

UISZ Community Summary – Week 14



UPCOMING DATES

Dec 3-9: Summative Assessment Week

Dec 15: Secondary Trip (Bowling)

Dec. 16: Last day of school before Christmas break

INTRO

Things were hotting up on campus this week as students prepared earnestly for SAW (Summative Assessment Week) tests which begin next Thursday. Let's take a closer look at what's been going on around the campus...

PYP

Message from Ms Ha

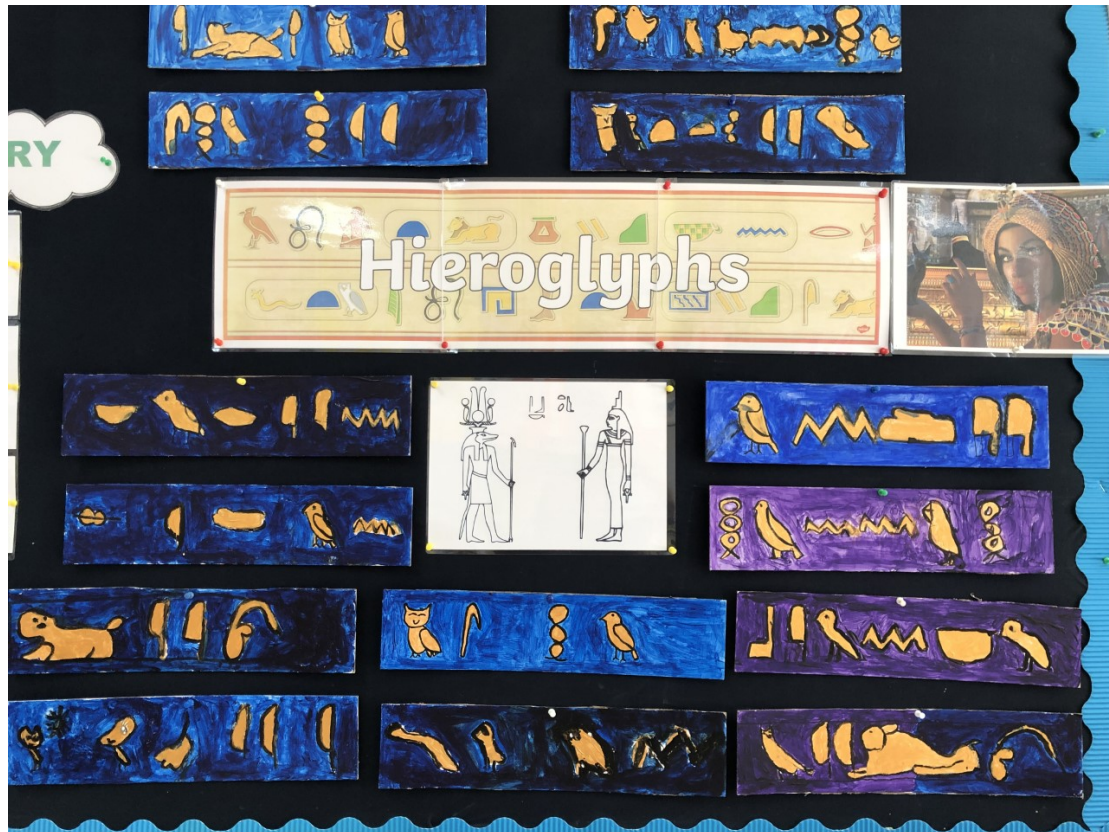
In K3/Year 1 we have been exploring signs and symbols in our UOI. We started by looking at signs and symbols around our environment and students learned how to write their names in hieroglyphics. Continuing with the Egyptian theme, we performed our own “mummification” using 3D organs that we made. The class conducted our first STEAM project “apple slice in canopic jars”. Canopic jars were jars used in Ancient Egyptian to preserve organs removed during mummification. Tests were conducted to ascertain which mixture best preserved the “Apple slice”, we observed over the course of 4 days. Each day the students recorded what they saw, smelled and noting down any change in colour.











MYP

Message from Mr Alfonso

As the summative assessment week is approaching the English Language Acquisition Capable class is inquiring about ATL skills and the purpose of them in our learning. In this unit, the focus relies on critical thinking skill, specifically "How we evaluate arguments and evidence?" To do so, we created an activity featuring a pretended scenario, in which I found a bag on a bus in Zengcheng. The task consists in finding out whose bag it is and to make a sensible infer, students have to analyse and the items in it and evaluate the reliability of such item in order to conclude whose bag is it. After a group discussion, students realized that not all the objects that a person carries a bag might be theirs or reveals something about their identity, and they discussed which articles were more useful for finding out about the owner of the bag. As a conclusion, we observed that it is barely impossible to be sure of the accuracy of primary sources and several different profiles of the person can be built



up as we interpret items (the same thing goes for stories and some texts) differently.





Message from Ms Valentine - Individuals and societies story (Settlements and Early Civilizations)

Have you ever heard about Ranapu Island, better known as Easter Island, in the South Pacific?

