



Secondary students participating in the second annual IGBIS Amazing Race

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Head of Student Services

Upcoming Events

Thursday, 27th August 2015

Parent Coffee Morning, 8.30am - 9.30am, Secondary Library

Monday, 31st August 2015

Public Holiday - Merdeka Day

Wednesday, 2nd September 2015

Meet The Teacher Evening, 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Saturday, 12th September 2015

Open Day, 10.00am - 1.00pm

Message from Head of School

Mrs. Anne Fowles
Head of School



Dear IGBIS Parents and Community Members,

The school has been buzzing with excitement since Orientation and Reception Day last Friday. Everyone has liked the new painting, graphics and signage around IGBIS which has helped to brighten up the walls as well as assisting those new to the school to find their way around. It's been wonderful to see all of our returning students and parents reconnecting with each other and welcoming the new families and twenty-five new teachers to IGBIS as well. There are now close to 320 students and 60 teachers in our school.



A whole bunch of fun activities were organized for students at the start of the week (including the IGBIS Amazing Race) to help everyone get to know each other more, but we are now settled into regular classes again and homework should be back on the nightly agenda!

Parents have appreciated the Café being open opposite the Theatre – if you haven't tried the fresh food and drinks on sale, be sure to drop by and do so!

A reminder of a few upcoming events:

Thursday, 27 August - Welcome Coffee for New and Returning Parents

Wednesday, 2 September - Meet the Teacher Evening

Monday, 14 September - Malaysia Day Assembly

Looking forward to another wonderful year ahead.

IGBIS Cafe

Welcome to you all. We will initially supply you with high grade coffee (freshly roasted beans from BEAM), tea (Roleaf), real fruit juices and soft drinks. Also there will be freshly baked goods every morning from our café in Valencia (Hiestand products) and muffins, doughnuts etc. We will be looking to expand this area as per your demand, with sandwiches, healthy options and small snacks.

Our initial opening hours are **7.00am to 10.30am** and **2.00pm to 4.00pm** and will be constantly reviewed with demand.

We are very interested in your thoughts and ideas and welcome feedback to Jenny Walwyn (walwyn@pd.jaring.my) (012 387 1687) or Russell dabbs (russell.dabbs@btinternet.com) (017 759 5552).

Russell Dabbs



News from Elementary School

For a few weeks now, the teachers have been preparing for the new school year and in particular this first week of school. There has been a lot of excitement about learning at IGB International School from returning, new students and teachers alike.

Like any IBPYP (Primary Years Programme) school, teachers are always reflecting on past learning experiences and considering ways to improve what they do. One new initiative this week has been the introduction of Wake Up and Shake Up (WUSU) lead by Mr. Andy the new Physical Education teacher. At assembly this week, some of the parents also experienced the dance component of WUSU.



An improvement in the parking area this week, for Grades 2 - 12 has been the clear labelling of where to pick up your children. Students are brought down to the car park and wait in the pick up zone for their ride home. Students should inform the duty teacher, who they are being collected by before walking off or getting into a car. Students in grade 1 get collected from inside the security gate and communicate their pick up with Ms. Blakeway. Early Years and Kindergarten students are picked up by their classrooms. The effect of this has been less congestion in front of the security gates so that teachers can easily check the student collection process.

Bus students have a specific place to stand- near to the security gates and wait until they are told to board the buses. The first job of these students is to put on their seat belt.



In the classroom the students this week, the students have been getting to know, not only each other but their teachers as well. They have been engaged in some activities to help them understand how they learn. We call it learning to learn.

It has been wonderful to see, happy smiling faces and we hope that this will continue throughout the school year.



One final note: please remember that elementary aged students should always wear a seat belt, and should sit in the back of the car, preferably using a car seat or booster seat.

I hope you have a happy and safe weekend.

Mr. Simon Millward,
Primary Years Programme Coordinator

News from Secondary School

Mr. Lennox Meldrum

Secondary School Principal

What a fantastic first week to our second year at IGBIS! A word that would sum up the week would be community, which is a term we use quite often at IGBIS. When potential new families visit the school, we talk about how we embrace and promote a sense of community within the school. Often after touring the school, new families will comment on the community feel they witness within our students and classes. We encourage our students and families to not only join and develop communities within our school, but also their wider social, cultural, and other communities. Being part of a community helps promote harmony and understanding and also provides a support network, which can be important to students who have recently arrived in Malaysia.

