



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.

10th November 2017

From the Principal

Parking Outside the School

On Friday last week there was an incident where two of our students and their mother were almost run down by a car whilst crossing the road in front of the school gate. A car that was double parked facing the wrong way reversed at speed, the driver not looking at their surroundings carefully enough. The safety of our students and community is of paramount importance. **I must ask that all parents and drivers take extra care when driving outside the school. Please drive very slowly and only drop students in the designated drop off zone in the morning, not at the main gate to the school (except in the case of heavy rain).** Parents and drivers are then asked to drive to the top of the road to turn around, rather than trying to turn across the traffic or use one of our neighbours' driveways, as this blocks the flow of traffic. Thank you for your attention to this very important safety issue.

Extra-Curricular Activities

ECAs will finish on Thursday 30th November for Term 1. Thank you to all those students and staff who participated so enthusiastically and energetically this term.

Planning for Term 2 ECAs is now underway. The student sign up is planned for the last week of term.

All ECA sign-ups for next term will be done online, using the ECA Schools Buddy system. There will not be a paper sign up. So that the process runs smoothly, we would ask that all families ensure that they have an active account for ECAs. Any families that are not online, are asked to contact our ECA Coordinator, Julie Connah, at the ECA email address (provided below), so that we can make sure that all students can sign up easily. In addition, if you are already online but would like to change the email address for your account, please contact us via the same email address.

The ECA email address is: eca@kis.edu.my

Please include your name, and child(ren)'s name and class(es). This will speed up the process. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Request for Board of Management Nominations

As a not-for-profit school the Board of Management plays a crucial role in working closely with myself and the Senior Management Team in guiding the school forwards. We have four positions on the Board to be filled at the coming AGM on Tuesday 21st November and we encourage any parents interested in undertaking this important role to meet with myself to find out more.

As per Article IX Clause 9 (a) and (b) of the Constitution, please complete a "[Nomination Form](#)" to indicate your willingness to stand for election to serve for a 2-year period. Please also provide a short biography with both a passport and a family photo to Elis Ho (Office Manager) at officemanager@kis.edu.my.

Departing Students - End of Term 1

If your family will be leaving KIS at the end of this term please notify Tina Koroh, Admissions Officer, at admissions@kis.edu.my to ensure we have sufficient time to prepare any documents required. Many thanks.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend.

Alan Connah
Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 15th November:	Year 3 Trip
Wed 15th November:	Senior Maths Challenge Y12 and Y13
Thurs 16th November:	Year 2 Trip
Fri 17th November:	Year 9 Options Form Return Date

PRIMARY NEWS

Year 1 Gaya Island Trip

On Monday, 30th October, Year 1 enjoyed a trip to Gaya Island to further their learning about Reefs and Islands. There, we visited the Marine Ecology Research Centre (MERC). The children (and teachers) thoroughly enjoyed learning about the important work that MERC is doing to ensure the survival of the giant clams, as well as regrow corals to introduce them back to the coral reefs. In the display area, we were able to see a large variety of corals, some (grumpy) stone fish and of course the giant clams that MERC is working so hard to save. Miss Vanessa gave the children a lot of interesting information at each tank and we learnt about the three ecosystems in the water – coral reefs, sea grass and mangroves.



The touch tank was definitely the favourite part of the day and the children were very brave in touching the very, very slimy sea cucumbers! We all really liked the different types of starfish and we finally found the horseshoe crab, who is a very good hider!

This was a wonderful opportunity for the students to connect their learning in the classroom to the real world and we all got the opportunity to plant some coral, which will later be introduced into the sea. It really was a fun day of learning and sharing.

Primary Production

Over the past few weeks the whole of Primary have been working very hard preparing for their class parts for our Primary Production. With a new Primary Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator in position, we are writing our own production this year, which will encompass all our Early Years and Primary Students.

The theme of the play is the '12 Days of Christmas.' Each year group has been given a different number. Some year groups are learning songs, others have condensed a familiar story. This week Year 6 have been auditioning for the main parts of the play. I was extremely impressed when I sat in on these auditions. Over the next few weeks more information will be sent home about your child's role in the play including costume requirements. We will be performing over two days with an afternoon performance on Wednesday 6th December and an evening performance on Thursday 7th December. If your child will not be in school that week, please let me and your child's class teacher know as soon as possible so that this can be taken into consideration when rehearsing.

Traffic Outside the School

Further to Mr Connah's article a few weeks ago, I would like to remind all parents and drivers to please be very aware of their surroundings when driving and parking at school. Please be very vigilant when reversing. At KIS we want to ensure that all our students, parents, carers and staff are safe.

Nicky Russell
Head of Primary

SECONDARY NEWS

What's Happening in Drama?

