



TENBY SCHOOLS SETIA ECO GARDENS NEWSLETTER

Monday, 5th September 2016

Contact us:

Phone: +607 558 8812

Fax: +607 558 8823

E-mail:

ecogardens@tenby.edu.my

A UNITED WORLD AT PEACE-THROUGH EDUCATION

UP COMING EVENTS

MERDEKA! MERDEKA! MERDEKA! ...and that is always the finale of a patriotic speech from the Prime Minister of Malaysia. 31st August 2016 is indeed a celebration of independence and freedom. He continuously highlights the *detik detik kebersatuan negara* or *moments of unity* of the Malaysian Nation.

Hence, in celebration of this day, Tenby Schools hosted the National Day Fiesta on 30th August 2016. It was a whole school event starting with the launching of the day and speech by the Campus Principal and performances put on by our SST students. It was a very colourful event symbolising the multi-racial culture and unity of the Malaysian people. They had singing of patriotic songs, choral speaking, poetry recital and a short sketch of the historic moment when the communist insurgence was taken down by brave Malaysians.



The Primary and Secondary schools had programmes set out for the day that involved Malaysian food tasting and Malaysian traditional games. Fortunately, the storm in the morning did not dampen the day and we managed to continue with the programmes as scheduled.



Saturday 3rd September 2016

Horizon Week presentation for parents 10am (auditorium)

Monday 5th September 2016

Second Horizon week presentation for parents 6pm (auditorium)

Thursday 8th September 2016

PTA meeting 8am in Board room

Tuesday 13th September 2016

Hari Raya parent lunch treats

Wednesday 21st September 2016

Science fair

Thursday 22nd September 2016

Year 9 Options Eve, 6pm

Friday 23rd September 2016

Family Fun run-student led activity

Saturday 24th September 2016

Family Fun Day

Friday 30th September 2016

Y11 Study leave

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Monday 12th September 2016

Hari Raya Haji Holiday (school closed)

Friday 16th September 2016

Malaysia's Day Holiday (school closed)





(Back Row, LtoR): Navien Ramachandran, Goh Zheng Xuan, Md Riqzi Kesuma Bin Md Rqis, Enes Ogul, Alex Chua, Trent Chan
 (Middle Row, LtoR): Ryan Khoo, Tan Ziyen, Priyanga Ravindran, Ms Brenda Desker, Ashvinie Periyasamy, Misha Adams-Marshall, Khor Ting Xun
 (Front Row, LtoR): Caeley Chia, Renee Chu, Cheong Yie Xin, Amn Ashhad Alam, Veralyn Chan, Chloe Chu

Annual iQuiz by Ms Brenda Nois

On Saturday, 27th August, a group of Tenby 'Smarty Pants' participated in the annual iQuiz challenge organized by the Rotary Club Malaysia, which was held at Excelsiour International School. Our team of 18 Iquizzers participated in a battle of the wits, as they ploughed through questions on General Knowledge ranging from Science, History, Geography, Music, Sports just to name a few. It was a morning filled with adrenalin and enthusiasm as our teams put their minds together and charged their way with confidence and grace, making our school proud. A special congratulatory note goes to the trio, Caeley Chia, Renee Chu and Ryan Yeap who made it to the final round and emerged 1st runners-up, beating more than 150 participants.

Bake Sales- Red house by Mr Gert Jones

The **Red House** had their first bake sale on Monday 29th August. Red House parents generously donated delicious cakes, cookies, cupcakes and bread. Their generosity and support made our fundraising event a huge success! Red House Captains and children from both primary and secondary were involved in the planning, promotion and selling. It was great to see their hard work paying off. Everything was sold and the money raised will be used to support all the Houses with their various activities.



UPDATES- school calendar

Please note one small change on NEXT years calendar. Chinese New Year will gain an extra day -we will break up on 25th Jan, not 26th, however the additional day will be added onto the end of November, thus breaking up 30th, not 29th Nov. No curriculum time will be lost.