Our activities and classes this week also focussed on the spirit that is present in a positive community. For IGBIS, our spirit is broadly defined by our motto of "Igniting Minds, Impacting Lives". We encourage our students and staff to look at this motto and how they as individuals can bring it to life in their actions and how it can provide direction for our wider community of which they are part. This weekend would be a great time to talk with your children about what the motto means to them. I'd love to hear your ideas as well!

Our modern digital life provides further opportunities to be part of communities in cyberspace. At IGBIS we use technology in a variety of forms, from class blogs to Google Apps For Education (GAPE) and a range of educational sites and apps. Our online learning portal, ManageBac, is the central location for many of our daily functions. Within ManageBac our teachers do

their planning, set assessment pieces, record attendance, and communicate with classes or groups. Students are able to see academic deadlines, refer to their daily schedule, record individual homework, and receive notices from staff and groups within the school. Parents also have access to ManageBac which allows them to see the current unit their child is studying, keep informed of upcoming assessment deadlines, and monitor attendance (including being able to submit attendance excusals if your child is ill or will be away from school for any reason). New parents to Secondary School should have received a welcome message to access ManageBac; returning parents can access ManageBac by requesting a new password at the login screen (click on the "Forgot your password?" link). At the upcoming Meet The Teacher evening on 2nd September, we will have a session for parents dedicated to technology within the school which will have a focus on using ManageBac effectively. Please feel free to contact our IT department at any time for further assistance. Of course, you also have a ManageBac expert in your house - your child - so ask them if you need any help as well.

We have an exciting year ahead of us and our amazing team of educators are keen to keep in regular contact with you. We look forward to seeing you all on September 2 and you will receive more details on this event very soon.

Have a wonderful weekend.



Welcome To The New School Year 2015-2016

Welcome back to IGB International School. It was lovely to see all the familiar faces around school this week as returning families came back from the long vacation. It was also great to see so many new faces as we welcomed new students, parents and teachers into the IGBIS community.

New teachers have joined our IGBIS academic teams in all eight of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) subject groups this year - *Language & Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals & Societies, Mathematics, Sciences, Arts, Design and Physical & Health Education*. During the vacation, all our secondary school teachers participated in an IB professional development workshop for the Middle Years Programme. The workshop provided an excellent learning opportunity for our new and returning teachers to collaborate and share ideas with a larger team of professionals as we prepared for our second school year at IGBIS.

Students were introduced to their new teachers and classmates and received their new schedules this week. For returning students, and for students who have previously studied in MYP schools, many things will be familiar. While for students and parents who are new to the MYP, there will be many new things to learn. Students were introduced to our online student information management system, *ManageBac*. This is where students and parents can access student schedules, important messages from teachers, assessment details and deadlines, teacher feedback and grades, and other important information. Parents will receive information on how they can access *ManageBac* and support will be available for parents who would like assistance.

Next week we will introduce the MYP *Community Project* to our Grade 8 students and the MYP *Personal Project* to our Grade 10 students. MYP projects are a key component of the Middle Years Programme. They are student-centred, age-appropriate projects that students conduct for an extended period during their own time. Students engage in practical explorations through a cycle of inquiry, action and reflection. The *Community Project* focuses on community and service, encouraging students to explore their right and responsibility to implement service as action in the community. The *Personal Project* encourages students to develop an area of personal interest, to consolidate prior learning, and to practise and strengthen their approaches to learning (ATL) skills. Grade 8 students will conduct their *Community Projects* during Semester 1 while Grade 10 students will conduct their *Personal Projects* during Semesters 1 and 2. I will share more information about MYP projects in future newsletters.

We look forward to meeting parents again on Wednesday 2nd September for our "Meet the Teacher" evening, when parents will



have the opportunity to meet with their child's teachers and find out more about what and how their child will be learning this year. Throughout the year I will also be offering a series of parent workshops for parents who would like to learn more about the IB Middle Years Programme.

Mr. Phil Clark,
Middle Years Programme Coordinator

News from the DP Coordinator

I hope everyone in the IGBIS community had a fun and relaxing summer vacation, and its great to be back at school and ready to start year 2 at IGBIS.

