Happy New Year 2015 and Welcome Back to School!

A warm welcome to all new and existing students and staff of Tenby Schools, Ipoh. We have seen improvements on the school premises and new introductions to the learning activities as we work together as one to provide our students and staff with the best learning and teaching experiences here in Tenby Schools, Ipoh. We look forward to a challenging and successful year in 2015.

Hello and welcome…

We are pleased to introduce our new Head of Sekolah Tenby, Mr Choong Chee Kong.

Also a warm welcome to the new staff who have joined us this term. Welcome aboard!

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After a pleasant and relaxing break, it is good to be back in Malaysia and back in Ipoh. I hope that all members of our community had an enjoyable three week break and are back ready to face the challenges of a new term, a new calendar year and for our National School students a new academic year.

A warm welcome goes in particular to all of our new students and their families; we hope that your time at Tenby will be happy and successful and that you will settle quickly into the routines and demands of a new environment. I extend a warm welcome to all of the new staff who have joined us this week and am sure that they will all make a unique and positive contribution in their new roles.

I am delighted that Mr. Choong, our new National School Head has joined us this week. Mr. Choong is a very experienced educator indeed having most recently spent ten years as Principal of a school of 2000 students in Sg. Siput. In these first few weeks he will be hard at work getting to know the staff and students of Sekolah Tenby and seeing what makes the school tick.

We are pleased also that our new AENCO, Ms Deborah Jones, flew to Malaysia last weekend to take up her new role. AENCO stands for Additional Educational Needs Coordinator, a role which involves looking after those students with specific learning needs to include students identified in different areas as being gifted and talented. Ms. Jones’ work will span the entire campus including the Early Years Centre in Ipoh Town and contact with parents will be an essential part of that. We wish Deborah all the best for her new adventure in Ipoh.

I would like to thank Mr. Loo, our Facilities Manager and Ms. Liew, our Bursar, for all of their hard work over the holiday to ensure that all necessary maintenance work on campus has been completed. They lead a team of very committed staff who work quietly and conscientiously, often in inclement weather and difficult circumstances to see that our campus is clean and safe. They have done an excellent job over the past few weeks and I am very grateful to them.

On 23rd and 24th January we will be holding the final interviews for the post of Head of International Primary. Our advertisement has attracted a very strong field of applicants and the finalists will undergo two days of interviews and selection activities with our Chief Executive Officer, Alister Bartholomew, chairing the final selection panel. One effect of this is that we will have to postpone the Parents Association AGM until Saturday 7th February. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Finally I would like to remind everyone that our open door policy really does exist. If you wish to see any members of the Senior Management Team do feel free to make an appointment or look in to see if they are available. We do value your feedback.

Howard Bullock
A warm welcome back to you all and I wish you a prosperous and very ‘Happy New Year’. I would like to take this opportunity to greet all of our new students and their respective parents and guardians to the school community. I do sincerely hope that any members of our Tenby family, who have been adversely affected by the recent tragic flooding in various parts of Malaysia are on the road to recovery.

Tenby International Secondary School, Ipoh continues to grow and progress. Our current numbers on roll for this term are around 400 students. We have several new students in various year groups from Years 7 to 10, and await the arrival of our new A-Level Cohort (11) next week. If you know of any post-SPM students who are yet to select their next school, do encourage them to come and visit the Ipoh Campus and chat with either myself or Mr. Louis. With our new 7 Yellow class with Ms. Bethany Hewson as their form teacher, we are now 3-form entry from Years 7 to 10.

I would like to make you aware of the names of two new teachers who have joined the team here with TISSI. Ms. Lau joins us to teach Mandarin and has a strong background having previously taught the Cambridge syllabus. Ms. Bernie, who will be familiar to many of you, joins us from Sekolah Tenby to teach KS3 & 4 English and some KS3 Humanities.

