



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 global citizens.

14th December 2018



Dear Parents & Guardians,

This past week has been a whirlwind of events and activities. The very successful Christmas Fair, Carol Singing inside and outside of school, class parties, Carol Concerts, School Assemblies, Flash Mobs, Santa's Deliveries and so much more. I sincerely thank all our staff, parents and students who have given so much of their time and energy to allow all this to take place. Well done to all.

I also need to thank all of the staff for all their hard work over the past term in making sure that all of our children at KIS are the focus of what we do, challenging them to achieve their full potential by providing an excellent education in a caring and respectful environment.

In staff news, Ms Charmaine Ku will be leaving us this holiday to continue the excellent work she has been doing with her Church. We are happy that Ms Charmaine will be supporting so many more people with her work, but we are also very sad to be saying goodbye to her after just over seven years with us at KIS.

On behalf of all her colleagues and students, past and present, we wish Ms Charmaine the very best and look forward to her coming back to visit us. Ms Grace will be taking over Ms Charmaine's classes and we know her students will be in very capable hands.

At this time we also say goodbye to Mr Bowles, who will be returning to the UK, and we thank Ms Mathilda for very capably covering Ms Indah's classes during her maternity leave. Ms Indah will be back with us after the holidays.

I am very thankful and humbled by the wonderful response we have had to our Christmas Angels. All gifts were collected, delivered and distributed by our students with Ms Dobson, Mr & Mrs Walker, Mr Withers and Miche, our Student Council President. I heard that we have made many people very happy this year and I thank all of you who were able to take part and make this happen.

I wish you all, staff, students and families, the very best for this holiday season - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Here or overseas, have safe travels and a relaxing break. See you in the New Year.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Gross
Principal

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 17th December - Friday 4th January:	School Holidays - School Closed
Friday 4th January:	KIS Shop Open - 8:30am to 12pm
Monday 7th January:	First Day of Term 2

Primary News

It has been lovely seeing the excitement grow across Primary this week as we have been getting closer to Christmas. The halls have been decked, not with boughs of holly, but with decorations that the children have made and I have certainly heard many fa la la la la la's coming from the different classrooms as I have been walking around the school. I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA for delivering the Christmas cookies on Wednesday, I am sure all of the students enjoyed nibbling on them as they drove home from school.

The main event of the week though was the Y3-Y5 Christmas Sing-Along on Wednesday evening. The students all out did themselves as usual. The energy and enjoyment that was on their faces, combined with the Christmasy feel of the hall has really started the festive season off with a huge bang for me. I would like to say thank you to all the parents who contributed to the pot luck after the Sing-Along too. Once again, this was a lovely example of how our KIS community comes together to celebrate all festivals.

It was lovely to see so many parents at our Celebration Assembly on Thursday morning. I always enjoy celebrating our student's successes at the end of each term and seeing their delight as they receive recognition for sporting achievements, excellent behaviour, academic results and extra curricular achievements. I hope that we will have an even wider set of certificates to give out next term.

As the end of the first term draws to a close, I would like to wish you all a safe and healthy holiday wherever you go. If you are travelling, I hope that you stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all back at school next term.

Seasons Greetings and a Happy New Year everyone!

Mrs Nicky Russell
Head of Primary



Year 1 Visits MERC on Gaya Island

On Friday 30th November, Year 1 were finally able to go on their much awaited trip to MERC on Gaya Island. The students (and teachers) were extremely excited to get hands-on experience with the research centre and consolidate all their learning about reefs and islands.

We were first introduced to MERC through an educational and informative video telling about all the research and conservation work done at the centre. As always, one of the highlights was being able to touch the sea stars, sea cucumbers and sea urchins in the touch tank. The students were able to experience first-hand how the sea cucumbers expel their water and were able to identify the mouth of a star fish. It really was fantastic to hear the students transferring their knowledge from the classroom into the real world.

In the display room, the students were able to learn more about giant clams and how they are so important for good sea health. There were different types of coral on display as well as different types of fish living in a variety of marine ecosystems.

We were able to plant our own piece of coral and Year 1 adopted a coral too. We are now excited to see if our coral will survive its reintroduction to the sea and hope that it will grow successfully and healthily.

"This was the best day ever!" was heard repeatedly!

Mrs Shelly Dyer

Year 1 Class Teacher



Primary Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who completed the November Mathematics Challenge correctly:

Years 1 & 2: Hayley (1S), Olivia (1K), Aydan (1K), Sophia (1K), Yoo Dam (2K), Adithya (2K), Seoyun (2K), Siqi (2S)	Years 3 & 4: Ada (3S), Fion (3K), Jibrail (4S), Si Hau (4S), Emmanuel (4S), Abraham (4S)
Years 5 & 6: Pik Ern (5K), Jayden (5K),	

This month's Maths challenge is Christmas themed! Good luck and Merry Christmas!

