Dear Parents

This has been an exciting week for our students with the older groups on residential trips around Borneo and West Malaysia, and the younger taking day trips around Miri. The reports and pictures we have received show what a great time all are having; thank you to our teachers for providing our students with these great opportunities.

Several staff have recently been out on professional development activities. Ms Katie Sturrock attended a Literacy workshop, and Ms Cynthia Majinau and Ms Esther Basil one on Behaviour Management, all given by Prof George Beale of Ireland’s Stranmillis University.

Recruitment for Early Years, Lower Primary and Music continues and we have re-advertised. I hope to conclude these interviews in the next few days and to make announcements soon. We have appointed a new Accounts Executive, I have made an offer for a new Marketing Executive and hope to appoint a Pool Technician in the next few days. That leaves only the Facilities Supervisor and the part-time Science Laboratory technician to appoint, for which we have several strong candidates.

This week, I met with several Curtin University Sarawak (“CUS”) Marketing / Media / Management Studies who should be joining us for internships over the next two months. This is an exciting collaboration with CUS and I am thrilled at the strengthening relationship between our two organisations.

TISM’s Admissions office is very busy right now with meeting prospective parents, campus tours and with admissions testing. Several classes are approaching capacity which means we must consider splitting them, as we move towards our strategic goal of a “two form entry” or two classes at each Year level. This of course means it is challenging for us to allocate rooms to classes, so while we have tentatively placed N – Y4 in the Primary (aka “Early Years”) Building, and Y5 – 10 in the Secondary (aka “International”) Building, we will actively monitor the situation over the July / August Break. We will post updates over the Break on the TISM website and on Facebook.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please email me at Robert.Young@tenby.edu.my.

Robert Young
Principal

The Move to Senadin - Update

The pool pumps and filters are installed and pool filling is about to commence. Power has been connected and testing of lights, outlets, air-conditioning units is almost completed; perimeter security and internal road lights are now on each night. The gym and sports facilities proceed apace and are on schedule for completion in a week or so. We have had one hiccup – instead of a master key system, we have a common key so all locks in the school open with the same key! Locks will be re-keyed over the next few weeks to the more traditional system.

Upcoming Events :

1st - 5th July 2013
MiRecycle (Drinks cans)

1st July 2013 (Mon)
Y6 to spend the day with Y7
• 8:00am
  Y6 to report to Y7 Form time/ Registration
• 9:00am - 9:45am
  Primary students “move up” to the next class

2nd - 3rd July 2013
TISM hosts Southland Institute of Technology (NZ)

3rd July 2013 (Wed)
• Lower Primary Sports Day
  (Nursery - Year 2)
• Upper Primary Field events
  (Year 3 - Year 6)
• PTA Disco for Nursery - Year 3,
  5:30pm - 6:30pm
• PTA Disco for Year 4 - Year 9,
  7:00pm - 8:00pm

4th July 2013 (Thu)
Parent Informational Meeting - Senadin campus update

6th - 7th July 2013
KRP Chess Open at KRP

12th July 2013 (Fri)
PTA “STAR” (staff and teacher appreciation) Day - Details to follow

17th July 2013 (Wed)
Upper Primary and Secondary Field events, Miri Stadium
Message from the Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

Residential trips
This week has been a very quiet time in Primary as our Year 3s -6s have been away on residential trips for all or part of the week. The Year 5s have just come back from a fabulous week in Kuching where they thoroughly enjoyed learning all about the culture and history of Sarawak as well as visiting the orang-utan sanctuary.

Our Year 6s are enjoying an adventure week in Kota Kinabalu. The team building and overnight island adventure have been the highlights so far!

Our Year 3 and 4s have left today for a Mystery trip and an overnight trip to the Borneo Rainforest respectively.

An enormous amount of planning and preparation goes into these trips, so I would like to thank all staff for their hard work on and off the trips.

Sports Days
Next week we will be holding the lower school sports day for children in Nursery up to Year 2 on the morning of Wednesday 3rd July. This year the children will be split up into house teams and compete against other house teams across 8 events. Siblings will be in the same team which makes it easier for parents to support all their children together! As in previous years you can move around the course of events following your children. But please be aware that they are part of a team and should stay with the teacher assigned to them at all times. Please come along and cheer on the children and help to make the morning a really enjoyable event. It will start at 8.15am, just after drop off and should last about an hour. Although there will be shade and water stops, don’t forget to apply sunscreen to your child before the event and to make sure they have a full water bottle (which they can take around with them). They should all be wearing hats as well and have shoulders covered. Children should come to school already dressed in their house colours. Green – Cobra; Red – Dragon; Yellow – Lions. If they have purchased a house shirt then this is the time to wear it proudly! If not, a T shirt and shorts in the colour of their house will be fine.

