



YOGYAKARTA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 | August - October 2022



UPCOMING DATES

14 October 2022	Students, Parents & Teachers Conferences
17-25 October 2022	School Holiday
26 October 2022	Start of Term 2 - UN Day
4 November 2022	Planting for EY & PYP students
7 November 2022	Halloween Program for Primary & Secondary Students
21-25 November 2022	Semester 1 Exams for Secondary Students
2 December 2022	YIS Social & Science Expo
13 December 2022	Secret Santa & Potluck Party
16 December 2022	End of the Year Concert



EARCOS
East Asia Regional Council of Schools

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The positive vibrancy can be felt by all the YIS community at the start of the new academic year 2022/2023 during the face-to-face learning mode at the YIS campus. While the entire YIS community is successfully navigating the new normal, our students are on track and progressing according to the established standards of the International Baccalaureate and the YIS curriculum.

In this issue of the YIS Newsletter, we will share with you an overview of some of the learning engagements students have experienced at the start of the new academic year. Although we have only been in session for a few weeks, students are already designing projects, creating art, writing essays, building models, experimenting in science, delivering presentations, and enhancing their skills in musical instruments.

Bearing in mind that successful education is not only tempered by teaching within the four-walls of the classroom, the students and teachers also took the opportunity to utilize the fascinating YIS outdoor facilities. The Early Years students explored the surroundings as part of their science class activities by visiting our mini zoo in which they observed, inquired, and expressed what they have learned. The seniors were also often seen enjoying their study periods with their teachers in the Joglo area which was supported by a wonderful Merapi view.



Apart from the excitement in the academic-related activities, the YIS community happily attended the Merdeka Games event which was conducted in the first week of this term. Parents, students, teachers, and staff participated in several games where collaboration was required and which aimed to create a better relationship amongst us.

A fashion show was one of the activities during Batik Day which was conducted in the first week of October. The idea behind this program was not only to celebrate National Batik Day but also to build a meaningful non-classroom activity that helps to support the growth of students' social-emotional well-being. All of the YIS community was invited to participate in the program and they really enjoyed the day.

The Students, Parents and Teachers Conferences (SPTC) will be conducted on Friday 14 October 2022. On that occasion, Students and Parents will have the opportunity to discuss the performance and the progress of each individual student in a face-to-face meeting with their respective Grade Level Advisors at the YIS campus. We look forward to meeting you at the conferences.

ISMAIL SUMANTRI
YIS PRINCIPAL

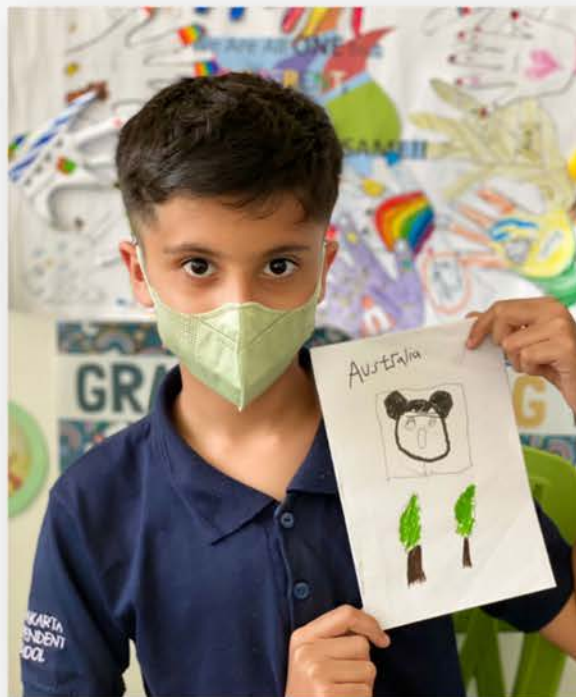


MESSAGE FROM THE PYP COORDINATOR

Getting the new academic year off to a good start with memorable orientation days, the PYP students got to know more about school by attending a classroom and school tour, getting accustomed to schedules and routines, constructing a classroom essential agreement, reviewing the Learner Profile and Approaches to Learning skills, doing enjoyable activities with the specialist teachers, making About Me posters, creating artworks with parents, as well as having fun in Merdeka Games.

Students in the PYP then explored the first Transdisciplinary Theme of "Who We Are", an inquiry into the nature of self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights and responsibilities; as well as what it means to be human. While Grade 1-2 students explored the importance of parts of the body as communication means, Grade 3-4 learned about diversity, and Grade 5-6 delved into multiculturalism. It has been a great Term to get to know each other and start the journey of learning!