Kindle Malaysia

Ten Kindle (e-reader) are now available to be checked out from the library. Students can sign out a Kindle and enjoy reading various books anywhere and anytime! Further details are as below:

- Up to 7 days loan available
- Unlimited access to free books from Kindle
- Due to the demand, if late return, a fine will be imposed
- Replacement is needed for any damaged/ broken/ lost e-reader
- This month's offer: Read for Free All 7 Harry Potter Series



Dear Parents,

It is great to see that all the Primary children have had such a good start to Term 3, when walking around the school, there is definitely a positive 'learning' buzz going on. Don't forget to ask your child each day, 'What have you been learning today?' rather than, 'What have you been doing today?'

This week has seen the start of our CCA program. It is great to see that so many children have signed up for their favourite activities, with around 25 different clubs to choose from. Please make sure your child is aware of the clubs that they have chosen and what days they need to attend as there were one or two children last week who got confused and missed their activities.

Can I remind parents that all children will now be collected from the canteen area at the end of CCA's; 4.00pm, not from the lower primary area like last term. This makes it easier to manage if all the children are in the same location. Could I also take this opportunity to remind parents that if you require your child to remain in school until 4pm, and they are not taking part in a CCA, there is a 'Supervision' facility available at only Rm6 a day. Please contact the office for further details.

We look forward to seeing you and your children at the 'Family Fun Day' on Saturday 24th September.

Nicholas Roe
Acting Head of Primary

Matching Monday!



Our Admin Team have begun to have fun with Matching Monday!

Each week a member gets to choose a colour we all have to wear! Blue last week...pop in to see the colour for this week!

Student Council

Fantastic to see so many of our students offering to become part of the Student Council. Existing members have spent time reviewing applicants and have announced the 10 new members. Take time to check out the updated list on the Community Notice Board!

Welcome on Board new Student Council members!

Y11 Study Saturday!

Great to see 30 of our 34 students from Year 11 turn out for a Saturday Study session which comprised of a morning focused on specific Subject revision choices, followed by an optional Pool Party and a Matinee Movie slot. Thank you to our Secondary Staff for their support. Of course, with Teenagers, food was involved!



TENBY SCHOOLS PTA

FAMILY FUN DAY



24th SEPTEMBER 2016
10AM - 4PM
pta.tisseg@tenby.edu.my
www.facebook/ptatsseg



A United World At Peace
- Through Education

TENBY SCHOOLS SETIA ECO GARDENS

7, Jalan Laman Setia
Utama Taman Laman
Setia 81550 Johor Bahru
Tel: +607-5588812

Student Vendors

Bouncy Castle

Parent's, Teacher's & Student
Football Match

Car boot Sales

Giant Bubbles

Face Painting

Water Pistol Game

Team Events

And more!

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

CAR BOOT SALE

ON

FAMILY FUN DAY

10AM - 4PM 24TH SEPTEMBER 2016
TENBY SCHOOLS SETIA ECO GARDENS

For RM25 you will be given a car parking spot and space for a table to sell your items. All profits from the sale of your items belong to you. PTA only ask for the RM25 flat fee towards PTA Funds which will be spent later at the school.

A few tables will be supplied but it is recommended you bring your own if you have one.

An electrical outlet will be available for testing most electronics.



This is your opportunity to sell your pre-loved items for others to enjoy. Almost any items are suitable for the Car Boot Sale:

- * Books and magazines
- * Toys and sports equipment
- * Electronics and computers
- * Household and kitchen ware
- * Musical instruments
- * School material and equipment

So book your spot early:

- * Sign-up sheets at:
 - early learning block
 - canteen noticeboards
- * Email pta.tisseg@gmail.com
- * WhatsApp +60 13 928 0211

[facebook.com/ptatsseg](https://www.facebook.com/ptatsseg)



Tenby Schools: Growing with Malaysia

The international education scene has changed and grown significantly in the past few years, perhaps nowhere more so than Malaysia. Editor **Chad Merchant** sat down with the new CEO of Tenby Schools to discuss the changes, the challenges, and the great new opportunities that await today's students.



