



Secondary School Camp

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Head of School
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Secondary School Principal

Upcoming Events

Monday, 5th October 2015

Early Years Growing Up Fast Workshop No 1

Thursday, 8th October 2015

Early Years Growing Up Fast Workshop No 2

10th - 18th October 2015

School Holiday

Wednesday, 14th October 2015

Public Holiday - Awal Muharram

21st - 22nd October 2015

Parent Teacher Conferences

Thursday, 5th November 2015

Deepavali Assembly

7th - 8th November 2015

Private and International School Fair,
Mid Valley Convention Centre

21st November 2015

Open Day

Message from Head of School

Mrs. Anne Fowles
Head of School

Dear IGBIS Parents and Community Members,

We have continued to battle the haze this week with school closed on Monday and Elementary School students kept inside most of the rest of the week. Grades 6 - 11 have been fortunate to enjoy much cleaner air at the various camp locations in Ipoh, Penang and Taman Negara. I visited the Grade 6 students on Thursday so that I could see in person their accommodation, meals and activities. They were certainly fully engaged in very educational activities that incorporated science, history, geography, ecosystems, art



and community service, not to mention activity. My legs can still feel the effect of climbing about 100 stairs to the cave they visited!



The membership visit conducted by a representative of the Council of International Schools (CIS) went very well and I have been given verbal feedback that we should be accepted as a member of CIS. As mentioned earlier, this will be the first step in our path

to accreditation with CIS that will ensure that we are following internationally approved standards and a highly valued cycle of school improvement. Thank you to the staff, students, parent and board members who met with Dr Parker while he was here.



News from Elementary School

Mrs. Claire McLeod
Elementary School Principal

Recently I had the pleasure of being the Mystery Reader for Grade 4. I have always enjoyed reading to students and my own children when they were young. I found an intriguing book and was ready and prepared to surprise the students. My problem was that the students had already had Mrs Fowles and Nurse Azilah as Mystery Readers before me, so on the morning of the Mystery Reader session they were watching everyone walking by their classroom for clues. Unfortunately they spotted me with a picture storybook and many guessed my role before I arrived! None the less it was a lovely experience for all of us. Thank you to Ms Kari and Mr Harvey for the invitation.



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Next week parents will receive information about the upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences on the 21st and 22nd October and how to sign up online. Please watch out for this information.

Early Years Parent Workshop

The second *Early Years Growing Up Fast* workshop for parents will be on Thursday 8th October; please see the sign up form sent home by Ms Richards.

First Aid

Last Saturday many Elementary School and Secondary School teachers participated in a First Responders First Aid course run by our Secondary School teacher and First Responder trainer Mr Mick Smith with assistance from Nurse Azilah. Having teachers trained in first aid is essential in ensuring students have access to emergency care at school and on field trips.

What's Coming Up?

- 5th October: Growing Up Fast Workshop No 1
- 8th October: Growing Up Fast Workshop No 2
- 9th October: Last day of school before holidays
- 19th October: First day back after holidays
- 21st & 22nd October: Parent Teacher Interviews.

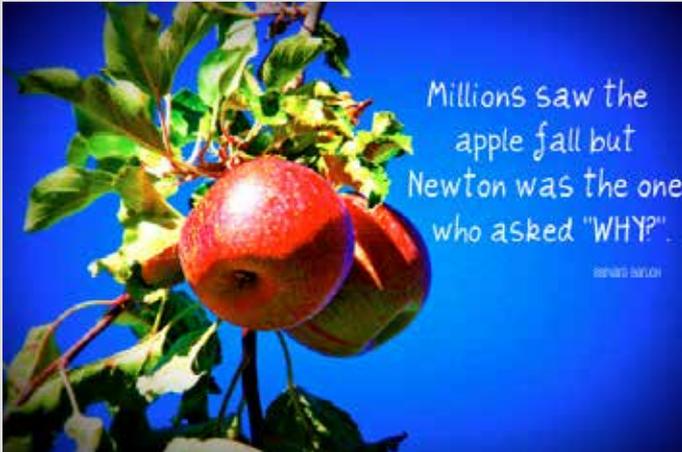
Until next time.



News from PYP

Questions, questions, questions!

In all of my years teaching within the PYP one of the most frequent comments from parents is, 'my child is always asking questions!' My reply is always the same: 'good'. We want students to be interested and curious about the world around them. We want them to be generating and asking questions. We want them engaged in learning. The image from Sonya Terborg with the quote from Bernard Baruch encapsulates the importance of questioning.



<https://sonyaterborg.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/newton-apple.jpg>

There are many types of questions and within the PYP we strive to teach students how they can develop their questioning skills. Recently on my travels around school I came across the Grade 4 students who were looking at questions to ask as readers. They identified those questions that are 'thin' - sometimes

referred to as closed ended questions that can be answered with yes or no, or by a single word. These are in contrast to 'thick' - or open ended questions that are more challenging to answer and require explanation. The photo I took



from Grade 4 is prominent between the two classes and serves as a visual reminder to everyone to consider and ask 'thick' questions.

Students may not have the answer to their questions – yet, by grappling with these, students can see that learning can be fun, it can be engaging, it can be challenging, and it can be relevant and significant to them.

