

OIS Educator

APRIL 2, 2018



The SOIS High School Girls Soccer team, including OIS Ami Eldridge (Gr12), Jenifer Menezes (G11), Lilian Tsubaki and Nanami Hasegawa (both G10), were the undefeated champions of the 2018 Western Japan Athletic Association tournament held at the MC Perry base in Iwakuni, Yamaguchi-ken. The girls played superb soccer to beat EJ King, MC Perry, Marist Brothers and Canadian Academy on the way to the title. (More Sabers information on page 6)

Views from the Head of School, BILL KRALOVEC

The International Baccalaureate (IB) authorization and Western Association of Colleges and Schools (WASC) accreditation visit last month went extremely well. Every five years our school undergoes an thorough evaluation in order to maintain our status as an IB World School and to allow our transcripts and diplomas to be recognized by schools and universities around the world.

Dr. Gary Davis, the WASC chairperson addressed the faculty in an exit meeting and sent the final report a few days later. He commended OIS students and teachers for their excellent teaching and learning. It was obvious to the visiting committee that we have a supportive parent community that is vital in our student achievement.

The recommendations from the committee will inform our next strategic plan (2018 - 2023). The areas identified were as follows:

- 1) Improving the school's facilities
- 2) Implement a more transparent budget and resources allocation process
- 3) Refine the OIS assessment model
- 4) Develop a more systematic learning support (inclusion) program

All three International Baccalaureate curriculum programmes, the Primary Years (PYP), Middle Years (MYP)

and Diploma (DP) were also evaluated. The final reports will be delivered to the school sometime in the spring trimester. All of the final reports will be available on our website when they become available.

The visit was an excellent professional development experience for the faculty and leadership. It is always good to receive feedback from outside experts on our programs and processes.

I would like to thank students, teachers and parents who assisted with the visit. We are called upon to seek feedback from all community stakeholders. We are ready for our next cycle culminating in the fall of 2022.



OIS administrators pose for a photo with the Visiting Committee.

from the MS/HS Principal, KURT MECKLEM

The reports from the returning camps have been positive and they wouldn't have happened without your support as parents, thank you! Between bike riding and cross country skiing, I know that some of the students were put in challenging situations but they were able to overcome them. It won't be too long before we start planning again for next year so if you have suggestions for improving them or other ideas, please feel free to pass those along. You can see some photos from the camps on page 4 of this issue of Educator.

When we get back from spring break we will be in the final third of the school year. It may seem like summer break and the end of the year are just around the corner but there is a lot that is still happening and a lot to do between now and the end of June. By far, the biggest upcoming event is the start of DP exams for the grade 12 students in May. While the main exams are in May, the DP Art students are already setting up their final show which constitutes a portion of their exam. The show will be opening on April 9 and continue until the 20th.

Your child's reports will soon be available on ManageBac. With the year two thirds over, it is easy to think that most things are done but there is still a lot of time left in the school year. No matter what they received on their reports, it is important for students to stay focused right up until the very end. There is a lot more that they can still accomplish.

School Calendar

April

- 5 Spring Trimester Begins
- 6-7 WJAA HS Badminton Tournament @CA
- 9 Diploma Programme Grade 12: Visual Arts Exhibition Opening
- 11 Grades 1 & 2: Educate for a Sustainable Life
- 11 PTA monthly meeting 9:00 AM
- 11 OIS/SIS HS Student Council Club Fair
- 13-14 Dixon Classic HS Softball @Nagoya IS
- 12-15 AISA Boys Soccer @Seoul IS
AISA Girls Soccer @Yokohama IS
AISA Swimming @Korea IS
- 14 ACT Test
- 16-20 SOIS Earth Week
- 20 PTA Grades 4 & 5 Parent-Student Dance
- 24 Spring Music Recital
- 27 OIS/SIS MS & HS Class Visitation Day
- 30 Grade 12 IB Exams Begin

Visual Arts Are Flourishing At OIS: pt1

It is in our mission statement for all members of SOIS community to be creative. The visual arts program aids our students in being more creative and expressing themselves. Students in grades 2-6 submitted photographs to the Kyotographie, an international photography festival in Kyoto from April 14 to May 13. The theme of the contest for elementary students is "UP" and as you can see by the sample of photographs entered in the competition by our students. The student work will be on exhibition on Saturday April 28 when the winners will be announced. A special thanks to elementary art teacher Jennifer Henbest de Calvillo for her efforts in facilitating the students' submissions.

