Dear Parents,

School Holidays in March
The school will be closed on Monday 9th March for Prophet Muhammed’s birthday, which is a public holiday.

Year 9 IGCSE Information and Options Evening
There will be an IGCSE Information and Options Evening on Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm in the Library for parents who have children in Year 9.

Receiving Newsletters
Some parents have not been receiving the newsletters as the e-mails have been ‘bouncing back’. Please could you ensure that there is sufficient space in your e-mail folder to receive e-mails. If not, the newsletters can be viewed via the school’s website: www.tenby.edu.my/setiaecopark/newsletter.

Posts of Responsibility (TIS)
We are pleased to announce the promotion of the following members of staff who have been given posts of responsibility as follows:

- Year 3 & 4 Leader: Timothy Horsley
- Acting Year 5 Leader: Roslina Abdullah
- Acting Year 6 Leader: Mark Percil
- Key Stage 3 Pastoral Leader: Marie Perin
- Key Stage 4 Pastoral Leader: Janet Clayton

A leader for Early Years and Key Stage 1 has yet to be appointed.

Owing to Ms. Perin’s increased commitment within the school, Mr. Murugan Raman (who was the Assistant Form Tutor to Ms. Perin’s form, 7E) will now be taking over the role as 7E’s Form Tutor with immediate effect.

Although these positions have been put into place now, all communication in respect of academic and/or pastoral matters should still be directed towards to class teacher/form tutor in the first instance.

Swimming as Part of the Curriculum (TIS)
Please be reminded that swimming is a compulsory part of the Physical Education curriculum within the National Curriculum for England. Therefore, all students are expected to be involved in swimming lessons unless a Medical Certificate is given.

PE Kit
Students are expected to wear their PE kit (black shorts and house coloured t-shirt) for all PE lessons AND sport-like CCAs e.g. Football, Cheerleading, Dance and Badminton.

Library Books and Reading (from Vickie Henderson, Librarian)
In the library we discussed how to look after and enjoy our books; please may we request that you also reiterate this at home? It is important that each child is responsible for their book and returns it to school the following week (as per the due date stamped in the back).
Both reading aloud and reading alone are important elements of literacy as well as every subject in school. Reading for enjoyment should be encouraged and may we ask that you please take the time to share and enjoy the library book with your child.

Remember; above all, to make sure reading is fun and enjoyable!

**Benefits of Reading Aloud**

Reading aloud has a remarkable effect on children. It enhances children’s skills, interests and development in many ways that reach far beyond just improving their own reading interests and abilities.

Listening to stories has a strong influence on personal and social growth as it gives children the chance to experience things beyond their own world and to think about other people and their lives. Hearing stories also gives young children access to new words, phrases and sounds, all of which improve their spoken and written vocabulary. Sharing a story by reading it aloud can make difficult or scary things seem safer.

**Top Ten Benefits:**

1. Reading aloud creates the perfect bond between parent and child – it’s cosy, comforting and it’s fun.
2. Listening to stories provides children with new ‘friends’ – characters whom they learn to love.
3. Hearing new words gives children a richer vocabulary.
4. Children can understand stories beyond their own reading ability.
5. Hearing books read aloud improves a child’s ability to listen for periods of time and increases attention spans.
6. Reading aloud allows children to interact by interrupting and asking questions about meaning.
7. Hearing a story read aloud enables children to make connections with others’ personal experiences.
8. Listening to more complex stories can help children to extend their knowledge and understanding.
9. Listening to stories being read aloud shows beginner readers how fluent readers read.
10. The words children hear in books give them a rich language when they begin their own writing.

*Benefits of Reading Aloud from Julia Eccleshare, an authority on children’s literature.*

**Year 2 Exit Point on ‘Buildings and Structures’ Theme**

The Year 2 children were studying Buildings & Structures as part of the International Primary Curriculum. As an extension to the topic, each child worked with their parents to construct a structure that had a strong foundation. The children’s artistic work was displayed at the Early Years Block for viewing on Monday 23rd February. During the exhibition, the children were admiring the structures built by their peers as well as providing constructive feedback to one another. Through this, the children learnt how to reflect and improve their work for next time – these are skills that are essential elements of learning.

Jane Kuok  
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