



# 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.

16th June 2017

## From the Principal Year 13 Graduation

Last Monday night the school held its graduation ceremony for the Class of 2017. It was a very pleasant, friendly and dignified ceremony. Our graduates were supported by their parents and friends, teachers, Members of the Board of Management and our special guest, Dr Goossens, Director of the Danau Girang Field Centre.

The Class of 2017: Marie, John, Kirk, Anelka, Dylan, Leonardo, Simone, Laili, Sam, Alicia and Robert, will all be remembered for their desire to learn and for making the most of the opportunities provided them; for the strong bonds of friendship and support between them; and for their excellent leadership of the school.

In the words of Eleanor Roosevelt:

“The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.”

Each of our graduates has done this at KIS. As a result, they have grown into fine young men and women, while at the same time giving generously to those around them. On behalf of the KIS community, I want to thank them for their individual and corporate contributions to our school community.

We wish our graduates every success for the future. Congratulations to the Class of 2017!!

## Parent Teachers Association Annual General Meeting

All Parents and Teachers are warmly invited to attend the Parent Teachers Association AGM in the Multi-Purpose Room at 8.00am today. For the AGM to proceed, a minimum quorum of one-eighth is required as per our Constitution (Article VII, General Meeting, Point 3). We thank you in advance for your support.

## ECAs & Clubs

Parents are advised that unless otherwise communicated, **all Extra Curricular Activities and Clubs will finish for the term on Friday 7th July.**

## Requests for Student Testimonials

Families who are leaving KIS at the end of the academic year are kindly asked to contact Mrs Thecla Thomas in the school office at: [thecla@kis.edu.my](mailto:thecla@kis.edu.my) if their son/daughter requires a testimonial. **Please understand that it takes at least a full week to prepare such documents, so please request them early.** As soon as the end of year examinations have been marked and grades have been finalised, we will start preparing documents for those students who require them. **These will be available for collection during the last week of term.**

In order to finalise your exit documentation and any deposit refunds, please also ensure you have completed the Leavers Form ([downloadable here](#)) and submitted it to Ms Tina Koroh ([admissions@kis.edu.my](mailto:admissions@kis.edu.my)) as soon as possible.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend.

**Mr Alan Connah**  
Principal



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Weds 14th - Sat 17th June:</b> | Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Silver Expeditions               |
| <b>Fri 16th June:</b>             | PTA AGM   |
| <b>Fri 16th June:</b>             | Deadline for Scholarship Applications for Years 7, 8 and 12 |
| <b>Mon 19th - Weds 21st June:</b> | Year 12 Careers Days  |
| <b>Mon 19th - Fri 23rd June:</b>  | Year 7 - 10 Internal Exams                                  |
| <b>Sat 24th June:</b>             | KIS Booth at Gleneagles                                     |

## WHOLE SCHOOL

### Doodle for Google

Google Malaysia has announced the return of the Doodle 4 Google (#D4GMY) competition for all school students in Malaysia! This is only the second time the competition is being run here and Google would like to encourage all students aged 7-to-17 to create and submit doodles based on this year's competition theme: 'Celebrating Malaysia's Diversity'. The winning entry stands to be featured on google.com.my this Malaysia Day, 16 September 2017!

We encourage students to exercise their creativity as much as possible. Students can use any type of drawing materials, ie. crayon, watercolor, poster color, etc. to produce their work of art.

Students should submit their entries to the School Office by Wednesday 5th July 2017.

For more information, go to [events.withgoogle.com/d4gmy](http://events.withgoogle.com/d4gmy) or download the brochure here: [D4G 2017](#)

Ms Lia Winfieldale

## PRIMARY NEWS

### New Climbing Frame

The Primary Students have been very excited to see the new Pirate Climbing Frame delivered this week. They have been eagerly awaiting the delivery of the apparatus for the past three months while it has been constructed for us. The installation process may take up to two weeks before it is safe for the children to play on. The whole of the Primary Department would like to thank the PTA for their very generous sponsorship of this wonderful addition to the climbing area.

