School Newsletter · International (Cambridge)

ZERA NEWSLETTER

LEARNING, GROWTH & RESILIENCE

NOTE FROM THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR

This month has been filled with learning, growth and moments that have brought us closer as a ZERA community.

Despite the recent haze, our teachers and students have shown resilience and adaptability in keeping teaching and learning going, both online and offline. We are also delighted to celebrate our students' achievements and progress, both big and small, as every step forward reflects their effort, determination and growth.

As we approach November, we will also be sharing important information about our upcoming examinations and assessment arrangements to help families support their children's preparation.

Thank you to our dedicated teachers and supportive parents for being part of this journey. Together, let us continue to encourage one another, celebrate every milestone and nurture confident learners who are ready to embrace new challenges.

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KEY DATES

25 Sep
Moondeka Celebration

7 Oct
Chumbaka Workshop, Year 7–9

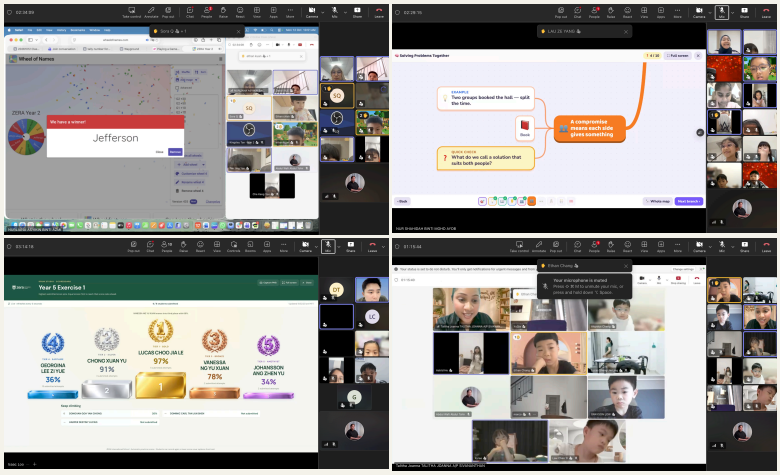
26 Oct – 6 Nov
End-of-Term 1 Examinations

ONLINE LESSONS

Due to the haze situation, some classes have been conducted online to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

Students have adapted well to the arrangement and have participated actively in their lessons. A shortened timetable has been used to reduce screen time, while lessons continue to follow the usual timetable sequence.

Teachers shared lesson links and learning materials through the usual channels. We thank our students and parents for their cooperation and support as we continue learning safely during this period.



INTERNATIONAL ZERA CAMBRIDGE PROGRAMME

TERM 1 ASSESSMENT 2026–2027

Assessment plays an important role in the Cambridge curriculum, providing valuable insights into students' learning progress, recognising their strengths and highlighting areas that require further development.

Through a range of planned assessment methods, teachers can offer constructive feedback, adapt their teaching approaches and ensure that learning objectives are being achieved. Beyond academic performance, assessment also encourages students to reflect on their progress and develop important life skills, including responsibility, resilience and self-management.

We would like to share key information about our assessment approaches and explain how they support students' academic growth throughout the Cambridge learning journey.

TYPES OF ASSESSMENT BY YEAR GROUP

To ensure age-appropriate learning and gradual examination exposure, assessments are structured as follows:

YEAR 1 & 2

100%

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

Assessment is carried out throughout the term. There are no formal end-of-term examinations for Year 1 and Year 2. At this stage, we focus on building strong learning foundations, assessing learning gradually to reflect each child's development accurately and holistically.

Assessed through

- Daily class activities and participation
- Classwork and simple tasks
- Projects, presentations and hands-on activities
- Teacher observations and end-of-unit quizzes

This lets teachers closely monitor each child's progress in a supportive environment, and helps students develop confidence, curiosity and a positive attitude towards learning.

YEAR 3 – 6

20% + 80%

CONTINUOUS + END-OF-TERM EXAM

A combination of continuous assessment and end-of-term examinations.

20% Continuous Assessment

- Classwork and homework
- Quizzes and short tests
- Projects, presentations and group work
- Classroom participation

80% End-of-Term Examination

Assesses students' understanding of key concepts taught during the term.

This structure helps students gradually adapt to formal assessments while still valuing daily learning and effort, and prepares them for the greater academic demands of the secondary years.

