



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.

8th December 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I hope you are reading this on Saturday morning so I can remind you to come down and join us at school for the **Christmas Fair**. If it isn't Saturday now, then you will have missed a great morning at school. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved and especially the Student councils, Mrs Rose, Ms Westaway and Ms Dobson. Great job and thank you for arranging.

I had the pleasure of watching our **KIS Carol Singers** at Le Meridien Hotel on Wednesday evening, they were fantastic and really got everyone into the Christmas atmosphere as the hotel turned on their Christmas lights. If you have the opportunity, pop down and see their tree, it is quite unique as well as supporting the local community. Our Carol singers will be performing again next week at the Shangri-La and I look forward to another captivating performance.

Our younger students also gave sterling performances this week; EYFS on Thursday and Year One on Friday. It is excellent to see the younger members of our community performing with such confidence and without inhibition. Thank you and well done to all of our staff who coordinate and support our students for these events.

We had the first **Coffee Morning, Drop off & Drop In**, earlier this week and my thanks to all the parents who were able to join us. I gave a brief presentation about the Vision and Mission for KIS and our aims over the next year. More importantly it was an opportunity for KIS parents to feedback any concerns or worries to the School's Leadership Team (SLT). We had some excellent discussion about curriculum, homework and differentiation, both across the school and during transition from Primary to Secondary. Our next Drop Off & Drop In will include a presentation about HFMD and Health Issues at school and will be another opportunity for Q&A with the SLT.

All **invoices for Term 2** should have been sent home this week. Please advise the Finance Department (finance@kis.edu.my) should you require a soft copy.

Please be aware that the **KIS Shop** will be open on the **4th January from 8:30am to 12pm** for any purchases required before the start of term.

Finally, as I sit and write part of this week's letter I had a visit from Jovan in Year 4K who came to talk to me about a story he had written as part of his classwork. Jovan's story revolved around two boys from Belgium who were time-travelling friends and visited the famous and ancient city of Pompeii; a wonderful imagination and creatively written. Thank you to Mr Burrows for sharing.

I wish you all a lovely weekend and hope to see you later this morning at the KIS Christmas Fair.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Gross
Principal

January Menu

A copy of the January Menu and Order Form are available to download here:

> [January Menu](#)

> [January Order Form](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Saturday 8th December:	Christmas Fair, 10am - 12pm
Wednesday 12th December:	Year 3-5 Christmas Song Performance, 6:30pm
Thursday 13th December:	Primary Class Parties Primary Christmas Carols at Shangri La Hotel
Friday 14th December:	Final Day of Term 1, School Finishes at 12pm Secondary Spellathon, 8am Secondary Celebration Assembly, 9:15am

Primary News

This has been a week of performances for Primary.

Following on from their trip last week to the Marine Ecology Research Center (MERC) at Gayana Eco Resort, Year One presented an informative and entertaining assembly to parents and friends yesterday. They enthralled everyone with informative songs about sea creatures, as well as becoming roving reporters while on their trip. A huge thank you needs to be said to all the parents who worked very hard to provide the students with amazing ocean inspired costumes for the assembly.



On Wednesday the Christmas Choir was invited to sing at the tree lighting ceremony at Le Meridien hotel. As always the choir were able to add lots of Christmas cheer to this event and did an excellent job representing the school in our wider community. A huge thank you to the Music Department for arranging this event and to the students, parents and staff who attended. I am looking forward to seeing the choir perform at the Christmas Fair today, as well as at the Shangri-La Tanjung Aru Resort later next week.

On Thursday, Christmas was really started off in school properly by our Early Years Department. Parents and family members were treated to a Christmas Sing-a-long by the students in the MPR, before joining them in their classes for a small Christmas snack. The students all performed wonderfully and reminded many of the magic of this time of year. I especially liked the additional solos that one student contributed to the songs, a budding performer there I think!



Please do not forget to join us again next week when Years 3-5 will be entertaining family and friends on Wednesday evening with more Christmas songs and then a small festive pot luck in the hall after the performance.

Mrs Nicky Russell
Head of Primary



Housepoint Totals

With only one more week to go before the end of the term, the race is definitely on to earn housepoints to help push each House towards the top spot overall for Term 1. But before we can find out which House is our Termly Champion, we have this week's total to share with you! House Captains counted up the usual weekly totals again and this week Primary classes have earned 937 housepoints in total. Well done everyone!

In 3rd place, with 275 housepoints is GAYA
In 2nd place, with 324 housepoints is SULUG
In 1st place, with 338 housepoints is **SAPI**

Well done Sapi who have maintained the top spot for three weeks in a row now! Will they manage to make it four for our final Housepoint total of Term 1 next week? And who will be our overall Housepoint Champion for Term 1?