It has been an extremely busy and exciting week in Secondary. Last Thursday, however, was a particularly brilliant day for the Creative and Performing Arts. I was able to attend two special events: Physical Theatre [Year 7] in the Drama Studio and the Year 8's Jazz and Blues Party in the Music Room at lunchtime.

Mr Bryant reports on the Physical Theatre session:

Physical Theatre - What is Physical Theatre?

Ask a Year 7 student and they will gladly fill you in on the conventions of Rudolph Laban, Jacques Le Coq, Frantic Assembly, Commedia Del Arte and the lesser-known Off Balance. Equipped with this smorgasbord of kinetic skills, our current Year 7 students have created some highly original pieces of Physical Theatre that serve to highlight some topical issues and themes: loneliness, oppression, isolation, revenge and addiction.

The Year 7 students were happy to receive the Year 6 students on Wednesday and Thursday last week as their first official audience. Nerves were frayed and tensions ran high but the performers all did superbly well under pressure. The students were highly commended by staff and students alike:

"I loved the way they expressed that too much time is spent on the phone, meaning that you miss out on the greater things in life."

"The obstacles made with human bodies in the jail part were very clever."

"Watching the two plays really caught my attention and made me want to go to Year 7 faster, so I can perform with my friends."

"I liked it so much that my eyes were going to pop out. They did awesome work."

"I was certainly very emotionally moved by the students' performances. We may assume that the themes they were conveying were too serious for such young people, but I was hugely impressed both with their physical skills and the depth of feeling that came through."

Margaret Renshaw

Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary

SPORTS NEWS

U15 FOBISIA Games

The KIS U15 FOBISIA games team returned from Thailand last Thursday after a truly successful and impressive performance competing against 5 other schools from Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong and Nepal.

Being by far the smallest team in attendance, with just 7 boys and 4 girls, they were truly challenged both physically and mentally competing across the 4 sports of swimming, athletics, football and basketball over 3 long hard days of competition.

Despite our small numbers, the students pulled out some impressive individual and team performances.

In swimming, our boys relay team won medals in both the medley relay and freestyle relay. Hippolyte, Aru and Nikita also won medals in their individual events.

In athletics, KIS were up on the podium receiving medals in both track and field events all afternoon. Rose won our first gold medal of the day in the girls' javelin while Bobby took away 3 golds in the 100m, shot putt and Javelin. One of the most impressive performance was from Aru who won his 200m heat and then immediately had to back up in the 800m where he placed 3rd. Celeste, Nikita and Kelvin also made valuable contributions to the medal tally, all walking away with a few silvers and bronzes.



After a very busy programme with swimming and athletics on the same day, the students then had to tackle football and basketball. The girls combined with 5 students from The British School of Kathmandu and had to quickly gel as one team. They had a win and some very close losses in the football and it was only fatigue that defeated them in the bronze medal playoff. In basketball, they got stronger in every game with Jolin and Nikita showing a huge amount of courage and fight. They were truly deserving of a medal but sadly this wasn't to be the case finishing 4th.

The most outstanding result came in the boys' basketball, where with just the 7 players the boys went through the whole competition without a loss, 5 wins from 5 games. Bobby led the team scoring 102 of our 120 points. A truly impressive performance. The next day the boys resembled the walking dead but put on a truly courageous performance to make it through the football competition, even managing a 3-0 win in the last game of the day.

Mr Walker and Miss Watt who accompanied the team couldn't have been prouder of how the students performed and what incredible representatives for the school they were with many other staff commenting on how impressed they were by the KIS team.



Congratulations to all the students on their phenomenal performances. The PE department are now looking forward to the next competition and preparations are already underway for the U13's going away in March next year.

The U15 FOBISIA Team were: Bobby, Kelvin, Aru, Koenraad, James, Hippolyte, Mathis, Rose, Nikita, Jolin and Celeste.

Ms Catriona Watt
Head of PE and Sport

CHARITY COMMITTEE

KIS Christmas Fair

Save the date! We are pleased to announce that the Charity Committee will be hosting a Christmas Fair on Tuesday 12th December, from 2pm to 4pm.

There will be a small Christmas market selling treats and gifts, and a performance from the Primary school choir. We have also invited Father Christmas to come along and join the festivities!

At this time, we are looking for assistance to fill all the tables available for the Christmas stalls. Each table costs RM200 to rent and then community partners will be free to sell their choice of gifts, handicrafts, decorations, ornaments, cookies, cards, cakes, games, jewelry or any other festive goods for their own profit. The KIS leadership team has asked that no hot food or drink items are sold.

If you would like to run a stall or you know of somebody who you think would be interested, can you please contact Ms Sharon Rose, srose@kis.edu.my, or Mrs Nicole Gervasi, PTA Chair, Tel: 012-8027771, Email: tngervasi@hotmail.com.

The Charity Committee thanks you for your help with this fund-raising event.

Ms Sharon Rose
Charity Committee Coordinator