Dear Parents,

**Dates for Your Diary**

End of Term : Friday 24.07.09. (12.00 noon finish)
Start of Term 3 (SST) : Monday 24.08.09.
National Day Holiday : Monday 31.08.09.
Start of Term 1 (TIS) : Tuesday 01.09.09.
Nuzul Al-Quran Holiday : Monday 07.09.09.
Hari Raya Haji : Friday 27.11.09.
End of Term (TIS & SST) : Friday 04.12.09.

Dates for subsequent terms will be published in September.

**Cambridge Checkpoint Examinations**

The results of the Cambridge Checkpoint Examinations arrived here on Tuesday and are currently being processed before a resumé is published in next week’s newsletter. I am delighted that our students have uniformly performed so well, especially since the vast majority of them did not come from international schools and were faced with a syllabus which was totally new. To add to that challenge they were expected to acquire a vast amount of information in a short space of time, whereas their UK counterparts have been following the course since Year 7. Despite this challenge, our students as a group have performed, in some cases, the same as, and in the overwhelming majority of cases markedly better than the UK cohort of candidates. The Checkpoint Examinations were a crucial test to establish whether a brand new school could develop itself sufficiently rapidly in order to present students for public examinations within a matter of months – and I know from experience that many new schools would have avoided that. That Tenby came through with flying colours (in all three subjects) is to a large extent owing to my colleagues here who spent inordinate amounts of time studying the syllabuses and fine tuning the material to meet the challenges which I have discussed above. And, of course, our congratulations go to the students themselves in 9E and 9T whose diligence and determination have reaped just rewards.

The students have already been issued with a detailed breakdown of their individual results and academic targets for Year 10.

**Every student matters...**

We often generalise our praise of students – we talk about the success of a group or a team. But there are times when it is appropriate to focus on an individual. I recently observed a Year 9 music lesson, during which I had considerable admiration for the musicianship and leadership skills of Alex Chua in 9E. He transmitted his enthusiasm to the other members of his ensemble and I was impressed by the way in which he took time to advise all of them in a polite and patient, but secure manner. As always, it is not only academic ability, but positive personal characteristics which are the hallmark of a good student. Well done, Alex.
Sports Days
Congratulations to all the students and staff, who took part in the recent Early Years and Key Stage Two Sports Days, and our thanks, in particular, go to Mr MacInnes and Puan Quah who organised the events. The constructive comments made by parents, and their offer of assistance in future events are most welcome. I look forward to the parents’ support at Senior Sports next Wednesday where the stunning logos of the Phoenix, Falcon, Tiger and Dragon Houses, designed by the students themselves, will make their first appearance.

Tenby’s Got Talent
That statement was unquestionably proved to me on Wednesday when I attended the Junior auditions for what will be a magnificent showcase of talent on July 15th. The students had clearly rehearsed their acts very seriously and there were some outstanding performances. Unfortunately we have to narrow down the number of acts otherwise we shall require sleeping bags in the auditorium because there are simply so many who wish to perform! There will be some who will be disappointed that they did not make it to the final round. I ask those students not to be disheartened; there will be many other opportunities to participate on stage – watch this space. To those who have reached the final, very well done. I hope you take on board the advice you were given to improve the acts even more, but there is no doubt we can look forward to a wonderful evening. Parents, please support this huge project by filling the auditorium on the night with yourselves and with your applause. Further information will be given by Mr. Williams.

H1N1 virus
The recent outbreak of the H1N1 virus has resulted in the closure of some schools in Malaysia. To date, there have been no cases here but, if affected, Tenby School will need to be closed. Parents and students are requested to be mindful of the usual hygiene practice – in particular the covering of the nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. Our staffs are carefully monitoring the students, and any student who feels sick or displays any flu symptoms will be immediately taken to Nurse Kam who is fully cognisant of the medical conditions associated with the H1N1 virus, in particular a temperature of 38 degrees or more. Similarly, any student who feels ill in any way, should go independently to the medical room for examination, whereupon Nurse Kam will contact parents if it is deemed necessary for the student to be sent home. All parents will, of course, be immediately informed if any drastic measures are enforced. We would also request parents to advise us if your child is absent from school owing to flu symptoms; if in the event that your child is tested positive for H1N1, please advise the school at the earliest opportunity.

U12 & U14 Football Tournament (From Mr Matthew MacInnes: PE Teacher/CCA Coordinator)
This is a message only for parents of boys playing in this Saturday’s football tournament. The football tournament for U12 and U14 boys at the Australian International School Malaysia to be held on Saturday 27th June will still be going ahead. Cempaka school will not be taking part, but Tenby and AISM will still play each other.

Zebra Crossing & Speed Limits on Campus
We write again to appeal to all parents to observe the zebra crossings and speed limit of 20km/h whilst driving around the school.

School Dismissal
While waiting to be collected by their parents at the end of school, students are not permitted to play any ball game on the grass area in front of the main entrance to the school. Students have been informed of this.

Participation National Mathematical Olympics (OMK) (SST)
Two teams of SST students accompanied by their Mathematics teacher, Pn. Tsai Chen Chien, participated in the National Mathematical Olympics on Saturday 20 June 2009 in the University of Malaya’s Examination Centre. Students who represented the school are Lim Zheng Shao,
These students had to answer 6 short questions in Section A and 3 long questions in Section B in 2½ hours. The results will be announced later through the mail.

Final for the Interclass General Knowledge Quiz (SST)

The final for the series of General Knowledge Quizzes was held on Wednesday 17 June 2009. The children are now more aware of examples of General Knowledge questions and they have been looking out for more of such questions to ask their friends during break times. The winners of this interclass competition are Alpravinosh Alagesan, Cheah Jit Hong and Muhammad Iman Khan from Std 5S.

A.D.Crombie
Deputy Principal
Tenby International School

Lee Mei Leng
Principal
Sekolah Sri Tenby