Bronze Awards

Another fantastic week of hard work has meant a whole new batch of Bronze Awards were presented to pupils this week. Appearing on our honor roll is:

F1: Casper, Erin	F2: Minori, Selena, Howard, Micky and Zoe
Y1S: Eilidh and Maddie	Y2K: Adithya, Shawn and Chency
Y2S: Naollin, Peter, Elliot, Hayley and Hay-	Y4K: Amy and Leo
Y4S: Seung Jae, Lucas, Kevin and Oscar	Y5K: Faustine, Leroy and Vivian
Y5S: Haylie	Y6K: Dania, Han Kyeol, Kheng Wen and Micky
Y6S: Brandon and Sarah	

What an amazing achievement! Well done everyone! Next week, we will share the awards presented during our Term 1 Celebration Assembly. Will it include the first of our Silver Awards? Fingers crossed!

Mrs Sarah Fletcher
Year 5 Class Teacher

Secondary News

The Secondary School is as busy as ever with a lot of activity going on. Last Friday we had 4Fest, and congratulations must go to our Year 12 students who worked extremely hard to ensure that the Year 10 and 11 students had an exciting time staying overnight in school. They provided a range of games and fun was had by all. 4Fest has been an annual feature on our calendar for the last 6 years and its success depends upon a number of teachers who are willing to give up their comfy beds to stay in school and supervise the students. A leader amongst these this year was Mrs Colbeck, our Year 12/13 Form tutor, who mentored her students in their preparation and organisation for the 24hour event. Thank you Mrs Colbeck!

Next Friday, the last day in school before the holidays, we will be holding our end of term celebrations. This year we will be starting with the Spellathon, from 8am, and this will be followed by the Celebration Assembly at approximately 9.15am. All parents are welcome to attend both of these events as well as a new event, Christmas Carols, which will follow the assembly. The Student Council are organising this and it will take the form of a fun House competition. Let's see which House can raise the roof with their song, add to the Christmas spirit, and win House points in the process! Many thanks to our Student Council who came up with the idea and have been hugely active throughout this term.

All these events will take place in the school hall and after they are concluded students will retreat to their form rooms to tidy up and also to empty their lockers before they have their form parties, which will be organised by tutors and students working together!

Mrs Margaret Renshaw
Deputy Principal and Head of Secondary

Year 11 Mock Examinations

Next term, Year 11 students will be sitting their mock examinations which is intended to guide them on how they can improve before their final IGCSE examinations. The examinations will start on the 7th January and finish on the 16th January. This can be a stressful time for students and many have difficulty settling down to a sensible study programme.

Preparing for examinations does **NOT** mean no social life, or that you have to revise all the time. It means being **organised, focussed and disciplined**.

Here are some quick tips for revision for examinations:

- Make a revision timetable well before your examinations, and stick to it.
- Revise in short sessions of 25 minutes. Then take a short 10 minute break before another 25 minute session on the subject.
- Going over your revision notes once is NOT good enough. You must revise your notes actively, which could involve rewriting them, making flash cards etc.
- Vary your ways of revising. Use past papers, mind maps, revision websites, revision cards, posters on your wall, work with friends, record key topic words on your MP3 or mobile, use highlighters and mapping.
- Test yourself on key words, key dates, key formulas, key diagrams.
- You can use time wisely. On your journey to school try studying your revision cards or notes.

Mr Ian Barker
Assistant Head of Secondary / Head of Sixth Form

Year 7 Humanities

7K has had a busy two days. On Wednesday the students visited the Sabah Museum along with 7S. The students were thinking about how we preserve the past, how it is displayed and if only one item could be saved, what would it be (a debate follows next week). Students were consolidating their historical skills and took time to also collect information for a future topic on the history of medicine. Many thanks to Mr O'Kane, Ms Dobson, Mrs Knight and Ms Service for accompanying us to the Museum.

On Thursday, the class left the classroom and collected data around the school to decide which area had the best environment. This time, this was Geography skills in action. Chelsea, Elias, Zack and Calista pause in the photograph below to consider the noise level, air quality, the amount of litter amongst other things which make up a good environment.

Mrs Louise Davis
Teacher of History



Secondary Maths Challenge

The Secondary Weekly Maths Challenge can be found here:

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

PE and Sports News

10th PREPS Under 12s Swimming Competition, Penampang Sports Complex

As the tradition goes, the swimming competitions start early, and the 10th PREPS Under 12s Swimming Competition was no exception. At 6:30am on Friday November 30th, 21 excited Stingrays swimmers met up with myself and Mr Richie at Penampang swimming pool for the warm-up. The first day of the competition included 50m backstroke, 25m breaststroke, 50m freestyle and 25m butterfly. Bella took the first Stingrays medal of the competition placing 3rd in the Under 10 girls 50 backstroke race, and Siwon, Emmanuel and Tony collected 4th place ribbons for breaststroke, freestyle and butterfly events respectively.

The second day of the competition on Saturday started with 100m freestyle, followed by 50m butterfly, 25m backstroke and medley relays. This time Bella went one better to win a silver medal in her second backstroke event, clearly showing that she has a lot of potential for this specific stroke. By the end of the day, the Under 9 year old boys; Abraham, Leroy, Tony and Emmanuel, treated us to an excellent performance in their medley relay and were rewarded with bronze medals. The Under 10 year old girls; Hope, Tiggi, Bella and Amanda followed their lead and took out 2nd place and silver medals in their medley relay.