> [Year 1 & 2 December Maths Challenge](#)

> [Year 3 & 4 December Maths Challenge](#)

> [Year 5 & 6 December Maths Challenge](#)

Mrs Karen Wallace

Year 6 Class Teacher

Housepoint Totals

It was an exciting end to our first term and this was definitely reflected in the weekly totals for housepoints that was counted up this week. The overall school total was 1,167 housepoints. Well done everyone! What a superb total to end on. I am so happy to see you continuing to work so hard and try your very best right to the end of the term! This week's totals are as follows:

In 3rd place with 360 points is **Sulug!**

In 2nd place with 403 points is **Sapi!**

In 1st place with 404 points is **Gaya!**

Huge congratulations to Gaya who managed to secure the top spot for the very first time this term! They have been close on so many occasions and I am so proud that they managed to finally achieve it today! They took the top spot from Sapi by just 1 point following a three week reign, which shows just how close the battle is every week. I'm already looking forward to next term when the weekly battle continues! Let's see if Gaya will start next term as they finished this one. I'm excited...I hope you all are too!

As well as the weekly totals, we also found out our termly totals and House Champion. All the housepoints collected through the entire term were added together to tell us that as a school, in 1 term:

Gaya has earned 3,453 housepoints

Sulug has earned 3,818 housepoints

Sapi has earned 3,882 housepoints

Altogether, that gives the school total as 11,153 housepoints! Well done everyone! At the end of Term 1, Sapi are in 1st place overall...but next term is another story and another chance to earn housepoints for your House.

Good luck to you all!!

Housepoint Certificates

As Term 1 ends, I was honored to be able to award a variety of Housepoint Certificates across the whole of the Primary School. During our End of Term Celebration Assembly, students continued to be presented with the Bronze Awards they have earned for 40 housepoints. Excitingly, we did get to see the very first of our Silver Awards presented to Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 students! They have all earned 80 housepoints so far this term!

The End of Term Celebration Assembly was also the chance to present our very new Termly Housepoint Champion Award. We have introduced this new award to be presented at the end of each term to one student in every year group who has earned the most housepoints.

Our congratulations go to the following children for achieving the following awards:

Bronze Awards	
F1: Claudia, Wesley	F2: Derek, Kendrick
Y1K: Clemence, Frankie ,Sascha, Seung	Y2S: Malakai, Zhang Yu, Nathan, Siqi,Trinity
Y4S: MinWoo, Rachel, Abraham, Sophie, Amantha, Jai, Chloe P, Chloe F, Gordon,	
Silver Awards	
Y3K: Fion	Y5K: Pui San
Y5S: Thilal	Y6K: Imogen, Julia, Selene, Sunny
Y6S: Alqualyn, Anny, Rayden ,Pik Yen	
Termly Housepoint Champions	
F1: Ollie	F2: Leo
Y1: Kaye	Y2: Madison
Y3: Fion	Y4: Ethan
Y5: Tony	Y6: Pik Yen

Mrs Sarah Fletcher
Year 5 Class Teacher

Secondary News

It has been a wonderful Term 1 in Secondary, with too many amazing events to mention in addition to all of the teaching and learning that has been going on in classrooms. Well done to all of our students who have put lots of effort into their work over the last few months. We have also seen many students conducting themselves according to our mission and values. In our Leadership Assembly we acknowledged the very many boys and girls who put themselves forward to contribute to the school and to support their peers, and in the Celebration Assembly yesterday we were proud to award 90+ Merit Certificates, a fantastic achievement overall and individually for those students. Our global citizens were also awarded certificates for their creativity in the 'KIS Global Citizenship Window' International Day competition and prizes were also given to our winners in the Christmas Card competition.

The Spellathon Final had all the excitement of previous years with the best spellers across years 7 to 10 competing against each other to win the coveted trophy. It was a nail-biting event, with the final accolade going to Ryan C. Congratulations! Some may believe that accurate spelling is a skill that is no longer needed in our high tech world, but we all know that that is absolutely not true.

As we come to the end of a busy time I wish all students parents and staff a well-deserved break with their families and look forward to hearing lots of holiday stories when we return in January!

Mrs Margaret Renshaw

Deputy Principal and Head of Secondary

Christmas Angels

Last Monday, to finalise the Christmas Angels project, four members of staff along with the Secondary Student Council visited Sabah Cheshire Home in Likas to deliver the 91 presents donated by the KIS Community. Sabah Cheshire home is a facility for the disabled. With open arms they accept and nurture the young and care for adults.

We were arranged into two separate groups upon arrival, one to accompany the children and the other with the adults. Once all the presents had been given out, we watched with sheer joy as they played with their gifts. Soon, we joined in as well to partake in their Christmas playtime. Unaware that time had passed by so quickly, we were reluctant to leave, and as we agreed with Mr Walker, 'there's not many things in life you can do to experience today'.

None of this would have been possible if not for the help provided by Ms Dobson, Mr Withers, Mr & Mrs Walker, President of the Student Council, Miche Sappia, for being the point of contact, and lastly, our generous KIS community.

