



Hangzhou International School

杭州国际学校

Contact: Natalio Liares, IV
+8613186970650
natalioliares@hisdragons.org.cn

For Immediate Release

Hangzhou International School Kicks off the First Day of Summer with The World's Largest Swim Lesson™, June 20, 2024

Global water safety event educates families about drowning prevention and the critical need for life-saving swim skills leading into the riskiest month of the year for aquatic accidents

Hangzhou, May 23, 2024 – On Thursday, June 20th, 2024, an unlikely team of kids and adults at aquatic facilities all around the world will unite for the 15th year to teach kids vital water safety skills to help prevent childhood drowning. **The World's Largest Swim Lesson™** (WLSL) will take place over 24 hours at hundreds of aquatic centers, swim schools, and waterparks in more than 20 countries.

Water-related accidents and drowning risk peak during the month of July in the U.S. and other parts of the world as people flock to pools, waterparks, and natural bodies of water to beat the heat. Drowning is the leading cause of death for kids ages 1-4 and the second leading cause of unintentional injury death for kids 5-14, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. Drowning is the third leading cause of unintentional injury-related death worldwide.

"We want to equip families with an understanding of the basic swimming skills and water safety knowledge they need to be safer in, on, and around the water," said Aquatics Coordinator Natalio Liares, IV. "Knowing how to swim and prevent drowning is truly a matter of life and death for all families, regardless of race, economics or geography."

Hangzhou International School's *THE WAVE* will be serving as an official Host Location Facility for the 2024 WLSL event. HIS was the first school to participate in WLSL in China, and only one of two host venues in China in 2024. Parents are invited to learn more about this phenomenal event by visiting www.his-china.org/extend/swim-team/wsl or WLSL.org.

About: The World's Largest Swimming Lesson™ was created to raise awareness about the importance of teaching children to swim to prevent childhood drowning. Since its inception, more than 383,000 children and adults have participated in WLSL Lessons in 53 countries on six continents generating billions of media impressions about the importance of learning to swim. TEAM WLSL™ holds five Guinness World Records™.