

UISZ Community Summary – Week 0



MESSAGE FROM MR PEEBLES

It has been a great week of getting back to face to face learning in secondary. The first two days back students engaged in orientation activities and team building games. This allowed them to get used to being back at school as well as get to know their new classmates.

For the first couple of weeks of briefings, I will be introducing new staff in the Secondary School. We were lucky to have some new staff join the UISZ community and I would like to highlight the skill sets they are bringing to UISZ. We will start off with our new MYP Coordinator who is joining us from another IB school in the Guangzhou area.

Stuart Simpson – MYP Coordinator, I&S, LA





I come from North Yorkshire in England and have been living in China for the past 7 years. Other than China I have lived, and worked, in South Korea for 2 years as a teacher. I have a bachelor's degree in Sociology, a master's degree in International Law, and a second master's degree in Education, reflecting the IB notion of a life-long learner. During my time in China, I have enjoyed learning mandarin and learning more about the different cultures in China as I travel around the different areas of the country to explore. In my classes I enjoy supporting the students' knowledge-based learning with critical thinking and real-world application, often playing devil's advocate in order to provoke a number of responses. In my free time, I enjoy reading and traveling, I find rainforests and wildlife fascinating so I often spend time traveling in areas where I can delve into the local wildlife, this also has an effect on my personal values as a 'green' person or conservationist.

I am excited to welcome Mr. Simpson as well as all of our other teachers to the UISZ community. Finally, if you have any questions regarding Secondary School please feel free to reach out to the Head of Secondary at gpeebles@uiszc.org .

WEEK 0

The first week back for students has been an exhilarating and busy one for all. Monday we kicked off with the Parents Day in the Theatre. New students tried on uniforms for a more stylish fit, while parents registered.





Our new Head of School Mr Sebastien Pelletier - who will be arriving on campus in a couple of weeks from Paris - introduced himself and spoke of his great pride and optimism for the year ahead. He brings with him a wealth of leadership experience from his previous post in Los Angeles.



Mr Peebles our new Head of Secondary introduced the new line up of highly experienced international teachers and outlined the school's mission and exciting plans for the year ahead.



Ms Jennifer Verontaye our new Head of Primary spoke to parents and staff about the exciting new Kindergarten rooms and outdoor play area which offers greater opportunities for kids to mix with older Primary students.



Mr Wayne Grant the our Head of Boarding explained how he is making huge efforts to create an even more varied and stimulating plan of activities for boarders during the school week for 5 day boarders and on weekends for 7 day boarders.



On Tuesday morning all students attended our first day assembly. Mr Alfonso explained the school's expectations of students in terms of positive attitudes and behaviours associated with success. He explained how the academic year will be structured - students were delighted to hear that the A/B weekly schedule will be streamlined to just an A week only - reducing confusion.







Tuesday and Wednesday were very busy induction days for all students to help them familiarise themselves with their new Houses (Wind, Water, Fire, Eath), MYP basics, sign user agreements, gain technology support, and undergo a language asesments.







Our brand new Kindergarten has just been newly built onto the main Primary building and offers a fantastic lights spacious suite of rooms - as well as an engaging outside playground area.









The team of new Primary teachers were very busy introducing students to classroom layouts, procedures and school expectations.





All in all it's been a very busy and exciting week for returning students and new students who are just finding their feet - so to speak. We have a fantastic campus and dedicated international staff in both Primary and Secondary which augers well for the academic year ahead.

We expect great things to happen throughout the year. It is the Utahloy way. We wish all students and their families a relaxing weekend. Next week the real work begins!

Warmest wishes,
UISZ School & Boarding Community