



Secondary Spotlight

17th May 2019
Term 3, Edition 4

Secondary Notices

Monday 20 th May	Vesak Day
Tuesday 21 st May	School Holiday
Thursday 23 rd May	Year 13 Graduation and Celebration
Friday 24 th May	House Day – Creative Arts

TTT Deadlines: w/c 20th May

Year 7 – French/ Mandarin and Music & Computing, Year 8 –Visual Arts and DT, and Geography, Year 9 – History

Student Wellbeing

There are times when a comparison between peers may be used to reinforce expectations and to help us understand what is “normal” and what is not. However, on most occasions it is not appreciated by students when we compare them against others who have a particular skill set (e.g. top Maths student) or aptitude just to provide additional motivation. Adolescents don’t see it that way. They feel they are being judged and/or are not good enough. The competition is really with the individual to be the best they can and what is helpful is to reinforce achievements by your son/daughter that show improvement against their own performance. The work by Carol Dweck (Developing a Growth Mindset) is also significant in understanding and encouraging students in the learning process. Some tips from Dr Dweck include: Encourage perseverance, provide opportunities to challenge your child, tell them when they are trying hard, not doing so well should be a learning opportunity, reinforce the concept that effort and attitude determine everything. These strategies will go a long way to help build self-esteem and confidence in their own ability rather than easily give up because they don’t meet our expectations in comparison to their peers.

Our subject in the Spotlight this week is...Geography

Year 7: In geography this term students are completing their studies of population management and will move onto looking at developing their understanding of weather and climate patterns; discussing the impact of climate change at a range of different scales.

Year 8: Year 8 have begun to analyse the interactions and conflicts between different users in our unit about Limestone environments. Students will gain relevant information about the formation of limestone features and the impacts people can have on these fragile environments.

Year 9: Year 9 have begun to develop the geographical awareness of the impacts different types of energy have on a range of environments from the viewpoints of different stakeholders- this week we looked at the impact of fracking in the USA.

Year 10: In Year 10 geography we are working on unit 3 of the iGCSE specification; 'Urban Environments'. Students have recently produced excellent revision homework and presentations about shanty towns. Our next step is to look at the challenges urban areas, such as Singapore, face.

Year 11: Year 11 have reached the exam period. It has been incredible to see how dedicated the class have been towards their studying and I wish them luck in the first of the two exams next week!

Update from IB Coordinator: Year 13 are past the halfway point in their exams and will be looking forward to next week's graduation ceremony at the British High Commissioner's Residence. Year 12 have started their preparations for the science field trip to Tioman at the end of the month.

