



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.

7th October 2016

From the Principal

The whole of the Primary School has been abuzz with excitement for the past two weeks since the new Primary Library opened. The children adore the Kampung House, with its secret garden underneath, and the new books are greatly loved and appreciated by everyone. Teachers have enjoyed taking their children to the library for quiet reading sessions as well as taught library skills lessons.

As the term progresses it has been very pleasing to see students engaging in a wide range of learning activities both inside and outside the classroom. Indeed, over recent weeks Primary students have participated in a variety of different trips. Year Two went hiking over the hill behind the school to St. Stephen's Park, Year Four visited Petrosience to investigate electricity and Year Five went to the Mari Mari Cultural Village to learn more about the indigenous tribes of Sabah. Year Six have also been hard at work creating an amazing 'Living Museum' which tells visitors about different past and present leaders from around the World.

ECA's

With the start of ECA's last week the school has become a hive of activity with students and staff enjoying a wide array of different learning activities outside of the main curriculum. It has been delightful to witness the enthusiasm of students for such activities at the end of the school day. I want to thank all those involved in offering ECA's for their ongoing efforts.

Please note that ECAs will be cancelled next Friday, 14th October due to International Day activities.

International Day

I understand from the PTA that there has been an excellent response from KIS families to our request for help to make International Day a success next Friday, 14th October. I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to help in some way. It is wonderful that we can come together as a community to celebrate in such a way. The day promises a wide array of culinary delights, activities and even a little entertainment. I know that both students and staff are looking forward to wearing their national colours and dress.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend.

Alan Connah

Principal

Dates for your Diary

Fri 7th Oct:	Primary Leadership Assembly, 8am
Fri 7th Oct:	Year 13 University Application Day
Weds 12th Oct:	A Level Information Afternoon for Year 11 Students and Families
Fri 14th Oct:	International Day
Fri 14th Oct:	No ECA's
Monday 17th - Friday 21st October:	Half Term Holiday - School Closed

Primary News

Student Leadership

Leadership skills are greatly valued at KIS and as such time and care has been taken over the past few weeks in Primary to teach our children the values of a good leader. This has culminated in children across the Key Stage One and Two departments deciding if they would like to be a leader and explaining why they think they would be a good leader. Each Key Stage One and Two class then elected their own Student Councillor. In addition, earlier this week the children gathered in their Houses to listen to Year 6 students explain why they thought they would be good House Captains. After some very close voting two House Captains were elected for each House.

This morning the children will be recognised for their new leadership positions. If you are free to join our Primary Assembly at 8am in the Hall you are more than welcome. The following children will be awarded their Student Councillor Badges:

Year 1: Ashley and Kayden

Year 2: Sophie and Leo

Year 3: George and Leroy

Year 4: Max and Amanda

Year 5: Kon Han and Maxime

Year 6: Adele and Joyce

The House Captains, who will be awarded their badges and House T-shirts, are Lisa and Joveena (**Sapi**), Beatrice and Ivan (**Sulug**), Howard and Farah (**Gaya**).

Nicky Russell

Acting Head of Primary

Secondary News

New KIS Logo?

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Burns presented ideas about marketing and branding to the Secondary students, who were very excited to be shown some potential new logos for the school. She spoke about why companies have logos and how they change and develop over the years, as the company grows and develops. She also showed some familiar logos that come from other FOBISIA schools. At the end of the presentation, students were asked to go and stand near to the board that held an image of the logo that they liked the most, and teachers were asked to do a head count. The results were given to Mrs. Burns and she will add these results to the rest of the data that she is collecting before giving the results to the Board of Management next week; they will make the final decision.

Mathematics

Students in Mathematics have made an excellent start to the term. It has been great to see students new to the school settling in well and contributing in their Mathematics lessons. KS3 students have been studying a variety of topics including number, algebra, data handling and shape and space.

Year 8 students have designed posters showing what they have learnt about angles and constructions. Some of these can be seen displayed on the Mathematics notice board near the playground.

KS4 students have been challenging themselves with topics such as quadratics in Year 10 and 3-dimensional trigonometry in Year 11.

The school is delighted to be able to offer Additional Mathematics as an option for Year 10 this year, and the students doing this challenging course have been grappling with surds and indices and have been doing very well with some high level problem solving.

The Mathematics Department is also very pleased with the increased uptake of Mathematics at A Level. Students in Years 12 and 13 have been extending their knowledge of Pure Mathematics as well as studying the applied options of Statistics and Mechanics.



Staff Professional Development

KIS strongly believes in ongoing professional development for teachers. Here, Ms Ku writes about her recent visit to the FOBISIA Music Teacher's Conference in Nepal:

The annual FOBISIA Music Teacher's Conference this year was hosted by The British School of Kathmandu in Nepal this year from September 29th to October 1st. Participants included Music teachers from Thailand, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Brunei, Hong Kong, Singapore, Philippines, Taiwan, South Korea, and Malaysia. It was a privilege to meet up with all these individuals who share a passion for music and teaching.