Commencing the week of Monday 19th January, Mrs. Denise Sinclair will be bringing a Corporate Office Review Team to carry out a full week of inspecting of all aspects and elements of TISSI. A letter to this effect has gone out this week, and a copy is also duplicated in this newsletter. Part of the review will be to invite Parents to come and meet with the review team to get their take on how the school is progressing. If you would like to part of this meeting, could you please email Ms. Valerie via her email: valerie@tenby.edu.my and she will produce a list of those intending to attend, and convey the names to Denise and her team. The meeting is scheduled for 4.00 to 5.00 pm and subject to numbers will be in the school Auditorium. We welcome Denise and her team, in advance of their visit. Whilst their visit might cause some added pressure and perhaps a wee bit of stress for our teachers and support staff, we recognize the need to reflect on where we are at, and relish the guidance we will be given on how we can strive to further develop.

I am keen at the start of each term to remind you of our ‘open-door’ policy. If you have any issues you want to raise, then please give us a call, or schedule a meeting via Ms. Valerie, or any specific teacher that you require. We are here to help and to serve. Mr. Ian and Mr. Ricky have been busy preparing Year Group Curriculum Overview Letters, which I hope will go out this week. Please endeavour to be part of your children’s learning, and do help us forge even better links between school and home.

The United Nations appears to have just one International Day, and this falls at the end of the month and therefore there is nothing to report in this context. I wish you a restful weekend and hope that this is a happy, healthy, productive and successful term for all of our wonderful students.

Selamat Tahun Baru!

Neil David Page
Message from the Head of International Primary

Happy New Year and welcome back to the new term. There are many activities/events planned for this term beginning with an information evening for Year 6 parents concerning the Checkpoint exam on January 21st 2015. Another important date to put in your diaries is 25th February 2015, which will see the parents’ evening for KS1 and KS2.

May I take this opportunity to remind parents that for Year 1 to Year 6, school starts at 7.45 and not 8.00 am. I have noticed many students arriving after our 7.45 start and they are missing out on many aspects of learning especially Personal Social and Health education.

On a personal note I would like to thank you for all the positive comments I have received since announcing that I am to leave Tenby Schools on April 3rd. I can assure you that my ‘Tenby Family’ which includes you as parents will always have a special place in my heart. I look forward to my last term being exciting, happy and constructive for us all.

Lee Harvey
A Very Happy New Year and welcome to the 2015 school year! It’s great to see children return to school bright and refreshed and ready for learning to begin. I trust you had a pleasant and restful holiday. Our dedicated staff have been working very hard to prepare for another amazing year, building on the success and accomplishments of last year.

Parents are an integral part of the Early Years Centre and I would like to thank you for your continued support working as a team with our teachers to ensure your children have the necessary tools to make the school a success - and fun!!!!

We are pleased to inform you of a new Toddler class (FS1B) for this term and surprisingly, we had a good start with our new batch of children as there was less crying. Teachers had calm classes with children all ready to start the day with rhymes, songs and play. Those children who just joined FS2 (Kindergarten) and FS3 (Reception), and being the first time in a school environment, were so excited to meet new friends and join the class activities.

To keep information as current as possible, the school will continually update important notices directly on the website. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact us and we will make every effort to get all information to you.

To all our new parents, welcome aboard to the Tenby family and let’s work together to make the kindergarten a happy place for our children.

Puvanes Mahendran
In December, The Sprouter organized a charity Drive with Tenby School's Interact Club and The Prefectorial Board. The team reached out to the Orang Asli Community at Sinju Village, Simpang Pulai for Christmas and to welcome the New Year. A few teachers including Ms. Bernie Victor, Puan Siti Mariam, Ms Diane Beresford and Mr. Harry Seggu accompanied the students during the trip to the Orang Asli Village.

The students from both the Interact Club and The Prefectorial Board had raised money by selling milkshakes during their recess breaks. They managed to collect more than RM1000 for this charitable cause. The team bought many basic commodities to provide for these families.

The students were brought into the Orang Asli Village and met with the Village Chief and all the other indigenous families and saw at first hand their way of life.

The Village Head was kind enough to provide them with a tour around the village and even took them to meet two of the elders in the village. This charity drive was aimed to promote the spirit of giving and compassion and to celebrate the New Year with these families.

