



International
Baccalaureate

OLD MILL HIGH SCHOOL

January 2011

Issue 8

More Than The Sum Of Our Parts

I. The Σ IB Desk: A Word from the Editor

It is halfway through the school year, and while many are preparing for midterm exams, IB students face even more daunting projects and papers, including oral exams for senior English classes and World Literature papers for juniors. It is very important that junior and senior IB students continue to stay motivated to complete all of the IB requirements while maintaining high grades in all other classes!

Other projects such as CAS and Extended Essay are due soon for seniors, so make sure that you are keeping up with these as well! They are integral components of your IB diploma, and without them you cannot receive it! Juniors, remember that you must be working on acquiring CAS hours both junior and senior year, and you must also create your portfolio and fill it with reflections and documentation. You also need a long-term project so start thinking about what you would like to do to meet this criterion.

And finally, make sure that you are beginning to think about final IB exams, which are a few of months away! Start looking over your material from this year or last year if you are preparing for an HL exam, and remember to ask for help from your teachers if you need it!

Good luck on all exams, and remember that midterms are a good way to study material for future AP and IB final exams in May!

An important note to seniors: the IB diploma breakfast is on Friday January 14. Please make sure that you bring your assigned food or drink item to make this event a success!



Important Dates:

⇒Martin Luther King
Day January 17

⇒Midterm Exams
March 29- April 5

⇒No School January
24-25

⇒Third Quarter begins
January 26

⇒IB Testing

May 3-21

II. News Flash!



Attention all IB Juniors and seniors! - January and February are full of IB orals, papers, and testing! Read on and plan ahead to make sure that you stay organized and on top of your work load!

Grade 12: Second Draft of MI Due end of January

Grade 11 Project draft due first week February for Math Studies

Grade 11 Project Completed Mid February

Grade 11 CAS Portfolio Second week February

Grade 11/12 Math SL/HL Final Portfolio Selection of 2 items Second Week of Feb

Grade 12 Music HL Compositions Completed Third week of Feb

Grade 11/12 Languages HL/SL individual orals due at end of February

Grade 11 Math Studies Project due at end of February

Grade 12 Music SL/HL Performance Recording Completed at end of February

Grade 12 SL/HL Art Studio Work needs to be ready at end of February

Grade 11/12 Chemistry Investigations completed at end of February

All Internal Assessments due to IBC third week of March

Grade 12 CAS Final Portfolio due in February

Grade 11 WL 1 due in English First week

Mock Exams Begin in Every class March 8-24

III. PPTC's Hairspray!

In the spring be sure to check out PPTC's production of Hairspray!

Jessica Nicholson	Penny Pingleton
Joe Leitess	Corny Collins
Evan McFarland	Wilbur Turnblad
Brittney Bailey	Kamilah (Dynamite)/Ensemble
Katahdin Kehoe	Velma Von Tussle
Lauren Harrell	Ensemble
Lindsay Hammon	Ensemble
Autumn Spriggs	Judine (Dynamite)/Ensemble
Almi Yoloye	Ensemble
Kensley Frank	Luanne

Come and support your fellow IB junior and senior class. Rehearsals for the musical have already started so wish your fellow students luck! During one of the nights that Hairspray is showing the audience will be partially filled with Cappies Critics who review the play and vote it eligible for awards at the end of the year. Last year students won awards for things like featured actress and best dancer so let's hope this year Hairspray is nominated for Cappies awards!

IV. IB kids in action



Remember to send in your name and sports to sig-maib@yahoo.com!

Congratulations to the following IB winter athletes!

Cheerleading: Amber Adams,

Bailey Youse

Track: Cody Vernon, Steve Wiley, Taylor Parson, Jordan Freeman, Ian Stringfield, Kelsey Terrel

Dance Company: Jasmine Pope, Desiree' Sterling, Leah Travers

Basketball: Joe McCargo

Swimming: Zoe Vranish, Robin Belton, Victoria Heisler

V • CAS-cruiser



Juniors who have just received their CAS project guidelines, remember to continue to work on these, as your portfolios will be checked periodically. When conducting community service that you plan to include in your CAS portfolio, remember to classify it as either creative, action, or service (one project can be two or even all three of these in differing amounts) as well as evidence for the project. This can include photographs, brochures or flyers, or a newspaper article. Nearly any item that proves that you were at the event and contributed to it can be evidence to include in your portfolio. Also, start thinking of the format of your portfolio. Will you create a scrapbook in which evidence and reflections are glued in? Or will you create a binder and type your entries? You can create a portfolio any way you can imagine, just be sure that it will hold your documentation and reflections. Junior year is a great time to start organizing your portfolio and outlining how you will set it up. Below are some senior CAS projects that are currently going on to give you ideas.