Our jobs as teachers and parents are to guide and encourage our children to continually ask questions. Sometimes we can answer them, other times we may say, 'I don't know, shall we find out together'. Whatever the situation, if we don't ask the question we may never know the answer!

Mr. Simon Millward,
Primary Years Programme Coordinator



Visual Arts with Mrs. Skadsen

I am the new Elementary School visual arts teacher for Kindergarten and first grade. I have a lovely classroom with lots of windows for natural light, a fabulous fluffy carpet that the students love to roll in, and a circular space with mats for us to connect with each other, stretch and move in expressive ways. We are learning to really tap into our "right minds," so we can be creative, use our imagination and "see like an artist."



The students have made their mark in art this year with Dots! Dots are an element of SHAPE! We have used these elements to create Name Dots! designed in the shape of a dot. Why? We did this in honor of "International Dot Day," named for the classic Peter H. Reynolds storybook, "The Dot". Students love this book and it has a wonderful message. If you would like to learn more about what Dot Day is all about, go to: <http://www.thedotclub.org/dotday/>

We are going to be "connecting the Dots" throughout the school this week.

So come check them out and see how the skills of the students progress as they develop in age. It is very interesting for all to see the progression of developmental skills. I hope you get a chance to stop and take a look.



Mrs. Lara Skadsen,
Elementary School Visual Arts Teacher



News from Secondary School

Mr. Lennox Meldrum

Secondary School Principal



Camp week is over for another year and our students and teachers arrived back on Friday afternoon, tired but happy after an exciting week of adventures and learning. We have already started planning for our camps in 2016 and will be asking for feedback from our community to help improve our camp process. Look for reports back from the camps in next week's newsletter.



Last week we were visited by Dr Bill Parker, School Support and Evaluation Officer with the Council of International Schools, as part of our process for accreditation with this internationally recognised organisation. This coming week we are being visited by our IB MYP consultant, Ms Joanna Cardinal, for her to meet with our teachers, students, and parents, and to look at the work we have accomplished in the delivery of our courses. Feedback from the consultant will help us further refine our programme and prepare for our final verification visit at a later date.

Have a great weekend.

Parent IGBIS Accounts

Hopefully by now most of you are aware that we have begun rolling out school accounts for all parents at IGBIS. This means that all parents will have their own school log in.

Many people have asked why they need another another username and password? Why do I need a school email address to get all school correspondence?

The advantages of having a school account are many and varied.

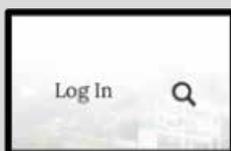
They include;

- The knowledge that all email will be sent to the correct people (and not rejected or stuck in 'junk')
- Increased security for class websites, videos, portfolios and photos
- A single point of entry where parents can go to find all the school IT systems. (the school splash page)
- The ability for teachers (and students) to easily share learning experiences.

As this is a new initiative there may be some initial uncertainty about its use, and we will therefore be careful and deliberate in rolling all our systems over to use the new email addresses.

We will be making important changes to all systems as required; some recent updates include

- We will be transferring all ManageBac accounts to use the new school accounts early next week
- A login button on the school website
- A simplified splash page (the first page you see when you click login on the website) so that users no longer need to sign in
- The addition of new class pages to the



Elementary School section.

Until the October holiday, we will be in a period of transition, giving parents time to make sure they can log in and they know how to use their accounts. This means that we will be using both the registered (old parent email) and the new school email. After the October break hopefully everything (including all emails home) will be using the new parent accounts. We will keep you informed.

Mr Derry will also be offering 'Help me to log in' sessions twice a week at the school cafe on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:10am. If you have the time and wish to learn more, bring your laptop or phone, grab a cup of coffee and get started using your new school account.

If you still have not received your login details, can't attend the morning coffee help session or you are having any problems please email me or the help desk (it.helpdesk@igbis.edu.my) and we will do my best to help you as soon as possible. Remember there is no rush, but the sooner we are all logged in the better.

Instructions on how to log in:

<http://bit.ly/howtoforwardemail>

Link to how to forward your school email to an existing email:

<http://bit.ly/howtologinaccount>

Mr. Geoffrey Derry,
geoffrey.derry@igbis.edu.my
Technology Integration Specialist



School Events - October 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Secondary School Camp	2 Secondary School Camp	3	4
5 Early Years Growing Up Fast Workshop 8.30am-9.30am U15 Girls Football Game vs ISKL at ISKL	6 U15 Boys Football Game vs ISKL at ISKL US & NZ Fair Theatre & Level 7 MPR 8.00am	7 U9 Boys/Girls Bench Ball Game vs HELP at HELP U11 Boys/Girls Basketball KLISS Tournament at IGBIS	8 Class Rep Meeting and Parent Presentation Early Years Growing Up Fast Workshop 8.30am-9.30am U15/U18 Boys Football 7-a side Games at HELP UK & Australian University Fair Level 7 MPR and Classrooms 12.30pm	9	10	11
12 School Holiday	13 School Holiday	14 Public Holiday – Awal Muharram	15 School Holiday	16 School Holiday	17	18
19	20	21 Parent Teacher Conferences	22 Parent Teacher Conferences	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	