Once upon a time, there was a great civilization there... so great that people were able to build hundreds of gigantic statues called the Moai's. What was their purpose? We don't know...

But something we know is that this civilization declined and finally faded away... The question is: what were the reasons for this disappearance?

During their summative assessment, the 6th graders had to lead an inquiry about this mysterious question. First, as "thinkers", making some hypothesis, and then as "inquirers" in researching for some possible answers on historical websites.



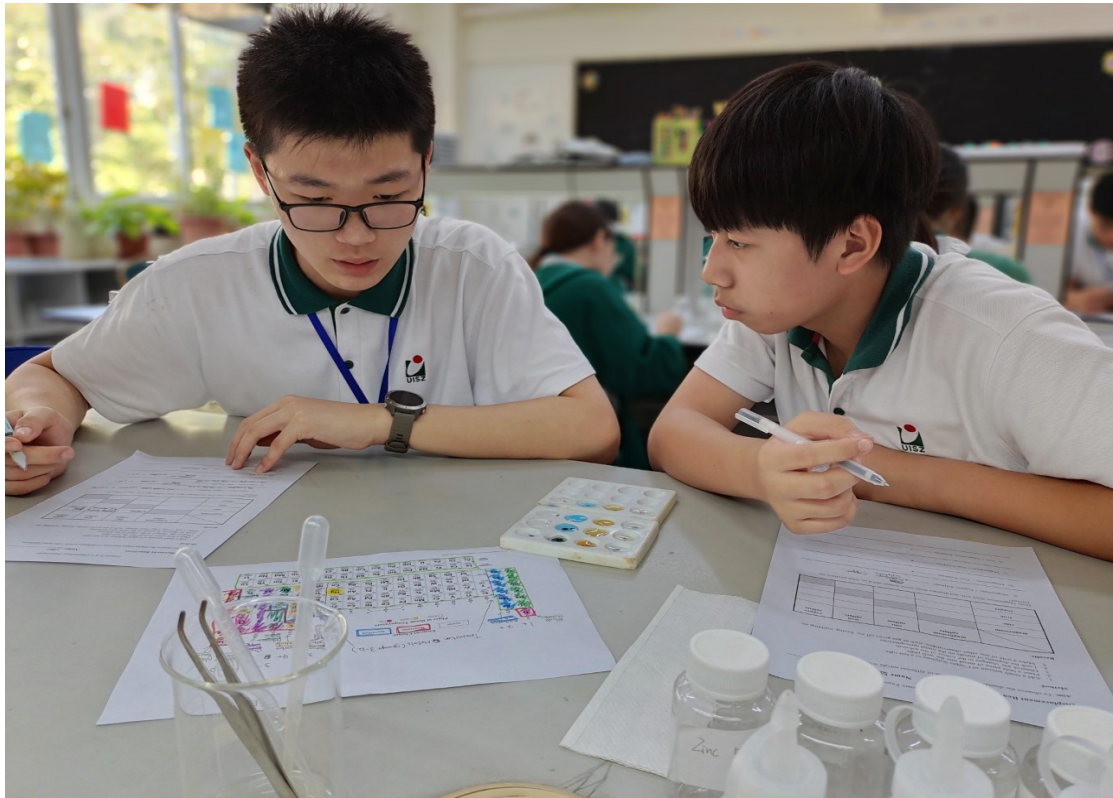




MYP year 9 – Learning through inquiry.

Inquiry-based learning is an approach to learning that emphasizes the students' role in the learning process. In this week activity, our MYP year 9 students investigated displacement chemical reaction of metals with other metal compounds. They had to use their knowledge and understanding of reactivity series to predict the product of the reaction as well as scientifically explain its formation. They all did a great job! We are always proud of them.







DP

Message from Mr Chay:

DP Design Students today have been learning from an industrial designer on how to draw objects in perspective. This is important because they are required to draw their Internal Assessment proposal project from a different perspective. We learnt about the importance of drawing lines and using lines to help draw realistic product concepts.



BOARDING

Message from Ms Mooney:

To improve the effectiveness of the boarders' evening study time, started from last week the MYP boarders have been doing homework at the



Secondary building every evening from 7:50 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. Students are working in different classrooms according to their year groups, with one staff in each room to supervise and support. In such a quieter, more spacious and learner-friendly environment, students could be more concentrated on completing homework or doing some reading.

Started from November, we have a better device management system in the boarding house. With the use of the new device storage cabinet, each student is provided their own locker for device storage. Every evening at 9:30, students hand in their phones, laptops, and pads and put them into their personal locker for charging. The next morning, they come and take their full charged devices for the school day. This not only ensures the safety of device storage during the night, but also helps students to better manage themselves in terms of device use and improve their self-organization skill, making sure they go to bed without the disturbance of any digital device.





OUTRO



Another exciting week of learning 'bites the dust' so to speak. We expect many students in Secondary will be revising over the weekend - however it is important for everyone to take a break and do some exercise as well. Work hard. Have fun. Relax!

Warmest wishes,
UISZ School & Boarding Community