### Absence from Swimming

It has been brought to my attention that we have had a number of students who have not been swimming recently. If your child cannot attend swimming, please ensure that their class teacher is aware of the reason why, and a doctor's note is given to school. If your child cannot attend swimming, please send them to school at 10.00am as we have no facilities to care for these children within school.

### Year 6 to Year 7 Transition

With only a few weeks of the school academic calendar left, the oldest students in Primary are beginning to prepare for their progression to Secondary. Their class teachers and staff from the Secondary Department will be conducting sessions to help with this important transition. If you have not already done so, please can those parents who are leaving early for the July / August holiday inform the class teacher so that we can ensure that your child can be supported in their transition.

Mrs Nicky Russell  
Head of Primary

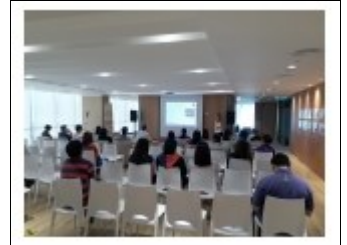
# PRIMARY NEWS

## Ramadan

With many of our families preparing for the fasting month of Ramadan soon, please could you let Mrs Russell know by the end of today if your child will be fasting. We always try to support our fasting students during break and lunchtimes so would like to know in advance to ensure we have adequate staff to supervise them. I will also pass this information on to the PE Department so that your children can be excused from PE and Swimming during Ramadan.

## Shell Plaza

Last Friday I had the pleasure of being invited to speak at SWAN (the Shell Women's Network) as part of their Mother's Day event. I was very honoured to be asked to give a talk about how to prepare your child for the 21st century workplace. The staff at Shell were very interested to hear that the top three predicted skills that will be needed by people in the workplace in 2020 are Problem Solving, Critical Thinking and Creativity, and how we at KIS help to develop these skills in all of our students.



## Primary FOBISIA

The Primary FOBISIA team have been very busy since January preparing for this year's games. I am sure that you will all want to join with me in wishing the students and staff the best of luck as they travel to Phuket, Thailand, on Wednesday for five days of fun and excitement. We have 12 students as part of our team this year, who will be accompanied by Ms Woodland and Mr Green.

## Year 3 Residential Trip to Kampung Maang

Last Thursday Year 3 embarked on their residential trip. The very excited students, with all their big bags, arrived at school ready to spend a night camping at a real Kampung. Before going to Kampung Maang they visited the Mari Mari Cultural Village to experience what traditional living was like for the different tribes of the people of Sabah. The children and staff thoroughly enjoyed their experiences; we tried traditional food, used a blow pipe, bounced on a traditional trampoline (including Ms Woodland!) and some even got beautiful henna tattoos. After that we headed to Kampung Maang to get ready for our overnight camping adventure. During the afternoon and evening the children completed some fun challenges and we even had a bedtime story by the campfire! The next morning Mr Paul directed a 'wake up shake up' and butterfly walk to ensure the children were ready for a day of activities that included fishing, archery and creating nature collages.

Throughout the two days all the students conducted themselves in a fantastic manner and even impressed other visitors at the Mari Mari Village. Also behaving themselves were the fabulous Mrs Hyndman, the amazing Mrs Wan, the brilliant Mr Fred and the awesome Mrs Marilyn! A grand old time was had by all.



## Powerful Poetry

This term, Year 4 have been busy learning a variety of poetry techniques to write a poem inspired by their rainforest topic. Their creations were wonderful and some of our students visited the Year 1 classes to read their work aloud, just as the Year 1's were beginning to write poetry of their own. Last week, Year 1 then returned our visit to share their fantastic poems about shape. Year 4 helped peer assess Year 1's poems by explaining things they really enjoyed, such as the use of onomatopoeia and similes. It was wonderful to embrace the opportunity to share and value all students' hard work and exemplary writing skills, and an opportunity enjoyed by all! Well done, Year 4 and Year 1.