At a solid six feet tall, I'm definitely not used to being the short guy in the room, especially here in Malaysia. But when I met Mark Parkinson, the engaging new CEO of Tenby Schools, that uncommon scenario became reality. At 6'5" - that's almost 196cm - he certainly doesn't blend into a crowd easily.

We were meeting to discuss the evolution of international education in recent years, and how Tenby Schools - one of Malaysia's most well-known education groups - has itself grown and changed to be equal to the task. Since its first school opened in Ipoh in 1960, Tenby has positioned itself to meet the changing demands of the global student. In the last decade, that growth has been nothing short of phenomenal. Today, Tenby comprises several campuses throughout Malaysia and caters to nearly 5,000 students.

Mr Parkinson spoke about the changes that drove this impressive growth. "Well, when international schools in general first began, they were primarily set up to deliver a 'home' education to the children of diplomats and expats. In fact, Tenby's first school was set up for children of British expats in what was then Malaya who wanted to provide their children with quality education based on the British system. But that is no longer the case.

"Today, international education is more about diversity and global-mindedness. In our case, it's an international approach that's rooted in local culture and identity. That has been a key catalyst in the change. The schools have evolved from being set up to cater solely to expat children to now being built from the ground up - facilities, staff, curriculum - to deliver a truly global, diverse, and inclusive education to students who come from countries around the world."

Adding fuel to the fire was the Malaysian government's decision to remove limits on local students attending international schools a few years ago. "That was a significant change," Mr Parkinson agreed. "And since it only happened fairly recently, the impact is still expanding. International education in Malaysia is still young with regard to this decision and there is great potential for much more growth here. Parents are increasingly understanding and appreciating the value of what an international education offers and how it better prepares the next generation for living and working in the 21st century. It's much more than just overlaying an English-language curriculum over what was already there. A truly well-rounded international education offers students a rich diversity and range of experiences - both in and out of the classroom - that their parents could only have dreamed of during their own youth."

It's not just the number of schools that has increased in recent years, either. According to Mr Parkinson, the growth has presented both increased challenges and opportunities, too. "We will likely see considerable growth in the market yet, for which many more private schools will be required, along with a stronger flow of high-calibre local teachers trained and experienced in international pedagogy and methodologies. Of course staffing is a key concern - having quality teachers is critical for any good international school. Beyond that, however, increased globalisation and the proliferation of the Internet have made it easier for teachers and other staff to have access to better information, more diverse ways of thinking, and ideas that arise simply because of enhanced sharing between educators."

Mr Parkinson hails from the private banking sector in Cambridge and London, but found his passion for

education after spending over a decade successfully working in the world of high finance. He subsequently set out on a career that has taken him to a number of cities in several countries in the Middle East and South Asia, where he has overseen the opening of new schools in some locales and been responsible for upgrading or indeed turning around existing schools in others. His latest post, here in Malaysia, places him firmly in the midst of an education renaissance in the country.

"It's an exciting time for international education here, and for Tenby Schools, as well," he explained. "We will be opening our newest school, Tenby Setia EcoHill in Semenyih, in September." This latest school will join Tenby's existing campuses in Ipoh, Penang, Johor Bahru, Miri, and Setia Eco Park in Shah Alam. A seventh school in Tropicana Alam is planned for a 2018 opening.

I asked Mr Parkinson how well he felt Tenby is managing to respond to the dynamic growth and increased demands in international education. "I think Tenby Schools is certainly well-positioned to meet these demands," he responded, adding, "We offer parents real value for money, and our blend of international high-calibre faculty working alongside strong, well-trained local talent leads to strong continuity and a raising of the base standards of both teaching and learning. However, I think there is a need to make teaching in an international school an attractive career proposition for the best Malaysian graduates, so we support the development of teacher development programmes in-country, all to international standards, which of course serves to increase the supply of quality local teachers to meet the demands of future expansion." ■

To learn more, visit tenby.edu.my.