



Newsletter

Welcome Explorers, Adventurers, Inventors, and parents to the 2016-17 academic year!

All of our curriculum this year will be directly tied into the 6 IB (International Baccalaureate) Universal Unit Themes. For each unit, classes will have specific areas of inquiry and purposeful opportunities for students to formulate and develop concepts/skills that can be applied authentically and presented by the end of that time period. Unit 1's Theme of "Who we are", will take place from September 6th-October 14th.

This month, we will be working on classroom routines, conducting assessments, assigning group placements, goal setting with students, reviewing skills and strategies, and introducing our foundation curriculum for each subject. Supplemental curriculums will also be inserted simultaneously to offer extra tools to individualize students' needs.

Each teacher will be using ClassDojo as the platform for weekly parent/student communication. Each student is also provided with a School Agenda book to help him/her note daily assignments. School wide information will be distributed through our school's weekly Monday Folders. Please do not hesitate to contact a staff member should you need any assistance in setting up or accessing any of the information.

Responsive Classroom overview, homework expectations, online resources, ILP's, class wish lists, IB Units of Inquiry Curriculum Map, project-based learning assignments, assessments, and each class' curriculum pacing will be presented at Back to School Night (Sep. 22) from 6:30p.m. to 8:00p.m.

Dates to Note:

- 1) Sep. 15th-Mid Autumn "Moon" Festival Celebration
- 2) Sep. 16th-Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration & Mexican Independence Day (TBD)
- 3) Sep. 22nd- Minimum Day (12:00 p.m. Dismissal), Back to School Night (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- 4) Sep. 27th- Oasis Spirit Day and Awards Morning Assembly (8:20 a.m.-8:45 a.m.), Parent Coffee (8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m.), Student Hot Chocolate (3:00 p.m.- 3:35 p.m.)

Warm Regards,
The Oasis Team

IB Unit 1: Who We Are

Driving Questions:

- Who am I?
- Who am I in my family?
- Who am I in my school?
- Who am I in my community?
- Who am I in the world?
- What does it mean to be human?

Ideas for our Unit 1 Investigation Projects will be generated for each class this month.

English Language Arts

Lucy Calkins

Genre: Narrative (Sep. 7th - Nov. 4th)

Launching Reader's and Writer's Workshops

Explorers: You are You and I Am Me

- Unit 1: "We are Readers" & "Launching the Writing Workshop"
- Finding "your voice"

Adventurers: Culture Club

- Unit 1: "Reading Growth Spurt" & "Noticing the Author's Craft"
- Expanding "your voice"

Inventors: We the People

- Unit 1: "Interpretation Book Clubs" & "Narrative Craft"
- Strengthening "your voice"

Mandarin Language Arts

美洲華語 (MeiZhou)

Explorers: Who Am I?

- How to introduce myself (name, age, likes and dislikes)
- How to describe myself (appearances, personalities)
- How to ask our friends about himself/herself

Adventurers: Family and Professions

- Introducing family members
- Describing family members' appearances, personalities and professions
- Comparatives: older/younger, bigger/smaller, taller/ shorter

Inventors: Community (small to large)

- What is a community?
- What communities am I a part of?
- What's my role in my community?
- What are some of the important members in our communities?

Spanish Language Arts

Explorers: Nature of the Self

- Introducing oneself, describing personal likes and dislikes, and talking about oneself

Adventurers: Community helpers

- What's a community?
- Who forms a part of our community?
- Who are the people who make a difference in our community?
- How can I make a difference?

Inventors: Getting to know each other

- An inquiry into the nature of the self
- Exploration of the attributes that make us similar and or different

Science

Explorers:

- Body Parts and Personalities

Adventurers:

- Heredity
- Biological Evolution

Inventors:

- Earth and Human Activity
- From molecules to Organism

MakerSpace

Explorers:

- Solving problems using finite materials
- The Invention Process

Adventurers/

Inventors:

- The Invention Process
- Solving problems using real-world materials and technology
- Creating a Screencastify video

Filmmaking, Drama/Dance,

Cooking, Yoga, P.E. Sports,

Kung Fu

- The specialized teaching team looks forward to meeting and getting to know each students' strengths and uniqueness! Please check the school schedule to make sure you have the appropriate shoes for the various exercise classes.

Math **Singapore Math**

Explorers:

- Investigating Similarities and Differences
- Counting
- Order by length and weight
- Identifying and completing patterns

Adventurers:

- Using concrete and pictorial models to create a set with a given number of objects
- Comparing and ordering whole numbers
- Using place-value models to read, write, and numbers

Inventors:

- Representing numbers to 1,000/100,000 in various contexts
- Comparing and ordering large numbers

Social Studies

Explorers:

You are You and I Am Me

People everywhere are alike and different.

- Personal identity
- How people grow and change
- How people are alike and different
- Concept: Responsibility, Change, and Connection
- Related Concepts: Family, Identity
- Introducing Hispanic Heritage Month and Mexican Indep. Day
- Investigation Project: _____

Adventurers: Communities

- Physical, human and cultural characteristics of communities
- Comparing and contrasting communities
- How do communities form?
- How do communities meet the needs of people?
- In which ways do humans adapt to thrive in different communities?

Inventors: A History of Us

Power From the People

- How people and events impacted the development of the US constitution
- Hispanic Heritage Month and Mexican Independence Day History including the Grito de Dolores, the Plan de Iguala and the Treaty of Cordoba
- Compare and Contrast the constitution and fight for independence in Mexico and the United States
- Driving Question: What rights, responsibilities, community and culture impact me?

Music

Explorers

- Using rhythm to express oneself
- Choir

Adventurers

- Rhythm ensemble
- Exploring note values
- Dynamics, pitch and tempo introduction
- Listening to the ensemble and playing together

Inventors:

- Rhythm/pitch/dynamics/tempo review
- Playing distinct rhythms on various instruments simultaneously and listening across the ensemble

Art

Explorers: Observant Self-Portrait

Students will look at the self-portraits of artists such as Pablo Picasso, Frida Kahlo and Van Gogh. Students will compare and contrast the art medium used in these paintings and the angles depicted by these artists while working on their own self-portraits with watercolors and oil pastels.

Adventurers/ Inventors:

Students will look at stencil works created by the renowned British street artist, Banksy and community murals painted by Katie Yamasaki. Students will discuss art's functionality in a community while working on a collaborative school mural to represent Oasis' spirit as part of the multicultural community.