



13 March 2015

Dear Parents,

I promise you that I am *trying* to make these weekly updates shorter, but there is just so much going on at NAIS!

18 March (3.00pm to 6.00pm): Parent-Teacher conferences. *Details below.*

19 March (3.00pm to 7.00pm): Parent-Teachers conferences. *Details below.*

19 March: Parent Workshop – 8.15 to 9.00am – How we teach your child Mandarin (Year 3 & 4 only). Please RSVP to ricky.auyeung@nais.hk

19 March: Family Mini-Sports Day. *Details below.*

20 March: Parent Workshop – 8.15 to 9.00am – ‘Mindfulness Matters’ run by Angie Bucu, a specialist in wellness for children and teens. *Details below.*

20 March: World Poetry Day – Performance by our Year 5s at 1.30pm in the Hall ([Year 5 parents invited](#)).

23-27 March: Sign-up lists released for Term 3 ECAs

26 March: International Day. *Details below.*

27 March: Last day of term – Early finish (1.00pm) – usual bus service available

YEAR 7 – AN ACTION-PACKED WEEK

The Year 7s have had a full week of in-school and off-site learning experiences this week. Do please look at their [Year 7 Blog](#). It gives an excellent overview of the exciting projects that they’ve been working on together. Next week they have a challenging cross-curriculum ‘Amazing Race’-style activity all over Hong Kong to which to look forward.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

You should all have received a letter from your child’s teacher inviting you to make an appointment to discuss your child’s progress. On Monday, we will also be emailing you all a link to an appointment-booking page so that you can select a time to see your child’s Mandarin teacher. Please book quickly as the appointment times fill up fast.

PARENT PORTAL – MID-YEAR REPORTS – [Click here](#)

All Mid-Year Reports are now on our Parent Portal. If you’re having any problem logging on, please remember to contact David Boyd – david.boyd@nais.hk. You can also view your child’s timetable and your contact details (you can edit and update your email and mobile numbers here). For FAQs about the Parent Portal, [please see here](#).

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – Finished this week – Start again on 27 April

ECAs finished yesterday for Term 2. We’ll be sending out the schedule and the online sign-up

sheets for Term 3 in the week before the Easter break (23-28 March).

SPORTS' TEAMS TRAINING TIMES (Term 3)

Next week, our PE department will be running trials for the selection of children to join our sports teams. In Term 3 these teams will train after school (from 3pm to 4pm). We're looking at basketball, football, touch rugby and netball. If your child is selected, then our PE Team will send you the details of the training days for next term.

GLOBAL ORCHESTRA – Heading to New York! [Click for more details.](#)

Our Music Department is delighted to be auditioning five talented musicians and singers for our Nord Anglia Global Orchestra. Our local auditions will be videoed and sent through to our global audition panel on 20 March. Three pupils will be chosen to fly to New York to join musicians from our 34 other schools for a week-long Summer Camp. Another marvellous example of the power of our 35 schools!

'MARCH TO ATHENS' – Please bring your form to school every Monday

By last Monday we had made it to Myanmar! So we've still got a long way to go. Please encourage your children to get out and hike, swim, run, cycle and to log their kilometres on their March-to-Athens form. You can also add your own kilometres to your child's list. Mr Pate has also asked if you could email him – martin.pate@nais.hk – any photos of your children (and you) hiking, running or swimming. He'd like to share some photos of our pupils getting fit and active this month.

19 MARCH - FAMILY INDOOR SPORTS DAY – Make up a team with your child or children!

As part of our 'March-to-Athens' month (1 – 28 March) we're encouraging pupils, staff and parents to focus on health and fitness. An important part of promoting health and fitness is to make it FUN. So please join us for this relaxed and fun Family Sports Day. [Please RSVP using this link.](#)

Date & Time: Thursday 19 March, 1.15pm to 2.45pm

Teams: Each team will be two adults and two children. This can be mum, dad and two children, or you can pair up with friends or teachers. If you don't have a full team, don't worry. We can match you up with another family.

Format: Fun-filled obstacle course in the Hall!

