



ASIA PACIFIC

GLOBAL NEWS

AFRICA/EUROPE/
MIDDLE EAST

ASIA PACIFIC

THE AMERICAS

VOL. 3, ISSUE 2, 2015

Former Prime Minister of Australia speaks at IB conference in Macau

In March, Julia Gillard, former Prime Minister of Australia (2010-2013), joined a host of expert speakers in Macau, China, for the 2015 IB Asia Pacific Annual Conference.

Attracting more than 1,200 participants, the conference was the region's largest yet. Motivated by the IB mission, the conference fosters partnership and participation, providing a forum for discussions on educational quality, pedagogical leadership and international mindedness. Search [#IBMO2015](#) on Twitter to hear from participants about the conference highlights.



Featured school: "Two schools together" in Japan

[Senri and Osaka International Schools](#) of Kwansei Gakuin in Japan collaborate closely in educating students to share their different cultures. William Kralovec, Head of School at Osaka International School of Kwansei Gakuin, tells *IB Global News* about the collaboration.

Q: How do the two schools work as "two schools together"?

The idea of two schools together was brought to life 24 years ago with the founding of the schools. Osaka International School (OIS) serves the English-speaking international



Visionary architecture allows for two schools to operate together within one building

community of Osaka. Senri International School (SIS), serves Japanese returnee families (from living overseas) and local students in Japanese language instruction. The schools are managed by the non-profit educational foundation, Kwansei Gakuin, and are designed to work closely together in sharing the best of Japanese and non-Japanese educational ideas.

Q: What are the benefits and challenges of working so closely together?

The collaboration offers a closer connection between the local culture and our faculty, students and parents. The challenge is that it takes longer to get things done. Dealing with the different requirements of the Japanese education ministry can make practical considerations, like scheduling, complicated.

Q: How does the ‘Shared Program’ manifest in the student culture at the school(s)?

The two schools combine for visual arts, physical education and music classes, as well as for all extracurricular programs. Sharing students gives OIS, with an enrolment of 270 students, the advantages of a larger school, with full music and sports programs, which would not be possible with just our students. When walking through the hallways or cafeteria, it is difficult to distinguish the students from a particular school. It is a stimulating environment to be in.

Q: How do the schools’ teaching of the ‘common ground’ impact the wider community surrounding them?

Constantly needing to consider the perspective and values of another culture is good for our school community. Students from both schools are easily recognized in the community because of the way that they carry themselves: they have a high level of expressiveness and individual focus, balanced with empathy for one of the oldest and most distinct cultures on earth. This is carried on to the wider community in many ways; for example, the IB philosophy of service learning resulted in our students continuing to support victims of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami (2011) still today. They also carry the IB Learner Profile traits into universities in Japan and throughout the world.



High school Japanese students teach elementary students in collaborative children’s literature class



All school productions bring together elementary through grade 12 across both schools in visually rich performances

Q: How has offering the full IB Continuum shaped the school's way of teaching?

There is a movement in the Japanese educational system to reform schools to align more with the IB philosophy and practices. OIS is the oldest school in Japan to offer the IB Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme and Diploma Programme. We are working closely with SIS to get more of their students to enrol in our Diploma Programme. SIS is a very progressive Japanese school and much of our professional development is shared. We are an ideal model for Japanese schools, and our international faculty works closely with the Japanese faculty, to develop a school-wide IB system of education in the Japanese context.

Newly authorized programmes in Asia Pacific

Welcome to the following 16 schools, authorized to offer an IB programme in Asia Pacific since January.

School Name	Programme	Location
Nagoya International Junior and Senior High School	DP	Nagoya, Japan
Xi'an Hanova International School	DP	Xian, China
Guangdong Shunde Desheng School	DP	Shunde, China
The Cathedral and John Connon School	DP	Mumbai, India
YK Pao School	DP	Shanghai, China
Le Bocage International School	MYP	Curepipe, Mauritius
Utahloy International School Zengcheng	MYP	Guangdong, China
Southern Christian College	MYP	Kingston, Australia
Pathways World School	MYP	Delhi, India
Southern Christian College	PYP	Kingston, Australia
Mentari School, Jakarta	PYP	Jakarta, Indonesia
Premier International School	PYP	Lalitpur, Nepal
The Learning Tree	PYP	Karachi, Pakistan
European International School	PYP	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
The International School	PYP	Karachi, Pakistan
Beijing Huijia Kindergarten	PYP	Beijing, China