

YOGYAKARTA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

### NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 | February - April 2023





#### Letter from the Principal

YIS vision and mission is to empower students to make a difference in the world through positive action. As educators and as parents, we are inspired by the desire of young people to protect their environment, promote peace and tolerance.

As the one-and-only IB World School in Yogyakarta, YIS through its Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme, and Diploma Programme curriculum facilitate the students to be the agents of change who develop their understanding of the importance of keeping the environment safe and healthy. One great example was done by the Grade 8 students via the Service as Action program where they conducted a campaign to the school community to separate the organic and non-organic waste, and also to share the importance of acknowledging which waste is recyclable and non-recyclable.

At YIS, through varied teaching activities and school programs, students continuously learn to Aim High, Be Relevant, and Make a Difference. This newsletter also includes highlights of events that were conducted throughout Term 3. We wish you happy reading.







#### Upcoming Events

Poetry Day
Earth Day
PYP Exhibition
Exams for MYP & DP
Talent Show
Olympic Day
Graduation



## Message from the PYP Coordinator



Developing the IB Learner Profile of caring, the Early Years students explored living creatures and nonliving things and proposed the best actions that help make the Earth a happy place. Being inquirers, Grade 1 and 2 students enjoyed learning about simple machines that made people's life easier. In pursuit of being knowledgeable, Grade 3 and 4 students mustered the courage to investigate how the Earth is affected by both slow and quick forces. Growing reflective, Grade 5 and 6 students examined the impact of social organization upon the well-being of people in a community.

Learning about earth science at a young age helps PYP students understand the Earth's interconnected systems as well as the impact of human actions on Earth. We appreciate how YIS PYP parents are very helpful in supporting the student's learning and actions from home.



#### Preschool





In Preschool, we learned Literacy by recognizing letters, their sounds, and pronouncing words through pictures. This term, the children learned the letters Mm to Tt. They learned about the sound of each letter by listening to jolly phonics. In order to enrich their vocabulary, the children also listened to letter songs and chanted the words that represented each initial letter. The children learned to recognize the letters by observing how they are written. They also experienced writing the letters by tracing them with their fingers.

Starting this term, the children started learning to trace letters using markers and colored pencils. The children also created some artwork related to the letters learned, such as painting letters and words, for example, m, n is for nest, octopus, popcorn, q headbands, and rainbow r. The activities allowed the children to recognize the letters they have learned and acquire knowledge of the objects with the initial letter sound.





#### Kindergarten A-B

We began our Term 3 with the Transdisciplinary Theme "Sharing The Planets" inquiring into "Our Personal Choice Affects the Environment." Kindergarten A and B learned about human and animal habitats. They recognized and identified the differences between a city, village, desert, mountain, jungle, and many more habitats. They enjoyed looking at the globe to see how the Earth looks like, with continents and oceans. They were curious about their home countries and tried to have a look at the location on the globe. The students explored our mini farm and botanical garden to see and observe the real life of plants and animals' habitats. They interacted closely with the rabbits, geese, and turkevs.

To end the Unit of Inquiry, the students created their animal home diorama with their imagination and creativity with amazing results. Kindergarten A and B had an amazing Term 3 and had an exciting adventure to help to save the Earth by learning the 3 Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. They reminded each other not to litter and to participate in the action of putting the rubbish into the organic and non-organic rubbish bins.





Fajar Ina Kindergarten A-B Homeroom Teacher

#### Grade 1-2







The students of Grade 1 and 2 dived a bit more into the Science behind the topic learned in the 4th Unit of Inquiry "Simple Machines". In the beginning, they explored force and motion before going deeper into the topic. They learned the differences between pushing and pulling objects before inquiring about inclined planes, wedges, levers, pulleys, wheels and axles, and screws. They experienced them in real life by investigating them in the school building.

