

● Grade 5 Exhibition. 12th May 2016.

Inside this week's Newsletter

- Message from Head of School
Mrs. Anne Fowles,
Head of School
- News from Elementary School
Mrs. Claire McLeod,
Elementary School Principal
- News from Secondary School
Mr. Lennox Meldrum,
Secondary School Principal

Upcoming Events

Friday, May 27
- **Grade 12 Graduation**

Athletics & Activities
Tuesday, May 17
- Secondary School Swimming @ KTJ (12:00 pm)

Friday, May 20
- Invitational Swim Meet @ FISKL (2:00 pm)

Message from Head of School

Dear IGBIS Parents and Community Members,

Congratulations to our Grade 5 students, teachers and parents for the outstanding PYP Exhibition. The quality of the work is testament to the depth of research and understanding that students have developed in their chosen areas. Students shared the exhibition with the school community at the student-led conferences on Saturday.

IGBIS had the privilege of hosting the meeting of the Association of International Schools Malaysia (AIMS) heads of school, Bahasa Malaysia teachers and Counsellors last week. This was an excellent opportunity to showcase our school.

It was wonderful to see all the families at school on Saturday for the Student-Led Conference and Grade 10 Personal Projects

Exhibition. We hope that you gained a good insight into the learning that has taken place during the year.

A few weeks ago many of you will have seen the secondary art exhibition at school. We have secured a space at Mid Valley for the exhibition to be on display to the wider community. It will be situated near Isetan on the ground floor of the Gardens Mall. If you are in the area, please call by to see the exhibition.

Mrs. Anne Fowles
Head of School



News from Elementary School

Mrs. Claire McLeod

Elementary School Principal

.....
This week has been very exciting for our Grade 5 students as they finalized and presented their IBPYP Exhibition to their parents and the IGBIS community. All students presented their learning at the Student Led Conferences on Saturday.

As the end of the school year is only five weeks away, I have included information about class placement and important dates for your information.

Class placement

It is now time to consider placement of students for the next school year. In Elementary School staff are asked to consider the following criteria when placing students to ensure where possible an even distribution of:

- Age
- Gender
- Nationality
- Academic / Developmental ability
- ESOL level / native English speakers
- Friendship groups

Specks of student placement and wellbeing. Class placement and the names of teachers will be available before school starts in August.

Important Dates

Thursday 26th May

Teachers Day to coincide with the PVO's staff appreciation luncheon.

Friday 3rd June

All books are due to be returned to the Library

by Friday.

Tuesday 7th June

- Elementary Music Academy performances from 2-3pm in the Theatre.
- Grade 5-6 Transition meeting for parents at 1.30pm

Wednesday 8th June

Grade 5-6 Transition Day for students.

Tuesday 14th June

Reports will be completed and ready to be sent home.

Wednesday 15th June

- Yearbooks will be distributed to all students
- Elementary and Secondary Student Council Spirit Activities across the school
- Class parties during Periods 7 and 8.

Thursday 16th June

- Final Elementary Assembly in the Theatre, including Recognition of Grade 5 students from 8.15-9.30am; all parents are welcome.
- School finishes at 12 o'clock; lunch will not be available on this day.



Dianti Ranofla

PYP-MYP-DP Malay & Host Nation Teacher

Salam Sejahtera. In Early Years 1 and 2, students were having so much fun talking to each other in Malay by using the animal finger puppets. They were also showing their confidence singing the Malay folklore song “Jom Chi Chi Jom Cha Cha” in Malay.

Kindergarten students have been busy working in teams to practice and perform “Kuda Kepang” dance and “senam tari”. They can dance well and have learnt to dance in the right position.

Grade 1 students have been investigating different types of transportation from the past and present. They have compared the unique differences between “sampan”, “beca”, “kereta api” and “basikal”.

Grade 2 students enjoyed making a poster about shadow puppets. They learned to be the “wayang kulit” narrator and presented the

story as “Tok Dalang”.

Grade 3 students enjoyed making their pamphlet about Malaysian Traditional Instruments. Students were excited to memorize the names of these instruments to increase their vocabulary in Malay.

Grade 4 students have learned the unique differences between Malaysia and other regional geographical features. Students learned specific vocab and phrases to describe weather in Malay

Grade 5 students have researched and learned about the use of Malay similes and adjectives. Over the last few weeks all students have participated in activities to improve their knowledge of Malay vocab and Malaysian culture.



Art News

Ms. Nan Parker
Visual Arts Teacher

Bridging the Divide - Stories inform, provoke and engage us!

We have an exciting addition to our last unit of work with the Early Years R class!! A charming class of Grade 9's are currently working with them in a collaborative manner, the commonality being the concept of communication and making connections.

Grade 9 are just entering into a new unit titled "Let's Talk about Art" where the key concepts of communication and aesthetics are being explored. Meanwhile the Early Years students are also working on communication, verbalising their opinions from their perspective, while listening to their favourite stories as well as observing the Grade 9's interpretive

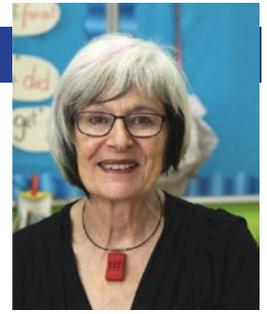
visual expression.

The Early Years children brought along their best loved books from home as well as their favourite books from their classroom to share with the Grade 9's. This sharing stimulated a lot of talk about the books and armed with paper and oil pastels, the Grade 9's made some initial drawings of some of the objects and characters in the stories. The Early Years got to add spontaneous colour to the drawings and to also make some of their own.

