



SUIS PUDONG NEWSLETTER



SUIS Pudong offers an opportunity for students to enter a continuum of education from Primary through to the end of Secondary to prepare them to become Global citizens for the 21st century.

Dear Parents,

Learning Conversations

Over the next two weeks, all students in the ISS will be participating in a new process of learning conversations and reflections with their form tutors. This means that between 12.2.19 and 12.13.19 every student will receive dedicated individual time with their tutor as part of their morning sessions. This time is for them to reflect on their current progress, goals, and strategies to achieve their goals in relation to their learning.

Research has shown that the process of reflecting on their own attainment and the reasons for it can have a large impact on students' achievement and encourages them to take responsibility for their work.

In response to these conversations, all students will write a summary of the meeting and the actions that they have agreed to take after speaking to their tutor. They will take these home in the form of a "Learning Log" and we encourage you to read your son or daughter's learning log and discuss the outcome with them. Please then sign their learning log to record that they have shared this with you.

Please do get in touch with your son or daughter's form tutor if you have any questions about this process.

The ISS Pastoral Team

Key Stage Three Star of the Month

This month's Key Stage Three Star of the Month award has been presented to Mathilda Neidinger in 8MB. Mathilda is one of the school's outstanding achievers, whose recent report was exemplary. Mathilda is a vibrant member of the school community, who is actively involved in the Student Voice, the Eco-Warriors group and recently organised a Creative Writing competition in conjunction with the English department.

Breast Cancer Awareness Day

On October the 29th, in SUIS PuDong international secondary, we celebrated Breast Cancer Awareness day by asking all students to wear pink or green. Pink represents awareness and green represents recovery and prevention.

In the morning, all of our group members set up tables at both school gates to sell pink and green ribbons to our peers.

During assembly we were grateful to have Ms Tess Robinson who is a volunteer for the Shanghai based group 'More Than Aware' who spoke to us about the work the charity does and where the money raised would be used, it was a wonderful speech. Ms Robinson remarked on how great it was to see such a sea of pink and green in the audience.

At lunch time, we organised a bake sale and all the pastries/cookies/cakes *and sushi rolls were donated by parents and students. So many students and parents participated in the bake sell which really surprised and pleased us!

Thank you to all of the teachers and students who supported this activity and made this celebration so wonderful. All the profits made will be donated to the charity.

We raised an impressive 2000RMB for the charity. Well done to all of the team and everyone who donated.



Debate

In June 2019, SUIS Pudong held its very first whole-school debating competition - the NSHSS SUIS Pudong Debate. The aim of the competition was to encourage students to step out of their comfort zone and to enhance their public speaking skills. The article below is from our A2 Dara.



The team created a captivating two minutes video that was screened during assembly to promote the event. They also, hung an envelope on the door to the common room where teams could submit their applications. The first few days after the announcement were disappointing - though many students had expressed their interest, far fewer had had the courage to submit their applications.

Given the small size of SUIS PD, we weren't expecting applications to come flooding in, yet we had been hopeful of attracting as many teams as possible. Thus, we doubled our efforts, aiming to convince middle school students of the benefits of debating, and to encourage prospective first-time debaters to come out of their shells and try something new. We were delighted when by the end of the second week about a dozen teams had registered for the competition.



The debate, which took place over a period of two weeks, attracted 30 eager competitors from grades 6 to 8, who debated fiercely on topics such as the humanity of genetic engineering, the fairness of adversity scores, and the controversy of euthanasia. According to Tom from A level, an organizer and judge, “Every participant seemed to thoroughly enjoy it. Each of them was engaged and tried their best to show their debating skills. The chosen topics were really obscure, which made students think hard and do research beforehand. The last debate that I adjudicated was a close one - each side laid out very valid points and phrased them in the correct format. All the teams worked hard and when we announced the winners, they were happy and loved the unique prizes.



The competitors, many of whom were competing for the first time, had come well-prepared with solid facts backing their arguments and excellent rebuttals. For some, this had been an opportunity to demonstrate their skills, for others, this was a debating breakthrough: “I entered the competition to give my family a break and use my argumentative energy for good. I didn’t expect to get into the final round, I just thought I would give it a try and see where it went. When I first entered the debating room I was quite nervous, but seeing my friends speak confidently despite being just as nervous as I was, I decided to transform my anxiety into competitiveness. Overall, the debate helped me become a more confident speaker,” says Yasya from Grade 8, who was awarded the Best Debater prize.

Following the success of the Grand Debate, SUISS PD is looking forward to launching a whole-school Model UN competition this coming winter. We appreciate NSHSS support for this debate.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Sahi'.

Ms. Kim Sahi
Co-Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bonnie Cai'.

Ms. Bonnie Cai
Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary