



HEADS-UP

Secondary School

Weekly Notes from Patricia de Villiers



Secondary School Heads-Up - 3/20/26

Dear Secondary School Community,

Spring is in the air as the third quarter is drawing to a close. Here is what's been happening at Waterview this week.



Model United Nations Conference in New York

This week, Maria Habannakeh, Ariana Steer and Parineeta Bhargaw, from our Model United Nations program, represented DIS at the 50th Annual UNIS-UN Conference at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Over two days, students engaged in discussions on global economic challenges, participated in simulations and attended presentations by speakers from international organizations.

They also took part in student-led debates on topics such as sustainable development and digital currencies while having the opportunity to meet students from around the world. Special thanks to UNIS for the organization of this outstanding conference and thank you to Mr. Thomas Avril and Ms. Karine Afopa for chaperoning our students.



La Semaine de la Francophonie

Francophonie Week gave students the opportunity to rediscover their shared connection through the French language while celebrating its diversity. Throughout the week, students explored the Francophonie around the world through their folktales and major authors. We also celebrated the bonds of friendship that unite the United States and France as our French Program 8th-grade students participated in a cultural exchange with their French peers from Paul-Émile Victor Middle School in Vidauban. Through video clips, they were able to discuss the unique aspects of their school environments, challenge common stereotypes and explore linguistic differences and the specific ways in which they use the French language.

At the end of the week, the assembly allowed members of the French Honor Society to present an overview of the Francophone world and conclude their presentation with a Kahoot quiz. A special thanks to Mr. Grima, Head of the French Department, and his team for leading la Semaine de le Francophonie.



St. Patrick's Day at Waterview

Our campus was a little more colorful on Tuesday as we celebrated St. Patrick's Day. Students and staff wore shades of green, creating a vibrant and unified atmosphere. It was a great opportunity to share in a bit of Irish-inspired cheer, and our students celebrated their interculturalism with St. Patrick's Day in the middle of Francophonie Week.

Math Week

This week has been a week full of math at Waterview. The Math Honor Society students transformed our dance room into an escape room using the theme, "égalité." Six juniors also participated in Math Olympiads, aiming to foster an interest in mathematics and habits to solve problems using teamwork. We even had 5th, 6th and 7th graders participating in the worldwide Kangourou Math Competition. A big thank you to Mme Dorbath and Mme Doux for leading la Semaine des Maths.

MAP Test Results

MAP test results are available for parents and guardians through MyDIS and discussed at parent-teacher conferences. If you did not have a chance to attend the MAP family workshop, please find that information below.



Join Us for One Night in Bangkok!

The DIS PTO is thrilled to announce that tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the **Annual DIS Gala: One Night in Bangkok** are officially open for purchase [by clicking here](#).

Event Reminder

Date: Saturday, May 9

Venue: 34 Events, 1017 E 15th St, Plano, 75074

Time: 7:00-11:00pm

Tickets are limited this year and expected to sell quickly, so it is encouraged that you secure yours early to ensure you don't miss out on this spectacular night.



Spring Mini-Camp

Join Us! April 6-10, Churchill Way

Offering:

- STEM
- ARTS
- LANGUAGE
- SPORTS
- GAMES
- COOKING ... AND MORE!

Enrolling Now!

Questions? email camps@dallasinternationalschool.com

CLICK HERE 

Enroll Now for Spring Break Mini Camp

Join us for our upcoming Spring Break Mini Camp from Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10. For more information and how to enroll, please [click here](#). This year's camps include dozens of activities, including gymnastics, robotics, cooking, pottery, chess, sports and many more. Sign up today to ensure your child's spot!

Food Committee Update

Chef Tim also encourages the DIS community to look at the daily lunch menu using the Touch of Sage app. Please see the Quick Start guide [here for parents](#) and [here for students and faculty](#).

Financial Aid Now Available

For each year that financial assistance is offered at Dallas International School, there is an application process which begins early spring and applies to the tuition for the upcoming school year. Financial Aid is available to new and returning DIS students. Please contact Amber Shaikh by email (forms@dallasinternationalschool.org) if you have additional questions regarding financial aid or want to receive the step-by-step instructions for the application.



