

An Embassy Group Education Initiative



BEYOND THE STONE STONEHILL ALUMNI E-MAGAZINE



MESSAGE
FROM THE
HEAD OF SCHOOL

STONEHILL NEWS:
SEMESTER - 2
2019 - 2020

**GRADUATION &
UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES**
CLASS OF 2020

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Testimonials

“Stonehill allowed me to grow as a person and as a student. I gained new internationally minded perspectives and I was able to think critically while applying the syllabus to real-life problems. The focus on individual learning allowed me to develop time management skills and study habits that will easily translate to university life.”

- Zachary Edward Mathews

“More than academics, Stonehill has prepared me with handling the student-teacher dynamic necessary at college. Working with my teachers, asking for their help when necessary, and being transparent with progress and deadlines are all the skills that will be helpful at college.”

- Krutartha Nagesh

“I loved Stonehill's open environment for learning. I believe this is one of the main reasons why I've developed amazing relationships with all of my teachers over the course of my 4 years at Stonehill. I also made incredible friends. As I look back, my Stonehill experience exceeded all of my expectations.”

- Sachin Rammoorthy

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Message from the Head of School

Greetings Alumni,

Welcome to this edition of Beyond the Stone! We hope you are well and safe.

Like many other international schools across the globe, Stonehill too was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 10th, we took the decision to close our campus and immediately implemented measures for our Distance Learning Programme. Both our students and teachers worked seamlessly in synchronous and asynchronous learning, using various online platforms that allowed our students to receive a rigorous, comprehensive and innovative academic programme.

During the lockdown, Stonehill hosted a beautiful virtual graduation ceremony that was attended by graduates and parents across the world. Although different from previous ceremonies, the ceremony was carefully planned, and greatly appreciated by all who attended.

We are currently preparing for re-opening School on August 17th. The decisions are being made keeping in mind international guidelines and protocols that have been set specifically for schools. We are looking at guidelines and recommendations by organisations such as WHO (World Health Organisation), AAIE (Association for Advancement of International Education), AISH (Academy for International School Heads), ABSA (Australian Boarding School Association), CIS (Council of International Schools) and NEASC (New England Association of Schools & Colleges).

We are very proud that Stonehill continues to be a centre for academic excellence that provides a world-class IB education. We met the challenges of an extended shut-down head-on, as teachers found new ways to engage students and continue teaching. This will continue in August either on campus, or through our established Distance Learning Programme, or a combination of both, depending on the need of the hour. We have a responsibility to provide high-quality instruction, regardless of the mode of delivery.

We remain committed to our students, staff, community, and alumni. We thank you and appreciate greatly your continued support. We look forward to the time when it will be safe for you to visit us once again.

Sincerely,

Brian Brumsickle
Head of School



Graduation Ceremony Goes Virtual



On May 30th, Stonehill hosted a Virtual Graduation Ceremony for the Graduating Class of 2020. Teachers and administrators rallied behind the resilient graduating class of 2020 and came up with a creative and meaningful celebration for the students completing the IB programme. They invited the graduates, parents and teachers to take part in a momentous and inspiring evening of celebration.

The virtual ceremony started with a video, which was a special tribute to all the students, followed by

memories shared by each of the students. The ceremony concluded with a message from the Secondary Principal, Mr. Joe Lumsden, "Education is about creating memories, and Stonehill is a wonderful place for making these memories – the kind of memories that will stay with you and remind you of the value of internationalism, community, respect, open-mindedness and friendship."



For more pictures, [click here](#).

Here is a recap video of our graduation ceremony.



D2 Results Above World Average for the Eighth Consecutive Year!

This year, Stonehill entered a record of 41 students for the IB Diploma. Our students have outdone themselves in spite of the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 situation, which led to cancellation of the exams. The average IB score for the students was 33.3 (against a global average of approximately 29.5). Over 15% of the students scored 40 points or more, which puts them in the top 8% of students in IB schools around the world! Stonehill's top scorer, Zachary Edward Mathews, achieved a total of 43 out of a maximum 45 points.



Zach Mathews
Valedictorian, Class of 2020

Stonehill's International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) score remains above the world average for the eighth consecutive year! This year, the final IB grades were calculated through a combination of Internal and External Assessments (projects, coursework, essays, oral presentations, lab work, etc), completed by the students during Grade 11 and Grade 12, historical data from the individual schools and the IB community, and predicted grades from the teachers. The Internal and External assessments contributed most heavily in the weighting of the final grades.

Stonehill is defined by its inclusive nature and this stands as a testimony to the individual attention every student receives.

The Stonehill Class of 2020 Is off to University!

