



# KIS NEWS

At Kinabalu International School we are dedicated to providing an excellent education in a caring, respectful environment, challenging students to achieve their full potential as successful world citizens.

8th September 2017

## From the Principal

### 2016-17 Examination Results

We are very proud to announce an excellent set of results for our Year 11 and 13 classes of 2016/17. Congratulations to all our students and their teachers.

2016-17 EXAM RESULTS	
<b>IGCSE</b>	
93% of students were awarded A* to C grades.	100% achieved Pass grades
<b>A LEVEL</b>	
76% of students were awarded A* to C grades.	100% achieved Pass grades

### New Arrangements for Student Drop Off

I want to thank all parents / drivers for their wonderful support with the implementation of the new arrangements for student drop off in the morning. This week the flow of traffic in the morning has been excellent. To further improve the traffic flow, we ask all parents and drivers not to double park along the road or to park in the U Turn area at the top of the road. We thank you in advance for your support. To help reduce the volume of cars outside the school parents are strongly encouraged to car pool where possible. If you are looking for families to car pool with, please write your details on the Car Pooling Form located on the Parent Information Board. This will enable families to connect with others and discuss requirements directly.

### Extra-Curricular Activities & Clubs

This year KIS has partnered with 'SchoolsBuddy' to provide an online ECA management system. Parents will shortly receive an email from the school asking them to activate their 'SchoolsBuddy' account. This email will be sent to the email address(es) parents have registered with the school. Once you have activated your account, you will be able to select your child's activity preferences for each day of the week (for students enrolled from Year 1 to Year 13).

Sign up is open from today (Friday 8th September) to Wednesday 13th September. Allocations will still be done on a random basis, and parents will be notified once ECAs for this term have been confirmed. Any questions can be emailed to Mrs Connah at: [eca@kis.edu.my](mailto:eca@kis.edu.my) For parents who experience difficulties, there will be the capacity to complete a paper-based sign up between now and Wednesday afternoon. To do this you will need to go to the Main School Office. This term ECAs will start on Monday 18th September and run until Friday 1st December.

### KIS Healthy Heart Canteen

Earlier this week myself and several members of the Board of Management met with Datin Noor Azean to review the canteen's first few weeks of operation and to consider feedback received from students, parents, staff and Datin herself. The meeting was very constructive as the vast majority of feedback received has been positive. Never-the-less, Datin will be implementing some changes for October. The menu will be redesigned to provide three meal options a day, with more Asian style meals available. Instead of meals all coming in one size, they will be provided in two different sizes, small and large. The cost of the different sized meals will be different. As part of the school's desire to provide healthy meals, all meals will be served with some cut fruit.

To assist Datin Noor Azean to provide healthy, tasty food that is good value for money, parents are asked to support the following arrangements:

- As far as possible please pre-order meals for your children at least a day in advance.
- From October onwards Datin would very much appreciate it if parents could place their orders for the month ahead. The new menu for October will be published well in advance to allow parents to do this.
- If parents need to cancel a meal (without being charged) please contact Datin at least a day before the meal is required. She can be contacted directly on: 011 11411 6713

Finally, a Suggestion Box will be made available in the Main School Office for students, parents and staff to make suggestions regarding the menu and other possible improvements to the canteen. The Board of Management and myself would like to thank the KIS community for the strong support, which has been given to our new canteen over the last three weeks.

### Parent ID Cards

There are still a few New Parent ID Cards available for parents to collect from the School Office. If you have not yet collected your new ID Card for the 2017-18 Academic Year, please do drop by the School Office. These ID Cards should be worn by parents whenever visiting the school. Many thanks.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend,

Alan Connah  
Principal

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Mon 11th Sept:</b>	Primary Topic Talks 11.30am Foundation 1 2.15pm Years 1, 2 and 5
<b>Weds 13th Sept:</b>	Primary Topic Talks 2.15pm Foundation 2 and Years 3, 4 and 6
<b>Mon 18th Sept:</b>	ECAs Commence
<b>Tues 19th Sept:</b>	Welcome to Secondary Talk for New Parents
<b>Fri 22nd Sept:</b>	Public Holiday – School Closed

## PRIMARY NEWS

The Primary students have had a fun first few weeks back at school getting to know their new teachers, TA's and classmates. We have welcomed 37 new students so far into the Primary school and are still processing applications from new students. All the class teachers are looking forward to meeting the parents of their year groups next week during topic talks. If your child requires a place in PASS Club during Topic Talks, please ensure you book this well in advance to avoid disappointment. Curriculum Statements and timetables will be emailed home after all topic talks have been completed.

### Monday 11th September

11.30am Foundation 1  
2.15pm Year 1 in Y1K  
2.15pm Year 2 in Y2K  
2.15pm Year 5 in Y5K

### Wednesday 13th September

2.15pm Foundation 2  
2.15pm Year 3 in Y3K  
2.15pm Year 4 in Y4K  
2.15pm Year 6 in Y6K

### Roald Dahl Day - Wednesday 13th September

Please do not forget that the Primary School will be celebrating the birth of Roald Dahl next week. If your child wishes, they can come to school on Wednesday dressed as their favourite character from a Roald Dahl story.

