

OCT. 2020 | ISSUE 1



# The YIS Newsletter



Principal's Letter

Welcome back to our  
first newsletter in  
academic year  
2021-2022!

Distance Learning Journey

Prefaces from the PYP,  
MYP and DP  
Coordinators

Parents' Page

Parents' Testimonials  
about Yis



EARCOS  
East Asia Regional Council of Schools



# Upcoming **Dates**

**13 October 2021**

Term 1 Report Card Release

**14-15 October 2021**

Students, Parents and Teachers Conference

**18-25 October 2021**

Term Break 1 (School Holiday)

**20 October 2021**

Maulidul Rasul

**26 October 2021**

Start of Term 2

**31 October 2021**

Halloween Day

**10 October 2021**

National Heroes Day

**22-26 November 2021**

Semester 1 Exam Week for the MYP-DP

**25 November 2021**

National Teacher's Day

**13 December 2021**

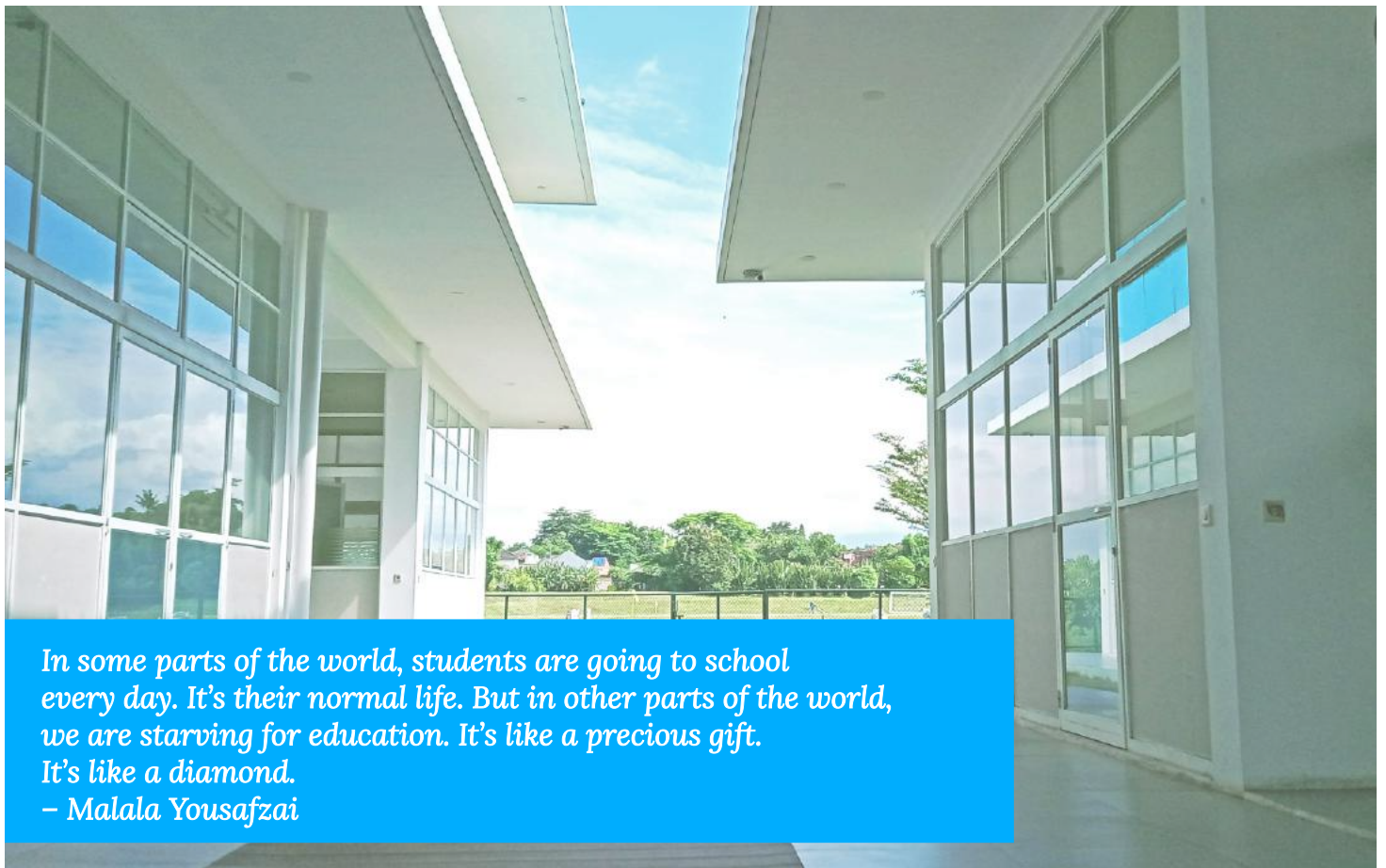
Due Date School Fee Term 3

**16 December 2021**

Term 2 Report Card Release

**17 December 2021**

Year End Celebration



*In some parts of the world, students are going to school every day. It's their normal life. But in other parts of the world, we are starving for education. It's like a precious gift. It's like a diamond.*  
– Malala Yousafzai

# Principal's **Letter**



**D**ear parents,

**W**elcome to our first newsletter in the 2021-2022 academic year. We hope that you and your family are doing fine. We are happy to see that the learning journey of your child in this first term has been very engaging, positive and fun - despite some of the challenges we faced during the virtual learning sessions. We can see that the acquisition of the IB learner profiles have grown in a positive direction and started to show a very pleasing outcome. Students, through their learning journey at YIS and their exposure to several activities mediated by the teachers, have shown tremendous progress. We are proud to see students show improvement in their communication skills, in their ability to become risk takers and to be principled too. We trust that with your continuous support, we will be able to help the students achieve their goals.

**T**hrough this newsletter we also would like to introduce you to our new teaching staff, they are : Pak Chad, English teacher for PYP; Bu Charmaine, English teacher for MYP and

DP; Bu Josephine, Science teacher for MYP and DP; Pak Kus, Bahasa Indonesia Teacher for High School and we also have Pak Saiful, Mathematics teacher for PYP and MYP.

**W**e would also like to invite you to attend the first virtual Students, Parents and Teachers Conference (SPTC) for this academic year on 14 and 15 October 2021, where we can discuss further how to help students improve their academic and non-academic skills at YIS. We wish you a happy term break ahead and feel free to utilize YIS' outdoor facilities during the holiday. Stay safe and GOD bless you.

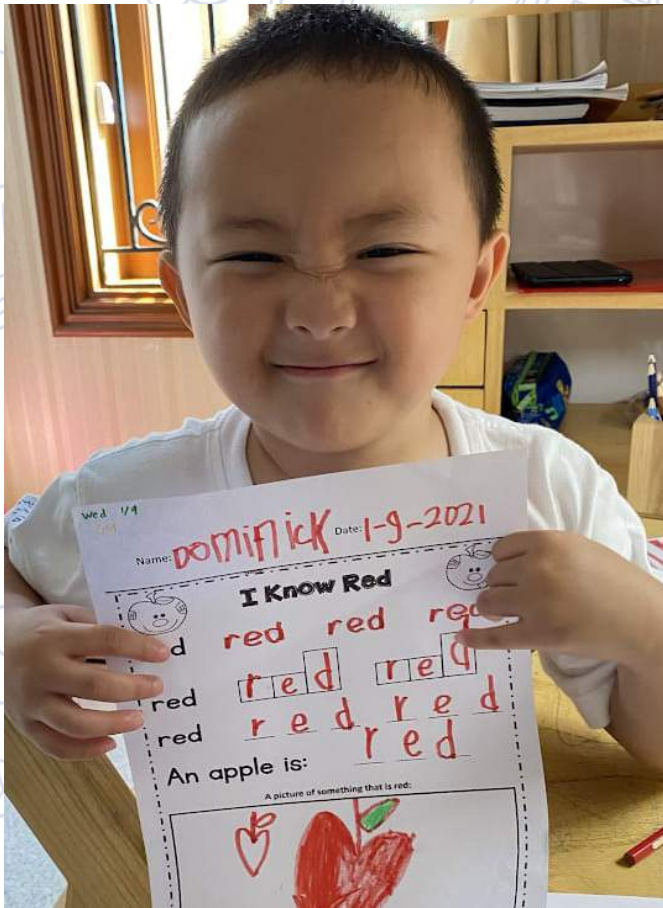
Sincerely yours,

**Ismail Sumantri**

*Yogyakarta Independent School Principal*



# Preschool: It's All About Me!



Dominick and his project, Kinder B

Welcome back to Preschool! We were very excited to start our new school year with a lot of fun and interesting activities. This term, we started with the Transdisciplinary Theme "All About Me". We talked about our names, our genders, parts of the body and the 5 senses. The kids knew how to write their own names, their gender and the names of their body parts. Preschoolers had some fun identifying the parts of the body by cutting and pasting pictures of body parts. We also played a "Simon says" game to make the learning more fun. The kids were excited and enjoyed the game so much.