IBU SWANTI
PYP COORDINATOR



PRESCHOOL

Preschool students have started the first term of the new school year 2022-2023 with excitement. They have enjoyed going to school to meet new friends, teachers and staff. Their adjustment to a new environment has been running well. They began to adapt to the school routines and to following the classroom rules slowly but surely.

This term, preschool students focussed on developing their motor skills by doing some activities such as cutting, tracing, coloring, painting and drawing. This means that holding and using scissors, pencils, crayons and markers correctly have been the main activities we have done to strengthen the students' motor skills. They have practised cutting straight lines, tracing straight and wavy lines, tearing some newspaper with their fingers and coloring some pictures using color pencils, markers and crayons as well. In future, we will be doing some more practice in other fun ways to make the students feel happier to do the activities and come to school.

IBU DEWI
PRESCHOOL
HOMEROOM TEACHER



KINDERGARTEN A & B

Kindergarten A and B explored the theme “Who We Are”, inquiring into how “Friendships can improve our lives and need to be taken care of in order to develop”. Based on this theme, the students learned how to introduce themselves in a new school environment to new teachers and friends. They met and got to know each other in a fun activity inside and outside the classroom.

The students have adjusted well to daily routines, and they continued to review class rules, routines, commitments. They have learned to use the indoor voice while inside the classroom and outdoor voice while outside the classroom. Sharing and caring are the basic things they have learned to be good friends. They enjoyed playing together, and helping each other. Making friendship bracelets was one of the activities for the students to collaborate and to strengthen bonding to one another.



Our learning through play will continue to progress. The students build new skills such as self-management, communication and cooperation skills. Having a presentation to show and tell about their family and friends pictures encourages the students to have the confidence to talk in front of their teachers and friends.

The students of Kindergarten A and B were sharing and showing their baby pictures and presenting how they have changed and grown. Besides, they also showed and talked about their family pictures and their friends outside the school. They explained to their friends each of their family members and friends.



This activity will also build students' listening skills which are needed before they learn something new and this helps the students to respect teachers and friends as they listen to their friends and pay good attention when others are talking.

We also encourage students to explore and use their feelings to express what they need and wants. Solving conflict and problems helps students to be more resilient.



EARLY YEARS & PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

To celebrate our Friendship in Early Years, Kindergarten A and B collaborated with Preschool in having the Friendship Salad activity. They made the salad with all good and kind ingredients. They brought different fruit representing different characters of each student. Furthermore, they put the fruits in turns and mixed them all together to make the Early Years Friendship Salad. Even though we are different, but we care for each other. The students enjoyed the friendship salad and created a comfortable friendship in our Early Years and in Yogyakarta Independent School community.

IBU FAJAR
KINDERGARTEN A & B
HOMEROOM TEACHER



GRADE 1 & 2

The boys and the girls of Grade 1 and 2 have done a great job of adjusting to our daily routines. We reviewed our Essential Agreement when playing, studying, and interacting with others. Through the Social-emotional Learning (SEL) lesson, we keep learning the process of developing our social awareness, self-control, and interpersonal skills.

Our Grade 1 and 2 students started the new school year with excitement as they began the first unit exploring the use of our body parts under the Central Idea 'My Body Helps Me Interact With the World'. They also learned about the 'Five Senses' in Science. The students used their senses to explore their surroundings, e.g. green grass, chirping birds, bitter coffee, fresh air, and spiky surface. They enjoyed testing their senses through games and popcorn making.



PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME



In UOI, the students practiced using nonverbal communication through miming, and they also practiced Sign Language taught by a person who daily communicates with hand signs and facial expressions. The theme is also applied in the English classes where Grade 1 students are guided to construct simple sentences using their senses, e.g. My eyes can see, My nose can smell, etc.

Grade 2 students used their senses to describe a picture with some adjectives learned. Creating a self-collage and painting a self-portrait drawing were some activities that we did in Art Class. It was so fun!

IBU LUKY
GRADE 1 & 2
HOMEROOM TEACHER



GRADE 3 & 4

With more friends joined in, Grade 3-4 students have started this academic year with new adventures. Exploring the Central Idea of "Knowing and appreciating diversity can enable us to become global citizens", they learned how to respect similarities and differences and be good global citizens.

On the first day of school, Ibu Saulina and Bapak Asung Wirawan, parents of Rex from Grade 3, taught the students to create a wonderful poster displaying decorated handprints which says "We are all ONE but DIFFERENT, DIFFERENT but the SAME!!". In UOI, they conducted individual research and presentations exploring a country's flag, geography/map, religions, holidays / festivals, sports / games played by children, food and drinks, arts, costumes, music, dances, languages, and fun facts.



PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

In Science, the students learned in detail about living things. They also had an opportunity to learn about a healthy diet from Ibu Lata Duseja, mom of Prisha from Grade 4, during the Multicultural Food Day and Cooking Demo. They enjoyed learning Indian words for spices, watching the cooking demo, touching and rolling the fluffy dough, smelling the delicious cooking, as well as tasting the hot and yummy Poori Bhaji.



During Social and Emotional Learning sessions, the students learned about self-awareness through metaphor, emotion recognition, and growth-mindset as well as social-awareness through random act of kindness.

In Arts, students enjoyed drawing the African-inspired patterns, painting the metallic Aztec-inspired figures, and working on their Rangoli's light-up canvas wall decor. During Show and Tell, students brought an item that represented a country or culture.



One of memorable actions that the Grade 3-4 students had in this Term was the Barong dance led by Jerzy from Grade 4 in our Playground. What a wonderful, colorful, and delicious Term to celebrate diversity!

IBU SWANTI
GRADE 3 & 4
HOMEROOM TEACHER



GRADE 5 & 6

Grade 5 and 6 students have enjoyed the new academic year by exploring the Central Idea "There are a range of factors in the community which shape our identity" through detailed research on the cultures of the country they have chosen.

They have explored the country's flag, geography, religions, festivals, games, food and drinks, arts, costumes, music, dances, and languages. By sharing their findings during UOI sessions, they have learned to be open-minded and caring by respecting and celebrating the differences in all people.

PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME



In English, they learned how to compare and contrast two festivals from different cultures using a Venn diagram. They have also successfully completed a cooking project showcasing different recipes from around the world.

In Social and Emotional Learning class, students learned about a fixed and a growth mindset. Having a growth mindset is important because it can help them overcome obstacles they may face when learning something new or developing new skill. "By changing the way we think, we can change the way we learn and achieve a positive outcome".

IBU AJENG
GRADE 5 & 6
HOMEROOM TEACHER



MESSAGE FROM THE MYP COORDINATOR



A new year of school always gives a chance to begin life fresh with new goals and challenges to those who live fully, looking ahead and working harder to make things better and brighter.

At a time when students are establishing their identity and building their self-esteem, the MYP serves as a tool to motivate the students to build on their personal strengths and embrace the challenges in subjects in which they might not excel; achieving success in school and in life beyond the classroom.

At YIS, students are guided to develop their potential, to explore their own learning preferences, to take appropriate risks, and to reflect on, to become a person with a strong sense of personal identity. In the years ahead, we will celebrate the many ways that YIS students have worked in pursuing their goals and overcoming the challenges; becoming individuals with values that lead them to take principled action for their success.

IBU CANDRA
MYP COORDINATOR



MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

GRADE 7 - VISUAL ARTS

Through the arts we can show our thoughts, opinions, and communicate our ideas. In this school, students experiment with diverse media and explore techniques for making art. Students produced a body of artwork through a process of reflection and evaluation.

IB MYP visual arts offer chances for students in our school to experiment with different art making skills and meaningful works of art. Based on the IB assessment criteria, students have been guided to develop their knowing and understanding, their developing skills, and to thinking creatively and responding.

This term grade 7 also studied ceramics. Students were excited when learning this topic because they could fully express their feelings and ideas through three dimensional artworks. This project was started by doing research, analysis, as well as experiments about ceramics from different cultures and countries from around the world. The whole artistic process and experiment has been recorded in a sketchbook called a Visual art journal. With this visual art journal book, students can develop their ideas and art making techniques, as well as record their discoveries.

PAK HERLI
MYP & DP
VISUAL ART TEACHER



MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

GRADE 8 - SCIENCE

Our 8th graders explored simple machines for doing work and how they make work more efficient, the use of energy resources globally, and some of the problems with global dependency on fossil fuels. Through laboratory experimentation, students learned the concept of 'how energy changes determine chemical changes in a combustion.' In this activity, students measured energy changes in exothermic and endothermic reactions. This activity allows students to gather data based on the evidence, and reach a conclusion, including evaluating the validity of their methods.



Our unit discussion covers that energy consumption is generally increasing and is likely to continue to do. Students are challenged to develop their critical thinking and creative thinking through meaningful content and skills that afford connections between students' lives and the real world.