### Uniform

It has been lovely to see the children coming back in to school in their new uniforms. A reminder though, school shoes should be black or white and socks should be white. Thank you.

### Request for a Carpool

A parent who lives near to Giant Supermarket in Likas is looking for a carpool for their daughter as the school bus cannot reach that area in the mornings and they are having trouble getting their child to school. If anybody is able to offer help please email me [nicky russell@kis.edu.my](mailto:nicky russell@kis.edu.my).

Nicky Russell  
Head of Primary

# SECONDARY NEWS

The starts of terms are always very busy times and this year we trialed a staggered start for the Secondary section. Years 7, 10, 12 and 13 were first in for their Induction Day on Wednesday 23rd, with Years 8, 9 and 11 following on the 24th. Feedback that I have had from staff and parents indicate that this was a success; from a staff point of view it meant more time for essential admin tasks, such as giving out diaries and text books, and also for new tutors to get to know their groups. For Years 12 and 13 it was an opportunity for specific counselling on subject choices for AS and A2 and some changes were made. Years 7 and 10 were given introductory lessons in some subject areas. On Thursday, we were able to provide more time for Years 8, 9 and 11 and in the afternoon we held our first assembly of the academic year. Amongst other items, the new teachers were introduced to the students, to great interest, and we welcomed 22 new students to the Secondary school. Our intention is to make the staggered start to the year a regular feature of the Secondary School.

## News from one of our Graduates!

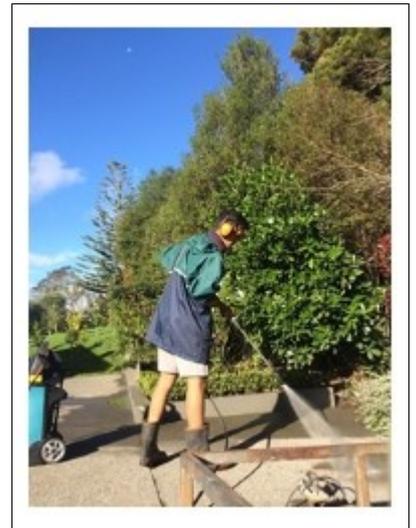
John Anning graduated from Year 13 last July; he is currently enjoying a planned Gap Year before he embarks upon further studies. John is taking the opportunity to experience something completely different:

"Because my 'New Zealand Adventure' has only just begun, my days currently revolve around water-blasting driveways and admiring the beautiful New Zealand countryside! However, as the days come closer until I begin work with a local logging crew, would I rather be sat in my A Level Literature class debating why I think Shakespeare is amazing?!"

## A Report from the Humanities Department

The Humanities Department is delighted to report the fantastic success of the students who took Geography, History and Business Studies for their IGCSEs. The hard work and dedication of the teachers and students alike, with innovative lesson activities and learning occurring throughout the year resulted in 91% (History), 93% (Business) and 95% (Geography) of our students getting grades A\*-C. The Geography students did especially well with 14 students from the class of 21 achieving either an A or A\* grade.

There were also great outcomes in the A-level courses with all students achieving grades A-E.



Our attentions are now focused on the academic year ahead. There are so many opportunities in this region and in Sabah in particular to see how important and relevant the Humanities subjects are to understanding the world we live in. A visit to the Sabah Tea Plantation and factory will not only help develop our students' awareness of business and manufacturing processes, but it will also raise their historical knowledge of the Japanese occupation of Sabah during World War Two and the conditions which the prisoners of war faced on the tragic Death March. This area also raises students' knowledge of Human Geography and life in the Kampongs, while also developing their awareness about climate variations and river landscapes in mountainous areas. The humanities subjects of Geography, History and Business Studies can be seen and linked in so many aspects of life here in Borneo.

We are excited to plan a diverse curriculum for our students, which will allow them to engage with these subjects. Geographers will be starting Year 8 by studying adventurous landscapes, including why we have the amazing cave complex at Mulu, and such a diverse coastal environment with beaches, reefs and mangroves.

History students in Year 7 will start the year by developing their skills in enquiry and deduction before moving on to the history of medicine and the links, which can be made to tribal and holistic medicines extracted from the rainforest environment. Business Studies will see students who opt for this subject focusing initially on understanding business activity and considering a range of case studies.

## Communication

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss anything regarding the Secondary School and your child. The most convenient way to do that is to email me at [margaretrenshaw@kis.edu.my](mailto:margaretrenshaw@kis.edu.my)

Margaret Rensaw

**Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary**

# PTA NEWS

A big thank you to all the parents who attended the New Parents Coffee Morning on the 25th August. It was nice to see so many new faces present. The PTA would like to thank the New Friends Committee for all the hard work they have put into welcoming all the new families to KIS over the first few weeks of the new school year.

Our first PTA Coffee Morning was held last week and we would like to thank all the parents who attended. It was nice to catch up with familiar faces as well as welcome new ones.

KIS' International Day is scheduled for Friday October 6th. Please make a note of this date and stay tuned for more information over the coming weeks on how all parents can assist to make this a successful day.

Enjoy your weekend!

PTASC