In numeracy, we learnt colors such as red, blue and yellow and then the Preschoolers made "My Little book of Red, Blue and Yellow". They colored various pictures using the appropriate color and cut around the pictures to make a book.

## Early Years Distance Learning Journey

Welcome to Early Years!

It was so amazing to see everyone reconnected and having online learning after the summer holiday. This new academic year, we have 7 main subjects in Early Years: UOI, Literacy, Math, Music, Bahasa Indonesia, Visual Art and PE. With our well-prepared teachers in our online learning, we will continue the education without reducing the enthusiasm to continue the learning process in our Early Years.

It has been nice to see Early Years engaging in a range of interesting activities in this new academic year such as "show and tell" and learning the calendar. The students are engaged in online learning well. We will continue to deliver the knowledge to Early Years students and emphasize on 3 areas; cognitive, social and emotional skills to empower them to be balanced during this pandemic. Go Team!

**Fajar Ina**  
The Early Years Coordinator



Abude's project in Preschool

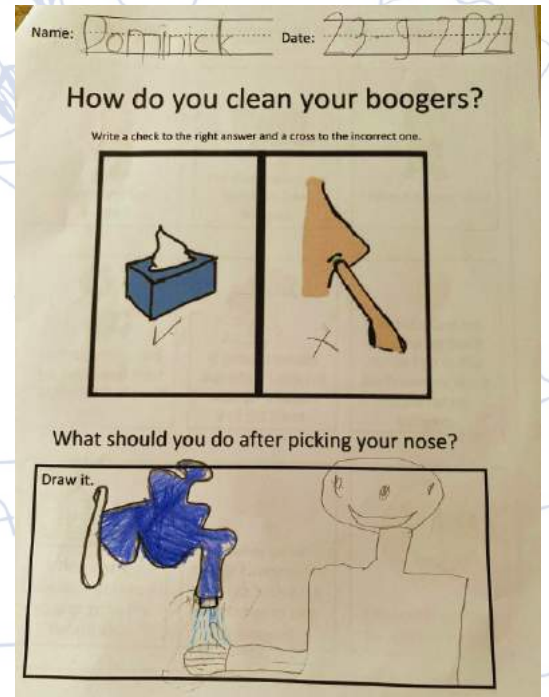


# Kindergarten A dan B: Explore the World with Our Five Senses

Exploring the theme “Who We Are” with the Kinder A and B team has been awesome! They are going to continue the “All About Me” unit and will be identifying gender/physical figure, learning about parts of the body and also understanding that they are all unique people. The “All About Me” Unit also focuses on The Five Senses. Through their 5 senses the students will learn, experience, and explore their world and make some observations with their eyes, ears, nose, tongue, and hands. They learn new words to help describe what they see, hear, smell, and what they taste and touch.

Kindergarten A and B engage to various different activities using their 5 senses. They use their eyes to see things around them as well as teachers and friends and play “I spy with my little eyes” and many more.

Having those activities will help the students to explore their world around them. We will also emphasize on how they should take care of their 5 senses to keep them healthy.



One of the student's projects in Kinder B

“In All About Me unit, The Kinder A and B students will be identifying gender or physical figure, learning about parts of the body and also understanding that **they are all unique people.**”

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting. The main window shows a presentation slide with a cross-section diagram of a human ear. The text on the slide says "...not even cotton buds...". The bottom right corner shows a grid of six video feeds for participants: Hyun Lee, Aramazd Wirawan, Benjiro Francis Jaury, Dominick Alexander Saputra, Dewi Yunwersanti, and You.

How to keep your ear healthy?



# The Primary Years Programme Distance Learning Journey

**Welcome back to PYP for 2021!**

**T**he journey to self-improvement begins with a journey to learn about ourselves. Grade 1 to Grade 6 have enjoyed the start of their learning journey by exploring the Transdisciplinary Theme of "Who We Are" from different areas. While Grade 1 and 2 inquired into the importance of personal and social health, Grade 3 investigate people's beliefs and values and Grade 5 and 6 deepened their understanding on healthy lifestyle.

**I**t has been a great opportunity for students, teachers and parents to continue our community of learning in the new academic year. As we are getting used to the new schedule, procedure and routines, we are also maintaining our good communication through Weekly Progress Report, Overview of Learning, and Packages.

**T**his year, PYP teachers are also collaborating to integrate Social and Emotional Learning in the class. Teachers establish strong connections with students, have students work in groups, as well as facilitate interactions among students. Let us maintain our collaboration and good communication to build and strengthen our YIS PYP learning community.

**Veronika Swanti**  
The Primary Years Programme Coordinator



A piece of art by Isabelle, Gr. 4



Olive, one of the 6th Graders, is doing her project

"Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!" - Dr. Seuss





Healthy breakfast with the Grade 1 and 2

## Grade 1 and 2: We are Kind, Healthy and Happy!

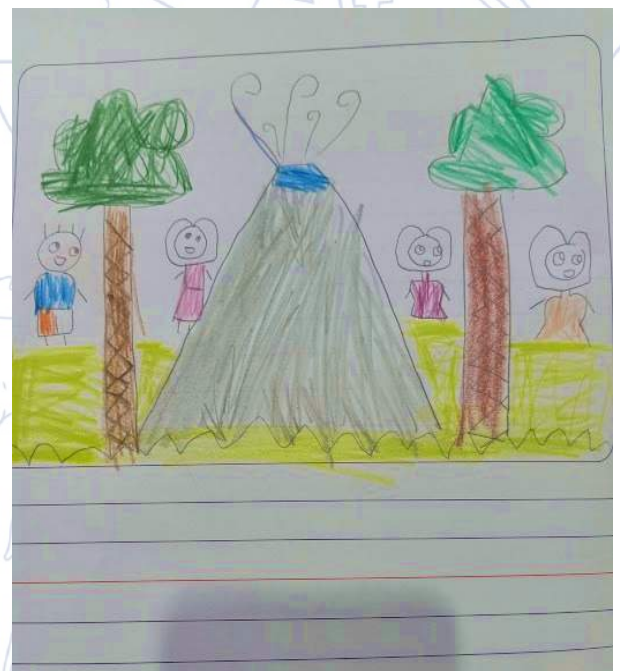
Welcome back to school!

Grade 1 and 2 had a tremendous start with the Transdisciplinary Theme "Who We Are" and mainly focused on the Central Idea Personal choices impact our health and relationships with others.

Being healthy for some students means eating healthy foods while the rest also mentioned that it was also important to keep our mind healthy, by having a good quality of sleep and doing yoga. Students were also learning about Five Food Groups in UOI, English, and Mathematics. They were preparing their healthy plate that consisted of fruits and vegetables, proteins, carbohydrates, dairy, and a little bit of fats.

In English, they were making healthy diaries and practiced making full sentences. In Mathematics, the students were making bar graphs about the length of their sleep as well as finding out similar foods between themselves and their moms using a Venn Diagram. In our last week of this unit, the students reflected that our good choices can also make other people feel good. Our personal choices are very significant to maintain a good relationship with others and we agreed that we chose to be kind, healthy and happy!

“Our personal choices are very significant to maintain a good relationship with others and we agreed that we chose to be **kind, healthy and happy.**”



To the Mountain with Dad, Mom and Sister, by Zahra Gr.1



# Grade 3 and 4: We are All Heroes! We are Wonders!

Starting this new school year with a Transdisciplinary Theme "Who We Are", Grade 3 explored the Central Idea "How Characteristics of Heroes in Various Cultures throughout History Help Define Individual Beliefs". Using Visual Thinking Strategies in UOI, they firstly observed 11 pictures related to heroes and expressed their thoughts about what they saw, thought, felt and wondered.

