# SEPTEMBER 09, 2019



The classrooms, corridors, fields and shared spaces are full of the sounds and colours of students returning to school after the summer break. We are delighted to welcome many new students and their families to the OIS community this trimester; see the back page for the full list.

### Views from the Head of School, MYLES JACKSON



It is wonderful to be able to write a few words here as the new Head of School for OIS. Many readers will be curious about what I might wish to do to improve learning in the school, so I thought I would use my first OIS Educator article to talk

about some of my beliefs about education.

Learning something new is such a pleasure isn't it? The buzz of excitement that we feel when we recognise our progress always gives us energy and motivation for more learning. It is a feeling that I would like all at our school to feel, every day and in every lesson. When that is happening consistently, then we know we have a really great school. So my aim as a school leader is to try and focus at all times on improving learning, both personal learning and academic learning. Everything that I do as the Head of School is intended to improve some system, or practice, or feature of our school in some way.

Personal and academic learning need to be given equal emphasis because teachers usually discover early in their career that there is no strict dividing line between the two domains. This is because, for example, academic success for some students may require them to learn more about getting on with other people. Or on the other hand, personal issues that are causing problems for some students may have their roots in the academic difficulties that they are experiencing. For this reason, educators need to be mindful of both aspects of our learning and see them as an integrated part of being a successful learner.

In order to express the above ideas as an aim and put it in a single sentence, I have begun to share with OIS teachers and students the following sentence:

Our aim is to try and ensure that all students feel happy, safe and supported in school so that they are able to maximise their learning.

Wellbeing is deliberately put before learning, because if people are not happy they cannot learn well, or they may not learn at all. This means that if we do not have outstanding pastoral care in our school, then the learning in our school will always be less than optimal. Of course, despite our best efforts, learners may still experience difficulties but I believe our aim should always be for every student to experience the pleasure of learning, in every lesson, every day.

What do you think? I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on these topics. Please feel free to let me know.

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### from the MS, HS Principal, KURT MECKLEM



At the end of the summer when the teachers come back to campus to start preparing for the new academic year, the school seems a desolate place. Without the students, it is just an empty building. Now that we've been

back in school for a couple of weeks, the building is alive again with students in the halls, the field, and of course the classrooms. It makes a big difference when your children are back with us and I want to thank you for entrusting us with the education of your child for the next school year.

The start of the school year usually means that a lot is happening and this year is no different. Teachers have been busy getting routines established in classes. Our counselor, Ms. Michelle Vogel and Deputy Head of Campus, Mr. Steve Lewis have been spending a lot of time organizing the Kansai Regional University Fair (KRUF.JP) which will be held on our campus on September 12. About 125 universities will be in the gym from 3:30 to 5:30 and this is a unique opportunity to meet with admissions officers and get information about colleges around the world.

We also have 19 new students in the middle and high schools and we have been working hard to make them feel welcome. There are also a few new teachers who were introduced in the June <u>Educator</u> and whom you will have the opportunity to meet at our Middle and High School Back to School Night (BTSN) on September 19. Being a new person in a new school and in many cases being in a new country is never easy. I hope you will take the opportunity to introduce yourself to our new community members when you are on campus. The PTA welcome event scheduled for after school on Thursday, September 19 is a perfect opportunity to come meet new people and reacquaint yourself with those of us who have been here for longer.

Thursday, September 19 is also when we are scheduled to have our annual Back to School Night. Registration will start after the PTA party and we will begin in the theater at 5:30. BTSN, like all important events, is already on your school calendar but make sure to note it on your personal calendar, too. This is a great opportunity to get to know your children's teachers and understand what your child will be studying over the course of the school year. I will send more information via SOISMail so please keep an eye on that account.

Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to work with you and your children this school year. Having them back in the building has sure made a difference to the atmosphere on campus. I'm looking forward to another great school year and please stop by to say hello next time you are here.

### The Rugby Boy: by Leanne Entwistle, PE Specialist

On Monday 2nd September the Grades 3, 4, and 5 students were very lucky to be superbly entertained by Mr. Sean Murphy- "The Rugby Boy", a professional comedian, coming all the way from Australia.

Through an interactive, informative and funny performance the students learnt a little about other countries and the upcoming Rugby World Cup here in Japan. They jumped around, learnt new words, actions and little games from other countries and challenged The Rugby Boy and each other in a series of hilarious activities. All this was designed for the love of movement and fun. It was a wonderful international understanding experience.

A special Thank you to Sean for providing this performance free of change and to Mr. Kaz Sakanaka for hosting Sean during his visit. Thank you!







### Sabers Sports & Activities

Sabers Sports updates from Activities Director, PETER HEIMER

### **Sabers Website**

- Want to know which Sabers teams are playing where and when? Be sure to check out the <u>Sabers</u> season calendar page on the Sabers website.
- Want to know the tournament results of past Sabers teams, boys and girls, middle school and high school? Who was named to a WJAA or AISA alltournament team? Past Dr. Fukuda scholar athlete and Sabers athlete of the year award winners? Simply go to the <u>Sabers history page</u>.
- Vintage Sabers team photos?

