



● **Message from Head of School**

Mrs. Anne Fowles
Head of School

2

● **News from Elementary School**

Mr. Simon Millward
Elementary School Principal

2

● **Secondary School News**

2

Timetable for Semester Two

~ Pg. 3

Imagination Foundation: Cardboard Challenge Club
- loose parts collection

~ Pg. 4

Important Diploma Programme news

~ Pg. 4

Performing Arts news

~ Pg. 5

Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP)

~ Pg. 5

News from the Admissions desk

~ Pg. 6

Mon, Jan 4

• Season 2 Activities & Athletics begins

Fri, Jan 12

• ES Assembly: Grade 1 @ L3 ES Music Room | 8:00 am
- 8:40 am

• Kopi with the Principals @ PVO Room | 8:40 am - 9:30 am

Mon, Jan 15

• ES Splashdown | 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Message from Head of School

Dear IGBIS Parents and Community Members,

Happy New Year! I hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday break with your families over the festive season.

We begin 2018 with good news. The first being that we have nearly 30 new students joining IGBIS this month, making our total enrolment well over 400 students.

The large skylight roofing built over the school should be completed by next week. This will prevent the rainwater from entering the stairwells and verandas and make these a lot safer as well as ensuring that the EY play areas are dry for our small children.

Lastly, congratulations to Michael and Julie Arcidiacono who welcomed their baby daughter into the world on the first day of school!

Anne Fowles
Head of School



News from the Elementary Principal

Happy New Year 2018! I hope you all had a restful, safe and enjoyable holiday.

Wednesday 3rd January was the first day back after the holidays, returning students were eager to share what they had been doing in the holidays and there was a buzz of excitement around the school because there were new students arriving. In total, 19 new Elementary students started from Fireflies all the way through to Grade 5. We are extremely happy to welcome all the new families to the IGB International School community and look forward to getting to know you in the days and weeks to come.

We would also like to welcome three new Associate teachers to the school, Ms. Susan in Fireflies, Ms. Liyana in Early Years and Ms. Sathia in Grade 3 & 4. **Ms. Ruba**, in the Elementary office, is also back from maternity leave: she returns after having twins. If you have any query or need help in any way please contact her by email rubavathy.bojan@igbis.edu.my

After school Athletics and Activities will start on Monday 8th January. All new KG - Gr 5 students should have received information as to how to sign up and what is available. Returning

students will have received confirmation of which athletics or activities your child will take part in during Semester 2. If you have any questions or you need further help contact **Mr. Bartle** for athletics (school teams) tim.bartle@igbis.edu.my or **Mr. Ngatai** for activities scott.ngatai@igbis.edu.my

Dates for your diaries:

- **Friday 12th January: Kopitiam.** This will be a joint ES/SS meeting about scheduling changes in Semester 2.
- **Friday 12th January, after the Kopitiam:** Grade 5 camp meeting. Venue: Grade 5 classrooms
- **Monday 15th January: Elementary school Splashdown.** Learn to swim pool EY: 8.40 - 9.10am, KG 9.30 - 10.10am. 50m pool Grade 1 to 5: 10.35 - 12.25pm
- **Thursday 18th January: Parent workshop** by Chris Klesch and Geoff Derry. Topic: Screen time - implications as a parent and Grade 3 - 5 child.

Simon Millward
Elementary School Principal



Secondary School News

This week we welcomed back our returning students from a 3-week vacation and were pleased to welcome a number of new students to our Secondary School. We are also delighted to welcome a new member to the IGBIS family, with happy news of the birth of Michael and Julie Arcidiacono's baby daughter this week.

The start of a new year is traditionally a time for reflection on the previous months and a chance to make new year resolutions. With just a couple more weeks of the first semester remaining,

teachers and students are currently reflecting on progress and achievement over recent months and setting goals for continued improvement in Semester 2. Semester 1 reports will be issued at the end of January and will be followed with opportunities for parents and students to meet together with teachers at 3-Way Conferences.

We take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy, healthy and successful new year.