They also shared their opinion on characteristics that make a hero through the Mentimeter word cloud generator showing that heroes are brave, smart, caring, helpful, kind, truthful, happy, stand up for people, make the world beautiful and of course save the day.

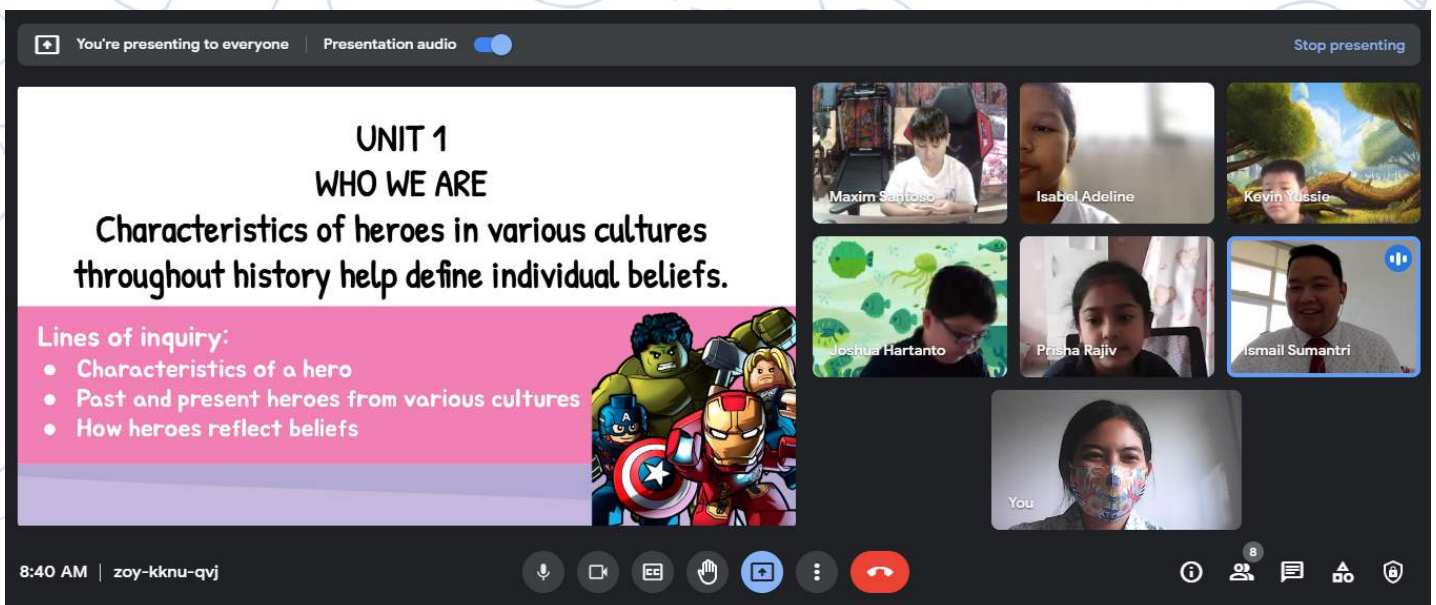
After dissecting the big words from the Central Idea "characteristics - heroes - cultures - history - beliefs", they conducted a classroom and individual research on the past and present heroes including Ibu Kartini, Abraham Lincoln, Mother Teresa, Mahatma Gandhi, Ole Kirk Christiansen, Malala, Greta Thunberg and key workers. To culminate this unit learning, they created stick puppets of their heroes and produced a video of their Puppet Theater.



The Mentimeter word cloud generator



Joshua and his project



The Unit of Inquiry with Ibu Swanti and the Grade 3 students



# Healthy Life Poster

By: Mikayla

## CARBOHYDRATES

- Carbohydrates include sugars, starches, and cellulose.
- Carbohydrates should provide about a half of the body's energy requirements.



## PROTEIN

- Proteins are used for body building and repair.
- Plant sources of protein often lack certain essential amino acids.



## FIBRE

- Fibre is found in fruit, vegetables, and nuts.
- Fibre helps food move through the large intestine.

## NUTRITIONS

- A balanced diet includes an adequate amount of ENERGY correct proportions of PROTEIN, FATS, CARBOHYDRATES, sufficient FIBRE, VITAMINS, MINERALS, and WATER.



## MINERALS

- Minerals protect the body and regulate its function.
- They also help to make bones and teeth and to control the amount of water in the body.



A Healthy Life Poster by Mikayla, Gr. 6

## Grade 5 and 6: The Amazing Human Body System

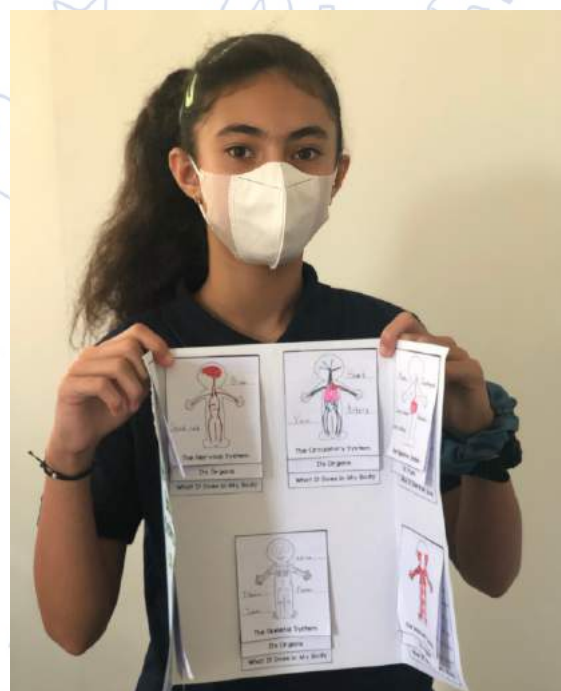
Grade 5 and 6 have enjoyed the beginning of Term 1 by inquiring into the theme 'Who We Are'. They have started exploring our Central Idea 'The Human Body of Interrelated Systems'. During this inquiry unit, students were learning all about the human body and how the different systems function together. They were doing the research based on the topic they had chosen and the questions they had posted.

They have also completed the human body system relationship project and creatively made a lapbook that contains seven of the main body systems, its organs, and their functions. At the end of this unit, we discussed how nutrients could help our body to be healthy and balanced. They have also successfully completed a healthy cooking project at home. The hard work of Grade 5 & 6 students is greatly appreciated!

"My mind is blown every time I think of how my body is designed. I'm built with such divine mechanics to think, feel, look, and breathe.

**It's amazing!"**

-Helen Edwards



Souha and her lapbook



# Distance Learning Journey in the Middle Years Programme



Aran, the Grade 9 student, is doing his project at the Joglo

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education”  
– *Martin Luther King*

## Welcome to the new school year!

On behalf of the MYP teachers, I would like to convey that YIS teachers remain committed to fulfilling the school's mission, to provide a stimulating environment for young people to become independent learners with international mindedness, who are ready to make a difference in the community. Careful planning with some differentiations have been continued to enhance students' engagement in the beginning of this school year, ensuring that they get the most out of their lessons and activities.

As to reintroduce you to the MYP, students study within eight subject groups; Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals and Societies, Mathematics, Design, Arts, Science, and Physical Education. Through this program, students develop their knowledge, skills, and attitudes to meet the academic challenges for their further study in the DP Program, as well as through the Personal Project in the final year and service with the community.