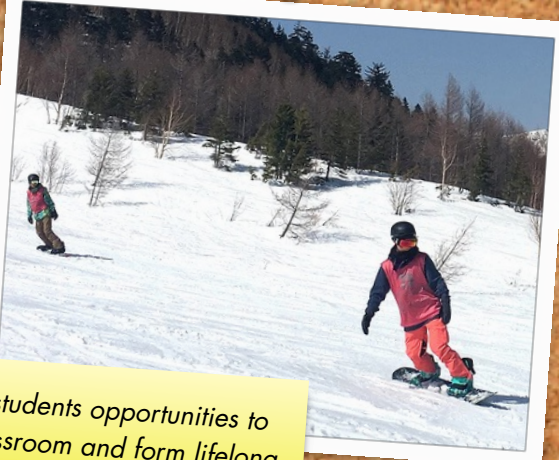


Ryoto Miyake submitted this dramatic photograph of the sun.



Yujin and Johannes pose as "Human Monkeys" for photographer Spencer Tsubaki.

OIS Middle School & High School Spring Camps



Spring Camps give students opportunities to learn outside the classroom and form lifelong memories bonding with classmates and teachers!



Views from the ES Principal, CAROLYN MARSHALL

The latter part of the winter trimester has been a very active time in the PYP. Students have been practicing a wide range of skills.

Celebration of our second annual **Language Week** (February 18-22) focused on appreciating how learning more languages broadens our perspective and helps us understand each other better. The Actioneers conducted a survey of languages used by PYP students. Their findings were presented in pie charts representing each grade. These are displayed in the hallway outside grade 4 so do come and take a look. Grade 5 analyzed these graphs and discovered a significant proportion of students who daily use two languages in their homes. Seven students even use three languages on a daily basis which is a lot of thinking. During the week, many parents and friends visited classes sharing their home languages and showing us how words are shared from one language to another. We also enjoyed sharing our linguistic diversity by singing together the song Best Friends Forever in 15 different languages. Friendship was also the theme of our calligraphic artwork which was inspired by substitute teacher Mr Hani's Arabic and that you can view on the windows to the cafeteria.

The **basketball club** participated in a tournament playing teams from Kyoto International School and Osaka YMCA International School. All students were excellent ambassadors playing well as supportive teams.

A group of grade 4 students practiced a wide range of skills in **Genius Hour** classes to organize a Run For Fun for students in grades 1 to 5. Their aim was to help everyone exercise, think and have fun in an original way. Rikuto, Janina, Rick, Masamichi, Mary and Maya drafted invitations, designed missions and consequences, briefed a team of staff, prepared a first aid kit and met with me weekly in their recess to plan the run. Each meeting there were challenges to be met and they overcame them all. I thoroughly enjoyed being a hunter and learned lots about the school's geography. We hope to repeat the run.

The **grade 5 camp** also demonstrated students working together as effective teams. This event is vital preparation for the exhibition which is the toughest test of a PYP student. Grade 5 groups planned, bought and cooked their meals. Some had to return ingredients to the shelves of the supermarket as they had gone over budget. They carefully carried their shopping to ensure eggs remained unbroken. Then there were challenges in the pool, a dark scavenger hunt and smoky campfire to face. They left

school on Saturday morning exhausted but more confident in their own abilities.

This trimester concluded with a new event for all PYP students. In mixed age groups **Creativity Day** enabled us to explore our imagination in games, making music, dance, cooking, writing, poetry, models and crafts. Pictures of our explorations will be displayed in the art show at the end of the school year. I hope you will visit.



Sean in grade 1 enjoys his "smoothies" he made in the Elementary School Cooking Club. The new spring clubs begin the week of April 9.