Timetable for Semester Two

Simon Millward and **Michael Arcidiacono**

*Elementary School Principal
and Secondary School Principal*



As part of our revision of our mission and vision, we modified our vision to include the phrase:

To provide an innovative international education...

This change has provoked many discussions at IGBIS, as we consider more carefully what it means to be innovative in our approach to the education we provide. At the same time, as a school with a few years of experience under our belt, we now have a good sense of what is working for us and the areas in which we feel we can improve.

During our self-study for the CIS and NEASC accreditations, one of our areas of focus was on *Learning Space and Time* -- how we organise and use our spaces and the time we have available to deliver the best education for our students. With all this in context, in September a working group of students and teachers began meeting almost every week to examine our school timetable and consider where opportunities lie to improve on our current approach and how we might find innovative ways to provide a *challenging IB education* (as part of the IGBIS mission).

We have looked at current research on school timetables, considered our own experiences of timetables at other schools, and have had rich discussions about what we wish to achieve. This group will continue to meet over the second semester as the ideas being generated will need further consideration and development.

One of the things the scheduling group immediately agreed upon was that the number and placement of holidays in Malaysia had a significant impact on lessons. Often, this impact was not equitable; if there were many holidays on Fridays, the lessons on that day would be impacted more so than on other days. From our research, a rotating timetable is a common way to address this inequity (as well as other challenges).

For semester two, there is one change that the school will implement as a result of the work of this group. We will trial the use of a **five day rotating** timetable. This means that the five current days on a student's timetable will be re-named to be Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, Day 5. When there is a holiday, the rotation of the days will continue as normal. See below as an example for how the first three weeks of school will be, under the rotating timetable. A full calendar for semester two with the rotation days will be shared with parents and students shortly.

A shift to a rotating timetable does cause change and disrupt the routines we have developed over the year. It means the creation of new routines and IGBIS will be sharing how we will help our students and families develop their new weekly and daily routines. From our reading and experience, it appears that students adjust quickly to a change like this, whereas the adults tend to take longer!

This Friday 12th January, Mr Millward and Mr Arcidiacono will be hosting a Kopitiam at 8:15 to discuss the work of the research group and this timetable change. Please come along to learn more and ask any questions that you may have.

Jan-18						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
22 Day 1	23 Day 2	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26 Day 5	27	28
29 Day 1	30 Day 2	31				
Feb-18						
			1 Day 3	2 Day 4	3	4
5 Day 5	6 Day 1	7 Day 2	8 Day 3	9 Day 4	10	11

Imagination Foundation: Cardboard Challenge Club - loose parts collection

Aga Chojnacka

Primary Years Programme Coordinator

Dear Parents,

As we approach the second season of clubs and activities we would like to ask for your support for the Imagination Foundation: Cardboard Challenge club and the Maker(Space) movement at IGBIS.

Throughout the holidays your households have most likely amassed large quantities of boxes, ribbons, wrapping paper and sometimes also broken toys/blocks, bottle caps and many other (exciting for our makers) loose parts. We would like to ask you to collect and bring these treasures to school for us.

IGBIS is committed to educating our learners about environmental sustainability and as a community we try to model living, working and playing with minimum waste.

Your contributions would be sorted, safely stored and put to good use in our newly developed ES MakerSpace. This new space will also be the location of the Imagination Foundation: Cardboard Challenge club, but more than that, it will be a new bookable space for our Early Years and Elementary School students where they can tinker, design, play and create not only within the club and at activities time, but within the units of inquiry that invite and promote design thinking, engineering and creativity.

Starting this week at the turnstiles you will find our boxes waiting for your "loose parts" contributions.

Thank you for your support.



Important Diploma Programme news

Mary Boyd

Diploma Programme Coordinator

I would like to welcome back all students, particularly all Diploma, Career-related and High School Diploma students.

On our first day back, I spoke with our transitioning Grade 10 students and the current Grade 11 and Grade 12 students.

