



Osaka Gakugei Canadian International School

BC Offshore School

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2022

13th Edition

In this edition:

- Students return from 5 weeks in Canada
- Introducing the new math teacher
- New social studies class from April 2023



Group photo in Sooke



Osaka Gakugei Campus

Principal's Message

Hello! I would like to welcome back all our students as we begin the fall session of our school year. I hope you have had a wonderful summer. I am excited to hear what you have learned from your experiences in Sooke! I firmly believe that travel, experiencing different cultures, and learning in a foreign country help make us global citizens. Such experiences benefit both the individual and the global community.

I would like to introduce you to a couple of new, exciting developments here at OGCIS. First, we are pleased to welcome Mr. Livio Santi as our new math teacher. You can read Mr. Santi's bio on page three. As you will discover Mr. Santi has much experience and expertise supporting students as they navigate their way through the British Columbian math curriculum. Not only is he a highly regarded math teacher, but he is also a caring and energetic person. Another new development is the addition of the social studies course, 'BC First Peoples 12'. Lots of information on this course can be found on page four of the newsletter. I am very much a supporter of this course and see it as a gateway to finding a deeper way to understand ourselves and the world we live in by learning about cultures rooted in traditions and customs from indigenous peoples.

Lastly, I would like to thank the staff and students who have welcomed me to the school. I have only met a few students and look forward to meeting the rest of you as we begin our fall classes. I am very excited to be part of the OGCIS community!



Michael Brown, OGCIS Principal

OGCIS Homepage



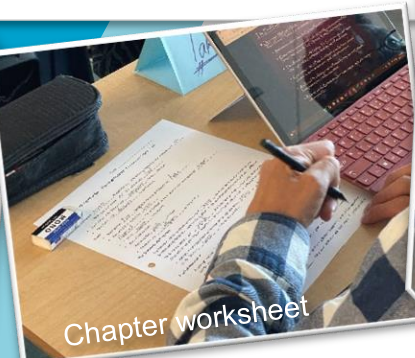
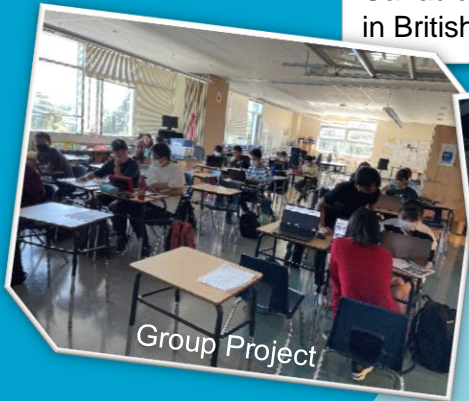
Our Mission: "To empower future mindful leaders who will flourish in and enrich a global society."



sooke Summer

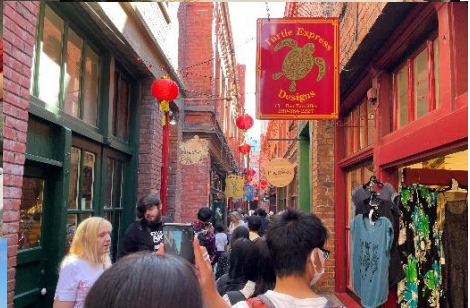
Social Studies 10

During their 5-week homestay on Vancouver Island, students study 20th century Canadian history and earn credits for Social Studies 10, a required class for graduation in British Columbia.



After School Activities

After class, students were able to participate in many activities such as whale watching, the Malahat Skywalk and mini golf in order to decompress and give them a sense of life and leisure in British Columbia.



Program 2022

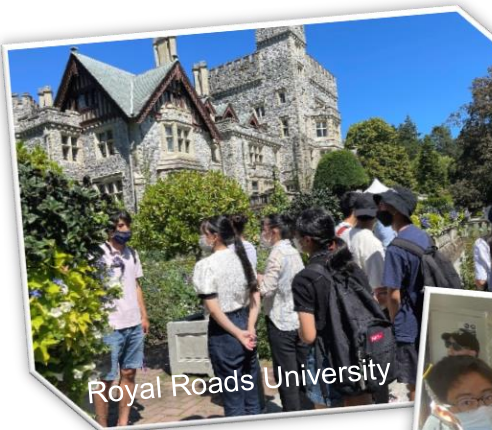
Staying with a Canadian family

While studying, students stayed with a Canadian family for the entire duration of their 5 weeks in Sooke. There they learned important communication skills and were able to live in an all-English environment. Not only did they experience a new culture first-hand, they also were able to grow their personal responsibility.



Campus Tours

During their stay, students visited the university campuses of UBC, Royal Roads University, and Camosun College, which aligns well with their Career Life Education class. OGCIS prepares students for post-secondary studies at Canadian universities, and they even have the potential to earn a scholarship from the BC Global Education Program.



New math teacher



Hello! My name is Mr. Livio Santi. I am from Cape Town, South Africa. I recently moved to Osaka after living and working in Bangkok, Thailand. I have been a math coordinator for the past 5 years and in my 8 years of teaching, I have taught all the way from kindergarten math to grade 12 Calculus.

I am very adventurous, love sport, exploring nature and cannot wait to learn more about Japan and start this new year with the OGCIS family.

Changes to BC Curriculum

Background

As part of the provincial government's commitments to truth, reconciliation and anti-racism, the Ministry of Education is implementing mandatory credits related to First Peoples as part of graduation requirements in British Columbia. The new requirement will build on the education sector's work to date, to integrate Indigenous content into the provincial K-12 curriculum, and support students to graduate with deeper understanding and knowledge of First Peoples perspectives, histories, and cultures.

From April 2023
Comparative Cultures 12
will change to
BC First Peoples 12



Gitksan First Nation longhouse

What is BC First Peoples 12?

This class focuses on the history and culture of Indigenous groups in British Columbia including their different identities, worldviews, and languages. It also covers the lasting impact of European colonialism on the political, social, and economic lives of B.C. First Peoples and how, through self-governance, leadership, and self-determination, B.C. First Peoples continue to challenge and resist ongoing colonialism.

Orange Shirt Day & National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each September, OGCIS holds events for Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Such events are important for building awareness around the residential school system in Canada that forced Indigenous people to give up their own culture and assimilate to European-Canadian culture. The motto of Orange Shirt Day is "Every Child Matters" which helps us to understand the impacts, particularly on Indigenous children.



Phyllis Webstad



An AINU man in traditional dress

Why teach Indigenous education in Japan?

Although Japan has a deep cultural history that is present in contemporary society, many indigenous groups do not have the same privilege of practicing their own cultures and languages. Education and understanding are essential parts in the preservation of knowledge that is at risk to disappear forever. This also gives students at OGCIS the opportunity to take a class unique to British Columbia. It is not only a chance for students to learn about rich cultural histories and practices, but also to understand modern issues that impact people around the world.