



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.

17th February 2017

From the Principal

Safety at Drop Off and Pick Up Times

Over the last week a number of parents have spoken to me about the way that some drivers and parents are driving and parking outside the school gates. In particular, some drivers and parents are ignoring our request not to double park on the road and over recent days have even been seen to block empty parking spaces which could be used by other parents. Such behaviour prevents the free flow of traffic, causes significant inconvenience to other families and most critically increases the risk that a child will get hurt. **The safety of our children is of paramount importance and as a community we must do everything we can to ensure that no student is hurt.** I am therefore asking that drivers and parents abide by the following protocol:

- Drive very slowly and with great care when outside the school property, looking out for children and other people;
- Park only within the marked parking areas on the road and in the larger parking area near to the Mosque;
- Not park in the entrance to or on the property of any of our neighbours;
- Not double park anywhere on the road or park in any way that will inconvenience another school family or our neighbours;
- Follow the directions of school staff when dropping off and collecting children;
- Be considerate of others at all times.

The School Senior Management Team and the Board of Management are very concerned about the current situation. The problem of traffic congestion outside the school at both drop off and pick up times is currently being investigated by a sub-committee of the Board of Management and a number of measures are being considered to improve the situation. While the problem is not a straight forward one to resolve, active steps are being taken to explore different options. In the meantime, I appeal to everyone in our community to drive very carefully when outside the school grounds and to follow the protocol outlined above. Thank you in advance for your support regarding this matter.

School Photography

A letter was sent out earlier this week to all families advising that the annual school photography will take place from Monday 27th February until Wednesday 1st March. Students will be involved in the whole school photo, class photos and individual photos as per the confirmed schedule. In addition, we also offer the option for families to pre-book a sibling photo. A copy of the schedule and sibling photo request form is available to download [here](#). Please notify us by Tuesday 21st February by completing the form or emailing sarahburns@kis.edu.my should you wish for your children to have a sibling photo taken. The individual and class photos will be included in our annual Yearbook, which is available for all families at the end of Term 3. Families will also have the opportunity to purchase extra copies of individual, sibling and class photos.

March D'One Catering Menu

The menu for families wishing to order catered lunches from D'One is now available to download [here](#), or printed copies are available on the Parent Information Board. Please note the deadline for ordering is the 28th February.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend.

Alan Connah
Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 16 and Fri 17th Feb:	DoE Silver Assessment
Fri 17th Feb:	Secondary Valentine's Movie Night
Fri 17th Feb:	World Pangolin Day
Mon 20th - Fri 24th Feb:	Creative & Performing Arts Week
Mon 27th Feb - Weds 1st March:	School Photography

PRIMARY NEWS

The Year 4 Roman Feast

After weeks of learning all about the Romans, the students in Year 4 were hungry to take their studies outside of the classroom. On Monday February 18th they arrived at school dressed in their smartest togas and neatest tunics. Gladiators, senators, noble women with their slaves and even Legionnaire soldiers all mingled around on the court before school. It was as if KIS had somehow been taken back in time, all the way to 53 BC! After some quick lessons on Roman eating etiquette, they boarded a motorised chariot and set a course for downtown KK - to Little Italy for a Royal Roman style feast!

As the guests entered they were greeted by slaves who dutifully led them to the tables. After the Empress and Emperor made speeches to welcome everyone the first course of hors d'oeuvres (known in Ancient Rome as the gustatio) was served. A selection of breads with balsamic vinegar and olive oil for dipping, fresh grapes, olives, aged cheese and bruschetta pomodoro were spread around the tables.

After listening to a performance by a talented troop of royal musicians, everyone was ready for the main course: panis focacius (pizza) and laganon (pasta). Rising up above the din of the feast could be heard spirited discussion about the beauty of the triclinium (eating hall) as well as heated debate over the success or failure of the Emperor's latest efforts to expand the Empire.

By the time our chariot pulled up outside, ready to take us back to school, all of the plates were empty and all of the guests tummies were full. For some of the children it was their first time trying a new food, for others it was their first visit to Little Italy but for everyone it was an excellent experience to remember.



Year 1 Trip

Year 1 visited Sabah Outward Bound on Monday, 13th February as part of their Polar Regions topic work this term. The children have been considering the skills and equipment required to survive within the Polar Regions and the trip to Sabah Outward Bound gave them the wonderful opportunity to develop survival skills of their own.

During the day the children completed a short trek in order to locate and collect edible and medical plants that could be used to cure a wide variety of ailments. They also learned how to build basic shelters and wood fires so that they remained shaded, dry and well-fed throughout their time in the jungle.

The children (and teachers!) had a lot of fun working as a team to complete set activities and develop new skills in order to obtain the "Sabah Outward Bound Discovery Course" award at the end of the day. Well done Year 1!

Nicky Russell
Head of Primary



SECONDARY NEWS

KIS ARTS WEEK 2017

'The Playing Man', 20th - 25th February

Ms Damein Yuen, Head of Creative and Performing Arts, gives us an insight into next week's exciting whole school event:

We are tremendously excited about next week's KIS Arts Week 2017; activities include Art, Music & Drama workshops held by invited guests, Music & Drama performances, voice training and violin and bow making.

The week will conclude with a Student Showcase on Saturday February 25th at Sabah State Art Gallery from 2pm to 5pm. The Finale's Special Guest Speaker is Mr. Aaron Cowan, a Visual Effects Expert who has worked on projects such as The Lord of the Rings, The Chronicles of Narnia, Man of Steel, The Hunger Games and Dawn of the Planet of the Apes.