In the afternoon the Years 3-6 will hold their field events – shot put, javelin, chest push, standing long jump, vertical or high jump. They should come to school in their house colours too. House shirts if they have them and shorts. You are welcome to come and watch these if you like, at the following times:

Year 3 – 12.30-1.00
Year 4 – 1.00-1.30
Year 5/6 – 1.30 – 2.10

The track events will happen this year at Miri Stadium (near the Library in the centre of Miri) on Wednesday 17th July. Coaches will take the Years 3-9 there at 8.15 for an 8.45 start. We anticipate finishing at around 11.00am. Please come along to support our students.
Message from the Head of Primary (Cont…)

Classes for next year
The classes for next year have now been decided as follows:
Nursery – to be confirmed
Reception – Miss Jacqui
Year 1 – Miss Hayley
Year 2C – Mr. Charlie (Hayley’s class)
Year 2K – Miss Katie (Sally/Katie’s class)
Year 3 – to be confirmed
Year 4 – Mr. Hennie
Year 5 – Mr. Craig
Year 6 – Miss Karen

We are waiting to confirm the Nursery and Year 3 positions and will introduce these new teachers to you as soon as we can. We are delighted to welcome Mr. Hennie into the Primary School. Prior to starting at TISM, Mr. Hennie taught at Dover Court Preparatory School in Singapore where he was the Year 4 teacher for 2 years. Before that he was at the British International School in Moscow for 4 years teaching Year 5, so he brings a wealth of experience to the team.

Library
The Library is now closed for taking out new books and Mr. Colum would like all books currently at home to be returned by Thursday July 4th at the latest.

Transition morning/day
On Monday all the Primary students will move up to the classes they will be in next year and meet their new teachers. Our Year 6s will spend the day in the Secondary School shadowing our current Year 7s. The current Year 2s will visit me in the Year 3 classroom.

Reports to Parents
Reports will be sent out to you next Friday. These reports summarise the progress made across all aspects of learning. If you wish to speak to your child’s class teacher about anything contained within the reports then please make an appointment using the files outside the office. These will be placed there on Wednesday 3rd July. Please note that as the reports cover your child’s overall progress in learning, this is not a compulsory meeting and it should be arranged only if you wish to discuss a particular aspect of the report. Our Year 6 children will also bring home the results of the recent Checkpoint tests.

Disco
Don’t forget the Disco next Wednesday! As this is a PTA event you are responsible for your children. Whilst staff will be present at this event, they will not oversee the children’s behaviour. This is your responsibility! Please help to make this a fun family occasion.

Tenby’s got Talent
On the last Tuesday of term – 16th July – The Student Council supported by Mr Nic and myself, will host a “Tenby’s got Talent” afternoon for the students in the Primary department. Students will be able to show off their talents in dancing, singing, playing instruments, performing…..the list goes on! If your son or daughter would like to participate individually or as a group, they will need to pick up an entry form from one of the Student Councillors who will pop round to classes towards the end of next week.

I am really looking forward to a wonderful end to the term.

Best wishes
Yvette
Yvette.jeffrey@tenby.edu.my
(Please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns)
Year 1 Trip
For Year 1’s end of year trip we visited Taman Awam and had a SPLASHING time!!! Our current IPC topic is ‘Buildings and Structures’ so we had the chance to study the suspension bridge. We bravely walked across it, it was very scary but lots of fun too!

Thank you to all the mums who came and helped us.

Prepared by: Hayley Saunders
Canada Culture Model

Miss Yvette prepares and hosts a ‘Who wants to be Canadian millionaire?’ assembly.

Year 1H make nanaimo bars with Michelle Danton, Miss Jacquie and Miss Shirley.
Canada Culture Model (Cont...)

Year 1S/K play hockey with Terry Danton, Mr Charlie and Miss Cynthia.

Year 3 learn listen to the story of the Crow and Little Bear with Miss Hayley.