### Sabers Facebook page

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

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Sabers activities program. Please contact the AD any time you need help. Please visit the AD office, room A-240, near the business office. Contact at <a href="mailto:pheimer@senri.ed.jp">pheimer@senri.ed.jp</a> or at 072-727-2137.



### **School Calendar: September**

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12	Ransar Regional Oniversity Fair @gyin
13-14	WJAA HS Boys Volleyball @FIS WJAA HS Girls Volleyball @MBIS
19	OIS MS/HS Back-to-School Night
20	SOIS MS Social Event
25	OIS G12 College Workshop

27-28 WJAA HS Girls JV Volleyball @SOIS Falcons HS Boys Volleyball @CA

ES Futsal Tournament @CA

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### **Health & Safety**

Are You a Health and Safety Professional?

If you have a background and training in Health and Safety, we would like to hear from you. At SOIS we always wish to improve safety and so we would very much like to discuss issues with you and use your input to further improve our campus and our practices.

If you would be able to help us, please contact:

Myles Jackson
OIS Head of School
mjackson@soismail.jp

# Safety First



### **SOIS INTERNATIONAL FAIR 2019**

The International Fair will be held from 10:00am to 3:00pm on Saturday November 16. The theme for this year's fair is **Beautiful Harmony**. The entertainment will include activities such as:

- Singing or performing as a solo or group!
- Lip Sync Battle
- Booths

- Sports & Games
- Book sale
- Bazaar

Please apply to participate in any of these, and let's enjoy the day together! Volunteers are also needed on the day of the fair, so please contact us at oispta-if@soismail.jp

The 2019 SOIS International Fair Committee



### Sports Day: Monday 14 October

In case of heavy rain, the event will be held on Tuesday October 15. In that case, there will be regular school on Monday October 14.

### **Elementary School**

8.30:	All elementary school (ES) students arrive to homeroom $% \left( \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{F}}^{\mathbf{F}}\right) =\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{F}}^{\mathbf{F}}$
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

### Other Notes

 School buses will operate as usual in the morning but leave at 4.30pm for MS/HS students.

### Middle School & High School

	10.30:	All middle school (MS) and high school (HS) students arrive to their homerooms
	10.45-11.00:	Opening ceremony
	11.00-12.45:	Morning activities: MS dodgeball, intercepter @gym, HS dodgeball, ultimate frisbee @field
	12.45-13.10:	MS performance @gym; HS lunch time
	13.10-13.35:	MS lunch time
	13.35-14.00:	HS performance, 5 minutes per grade. 1 minute for setup
	14.05-16.10:	Afternoon activities: MS/HS Tamaire, MS/HS Bouhiki, MS/HS Tug-of-War, HS Leapfrog, MS/HS Relay Races
ı	16.10-16.25:	Closing ceremony
	16.30:	Students dismissed from school

### K-G2 Cafeteria Lunch Menu

## **CEZARS**

### -KITCHEN

Septe	September		
2	Mon	Pasta Bolognese, Vichy Carrots, Sun Dried Tomato Focaccia, Vegetable Consommé	
3	Tue	White Fish Tempura with Ankake, Steamed Broccoli, White Rice, Green Lentil Soup	
4	Wed	Loco Moco, Pan Fried Egg, White Rice, Celery & Coconut Soup	
5	Thu	Miso Pork, Japanese Radish & Carrot Salad, White Rice, Roasted Pumpkin Soup	
6	Fri	Grilled Salmon, Garlic Green Beans, Seasoned Brown Rice, Bean Sprout Soup	
9	Mon	Tomato Bacon Pasta, Steamed Mixed Vegetables, Baguette Bread, Cauliflower Soup	
10	Tue	Pork Shabushabu Salad, Spinach Ohitashi, White Rice, Greek Potato & Celery Soup	
11	Wed	Juicy Beef Burgers, Cajun Vegetable Medley, Potato Wedges, Tomato & Basil Soup	
12	Thu	Wok Vegetables, Steamed Snap Peas, White Rice, Hot & Sour Soup	
13	Fri	Mongolian Beef, Wok Style Bok Choi, White Rice, Garlic Chive Soup	
1 <i>7</i>	Tue	Katsu Don, Mix Shredded Salad, White Rice, Vegetarian Laksa Soup	
18	Wed	Beef Bulgogi, Mixed Greens, White Rice, Ginseng Soup	
19	Thu	Keema Curry, Sunny Side Egg, White Rice, Japanese Vegetable Broth	
20	Fri	Spaghetti & Meatballs, Eggplant & Tomato Bake, Herb Bread, Mixed Bean & Vegetable Soup	
24	Tue	Taco Meat, Steamed Mix Vegetables, White Rice, Hot & Sour Soup	
25	Wed	Grilled Chicken with Tarragon Dressing, Vichy Carrots, Herb Baked Baby Potatoes, Chunky Vegetable Soup	
26	Thu	Soy Buttered Chicken, Namul, White Rice, Tomato & Bean Soup	
27	Fri	Pepperoni Pizza, Lemon Garlic Roasted Broccoli, Spaghetti Neapolitan, Modenese Soup	
30	Mon	Beef Stroganoff, Cauliflower w. Carrots, Buttered Noodles, Corn Soup	

