

UISZ Community Summary – Week 4



INTRO

What a week it's been! Last Friday we held the parents Welcome Night and UPAZ BBQ - while students enjoyed a movie screening in the theatre. Ms Jin Lai our Marketing Director introduced the evening and provided translation support. Mr Sebastien the new Head of School explained the school's guiding mission and holistic approach to learning. Mr Woody the Head of UPAZ explained the concerns of parents and expectation for a high quality education. Afterwards parents met with PYP and Secondary teachers who explained further about the exciting school curriculum students will be engaging with this academic year.









Secondary parent-teacher talk



Primary parent-teacher talks











After the talks parents and teachers relaxed and chatted informally over drinks and a sumptuous BBQ spread which everyone greatly enjoyed.













On Monday morning we held our School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill to ensure that the emergency evacuation procedures run smoothly and are known to all. Students seemed to enjoy jumping out of the rear emergency exits of the buses as smoke filled the air!









PYP

For the past 4 weeks Year 4 students in Ms Maria's class have been working on the “Who We Are” unit where the central idea is “Folklore provides a window into the belief systems and values of cultures”. Children were exposed to a broad vocabulary of theme-related words in English, Chinese and Korean that they are still exploring and learning something new about each of those words.

All the students are extremely excited to discover such a new thing to them like folklore stories from other countries and continents. While working on the big projects, they searched a lot of information in the school’s library books and on the Internet. They were surprised to find out how many interesting places and fascinating people used to live and/or are still living there now!

Learning about other people’s values and beliefs got them thinking about their own. Eventually, they compared those values and beliefs that they have discovered through the stories they had read and were astonished to find out many similarities and some differences between those and their own ones.

Last week each team of students demonstrated their project by telling about the continent and countries they had worked on. The main point was to share the folklore stories with the emphasis on beliefs and values that were



not easy to distinguish, yet children managed to do that very well. Students also spent time on discovering the characters, setting, problem

and solution of the story in order to understand it better and create their own folklore in the near future.







MYP

Introducing Mr Alison Marques - Sports Teacher

I started practicing the martial art capoeira when I was 6 years old in Salvador where capoeira was created by Mestre Bimba. Now I represent Axe Capoeira Team that is led by Mestre Barrao. I received a brown-white capoeira belt in 2006 that allowed me to teach capoeira to others.

For the past 4 weeks students of different ages at UISZ have been learning basic capoeira skills – jinga, stretching, kicks and aerobics as well as playing the traditional Brazilian capoeira musical instruments and singing capoeira songs in Portuguese. Learning capoeira for a year may provide students with a great opportunity of getting a certificate and a belt of a higher level.

Capoeira first appeared during the African slavery period in Brazil - many years ago. It was incorporated into a folk dance for slaves to escape detection – with music and rhythmic moves, nobody would have any suspicion regarding the potential martial art training.

Music is a very important element and it helped keeping the practice of capoeira alive. There are instruments such as the pandeiro, atabaque, agogo and the most significant instrument – berimbau.

Capoeira was banned for some time in Brazil for certain reasons but in the beginning of the 1900s the ban was lifted, and it was officially recognized by the Brazilian government in 1936. Today it is the 2nd national sport in Brazil, and it is practiced all over the world.