END-OF-TERM 1 EXAM DATES

Week 10	**26 – 30 October 2026** · Year 10 and Year 11
Week 11	**2 – 6 November 2026** · Year 3 – Year 11

A detailed timetable and exam scope have been shared with parents and students.

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INTERNATIONAL · CONTINUED

TERM 1 ASSESSMENT · TYPES OF ASSESSMENT BY YEAR GROUP (CONTINUED)

YEAR 7 – 9

20% + 80%

CONTINUOUS + END-OF-TERM EXAM

Greater emphasis on examination readiness to prepare students for the IGCSE pathway.

20% Continuous Assessment

- Classwork and assignments
- Quizzes, presentations and projects
- Learning engagement and progress

80% End-of-Term Examination

Conducted in a Year 9 Checkpoint-style and IGCSE-style format, to develop:

- Time management skills
- Exam techniques and subject mastery
- Familiarity with IGCSE assessment standards

YEAR 10 – 11

100%

END-OF-TERM EXAMINATION

Assessment is aligned closely with the Cambridge IGCSE framework. Students undertake IGCSE-style assessments that reflect the structure, standards and expectations of the official Cambridge examinations.

Focus

- Subject knowledge and application
- Analytical and critical thinking skills
- Examination techniques and written communication

Examinations are used to track progress, identify areas for improvement and ensure students are well prepared for the Year 11 IGCSE examinations.

MOONDEKA CELEBRATION 2026



Merdeka Day meets the Mid-Autumn Festival. On 25 September 2026, our school came alive with the vibrant spirit of the Moondeka Celebration, combining the joy of Merdeka Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Students explored Malaysia's rich cultural diversity through interactive race-themed stations and enjoyed traditional games such as Congkak, Batu Seremban, Baling Selipar, Ceper and Tingting. The celebration ended on a high note with wonderful student performances that brought everyone together.

A big thank you to all the teachers for organising this memorable event, and to our students for participating with such enthusiasm. It was truly a day of unity, culture and celebration!

HAZE PRECAUTIONS

As haze conditions continue to affect air quality, the school is implementing several precautionary measures to safeguard the health and well-being of our students and staff.

The school will continue to monitor the situation closely and follow the advice of the relevant authorities to ensure a safe learning environment for everyone.

- All students and staff are required to **wear masks at all times** while on campus, and are encouraged to stay hydrated throughout the day.
- **Break and lunch** take place in classrooms under teacher supervision, to minimise outdoor exposure.
- All **playground and outdoor play areas** remain closed until air quality improves.
- All **Physical Education (PE)** lessons are conducted indoors with appropriate modifications.

INTERNATIONAL · CONTINUED

CHUMBAKA WORKSHOP

On 7 October 2026, representatives from Chumbaka visited ZERA International School to conduct an exciting technology workshop for our Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students.

- **Year 7** explored the fundamentals of Game Design.
- **Year 8** were introduced to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning.
- **Year 9** learned the basics of App Inventor and app development.

The workshop provided valuable hands-on learning and exposure to emerging technologies. The sessions were highly engaging, with students actively participating and thoroughly enjoying the chance to learn new digital skills.



STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

We would like to congratulate all our students who have represented themselves and our school in competitions beyond the classroom. We are incredibly proud of your dedication, talent and achievements.



International Sports Collab 2026 · Seri Jubli International School, Kluang

- **Yi Xun** (Year 9) with **Brandon** — Silver Medallists, Mixed Double (Men)
- **Akhsheya** & **Jia En** (Year 9) — Silver Medallists, Mixed Double (Women)

Thank you to **Mr Hanis** for organising this.



JRT Volleyball 4v4 Competition · organised by Just In Sport Centre

- **Ferlyn** & **Chloe Chua** (Year 8) — Champion, 4v4

Parents are encouraged to share their children's accomplishments with the school. If your child has participated in any competition outside of school, please email the details to **Mr Wafi** at **wafi.a@zera.edu.my** so that we can celebrate their success with our school community.

ZERA RESOURCE CENTRE SDN BHD
202001032868 (1389189-U)
(+60) 16-298 8869 · (+60) 13-205 8869
hello@zera.edu.my · https://zera.edu.my

FB · IG: zera.international.school · XHS: zera Education
Block C #04-23, Pusat Perdagangan Ekoflora, Jalan Ekoflora 7/5, Taman Ekoflora, 81100 Johor Bahru, Malaysia.