IBU ARTIKA
MYP - DP SCIENCE &
BIOLOGY TEACHER



MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

GRADE 9 - INDIVIDUALS & SOCIETIES

Our students in grade 9 have explored the rise of our modern state system as an institutional innovation that has fundamentally changed the political, economic, and social dynamics of our societies. They recognized that what we are taking for granted now is actually the result of a long process. Moreover, they have investigated the complexity of the relations that exist between states with the aim to develop a comprehensive understanding of the historical evolution of the international system including its structures, concepts, and laws.

A strong emphasis was on the study of wars, their meanings, causes, and consequences as well as the several morality questions that resulted from them. By combining different approaches, our students have gained a deeper understanding of the development, resolution, and consequences of armed conflict on the global stage. As war has been far too common in human history, it is our responsibility to prevent them. That is why, our activities, based on debate and dialogue, have offered them the total package for refining their skills of in-depth and critical analysis with the objective to nurture their international mindedness and make them the leaders of our future.

IBU JENNIFER
MYP - DP GEOGRAPHY &
FRENCH LANGUAGE
TEACHER



MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

GRADE 10 - SPANISH

Spanish MYP for grade 10 is divided into two phases, emergent and capable. Emergent students were exploring a way of learning a new language and culture because learning a new language also means learning about a new culture. In informal situations in Spanish-speaking countries, it is common for people to kiss others on the cheek (or both cheeks).

We discuss what students do when they see their friends or relatives, or when students meet a person of their age for the first time. Nara mentioned that it is also common for her to kiss on the cheek (or both cheeks) in Indonesia for girls. Rayhan mentioned that it is more common to shake hands for boys in Indonesia. Students will encounter many cultural differences in learning Spanish as a new language. Not everything will be the same as in their own culture. The learning process will be an exciting voyage of discovery!



The capable group students have explored labels; the labels that people usually use do not help us to develop fully. Sometimes, we judge or distinguish people because of their appearance, and this is harmful to everyone. Students have discussed the importance of empathy in social relations - putting ourselves in someone else's shoes, in order to understand the situation of others.

We have also seen the limitations that we put on ourselves when we say that we cannot do something (without having tried it before), or when someone tells us that we are not good at something and without trying, we limit ourselves in that area. As Aran says: -"The world is not just black and white", and as Syifa says: -"Labels limit us". They have come to reflect that to be successful in our studies and in our lives, discipline and consistency are very necessary, as well as leading a healthy life, eating well, getting enough rest and sports.

**IBU SHEILA & IBU PALOMA
MYP - DP SPANISH
LANGUAGE TEACHERS**



DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

GRADE 11- ENGLISH

YIS is creating a rigorous, globally focused learning environment whereby students attain world class academic, cultural and career proficiencies, understand their unique talents, and have the necessary skills to take their places as exemplary citizens in our local, national and international societies. Active inquirers of DP 1 participated in Socratic seminars, quizzes, discussions, exploring various Bodies of work which focused on developing their research skills, knowledge, understanding, and appreciation for Shakespeare's works. Students collaboratively worked on themes and concepts from *The Merchant of Venice* which allowed them to further their understanding about the concept of Power, Justice and Politics.



Students picked a prompt, related to the themes, for a debate presenting their side of the argument in class. They displayed critical thinking to find suitable arguments for their side. At the end, each prompt led to a group discussion which students found quite eye-opening whilst listening to others' perspectives.

Students enjoyed reenacting scenes from the play, based on their interpretation, and developing creativity, improved communication, learning about the Elizabethan era and engaging in literary analysis of Shakespeare's play. They presented their group research about the said era which allowed them to better understand the conditions and reasons behind the inspirational works of the world's greatest playwright, Shakespeare, and the representation of themes in his play *The Merchant of Venice*.

IBU CHARMAINE
MYP - DP ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TEACHER



DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

GRADE 12- CAS (CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE)

On the 25th till 26th of August, the Grade 11 and 12 collaboratively organized a trip to Kopeng Treetop in Salatiga as linked to the CAS part of their Diploma Programme experience. After several years limited to enclosed spaces due to the pandemic, this excursion around two hours north-west of our school, a forested area by the mountain of Merbabu, was a refreshing environment to explore various important values surrounded by friends. Following several structured learning outcomes, the trip allowed everyone to practise each aspect of the CAS initiative.



Devising creative ways to roast marshmallows, overcoming challenging outbound treetop obstacles and conquering steep trekking activities, all taught us to face our fears and to reach the higher milestones supported by comradeship, whilst offering helping hands to the people around us.



