

US WEEKLY BULLETIN

Issue #21 | February 10th, 2017 | Frank Volpe & Naomi Shanks

Important Dates

- **February 13th:** NWEA MAPs Testing Grades 6-9
- **February 14th:** Individual photo re-takes
- **February 14th:** MS Girls Volleyball Games (see calendar for details)
- **February 16th:** IB Diploma Program informational meeting (designed for families in grades 9-10) 10:30am
- **February 16th:** American Math Competition 4pm
- **February 17th:** Bagel Sale Fundraiser
- **February 17th:** High School Winter Formal
- **February 18th:** Shanghai Swim League Championship
- **March 14th-15th:** Student led conferences
- **March 17th:** endo of 3rd quarter
- **April 3rd-7th:** Spring Break and Qingming "Tomb Sweeping" Festival Day



Principals' Message

Dear SCIS Families,

Students and teachers hit the ground running this week as they returned from the Chinese New Year holiday break. The return to school has brought with it new events and activities. The high school soccer season started this week, water polo is back in the pool, and our middle school volleyball teams also saw competition. Academically, the next 6 weeks will see a significant number of field trips as classes wrap up units and transition into new units of study.

Field trips in the MYP are an essential way that teachers help students understand the real world application of their learning. The MYP Design course, taught by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Thomas, has led the way in providing experiences for students to connect their learning to our dynamic host city. Grades 9-10 Design explored the MYP design cycle at the Shanghai Urban Planning Museum this week while the 6th grade students (pictured above) conducted research in Disney Town for their upcoming project of designing a Lego space for the lower school.

Over the course of the coming weeks, students across the MYP and DP grades will be engaging in learning experiences across Shanghai. These excursions are an essential part of our inquiry based curriculum. They provide tangible real world contexts for student learning. These trips are also great windows into what your children are learning about in the classroom.

Kind Regards,

Frank Volpe, PhD
Upper School Principal

Naomi Shanks
Upper School Vice Principal



IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING

Dear High School Parents,

You are invited to join us for an IB Diploma Program Parent Orientation meeting, which will take place on **Thursday, February 16 at 10:30 AM**. The event, hosted by Ms. Naomi Shanks and Ms. Maja Kelly, will provide parents with an understanding of:

- The philosophy and aims of the IB Diploma Program
- The program structure
- University recognition policies and benefits of completing the IB Diploma Program

The IB Diploma Program at SCIS is open to all students in grades 11 and 12. It is an opportunity for students to take an academically rigorous program that is recognized by universities worldwide. Parents will be able to ask questions about the program, and to further their understanding of how SCIS supports students as they explore and build on their individual strengths and interests in a collaborative and intellectually stimulating environment. Parents of students in grade 10 are strongly encouraged to attend, and all high school parents are welcome.

Notes

Re-enrollment: Re-Enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year is officially underway! If your family has not received a re-enrollment email from the SCIS Admissions Department, please contact them directly at admission@scis-his.org

Volunteers Wanted:

As a reminder from the most recent PAFA meeting, Mr. Luebbe is seeking parent volunteers to serve on two different groups. Each group will be made up of parents, students, and faculty. The two groups will work towards:

- Improving Schoolwide Communication
- Prioritizing Facility Enhancements Over the Next Three Years

To learn more, please contact Mr. Luebbe at dluebbe@scis-china.org by Monday.

Winter Uniforms

Winter is here! 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.

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 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. Jely can be reached at jling@scis-china.org