## Gymnastic Champion

Dania in Year 4C, who is a well-accomplished gymnast, recently travelled to Kuala Lumpur, representing Malaysia, to take part in a range of gymnastic competitions. Dania had to complete a floor routine as well as exercises on the vault, bar and beam, all of which she passed. She said it was hard work but enjoyed the experience. A huge well done, Dania!

Nicky Russell

**Head of Primary**

# SECONDARY NEWS

## Year 13 Graduation Ceremony, Monday 12th June

On Monday evening we celebrated the Graduation of our Year 13 students. More has been said about this event elsewhere in this newsletter but I would like to add a little more. This graduating group of students, consisting as it does of those who arrived at our school only 2 years ago through to those who started with us in our Primary section have had a wonderful impact on the development of our Sixth Form and will leave a lasting legacy behind them as they go off to universities around the world. We do grow particularly fond of our A Level students and it was wonderful to see teachers, parents, friends, ex-students and members of the Board come together to celebrate how special these young people are. We were treated to a moving presentation that chronicled their development from babyhood to the present day. This showed some particularly poignant and memorable occasions from the past, from toddlers in high chairs to small children playing dress-up, to special family holidays, to school sporting events, to previous award ceremonies. I would particularly like to thank all of the parents who have been so supportive over the last two years and who have worked closely with us here at school in providing the best that we can for their children. For the Graduation, a special thank you to Dr Benoit Goossens for his very powerful speech; his words of wisdom resonated with us all. I would also like to make special mention of our young musicians, Joveena and Zen, who were ably supported by Ms Charmaine Ku, our Music teacher. They both performed wonderfully well to great appreciation from the audience.



Our graduates have promised to stay in touch and I am sure you will be hearing more from them and of their accomplishments and adventures through this newsletter in the future!

## Punctuality

I am pleased to report that punctuality has become less of an issue since Secondary students were asked to sign in at the Secondary office two weeks ago! There are probably several reasons for this, but we cannot become complacent and I would continue to ask for parental support in maintaining this positive trend. We would like to get to a situation where there are no students at all who are late for school.

## Year 12 Careers Days and Years 7 to 10 Internal Examinations

Next week is yet another extremely busy week in Secondary.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we have what has become an annual event over the last 5 years, our Careers Days for Year 12. This year we have an array of guest speakers, some of them university representatives and some private individuals, who are giving up their time, and in some cases getting on a flight to be with us! Some teachers are also running special workshops, including a practical session called 'Cooking for One' [thank you Mr Bryant!] where students get the chance to take over the staffroom for the afternoon and cook up a storm. This may seem like a frivolous use of time, but one of the main concerns that ex-students report back to me after they have arrived at their overseas university is how shocked they are to find that they are totally responsible for making sure that they have food to eat!

Year 7 to 10 students have their internal examinations; Years 7 to 9 from Monday to Wednesday and Year 10 all week. Mr. Barker has sent a letter out about this, but if there are any questions please do not hesitate to email him at: [ianbarker@kis.edu.my](mailto:ianbarker@kis.edu.my).

Mrs Margaret Renshaw  
**Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary**

# SPORTS NEWS

## Equipment Donation

Last half term the PE Department held staff v student sports competitions in order to raise money so that KIS could host a Sports Day for Al Hikmah School. Unfortunately, we could not organize this event in the end, due to clashes with dates. So we decided to spend the money raised on sports equipment for the school and on Monday I had the pleasure of delivering this equipment to Miss Cassey and some of her students. The pack included volleyballs, footballs, badminton equipment, skipping ropes and other fun sports kit. I want to say thank you again to all of the students and teachers that took part in the competition.

## Spritzer Cup

This weekend our U15 Basketball team starts the Spritzer Cup tournament with their first game on Saturday afternoon and the Opening Ceremony shortly after. The competition is held in Luyang multi-purpose hall and parents are encouraged to come and support the team in their games.

