Dear Parents,

The newsletter is used as the main point of communication between the school and yourselves. Information about the school is reported every week in our Parents’ Newsletter. Although newsletters are e-mailed to all parents, a copy is also placed on the website: www.tenby.edu.my under ‘News and Events’. If you know of any parent who has not received the newsletter, please could you ask them to update their e-mail address with the respective school secretaries whose details are as follows:

SST: Ms. Evelyn Goh – slgoh@tenby.edu.my  TIS: Ms. Darshini – darshini@tenby.edu.my

Thank you.

School Holidays
Just a reminder that the school will be closed on Monday 9th February as this is a Selangor public holiday to celebrate Thaipusam.

SST Assessment
Details of assessments will be distributed to parents on Tuesday 10th February through the children.

CCAs
CCAs will be ready to start on Tuesday 10th February, 2009. Students should have been informed of the CCAs which they are doing.

Chinese New Year Celebrations
The primary children enjoyed a special celebration assembly for Chinese New Year (CNY) just before the CNY holiday. The assembly was led by the Year 6 children and some children from SST performed a lovely dance. The celebration was followed by a special professional lion dance performance.

Lines of Communication (TIS)
If you have any concerns with regards to your children about any incidents, academic performance or pastoral issues, please remember that the first point of contact should be with the class teacher or form tutor.

Use of the Internet
Students in the secondary school have been informed of the possible dangers of the Internet. They were informed of the fact that whilst in school, the use of the Internet is for educational purposes only. A copy of our ‘Use of ICT’ policy is attached at the end of this newsletter for your reference.
Update on the Year 8 ‘Egg Babies’ Project

8E BG is studying the novel Flour Babies. They were parents of an egg for one week, and during CNY they were asked to write a diary, recording their actions and feelings. Here are a couple of excerpts from their diaries-in-the-making.

‘Monday 19th January: Today is the first day of being a parent. I was filled with excitement. My parents were eager to be grandparents too. So, on the first day, it did feel a bit troublesome because I had to bring it EVERYWHERE, even the toilet! When I went to school I felt weird. Everybody was staring at me. It’s like I am having a disease. Every time I go to each class, I had to put is somewhere. When in class, I kept looking at the baby every ten minutes to see if the baby was not scratched, cracked or dead. I felt very worried every time anybody held my baby I told them to hold it with caution.”

By How Yi (8E)

“Monday 19th January: ... Today everyone wanted to hold my egg babies. I felt that they were going to drop them. I felt very anxious when people held my egg babies. Now I know how my mum felt when I wanted to hold my baby sister when she was first born. I have learnt a lot on this first day. I learnt that it is hard to be a mother but I will enjoy being one.”

By Sophie Jinks (8T)

Scholastic Book Club

The Scholastic Book Club leaflets have gone out to students this week. Please remember that payment can be made via cheque (made payable to ‘Grolier (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.’) or credit card (details to be filled in on the Order Form). NO CASH will be accepted for ease of organisation. All orders need to handed to either form/class teachers by Friday 13th February, 2009. The books will take approximately four weeks to arrive.

Curriculum Content (TIS)

The curriculum content is currently being developed and uploaded onto the website as and when they are ready.

Launch of the House System

Students were all involved in finding out about the purpose of setting up the House System in the school. Joint school assemblies were held to disseminate this information. The purpose of the House System will be to encourage:

- The spirit of competition in a range of sporting, cultural, charitable and intellectual activities;
- Inter-house activities e.g. sports, instrumental, dance, general knowledge and charity collections;
- One school – Tenby School;
- A wider circle of friends;
- Confidence in interacting with others;
- Teamwork and cooperation; and
- Planning, discussion and leadership skills.

Over the next two weeks students will be involved in deciding what they would like to name the houses. Once this has been put to a vote, we will announce this to you.

Additionally, students from both primary and secondary were involved with inter-house activities this week after school. All students appeared to enjoy themselves and were actively participating. This was another great opportunity for the students from both streams to intermingle.
Use of ICT Facilities

Our school benefits from excellent ICT facilities and, naturally, we wish to ensure that those facilities are well maintained and consistently accessible to all students. Furthermore, it is important that our students never lose sight of the purpose of ICT within education. Consequently, we would like to issue the following reminders which are designed to protect all of us in this community.

- All ICT activity – including the use of the internet – is designed to support and enhance learning. The facilities and resources are to be used solely for school work e.g. the writing of assignments or engaging in research.
- The settings on computers e.g. desktop settings and configurations for online searches, should not be changed without prior consultation with a member of the ICT staff or, where appropriate, the teacher in charge of the class.
- Faulty equipment or software, or any other malfunction, should be immediately reported to the teacher in charge of the class. The student should not in any way attempt to rectify any malfunction independently.
- Equipment or software should not be tampered with, disconnected or removed from the ICT laboratories.
- No online games.
- Students are also not permitted to make derogatory or insensitive remarks about any member of the school community through any site in the public domain e.g. blog sites, myspace etc. Similarly, the posting of anonymous messages and forwarding of chain letters are not permitted.
- No access, downloading, uploading, saving or distribution of offensive websites or website addresses. ‘Offensive’ can be interpreted as any website which contains material of a violent, dangerous, extremist, racist or pornographic nature, or indeed any material which would be considered offensive to any member of the school community.
- The use of web based email systems e.g. Hotmail and Yahoo are not permitted unless, with the permission of the teacher in charge of the class, the student is contacting an individual or organisation for the purposes of research.
- The use and downloading of chat rooms is not permitted.
- Students are not permitted to access, install or download program (.exe) files, MP3, MPG, AVI or similar files without permission. Any activity which threatens the integrity of the ICT systems, or activity which attacks or corrupts other systems is not permitted.
- Students are not permitted to use any personal disks or portable storage devices in school computers unless permission has been granted by a member of staff, and the disk/device has been virus checked.
- Students may only access computers via their own username and password, the latter under no circumstances to be given to a third party.
- Students may not use or distribute within school any illegal software.
- Copyright of materials must be respected.
All students have already attended an assembly where the above information was presented to them, and they are aware that, should any of the above be disregarded, the teacher will immediately stop the student’s use of the computer, the student subsequently sent to the Deputy Principal. Furthermore, all internet activity within the school will be monitored from time to time.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person’s work as one’s own, and has become a concern in some schools where students will copy and paste information directly from the internet into their own work; a worse scenario is where students will purchase essays online. Such activity is not permitted, educationally pointless and viewed most seriously both by the school and by examination boards. Furthermore, teachers can, with little difficulty, recognise that the work is not that of the student. We will be discussing plagiarism more with our students and helping them to maximise the benefits of online research, but it is crucial that students recognise the difference between adapting and interpreting online information, and seeking advice as to how a piece of work should be completed, as opposed to blindly copying the work of others.

We trust that parents will support us in ensuring that the students use the ICT facilities in a prudent manner.