Enrollment is Now Open for Our Summer Enrichment Camps

Looking ahead to summer 2026, DIS is once again offering a large selection of activities as part of our Summer Enrichment Camps. Our Summer Enrichment program is open to all students, ages 3-17, and to DIS and non-DIS students. This six-week program will be held from June 15 through July 24. Summer offers an excellent opportunity to learn a new skill and have a great time, so join us and invite your friends! [Click here](#) to see the catalog and enroll by [clicking here](#).

Coming Up: MAP Family Workshops Monday, March 23 - Thursday, April 2

We are pleased to invite you to one of our upcoming MAP Family Workshops that will take place on both campuses and online. The Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) is not a standardized assessment, and interpreting results requires insight into how data is collected, analyzed and presented. As such, attendance to at least one MAP Family Workshop is required per family in order to receive MAP results; only one parent or guardian needs to attend a workshop session and attendance is only required one time.

While the primary audience for these workshops is parents and guardians of children enrolled in kindergarten through 10th grade, anyone wishing to attend may join these workshops to learn more about how we use MAP to inform curriculum and instruction at DIS. In order to offer maximum flexibility to DIS families, ten sessions will be offered over a three-week period; two sessions will take place in-person at Churchill, one in-person session at Waterview and seven online. To register for an upcoming workshop session, [please register online](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

Coming Up: School Council Meeting #2
Wednesday, April 1, 6pm, Testing Center

Our second school council meeting is coming up on Wednesday, March 25 at 6pm. Please remember to send your feedback to your School Council Parent Representatives. For all high school feedback, please reach out to Zsofia Kope at zsofuc@yahoo.com, and for middle school, reach out to Lina Hage Chahine at lina.hchahine@gmail.com.

Coming Up: Conversation with the Head of Secondary - "Focus on Fine Arts"
Wednesday, April 15, 6:00pm

We hope you will join us to learn more about fine arts at DIS. From our annual music concert in February to our musical theater production of *Annie Jr*, to visual arts and exhibitions, creativity is on the move at DIS. Please [RSVP here](#) to let us know you're coming.

Coming Up: Rescheduled Visit to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra
Friday, April 24, 9:00am

On Friday, April 24, DIS will take students from grades 4-8 to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. There are around 150 students learning to play violin, viola, cello and bass, and we are excited that the students will get to enjoy this Dallas Symphony Orchestra experience. We also hope you have all marked your calendars for the end-of-year concert on June 6.

Coming Up: DIS Career Day
Friday, May 1, 9:00am

This year, we are excited to host Career Day at our Waterview Campus on May 1 — a fitting date, as it coincides with *La Fête du Travail*, the international celebration of workers. If you would be interested in hosting a table in the MPR where you can share your professional experience and career advice with our high school students, [please fill out this form](#).

Coming Up: DIS Talent Show
Friday, May 8, 6:00pm

We are excited to remind you that this year's DIS Talent Show will take place on **Friday, May 8 at 6:00pm in the Churchill Campus gym**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

Warm regards,
Patty

On the Horizon

- **Monday, March 23 - Thursday, April 2, 2026** - MAP Family Workshops
- **Thursday, March 26, 2026, 9:25am** - Women's History Month Assembly
- **Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3, 2026** - Spring Class Field Trips
- **Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 6:00pm** - School Council #2
- **Friday, April 3, 2026** - Parent-Teacher Conferences - **NO SCHOOL**
- **Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10, 2026** - Spring Break - **NO SCHOOL**
- **Monday, April 13, 2026, 6:00pm** - IB Visual Arts Exhibition
- **Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 6:00pm** - [Conversation with the Head of Secondary - "Focus on Fine Arts"](#)
- **Friday, April 17, 2026, 7:00pm** - High School Prom (Grades 9-12)
- **Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 7:00pm** - Senior Dinner at Cadot
- **Thursday, April 23, 2026** - ARISE Drone Competition at SMU
- **Friday, April 24, 2026** - SGA Election Speeches
- **Monday, April 27 - Thursday, May 21, 2026** - IB Final Exams
- **Tuesday, April 28, 2026** - SGA Elections
- **Friday, May 1, 2026** - DIS Career Day
- **Friday, May 8, 2026, 6:00pm** - DIS Talent Show
- **Saturday, May 9, 2026, 7:00pm** - [Annual DIS Gala: One Night in Bangkok](#)

[View the Official School Calendar](#)

[Talk to Tigre](#)



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