Newsletter: Vol. 02 - No. 02 | 7 September 2018

# **What an Enthusiastic Start to Learning**

It has been a busy and very positive start to the new school year here at NIS and it has been great to see everyone in our school community working together to welcome both returning and new students and families. Our students are being well supported by their teachers and student buddies to ensure that they all feel happy and secure, and get off to a great start in their new school or new classes. Meanwhile, our new parents are also being looked after by our supportive parent body, making sure they too get off to a good start in their new lives here in Jakarta and at NIS.

The children have settled into the routines of the school day, familiar with their schedules, and finding their way around. It is now then, that the serious business of learning can really get going. Our teachers are once again challenged with the important task of creating a dynamic learning environment, that is stimulating, engaging and fuels a thirst for learning in each one of our students. We want each child to be excited to



come to school each day. We want to feed their curiosity and ignite passions. We aim to inspire ambition in every child. This means that teachers really need to know the children in their care so that the learning journey for each student can be personalised. From the very start of the year, and on-going throughout the year, teachers will be forging strong relationships with the students and continually assessing their progress. They will be working closely with each child to ensure that they are tailoring teaching

and learning to ensure great learning outcomes for all, while also nurturing students to become confident self-motivated learners. There will be lots of scheduled opportunities throughout the term to see what and how your child is learning, but please do help us to get to know your child by sharing with us any concerns or worries that you or they may have – this will allow us to work in partnership to best support your child.

It has been a positive start to the school year and we are excited for the year ahead. We look forward to nurturing and guiding each and every child on their learning journey and seeing their personal growth across the year.

Thanks for your trust and support.

Niki Meehan *Principal* 

## **Parent Partnership**

We strive to ensure that each child has a positive experience of school. And we know that for this to happen, parents need to be actively involved and kept well informed. To this end, we are hosting a series of Parent Workshops, Learning Showcases and Parent-Teacher Conferences throughout the year. Each of these is aimed at helping parents to understand how we approach teaching and learning in different curriculum areas and with different year groups, and to understand the progress that children are making. Please see Diary Dates and website for information about Term 1 events.

### **Parent Event Team**

We would like to establish a team of parent volunteers who can provide support for school events such as the Winter Fair, Family Fun Day or Garden Party. We also hope that this group can be proactive in organising additional events to help enhance the experience for our students or parents. If you would like to become part of this group and can make a regular commitment to joining planning meetings, please inform Lia at Reception. The first PET meeting will be held on Monday 17 September at 7:45. During this meeting the group can nominate a group committee who can regularly liaise with school. We look forward to working with you to enhance the community events we provide to our students and parents.



#### Parent Reading Volunteers

We are looking for parents who are interested in supporting reading at school. Reading volunteers can provide valuable support by getting involved in daily 1:1 reading time and story time in class or in the library. For scheduling reasons, Reading Volunteers need to be able to make a regular weekly commitment of 1 hour and be willing to support in classes that are not their own child's. Training and guidance will be provided on how to support reading. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill in a Reading Volunteer Form with Lia at the Reception.



#### **ECA Programme**

In addition to the stimulating classroom learning that is taking place, we are also delighted with the participation in our ECA programme. With an expanded ECA programme, more children than ever are getting the opportunity to develop their skills and challenge themselves with new activities. From energetic gymnastics and games sessions to creative painting andarts classes, the children have a wonderful opportunity to learn alongside new friends, learn new skills and have a lot of fun. Please be reminded that children attending NIS Teacher-Lead sessions should be collected from the teacher in the Foyer. Children attending private lessons, can be collected directly from the ECA. We also ask that parents wait until the end of the session to pick up their child as having lots of parents looking in on the lesson can be distracting for both the children and the teachers. Thanks for your cooperation and support.



# **Young Naturalists in Year 1**

**Ms Julia Lannary** 

Developing children's curiosity through the natural world. The children find natural objects outside of the classroom that they are interested in looking at even closer. They are encouraged to use a magnifying glass to see nature up close. We found a butterfly that had died; they were fascinated to look really closely at the patterns on the wings.









## **Gruesome Science in Year 4-5**

**Ms Juliet Randle** 





Year 4 and 5 have been inquiring into the human digestive system. As part of their learning, on Thursday the students were able to experience what the stomach and intestines look like first hand. Wearing gloves, masks and aprons the students soon lost their squeamishness to become fully immersed in the dissection.

Firstly, they examined the exterior of a stomach and oesophagus before opening it to be amazed and fascinated by how different the interior lining was. One student even stated that the stomach lining was beautiful. The intestines produced many excited and interested responses. Both visually and by touch the students compared both the small and large intestine. Also, of interest was how the rectum held quite dry faeces while the large intestine contained soft, squishy matter. The students asked many questions to help clarify their understanding which lead to other questions about different parts or systems within our body.

Having already learnt about the digestive process they were able to relate what they could see and touch with what they already knew – great connections from theory to actual.





# **Diary Dates**

#### 2018-2019 Term Dates Calendar

Please see here for our school's calendar

#### **Learning Overview**

Weekly for each class

#### **Class News & School Newsletter**

Every two weeks (alternating)

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences / **Target Setting**

Wednesday 10 - Thursday 11 October (14:30-19:30)

#### **Learning Showcase Week**

Wednesday 31 Oct - Friday 2 November (7:45-8:45)

#### **Students Reports Issued**

Monday 10 December

### **Parent Workshops**

READING: Friday 7 September (7:45-8:30) PHONICS: Friday 21 September (7:45-8:30) MATHS: Friday 26 October (7:45-8:30) READING: Friday 16 November (7:45-8:30)

#### Art in the Park Exhibition Opening

Monday 8 October (7:45-8:45)

#### **Early Years Cubs School Performance**

Monday 10 December (7:45-8:45)

### **Primary School Performance (Year 1-6)**

Tuesday 11 December (13:00-14:00)

#### **Family Fun Day**

Saturday 27 October 2018