## Year 9 PE

The Year 9 students have been taking part in a Sport Ed unit of work recently in PE. This has entailed them not only playing tag-rugby, but also taking on other roles in the lesson such as referee, captain, reporter, photographer and statistician. This has been a great unit of work and the students have developed their independence and communication skills as well as their physical skills in tag rugby. This unit culminated in a final tournament involving the whole of Year 9 on Wednesday. Teams won points for their game scores, but also for the quality of their work in the other roles. Overall, team Sapi were crowned champions for 2017. Well done to Suraj, Iman, Shreya, Lo, Michael and Marwan.

## Primary FOBISIA Games

Ms Woodland reports on the recent Primary Games:

Two weeks ago a group of Year 4 and 5 students embarked on a fantastic trip to Phuket, Thailand, for the Primary FOBISIA Games. Over the past few months the team have been training hard after school to compete against other International Schools from across Asia. The students demonstrated teamwork, commitment, passion and represented the school brilliantly. Mr Green and I were very proud of every student throughout the games especially when they were very tired and had to participate in extreme heat. The team included the following students: James, Ayden, Nicholas, Thor, Sung-Wook, Elias, Pui Mun, Trinity, Debbie, Pik-Yen, Chloe and Bella.



### Day 1:

After an opening ceremony the games started with the Swimming competition in the morning. KIS seemed to steal the show during the morning, with many students standing on the podium. We had an extremely strong team for our age group and dominated many events. The last event of the swimming competition was the tyre relay; this involved the whole team working together and included lots of laughs. The team got Gold which ended the morning on a high.

After a lunch break and a rest, the students had to compete in the Track and Field Athletics competition. The team ventured down early to support the first event which was High Jump; throughout the whole afternoon the students cheered each other on and encouraged team mates when they were racing. Again, the students were immaculately behaved, especially on such a long and tiring day. Similar to the Swimming event we won many medals and spent a lot of time taking photos of KIS students on the podium. An incredible day was rounded off with a whole team relay in which they placed again! The evening ended with a team feast, extremely happy students, sore necks (from all the medals!) and a very early night for everyone!

### Day 2:

After a pre-breakfast fun swim the students carbo-loaded with a big breakfast and headed towards the Athletics track for a day of T-Ball. Spirits were high after the previous day and the students were excited to compete again. The first game they just won with a score of 14-13 and in the second game they drew 17 all. We then reviewed our team tactics and gained confidence. The team went on to win the next two games 20-5 and 21-12. This meant they were unbeaten but had to await results from another pitch to determine our place. After a long, nervous wait the KIS team was announced as the winners of the U10 T-Ball competition and were the only unbeaten team in the whole competition! The students were ecstatic and couldn't believe they had won! The champions went back and enjoyed some fun time at the hotel alongside the other competing students.

### Day 3:

Nerves were running high during breakfast as it was the last day of competition and for some students the most important day- Football. The girls started the competition first with a confidence boosting 1-0 victory. They grew as a team throughout the matches and learnt new tactics and skills. This led to a draw in the second match but unfortunately they lost the third match. With everything to play for the girls ended strong with a 1-0 win and a fantastic goal from Debbie!

In between the girls matches the boys started their bid for gold. They started off with a solid 2-1 victory but they found themselves challenged a bit more in the second game. Luckily they scored a last minute winner to seal two wins in a row. Continuing on a high the boys won their third match 5-0 with all goals coming from Ayden's left foot! The tension grew as the boys came into the final match, it was all to play for. After a wonderful defensive performance, we won the last match 1-0; meaning the boys once again were unbeaten.

Both teams then moved to the podium area; where the girls were awarded third place and the boys were crowned champions! Another fantastic day for all the students and KIS! The day ended with the students being treated like the champions they were to a gala dinner and disco - lots of fun was had by all.

Mr Green and I felt very lucky to attend this trip with such a hard-working, friendly and fun group of students. Everyone had a fantastic time and I want to congratulate the students again on their outstanding sports performance and model behavior. We will be having a celebration assembly to recognise their achievements on Friday 23rd June 2017.

Ms Woodland

Ms Natasha Hale

**Head of PE and Sport**

# CHARITY COMMITTEE

## Primary Charity Committee

We have a winner of the Money Pot Challenge: **ENZO (Foundation 2)**

Enzo guessed RM300 which was only 8 Ringgits away from the total in the jar of RM292. Congratulations Enzo, we hope you enjoy your prize!