Conductor and choral expert Dominic Peckham delivered an intensive choral music workshop, which demonstrated a very modern approach using popular music in order to engage students in singing. His approach was highly motivating, inspiring and energetic all at the same time. I am looking forward to applying some of his choral ideas in my teaching.

KIS will be involved in several FOBISIA Music events this year. There will be the Theme and Variation Online-Project featuring the Pokémon Go theme in Term 2. I am looking forward to working with my Year 7 students on this. Also, together with a couple of FOBISIA schools, we will be composing KIS's very own variations of a main theme and contributing to a full composition which will be compiled by the host school, Dulwich Guangzhou. I will be very excited to see our composers in the making.

Secondary Key Dates

- Year 11 Students and Parents: Introduction to the 'Sixth Form and A Level Programme at KIS' on **Wednesday 12th October 3.30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room.**
- Interim Reports for Year 7 and New students in the Secondary School: **Friday 14th October**

Margaret Renshaw

Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary

Board of Management Update

KIS Logo Redevelopment

Last Friday Mrs Sarah Burns made a presentation to an interested group of parents to discuss updating the school logo. This is part of a wider discussion the Board is interested in having regarding the school's visual identity. In today's extremely competitive international school market, how a school presents itself visually is an extremely important component in attracting new students and teachers. The school's brand, visual identity and logo needs to convey what our core ideals are and what it is like to be part of the KIS community, be that as a parent, a student or a member of staff.

There is a general feeling that it is time to revisit our visual identity to ensure we are not left behind. Updating the logo could be the first step in achieving this and it would roll out across all materials, including the painting of the school, (so that it is not the current patchwork of colours), updating our stationery, a possible change in school uniform and other important materials that project the way the school looks to the rest of the world. This will be an ongoing process that the school will embark upon with input from parents, staff and students.

Late last week a survey was sent out to all parents to comment on three new options for the school logo. If you have not already done so, please take the time to look at the survey and fill it out: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/logosurveyKIS>



If you feel that the current logo – a design that was created by a 14-year-old student of the school many years ago – is perfectly fine then please pick this as your favoured choice. We want input from the school community as to how they want the school to be seen by the world.

This input will be presented to the Board at their meeting next week and a decision will be made from there on as to what changes will be made to the logo. If there is significant feeling from the community that no change is required, or there is sufficient evidence that more discussion is required, then a decision might be deferred. Any new logo that is selected will be gradually rolled out across the school system organically as items are replaced – parents will not be asked, for example, to immediately purchase a whole new school uniform! Stationery will be replaced as required but the school letterhead, signs and website will be updated immediately.

Board of Management AGM

Sports News

Secondary House Captains

The new House Captains and Vice House Captains have now been selected for 2016-17. The students will be attending their first meeting next week, followed by lots of work preparing for Secondary Sports Day on the 28th of October. The new leaders are:

Gaya

House Captains: Joel and Dania

Vice House Captains: Emily, Lezlee, Gabrielle, Wilbur, Marcus and Sam

Sapi

House Captains: John and Ella

Vice House Captains: Etienne, Gerard, Lauren, Evan, Kate and Sophie

Sulug

House Captains: Isabelle and Jason

Vice House Captains: Da Bin, Stuart, Sarah, Jolin, Phebe and Nicholas

Well done to everyone and I wish you all the best for a year of team work, competition and fun!

Ms Natasha Hale

PTA News

International Day - Friday 14th October

We are delighted with the positive response that we have received from our KIS community for the upcoming International Day. All your support will ensure that it will be a very exciting day and we are all really looking forward to it.

There will be a variety of food on sale representing ten different nationalities, as well as lots of fun packed activities provided by students and parents.

All parents and guardians are warmly invited to attend the event. The parade will commence at 8.15am, after which students will then return to their classes for the morning. Food sales and activities will start at 11.20am.

A voucher system will be used during our International Day. Voucher booklets worth RM10 (10 vouchers of RM1 each) will be available for purchase from Monday 10th October. The vouchers will be used for food and activity stalls, ice-creams and drink purchases.

We would greatly appreciate it if parents, students and KIS staff could start purchasing the voucher booklets early on in the week.

A letter will be sent home today outlining further information about the day. If you did not receive the letter, please download the copy from the [KIS website](#)

Thank you for your support!

PTA Dates for your Calendar:

Friday 14 October 2016 - International Day

Wednesday 2nd November 2016 - PTA Annual General Meeting

Friday 4th November 2016 - PTA Meeting

PTA Steering Committee