Year 4 learn about the Terry Fox Run with Miss Karen (prepared by Miss Emma P and Tammy Rae).
Canada Culture Model (Cont…)

Year 2 learn about totem poles with Vikas Bhushan, Miss Katie, Miss Shirley and Miss Donna.

We are all looking forward to a special assembly to celebrate Canada Day on Monday the 1st of July!

Prepared by: Miss Julie

MiRecycle
Thank you for support the Paper and car MiRecycle. Each house was able collect a massive amount of card and paper and there was an overwhelming amount in the bike shed!

The overall winners were Cobra, who filled a total of 6 containers all the way to the roof! Well done Cobra Team!

Next is drinks cans. Please rinse and crush the cans. Who will be victorious this time?!

Happy recycling!

Thanks,
Emma W.
Sports Day Track Events

Wednesday 17th July
8:30am – 11:00am, Miri Stadium

All Yr 3 – Yr 9 students will represent their house at the Sports Day Track Events at Miri Stadium.
Track Events: 60M, 100M, 200M, 400M, 800M, 1500M,
Fun Races: Skipping race, Hoop-Lah race, Bean Bag Dash.

YR 3 will compete in a 60M sprint and may choose to compete in any other race.
YR 4 will compete in a 60M sprint and must choose at least 1 other race.
YR 5 must compete in at least 2 races, 1 must be a sprint (60M/100M/200M)
YR 6 must compete in at least 2 races, 1 must be a sprint (60M/100M/200M)
YR 7 – YR 9 must compete in 3 races, 1 must be a sprint (100M/200M), 1 must be a middle or long distance (400M/800M/1500M)
or ‘Fun Races’.

YR 3 and YR 4 may only enter 4 races maximum
YR 5 – YR 9 may only enter 5 races maximum

Students will get 1 house point per event that they enter and bonus points will be allocated for 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions.

Any queries please see Miss Chloe.

Notices

Telephone Numbers
We have applied to Telekom Malaysia (‘TM’) to transfer our existing phone numbers from the Piasau campus to the Senadin campus and we may see a few days when the lines are disconnected; while the numbers will still ring, there will be no answer and no message. This week for example, two of our four lines have been intermittently non-functioning. If you cannot get through on our landlines, please use the school’s mobile number (016 – 596 – 6387) for the next few weeks. We will announce through the website and Facebook when things are back to normal.

Parent Informational Meeting
Remember the Parent Informational Meeting, 6.00pm Thursday 4 July. TISM Board Chair and Tenby Group of Schools (“TGS”) Director of Education Mr Robert Lloyd and TGS Director of New School Construction Mr Edwin Tan will be present to answer questions. The meeting will be held at the Piasau Campus; the venue will be announced next week and through Facebook. Please send any questions or discussion points or the meeting to Robert.Young@tenby.edu.my.

Swimming 2013/2014
Next term will see a big step up in the TISM Swimming programme with daily AM training, more rigorous training and more events. Students wishing to try out for the TISM Swimming Squad will face qualifying times across several events, and so anyone interested in training over the July / August break should see Head of Swimming Mr Hennie Smit for a training programme and the qualifying times for the different events and different age-groups. We will also run after-school recreational swimming for those who do not want to compete at a high level or are still working on meeting the qualifying standards. Information will be posted on the TISM website and announced through Facebook when available.

Scuba Courses 2013/2014
Details are being confirmed for scuba courses for students in Years Four and up. There will be three levels of courses, with those over fourteen years eligible to sit for the PADI Open Water Certificate. Registration forms and payment information will be posted on the TISM website when available, and announced through Facebook.

Football 2013/2014
An outline programme for recreational and competitive soccer is being arranged starting from Under Fours all the way up to de facto First Elevens. We hope to have preliminary information available before the end of term, and will also post it on the TISM website and on Facebook.

Admissions
Parents of children who are three years old on 1 September may apply for Admission for a 1 September entry, although the child must meet our usual criteria:

- Be fully potty-trained
- Be emotionally and psychologically ready
- Be assessed as ready by our EY staff

Parents should be aware that occasionally the School will assess a child as not yet being ready for a 1 September entry and so will not offer a place, but will defer it to a 1 January consideration.

Children who are three years old on 1 January may apply as above, however if the School feels that the child is not yet ready, the Admissions process will be delayed until later in the year when the child will be assessed for a 1 September entry as above.