All are welcome, tarry not, come and get your limited free admission ticket from the office or from any of the following teaching staff: Ms. Yuen / Ms. Ku / Mr. Bryant and Ms. Cole.

KIS Arts Week Programme:

Art Department

Up-cycled Art & Craft Workshop by Japson Wong, JP Production

Secondary School: Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st

Parents Workshop: Friday 24th, 9:30am -11am

Unconventional Art by Asgardian School of Art

Primary School: Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd

Music Department

Adsone & Co Voice Training Workshop

Secondary School: Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st

IGCSE Music Assembly: Tuesday 21st, 1:45pm.- 3:00pm

Howard (Woodwind) and Chris (Strings)

Secondary & Primary School: Wednesday 23rd

Tan Chin Seng (Violin Maker) and Eric Fournier (Bow Maker)

Secondary & Primary School: Thursday 24th and Friday 25th

Drama Department

Local Actor Workshop Q & A.

Secondary School: Monday 20th

Christopher Liew, video clip on contemporary dance movement and Q & A in the multi-purpose room.

Monday 20th (Lunch Time) for:

Primary School: 12:00pm -12:20pm

Secondary School: 12:40pm – 1:00pm

KS 3 & 4 – throughout the week

Drama – Forum Theatre

Commedia/Mask Workshop KS3 -throughout

Year 13

Acting out Woyzeck;

Brechtian Parody and Gestic Workshop – Visiting Classrooms

Primary Performing Arts

Drama, Dance and Story-telling Workshops, Art & Design games –throughout the week

Organised by the KIS Creative and Performing Arts Department.



Year 7 Languages Trip

Anything wrong with this picture?!

Not if you are a Year 7 student. This is simply them stepping out of the classroom and taking advantage of what the local community has to offer and turning it into a learning resource. For the Language Department, a tool to bring the language to life!

On Tuesday morning, we visited the Upside down House in Tamparuli as part of our topic on Homes. Learning the vocabulary for rooms and furniture has never been so much fun, and we believe it will be remembered for years to come.

Thanks must go to Cikgu Nor and Cikgu Indah for organising the trip and kindly inviting the students from the French class, thus unifying the whole department in their common objectives.



Social Media Workshop

A small but interested group of parents and teachers attended the Social Media workshop which took place on Tuesday morning. Educating children and young adults in how to stay safe online is one of the greatest challenges facing parents and educators today. As the vast majority of children these days have a mobile phone, the ease with which they can communicate can be advantageous in many ways, but also can present some potential dangers.

As a school we will be spending more time on this in the future, reviewing our policies and procedures and putting together a comprehensive package of resources for PSE time. We also have Mr. Jonathan Taylor, a well-known expert in this field, visiting KIS on March 20th. We are currently finalizing the schedule for Mr. Taylor's visit, but it will include presentations to staff, students and parents.

Year 9 Parents Afternoon on Wednesday

Many parents attended the Parents Afternoon on Wednesday with their children.

This is a particularly important time for the students as they are also considering their subject choices for next year. Over the last few years we are proud that we have been able to add more options, giving the students a wider choice. Although it seems to be a very young age to be making these kinds of decisions, the students do need to ensure that they pick the right subjects for them. Some have a very clear idea about what they want to do in the future, or even what they want to study at university, so it is important that they choose the correct subjects now that will help them to achieve their goals.

Special Plea

Occasionally we need to contact parents about their children. Please can you ensure that if you have changed your contact details, such as mobile phone number and email address that you inform the school office so that we can ensure that our data is current.

Mrs Margaret Renshaw

Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary and Sixth Form

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Hans Dols

Hans was born in Rotterdam which is in The Netherlands and while at school loved learning about science, especially Chemistry. He has fond memories of his Chemistry teacher blowing things up through controlled experiments in class. At school Hans describes himself as a nerd, but in a good way.

Hans is a keen cyclist and when not on his bike enjoys photography. He went to university to study Geo Chemistry and while at university one of his first jobs was putting together molecular models, which is a bit different from the usual first jobs. Hans tells me his worst job was when he did a stint as an exam invigilator.

Hans loves pizza, would love to have been born in the Roman era (I am sure Mr Shand can lend him a costume) and would have liked to have met Da Vinci if given the chance. His advice to us all is to follow your feelings and the one thing he has learnt from today is that Taiwanese's inner tubes are of poor construction!



Hans wishes he had more time to complete his projects or to take up a new skill like learning how to play the piano. He did, however, find the time and make the effort to carry his wife Novi up Mount Bromo (East Java) when she was taken unwell and could not complete the ascent. How romantic.

Hans has travelled extensively but one of his most memorable, and perhaps less pleasurable recollections, was being kidnapped while cycling around a remote part of Turkey. He did thankfully manage to escape, but for a time thought he was in "Dire Straits" – which funnily enough happens to be the name of his favourite boyhood band.

For further information or for any questions that you as a parent may have please feel free to contact the Board through our email address bom@kis.edu.my. The next Board of Management meeting is to be held on the evening of the 21st of February.

Cindy Reynolds
KIS Board of Management

PTA NEWS

Book Week: 6th - 10th February

On behalf of the parents, the PTA would like to thank all of the teachers for creating such an amazing adventure through the magical world of books and reading last week. Parents were delighted to witness their children being inspired by the written word through the many events arranged.

Primary Bedtime Stories is a special highlight for both the children and their parents. Each year the parents get together and share a delicious picnic on the school premises, while our children are regaled with an evening story in their class.

The PTA wishes to thank the many parents who joined this year's potluck dinner, sharing delicious dishes in a very friendly atmosphere.

PTASC