By: Jonathan (11K)

Secondary Maths Challenge

The Secondary Weekly Maths Challenge can be found here:

<http://kismaths.pbworks.com/w/page/125944556/Weekly%20Maths%20Challenge>

PE & Sports News

Sabah Masters Junior Tennis Tournament 2018

We are pleased to report yet more success from KIS students in the sports arena in recent weeks.

Over the 25th-27th November, Ethan (11S) and Iden (8K) competed in the Sabah Masters Junior Tennis Tournament held in KK at Kompleks Likas. They had been invited to compete after qualifying in the top 8 for their age groups in the three preliminary rounds held around Sabah.

Ethan performed outstandingly to reach the semi-finals where he finished in 3rd place in the U16 Boys age group. Iden, who had chosen to play up in the U14 Boys age group despite being eligible for the U12's, was even more impressive as he took out 2nd place for his event.

Congratulations to Ethan and Iden on these fantastic results and I'm sure this will not be the last we hear of these Tennis champions at KIS.



Season Wrap and New Year Resolutions

It was a busy term in the PE and Swimming Department for sporting events with a lot of milestones and progress achieved such as; 25 students at the U15 FOBISIA games, competitions against local schools, attendance at local and international swim meets and a hugely successful Secondary Sports Day.

Term 2 will be even busier with an action-packed calendar of events including the following:

FOBISIA Swimming – 10th-14th January (Bangkok Prep, Thailand)

U13's FOBISIA Games – 20th-24th February (Phuket, Thailand)

Labuan Swim Meet – 8th-10th March (Labuan, Malaysia)

FOBISIA Golf – 11th-14th March (Hua Hin, Thailand)

KS2/Secondary Swimming Gala – Friday 29th March (Likas Swimming Complex)

In addition to these overseas events, KIS will be renewing our registration with MSSD that will allow both Primary and Secondary students to enter competitions against local schools and students. Malaysian Nationals have the opportunity to gain selection for further representation and regional at state level through these events.

Competition details will be sent out via the weekly newsletters, so please keep any eye out for events that may be of interest to your child.

The PE Department are highly committed to ensuring that KIS students have access to a broad range of opportunities for participating in physical activities and building habits to lead healthy and active lives.

We hope that all our KIS families enjoy a relaxing but active holiday!!

Ms Catriona Watt

Head of PE and Sport

ECAs

Term 2 ECAs have now been allocated and published on both the SchoolsBuddy website and the notice board. Next term we are running 72 clubs across the Primary and Secondary schools, of a huge variety including music, dance, sports, games, languages and arts and crafts.

If you have yet to sign up to a club for your child, please email me at eca@kis.edu.my no later than Wednesday 9th January. Thank you for signing up through SchoolsBuddy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Ms Jowene Elle Chia

ECA Coordinator

Christmas Fair

Saturday's KIS Christmas Fair was a great success. it was wonderful to see high attendance at the event and everyone having a jolly good time.

I would like to give special thanks to all the parents and teachers who gave prizes for the tombola and to the parents who made special donations for the treasure map game. A big thank you goes to Ratna and the PTA team for transforming the hall into a festive paradise and to a Nicole Gervasi who became my personal shopper, thank you all so much.

Organising events takes a lot of preparation and this year I had a lot of support from Ms Jenny Westaway and the Primary school, Ms Giverney Dobson and the Secondary School Council and I am very grateful for their support and input. Thank you to all the teachers, teaching assistants and ground staff for taking the time out to work on a Saturday to make the event a success. I couldn't have done it without you.

The event raised an amazing RM 4,000 which will be divided between the Primary and Secondary School Council and The Food for the Hungry International (FHI).

FHI is an international organisation with the vision to provide special focus on the world's physically and spiritually hungry. Their objectives are to provide food and other goods and services of immediate necessity. They help the needy become self-supporting, provide medical services, train volunteers in relief work, carry out research and development on fundamental solutions for hunger and carry out other relief activities.

FHI work very closely with NGOs and international foundations to develop support groups to aid their projects. They have several projects they are working on in Sabah, which include the Orphanage Building Project in Tuaran, Community Services Centre in Kota Marudu, the Lingka Bungan Satu village Project and the Reliv Supplement Program.

Thank you again to everyone who supported the event, which helps us to support our own wider community in times of need and at a time of year when we are celebrating, friendship, love and generosity.

Have a great festive break and very happy New Year.

Ms Sharon Rose
Community Liaison Officer



Eco Warriors

This Thursday our KIS Eco Warriors were out in the playground again collecting in our single-use waste at snack time. They counted it all at lunch time and they were so pleased to see that this week's total has decreased significantly which is fantastic news!

The totals were as follows:

F1 + F2 = 7, Y1 = 12, Y2 = 8, Y3 = 12, Y4 = 4, Y5 = 13, Y6 = 7 and a grand total of 63. Our lowest total yet and great news for the environment.

Well done to Y4 for having the lowest amount of single-use plastic - a lowly 4 pieces - an amazing effort! Thank you to parents and students for getting involved with the challenge and keep up the good work. We hope to do another challenge in Term 2, so watch this space!

Laura Marriott