Our next fund raiser will be **THE KIS AMAZING RACE** when students will race around the school solving clues in their house teams. This event will take place in the last week of school and students will be asked to pay RM5 to enter, with all money collected going to the KIS charities.

## Sportathon (Secondary Charity Committee and Student Council)

Well, the heavens opened up and the rains came down but that didn't dampen the spirits of the 88 students who showed up to play sport throughout the night in the KIS Sportathon 2017. They played basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, football, badminton and ping pong, they competed in a Mini Olympics, an obstacle course and a mock Hunger Games, they danced Hip Hop, played Hide 'n' Seek and Sardines, built up their core muscles in Pilates, they wrestled for socks and raced for skittles, they solved a Whodunnit, and finally, they ate approximately 180 pancakes!! (Pancake eating must be a sport somewhere in the world..)

In total over **450 hours of sport** were played by our fun-loving, fitness-conscious KIS students. Well done guys!

We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to everybody who participated! And congratulate you for raising an enormous amount of money for Charity.

**Almost RM4000 raised! CONGRATULATIONS!**

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the teachers who gave up their Friday night to supervise this event: Ms Hale, Mr Paul, Ms Mailap, Ms Yusof, Ms Chin, Ms Slaats, Mr Davies, Ms Kelly, Ms Yuen, Mr Lim and Mr & Mrs Connah. You guys are superstars for giving up your free time! THANK YOU

### Who were the winners of the Sportathon?

*For the most hours of sport played:*

Dougie (1st), Iman (2nd), Cherise and Nikita (joint 3rd)

*For the most sponsorship money raised:*

Jasmine

*For the most effort/best attitude throughout the event:*

Isabella

All of these students won a Zip Borneo Voucher: Congratulations!

### Which house won the most amount of points?

|        |       |     |
|--------|-------|-----|
| FIRST  | SULUG | 251 |
| SECOND | SAPI  | 170 |
| THIRD  | GAYA  | 100 |

Congratulations to SULUG for another successful house event this year!

### Who were the lucky recipients of our sponsored prizes?

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Dinner at Café Tatu for two (x2):</b><br>Joe<br>Ms Davies | <b>Chai Frappe at the Workshop for five:</b><br>Ivan        | <b>Zipline at Zip Borneo for two:</b><br>Ms Bernard |
| <b>Golf at Rasa Ria for two:</b><br>Natalie                  | <b>Daytrip and lunch at Gaya Ecological Resort for two:</b> |   |

Congratulations to all of our lucky winners!

And last but not least, we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to our corporate sponsors who provided these generous prizes: Mr David Powell, Mr Gavin Weightman, Mrs Elmine Knight, Mrs Cindy Reynolds and Mr Tomas Andersen.

### Secondary Student Council

The Student Council are collecting sealed bags of rice to distribute to our local communities for Hari Raya. There is a box by the main gate to KIS where you can leave your donations. Many thanks!

From Ms. Indah Iskandar

Ramadan is a huge month for charity among our Muslim friends and family. The act of charity and donation hopes to build real bonds of brotherhood and love within the community. This will also train those who have, to be generous to those who do not have. For Muslims, giving alms or what we also call Sadaqah, is to purify those who fast from any indecent act or speech and help the poor and needy. Rice is chosen to be donated mainly because it is the staple food of the local community. It is hoped that with the rice that we have donated, the beneficiaries can have a nice Hari Raya that falls on the 25th of June 2017.

Ms Laura Davies



# PTA NEWS

## **PTA AGM, 8am Today**

You are invited to attend the PTA Annual General Meeting this morning at 8:00am. Currently we have 615 parents and we are seeking to have your voice heard so please invite at least 12 nominees from our diverse KIS community to join the PTA Steering Committee. Thank you in advance for your nomination.

The PTA Nomination form can be downloaded here: [PTA AGM Nomination Form](#)

**PTASC**