



ST CHRISTOPHER'S INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal's eNews

Term 2 Issue 1 | 17th Jan 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all and we started the new term by welcoming over 50 new students to the school. It can be a daunting time for these new children, but I find they settle quickly into school life and routines due to the wonderful way all of the existing children make them feel so included and importantly develop positive friendships with them.

I am happy to be back in Penang and at school after remaining in the UK to complete the annual recruitment process. It is pleasing to report that we have successfully recruited all the teachers we need for August 2020. The new teachers will be in school in February on a Look and See visit, a great opportunity for them and us to introduce them to Penang, the school, the staff and importantly the children.

This year we will be saying farewell to Mr Adam Jones (Head of EY/Infants), Mr James McArthur (Y6), Andrea Daykin (Rec) and Kara Rogers (Y3). We will all have plenty of time to celebrate their time at SCIPS throughout the remaining two terms.

Please keep checking our Facebook page for full details of these and all our other events.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 57th AGM will be held on Friday 14th February at 6.00 pm in the School Hall. All parents are welcome to attend.

Parent Workshops

A series of parent workshops will begin on Thursday 23rd January with, How to support reading at home. We will then have workshops on various Thursday mornings throughout the term. These will include workshops on the following topics: Phonics, Maths Calculation Policy, Internet Safety, Changing Bodies and Relationships, Learning through Play and Policies at SCIPS.

The workshops will begin at 8.15 and should finish between 8.45 and 9.00. Please check the school calendar and flexibuzz for updates.

Chinese New Year

With CNY fast approaching, I would like to remind everyone that the school will be closed Friday 24th - Monday 27th January and we will be celebrating the occasion on Wednesday 29th January. Children are asked to come in traditional Chinese dress and they will be involved in Class Buddy Activities throughout the morning. Parents are welcome to come into the school after 10.00 for Chinese tea and cakes, as well as to observe the children finish off their activities.

At 11.15 we will all move to the front of the school for our traditional celebration, involving a Wushu and drumming display as well as a Lion and Dragon Dance. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Australian Bush Fire Relief Effort 2020

Did you know that the Bush fires have been blazing around Australia since September 2019, killing at least 26 people and destroying more than 10.7 million hectares of land. An estimated 1.25 billion animals have also been killed across Australia.



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A fundraising initiative set up by SCIPS parents will be held in aid of the Australian bush fires on Tues 28th & Wed 29th January before and after school in the school foyer.

Mugs printed with Australian Wildlife images will be sold at RM30 each. Donations are also welcome. All profits collected will be donated to WWF's Australian Wildlife and Nature Recovery Fund . WWF Australia aims to provide wildlife response, restore habitats for people and nature as well as future proof Australia.

We look forward to your support in this relief effort and please see the attached flyer for further details.

Term 2 Curriculum Booklets

The Term 2 Curriculum Booklets have been uploaded to the school website. These documents outline what your child will be learning this term. <http://www.scips.org.my/curriculum/>

Smart Watches

We have noticed a rise in the number of smartwatches worn by the children in school. We have had incidences of these being used to take photos and for communication purposes - everything rather than for its real purpose - telling the time. We do not allow children to have phones in school as they are a distraction to the children and their learning. This is the same as a smartwatch and so we ask for your support in this matter by ensuring your child does not wear one to school.

Safer Internet Day

The e-Cadets are launching a competition to celebrate 'Safer Internet Day' on Tuesday 11th February and they would like the students to take part. The competition is not compulsory, but it would be beneficial for the students to discover ways they can stay safe in the online/digital world. They will announce this to the students in today's assembly and in next week's Infant assembly. They will also share with them some basic rules to help them stay safe. If you would like to support your child with this, this website will help: <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>

For **Year 3-6**, they would like them to make a short video on how to keep safe online and being a good digital citizen. The following rules apply:

- Deadline Monday 3rd of February
- Use any digital platform to create it
- No longer than 45 seconds
- About how to stay-safe online
- Include their name and class
- Email it to their teacher or use a USB and hand it in

For **Nursery to Year 2**, they would like the students to make a poster on about how to stay safe online or how to use their devices safely e.g. don't click on unknown links, or download apps without your parent's permission. The following rules apply:

- Deadline Monday 3rd of February
- Let the student make the poster
- A3 paper with their name and class on it
- About how to stay safe online or on a device
- Hand it in to their teacher

The winners will be announced on 11th February to celebrate Safer Internet Day.

Enjoy your weekend



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Martin Towse