

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's citizens for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Dear Parents,

We are now entering the half-way point of this semester. We hope that this will be the perfect time to review your child's mid-semester report to discuss their progress and ways forward. Many exciting things have been happening in school and we would like to share these with you all. Please be aware that as the weather is cooling down, we are entering the regular flu season. For the safety of all of the school community, please take extra care to keep well and make sure that all students must wear masks while taking public transportation as well as when taking the school bus.

## **Key dates**

Please note below the upcoming key date:

11th November: G7, 8, IG1, IG2 Three Way Conference



# A snapshot of the Grade 6 and Grade 7 Secondary Sports Day

The Grade 6 and Grade 7 Secondary Sports Day of SUIS Pudong took place on Monday, 26th October. On the sports field were children basking in the sunshine and, running and cheering.





The SUIS Pudong sports day had its own identity. With the detailed planning and arrangements of the PE teachers, a combination of fiercely competitive events and universal games gave the athletically gifted students, and those less gifted, opportunities to participate. Individual events focussed on solo performances as well as team events requiring collaboration were blended together to not just exercise but strengthen their willpower and team spirit. At the same time, some unique events like Tetris and Card Relay encouraged fitness and exhilaration.





# A snapshot of the Grade 6 and Grade 7 Secondary Sports Day

The points at the secondary stream sports meet were added up based on different HOUSES. It was apparent that medalists helped to gain valuable points for their houses, but more importantly, the points of each HOUSE member will be accrued to



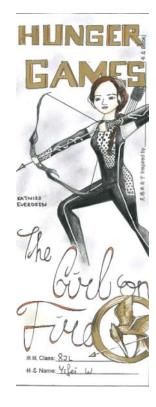
the final total. Everyone contributed to the final score for their house. In the end, Green HOUSE snatched the final victory with 327 points.



## Book Week 2020

Bright colours, a positive atmosphere, and a love of reading could be felt and seen at our whole school Book Week parade. After a month of exciting house reading challenges and bookmark design, everyone at SUIS Pudong was involved with the final event: the parade. Each grade had a specific theme to choose from, ranging from traditional Chinese legends and stories to famous works of English fiction. Staff and students alike found their favourite characters and dressed up to celebrate the joy that is reading. All students then paraded around the field to showcase their costumes. It must be said, that the standard of costumes was amazing. We really look forward to more dress up days in the future.

Students also took part in a very exciting challenge to finish off the Book Week events. The English and Chinese departments came together to collaboratively work on creating a scavenger hunt for students in international secondary. They hunted high and low to find clues carefully placed around the school. The students had such an amazing time using their reading skills and knowledge to find the clues. Prizes will be awarded soon.



G8 GL Yifei Wang
The Hunger Games



IG1 Yolanda Zhou
The Merchant of Venice

## Book Week 2020

I dressed up as Mulan today at the cause of the fact that she is a role model of Chinese young ladies, representing royal, brave and true. I wish all the women would stand up and speak up, just like her.

—— Ina Gunnesch, G6RO

My favourite part of the book week is the Scavenger Hunt. We searched for clues around the school to solve the problems of English and Chinese Literature. I had so much fun to work in the team.

—— Mathilda Neidinger, IG1



## **Eco-future speaking competition**winners announced

During the summer break, two of the SUIS Eco-committee entered a competition arranged by Eco Futures Shanghai. In order to qualify they had to submit a written speech related to the earth and sustainability. A panel of judges then selected students to attend the semi-final where they would need to present an in-depth explanation about the environment and any innovative ideas about the development of a sustainable environment. They then attended the final last weekend and had to prepare new presentations and we have the results.

A huge congratulations to Yatharth Banerjee Singh in A1, who came 1st place and Catalina Vazquez in IG2 who came 2nd place. We are very proud of their achievements and thank their parents for supporting them through this process.



## Teaching and Learning of Spanish at SUIS Pudong

Greetings from the Spanish Department!

At SUIS Pudong, KS3 students are required to take Spanish as a subject and can take it as an option for IGCSE and A Levels. Spanish is an important international language as it is spoken in 21 countries as an official language and it opens the door to new business or study opportunities in the future.

In class, students not only learn grammar and vocabulary, but also have the opportunity to work as a team, practise in pairs, or interact with each other using the language learnt. For example, beginner students in the photo have chosen a Spanish name and they need to ask others to find out the new name of their peers. They have a lot of fun doing this activity.













Creativity is a key element in learning a foreign language. After learning words and structures, you can create new phrases using and recycling what you already know. In the IGCSE class, students have done the holiday topic and learned to comment on the activities during their trip, describe their accommodation, as well as express their personal reaction. Once done, each group shows what they have written and the rest of the class comment on the ideas and accuracy of the structures and vocabulary used. For us, self-assessment and peer-assessment are very effective for an individual's linguistic development: it is always good to reflect on their own work, critique positively the work of their friends and improve their work taking into account the feedback received.





The use of technology is also featured in our classrooms. By using interactive teaching packages, laptops, and smart whiteboards, students can develop their technological, linguistic, and interpersonal skills, which will benefit them in the future in tertiary studies and the world of work.

We hope that our students will enjoy our Spanish curriculum and begin to understand cultures that are different from their own, in order to become true

## Interunica

What do you do when you have a laptop, motivation, and some free time? That's right, you create a website. Welcome to Interunica, a project initiated by Dara Lesniak (Columbia University/Trinity College Dublin Dual BA) and Cindia Li (University of Oxford), that aims to help current high school students achieve their college application dreams.

