Chinese New Year

The week before and after the Chinese New Year break saw fun and excitement at both campuses. With a celebration of Chinese Culture on Wednesday 6th February, STSS launched the process of cultural exchange with an interactive day led by Ms Chang and Ms Teh and some older students which included calligraphy, cooking and, of course, food to be enjoyed. During this period students from TISS were decorating the school and their rooms; led by Ms Alyssa, Mr Choo, Ms Jessie and Ms Sophie; ready for their celebration on Friday 8th February. This turned out to be a real spectacular, with a traditional mask-changing performance amongst the highlights. All of the schools joined together to witness an exciting Lion dance, which kicked off the TISS celebrations. In TIPS, as well as the story of the naming of the years being told, lanterns were made and tales were told in assembly with the high point of joining the older students in watching the Lions Dance.

School Uniform

The School Shop sells the School Uniform. The uniform is part of what is agreed to when your children join the School and the majority of children follow the uniform and dress code without any problem, which is very encouraging. However there are a number of students who are challenging the rules and this will not be tolerated: some girls have had their skirt shortened to halfway up the thigh and some boys have trousers a size too large allowing for lowering of the waistband to their rear end – not school dress.

For children who appear at school with incorrect dress code, parents will be asked to collect them and take them home until they have the correct uniform. In general that means skirts are near the knee, waistbands on trousers are near the waist/hips not lower and skorts are between knee and mid-thigh.

Hair is another issue of contention: one clear message is that we will not allow students to attend lessons with coloured hair or extravagant/extreme styles. Please do not allow your child to follow such fashion during the school year: if you are happy to let them experiment then limit them to the holidays as long as it’s back to natural for the start of school.

Morning Drop Off

After several upsetting episodes where parents were blocked in or caused a blocking of the drop-off area outside the Primary School, things are looking up! I am grateful to our TISPA Traffic Guides in the mornings, who have really assisted with the speedy release and guidance of children from their cars/vans then up the steps to the doorway; in this they are being assisted by some of our Student Leaders.

To further aid this process I would ask parents/drivers to have the bags with the children not in the trunk/boot as this slows movement. Also, if there is just one child then he/she should sit behind the passenger seat as this is the safest side for the children to alight. If older brothers/sisters are in the car they should get out at the same place rather than stopping twice!

There has been a reduction in the number of Secondary parents/drivers entering the School at 8:45 am and this has greatly improved matters though we still have some families who still ignore the rules. From this week we will record the numbers of the cars and publish them in the Bulletin; if a number is recorded for a third week then we shall publish the name of the family. I really do not wish to follow such draconian steps but for the safety of all we must insist.

From my Office window I have also seen many cars cutting across the road to enter the slip road endangering the safety of all approaching the junction, which is a sad reflection on us all so please desist. Once again I remind families from the Alila side of the area, that a short detour turning left by Summer Garden Restaurant will bring you and your children safely alongside the school and a safe left turn to School (for Primary) or the slip road (for Secondary).

Mr. P. Brisley,
Director of Schools

Next Edition:
Tuesday 7th May
Bugsy Malone is coming to town

Our first ever whole school production— involving children from our International Primary and Secondary schools, as well as our National Secondary school—is getting ready to hit the stage. We will be transforming the atrium of our Tanjung Bungah campus into an open-air stage for this lively event and we are looking forward to welcoming both students and parents from across our community.

The cast and crew have been hard at work since the beginning of term rehearsing to ensure that everything goes right on the night.

It would be great to see all of you attending one or more of the performances—we will have full performances spread over three different nights—as the evening is sure to be packed with exciting entertainment for all the family. Tickets are priced very competitively at just RM20 each and students will be able to purchase these through their form teachers for themselves and their parents/guests. Alternatively you can contact the school office direct to purchase.

A limited number of tickets will be available on the door, but we advise you to purchase in advance to be sure of a seat.

In addition, the performances will be open to guests from outside of our school, so if you are willing to promote the production by displaying a poster or giving out flyers, it would be much appreciated. Contact simon.cullen@tenby.edu.my to request these.

We have identified several sponsors for this event, but if you are also interested in providing sponsorship, with advertising spaces available in programmes and other promotional material, please let us know as soon as possible, also by email to simon.cullen@tenby.edu.my
On 23rd January 2013 a mixed group of 16 Geography, Biology and 21st Century Science students went to Bali, Indonesia for a field trip. It was an extremely tiring trip but in the end it was all worth it as it was both educational and entertaining too!

The first day we had an early flight, so we had to meet at the PIA at 5:15am. When we reached Bali we had a bus ride to Ubud. There we learned about land uses, we walked around the city center of Ubud and did several tourism questionnaires and land use surveys. After that we had dinner at a fancy restaurant. The food was amazing and cheap! The next day was probably the best part of the trip. We all woke up at two in the morning. Why so early? Well we went to climb up a volcano called Mt Batur! It was freezing and dark. But when we arrived at the top the view was spectacular and the sunrise was just beautiful. We learned so much from the tour guides and it was a worthwhile experience. The top of the volcano was extremely chilly but to help heat us up we were served breakfast; a choice of hot tea, coffee or hot chocolate along with some delicious sandwiches and hardboiled egg. After the extreme hike up the volcano we went on a cycling tour through the paddy fields. There we learned about rice cultivation and about the Balinese lifestyle, for example the citizens of Bali often have 2 birthdays in a year! The next day was a more chilled day, we visited two beaches. The first beach was called Amed Beach, we went snorkeling and had the chance to observe the exotic sea life that flourished in Bali waters, we even saw a ship wreck, it was great fun. The second beach we visited was the White Sand Beach, where we had our fantastic seafood lunch. We did beach surveys at both beaches, we learned how to measure slope, wave frequency and such; this will help us a lot in our upcoming IGCSE. After a long day at the beach, we arrived back at the bungalow around dinner time. We ventured through the streets of Ubud with our friends and experienced the different flavours of Bali.

On our final day we visited a glorious waterfall and had lots of fun learning more about rivers and waterfalls. We did lots of river measurements and calculated the river’s velocity. After the long day of hard work we went back to the bungalow for a quick shower, it was time for a quick dinner and some hard earned shopping!

On the flight back we all slept as we were exhausted. Overall this trip was an amazing, worthwhile trip. We learned so much and now we understand how to answer the questions in our upcoming exams as well as taking home some valuable insight into the Balinese culture and memories we will never forget. Thank you so much to Ms. Alison and Mr. Martyn for organizing this trip. We had a great experience!
On Friday 22nd February TIPS participated in their biggest sports event so far. An encouraging 50 children – a third of the school – took part in a Track and Field Meet at Penang’s impressive stadium at Batu Kawan.

The tournament, hosted by St Christopher’s International Primary School, saw International Schools from Penang and Kuala Lumpur participating in a range of Track and Field events. Our pupils sprinted, jumped and threw their way to success giving their very best. Highlights included a sensationally professional 800m win for Year 4’s Jack Wirawan who, like an Olympian followed the lead then sprinted past him in the last 100m. There were mighty throws from Jun and others and some wonderful jumping in sand and over bars.

The event was followed by a barbecue and disco at SCIPS, where the children got a chance to socialise with other competitors. They conducted themselves fantastically behaving like true international students. Well done to all participants and thanks to all of the staff and parents for their support.

Mr Daniel J Fenwick, KS1 Coordinator
Chinese Heritage Day

Although Chinese New Year or other Chinese festivals are common in Malaysia, many of our school students do not have a thorough understanding of the many cultures that make us who we are. Therefore, Sri Tenby Secondary School decided to celebrate Chinese Heritage Day instead of Chinese New Year in order to include more aspects of the Chinese culture. We celebrated our Chinese Heritage Day on 6th February 2013.

On that day, the students who were involved in various performances practiced and rehearsed for the first two lessons. Everyone “gave it their all” so that they were able to perform well.

The celebration began with some magic tricks and skit entitled “Legend of Nian” by Form 1A. Everyone was amazed by the tricks and enjoyed the funny acting of Form 1A students. After that, we had a remix of a “Traditional Fan Dance”, singing and Mini Lion Dance by Form 2 Chinese Intermediate Group. While two girls sang, other girls danced gracefully, with the two mini lion interspersed among them. The last perfor-

Trip to Escape Adventure Theme Park, Teluk Bahang

On 25th of February, 50 students and 10 teachers from STSS went to the Escape Adventure Theme Park, Teluk Bahang. After registration and a briefing by the park staff, students started their day-long adventure.

There are many unique attractions at Escape Penang. Students can choose from the many types of games and fun-filled activities such as swinging from tree to tree like monkeys, leaping like deer, going crazy like apes on the rope walks, bouncing up and down the slopes on tubby racers, and becoming Indiana Jones to look for treasure.

The structure of the adventure park draws from childhood past to capture dreams and traditional values and addresses some of the problems of our current age by encouraging physical wellness and re-connection with nature.

This trip provided the students the experience of interacting with nature in a wholesome environment as well as learning to cooperate with and motivate one another.

The structure of the adventure park draws from childhood past to capture dreams and traditional values and addresses some of the problems of our current age by encouraging physical wellness and re-connection with nature.

continued on next page
How to compare … Do I say “bigger than” or “more bigger”? Form Two STS practices comparison skills on trip to local temples

On Friday, 22 February 2013, Mr Bruce’s Form 2 English Class ventured into the heart of Penang to visit The Dhammikarama Burmese temple and the Reclining Buddha temple (Wat Chayamangkalaram). The purpose of this adventure was to explore both temples and compare and contrast them. These students have been studying ways that English differentiates two or more items and how to use comparative adjectives.

After spending approximately 45 minutes at each temple, the students were required to write an essay about their observations. Some of their comments were:

- Both temples had places where ashes of departed loved ones were kept.
- Each temple is Buddhist, but the Thai temple has a standing Buddha and the Burmese temple has a reclining Buddha.
- The Reclining Buddha is bigger than the Standing Buddha.
- Each temple was quiet, but the Burmese temple was quieter.
- Each site has a main temple with little temples around it, but the Thai temple has more small temples than the Burmese temple.
- The Burmese temple has less people praying at it than the Thai temple.
- The Burmese temple has a fish pond but the Thai temple doesn’t.
- There are many more lanterns inside the Burmese temple than inside the Thai temple.
- After a visit to the souvenir-sellers, where each student was given RM 5.00 to pur-

chase a remembrance, the students returned to school to write their essays. From the reaction of these young men and women, who were on their best behaviour while representing Sri Tenby, it was a rewarding trip to a place where many had never been. And, it was an opportunity to master one more skill in their continuing quest to improve their English.

Get ready! On your mark! Let’s explore!
Happy Chinese New Year & Happy Valentine’s Day