

1 April 2022

NEWSLETTER FOR ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Issue 10, Volume 6

Dear Students, Staff, Parents/Guardians and members of our school community

From the Principal

Harmony Week – Australia celebrates this special week 21 March to 27 March

2022 theme: EVERYONE BELONGS

Special celebrations are important milestones. Whether it is in our family. Whether it is in our school. Whether it is as a nation. Whether it is as a globally significant event. Celebrations give us the opportunity to join together and reflect on the things that really matter. Creating community. Strengthening the values that define us. Learning more about each other and respecting each other's unique qualities. This week our students new to Australia, were introduced to this year's Harmony Week.



Harmony celebrations

The Department of Home Affairs leads national celebrations for Harmony Week to recognise diversity and inclusion activities that take place during the entire week. Harmony Week is celebrated during the week (Monday to Sunday) that includes 21 March, which is the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Since 1999, more than 80,000 Harmony Week events have been held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia.

What is Harmony Week?

It is a time to celebrate Australian multiculturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community.

Australia is one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world and we should celebrate this and work to maintain it.

Harmony Week is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

Why orange?

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. Australians can choose to wear something orange during Harmony Week to show their support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia.



Our cultural diversity

Australia is a vibrant and multicultural country — from the oldest continuous culture of our first Australians to the cultures of our newest arrivals from around the world.

Our cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths and is at the heart of who we are. It makes Australia a great place to live.

An integrated multicultural Australia is an integral part of our national identity. All people who migrate to Australia bring with them some of their own cultural and religious traditions, as well as taking on many new traditions. Collectively, these traditions have enriched our nation.

Facts and figures

There are some fascinating statistics about Australia's diversity that can be good conversation-starters:

- *nearly half (49 per cent) of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was*
- *we identify with over 300 ancestries*
- *since 1945, more than 7.5 million people have migrated to Australia*
- *85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia*
- *apart from English, the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Arabic, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Italian, Greek, Tagalog/Filipino, Hindi, Spanish and Punjabi*
- *more than 70 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia.*

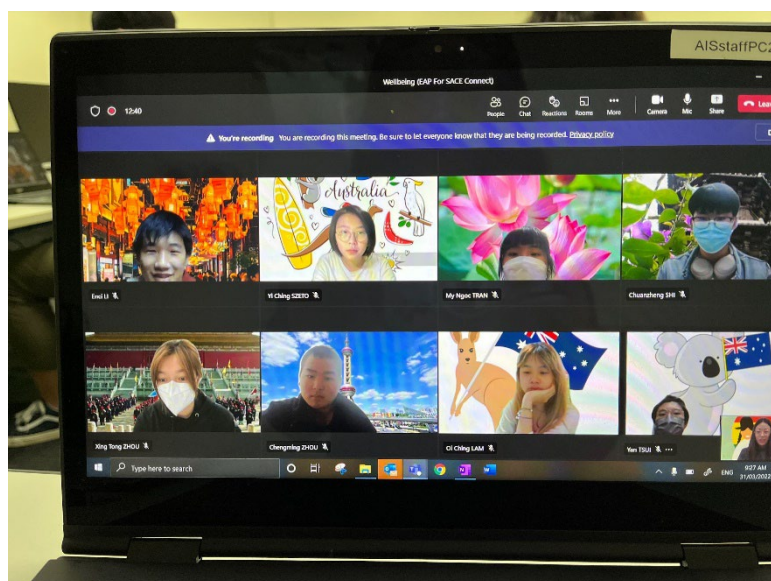
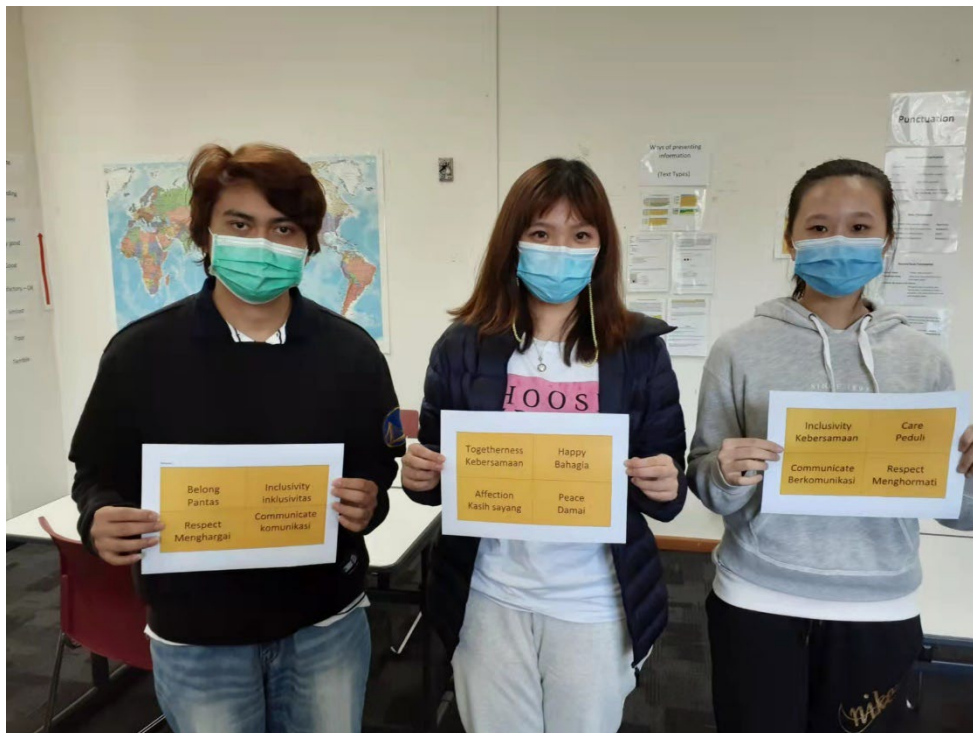
These facts are taken from ABS 2016 Census Data. Check out the Australian Bureau of Statistics website.



(source: [About \(harmony.gov.au\)](http://About(harmony.gov.au)) – accessed: 27 March 2022



We wish to share the learning and celebrations celebrated by our students and staff at Adelaide International School:





ADELAIDE
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Get to know our teachers and what makes them tick....

MEET Ms JING LIU

Jing is the SACE Stage 2 (Year 12) Essential Mathematics and English for Academic Purpose (EAP) for SACE Connect Mathematics teacher at Adelaide International School. She also teaches Stage 1 and Stage 2 Chinese Background Speakers. She has over twenty years of teaching experience in South Australia. Jing thoroughly enjoys teaching and is a dedicated and caring teacher. I've asked her to share a few things about herself in response to my questions:



What is your philosophy in teaching?

I believe that students learn when they feel comfortable in the classroom. A safe learning environment is essential to all learners and their teacher. I value and respect students' points of view in their daily learning journey and strive to accommodate their preferred learning style to support their different learning needs. I truly believe that a successful learning journey requires learners to commit to their studies and I encourage them to do this using a diverse range of strategies. A successful learner is always a motivated learner - they are prepared to learn.

What is the most rewarding aspect of teaching for you?

Helping students to develop their knowledge and skills; to see the joy on each student's face when they successfully solve a tough mathematics problem; to watch them grow their mindsets and making progress on their personal learning journey.

In closing, please contact me if I can assist your family on gina.kadis@ais.edu.au.

Yours sincerely

Ms Gina Kadis
PRINCIPAL