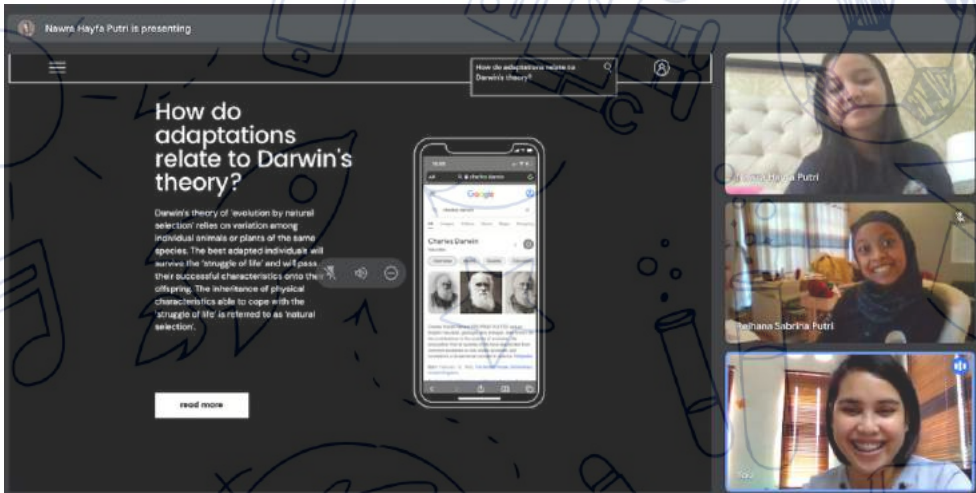
Furthermore, complying with the Indonesian educational requirements, students with the Indonesian citizenship are mandated to study Agama, PKn and Indonesian language, while the students with non-Indonesian citizenship are mandated for the Indonesian Studies known as the Language Acquisition. Providing you with a snap of the MYP activity across the grade, is the light virtual commemoration of Indonesian Independence Day that was conducted in the students' first week during the Indonesian language class. Students followed the flag raising, had some knowledge activation through discussions, and joined in some virtual games. I hope the coming term will continue to be inspiring and engaging for the learning community.

**Kencana D. Candra**

The Middle Years Programme Coordinator

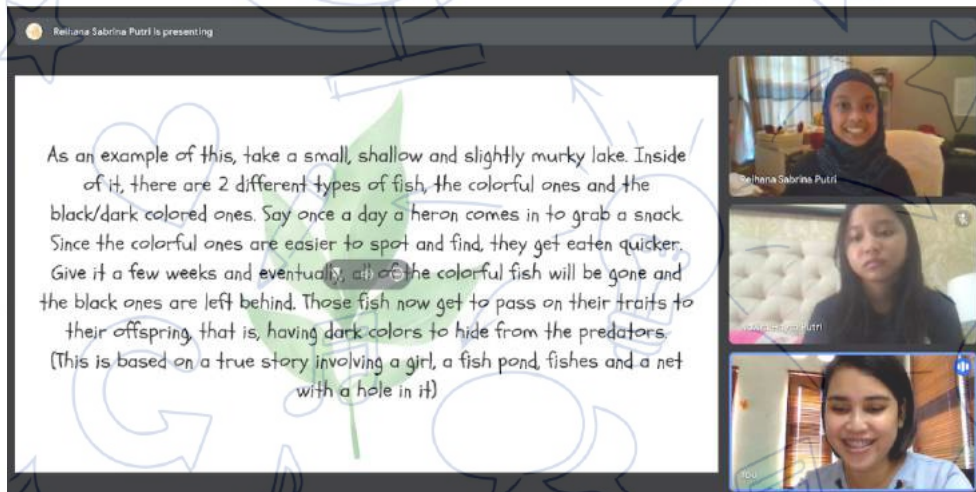


## Grade 7: Adaptation and Natural Selection



Grade 7 presenting the adaptations in relate to Darwin's Theory

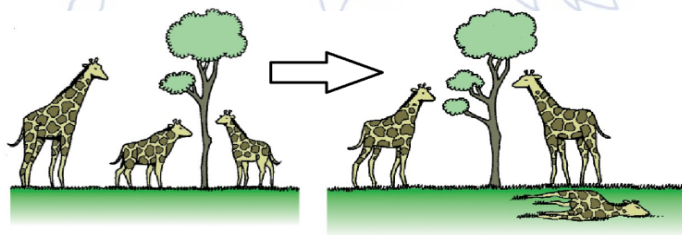
The capacity to adjust, shift, or cope with changing settings or conditions demonstrates adaptability. In the MYP, grade 7 students are attempting to adjust to new concepts and understandings. They are in the process of transition from primary to secondary school. Grade 7 students need to link their learning and make meaning of it.



Grade 7 presenting the adaptations in relate to Darwin's Theory

In Science, students in Grade 7 are studying adaptation and natural selection. Students study about living creatures and their diverse adaptations to various surroundings in this subject. They look at how animals change, adapt, and cope physiologically and in relation to their surroundings.

Students are given the opportunity to find connection to their own lives by exploring Charles Darwin's theories and how they apply to adapting to the living world, through scientific researching and recording activities. Students also investigate how birds have physically adapted to their various unique food supplies. They are expected to compare and analyze the outcomes of their experiments before drawing judgments about adaptability. Students will use knowledge harvest as a large lens to focus on throughout the whole unit, allowing them to make meaningful connections and discover patterns.