In addition to that, our night bonfire experience involving the mandated Grade 12 TOK exhibition by the diploma programme encouraged transparency among our peers and elaborated our insights on many concepts through the exchanging of perspectives.

The CAS trip was a tremendously exciting event shared with our close DP circle, and will be cherished as a life changing influence upon learning new values.

IBU FANNY
MYP - DP FRENCH LANGUAGE,
DESIGN & CAS TEACHER



PARENTS'S VIEW

MR. BARTOZ JERZY NOWAK & MRS. MARIA ARIFANI

PARENTS OF JERZY, FRANCISZEK AND JOSEPH NOWAK (PYP STUDENTS)

When we first visited YIS we knew that it would be the best choice for our children: the welcoming and friendly staff, the spacious and peaceful campus with magnificent Merapi view, and the smiling, happy students. We felt lucky to find an IB school in Yogya as we were familiar with the IB curriculum. The school gives opportunities to our kids to develop not only their knowledge but also their social and emotional skills, in a friendly and joyful style. The best recommendation comes from the words of our kids: "We can't wait until tomorrow to go to school again!".



MR. MAULANA YUSUF & MRS. AIRINDA MASAYU ADIASTIKA

PARENTS OF KASYAFA MULTAZAM SUNGKAR (MYP STUDENT)



The IB curriculum implemented at YIS is an oasis for us in our quest for a modern education that favors children. YIS employs a student-centered learning environment throughout the entire learning process.

My daughter, a seventh-grade candidate at the time, was astounded when we first visited YIS. We couldn't find this atmosphere in any other school, particularly in Yogyakarta. We saw that every kid was valued at YIS; that they were allowed to express their feelings and potential, which is uncommon in the current traditional educational system. YIS can transform burdensome learning into joyful learning, which has positive impacts on student's mental health and is inline to their developmental phases.

At YIS, diversity is welcomed, and each student is equipped to be a global citizen. We appreciate being a member of the YIS family.

A brighter future awaits our next generation. Let us begin a new cycle by giving them pleasant and supportive education. YIS will ease our children into achieving their goals. Aim High and Be Relevant!

PARENTS'S VIEW

MR. HARIJANTO ANGGORO & MRS. DECITA H. TUTYASTRI PARENTS OF PRAMUDITO NIRWIKARA ADISUKRESNO (DP STUDENT)



After 13 years of living abroad in Bangkok, Thailand, we decided to return home to Indonesia and to return to Yogyakarta. By the time we came back home last year in 2021, our son was in grade 11, and for the previous 13 years had been studying at an international school with the British curriculum. We are getting steadier back in Yogyakarta, because there was a school that was already suitable for him, namely Yogyakarta Independent School (YIS). Why? Because YIS was already using the IB curriculum and according to our plan, our son will continue his grade 11 and 12 with the IB diploma program (IBDP).

Why IBDP? Because this program is a preparatory program for students in grades 11 and 12 to continue their studies, especially by studying abroad. By graduating from an IB diploma program, they no longer need to go through preparatory classes. Even some IB scores can be transferred to the intended university. In addition, YIS is the only official international school in Yogyakarta that uses the IB curriculum.

YIS is a very family school. In terms of the number of students, which may not be large, but it is an advantage in itself so that teachers can be very focused on paying attention to the development of each of their students. We are grateful that our son can be a part of YIS, because with his uniqueness, he gets so much support and attention, that it makes him grow his potential even more: academic, social and emotional. In fact, he did not experience many obstacles in the adjustment process, thanks to the support of all parties in the school. Teachers who are like their own family to their students. The very cool school environment also provides a positive vibe in the teaching and learning process every day. YIS is the best in town & the IB Curriculum is the TOP curriculum in the world!

Aim High!



YIS SPECIAL EVENTS

MERDEKA GAMES



YIS students, teachers and parents celebrated the Indonesian Independence Day by holding a special event, called "Merdeka Games!". The event was held in YIS beautiful soccer fields area and it also marked the start of a new academic year.



YIS SPECIAL EVENTS

BATIK DAY

Batik is a cultural expression with symbolic meaning and high aesthetic value for Indonesians. The beautiful uniqueness forms the character of the nation that differentiates us from other nations.

This year, to celebrate National Batik Day on October 2, students, teachers, and parents held various activities at the YIS Campus. Starting with Batik Dance performance from the Secondary Students, followed by the whole school fashion show, and ended with Batik painting activities in the classroom for students.





**YOGYAKARTA
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL**

ib Primary Years
Programme

ib Middle Years
Programme

ib Diploma
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SCHOOL ADMISSION OPEN FOR 2022-2023

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