Seniors, CAS project are almost due, so make sure that you are finalizing your portfolios. They should be neat and in some sort of chronological or other order that easily separates projects. Also make sure that you have the 150 hours required, and that roughly 50 hours are 'creative,' 50 are 'active' and 50 are 'community'.

Please send your CAS project information to: sigmaib@yahoo.com

Current CAS Projects

- Bailey Youse and Kensey Frank

Bailey and Kensey are currently raising money for the Shade Foundation of America, a foundation that promotes skin cancer awareness and sun safety. To raise money, they are selling hand made bracelets during school, and are planning on having a booth at upcoming vendor and craft fairs.

- Alex Sears and Jorge Bolanos

Alex and Jorge are raising money for orphans as part of their long term CAS project. They are selling cookies during school to raise money.

- Pamela Younes

Pam recently finished coordinating the giving tree, a toy collection for children for Christmas. She is planning on continuing to maintain the memory garden at Old Mill.

- Anna Zahn

Anna is collaborating with the American Red Cross to host blood drives. She is planning for upcoming blood drives that will be held at the school, the dates are to be announced. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with coordinating or setting up for the blood drive (and earning CAS hours!) listen for future morning announcements.

- Robert Cone

For the past two months Robert Cone has been fundraising for his CAS project. This project is to help out the homeless communities around Glen Burnie by building serviceable eight foot by 2 foot shelves for a community organization, H.O.P.E. (for All). H.O.P.E. collects furniture and clothing for the homeless year round. Robert has been fundraising by means of selling candy in school, during school functions, and to businesses around the Ferndale area. All of the profit goes to the organization. He has also been asking for donations from businesses in the same area.

VI. Ask an IB Kid Column

Send your questions to sigmaib@yahoo.com.



Ask an IB Kid

Ask an IB Kid:

1. How can I conduct research for my extended essay topic?

The Old Mill High school media center has a whole section dedicated to various research materials. Plus there are online databases that can be located by searching for the Old Mill Library homepage online. That can be accessed by going to aacps.org scrolling down to high schools and then go to the Old Mill homepage. One of the sections available for info is the library section which will take you to the Library catalogue. From there several databases such as EBSCO can be located for research related to the Extended Essay topic.

Additionally, Ms. Newgent has been in contact with Anne Arundel Community College and has learned that all residents of Anne Arundel County may apply for a library card to check out college texts and other resources. Moreover, the AACC media specialists are willing to assist extended essay students with questions concerning their research topic including what resources are available, how to write a good research question, and how to properly cite various materials.

Finally, all 11th grade IB students will be assigned a Questia password. Questia is an online data bank that allows one access to over 70,000 books and periodicals. Ms. Newgent urges all students to take advantage of these valuable resources.

2. What can I do to improve my grade in IB Bio HL?

In order to score better on the tests it was suggested by Ms. Cunningham that the vocabulary from each unit be put on a group of note cards. Especially the important diagrams showing the complicated biological processes. That way it is easier to be quick studying each night because often the tests are cumulative. There are also afterschool study sessions held in the science department or you can create one of your own either at home or afterschool in the media center. Since Ms. Cunningham often doesn't lecture much it is important that you take notes of the section in the book related to the unit and do the guiding questions.

3. What should my C.A.S Portfolio contain?

The C.A.S portfolio should be a way of documenting the volunteering done in relation to Creativity, Action and Service. So it can be either electronic (web blog, power point etc.) or a hard copy (binder, sketchbook etc.). In each portfolio entry prove that the activity is necessary. You can pick up one of the colored forms in Ms. Cielewich's room to give to the volunteering director. Or if this activity gives you a certificate based on all the hours or if there are pictures of you doing the activity then that counts towards validating hours. Each entry should also have some type of reflection related to your feelings towards completing each activity and how it relates to the overall learning experience.