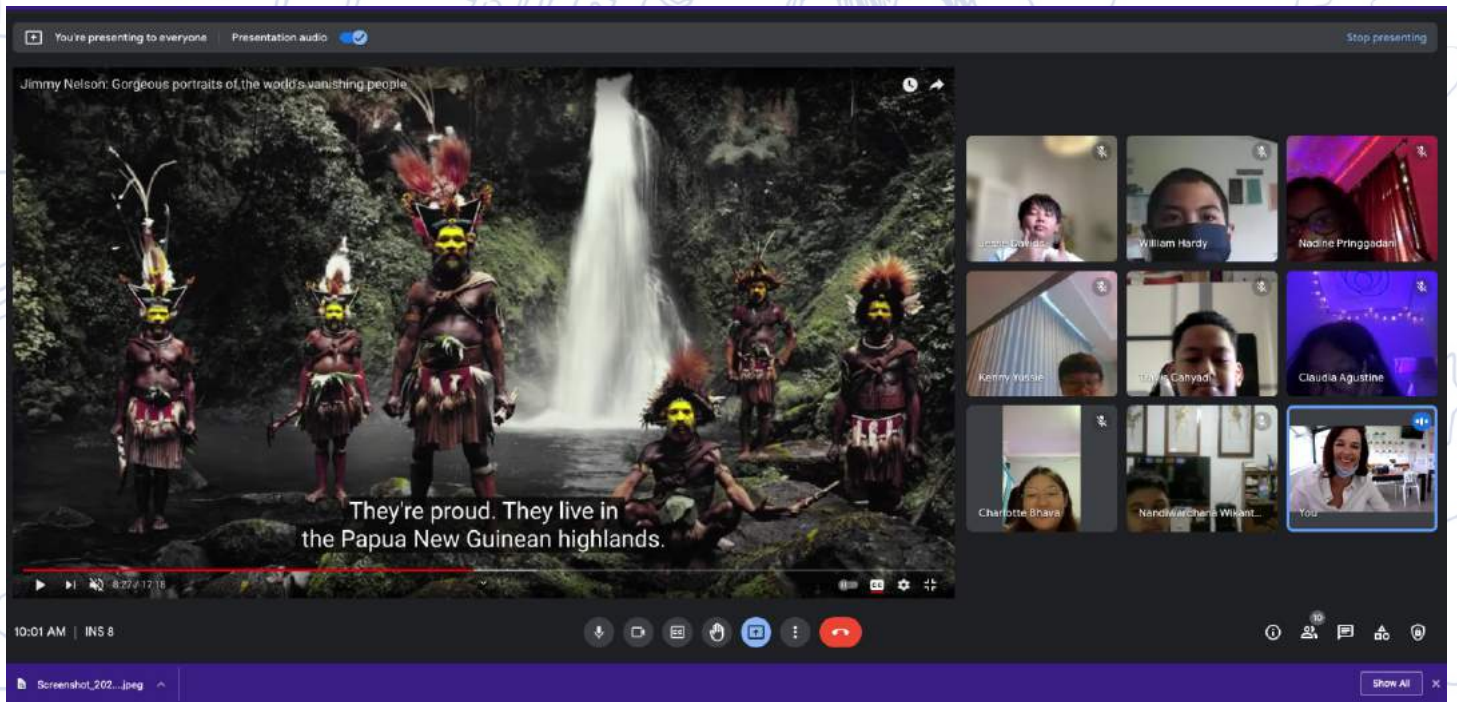
### Natural Selection in action

The natural selection and adaptation

**"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change."**

**-Charles Darwin**



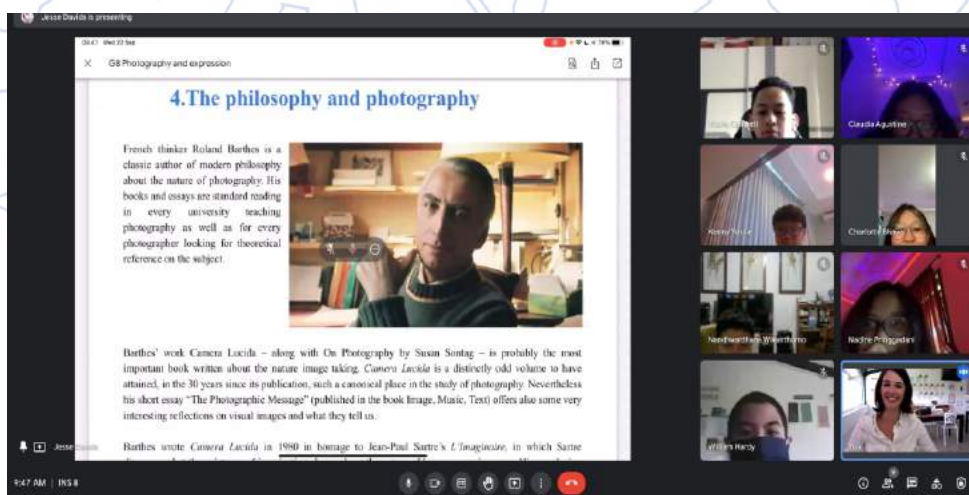


A presentation of Portrait of the World's Vanishing People

## Grade 8: Photography Can Change the Ways We Understand the World-Humanities Studies

During our first unit, our students in grade 8, have explored the surprising outcomes of photography which offers a visual record of all aspects of our human experiences. They investigated how photojournalism can share the fantastic tales that are beneath its subjects providing meaning and worthwhile, making them infinitely more significant and, ultimately, priceless. They have understood that stories are essential to tell, but it is the photographs that can elicit emotions and inspire people to empathize with others as they have the power to provoke and influence people's thoughts and emotions.

Truly, by capturing the diversity of human experiences, photography is a mean of personal expression that can change the way we know, remember and understand the world contributing to nurture our international mindedness, curiosity and hunger for learning and excellence. Indeed, photographs can expand our understanding of humankind and teach us not to label and judge what we encounter at first glance. As humans, we can expand our relationships, connections, viewpoints, ideas, empathy, intimacy, and diversity within photography. Finally, our students throughout our large range of activities arrived at a valuable and paradoxical lesson making us better people: 'what is essential, is invisible to the eye.'



Jesse's presentation: The Philosophy of Photography

"Photograph: a picture painted by the sun without instruction in art."  
– Ambrose Bierce

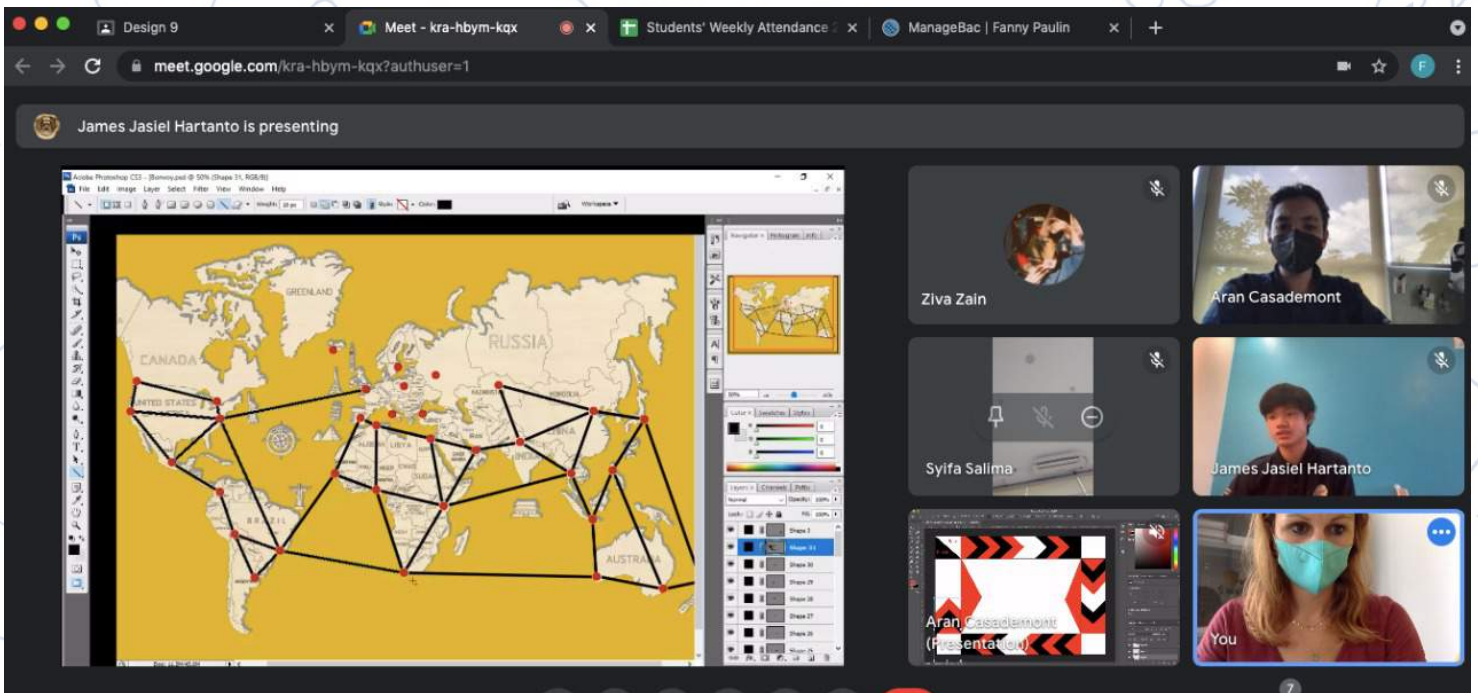


# Grade 9: Design-It's Time to Play!

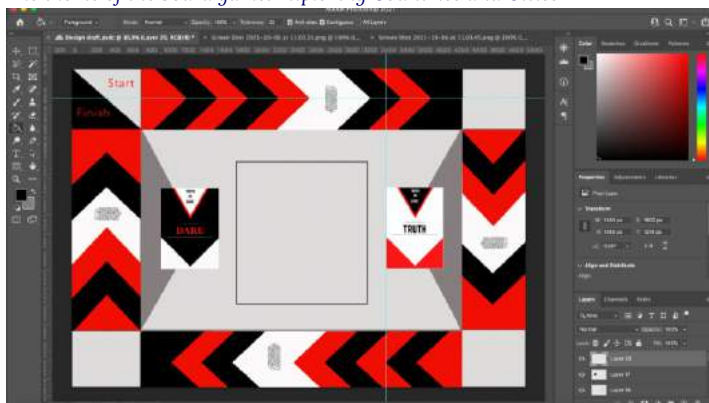
Time to play! Board games have a strong educational potential. They allow children to develop their ability to concentrate, their memory and their logical mind. Board games create precious moments because they are able to bring the whole family together around the table. In the age of screens, they allow different generations to meet, discuss and have fun.

This month, the design students focused on this timeless playful universe: board games and their very specific design. Activities related to this unit are designed to provide insight into game design and the game creation process to testing methods. The students were introduced to different kinds of games and also familiarized themselves with elements of the game and project management concepts related to creation. The students particularly focused on the graphics of the various components to support the player in his understanding of the game, but also to immerse him in the atmosphere of the game.