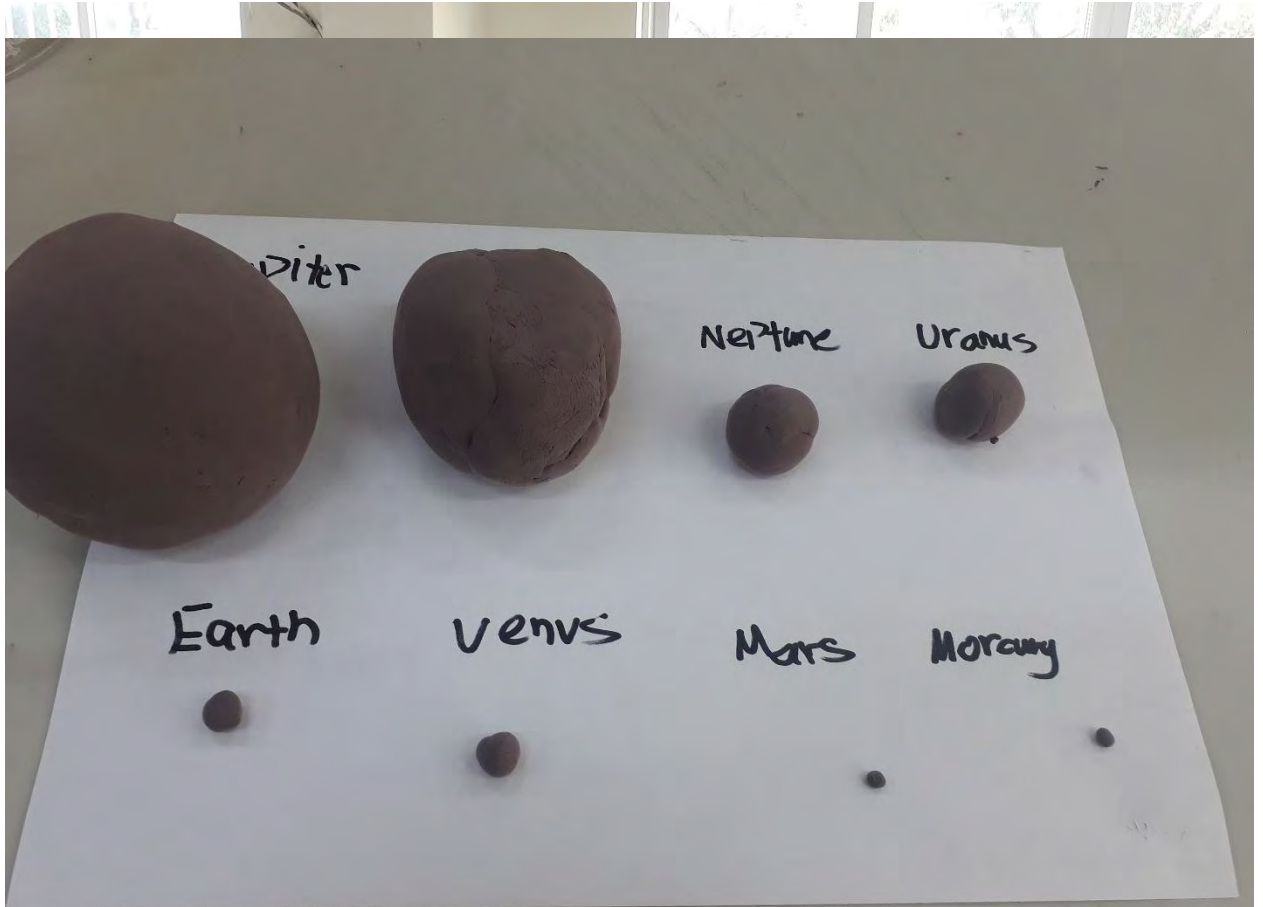




Message from Ms. Dina

Where are we in the Universe? To answer this question grade 10 students in science learned about planets, our solar system, and other celestial objects in the cosmos. To find our place in the huge universe, we first need to scale down entire solar system, calculate scale factor, relative distance of planets from Sun and Earth and then manipulate dimensions of each planet accordingly. Grade 10 students conducted this activity with a great success and were genuinely surprised to see how small our planet is.





DP

Message from Mr Greg

The Year 11 students have a weekly core class that focuses on the DP Core, which includes the Extended Essay, Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS), and Theory of Knowledge (TOK). Students also get a chance to work on university admissions as well as other year level projects.

Recently the Year 11s have been planning, as part of CAS, for the upcoming Peace Day. Peace Day is a whole school event that coincides with the UN Day of Peace. Being affiliated with Hong Kong UNESCO, Peace Day is a staple on the yearly calendar and allows student the opportunity to reflect on the responsibilities they have as IB learners and global citizens.