There is a lovely tie-up between the Early Years decoding the stories for the Grade 9's while the Grade 9's get to examine the aesthetics of the imagery, considering how to encode the message from the book and communicate it visually. Both classes are in the process of experimenting with different tools to make texture for their characters. Lots of objects are being used

and lots of paint is getting mixed and made with painty messy fingers!

Perhaps the most valuable component of all are the connections forming between the students across the two grade levels, strengthening our community and enhancing our mission and goals of the school. The collaboration allows both groups to learn from each other. The Grade 9's have opportunity to display genuine caring attitudes, to show leadership, and to remember that creativity is fun, messy and sometimes unpredictable. Early Years students are gaining role models and new friends, who like them, have a love of visual arts!



News from Secondary School

Mr. Lennox Meldrum

Secondary School Principal

Are you sick of me talking about how amazing this school is yet? Another week has shot past us and YET AGAIN I have been extremely impressed by the teaching and learning in our classes, the activities our students have been involved in, and the preparation that our students have put into the Student Led Conferences on Saturday. And through it all, the hallways have rung with the sounds of friendship, support, and positiveness. It really is a special community we have built at IGBIS and we should all pat ourselves on the back for helping create and sustain this special place.

Our volleyball teams played on Thursday both home and away



and showed true Phoenix spirit throughout the games. Well done to all of the students who have been in one or more sports throughout the year, as well as those students who continue to stretch themselves in our wide-ranging activities programme.

Week two of three of our Diploma Programme exams have now ended and for some of our lucky students they have already completed their entire assessment schedule - well done! Each

year the IB sets their exam schedule based on the registration requirements for over 130,000 students in 130+ countries who do a combination of over 30 subjects in hundreds of possible configurations (including over 70 different first language options!). Because of this, the timetable for each student can seem irregular with busy periods and quiet periods over the three weeks. It has been fantastic to see our students continue to support each other through process. This is a timely reminder to continue to put in your Project 2,4,6,8 pledges of support for those in our community.

We are very excited for you to see the Student Led Conferences on Saturday and also to view our MYP Science Fair projects and



our Grade 10 Personal Project presentations. When we have our MYP Verification Team visit next week, I am sure they are going to be blown away by how awesome our school already is.

Becoming an MYP School

Phil Clark

Middle Years Programme Coordinator

The journey from being a school that formally expresses an interest to the International Baccalaureate (IB) in becoming a Middle Years Programme (MYP) school to becoming a school that is a fully authorised by the IB as an MYP school is intensive and often takes three to four years to complete. After just two years of extensive preparations, IGBIS is nearing the end of that journey. I received confirmation that IGBIS had met all the prerequisites and would formally become an MYP candidate school on 1 March 2015.

MYP candidate schools must develop an action plan that focuses on three main areas - school philosophy, school organisation and curriculum. The MYP Coordinator leads the implementation process along with other members of the school leadership team. Candidate schools must ensure that their school missions and philosophies align with those of the IB and that their school communities (including school boards, leaders, teachers, administrative staff, students and parents) demonstrate understanding of and commitment to the MYP. IGBIS was established with the intention of becoming an MYP school. To help our community develop a deeper understanding of the MYP and of developments in the MYP at IGBIS, we regularly publish articles in our

IGBIS weekly newsletter.

Parents can follow what their children are learning and their child's individual progress and achievement on ManageBac and through conversations with teachers. Each year we organise Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences, run a series of parent information workshops about the MYP and this weekend we host our annual MYP Student Led Conferences and Personal Project Exhibition.

>>> Continue next page.



During the MYP candidate phase, schools must make sure that they have the necessary organizational structures in place. This includes everything from staffing and leadership structures to comprehensive school policies and procedures that will support the effective implementation of the MYP. The IB also emphasises the need to appoint suitably qualified and experienced staff to implement the Middle Years Programme and requires that educators receive ongoing professional development. At IGBIS we are very fortunate to have opened a new school with such a highly qualified and experienced team of IB educators, most with many years of experience with the MYP, including some

who are also MYP consultants and lead MYP teacher training workshops for the IB. Over the past two years we have developed extensive systems, procedures and documentation of curriculum which includes how the curriculum is planned, documented, taught, learnt and assessed.

Next week, IGBIS enters the final stage of the process of becoming a fully authorised MYP school. The IB has appointed a team to visit IGBIS to verify that we are meeting all the required MYP standards and practices. The visiting team will examine our school facilities, meet with a wide range of community members, and analyse school policies, procedures and curriculum documentation. It is a rigorous

process that ensures the integrity of the MYP in every school across the globe, providing confidence for parents that their children are receiving a high quality education. At the end of the verification visit, the team will provide feedback to the school on their observations and will submit a report to the IB. Within subsequent months, likely during our summer vacation, we expect to receive formal notification from the IB about the outcomes of that visit.

We welcome the visiting team and are looking forward to the final stage of our journey to become a fully authorised MYP school.

IGBIS Athletics



Jasmine Brawn
Athletics and Activities Director



.....
It has been a fantastic week in sport for IGBIS with tournaments and events from Wednesday to Sunday including U9/ U11 Tee Ball Plate and Cup Finals, U13 Volleyball Cup and Plate Finals, KLISS Primary Swimming Championships, KLISS Secondary Badminton Championships and a Secondary Ultimate Frisbee tournament.

Read all about what happened [HERE](#).

Have a great week ahead.

