

UISZ Community Summary – Week 1



INTRO

Week One of classes has swung into action with an exciting range of projects and sports activities for students to get stuck into. Let's take a look at what's been happening...

PYP

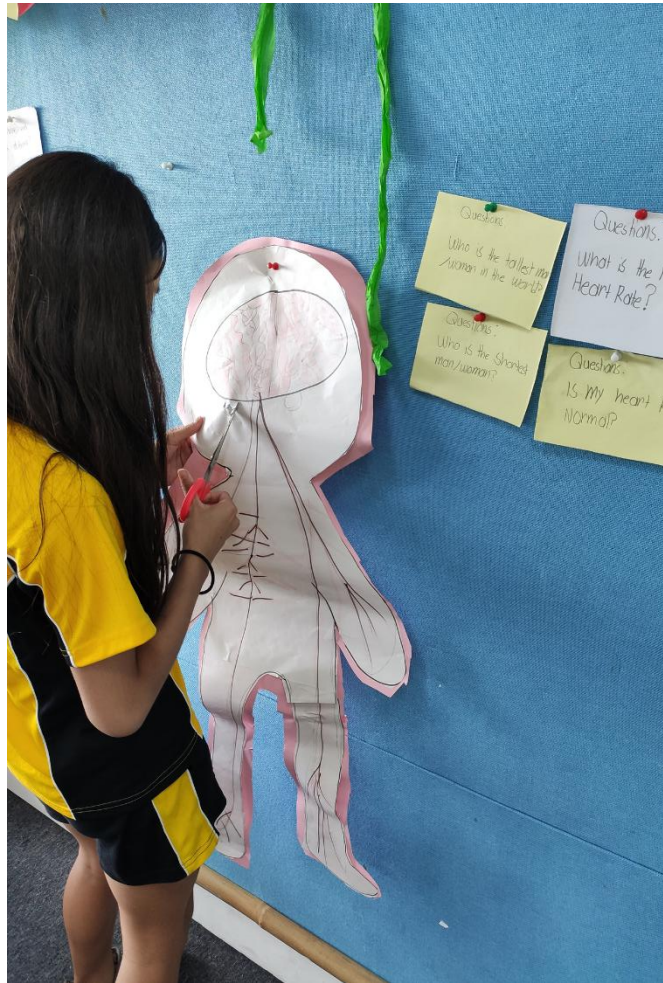
Message from Ms Jennifer (Head of Primary.)

The 2020-2021 school year has gotten off to a wonderful start! Staff and students have settled in to school routines and are now beginning their learning journey's for the year.

The first week started off with teachers and students getting to know each other, and collaboratively creating their classroom "essential agreements". These agreements will help students move through the year in a positive way and also reflect our learner profile attributes of being open-minded, principled, and reflective.

Students have also begun their first Unit of Inquiry... **Who We Are!** Each year group is following different lines of inquiry, but all have decided to focus on the nature of oneself. For example, in Year 1 students are looking at *how personal choices are made and how they might impact others*, while Year 5 students are looking at *how our bodies work and how different body systems can be effected by what we do*. We are looking forward to seeing the learning take shape as this unit progresses!



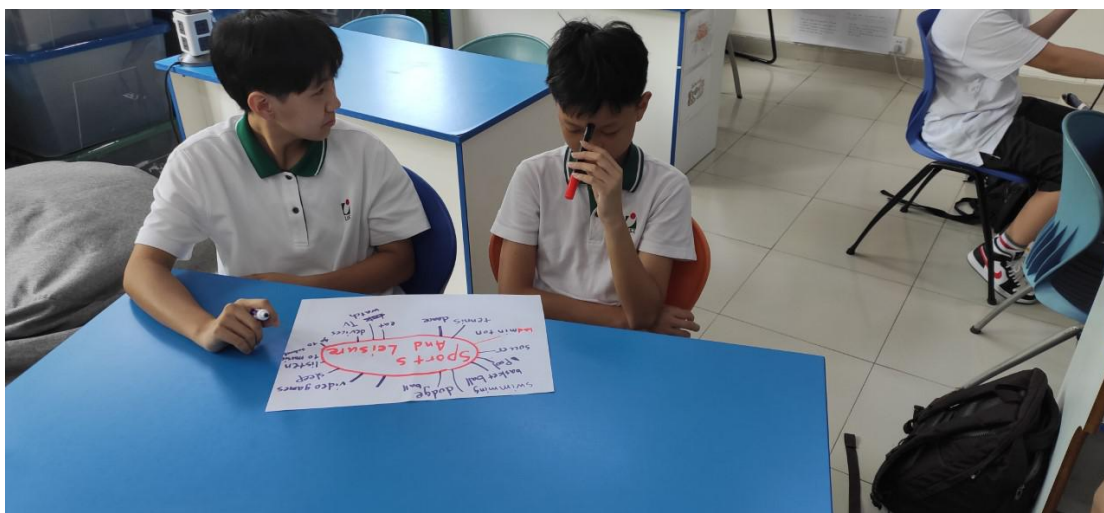


MYP

Message from Mr Stuart (MYP Coordinator.)

