

US WEEKLY BULLETIN

Issue #15 | December 2, 2016 | Frank Volpe & Naomi Shanks

Important Dates

- December 2nd
Varsity Boys Basketball vs. YCIS 5pm
HS StuCo De-stress Fest
- December 3rd
Santa Splash
- December 5th
JV Boys @ Wellington
- December 6th
PAFA General Meeting
Principals' Coffee Morning
- December 8th
Winter Concert: *Narnia*
- December 9th
PAFA Winter Festival
- December 9th-14th
Upper School Exams
- December 16th
International Breakfast
Early Dismissal: 11:30am
Last Day of Semester
- Dec 17^h- Jan 8th
Winter Break
- January 9th
Professional Inservice
New student orientation
- January 10th
First Day of Semester 2



Principals' Message

Dear SCIS Families,

This week was an exciting week here at SCIS. Between our MYP consultant visit and the arts performances our students had a number of opportunities to shine.

Stephen Taylor, our MYP Consultant, was on campus this past Tuesday and Wednesday. The purpose of his visit was to support our progress in implementing the IB Middle Years Program. Stephen met with teachers, students, the administrative team, and visited classrooms to review our progress. Stephen was impressed with the headway we have made and is confident we are on track for our MYP authorization visit from the IB in the spring of 2017.

Thursday night marked our annual IB Diploma music recital and Jazz Band performance. The hard work and talent of our students was inspiring. Those that attended were also treated to the new works of our visual arts students on display in the 3rd floor gallery. If you missed this week's performances you will have another opportunity to enjoy our students hard work and talents this coming week across the arts and in the upcoming athletic competitions. We hope to see you on campus!

Kind Regards,

Frank Volpe, PhD
Upper School Principal

Naomi Shanks
Upper School Vice Principal



Notes

Winter Uniforms

Winter is coming fast, and we encourage Upper School students to dress for the weather, while continuing to support the school identity and community-mindedness represented by the SCIS uniform. Long sleeve shirts and long pants are available in the uniform shop, as well as SCIS hoodies, cardigans, and blazers. Sweatshirts and jackets distributed through ASAs are also acceptable as long as the SCIS logo appears.

Upper School Exam Schedule

The first semester Upper School exam period will be Friday, December 9th through Wednesday, December 14th. During these four days, we will continue with the A/B schedule, but the timetable will be modified to allow one extended block of time for each class. Teachers will use the extended blocks for a range of summative assessment activities, which may include projects and presentations as well as formal examinations. These assessments need not be cumulative, and are not weighted more heavily than a typical end of unit summative assessment.

The regular timetable will resume on December 15th and our last day of the semester will be Friday December 16th.

Honor Roll:

With our new grading system, we are introducing a new system for academic awards. Awards each semester will be based on the summative total of students' scores in all of their classes. For example, an MYP student who earned a final semester score of 7 in all eight of their subjects would earn 56 points. Students who are in enrolled in ungraded classes will have Honor Roll boundaries in proportion to their number of graded courses.

Award Boundaries

| Program | Points Possible | Honor Roll | Principal's Honor Roll |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------|
| MYP (7 x 8 classes) | 56 | 48-51 | 52-56 |
| DP (7 x 6 classes) | 42 | 36-38 | 39-42 |

SCIS Parent Email:

Official school communications are only sent to @scis-parent.org email accounts that are provided to all SCIS parents. If you have not yet set up your SCIS parent email account, please head to <http://schoolid.scishis.net/> to create your email address, set your recovery email, and connect your children to your account. Once finished, you will receive a confirmation message with your new School ID and begin to receive school communications. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Barry Johnson at pd-technology@scis-china.org.

ManageBac:

Use ManageBac to check in with your child's classes and observe their progress throughout the year. To log in for the first time, follow the link in the welcome email sent to your parent email address. If you haven't seen it, contact Barry Johnson at pd-technology@scis-china.org and a new welcome email will be sent to you. ManageBac is a web-based software, widely used by IB schools worldwide, that is specifically designed to facilitate IB planning and assessment.

Attendance:

Please use ManageBac, email, or call the Upper School Secretary if your student will be absent. Jelly can be reached at jling@scis-china.org.

Upper School Exam Schedule

December 2016

| | Friday 9 Dec B | Monday 12 Dec A | Tuesday 13 Dec B | Wednesday 14 Dec A |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8:00 - 8:55 | B1 | A1 | B2 | A2 |
| 8:55 - 9:10 | Break | | | |
| 9:10 - 11:10 | B2 Exam | A2 Exam | B1 Exam | A1 Exam |
| 11:10 - 11:55 | Lunch | | | |
| 11:55 - 12:50 | B3 | A3 | B4 | A4 |
| 12:50 - 1:00 | Break | | | |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | B4 Exam | A4 Exam | B3 Exam | A3 Exam |

Unless a teacher has made other arrangements, all exams are held in classrooms.

In the MYP, "Exams" are no more heavily weighted than other summative assessments for progress towards the criteria. Teachers are free to use this time for any form of summative assessment, and should not feel limited to formal examination approaches, though this may be appropriate in some subjects.

US DRAMA & US BAND PRESENTS

NARNIA

Wassailing Through the Wardrobe

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH



5:30 – 6:30 Reception in the Art Gallery
with music by Macaroon 5 and US Choir
Concessions by StuCo and PAFA
6:30 – 8:30 Performance in the Theatre

Organized by Ms. Enoch, Mr. Demas, Ms. Dayton, and Mr. Thomas