The students started with a Christmas Carol performance and later spend some time with the children and offered the children and families there some clothes, food and gifts. The Village Head had also told us about their needs and issues of concern. We will be looking into their needs and will do what we can to help and support them on our next visit, planned for the end of February 2015.
On the 25th November 2014 students from year 4 Blue and 4 Green went on an educational field trip to Kuala Lumpur. The students were accompanied by Mrs Margaret Dass, Mrs Shaarmini, Mr Daniel and Miss Janista.

The first stop was at Beryl's Chocolate Factory. The children were given a briefing on the origins of how chocolates were made and the various ingredients used in making chocolates. They had the pleasure in tasting different types of chocolates and enjoyed buying chocolates at the gift shop.

Our second stop was at the amazing Farm in the City. It was a totally new experience for the children as they had the chance to feed and pet animals and birds. Some children also had the opportunity to try their hand at fishing. It was truly an experience to see some rare types of birds, horse, goats and snakes.

After lunch we stopped at Pusat Sains Negara. Here the students were able to walk around the science centre and have a look at many of the scientific works on display. It also gave the children the opportunity to play some interactive games. The trip was an enjoyable and educational for the children.
On the 29th of November 2014, Year 11 embarked on a trip to PetroSains. We left at about 8:00 a.m. and reached KL at around 10:30 a.m., with the journey being lively with songs and laughter. The check in took about 30 minutes, as there were other schools present that day to explore PetroSains. After we received our tickets, we lined up in pairs to form two neat lines. Slowly we started walking into PetroSains, and the first section we encountered was the Oil Platform. The whole section was built to form a replica of an actual oil rig, with the life-size replicas of the equipment used in an actual oil rig. We walked on, taking many photos and exploring. We also encountered the rooms where workers retired to on an oil rig. After that we explored a section called SPEED, where all the exhibits simulated the technology behind Formula One cars. We went on further to explore the Geotime Diorama, where we were taken back 200 million years, to a time where dinosaurs lived. We met a large T-Rex which could rap, and there were kiosks and intractable booths of things which existed 200 million years ago. After that we encountered Molecule Nano World, which was a walkway covered with atoms and molecules, taking more photos.

Further on we encountered Teater Ungku Omar, where we got to watch a 3D film about a dinosaur. After the film, we went to the Music, Arts and Science area where we got to enjoy taking photos with various backgrounds and creating funny pieces of artwork. Further on, we finally explored SPARKZ, where there were a lot of fun games, such as Robot Football and the Grain Pit, where we got to be small children again, playing with sand. At the end of the day, at around 3:00 p.m., we bought lunch and got on the bus as it was late. The journey back home was cold, as the rain decided to fall, and was also lively and fun, with more songs, card games and laughter. Once we reached school, we had a group photo taken and then we parted.

A big thank you to our Science teachers for organising the trip.

Ezilaan Iraivan

From the School Nurse

The school health nurses from Ministry of Health will be coming to our school on the 14th Jan (Wed), at 8.00 am for a briefing on HPV Immunization. This briefing is for 13 year old female Malaysian students only.
At Tenby’s Boarding Hostel

The routines...

- Making the beds
- Washing dishes
- Wiping trays
- Laundry
- Ironing
- Setting up for dinner.
- Playing the guitar/Watching TV
- Study time: homework/project/enrichment
Other facilities & activities...

- Golfing
- Basketball
- Gym
- Swimming pool within the hostel grounds.
- At the playground
- 2014 CNY Dinner
- Outing to Malacca
- Birthday celebration for August babies.
- Celebrating Mid Autumn Festival.
Upcoming Events/Announcements

30 January - 1 February 2015
Inaugural Tenby Schools National Music Festival

Tenby International

14 January 2015
Key Stage 3 Parents’ Evening (Year 7 - 9), from 3.30pm - 6.00pm.

21 January 2015
Information Session for Primary Checkpoint Assessment Test 2015
(Year 6 only)

28 January 2015
Year 11 Parents’ Evening

25 February 2015
Primary Parents’ Evening

27 February 2015
Year 8 visiting Gardenia Bakery, Shah Alam.

21 April - 23 April 2015
Year 6 and Year 9 Checkpoints
Dear Tenby International Secondary School Community,

Re: Corporate Office Review of TISSI.