To relate to the topic, the students were also doing some experiments about different types of simple machines such as inclined planes, levers, wheels and axles, pulleys, and screws. The students also learned to research, design, and create simple machines. They could easily identify the simple machines that they found in their daily lives.

**Luky Anggraini**Grade 1-2 Homeroom Teacher

#### Grade 3-4





To understand the Earth better, Grade 3 and 4 students started Term 3 by inquiring into the theme "How the World Works", investigating how "Earth experiences changes caused by forces". They explored the Earth's layers, identified different types of rocks, described landforms, and classified tectonic plate boundaries. In groups, they conducted research and presented their findings in posters about the slow changes to the earth's surface (weathering and erosion) as well as the fast changes to the earth's surface (earthquakes and volcanic eruptions).

In Science, they explored physical and chemical changes by making popcorn as well as making jelly. This unit has been a mini-start for our future geoscientists.



#### Grade 5-6

Grade 5 & 6 enjoyed the beginning of Term 3 by inquiring into the theme "How We Organize Ourselves". They have explored our central idea "Social Organizations impact upon the well-being of individuals in a community". Students learned about various community organizations, such as World Health Organisation, Greenpeace, and UNICEF. They understood that each organization provides a range of projects, such as providing humanitarian aid, counseling for children, and educating loweconomic communities, to address specific needs such as addressing poverty, climate action, economic growth, and peace & justice. As a culminating activity for Grades 5 and 6, they had a field trip at PT. Sport Glove Indonesia. Students were able to see an impressive real-life working environment and learn about all the procedures that go into producing a huge variety of gloves from receiving raw materials to finished product assembly and quality checks. It also helped the students to think more about how a working community functions.





## Message from the MYP Coordinator



IB learning and teaching represent the many ways people work together to construct meaning and make sense of the world. The students develop further themselves to become lifetime learners, both independently and in collaboration with others. This also aims to prepare a community of learners to engage with complex global challenges through a dynamic educational experience framed by inquiry, action, and reflection.

YIS MYP Students embraced the challenges with principled action; representing a commitment to learning with the celebration of individuals' uniqueness. They also enhanced their self-understanding through questioning and reflecting, demonstrating integrity and honesty, as well as respect. By the end of Term 3, the MYP students have responded substantially to their challenging learning environments. They developed their motivation to act as a result of the reflections of their own learning in various school activities, as can be seen in the Service as Actions activities.



#### Grade 7: English

Grade 7 students learned about William Shakespeare. They read about Shakespeare's life and learned about some of his most famous plays. such as Romeo & Juliet and Macbeth. Students used famous Shakespearean quotations to create concrete poems - visual poetry that matches words with images. Students have also attempted to write their own sentences in English using Shakespeare's preferred technique of 'iambic pentameter'. Shakespeare's work remains a challenge for English-speaking students all around the world but throughout this unit, the Grade 7 students have risen to the challenge well. They have shown appreciation that even if the language of Shakespeare is complex, the themes of his work such as love, conflict, revenge, and the quest for power - still feel relevant, and as such, this is why his plays still resonate with audiences today.





#### Grade 8: Mathematics

Grade 8 students learned about Pythagoras' Theorem in Mathematics class this term which is one of the topics in Geometry. They started the lessons by conducting an activity of measuring the length of tiles that make a right-angle triangle form, including the side, lengths, and hypotenuse of the tiles. The hypotenuse is the longest side of a right-angle triangle. Students measured the 3 combinations of the triangle's sides. Through this activity, students explored their ideas, learned how to measure accurately, and understood how to apply Mathematics concepts to real-life problems. They had a new experience in learning.





#### Grade 9: Service as Action

Service as Action (SA) is one of the IB programmes which aims to develop the international mindedness of the students to be more aware of others' needs within the different communities, and to create a better and more peaceful world.

