Hurrah! The rain has stopped
Since returning from the December holiday the children have been frustrated in seeing their new play area being completed but, due to the continual rain and sodden ground, not being able to explore the area.
But after a ‘dry’ weekend and a day-or-two of school they were at last allowed to explore. Sadly this only lasted a few days before the rain returned but at least the waiting is over!

The swing bridge seems a popular option!
Climbing up to the cabin—or is it a spaceship?
Stepping stones and balance beams give a challenge to some!

Student ID Cards
New student cards, including a chip which will allow the e-purse cash-free system to be used, will be issued to students from Monday 17th February.

We will email directions for topping up and use: the system will not currently accept the new RM10.00 notes or any RM1.00 bills. (Please note that as in all such machines, sometimes notes may be refused.) As mentioned before, a little further ahead the same card will be used for borrowing and returning materials from the Library, once the new Library system is up-and-running. This will also allow our Librarian to more readily track resources and advise children when books they request will be returned, etc.

We will start by issuing cards to students in Years 7 to 10: they will be asked to sign a receipt form. We propose they retain and keep safe their own cards: after the introductory period we will issue cards for upper KS2. Cards for younger students have been prepared and we are planning that they be retained as a class set to be issued and returned each side of snack and lunch or library but we wish to roll out the cards to our older students in the first instance.

The students will need to sign for their card with the undertaking that if lost they will need to pay a fee of RM10.00 for the replacement: a second and subsequent losses will need RM20.00 for replacement to encourage all to appreciate the need for valuing their cards and respect for their possessions.

Parents and/or students can top-up their cards at the kiosk in the Foyer area adjacent to the Cafeteria and can also check the balance. The card may also be used for Shop purchases and school payments, including CCA. Clear directions for use are shown on the e-purse cabinet in the cafeteria.
Mr Robert Lloyd’s Visit for the Tenby Schools Miri Board Meeting

On Tuesday we welcomed members of the Tenby School Board to our School for the termly meeting. We were pleased to welcome the Board but also Mr Alister Bartholomew who will be joining the Tenby Group as its Chief Education Officer later this month on the retirement of Mr Robert Lloyd our current Director, whom many families have met over the past few years.

Mr Lloyd has been a driving force in the raising of standards and expansion of Tenby Schools and, as he put it recently, is now taking his retirement which he originally planned to do in 2007. Under his time as CEO and Director of Schools, starting with three separately established schools in 2007, the group has expanded to five schools and now all are in purpose built campuses and have a more unified shared philosophy and structures. Though leaving the Tenby Group, Robert will not be leaving Malaysia, where he has spent so much of his time enjoying the diversity of cultures and varied landscapes.

From mid-February Mr Alister Bartholomew will be taking the helm as Tenby continues its journey of improvement, development and expansion. Mr Bartholomew hails from Northumberland in the UK and has worked extensively in the UK and overseas, including associations with Malaysia. Latterly he has been working with ‘branded international schools’ including the Dulwich Group and Haileybury Group in opening and developing their international locations. During February Alister will be visiting all the schools in the Tenby Group and he started with ours, in Miri and took time to meet many of the staff, and informally chatted with several students and parents: we look forward to welcoming him back in the near future and wish him well in his new appointment.

Phillip Brisley
Principal

The House Board in the Cafeteria

(Can you spot the error? Share your answer with a friend!)
Some interesting displays are emerging, this one overlooking the covered play area from the Nursery, outside Ms Eleanor’s Room. It attracts a lot of interest in the morning as children arrive, can you think why it does?

It may not be as famous as the work of “Banksie” but our Year 6 have taken to painting on walls not paper, canvas or card! Some bright graffiti is appearing around the school, here is the largest, though you’ll also spot some in the cafeteria and en-route to the Library. Some of the cafeteria graffiti is also aimed at the need to care for our environment and advertise the need for recycling and the location of bins for that purpose, shown below.

AND, around school.....

DUTCH SCHOOL—TENBY MIRI

After saying our farewells to Bert Smits our Dutch Teacher for the last year and a half, we are fortunate to have appointed Ms Ann Peuscher to cover the Dutch lessons until a permanent teacher appointment can be made.

During this week Ms Ann will have met all of the students in the Dutch School and we look forward to further exciting learning in Dutch when Ann returns from a pre-arranged obligation. I am confident all will welcome Ann and offer assistance in these early days.
The PTA members and the School Admin have ensured the school reflected the current celebration of Chinese New Year, with boards, cafeteria railings, pillars and displays being regaled with lanterns, lamps and Chinese greetings wishing the community Gong Xi Fa Cai.
Drop in the Ocean

A celebration of music and drama

At Tenby International School Miri we represent so many different cultures, religions and traditions: it is what makes us such a diverse and interesting community. There are of course, many things we have in common too, not least our location: Miri, right next to the sea. As we began to ponder a theme for the End of Term Concert, it became apparent that the sea is one thing that connects us all together in some way. It was with this in mind that the theme of ‘The Sea’ became the inspiration and focus for our end of term concert.

Students from Year 3 to Year 10 participated in music and drama items that in some way reflected aspects of the sea: songs, dances, compositions, instrumental pieces all culminating in a finale song ‘Drop in the Ocean’: a rousing song about us all being ‘drops’ in the ever changing tide of life. The drama CCA interjected entertaining and thought provoking performances entitled ‘One day at the beach’.

It was a super evening of singing, dancing, musical items and drama. The voyage took us to the world of pirates, with Year 4’s song ‘Shiver My Timbers’ and Year 9’s instrumental arrangement of ‘He’s a Pirate” the familiar theme from ‘Pirates of the Caribbean’. We were taken ‘Under the Sea’ with Year 3’s colorful and energetic dance, and sailed the waves with Year 6’s rock on and roll ‘Sea Cruise’ and Year 8’s rendition of ‘Surfing USA’ accompanied by Mr Dean and the Tenbeats. The changing moods of the sea were represented through Year 5’s colourful and dramatic composition and dance, while Year 7 performed their own ‘Seaside Stomp’: a super rhythmic piece that used buckets, spades, lifejackets, drift wood and flippers.

It was certainly a memorable evening and all the children excelled under the spotlights of our first major performance in the new Auditorium. Congratulations to all who were involved!

(Here are just a few scenes from the performances: the ‘official’ DVD is available from the reception Desk or Mrs Linda)
Our CULTURE theme continues with Indonesia and we are reminded of this through weekly activities and the ‘culture boards’ which have been created by members of the school parent community and some Assistant Teachers, showing arts, crafts and details of their varied country.

(Our next Culture Theme will be from Nigeria, so from South East Asia to Sub-Saharan Africa)

**IPC Personal Goals**

In addition to the Learning Goals identified by the IPC, of equal importance are the Personal Goals, listed on this display in the Blue Building. Currently the featured Personal Goal is Cooperation. This will be a focus in our classes and hopefully the reinforcement of this at home, even with our youngest children, will reap benefits for the individual and those around him or her.
And some informative displays from outside some of our Secondary Classrooms.

From examples of work to information boards presenting curriculum content and Levels of Attainment, the Secondary Corridors are filling with interest for pupils, colleagues and parents alike.