K-G2 Cafeteria Lunch Menu

April

5	Thu	pork cutlet
6	Fri	potato and meat sauce gratin
9	Mon	deep-fried pork stuffed with cheese
10	Tue	fried salmon with basil seasoning
11	Wed	chicken cutlet
12	Thu	cheeseburger
13	Fri	curry & rice
16	Mon	pork broth ramen
17	Tue	cheese omelet with meat sauce
18	Wed	hamburger
19	Thu	chicken & egg rice bowl
20	Fri	kitsune udon - wheat noodles in soup with fried bean curd
23	Mon	miso ramen
24	Tue	rice omelet with demi-glace sauce (type of brown sauce)
25	Wed	fried white fish
26	Thu	pork cutlet sandwich
27	Fri	Milanese chicken cutlet

Visual Arts Are Flourishing At OIS: pt2

Two OIS grade 11 students received accolades for their submissions to the 35th Annual Watercolor Exhibition at the Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art. Asa Hasegawa-Johnson and Noemi Takapa were honored by the Association of Watercolor Artists at Kyoto, or, Suisai-kai on Sunday April 1 with a luncheon and ceremony. The students are part of the OIS Visual Arts Club which meets after school. The visual arts teachers, Mr. Myers and Ms. Garces, supported the students in this endeavor. The girls went beyond their normal Diploma Programme schedule to complete the art works and enter the competition. Congratulations to Noemi and Asa for being selected to exhibit their art works.

For more information about the event and the association, you can visit their website. http://kyotosuisai.com/03_reki.html



① Noemi Takapa and Asa Hasegawa-Johnson were honored by the Kyoto Watercolor Painting Association.

② Asa poses with two judges, Atsuko Konishi (left) and Kinuko Umehara (right).

③ Many people attended the exhibition on April 1.



SOIS Sabers Sports and Activities

Sabers Sports updates from Activities Director, PETER HEIMER

Sabers Website:

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

Sabers Facebook page:

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

SABERS SEASON CALENDARS

Want to know which Sabers teams are playing where and when? Be sure to check out the Sabers season calendar page on the Sabers website.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL & BOYS SOCCER

The SOIS Sabers middle school girls basketball team and boys soccer team wrapped up their winter II seasons with successful performances at the WJAA tournaments, March 2-3, 2018.

The girls basketball team, coached by Mr. Mecklem and Ms. Nicholl, played at Marist Brothers International School in Kobe and lost only in the finals to finish in second place – for the second year in a row.

The boys soccer teams, coached by Mr. McGill and Mr. Martin, played at Canadian Academy and, for the first time in five years, did not win WJAA titles in both the A and B divisions. Instead, unfortunately, the Sabers finished in second place in both divisions.

Thank you, middle school coaches and players.

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS SEASONS: GIRLS SOFTBALL, BOYS VOLLEYBALL & TABLE TENNIS

The next MS sports are as follows:

- boys volleyball (Coach Sugishita, Coach Routh)
- girls softball (Coach Ogawa)
- table tennis (Coach Matsushima)

Middle school student-athletes are to be ready to start right after the spring holiday.

HIGH SCHOOL: SOCCER, BADMINTON, SWIMMING & SOFTBALL

The high school boys and girls soccer teams played in Western Japan Athletic Association tournaments March 9-10, 2018. The girls, led by Coach Frater and Coach Kono, traveled to MC Perry High School on the US Marine Corps Air Station in Iwakuni where they finished the 2-day tournament undefeated in 4 matches and 2018 WJAA champions. The boys, led by the one and only Coach Entwistle, played at Canadian Academy on Rokko Island in Kobe, winning 4 matches and losing 1 – unfortunately the sole loss came in the championship match, so the Sabers eleven finished a respectable second. For more information and photos, please look [here](#). For AISA soccer April 12-15, the boys travel to Seoul and the girls to Yokohama. Travel information and permission forms can be found [here](#).

The Sabers swim team, with Coach Bertman and Coach Kano, travel to Seoul for the AISA swim meet April 12-15. Travel information and a permission form can be found [here](#).

The badminton squad, coached by Hasegawa-sensei and Ms. Ishiuchi-Ray, has played against CA and Nagoya and plays in the WJAA tournaments April 6 - 7 in Kobe.

The HS girls softball team has played one game already and has high hopes for the rest of the season, with a trip to Nagoya coming up in April. Coach Hirai and Coach Hikosaka and the girls practice during the spring holiday.