By the third day of the competition some tiredness could be noticed on the faces of the swimmers and their coaches, but the results talked for themselves. Bella was leading the way taking 4th place in 100m Individual Medley race, followed by Siwon and Keira, who took 4th and 6th place respectively in their 50m breaststroke events and Emmanuel who got a 5th place in 25m freestyle. Even all our relay teams were doing a great job and were rewarded with medals and ribbons. A special relay is always a fun race, since it needs to include 6 swimmers; 3 boys and 3 girls and all of them need to be from different age groups. Since we didn't have representatives from all the age groups, some students needed to "swim up" from their age group. For KIS Stingrays the special relay team was comprised of: Seoyun (7), Caleb (8), Keira (9), Tony (swam up:10), Brandon (swam up:11) and Bella (swam up:12). The special relay team put in a wonderful performance and ended up in 5th place. In the last events of the competition, the freestyle relays, our Under 9 boys; Tony, Leroy, Caleb and Emmanuel and also the Under 10 girls; Bella, Tiggi, Hope and Amanda took bronze medals for their races. Brandon, Amiel and Amos needed Alson (9) to swim up from his age group to complete the Under 10 boys' relay team, and they received a 6th place ribbon for their hard work.

Overall, the 3-day competition in Penampang was an exhausting but rewarding experience, with lots of personal best times recorded by several swimmers and plenty of medals and ribbons for 4th to 6th places achieved. A special mention needs to go to our youngest swimmers Seoyun (2K) and Helena (3K) who participated in their first swim competition and did an amazing job representing the KIS Stingrays!

I would like to say a big thank you and well done to all the Stingrays swimmers; Seoyun, Helena, Siwon, Caleb, Abraham, Kelvin, Keira, Alson, Emmanuel, Leroy, Tony, Sarah, Hope, Tiggi, Amanda, Bella, Amiel, Brandon, Amos, Betsi and Reece. A huge thank you also to all the Stingrays parents for their continuous support and cheering by the pool during the Competition.

Ms Tytti Betran
Head of Aquatics

The 20th Sarawak Chief Minister's Cup 2018

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, four students; Caleb, David, Benedict and Timothy recently participated in the Minister's Cup Golf tournament as the Serawak International Junior Golf Championship. The boys all performed exceptionally well and it is most unfortunate that both Caleb and David had to withdraw from the competition due to illness as both had scored very well in their opening rounds.

Benedict and Timothy did go on to complete the competition with both finishing in the top 5 of their competitions. In the Class 'C' event, Benedict had a combined score across the 3 rounds of 242, which included a final round score of 77 landing him in 5th place. After back to back rounds of 78 and 79, Timothy finished with a combined score of 240 which allowed to take our 2nd place in the Boys Class 'B' competition. Congratulations to all the boys on their excellent performances and results.

31st Milo Malaysia Table Tennis Championships 2018

By Joshua (6K)

This year I was successful in getting into the Under 10 Table Tennis Malaysian Competition as a State Player representing Sabah. It was a great opportunity for me as I have only been playing for one year. During the competition, I lost to Negeri Sembilan's 2nd place player but we had already become friends before the match. I finished in 10th place but the most important thing is that I made friends and hopefully I can see them next year at the 32nd Milo Malaysia Championships.



Well done Joshua for your achievement and I'm sure you will continue to work hard to improve before next year's tournament

Ms Catriona Watt
Head of PE and Sport



Eco Warriors

Snack Box Challenge Update

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 unfortunately this week's total has increased, although this is partly due to a Christmas celebration snack time for F1/F2

The totals were as follows:

F1 + F2 - 40, Y1 - 20, Y2 - 16, Y3 - 19, Y4 - 30, Y5 - 15, Y6 - 17 and a grand total of - 157.

Well done to Y5 for having the lowest amount of single-use plastic - a great effort!

Next week will be our final week for the SnackBox Challenge, the Eco Warriors hope we can have our best week yet."

Laura Marriott

Eco Warrior Committee

Board News

Board 2018-19 Positions

At the first meeting of the 2018-19 Board of Governor's held on Tuesday the following positions were confirmed for the year ahead:

Chairman - David Powell

Vice Chairman - Simon Enderby

Secretary - Shirley Yu

Treasurer - Angus Wong Tet Onn

The Members have been designated the following portfolios:

Delbert Chong - Legal Advisory Committee, Fund Raising, Infrastructure Development

Hans Dols - Infrastructure Development

Gina Pang - Community Liaison, Fundraising

Lee Hye-Rang - Community Liaison, Fundraising

Toto Setiawan - Infrastructure Development

A schedule of meeting dates for the Board can be [downloaded here](#). The information is also available on the school's Google Calendar.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the Board of Governors meeting held on the 13th November 2018 are available to download here: [Minutes 13.11.18](#)

KIS Board of Governors