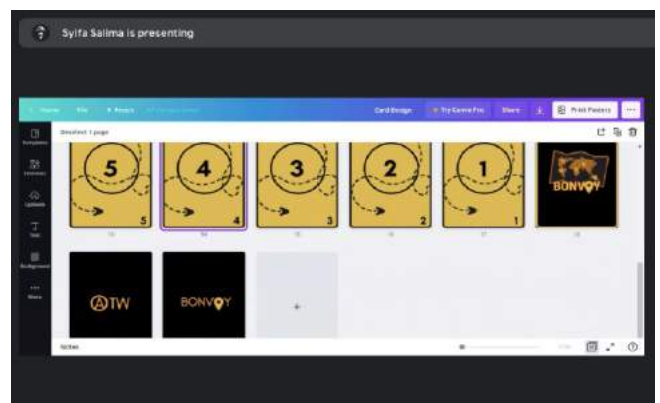
“There are only three forms of high art: the symphony, the illustrated children's book and the board game.”  
-Brian K. Vaughan



The theme of the board game: Exploring Countries and Cities

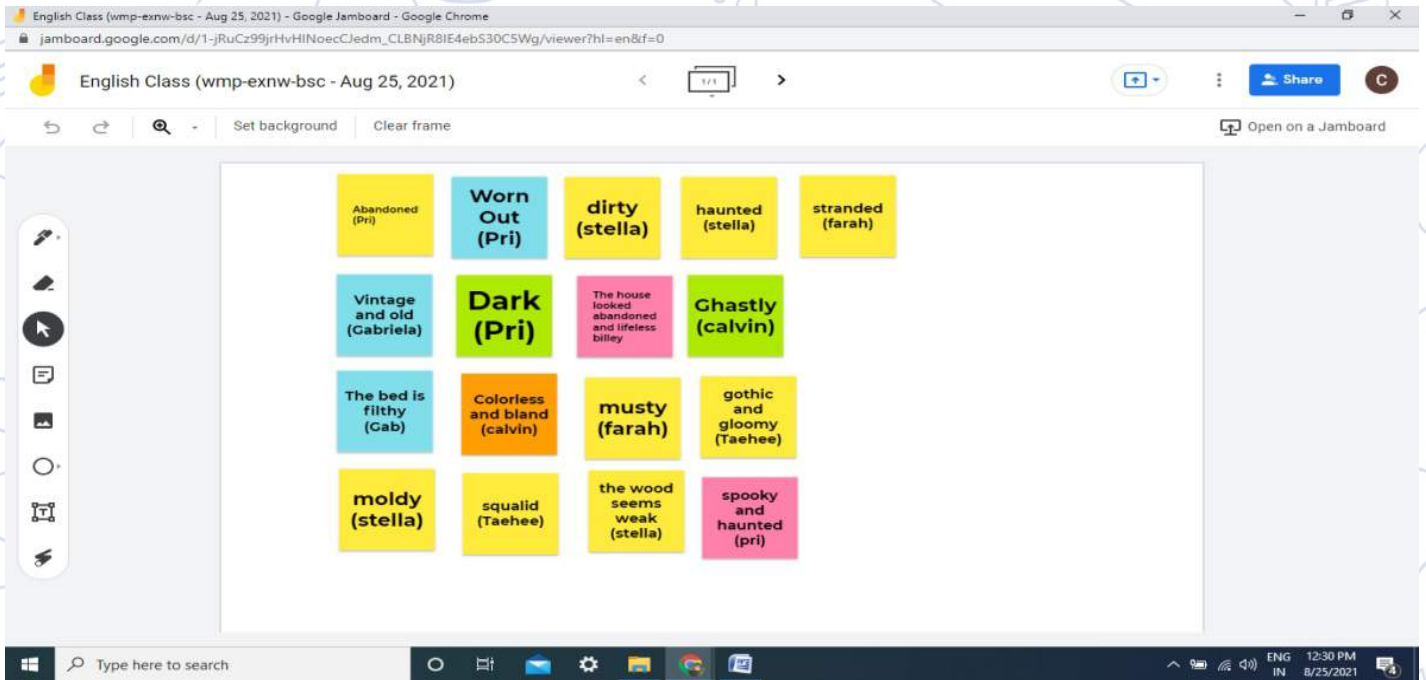


The board game design



The board game design

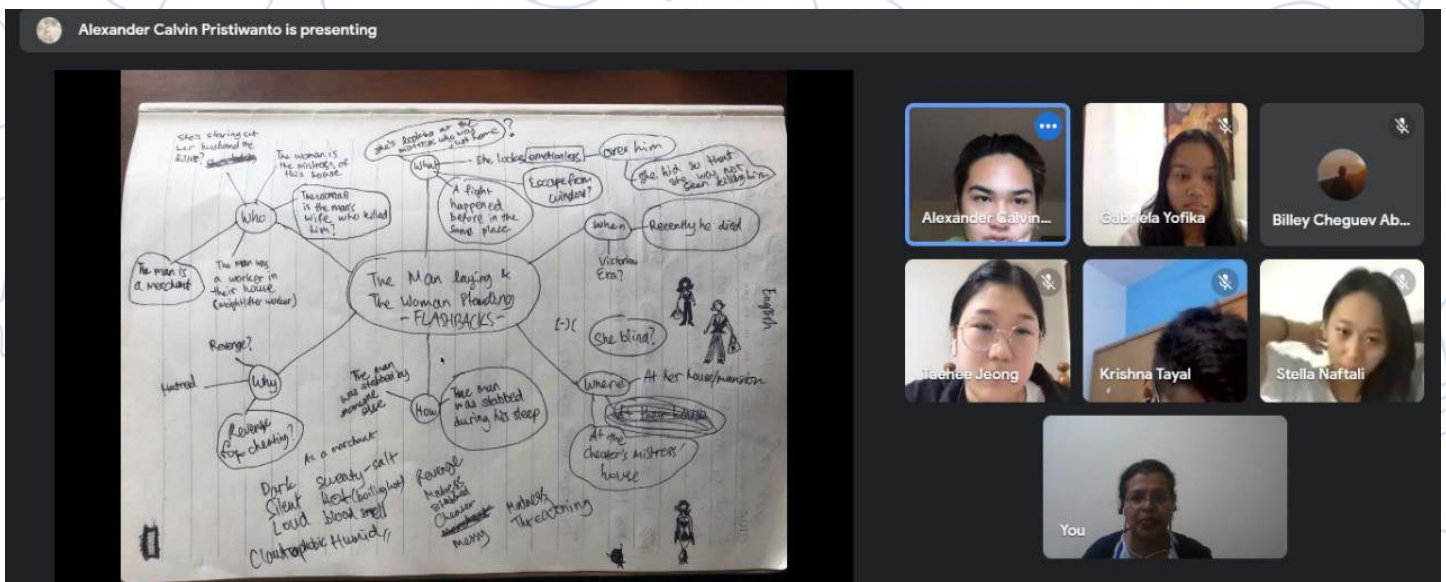
# English Language and Literature: Shaping Habits of Success with the **Grade 10**



Jam Board in English Class with Grade 10

Writing is a powerful tool and it's this skill that transcends time and cultures. In the English class, students of grade 10 addressed the complexities that come with genre, audience and purpose. They made inferences building on their analytical skills, using 'What', 'How', 'Why' as part of the process. This student-driven class focused on skill-building, actively engaging in Jam Board discussions, making graphic organizers, presentations, sharing their perspectives and decoding genres with visuals & movie trailers. They were also introduced to a variety of written voices, styles and purposes. From building on vocabulary to complex sentences, students focused on the end product of language.

These blossoming MYP learners understood the power of the written word through narrative and descriptive tasks focusing on the content and quality of their writing.



Graphic organizer presentation by Alexander Calvin



# Distance Learning Journey in the Diploma Programme

The start of the 2021-2022 academic year has been quite smooth for our Grade 11 and 12 IB DP cohort. Grade 11 jumped into full speed right away, despite the majority of them being newcomers to YIS. Grade 12 also went immediately back into high gear, progressing with their IB DP journey in good stride. For Grade 12, the remainder of the 2021 calendar year will be for completing long term projects including extended essays and internal assessments, and the months of 2021 leading to the exam in May will be dedicated to exam preparation.

Grade 11 received an initiation to the IB DP, and have started dedicating time and effort to the same long term projects that Grade 12 is currently doing. Every single subject in the IB DP has a long term project component. These projects are at the very core of the IB DP, and is part of what makes the IB DP, and the YIS implementation of it, unique.