Cezars Kitchen also produces three menus every month for Middle and High School students; an *International Menu*, a *Japanese Menu*, and a *Vegan, Vegetarian Menu*. You can find PDF copies of these menus here.



### SOIS Music Event: Kool Sounds @ Kita-Senri

Students from SOIS will perform an exciting range of songs and instrumental pieces in front of Kita-Senri station on October 8. Please join us at our annual Kool Sounds concert for an entertaining afternoon of world music!



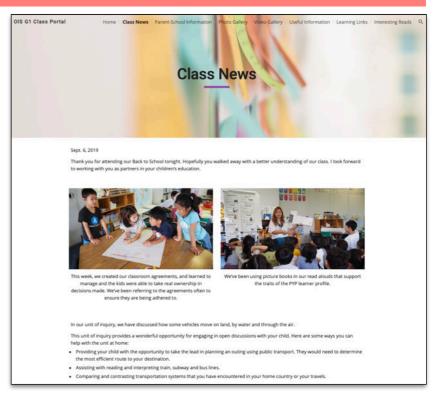
### Notes from the Elementary School

### Class Blogs

Each grade in elementary school has its own website, which provide a great way to follow what is happening in your child's classroom. Check in regularly for access to the class calendar, recent photos, and other information from the teachers.

You can access the websites using these links:





Please note that you will need to access the sites whilst logged in to you SOISmail account on your web browser. If you are unsure about how to do this, please take a look at some instructions here.

### School Beautification: Summer of 2019

The school Beautification team and Garden clubs would like to thank all the students, teachers, administration, guards, and parent volunteers who help keep our school beautiful. This is especially challenging in the summer heat when few people are around!

We have gardens and live plants in many places at SOIS and we hope to have more to help green and beautify our school. Green areas includes places in the playground, the genkan, the courtyard, the 3,4,5 porch, across from the elevator and in front of the science department. It has taken a whole community of

dedicated people to make it fun, beautiful, and a learning experience for all. We even have goldfish and medaka to make our learning environments fun.

And we would like to send a BIG THANK you to the people who make our space green, clean, and beautiful for active learning. Here are some pictures of the Elementary students in their spaces enjoying the flowers and vegetables in the playground and helping clean the goldfish tubs in the 3,4,5 porch! Ms. Henbest (Art) and Ms. Rumble (Science) would welcome other student and parent volunteers, so come on in!







### Welcome New Students!

OIS is delighted to welcome new students into every grade this trimester.

### **Elementary School**

- KA Erica Anaori
- KA Maelyn Fujita
- KA Takuto Hamaguchi
- KA Karen Park
- KA Tianshi Shi
- KA Furui Xu
- KA Tomonori Yamamoto
- KB Xiao Han Dong
- **KB** Charles Liening
- KB Taku Shimada
- KB Kai Siddons
- 2 Eilis Ahearne
- 2 Luiza Maria Carvalho

- 2 Colby Warford
- 3 Minatsu Chimura
- 3 Ohyeon Kwon
- 3 Dianna Schmutz
- 4 Eoin Ahearne

### Middle School

- 6 Kate Brown
- 6 Hiro Nakajima
- 6 Masaki Ogida
- 6 Annabelle Siddons
- 6 Chu Qi Wang
- 7 Anju Manfred
- 8 Haeyeon Jang

- 8 Sakurako Senno
- 9 Benjamin Jackson
- 9 Lois-Ann Loafmann
- 9 Hana Manfred
- 9 Miyabi Sugimoto
- 10 Ken Kitamura
- 10 Hana Wager

### **High School**

- 11 Sean Doman
- 11 Michelle Hagmann
- 11 Jina Lee
- 11 Akif Ur Rahman
- 11 Jamie Yoshikawa-Jenkins

### Your OIS Faculty 2019-2020



# **Important Numbers**

Myles Jackson, head 072-727-5080 miackson@senri.ed.ir

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

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

Stephen Frater, IBDP coordinator 072-727-5050 strater@senri.ed.ii Michelle Vogel, counselor 072-727-5061 mvogel@senri.ed.jp

Peter Heimer, activities director 072-727-2137 pheimer@senri.ed.jp

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

Student attendance 072-727-2305