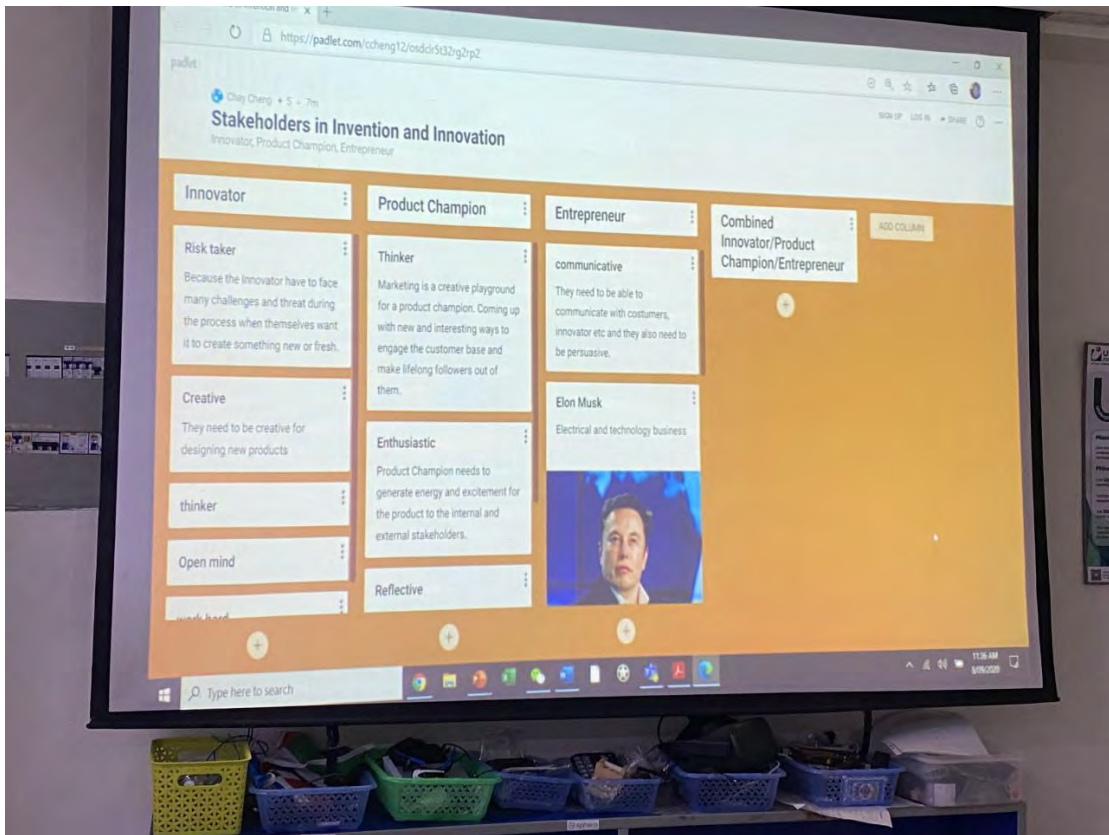
Besides Peace Day, the Year 11 students have been working on developing their high school resume so they can start to collect references from teachers and start to build their portfolio for university applications. If you have questions about university applications or requirements please reach out to our College Counselor, Mrs. Ferrari at fferrari@uiszc.org.





Message from Mr Chay

This week in DP Design and Technology, students have been studying about innovation and have learnt about the different stakeholders who are part of the innovation process. The real integration of the IB philosophy is where students begin to analyse critical personal attribute of innovators, product champion and entrepreneurs. Using Padlet, students collaboratively identified how each of these stakeholders are living the IB learner profiles and how they apply Approaches to Learning Skills to create and market great products to make life better for the consumers.



BOARDING

Boarding - Due to weather predictions, the scheduled trip to Baishui Zhai was cancelled. However, the boarding admin team quickly stepped up to provide alternative indoor activities in Guangzhou for the 7-day boarders and the community.

The program has continued to progress, with students all signed up to the Reach system, which will soon be used to provide parents with weekly updates on their child's development as a boarder. Watch this space!

Sport -

Unfortunately, there still has been no update from the Education Bureau for when we will be able to participate in interschools sports. All schools within our affiliated conferences have instilled a policy, prohibiting other schools onto their campus.

While we are not able to compete, we are still offering Middle School (Year 6-8) and High School (Year 9-12) sports training in CCA's. Once we are given the green light to compete, normal service will resume and the sports schedule for the year will be shared.

Registration for Sports and CCA's

I hope you all remember your Schools Buddy password! Not to fear, I am in the process of creating short videos tutorials on how to use and register your child's activity. This will be shared prior to the next round of CCA's.

OUTRO

Things can only go from strength to strength as we shift into high gear with teaching and learning. There is a definite buzz in the air as students absorb new knowledge, make connections, and take risks - exploring, adapting and impacting. We wish all students a relaxing weekend.

Warmest wishes,

UISZ School & Boarding Community