**Elia Ekanindita (Dindit)**

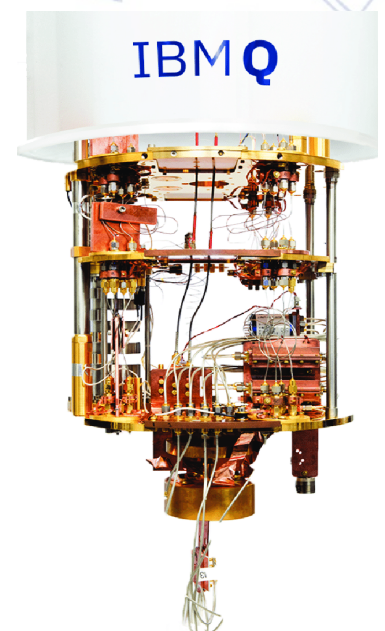
*The IB Diploma Programme Coordinator*

## Grade 12: Data Analysis with Excel and Python

Our sole Grade 12 IB DP Computer Science student, Sean Meoni, is doing an Internal Assessment project about a Decision Support System, implemented in the Python programming language and the Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet application, and utilizing the power of quantum computing. Since the beginning of 2021, as part of the LAMBDA effort, Microsoft Excel has become Turing-complete. Which means Microsoft Excel is now not just an application, but a fully-fledged programming language. He is learning and utilizing the NumPy package (fundamental package for scientific computing in Python), Pandas (Python data analysis and manipulation package), Anaconda (Python-based data analysis platform), xlwings (Microsoft Excel automation using Python), and together with his teacher, is reading the excellent and modern Python for Excel book by Felix Zumstein - who also authored the xlwings package. We are also utilizing the IBM Quantum education platform, using the Qiskit package and IBM's cloud quantum systems. Quantum computing holds the promise to increase the speed of our computers by at least a billion times.



An IBM Quantum Computer sample





# Spanish Language Acquisition: Explorar la Naturaleza del Ser y lo que Significa Ser Humano - **Grade 11**

In the Spanish class, students of grade 11 were introduced to the AB Initio DP Programme, which aims to encourage students to be knowledgeable and inquiring, but also caring and compassionate. From the five prescribed themes, we are now exploring Identidades (Identities) where we explore the nature of self and how we express who we are. Focusing on personal attributes and personal relationships. Students identify, describe and compare people, state, objects, places, situations and actions. They will also express reasons to study Spanish, make introductions, show reactions and express agreement & disagreement.

*Descripción física*  
Salma Shabira grado 11



Jerome es alto, gordito y guapo. Tiene el pelo negro y tiene los ojos castaños.

Stefan es bajito y tiene los ojos negros. El pelo de Stefan es castaño y corto. El es muy fuerte. Stefan lleva perilla y es muy guapo. Natasha es bajita y tiene los ojos castaños. Tiene el pelo rizado y castaños. Ella es muy guapa.

Maia tiene los ojos castaños y tiene el pelo rizado. Ella es muy alta y es delgadita.

Reza es muy alto. El pelo de Reza es rizado, corto y negro. Tiene los ojos castaños y es muy guapo. Reza es fuerte y es atractivo. Reza lleva bigote y barba.

Actresses and actors descriptions by Salma, Gr.11

# Indonesian Studies: Empowers Student Agency through an Engaging Study of Plant Trends in Indonesia with **Grade 11**

In Indonesian Studies Class, the student is empowered to be the active agent of learning. In the beginning of the term, the student was asked about the topic of learning that interested him the most thus the learning process can be more engaging. Student is facilitated by the teacher with suitable materials that enable more active participation for the student.

This term, Leo Lalmand joins the Indonesian Studies Class. He chose to study Plant Trends in Indonesia. He shared his prior knowledge related to the topic. He shared his experience of starting a business: selling plants. He clearly mentioned the background, the variety of plants, the marketing strategies of his business as well as the economic effect from doing the plant business. By learning a topic that meets the student's need and interest, it is expected that the student will show the best performance in the class.



One of the plants owned by Leo Lalmand



# YIS: The Best International Education in Yogyakarta

By: Mr. Asung Putranto S. Wirawan (Parents of Rex and Ara-PYP Students)



The Wirawan's in one frame

**S**tudying at YIS is like getting a complete package. The first is in terms of education and child development. With the IB curriculum owned by YIS, which focuses on encouraging children to have global insight, have creativity, be able to develop emotions - intellectually and socially, to contribute positively to the environment and culture, to be active, caring, to have an attitude of respect for themselves and others and easily adapt to their environment. As parents, we really feel positive about the progress of our children while they attend YIS, both in terms of education and character development.

**T**he second is the school environment. The concept is modern but also environmentally friendly (we call it a "green campus"), providing a comfortable space for our children to learn and express themselves. As an international school with a local concept, I think YIS has succeeded in supporting students to be open minded to global concepts without forgetting the roots of local culture. It has also succeeded in including mixed-students and teachers to give opportunities to the children to get to know global cultures from several countries, while still applying local wisdom. This is one of the big advantages of YIS compared to other schools.

**T**he third is the human resources owned by YIS. YIS consistently and continuously develops all its human resources in order to provide high quality staff that have integrity & professionalism. This applies not only to the teaching staff, but to the supporting staff too. The friendliness of every staff member is one of the main characteristics of YIS. So, that is not only students, but we as parents that feel that the YIS campus is a comfortable second home to discuss and develop ourselves. A place where all components of YIS, the teachers, supporting staff and parents of students can gather without distinguishing between backgrounds and only focus on child development.

**F**or us, YIS is the best school for the development of our children and we highly recommend YIS for parents who want to get the best world education in Yogyakarta. If you want your kids to be able to compete globally, have character, be independent and have social sense, as well as have high discipline, then choose YIS!"



Rex is doing a worm observation



# Building Your Child's Character and Logical Thinking at YIS

By: Mr. Suryo Wikanthomo (Parents of Nandiwardhana-MYP Students)



The Wikanthomo's in one frame.

**“My** child has been introduced to the IB curriculum since studying PYP in Singapore and continuing to one of the IB schools in Jakarta. Based on his school experiences so far, I consider that with the IB curriculum my child has built a broader mindset, higher ability, greater confidence in expressing opinions and also broader knowledge.

**W**hen I was transferred to Yogyakarta, I had to find a school with the same curriculum as my child's previous schools and I was quite surprised because in Yogyakarta there is one and only IB school named YIS.

**W**hat surprised me even more is that YIS has been established since 1989. At YIS, my child is comfortable because the school facilities are complete, comfortable and the teachers are very friendly and attentive to the student's development. I am glad that my child can continue his study at YIS. That is because by studying at YIS, his character can be built even stronger and his logical thinking can become even more well-formed.

**I** really suggest the parents whose children are not in IB schools yet, especially those who are in Yogyakarta, to choose YIS as your education partner. YIS will not only improve your children academically, but it will also build your children's characters as well as their logical thinking. In YIS we aim high, we are relevant and we make a difference!”

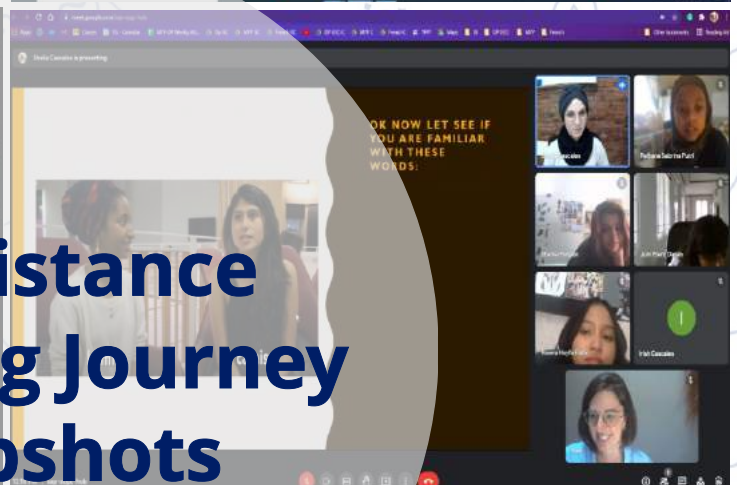
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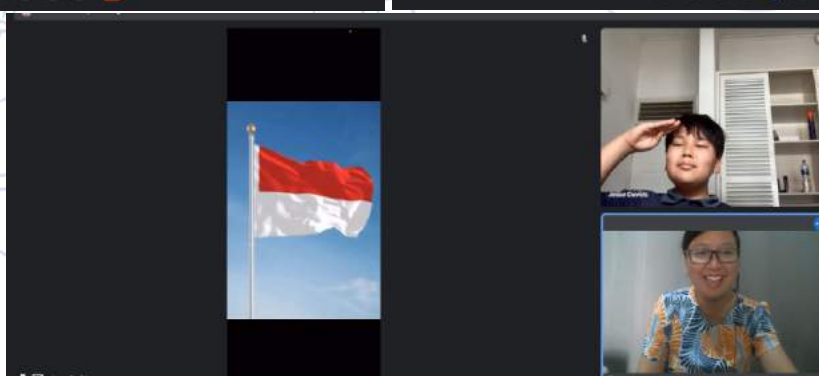
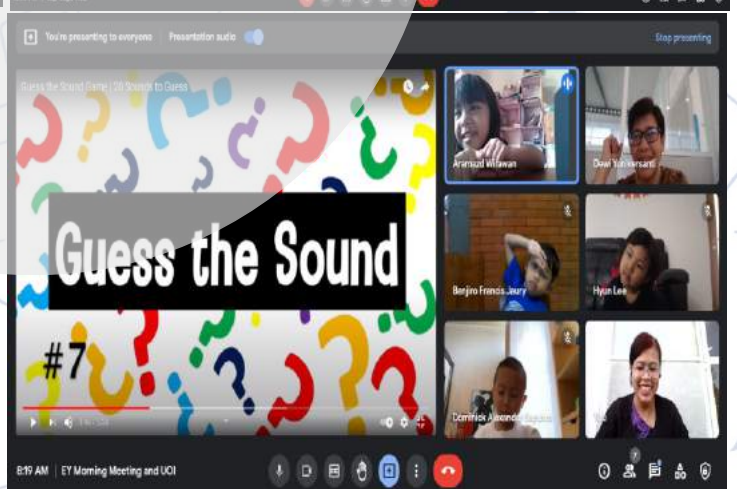
Dhana is doing his online project



