



ST CHRISTOPHER'S INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal's eNews

Term 1 Issue 3 | 14 OCT 2016

Dear Parents,

With the half term upon us, it is hard to believe that we have already been back to school for 8 weeks. I am sure everyone is looking forward to the half term break and wanted to take this opportunity to thank the school community for their continuing support and feedback on the developments in school.

Reports and Parent Meetings or Conferences

Parents of children in Years 1 to 6 were sent this term's report informing them of how their child has settled into the year group, and are specifically written to identify what targets they need to focus on to continue to make progress.

You will have noticed that the reports were sent out much earlier this year. This is due to the hardwork of the teachers, who have been able to utilise the targets set last year as well as identify new ones. This means that everyone (students, parents and teachers) are aware of what they now have to do throughout the rest of the term to make that all important progress.

By receiving the report early, you will have been prepared for the Student Led Conferences in Years 1 and 2, or Parent Teacher Meetings in Years 3 to 6. I hope you found the meeting productive and were able to understand and celebrate the work and effort that your child has put into this first part of the school year.

Parent Handbook

You have been sent a copy of the Parent Handbook. This document should provide you with all the information you need to know about the school and our policies and practises. I will be following up with a survey for you to provide feedback and in particular identifying key information that has not been included.

Deepavali Celebrations

The school will be celebrating Deepavali on Thursday 27th October and all students are encouraged to dress in traditional Indian clothing. As has become a tradition at the school, watch as the ancillary staff create a colourful and intricate rice pattern in the foyer, in the week leading up to our celebration.

PTC Disco

On Thursday 27th October the PTC will be holding a Halloween Carnival Disco Party from 17.30 – 20.00. There will be prizes for best fancy dress costume, entertainment, activities and games, as well as lots of food and drinks. I would like to thank the group of parents who have come together to organise and run this event.

Bake Sale and Volunteers

The PTC will be holding a Bake Sale at the disco and ask for any parents who wish to donate a cake or baked product, to leave them in the Parent's Room during the day of the Disco. In addition, if any parents are able to help on the night, please contact the school office. I look forward to see you all there and please see the flyer for further details.

Enjoy your Half Term Break



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Martin Towse

Message from Head of Juniors

It seems so long ago that we were welcoming 25 new children and 5 new teachers into the Juniors section but such has been the business of the start of the new academic year! Our prefects, house captains and librarians are all selected and they should be congratulated on the way they have started in their roles. In the classrooms it took the children no time to settle back into their routines plus a few additional ones.

Year 6 have had a trip to the camera museum in Georgetown as part of their IPC topic of 'Making the News'. They have also been introduced to Google classroom and are fast becoming digital experts! During the last fortnight, 4 of them have also taken part in the FOBISIA online maths challenge. 6SG shared some of their work on fiction genres during their very entertaining assembly.

Year 4 spent a morning in Georgetown looking at the street art of Ernest Zacharevic and then visiting the Penang State Art Gallery. All this was to prepare them for their IPC unit on 'Paintings, Pictures and Photographs' which they finished this week with their art exhibition exit point in the hall. 4ET brought the first half of term to a close with their wonderful assembly today

Whilst Year 3 & 5 have remained in school, they have been working just as hard. Year 5 busy with their topic on 'Myths and Legends' and Year 3 overcoming the transition to Juniors alongside their first topic on Earthquakes and Volcanoes! Trips will surely follow soon....

On the sports front we have had football matches with Dalat, Straits and Uplands as well as this week's swimming gala at Uplands. These teams, selected exclusively from the ASA groups, have seen 83 of the section involved so well done to all.

The next half term sees Juniors children visit POWIIS for a musical treat, Year 5 serve up some Roald Dahl stories in their concert, the Year 5 & 6 Inter House swimming gala and the Inter House football for all Juniors children before Santa comes to visit! We look forward to seeing you at as many events that you can make.

Warm Regards
Tim Lamb



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Message from Head of EY and Infants

I would firstly like to thank all of you for making my first half term as Head of Infants at SCIPS such a welcoming and enjoyable one. It has been a pleasure starting to build close links with you all and I look forward to working in strong partnership with you as the terms and years progress.

A special welcome goes out to all our new children and families that have joined the SCIPS community this year. I have been so impressed with the resilience and bravery shown by all the children (and parents) from our new arrivals across all the year groups and especially our youngest starters in the Nursery.

All the children have settled back into school life and it has been amazing to witness the enthusiasm and energy the children have in facing every new learning challenge with a big smile. Year 2 amazed me with their knowledge of how the brain works and some of the children even showed me how to dissect a 'real life' jelly brain. Joining in with some amazingly independent play in Nursery has really made me look forward to my own daughter, Alba, joining the Nursery next year. All the children in Reception have been enjoying some amazing 'Discovery' opportunities and are relishing all the choices they can make about what they play with each day. In Year 1, I particularly enjoyed being invited to join in some class treasure hunts. I made some new friends as I looked for clues as to which children were hiding in the secret photos.

Some of you may have noticed that the Nursery and Reception classes have been fitted with magnetic safety doors. This has allowed the children to explore their environment safely and to prevent children leaving their classrooms unsupervised.

There will be a big focus on healthy eating across the school this year, with some fun and informative events planned for children and parents. The positive impact of healthy snacks and lunches for the children are endless. I have been really impressed with the amount of fruit and vegetables in the children have been given. I know you are all aware that a healthy, balanced diet provides the children with all the energy and brainpower they need to be their 'best selves', which is what we strive for all our children to be.

Many parents have been asking for advice regarding tutors for their children. The children play and work very hard at SCIPS and often the best form of tutoring comes from lots of rest and quality family time at home. Promoting a love of reading and providing a quiet space for your child to complete any manageable home learning tasks is the best preparation to foster a love of learning.

For those of you who don't know, my office is opposite the children's lunch drop off. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to me at drop off and collection time or you can arrange a meeting by emailing me at adam.jones@scips.org.my. I will be posting lots of snapshots of the children's learning on Facebook and Twitter so please continue to check all of our social media. I will also tweet important messages and reminders when appropriate.

Warm wishes for the rest of the term.

Adam Jones