GLOBAL CLASSROOM'S – COINS FOR KIDS

All our classes are competing fiercely to collect coins (Hong Kong only) for our international charity – UNICEF's Syrian Refugee Fund. We're all looking forward to the last day of term (Friday 27 March) when we'll be holding a competition in the Hall to see which class can create the longest chain of coins, and have the biggest donation for our charity.

RESIDENTIAL CAMP – DEPOSITS DUE BY 27 MARCH FOR YEARS 3 TO 7

You should all have received an email asking for a deposit towards your child's Residential Camp (week of 15 to 19 June). If you've accidentally deleted your email, [you can also view the information on your child's year blog.](#)

INTERNATIONAL DAY UPDATE – 26 MARCH

Our pupils are in for a massive treat during International Day. We have been blown away by the amazing efforts that our parent volunteers have put into their country and region stalls. I don't want to give too much away, but the children are going to be in for some big surprises and treats from around the world!

STAR OF THE WEEK – 'CREATING' – [Click here for photos](#)

Following on from the four core skills that we encourage in all our pupils – practising, creating, linking, thinking (PCLT) – we celebrated our Stars of the Week in Creating in today's Assembly. Mr Bishop spoke about how important it is for our pupils to have imagination, flexible thinking and big-picture ideas!

Year 1: Jayden Zhao, Saffron Haigh, Csenge Horvath, Lydia Forster, Vivaan Madnani

Year 2: Oliver Walpole, Gilles Bogaert, Daniel Ng, Toby Deacon-Potter, Poko Lau

Year 3: Henry Zheng, William Wang, Alvin Law, Summer Marnier

Year 4: Ayaka Seki, Umberto Vidali, Selene Chan, Brendan Cheung

Year 5: Isabell Ng, Stephy Chan, Steven Wu

Year 6: Amaya Berrisford, Jamie Law

Year 7: Peony Hong, Suzy Ingrouille

Also, a big thank you to Kingsley Lui (Year 4) on piano, Kaitlyn Chak (Year 2) on the flute and Sean Wu (Year 2) on the violin who serenaded their classmates as they came into Assembly. Enjoying these mini musical performances has become a bit of a tradition for all our whole-school assemblies now. It's lovely for us and great for our musicians' confidence to practice playing in front of a live audience! They will all be participating in the Hong Kong Music Festival.

PARENT WORKSHOP – HOW WE TEACH MANDARIN (FOR YEARS 1 & 2)

Thank you to our Year 1 and 2 parents who came to learn more about how we teach Mandarin in these year groups. If you missed the presentation, or would like a refresher, you can [click here to see the presentation](#). Don't forget that next week (19 March) we have a workshop for Years 3 & 4 parents.

20 MARCH - PARENT WORKSHOP ON 'MINDFULNESS MATTERS' – Courses for children and teens

We are delighted to be offering a Parent Workshop with Wellness specialist, Angie Bucu. Following the Workshop, Ms Bucu will be running an eight-to-ten week programme for our pupils (Years 3 to 6) after school during Term 3. Limited to 12 children, the programme teaches them skills to focus and concentrate more fully, to notice what is going on in their minds and bodies, and to stop and calm down. More details will be shared with you all before Easter.

THRILLING INTER-HOUSE FOOTBALL – [Click here for some photos](#).

We had a thrilling and loud (!) Inter-house Football tournament this week, packed with action and talent. There were some great team and individual performances by our pupils as well as some very vocal supporters! The winners this time were:

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- Years 1 & 2: Caernarfon (Well done to Yahya Saad who scored all his team's goals!)
 - Years 3 to 6: Balmoral
 - Year 7: Windsor and Sandringham, joint winners

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Mrs Harley has asked me to remind you of our school procedures with regard to absences from school: "If your child is absent from school due to illness, please let your class teacher and bus coordinator know (if applicable). If you wish to request permission to take your child out of school during term time, please be aware that this must be requested in advance and permission given by one of our Assistant Principals." For Years 1 to 4 please contact: Sarah.Harley@nais.hk and for Years 5 to 7, contact: Christian.Bishop@nais.hk

I think that's all for now. Please continue to check your child's Class Blog for important information, and to enjoy some lovely photos of what your child is doing during the week.

Warm regards,

Rebecca

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