This is an important year for IGBIS, with our first Diploma Programme (DP) cohort graduating after sitting for the DP examinations in May. Everyone at the school hopes the Grade 12 students have a productive year and wishes them well as they prepare for their exams in May. The Grade 12 students will need to use time management strategies in order to ensure that their time is used productively. Being organised and working on assignments gradually should help the Grade 12s to complete their assignments on time, and to reduce the stress associated with the demanding IB programme. Also, ensuring that they find a healthy balance between school work and having fun is important to consider.

We are happy to have Mr. Michael Hawkes as the Grade 12 Homeroom teacher, and his experience and support will help the Grade 12 students in this challenging year. Mr. Hawkes emailed the *Grade 12 Academic Deadlines* to the Grade 12 parents last week, in order for parents to be aware of the important academic deadlines the Grade 12s are responsible for this year. The Grade 12 students will be supported by their teachers, as well as Mr. Peter Fowles (Head of Student Services and CAS Coordinator), Ms. Pauline Davidson (College Counsellor) Mr. Michael Hawkes, and myself as they complete their assignments and prepare for the DP exams in May.

We have had incredible growth in the school since last year, and nowhere is this more apparent than in Grade 11. The Grade 11 cohort has more than tripled in size since the beginning of last year, and we are lucky to have so many great new students in the IGBIS community. The Grade 11s will be supported by their subject teachers, three homeroom teachers, Ms. Nathalie Chotard, Mr. Gabe Evans and Mr. Paul Skadsen, as well as Mr. Fowles, Ms. Davidson and myself. Together we will be working with the Grade 11 students to help them adjust to the rigorous IBDP programme and prepare them for the challenges that will take place in Grade 12.

We are looking forward to another wonderful year at IGBIS and hope that our students and the school community have a productive and enjoyable experience in 2015 - 2016.



If there are any questions regarding the IBDP at IGBIS please email me at matthew.marshall@igbis.edu.my.

Mr. Matthew Marshall,
Diploma Programme Coordinator

IGBIS Instrumental Music Academy

Welcome back to the start of another school year. The IGB Instrumental Music Academy offers students the opportunity of having individual or small group lessons on a musical instrument or voice with a professional tutor during the school day. Our tutors are experienced musicians and performers and the school acts as an agent to collect fees, set schedules and organising the tutorial payments to the tutors.

Students receive one lesson per week on a rotational basis so that they rarely miss the same class. Elementary school students are collected from and returned to their classes by their tutor and Secondary students have the responsibility of getting themselves to and from lessons. Requests for lessons after school will be considered depending on the availability of the tutors.

If you would like your child or children to be involved you need to complete these steps:-

1. Collect a registration form for each child from the Finance counter, Elementary or Senior School Offices OR download the form from the school Portal.
2. Complete the form and return it to the box outside the Finance counter.
3. I will then register your child on the system and organise for an invoice to be emailed to you.
4. When you have received this email you may pay at the Finance counter or make a bank transfer. If you make a bank transfer please email Ms Clarissa in the finance office with your name and the amount you transferred.
5. **All payments are due by the end of Week 4.**

All schedules will be accessible through the IGBIS Parent Portal once it is up and running. The brochure with all the necessary information about the Academy is also on the Music Academy link on the Portal.

This year we are offering tuition in Piano, Voice, Violin, Viola, Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Guitar, Bass Guitar and Drums. **Students in Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 are only able to take lessons in Piano, Voice or Violin.**



If you have any questions about the Academy please do not hesitate to contact me at jon.suffolk@igbis.edu.my.

I look forward to another exciting year of music making and supporting students at IGBIS in their endeavours to learn a musical instrument.

Mr. Jon Suffolk,
Performing Arts Teacher

Athletics and Activities

Dear Parents.

Welcome to the 2015- 2016 school year!

A preview of this year's after school activity choices will be emailed to your inbox by **Tuesday, 25th August**. The IGB International School competitive athletic programs will also be included in that preview. You will have some time to look over the options and make some decisions as to where your child wants to put their energies.

Season 1 Athletics

Athletics Available Season 1

- Under 9 Benchball (Grade 2-3)
- Under 11 Basketball (Grade 4-5)
- Under 13 Football (Grade 6-7)
- Under 15 / Under 18 Football (Grade 8-12)
- Swim Team (Grades 2-12)
- Cross Country (Grades 3-12)

A link to sign-ups for Season 1 Athletic Teams will be in your inbox next week **Wednesday, 26th August**. All Season 1 Athletic Teams will commence practicing the week of **1st - 6th September** on their scheduled training days.