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 pheimer@senri.ed.jp or at 072-727-2137.



SOIS Sabers High School Boys Soccer Team

Guest Speakers: Dr. Michael Haese



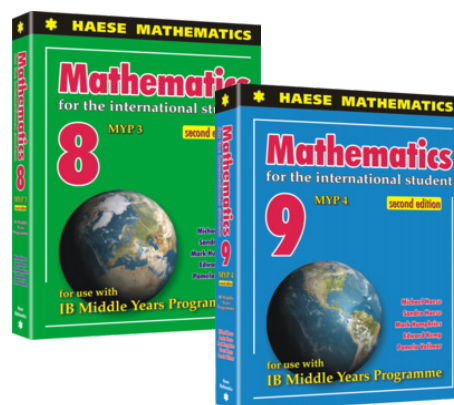
OIS Maths Department, KEVIN BERTMAN & JEREMY WELBURN

On Monday March 5th, OIS had an exciting visitor. Dr. Michael Haese of the textbook publishing company, Haese Mathematics, spent the entire day on campus, visiting with teachers and volunteering to teach lessons to middle and high school students. He started off the day by facilitating a lesson regarding coding and understanding patterns with the grade 6 students. Each time the students were presented with the start of a new pattern and asked to guess the next value in the data table. Patterns ranged from simple linear relationships to non-mathematical patterns such as the number of letters in the English name of a given number. For example, the number eight had a corresponding value of 5. Mr. Haese emphasized the importance of recognizing patterns throughout the lesson, which is of no coincidence, an MYP Mathematics assessment criterion. He finished this lesson by demonstrating a few scientific phenomena such as a Gaussian Gun and encouraged the students to challenge themselves to deepen their mathematical and scientific understanding and pursue careers related to these areas of study.

Later Michael met with the grade 9 students to discuss what mathematics is and how we use it in everything we do. In between meetings with teachers regarding best practices of teaching mathematics, how to write a textbook, ways to assess mathematical understanding,

and strategies for solving difficult math problems, he also taught a lesson with the grade 10 students. This lesson focused on the non-transitive property of probability. For example it is possible to create three dice, A, B and C such that the probability die A shows a larger number than die B is $\frac{2}{3}$, the probability that die B shows a larger number than die C is $\frac{2}{3}$, and the probability that die C shows a larger number than die A is $\frac{2}{3}$. This is analogous to rock-paper-scissors.

After school, Dr. Haese held a workshop for elementary teachers and introduced a new elementary textbook and methods of teaching and learning. It was a special day for the OIS teachers and students and we would like to thank him for visiting.



Faculty Notices

It is a characteristic of international schools that faculty and student come and go more often than in a public school. The elementary students honored Setsuko Nasatsuka who retired this month after 27 years working in the office. It is also with sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs. Carrie Buller, a visual arts and design teacher. She will be returning to the USA with her husband and two children. We also wish all the best to Mr. Florentin Marica, who is leaving SOIS after nine years in the music department.

Ms. Nami Yamanaka will cover the visual arts and some design classes. She has a Master's degree from Tama Art University and has taught in Hawaii and most recently, at the Ashiya International School. The other design classes have been assigned to current faculty members. Mr. Rob Lira, an experienced OIS substitute teacher will be taking over in the music department.



Enrollment Notices

We said goodbye to 11 students who are leaving OIS and we say hello to 11 new students that will be joining us for the spring trimester. The new students starting in April are as follows:

- Kindergarten A: Airi Ochi
- Kindergarten B: Takezo Cram, Anna & Mark Miyoshi
- Grade 1 Levi Lim
- Grade 2 Haruto Ochi
- Grade 6 Sophie Lim & Yuto Arashi
- Grade 10 Tianyi "Edwin" Li
- Grade 12 (after graduating from SIS, to complete the IB Diploma):
Elena Benfield & Natsumi Kato



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

Carolyn 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

Stephen Frater,
IBDP coordinator
072-727-5050
sfrater@senri.ed.jp

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

Miyoshi Iwata, school nurse
072-727-5050
miwata@senri.ed.jp

Student attendance
072-727-2305