

**Head of School Report
BOD Meeting – Oct 24 2022**

1. Enrollment 2022-23

- 544 Students
- Grade 12 – 40 students (highest ever)

2. Health & Safety Updates

- Announced Fire-drill – 13 Oct
- Unannounced Fire-drill – 20 Oct

3. Substation & Newbuild update

3.1 Substation

Doors installed on 12 Oct, followed by Enemalta installing equipment during the Nov break, along with trenches & connections to ES/MS & HS.

Quotes for Air-conditioners are being sought.

2 stages: 1.

3.2 Newbuild works have been paused until EneMalta remove the poles and electricity cables. These are being chased, contractor will recommence as soon as this is completed. Project Manager Lisa Carson has been meeting with Architects, Site Manager and our IT team to identify SMART requirements for the Newbuild

In February we will run an in-person parent meeting to share updates and overview of the project with the community. This will be attended by the Project Manager.

4. Parent Information Meetings

Online - Elementary Focus (14 attendees) : Literacy, Behavior management, Digital Portfolios (9 parents)

Online – Middle School Focus 26 Oct

MYP: Introduction to Assessment (via Google Meet) open to all G6-8 parents

In person - Grade 12 (x attendees) : Understanding the final year of DP/CP – how to support my Grade 12 child through the last year of school. (

5. Staff – professional growth conversations

All our teaching staff are currently In the process of setting their annual goals. This ties in with the schools 22-27 strategic plan and the section goals. Our overarching school goal this year “Investing in or learning to enable Student Success’ is a reminder to us all that our learning in turn benefits the students in our care. These goals are reviewed at the end of the year as part of a wrap-up conversation and annual evaluation process.

The Principals and Head of School have started their walkthroughs into lessons and three part observations as part of this process.

6. A snapshot of School Activities

➤ **Neurodiversity Month**

Our DEJI (Diversity, Equity, Justice & Inclusion) focus this month is Neurodiversity. In Elementary they are raising awareness around tolerance, respect and valuing neurodiverse brains. In Secondary there is a specific focus on ADHD and how it can be seen as a strength.



➤ **MAP testing for ES & MS**

These have now been completed, results will be shared with parents.

➤ **Extended Essay Presentations**

Our Grade 12 students presented their Extended Essay topics to their peers in Grade 11, staff and a few parents who joined us in person. Some example topics for their 4000 word research essay:

- To what extent does corporate responsibility play a role in the H&M group/the Inditex group? (Business)
- How does the length of a barrel and the angle of fire affect the total distance traveled by a projectile propelled by an air cannon? (Physics)
- How do different sorting algorithms compare in terms of memory usage when sorting data sets of different lengths? (Computer science)
- To what extent did Francis I (1494-1547) have a greater impact on France than Louis the XIV (1638-1715)? (French History)
- How does the pH of different acids affect the mass of teeth due to the corrosion of enamel? (Chemistry)
- "How the theme of feminism is brought out through performance and production elements in 2 different productions of Top Girls?" (Theatre Arts)
- How did the US drug culture contribute to the rise of the electronic music subgenre Acid House? (English)
- To what extent should four dimensional imaginary numbers be applied in the real world? (Mathematics)

➤ **European Day of Sport – VIS joined in this EU initiative with a day of physical exercise for all our students, also an opportunity for the House spirit to gain momentum (Wind won!). Much appreciation is given to our PHE department who organised this enjoyable, active day.**

➤ **MYP Highlights of work in progress**

Staff have been sharing good practice with each other on how the implementation of the MYP is fostering critical thinking in Grade 6-8 and enhancing our teaching and learning programme.

➤ **Elementary Field-trips**

- Grade 5 to Esplora - a visit to the planetarium in correlation with their unit on space.

- PK1 to Buskett Gardens - autumn leaves and social skills during unit This is ME
- Grade 8 - Esplora “emerging technology” workshop for girls

➤ **School spirit!**

On Friday 14 Oct the High School ran a Halloween Dance which was well-attended and organised by the HS Student Council. School spirit week takes place 24-28 October, an opportunity for the whole school to let their hair down with themed dress up days, pink October day, pyjama day etc. This is also spearheaded by the ES and Sec student councils. Student events that week will be the two-day Spooky Music Video workshop on Tuesday & Thursday, with an Elementary Trunk or Treat. Parents have been invited to get involved with all of these events.

7. VIS Hosts MedHeads meeting

VIS is hosting the Mediterranean Heads bi-annual meeting, this is a group of Heads from other similar sized, not for profit international schools in the region. We use this opportunity to share good practice, school data and job-alike challenges. This group includes American Overseas School Rome, International School Valencia and Benjamin Franklin School Barcelona to name a few. On this occasion the Heads are bringing their Counsellors with them for a job-alike session.

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Head of School, Oct 20 2022