Grade 11 Exam Week, 8 -12 January, 2018

Next week, Grade 11 students will have their first set of formal Semester 1 examinations. Each student knows to follow the examination timetable below, where each examination will be 80 minutes long, plus 5 minutes reading time.

Period	Mon 8	Tues 9	Wed 10	Thurs 11	Fri 12
1	History Geography Economics Psychology	Mathematics	AMP	Bus Man Chemistry VA /Music	History/Geography/Economics/ Psychology
2		Modern Languages, not English			Bus Man Chemistry Music <i>[VA: Please go to Art Room]</i>
3	Biology/Physical/ DesTech		English HL	Mathematics	
4	Biology/Physical/ DesTech	Biology Physics DesTech	English A, B	Mathematics	Mathematics HL WELLNESS
5	English A, B Paper 1		HL History Economics Psychology HL	Modern Languages, not English	HL Chinese/French
6		History Geography Economics Psychology			HL French / Tok
7	Mathematics	Tok	Bus Man Chemistry Music <i>[VA: Please go to Art Rm]</i>	Biology Physics DesTech	English
8					

Shaded section = Exam slot

Unshaded section = Private study in normal lessons



Grade 10 - 11 Transition Evening, Wednesday 17 January, 2018

Our College Counsellor, Mr Mitchell, and I spoke with the current Grade 10 students about their transition to the Diploma, Career-related or High School Diploma Programme.

Our first information evening for parents is on Wednesday 17 January, in the PVO Room, to which all Grade 10 students and their parents are invited to come.

G10 to 11 Transition Timeline, GC2020

- > **Wed 17 Jan** G11 Pathways for External & Internal Candidates. Evening for G10 students & parents: **6 - 7:30pm, PVO Room**
- > **25, 26 Jan** HoDs discuss their subject in G11 and G12 with G10s.
- > **8 Feb AMP: periods 1 and 2 Options Fair.** Secondary School Library. Parents invited too.
- > **Feb-April** Individual counselling sessions with College Counsellor: academic ambitions, pre-requisites and student's report card.
- > **May-June** Letters home with recommendations. Meet with DP/CP/HSD Coordinator and College Counsellor if required.
- > **Fri 8 June** Final course selection forms submitted.

Grade 12 students

Our Grade 12 students have a very important semester ahead, the last of their high school years, before branching off to life beyond: university, gap year life and more.

On our first day back, Grade Level Coordinator, Ms Kim, and I spoke to students about planning their time wisely and managing themselves sensibly, with kindness, responsibility and balance. More to come as the semester progresses, but key dates for now are as follows:

Major academic events for Grade 12 students

Date	Event
15, 16 January	English IOCs
22 January	ToK Essay Draft
26 February	ToK Essay Final
27 February - 9 March	Mock IBDP Exams
28 March	Visual Arts Exhibition
27 April - 18 May	Real IBDP Exams

Good luck to one and all for a very happy, successful and productive 2018.



Performing Arts news

Jon Suffolk

Instrumental Music Academy Coordinator and Performing Arts Teacher

IGBIS Instrumental Music Academy

Today I have sent emails to parents of students who are currently enrolled in the Music Academy. By responding to this email I will automatically register you for Semester 2 which starts the week beginning 31st January.

New registrations will be opened next week.

The End of Semester 1 Concerts will be held on the following days:

- **Monday 29th January: Students of Ms Wong (piano) and Mr Adil (guitar)**
- **Tuesday 30th January: Students of Ms Irma (voice) and Ms Iko (piano and strings). Both concerts will start at 2pm in the Drama Studio, Rm 3-72.**

ISTA Middle School Festival

The weeks and months of preparation are fast coming to an end as we approach the IGBIS ISTA Middle School Drama Festival to be held on 15th - 17th March. Over the holiday break I spent some time in negotiation with the ISTA team finalising many of the details and firming up the number of students who will attend.

Before the holiday break I was able to confirm the local artists who will present workshops at the festival. Details of these workshops will be made in a later newsletter.

There are still spaces available for students in Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 to attend. If you would like your child to attend please email me and I will share the registration form. Registrations will close next week on 10th January.

Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP)

<https://my.usembassy.gov/education-culture/exchange-opportunities/>

This exchange opportunity is facilitated or administered by the U.S Embassy in Kuala Lumpur. Youth Leadership Programs are designed to advance mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries as well as to promote high-quality leadership, civic responsibility, and community engagement among our countries' future leaders.

The Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) is a three-week U.S.-based exchange program for upper secondary school students (ages 15-17) and adult mentors from ASEAN member countries. The exchange activities will focus on civic education, leadership, diversity, and volunteerism, which will prepare participants to conduct projects at home that serve a community need. Program activities will be replicable and interactive so the participants learn concrete skills they can use once they return home. Participants will live with American families for most of the exchange period and will have multiple opportunities to interact with American youth and educators.

This year, five students and one adult mentor will be selected from **Selangor** and **Kuala Lumpur** to participate in the SEAYLP exchange program which will take place in April 2018. Click on the following links to view the program requirements and application:

- [Student Application](#) (PDF 197 KB)
- Application Deadline: **Sunday, January 14, 2018**

News from the Admissions desk

Welcome to New Students and their Families

It was an exciting start after the Christmas break when we welcomed over 25 new families to the school. With new students from Fireflies through to Grade 10 we have raced past the 400 student mark and looking forward to reaching our next goal of 450. It has been particularly pleasing to see how the students have settled in to their new classes and hear positive feedback about

their experiences. We would like to hear any feedback you would like to share on your children's transition into their new school.

Wayne Demnar
Director of Admissions



Important Message from the Finance Department

Dear Parents,

IGBIS has been accepting credit and debit cards for payment of student fees and has paid for the processing charges imposed by the credit card companies on those transactions. As the use of these cards has increased, these charges have become prohibitively expensive for the school.

As a service to our students and parents, we will continue to accept credit and debit cards for the payment of student fees. However, the school can no longer absorb the additional costs associated

with these transactions. As such, IGBIS will limit the acceptance of credit and debit cards payment of **up to RM10,000 per student per academic year**. Parents are encouraged to make payment via cheque or perform an online transfer to our school's designated bank account as stated in the invoices.

Thanking you in advance for your understanding.

Kevin Eng
Finance Department

Baby congratulations!

We are thrilled to celebrate the arrival of Julie and Michael Arcidiacono's baby daughter Luana Chen Arcidiacono on Wednesday 3rd of January. She is happy and healthy, weighing in at 3.73 kg. Mum (and Dad) are doing fine as well!



Like us, follow us, add us

In case you hadn't noticed, we're active on social media! If you haven't already Liked Us, Followed Us, or Added Us on our social media platforms, please do so today!

All you need to do is click on the links below

- [FACEBOOK](#)
- [TWITTER](#)
- [INSTAGRAM](#)

Stay engaged with us and we'll keep you updated as much as we can on all the latest happenings within the IGBIS community.

Or use your mobile phone to scan the QR codes below

Follow us on
Twitter



Follow us on
Instagram



Follow us on
Facebook



CAPOEIRA

ENJOY A FUN WORKOUT LEARNING THIS BRAZILIAN MARTIAL ART THAT COMBINES

- MUSIC AND RHYTHMICS
- GYMNASTICS AND AEROBICS WITH ELEMENTS OF MARTIAL ARTS
- ACROBATICS
- YOGA

FREE CLASSES FOR ALL INTERESTED PARENTS

TUESDAY MORNINGS

8.00AM – 9.30AM

LEVEL 2 GYM, NEXT TO THE SWIMMING POOL

CONTACT MICHAEL DZIOBKOWSKI FOR MORE INFORMATION AT
IMPOLGADO.D@GMAIL.COM



UNIFORM SHOP

Operating Hours

Tuesday: 7.45am – 8.30am
2.45pm – 3.45pm

Friday: 7.45am – 9.00am
2.45pm – 3.45pm

Kindly contact Susie on 03-61454688 or 012-2391501 if you need to make an appointment outside of these times.