



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.

15th January 2016

From the Principal

One of the most significant memories of my own early childhood, was when I discovered the wonderful world that books can open for us. I can still remember conquering the art of reading early in Year 3, when almost overnight I went from reading fairly basic story books to things like HG Wells' Time Machine and JRR Tolkien's Lord of the Rings. From then on I was a regular visitor to the both the school library and the local town library, where I would borrow between 5 or 6 books a week. I also remember my parents giving up trying to get me to go to sleep, at what they deemed to be a reasonable time, and just letting me read until I could no longer keep my eyes open. For me, reading was not just a pleasure but something that I craved at the end of every school day and week, and in any spare moment available. It became a way for me to access multiple worlds, both imaginary and real. It was truly amazing and is still something I find very special today.

Next week KIS will host its Annual Book Week activities, starting with the Big Book Swap on Monday morning. The much anticipated Book Café will run throughout the week for all classes, from F1 to Year 9. Then, on Wednesday morning, we will have our Annual Book Week Character Parade, which everyone is very excited about. On Thursday evening all Primary parents are invited to a potluck dinner, while their children enjoy the much loved Bed Time Story session in their classrooms. Further information is also provided below.

Parking Outside the School

Over the last week I have received a number of complaints from parents about the actions of one or two parents who park their cars with disregard to others. In the interests of all road users please ensure that you park your car safely and in such a way that it does not obstruct other vehicles from using the road or leaving a parking space. We understand that at drop off and pick up times the road gets very congested. If you are asked by a KIS staff member to move or assist in anyway, we would greatly appreciate it if you could follow their instructions. Along with establishing a KIS student bus service, we are currently looking into other ways that we can address the problem of congestion and parking. Unfortunately, there are many challenges to be overcome.

Academic Calendar 2016-17

The calendar for the next academic year, starting in August, is now available for viewing on the [website](#) or can be [downloaded using this link](#).

Board of Management Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held in November and December can be viewed using the following links:

> [BOM Meeting Minutes 12.11.15](#)

> [BOM Meeting Minutes 08.12.15](#)

February Catering Menu

The February menu is now available from the School Office, or you can download [here](#). The final day for orders is Friday 22nd January.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend.

With warm regards,

Alan Connah, Principal

Dates for your Diary

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd January: Whole School Book Week / No Primary Swimming

Mon 18th January at 7:30am: Opening of Book Week in the Story Tent

Weds 20th January at 8am: Character Parade

Thurs 21st January 5.30pm-6.30pm: Primary Bed Time Story and PTA Pot Luck

Mon 25th - Fri 29th January: School Photographs

For more dates see the [KIS Google Calendar](#)

Primary News

Book Week

Across the Primary School, the excitement ahead of Book Week is running at fever pitch! The opening event will be held in the Story Tent on the playground at 7.30am on Monday and the fun will continue throughout the week. Today is your last chance to drop off your books for the Big Book Swap on Monday, so don't forget to bring these in later if you haven't already done so. Thank you so much to all of you who will be coming into Primary classes to share your favourite stories and we look forward to welcoming you all to join the Costume Parade fun on Wednesday morning at 8am. See you there!

Please remember that there will be no Primary swimming during Book Week.

We were excited to learn recently that one of our Primary parents has written and had published two books for young children, known as the Dollar Baby Series, which aim to teach young children about money and saving. The author, Liv Thun, will be available for a Meet and Greet at Times Bookstore in Suria Sabah this coming Sunday from 2pm-3pm.

Secondary News

We are delighted to welcome Ms Melissa Cham as our new librarian. Ms. Cham brings a wealth of experience to our school and after 4 days in role has many ideas as to how our library resource can be developed. A good library should be at the heart of every school and we are sure that under Ms Cham's leadership the KIS library will go through a period of revitalisation as she approaches the task with a fresh pair of eyes and lots of enthusiasm. I am sure that we all wish her every success at KIS.

This Week in Key Stage 3

This is a quiet time of year for Key Stage 3, with the focus in Secondary being the mock IGCSE examinations for Year 11. However, Key Stage 3 students are looking forward to Book Week next week and each class will have the opportunity to join students in Primary to share their love of reading. In these Paired Reading sessions, Primary and Secondary students will share extracts from their favourite books. The KS3 students always gain a lot from the experience of assisting their younger colleagues in lessons and it is a great opportunity for them to make some new friends in the lower years. The opportunity to act as positive role models to younger students always brings out the very best in them!

Mrs Margaret Renshaw Assistant Principal / Head of Secondary

Sports News

This week was an exciting one in PE as it was the start of some new extra-curricular clubs led by expert coaches. On Monday we had the Borneo Tribal Squad coaches in to teach MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) to a group of 29 Primary students. They practiced a range of martial arts such as wrestling and kick boxing and thoroughly enjoyed the club. We also had a Karate coach, Robert Lo, in to deliver karate sessions to KS3 and Thursday saw the first Crossfit with Mr Watson and KS4 and 5 students. The students enjoyed the clubs immensely and we look forward to seeing them progress throughout the term in their chosen sport.

Please note that Primary swimming lessons are all cancelled next week due to Book Week. Secondary swimming and golf lessons will be on as usual.

PTA News

Welcoming New Families

The PTA recently established a team to welcome new parents to KIS. We have compiled a document containing useful information to help those new to both the School and KK, which has been given to the January newcomers and is a work in progress. All of the new parents were invited for a coffee morning at Sutera Harbour Marina Cafe, which was a great success. We hope to follow this up with another coffee morning so the whole school parent community can continue the welcome.

Book Week Bedtime Stories Pot Luck

As part of Book Week, on Thursday 21st January, the Primary children will come back to school in their pyjamas for a bedtime story. The PTA would like to ask parents, if they wish, to bring in a dish of food to eat at tables that will be set up in the playground whilst they wait for their children. Parents can choose to bring a dish to share with their table or for themselves. Please bring your own plates, cutlery, cups/ glasses and drinks. We hope to see you there. .

Thank you for your support.

PTASC