#### Dara:

The first half of 2020 was chaotic— along with having to adapt to completing my A Levels online (and from a different country and time zone), I was composing articles about my experience applying to top universities for the school newsletter, providing consultations for curious parents, and even attending online interviews for a local newspaper. One day, ruminating over a particularly tough question about the application process, I was suddenly

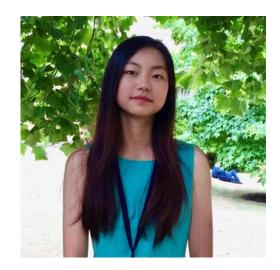


Dara

struck with an ingenious idea—why not create a platform where I could write about my experiences and advise students who are doomed to suffer through the same process? There was so much valuable knowledge to be passed on to the next generations of students that keeping it veiled would have been a crime. This chain of thought led to the creation of Interunica—a university consulting site where high school students can ask for and receive advice on applying to top tier universities, find motivation in the inspirational success stories of other international students, and learn how to structure their high school years in a way that will help them reach the best possible outcome in their university applications. Of course, I wouldn't have been able to do it alone...

### Cindia:

Many students feel pressured to follow what others do and partake in a wide array of activities in order to be successful with their applications. As someone who has recently gone through the process, I understand the longing for reassurance that you're on the right track. When working on my application, I was under immense pressure and felt insecure about both my abilities and the way in which I approached this potentially



**Cindia** 

life-changing process. And yet, by remaining true to myself and doing things my own way, I was able to come up with original ideas and produce a unique personal statement that captivated the attention of admissions officers. Through Interunica I wish to 1. Help students choose the university courses that best suit them as individuals, and 2. unwrap the myths surrounding the application process, advising students on how to produce a competitive personal statement.

As recent applicants ourselves, we know how arduous and stressful the whole process of applying to universities can be. Why should high school students be forced to navigate their way through the same murky waters if they can learn from the experience of previous batches of students, thus simplifying the application process for themselves? Despite being nearly 8000 kilometers apart, Cindia and I worked together to create a website that did just that—debunking the myths of applying to top tier universities, and advising on optimal pathways to take during high school.

Ok, you might be thinking. Good for you. But what exactly does the website have to offer?

An excellent question indeed. Our website offers a broad range of services to cater to your needs—whether you have just started IGCSE or are in your final year of A Level.

### For IGCSE students:

- → Learn how to manage your time effectively—leaving sufficient leisure time and not wearing yourself out
- → Discover which activities you should pursue as part of the school curriculum depending on what and where you might want to study in the future
- → Discover how to choose your A Level subjects if you are unsure about what field of study you might want to pursue, and still leave doors open

### For A Level students:

- → Learn how to prioritize, balancing studying with applications
- → Learn how to compose a brilliant US Commonapp essay or a UK personal statement
- → Learn how to structure your Commonapp application in a way that makes it unique and outstanding
- → Request a mock interview to get an idea about the kinds of questions you can expect to be asked and receive detailed feedback on how to reply to them (both US alumni/admissions mock interviews and UK Oxbridge mock interviews are available)

That's right—we'll address all your concerns about the application process. Planning to apply to universities in the UK? Find out which subjects you will need to take at A Level for your preferred program, as well as the sorts of activities you'll need to pursue. Thinking about applying to colleges in the US? Discover ways in which you can make your application stand out, through choosing your activities strategically, and writing a shining application essay. From mock interviews to essay writing workshops, you can find all on Interunica to help you succeed in your application aims. Why spend a fortune on agents when you can receive direct and instant help from students who are just fresh out of the application process, and are willing to share their best tips and advice to help you through this journey?

## Why we are different:

Well, you might be thinking, this sounds great, but how are our services different from other college consulting services? Why should you choose us over others that have existed for a longer period and have more experience?

- 1. **Specificity to international and Chinese students in particular** you can find generic advice on applying to college on almost every college consulting website. However, the advice is rarely directed specifically at international students, and can be misleading if you are not aware of this. For instance, I used to think that the same scholarship opportunities were available to both US students and international students! Our website is devoted to supporting international students specifically through this trying experience, we value transparency and are dedicated to making sure that you are aware of the additional obstacles you'll face as an international student. No sugarcoating!
- 2. **Genuinely personalized feedback**—no, we won't completely take over the application process for you. We acknowledge how important it is for the application to be personal, reflecting on who you are as an applicant. However, we will guide you through every step of the process to help you formulate an application that is both interesting and unique to you.
- 3. **Relevance and latest knowledge**—coming from the batch of 2020 graduates, we have recently faced challenges similar to the ones that you are about to face, and we will work with you towards overcoming them. Furthermore, we are constantly developing and improving our services, and updating the site with the latest information.
- 4. **Price**—most of the resources you will find on Interunica are completely free, including informative articles, high school and college application strategy PDFs, and even the first consultation. Back when I was applying and wrote my first essay, I sent it to a professional consulting company based in the US. After waiting a whole week for a response, and paying \$300 to have a 'professional' correct my essay, I received an almost identical copy of my essay, the only difference being that the words that I had written in the British English spelling were changed to the American spelling (e.g. "favourite" to "favorite", or "specialise" to "specialize"). That was the first and last time I used any kind of application services. Do not fall into the same trap when you can receive personalized advice with concrete suggestions from us, that will genuinely improve the quality of your application essay.

5. **Speed**—we understand how crucial each day is during this particularly busy period. For this reason, we will typically get back to you as soon as possible to ensure that you have the support that you need to help you succeed in your university applications.

We encourage you to reach out to us and ask us any questions about high school or the university application process. Looking forward to hearing from you soon!

For this purpose we have attached our contacts below:

## Website

https://interunica.com

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