



*Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018*

## **Headmaster's Newsletter**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the holiday season I want to express my appreciation to all our community for the gracious and welcoming support for the new leadership team. It can be a challenge taking over the responsibilities of leadership in a school and this year we had a unique experience with the entire senior leadership team being newly appointed to their roles. However, this past term has been a wonderful time of building new relationships and focusing on learning and quality management.

Many new teachers joined us at the beginning of the academic year and the enthusiasm and commitment of our new and returning teachers has been commendable. I have observed an increased focus on quality teaching and learning in all areas of the school.

The biggest change has been in the creation of a new timetable in both primary and secondary schools that focused the provision of key learning times in the morning and provided creative / performing arts together with humanities languages and sport later in the day. The feedback from parents has been exceptionally positive and this change has led to increased learning outcomes for all students.

Our enrollments have increased by 10% since August and we continue to enroll students at all levels within the school. A significant number of families have committed to enrolling their children for the start of the next academic year. The majority of new enrollments and admission inquiries are the result of parent / friend /family and colleague recommendations and we are grateful for the support shown by our community.

### **Improvements to the ECA Programme**

We have followed the existing structure for Term 1 but there will be many improvements to the ECA offerings next term. New ECA's include

- Thai traditional dance
- Chess
- Robotics
- Digital design



- Computer coding
- Performing Arts / Drama
- Film Making
- Subject-based Academic Support to prepare students for IGCSE and A levels

Increased Sporting and Creative Arts options will also be available.

The new ECA booklet is currently being prepared and will be distributed to parents on 11th December and ECA's will commence on 14th January 2019

### **Student Health Issues**

We have had a number of students coming to school with fever and associated illnesses over the past few weeks and we have had to contact parents to request children be taken home to rest. It is essential that parents do not send children to school if they are suffering symptoms of ill health. Our nurse often identifies children with fever early in the morning, parents are not contactable and the child remains ill in the school clinic all day. This situation cannot continue as we have limited resources to care for sick children on a full time daily basis.

When a child is sick, they cannot fully participate in teaching and learning activities and sleeping in the school clinic all day is not a substitute for parental care at home

I seek your support in ensuring your child is supervised at home if they are unwell and do not return to school until fully recovered.



## Student Achievements

A number of our students have achieved success in sport and music and I want to share with you some of these successes.



A group of students attended a sport tournament at St Stephen's School Khao Yai last weekend and we had remarkable success considering the size of our school and the number of players available.

Boys Football - First Place

Girls Football - Second Place

Girls and Boys Basketball - 4th Place

Congratulations to all teams and their coaches



Prim in Year 5 completed her piano examinations with ANZCA and Royal School of Music and achieved honours.

Congratulations to Prim and we hope her success continues as she prepares for the next level of exams.



I also had the pleasure today of presenting Vedanth In Year 9 with his Diploma for Studies in French Language. Congratulations on your achievement.





## Student Reports

Reports are being finalised at this time at Early Years, Secondary and Primary levels and will be distributed ONLINE next week. Parents will be advised that if required, we will make arrangements for them to meet teachers either next week or in the first week of Term 2, (Many parents take children out of school early next week to extend the holiday period)

We are not scheduling parent teacher interviews on a set day so we can be flexible in meeting parent needs in this area.

Please note - the school is not providing hard copies of reports as we are moving communication throughout the school to an online platform. Parents will need to access reports on the parent portal.

We provided all parents with a User ID and password for the parent portal at the start of term. If you cannot recall your access details or require further assistance in how to use the portal, please contact the school and we will help.

## Christmas Concerts

I attended the Early Years and Key Stage 1 performances earlier this morning. It was great to see so many parents accept our invitation to attend. There were 86 in the audience for Early Year and 40 for the Key Stage 1. The students excelled and performed admirably with singing, dancing and memorised lines. Congratulations to all the teachers and assistants for their hard work in preparing students for the performances.

Years 3-6 will perform Bah! Humbug! at 1.30pm on Tuesday 11th December in the Secondary Cafeteria. I hope you can attend

## RBIS Talent Show Friday 14th December 1.30pm - 2.45pm

The annual RBIS Talent Show is planned for Friday 14th December commencing at 1.45pm in the Secondary Cafeteria. In addition to various performances from our talented children I have heard a rumour that there may be a few staff members performing.

Please accept our invitation to attend these performances

## Important Dates

Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Holiday – Constitution Day
Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Final Day of Term 1: Talent Show
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 -	
Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Vacation
Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Term 2 Commences
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> January	ECA's Commence





The holiday season approaches I wish every family in the school season's greetings and best wishes for the new year. I hope our families have a rewarding and restful holiday break and I expect to see all our students back at school on Monday 7th January.

**Dr Bruce Robinson**  
Headmaster