# Students' Gallery

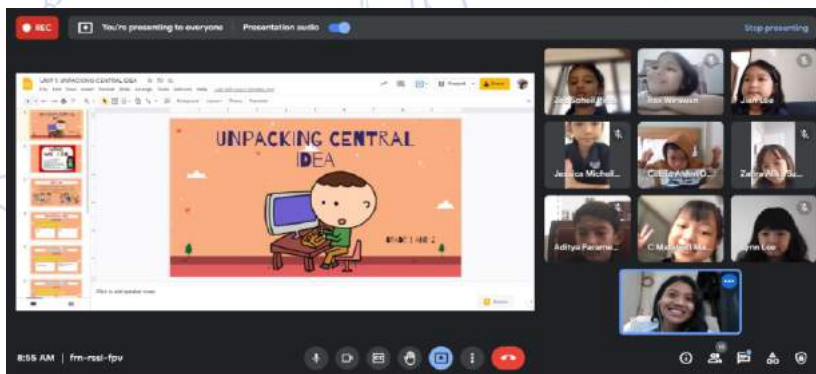
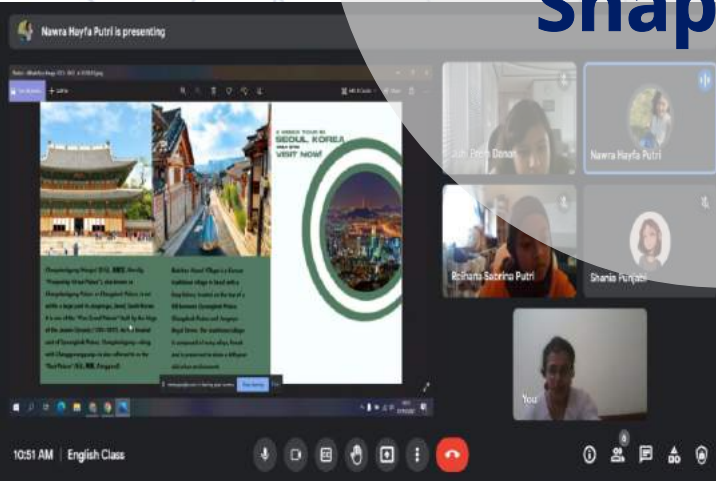
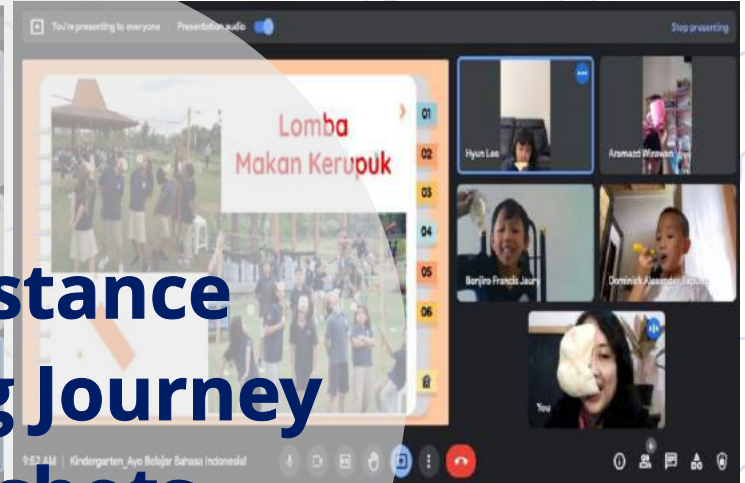
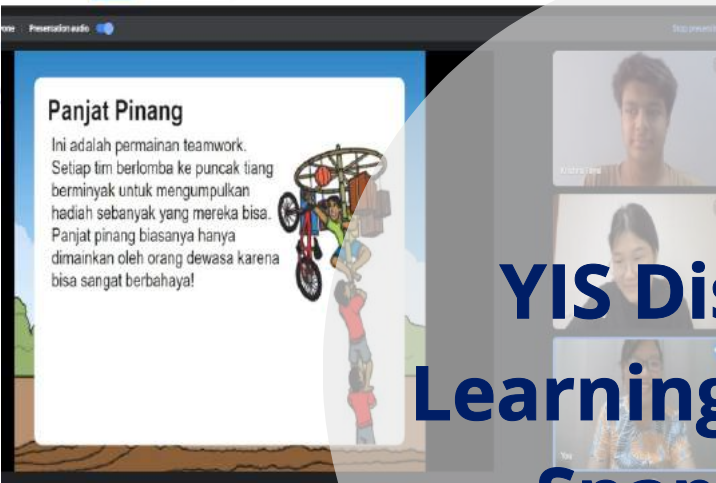
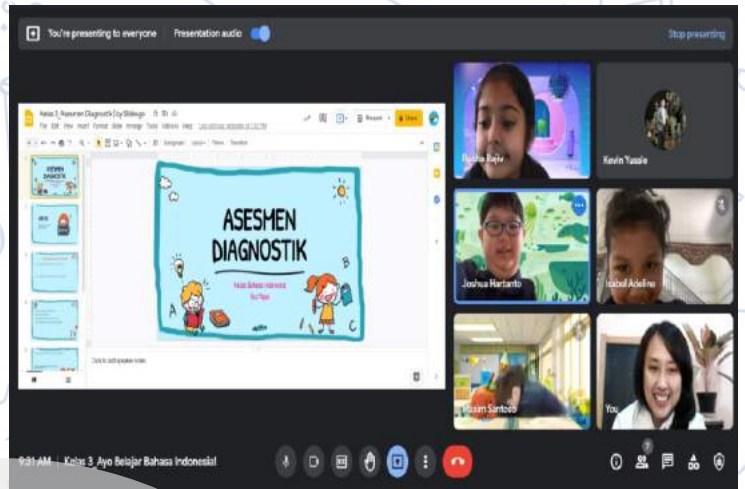
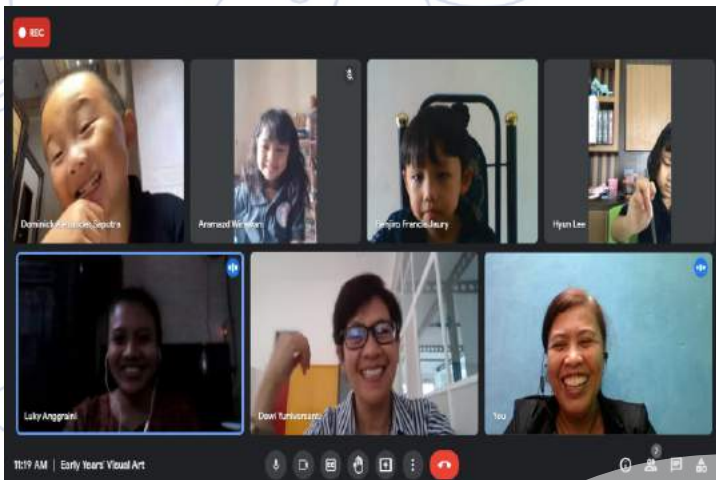


## YIS Distance Learning Journey Snapshots





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