please join us by having a booth.

**2. Entertainers:** This year we are planning something new for the "Entertainment Area." It will be a contest that anyone can be in; SOIS students and teachers, and parents. Please see the attached poster for details.

**3. Volunteers:** We need volunteers for preparation and set-up, help during the festival, and clean-up, even if it is only for a short period. Because some of the things that need to be done require some physical strength, we would particularly welcome some male volunteers. Types of volunteer tasks will be announced in more detail after the summer break.

NOTE: The application process will begin on June 16th.

### **Donations please!**

**1. Eco caps (PET bottle caps):** We are collecting clean caps from PET bottles. Last year, we collected 37,200 bottle caps, which allowed us to supply polio vaccines for 23.3 people in a developing country. Please help us to collect caps for vaccines again this year.

**2. Donated goods:** Every year, we have a booth selling donated goods. If you have any unwanted things sitting around your house, please consider donating them.

- Only unused items (it is okay even if their package or box is damaged).
- \* Food that is not past the expiration date.
- \* No alcohol, cigarettes, or secondhand clothes.
- \* The collection begins after the summer break.

# 11月18日(土)開催!

今年もSISとOISの保護者主催のインターナショナル フェアが開催されます。

このフェアーは2つの学校の友好が目的で、今年のテーマは『TWO SCHOOLS TOGETHER』です。

### 募集します!

募集の申し込みは6月16日に開始します。

**1. ブース:** OIS PTAのメンバーであれば、どなたでも ブースを出店する事ができます。食品や雑貨の販売、 ゲームなど、色々なアイデアでブースを開いてみませ んか?

今年は学年別ブースを無くし、より国際色豊かにする ために、国別ブースを募集します。自国を紹介するい い機会です。ご自身の国のブースを出店してみません か?

**2. エンターテイナー:** 今年のエンタは新しい企画を 用意しています。SOISの生のみなさん、先生方、どな たでも参加できるコンテストを企画しております。ご 参考に添付のポスターをご覧ください。

3. 各種ボランティア: 準備、当日、後片付けなど、 運営に関わる色々なボランティアが必要になります。 短い時間でも結構です。力仕事もありますので、男性 の参加は特に大歓迎です。ボランティアの種類等の詳 細は夏休み明けにお知らせします。

### 寄付お願いします!

★ 回収の日時、詳細は夏休み明けにお知らせします。

1. エコ (ペットボトル) キャップ: 昨年は37,200個 集まり、23.3人分のポリオワクチンになりました。 今年もご協力をお願いします。洗い、乾かしたものを お願いします。

**2. 寄贈品:** フェアでは毎年、寄贈品の販売をしています。ご家庭で眠っている贈答品等がありましたら、寄付をお願いします。

- ☆ 必ず新品のものでお願いします。(パッケージ、箱の汚れや破損は構いません)
- \* 食品は賞味期限内の物のみ。
- ★ お酒、タバコ、古着は集めません。

We wish you a relaxing, wonderful summer break!