Semester 1 After School Activities

Timeline for Semester 1 After School Activities

- A link will be sent to your inbox for sign-ups on or before **Wednesday, 9th September**.
- After School Activities registrations open **Wednesday, 9th September**.
- After School Activities registrations close **Sunday, 13th September**.
- Confirmation of After School Activities available on or before **Friday, 18th September**.
- Activities commence **Monday, 21st September**.
- Activities end **Thursday, 10th December**.

Payment for After School Activities

- Most activities are run by our teachers and do not incur a charge, but others are run by outsider providers who charge for their services.
- An invoice will be sent to your inbox with total billing for paid for activities.
- Payments due to IGB International School Finance Counter by **Friday, 23rd October**.
- Please indicate children's names and activity choices when making payment to Finance.
- **Cash or Cheque only. No bank transfer option available.**

Number of After School Activities for Semester 1

- Elementary School - Mondays (8), Tuesdays (9), Wednesdays (9), Thursdays (8), Fridays (9)
- Secondary School - Mondays (7), Tuesdays (8), Wednesdays (8), Thursdays (7), Fridays (8)



Further Information

Please feel free to contact me with any queries.

Jasmine Brawn, Athletics & Activities Director at jasmine.brawn@igbis.edu.my.

Please check your school emails regularly.

Jasmine Brawn,
Athletics & Activities Director

Updates from Student Services

Mr. Peter Fowles

Head of Student Services

Dear Parents, students and the IGBIS community,

Welcome to our second school year and to the new members of our Student Support services Team, Deborah Tobin, Lizzie Hudson and Natalie Fabian.



Deborah Tobin

Lizzie Hudson

Natalie Fabian

Deborah and Lizzie support Elementary students and teachers and Natalie is the social and emotional Counsellor for Elementary to Grade 8. We are also fortunate to have Gustav Helman and Adam Morris at our weekly meetings to advise us on language needs for students. The expansion of the team is in line with the schools commitment to an inclusive educational philosophy.

Our response to concerns comes from issues raised in the referral process to which all staff contribute. Student concerns are discussed at weekly meetings. Strategies for teachers and support for students are communicated to parents and the Principals before being implemented. Students are monitored, with adjustments made to their programme if necessary.

The holistic approach to student support is to nurture well-being, this means a partnership between the school, students and parents.

Amazing Race

This week the Secondary School students embarked on a journey around the world in the second annual IGBIS Amazing Race. As part of our Orientation Week and in an effort to create a more unified student body (and also because it is just plain fun), the students were grouped into teams across Grade levels and faced with creative, physical and team-building challenges. With collaboration and communication, students learned to be risk-takers, problem-solvers, and how to orientate their way around the school. Some of the challenges they faced included a Whole School flash mob dance session, building a usable cardboard boat for their teachers, designing a dream classroom, and examining what the IB Learner Profile looks like at IGBIS. All students and teachers were involved in building a positive school spirit from day one and enjoyed many laughs. We hope you enjoyed their stories from the event as much as we did participating alongside them.



Ms Natalie Fabian and Mrs Pauline Davidson,
School Counsellors

Open Day

12 Sept 2015

10.00am - 1.00pm

IGB International School (IGBIS) is a premier Early Years to Grade 12 IB World School with outstanding facilities, experienced expatriate IB teachers and cutting-edge technology.

Located only 12km to the north-west of central Kuala Lumpur, the 10-acre campus provides excellent facilities for visual arts, music, sports and technology including a 540 seat theatre, 50m and 25m swimming pools, an 8-lane 400m running track and a FIFA standard artificial turf football field.



*** Application fee is discounted on Open Day**



IGB International School Owned by Detik Harapan Sdn. Bhd. (790342-W)
Jalan Sierramas Utama, Sierramas, 47000 Sungai Buloh, Selangor Darul Ehsan
GPS • N 3.203176 E 101.588897

If you have any contacts that you know would be interested in attending the Open Day, please contact us.

Call or register online at

openday.igbis.edu.my

T • +60 3 6145 4688
E • enquiries@igbis.edu.my



Come to meet our Team as they share:

- the Vision and Mission of the school
- information on the International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes
- an overview of the school facilities