The Grade 9 students conducted their Service as Action programme at a dog shelter called Ron Ron Dog Care (RRDC). They visited the neighborhood dog shelter to observe the issue in RRDC as part of their research and presented the information to the entire class regarding the backgrounds of each dog and how can the students support it further. To help those animals at the shelter, the students started a fundraising and volunteering campaign for two days at the YIS campus by selling some meals and beverages during lunchtime to the secondary students, which, the profit was given later on to the animal shelter. Through this program, the students learned to better communicate their ideas, setup and execute the program collaboratively, and develop their empathy.







Rayi Artika Paramitha Grade 9 Grade Level Advisor

#### Grade 10: Design



The Grade 10 students learned on the board game design project which develop their skills in software usage, design thinking, and collaboration. Students were introduced to the concept of board game design, get an overview of the various software and tools available for creating game boards such as Adobe Illustrator, Sketch, Canva, and Photoshop, and also learned about the principles of game design, including how to create game mechanics, develop a storyline, and balance gameplay.

Once students gained a foundational understanding of game design and design thinking, they began working in groups to create their own board games. Throughout the design process, students learned to prototype their game, soliciting feedback from their peers and making revisions based on that feedback. At the end of the unit, students will present their completed board games to the class. This final presentation will provide students with the opportunity to reflect on their design process and consider ways in which they could improve upon their design in the future.



#### Grade II: Indonesian Studies

In Indonesian Studies Class, Grade 11 students learned to be the active agent of learning. At the beginning of the term, the students were asked about the topic of learning that interested them the most, thus the learning process can be more engaging.

This term, Grade 11 students were interested to learn about *Wayang Kulit*, Indonesian shadow puppetry. The students did independent research to identify the elements that are essential for a shadow puppet performance for example *Wayang Kulit*, *dalang*, and *gamelan*. They observed some videos about traditional musical instruments, called *gamelan*. They also closely investigated the handmade puppets, *Wayang Kulit*. They took action in the learning process by being *Dalang*, a person who tells a *Wayang Kulit* famous story titled "Rama and Shinta". It was amazing to have the experience of being a *Dalang*, embracing cultures from other countries.





#### Grade 12: Geography



Our Grade 12 students finalized their geography Internal Assessment (IA), a 2500-word documentation of fieldwork, investigated at a local scale and driven by primary data. The idea behind the IA was to demonstrate their aptitudes to conduct an investigation that will give rise to reliable quality data accompanied by a deep analysis of their results. Step by step, students designed their research question, explained the context of the investigation, built their hypothesis and refined their methodology. As geographers, they sketched multiple hand-drawn maps of the areas that they have decided to explore and annotated theoretical models to analyze the outcomes of their findings. Our students conducted field research as an exciting and rewarding experience, leading to important discoveries and breakthrough ideas to study the real world.

**Jennifer Magein** MYP-DP History & Geography Teacher





"As a Grade 12 student, the IBDP continues to prepare me for future endeavors in university, including enhancing our investigative and report writing skills in Geography through our IA. Acquiring primary data required teamwork and inquiry-perceptive skills, which was very fun to conduct with my classmates.

This IA further challenges me to sharpen my analytical skills when discovering revelations or drawing conclusions derived from comparing data collected from our excursion outside together, to the theories we learned within our classrooms."

Angelica Julia Bourjot Grade 12 Student



#### YIS SPECIAL EVENTS

#### YIS End-of-the-Year Concert

The YIS End-of-the-Year Concert was held on December 16, 2023. Students, parents and teachers of YIS were taken to Neverland, a beautiful island full of magic and wonder, where we can see the adventure of Peter Pan, Wendy, and her little brothers.









#### Lunar New Year



International mindedness plays an important part within the strategy of preparing our students to become global players. To support that goal, YIS students, parents, and teachers celebrated the Lunar New Year. We hope that the Year of Water Rabbit will bring us prosperity, good fortune and happiness.





#### Valentine's Day

YIS students celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14, 2023, by exchanging chocolates and sweets with their friends. A lot of love we can see on that day, especially when our Preschool students gave their handmade Valentine's day cards to their parents.









