



Principal's Blog

4 May 2015

It is hard to believe that we are now in the final term of our first year. Time has passed quickly but so much has been accomplished and there is so much to look forward to in the future.

Firstly, there is the excitement of our team of 14 athletes taking part in the COBIS Games in Athens. As the only school in Hong Kong which is a member of COBIS, it is a great honour to be chosen as one of the 16 teams participating.

At the same time, I have been asked to speak at the COBIS conference where I will take part in two sessions: one describing how we opened a new school in Hong Kong and the other on how we use assessment to improve learning. Over 200 schools from around the world will be represented along with 250 companies.

As a new school, we have attracted a lot of interest. I joke that my real job is to be a tour guide for the school since so many visitors from around the world as well as people in Hong Kong want to visit the school and share in the excitement.

Of course, everyone wants to know what great new developments we are going to have. Remember to come, if you can, to the meeting we are holding on 20 May to find out the details. I will be explaining how we will be developing the Secondary school, adapting our educational philosophy and establishing our teacher training and professional development campus. We will also be explaining our involvement in the local community with scholarships and facilities being made available outside school hours. In addition, we will be referring to curricular developments – especially the very exciting prospect of working with The Juilliard School of New York. We are very fortunate that one of our Music staff, Naomi Rowan, has been chosen as a Curriculum Fellow by Nord Anglia Education to work with The Juilliard School to develop a curriculum which will be used in all of our schools. A rolling programme for new courses in Music, Drama and Dance, supported by Juilliard Alumni, will be introduced.

Obviously, for the pupils, the big excitement is about going on the school's first residential trips. It certainly is something to look forward to and, in my experience, it is the first thing that former pupils remember in later years.

There is so much to look forward to: more House competitions and a final result to see who wins the trophy; the Gala Dinner being organised with the PTA – please come and celebrate our first fantastic year; the end of year reports; the Year 4 Performance; the School Show led by Year 6 and the Year 6 graduation. Some of our musicians will be performing at the Canada Day celebrations organised by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Of course, this is capped by our three pupils – Kitty Zhu (Year 5), Caresse Yang (Year 5) and Nina Finch (Year 6) being selected to represent the school in the Nord Anglia Education Global Orchestra in New York.

What a lot to look forward to – what a year!