This week in Individuals & Societies the students began their new unit on 'Sport & Leisure'. The students began by showing the knowledge and key vocabulary they have within the subject area. By collaborating in small teams and then re-combining as a class all students were able to share their ideas on the subject, which produced some creative answers.

The students then began to look into the topic in more depth, inquiring into why people do particular activities and creating a pooled resource of vocabulary. These activities have given the students a good foundation for their inquiry into 'Sports & Leisure', where they will look at the cultural, geographical, and economical factors that affect our free-time around the world.





Ms. Dina Tagaeva **MYP and DP Science Teacher**

I first became interested in teaching science through volunteering in the local Training Center when I was studying my undergraduate degree in Turkey. I was tutoring high school students every weekend. This made me realize I enjoyed working with this age range, and later school experience confirmed teaching as a career choice. This year I am heading into my anniversary 10th year of teaching science.

I graduated from Ege University in Turkey where I received my bachelor's degree in Bioengineering. I just recently completed a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with concentration in science. I have experience teaching science in British and American Curriculum.

I think learning about science and how things work is just part of me – since a very young age. I was always fascinated as to how human body systems work, how everything is profoundly interconnected and somehow always relevant to you.

My time in school has developed my philosophy of valuing each child as an individual, as well as part of a community. I aim to give children as many learning opportunities and experiences as possible in order to engage, motivate and prepare them for future life.

In my free time, I enjoy playing table tennis and drawing with my daughter.





DP

Message from Mr Greg (Head of secondary.)

In DP this week students are getting back into the swing of things and are quickly realizing there is a lot of work to do. For the Year 12s the internal and external assessment calendar is being finalized and will be shared with the Diploma Candidates in the coming days. The Year 12s will also have their cap and gown photos at the beginning of September. It was exciting that they got to try them on and place orders for them this week, really starts to make their final year at UISZ real. A photo ordering form for all parents will be sent out shortly.

For the Year 11s, they have started to think about what the next two years of DP will look like. They have started to think about and plan their CAS projects as well as various CAS experiences. CAS is a requirement of all DP students and as an integral part of the DP Core.

Message from Mr Alfonso

The first week of the academic year, Y12s English B students did not have any time to waste. We started the year with a refresher of the 5 themes, that the IB requires to be a proficient global citizen. To do so, they linked some topics to the overlapping themes, such as Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization and Sharing the Planet. After this warm-up, we went through practical tips while facing a reading comprehension assessment, thus students feel more empowered while confronting such a challenging task. Lastly, we reviewed some of the mandatory text types and their functionality. Y12s have the feeling that it will be challenging but worthwhile of a year





BOARDING

Message from Mr Wayne (Head of Boarding.)

This will be the first of many updates from me in my role as Head of Boarding and may slip in a few updates about sport!

The first week was aimed at familiarising students with expectations, the campus, and routines. A big change for some of the returning students was the reduced time on phones!! While this was a challenge for some, the result was a common room filled with students....talking to each other. It was noisy. Laughing, joking, playing board games, cards etc. This played a huge role in enabling the new boarding students to settle in quickly.

The second week has seen the implementation of the new Accelerated English Program. This will be delivered by the teachers within the school, utilising a range of resources and aimed at developing grammar, comprehension, fluency in reading and academic writing.

The year 10 to 12 students will follow an alternative program. This program will be led by Mr. Peebles. The aim of this program is to provide support to students in areas such as extended essays, personal projects, with subject specialist able to drop in and provide bespoke support when required.

Studying plays an important role within the boarding program, and this is supplemented with a range of activities for students to either burn off that excess energy, develop skills in an area of interest, or just have some quiet time and do some reading!

Last and by no means least, we are looking at building a comprehensive weekend program, where day students and 5-day boarders can utilise the flexi - boarding option on a Friday evening and join us in our Saturday activities. This will be communicated in due course, and I hope to see more students taking advantage of the service we provide.

If you have any question regarding boarding, flexi boarding, please do not hesitate to contact the boarding team at:
zcboarding@uiszc.org









OUTRO

That brings us to the close of this week's edition of the UISZ Community Summary. We are all very proud to get the school up and running and to see so many enthusiastic students engaging with their studies, sports and social activities. We wish all students and their parents a relaxing weekend.

Warmest wishes,
UISZ School & Boarding Community

