

US WEEKLY BULLETIN

Weekly Bulletin 3 | September 2, 2016 | Frank Volpe & Naomi Shanks

Important Dates

September 6: PAFA General Meeting 10am
September 8: MS Touch Rugby Dulwich @ SCIS
September 9: Varsity Boys/Girls Rugby
Dulwich @SCIS
September 9: Green & Jeans Day
September 10: Welcome Back BBQ
September 12: Upper School ASAs Begin
September 15: Mid-Autumn Festival Holiday
October 10th-14th: China Go Trips

Important Contacts

US Principal: [Frank Volpe](#)

US Vice Principal/DP Coordinator:
[Naomi Shanks](#)

US Secretary: [Jelly Ling](#)

US PAFA Rep: [Trish Castillo](#)

Important Links

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Principal's Message

Dear SCIS Families,

Thank you to all of the parents who joined us for Wednesday's Back to School event. We appreciated the opportunity to meet so many of you. Back to School Night always serves as a great chance to meet your child's teachers and understand what their year's study will entail.

As we finish our second full week of school, we want to take a moment to reflect on a few of the important communication changes year. Most importantly, by now all parents should have accessed their new parent email. Please see the notes below if you are having trouble. Your parent email is your key to accessing information from the school. For those of you who have already logged into your parent email, you should have received an email from ManageBac regarding your parent account. ManageBac has taken the place of PowerSchool and will be the primary method for informing you on your child's assignments and progress. If you are struggling with any of these new communication tools please don't hesitate to contact the administration or our technology department.

This coming week will bring another opportunity for you to participate in the school community. We hope that everyone will join us for the Welcome Back BBQ coming up next weekend on Saturday, September 10th. This will be a great chance to meet other parents and another chance to meet the administration and teachers. We are looking forward seeing you soon!

Kind Regards,

Frank Volpe
Upper School Principal

Naomi Shanks
Upper School Vice Principal



MYP Matters: How is Assessment Different in the MYP?

-Written by Dr. Volpe

Over the course of this year we will be using this Weekly Bulletin to highlight the IB Middle Years Program. As an upper school parent, the biggest change you will notice this year is how your child will be assessed (graded). This will be communicated to you through ManageBac. One of the reasons we have moved to ManageBac is that it was designed specifically for the IB programs and reporting.

In the MYP there are no assessment categories, percentages, or letter grades. Instead, students are evaluated on their achievement according to MYP assessment criteria. Each subject group has 4 assessment criteria which are identified as A, B, C, and D. Over the course of a semester, students will be evaluated on each of these criteria on levels 0-8. There is no running grade for the course. Instead, assessments (projects, tests, presentations, etc.) will focus on 1-3 criteria and assessment will have achievement levels of 0-8 for each of the criteria. At the end of the semester, teachers will make final determinations on each student's achievement level by criteria and ManageBac will calculate a final achievement level for the course according to achievement levels 0-7. Below you can see a matrix of each subject group and the corresponding assessment criteria:

	A	B	C	D
Language & Literature	Analyzing	Organizing	Producing text	Using language
Language Acquisition	Comprehending spoken and visual text	Comprehending written and visual text	Communicating	Using language
Individuals & Societies	Knowing & understanding	Investigating	Communicating	Thinking Critically
Sciences	Knowing & understanding	Inquiring & designing	Processing & evaluating	Reflecting on the impacts of science
Mathematics	Knowing & understanding	Investigating Patterns	Communicating	Applying mathematics in real world contexts
Arts	Knowing & understanding	Developing skills	Thinking creatively	Responding
Physical & Health Edu.	Knowing & understanding	Planning for performance	Applying & performing	Reflecting and improving performance
Design	Inquiring & Analyzing	Developing ideas	Creating the solution	Evaluating

Confused? Don't worry. Your children will quickly understand the assessment system. Each course syllabus will explain in detail how these criteria are used and evaluated in each course. These syllabi are available through ManageBac and can be accessed as a student or parent. We will be offering workshops and parent trainings throughout the year on the MYP.

Notes:**New SCIS Parent Email accounts:**

By now, you should have received an invitation to access your new SCIS email account. If you haven't, first check your inbox and spam or junk folders and then contact Barry Johnson at pd-technology@scis-china.org immediately for more information. If you've received this welcome letter, then please make sure you follow the instructions to sign in, reporting any issues you experience to Barry. After *Back to School Night*, all communication from SCIS will be sent to both your personal e-mail and SCIS parent email account.

ManageBac:

Another big change for SCIS this year is the move from PowerSchool to ManageBac. A welcome email with instructions on how to sign in was sent to your new parent email address so if you haven't seen it, contact Barry Johnson. ManageBac is a web-based software that will allow you to see your child's academic information like PowerSchool did, and it is widely used by IB schools worldwide.

ASA Signup:

There is a new button on the SCIS Pudong school website (<https://pd.scis-his.net/>) called After School Activities. Clicking that will bring you to the ASA signup portal where you can enter your new SCIS username (sent to you along with your new parent email account) and password. If you are having difficulties accessing this account, don't worry, we've also set up a button to sign up without logging in. Just look for the dark blue button. We will also have a table set up in the office conference room with computers and tech support so you can come to school and sign up.

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

Substitute Teachers Wanted

With a new year, the SCIS has many new faces. As a school, we are always on the lookout for quality individuals in our community who might be able to substitute teach at school for a day or two. If you are a certified teacher or have experience in the classroom (or even if you know someone we could contact), we encourage you to contact the Joanna Zhou at jzhou@scis-china.org so that we can set up an interview. With a high-quality bank of substitutes, we are able to better serve our students. Our Dragon Community is a great asset, and this is one way you can help make our school a stronger one in 2016-17.



WELCOME BACK BBQ

DELICIOUS FOOD FOR SALE FROM

*Vietnamese
Homemade* **GENEVA** 日内瓦

SEPTEMBER
10TH
11AM-3PM



SHUTTLE BUSES

FROM EMERALD CLUBHOUSE 1 TO CAMPUS: 11AM, 12PM, 1PM, 2PM

FROM CAMPUS TO EMERALD CLUBHOUSE 1: 11:45AM, 12:45PM, 1:45PM, 3:00PM

SCIS-PUDONG IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE SHUTTLE BUSING FOR OUR EMERALD FAMILIES TO HELP THEM ATTEND BOTH THE WELCOME BACK BBQ ON CAMPUS AND THE EMERALD WELCOME BACK PARTY IN THE EVENING

198 HENGQIAO ROAD
ZHOUFU, PUDONG

FOR MORE DETAILS EMAIL
[MWALSH@SCIS-CHINA.ORG](mailto:mwalsh@scis-china.org)