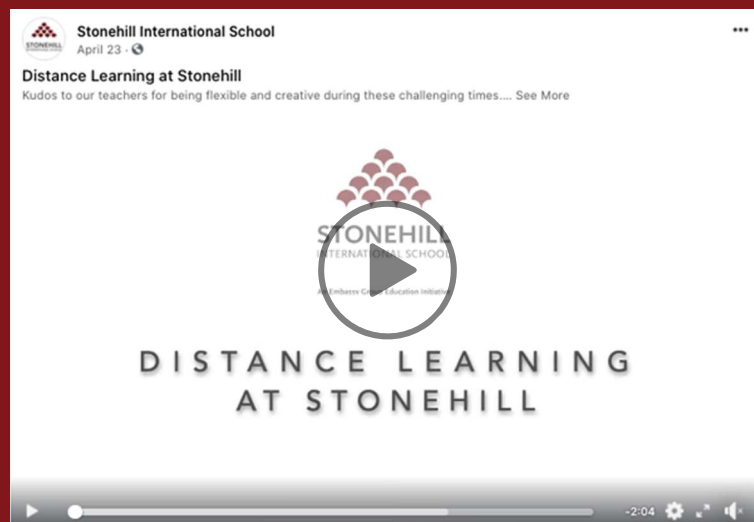
This year, 100% of the graduating class received admission offers and are now headed to prestigious universities in the USA, UK, Canada, Europe, Asia and Australia. They have opted for diverse areas of study like Computer Science, Medicine, Engineering, Architecture, Psychology, Business Management, Biological Sciences, Theatre and Film, Astronomy, Law, Mechatronics, Music, Food and Nutrition and History, to name a few. 86% of the students received offers from the world's top 100 universities like London School of Economics, UK; University College London, UK; King's College, UK; University of Warwick, UK; University of Bath, UK; University of Toronto, Canada; Berklee College of Music, US; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, US; Harvey Mudd College, US; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and The University of Texas at Austin; US, to name a few. The class of forty-five students received scholarships worth over \$ 2 Million (USD).



How Stonehill International School Is Leading the Way in Developing Best Distance Learning Practices

The Coronavirus pandemic is reshaping education where virtual learning has rapidly transitioned traditional classroom teaching to support students remotely. Stonehill International School is a model to look up to when it comes to Child Safety and Distance Learning. [Read more here.](#)

Our teachers were flexible and creative during these challenging times and as a tribute, we created a video to remind us that learning goes on and together we stand united as a community.



Come Home to Stonehill Boarding

Stonehill Boarding has always been a wonderful place for our boarders to learn, explore and grow. Our new boarding video captures the warmth, love and bonding of our boarders.

Take a look at the vibrant boarding life at Stonehill.



Stonehill's Food Fair Gets Bigger and Better!

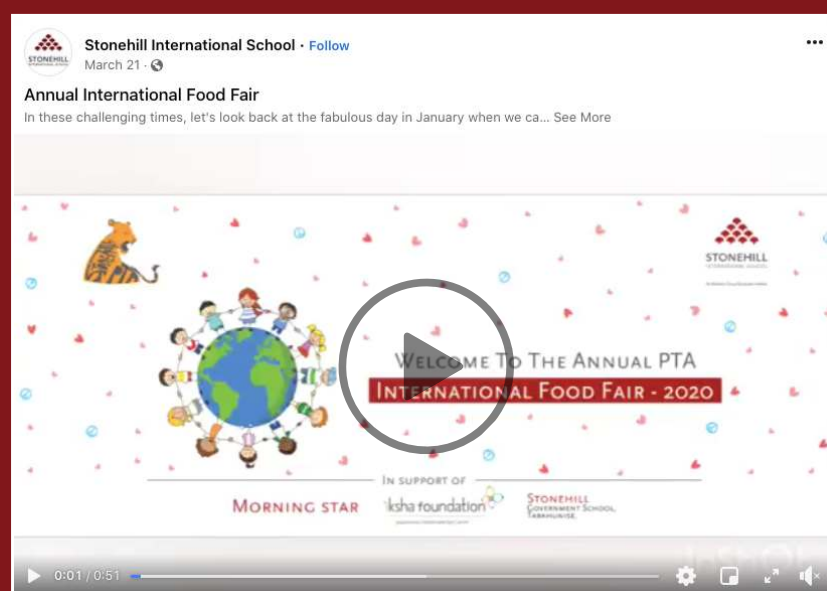




On Saturday, 25th January, the Stonehill International School community, munched their way around the world, at the annual PTA International Food Festival (IFF). Stonehill parents from more than 25 countries, dished out authentic food, creating a smorgasbord of global flavours while facilitating cultural exchange. The pop-up food stalls, served up the whole hog; from the nutritional and healthy, to the scrumptious and indulgent. Parents and children rolled up their sleeves and enjoyed a host of mouth-watering exotic delectables. Amongst the visiting dignitaries were Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Consul General of Japan, and Dana Kursh, Consul General of Israel.

Proceeds generated by the IFF were donated to the three charitable organizations supported by the Stonehill PTA – The Stonehill Government School, Morningstar Ashram and IKSHA Foundation.

For more pictures, [click here](#).



Theatre Takes off at Stonehill!



This year we introduced 'Theater' as one of the subject options for the DP, which was well received by all. On the 30th of January, the D1 drama students performed a quick paced, one act comedy, inspired by the play, 'Ladies Foursome' by Norm Foster. Four women play a round of golf in honour of their late friend. As they start playing, the conversation is far-ranging, and little golf is discussed. The play was indeed a delightful and hilarious stroll on the links!



Stonehill Hosts the IC3 Regional Forum



On February 8th, we hosted the IC3 (International Career and College Counselling) Regional Forum, which brought together schools principals, coordinators, counselors, teachers, educators to exchange ideas and perspectives on various career related options for students. The IC3 provides a platform for schools to interact with national and international universities. Educators and counsellors learnt about best career guidance practices and gained deeper insights into admission processes.

Top International Educators Visit Stonehill For Professional Development Workshops



On February 21st, we hosted the International Baccalaureate (IB) Professional Development Workshops for teachers. Top IB educators from countries such as the US, UK, Australia, Russia, Singapore, Turkey, Bolivia, Vietnam, and Bangladesh, conducted various workshops.



For more pictures, [click here](#).

Alumni Speak

It would be great to hear from you!
We encourage you to contribute your
achievements, articles, or snippets of how
life beyond Stonehill has been for you!
Please email Anju Abraham at alumni@stonehill.in

Please follow us on