As part of the group’s ongoing drive with regards to school improvement, I will be leading a review of the school during the week of the 19th January 2015. I will be accompanied by three very experienced colleagues in the form of Ms. Yeun Yin Fong (Marketing, Corporate Office), Mr. Iain Sallis (Head of International Secondary, Tenby Schools, Setia Eco Park, KL) and Mr. Peter Shearer (Head of Secondary, Tenby International School, Miri, Sarawak) we will be working with the school leadership team, to assess the progress the school has made with regards to our vision and mission. We will also be assessing the quality of teaching across the school, reviewing student learning outcomes, and looking at school leadership. We will be using some aspects of the framework from the Council of International Schools (CIS) accreditation process, which links in very nicely to the schools’ future plans to become a CIS accredited school.

There will be opportunity for teachers, school leaders, parents and administration staff as well as students to contribute to our discussions. Following the review, a report will be produced with the school’s assistance, which I hope will support future school development.

I would like to thank Mr. Neil Page and his team for their assistance with this review and of course thank the community for your assistance with what I am sure will be an exciting and very worthwhile exercise.

If you have any questions regarding this review, then please feel free to contact either the school or myself directly.

Regards

Mrs Denise Sinclair
School Development and Improvement Manager
Tenby Schools Group

denise.sinclair@tenby.edu.my
Mobile 010 421 8720
Tenby International School Sixth Form

Soar with Tenby and reach for the stars!
Experience a Sixth Form Education that challenges, excites and inspires you to be global citizens with Malaysian roots. At Tenby International School Ipoh, we offer the Cambridge International A Level Programme enriched by programmes in Global Perspectives Studies, Shakespearean Drama and Community Service.

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- William Tan
  3rd Year, Aerospace Engineering
  University of Manchester
- Fiona Ding
  3rd Year, Law
  University of Southampton
- Debbie Ho Lee Lian
  2nd Year, Biomedical Science,
  University of Edinburgh
- Jessia Leuk Siew Pin
  2nd Year, Neuroscience,
  University of Nottingham
- Jade Jennifer Nelson
  1st Year, Biomedical Technology
  King’s College, University of London
- Estee Lau Pui Mun
  3rd Year, Pharmacy
  King’s College, University of London
- Chin Wai Hoe
  2nd Year, Biomedical Science,
  University of Edinburgh
- Tan Yee Gee
  1st Year, Accountancy
  York University

**Canada**
- Ivan Wong Hon Tuck
  1st Year, Actuarial Science,
  Simon Fraser University
- Kevin Mano
  1st Year, Engineering
  McMaster University

**Netherlands**
- Yul-Rahim Zaman
  3rd Year, Economics
  Erasmus University,
  Rotterdam

**Hong Kong**
- Pau Si Kei Lok Fai
  2nd Year, History
  University of Hong Kong
- Dexter Yap Wing Hang
  1st Year, Business Studies
  University of Hong Kong

**Malaysia**
- Daneesh Selvakumar
  3rd Year, Medicine
  International Medical University, KL
- Jagraj Singh Dhillon
  3rd Year, Medicine
  International Medical University, KL
- Sakti Vadiavelu Letchmanan
  1st Year, Medicine,
  Perdana Medical University, KL
- Tan Jia Hou
  1st Year, Mechanical Engineering
  Herriot-Watt University, KL
- Yohan Loganthen
  3rd Year, Civil Engineering
  Nottingham University, KL
- Lee Yee Wen
  2nd Year, Literature
  University Science Malaysia, Penang

**USA**
- Kishore Jeffrey Kannason
  2nd Year, Sports Science
  Kansas State University
- Muthanna Mohanad Talib
  1st Year, Petroleum Engineering
  Colorado School of Mines

**Australia**
- Aruna Baskaran
  1st Year, Medicine
  University of New South Wales
- Chai Siaw Kiew
  2nd Year, Accounting
  Deakin University Melbourne

**Singapore**
- Chang Chia Chien
  1st Year, Engineering
  Nanyang Technological University