

# French International School welcomes TV5MONDE for a special report



Class of 2016 (French Stream)

Who can forget the hours of revision, the silent exam rooms, the bags on the corridor floor and the anxious wait for results which every student is faced with at the end of their final year at school? This is fresh in the memory of the French International School (FIS) of Hong Kong's Class of 2016 who are now on their way to University destinations around the world having achieved excellent results in the French Baccalauréat (French stream students) and International Baccalaureate (International stream students).

This year was not, however, a typical Baccalauréat experience for either students or teachers as their journey was shared in two special news reports broadcast on the French TV channel, TV5MONDE.

The reports by Philippe Dova featured two students preparing at home for their exams followed by a visit to the school on the first day of the Baccalauréat which traditionally kicks off with the Philosophy paper, sat by all students regardless of their specialisation. Questions for consideration during this year's four hour examination included 'Is culture second nature?', 'Is a world without injustice possible?' and 'Is a universal language desirable?' A follow up visit saw the posting of the approved results on the school doors and the elation of the students as FIS recorded another year with a 100% pass rate including 74% of students with mention bien or très bien and one student with a very impressive score of 19.42 out of 20!

The innovative method used for marking this year was also highlighted. As

a member of the Asia-Pacific zone of the international network of French schools accredited by AEFÉ (Agency for French Teaching Abroad), FIS Hong Kong has been part of a pilot programme for the digitised management of marking during the last four years. In 2016 this programme was rolled out to the whole network and, for the first time, all AEFÉ accredited schools in 110 different countries took part in this initiative for the Baccalauréat which saw almost 136,000 exam papers of 30,000 students marked digitally by 3,000 examining teachers – amazing!

This initiative to digitise the management of marking was conceived with better security of papers, improved teacher coordination, cost reductions and environmental friendliness in mind. How does it work? All exam papers are scanned, encrypted and sent to a secure server in France from where they are forwarded to the markers. Every paper is anonymous and is corrected digitally by a teacher who has been trained on the VIATIQUE platform – another example of French savoir-faire. A very useful time saving feature is the integrated forum which allows teachers in different countries (marking the same paper) to confer on any query while all looking at the paper in question on their own screen. This method also means an increased number of markers are available resulting in a lower number of papers for each to mark.

If you would like to watch the TV reports, please visit The French International School of Hong Kong on Facebook.