#### EY-PYP Field Trip



On March 1, 2023, YIS PYP students had a field trip to visit Chocolate Monggo Museum and Taman Pintar. Students from Preschool up to Grade 6 were very enthusiastic to join every mini workshop such as making batik painting, decorating clay pottery, and making chocolate *mendiants*.







#### PYP Book Week





Every year we celebrate Book
Week at YIS. The aim of this event
is to inspire a love of books and
stories, as well as an appreciation
of the creative process, and also to
encourage reading and literacy.
Book Bazaar was held on March 2,
2023, followed by a Costume
Parade on the next day.

## YIS Mini-Farm, Botanical Gardens and Sports Fields

At YIS, we try to make learning as fun as possible. We believe students will have more ideas and creativity when they are happy. We are proud that we have the mini-farm, beautiful botanical gardens and sports fields to support that goal.











#### YIS Open House

YIS In-School Open House which was held every two weeks is an opportunity for prospective parents and students of YIS to learn more about the IB curriculum we used, have discussions with our Principal and Programme Coordinators, and see the learning environment at our school.









#### Book Face

Grade 9 students were excited to display their creativity through the use of books as artistic objects and foster the love for reading.

"Book Face Activity" involved strategically lining up the face or another body part alongside a book cover that features a matching body part so that it appears a melding of life and art.





#### Parents' View

Mr. M. Qurnia Satriawan & Mrs. Shandy Septiana Fani Parents of Nawra Hayfa Putri and Nevan Keandra Putra (MYP students)

Love at first sight, that's our impression when we visited YIS back then, we really love the natural environment, it is more than we could ever imagine, and It took us back to our childhood memories, when we studied abroad, the green field, a small lake around the school, the fresh air, love at first sight. Our children are in grades 7 & 8, we can see clearly that YIS not only focuses on improving our children's areas of need but also really puts a huge emphasis on bolstering their individual strengths. Our children have grown in a way that they never would have at another school, they are confident and comfortable exploring new skills - for example, we had never previously imagined our children could play the violin, or dance so well. We are amazed.

As for academically, we couldn't be happier. Our children have shown significant progress in each and every subject, and they could encourage themselves to achieve better grades without feeling pressured. We believe it's because YIS creates a warm environment and relationship between teachers, students, and all the staff, and we're so grateful for that. YIS is truly one of a kind and it deserves its status as a most beloved and revered school in Yogyakarta.



#### Students' Insight

Have you seen a honey bee recently? There has been a shocking loss of 57 percent of honey bees globally since April 2020. Where have the bees gone and why should we care?

The answer is simple, bees transfer pollen from one flower to another, fertilizing 30 percent of the world's crops and 90 percent of our wild plants. Without bees, many plants including food crops would die off and without food crops, humankind would die off too. What happens to bees should concern us all. Healthy bees started abandoning their hives and not returning in 2006. Currently, there are fewer hives than at any time in the previous 50 years. Pesticide usage on farms and habitat loss, according to researchers, are the causes of this. Therefore, due to human decisions, the bees that pollinate our crops and provide us with food have been destroyed.

It is time for us to take action. One way is to avoid applying pesticides in your garden since they are very hazardous to bees even at low levels and are a contributing factor to the diminishing bee population. Another way is to buy ethically and locally produced honey instead of commercial honey. By doing so, you will not only help support organic farmers and stay away from hazardous pesticides, but you will also help safeguard bees by limiting their contact with harmful chemicals. You can also plant flowers for bees to help give them more sources of food.







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International Baccalaureate (IB) World School

Aim High Be Relevant Make a Difference

#### **CONTACT US:**

Jl. Tegal Mlati No. 1 Sinduadi, Mlati Sleman, Yogyakarta



0811-263-2442



info@yis-edu.org



www.yis-edu.org



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