

FRIDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2011

Assemblies

Congratulations and well done to the children and teachers of Y2KW and all three Year 6 classes for the excellent assemblies that have been enjoyed this week. Miss Wilkinson's class explained the need for keeping healthy and fit through songs, dance and drama, whilst the Year 6 children shared the highlights of their recent residential visit to Sarawak. In both cases, the assemblies reflected a great deal of hard work and effort and showcased the amazing qualities that the children here at SCIPS possess. After half term there will be two more residential assemblies to look forward to, as the Year 4 children tell us all about their experiences at The Roots in Ipoh and the Year 5 children let us in on the secrets of the Cameron Highlands!

Residential Visits

And speaking of residential visits, we look forward to welcoming back our Year 4 children and their teachers later this afternoon after what has been a very successful outward-bounds style residential experience at The Roots, Ipoh. The children left on Wednesday and have been involved in a broad range of environmentally-friendly activities that have encouraged them to discover more about the local flora and fauna of the region. We can't wait to see what new learning they will bring back with them!



Year 5 will begin their residential visits after half term, with Mrs Bowker's class leaving for the Cameron Highlands on Tuesday 1st November and Ms Luby and Mrs Argent-Watson's classes departing on Tuesday 8th November.

We would like to say thank you to all of the parents who have helped support our residential programme, be it through checking luggage, packing suitcases, car-pooling for 4.30am meeting times or accompanying the children for key activities such as the Year 5 caving. We truly appreciate and value your help – thanks a bunch!

Year 6 Liaison

Yesterday, our Year 6 classes visited Dalat School so that they could have a taste of what kinds of activities Dalat has to offer. As always, our children were excellent ambassadors for St. Christopher's and their behaviour was impeccable – so well done! With the opening of two new schools on the island (Tenby International School Penang and the Prince Of Wales International School) in addition to the established schools of Uplands and Dalat, there is now more choice for our Year 6 children and parents. We are keen to work in partnership with these schools and over the next few weeks there will be further opportunities for Year 6 liaison.



Caps & Water Bottles

A number of children have forgotten to bring caps and water bottles to their PE lessons during the past half of term. From the second half of term the PE department will be operating a 'no cap or water bottle; no play' policy to ensure that all pupils arrive fully prepared to participate in the lesson.

Inter School Sporting Events – November and December

- Tuesday 8th November – Under 9 Football at Dalat
- Thursday 10th November – Under 11 Football at Dalat
- Tuesday 15th November – Under 11 Football at ISP, Uplands
- Friday 18th November – Under 9 Football at ISP, Uplands
- Tuesday 29th November - Under 11 Boys Football with Tenby
- Thursday 24th November – U9/10/11 Swimming at Uplands
- Saturday 3rd December – U9 & U11 Swimming to ISAKL at Cempaka International School, KL
- Tuesday 6th – Friday 9th December – KS2 Inter House Football at Soccer Experience



FOBISSEA Games, Maths & Performing Arts

Thanks to all of the parents who attended the FOBISSEA meeting earlier this week. A letter is being sent out today that provides details of what's on offer as far as the FOBISSEA Games is concerned, and further information will follow concerning the other FOBISSEA events due to take place this academic year.



Halloween

Thanks to Jennifer Horrocks and her PTC team for putting together a hauntingly horrifying Halloween night last Friday. There were so many children, family and friends attending the event that an extra order needed to be made to bring in more supplies of pizza, and between the haunted house, the trick or treating, the disco dancing and the costume parade at the end of the evening, there truly was something for everyone. So, a big thank you to everyone who helped out – be you staff, parents, friends or children.



Deepawali

Today we have been enjoying celebrating Deepawali with the help and support of the PTC, who organised henna hand-art for those children who wanted to participate and shared some traditional Indian dances in the afternoon. Thanks also to Kala and Pathmini, two of the school's ancillary staff, who have created the beautiful rangoli design that you can all see decorating our entrance into school. With the costumes, the art, the dancing and the food, St. Christopher's really has shared the Deepawali experience with the children in a way that we hope will be remembered for many years to come.

November

Many of the male staff at St. Christopher's are getting their upper lips ready for the best month in the year... Movember. During November each year, Movember is responsible for the sprouting of moustaches on thousands of men's faces in the UK and around the world. The aim of which is to raise vital funds and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and other cancers that affect men. St. Christopher's started their first Movember campaign last year with great success and we would like to continue it this year. The funds raised will go to Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital here in Penang, so it is both fun and worthwhile. This year we would like to extend the contest out to parents and the wider school community so if you would like to get involved in the moustache growing competition and help raise money for a worthy cause please get in touch with us via chris.woodhams@scips.org.my. The first rule of note is that anyone participating needs to be clean shaven on the 1st November! The other rules and regulations will be posted on the notice board soon.

Staff Development

Mr. Jones, Ms Houghton and Mr. Durling will be attending the FOBISSEA Heads and Senior Manager's conference to be held in Bangkok at the end of October. Ms Doris and Ms. Martinez will also be attending an IMS (Information Management System) conference at the same time. The school plays an active role within FOBISSEA and supports its CDP (Continuing Professional Development) programme wherever possible.

Notice of Withdrawal

The final date for Notice of Withdrawal is Tuesday 1st November 2011. Notice given after this date will result in the forfeit of depreciated deposits.

And finally...

A quick review...

It has been an incredibly busy first half term, with so much going on that it's easy to forget who has done what! So, to refresh your memory, here's a list of what we've done so far...

- KS2 Sports Carnival
- Malaysia Day celebrations
- Visit by Dalat staff to Year 6
- Y6 residential parents meeting
- Y4 residential parents meeting
- Curriculum Evening for Parents
- Y3AB Sharing Assembly
- Y5 residential parents meeting
- Y6 residential to Sarawak
- Halloween Disco
- Inter-schools football matches
- Y2KW Sharing Assembly
- Y4 residential to The Roots
- Y6 Residential Assembly
- Deepawali celebrations day

And of course, omitted from this list are the numerous IPC entry-point and exit-point activities that all of the classes have been involved with and that add such value to the children's learning here at school. We're sure you'll agree that it's been a fantastic start to the academic year!



*Have a wonderful half term break, everyone –
and we look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 31st October.*

HAPPY DEEPAWALI

