



## Feeding Curiosity



**Dear Parents,**

It has been another busy week of great learning here at NAS Jakarta and it is wonderful to see such high levels of enthusiasm and engagement from the students across all age groups. However, when a child finishes school for the day and parents ask what they learned today, we know that response is quite frequently a bit vague and along the lines of, "Just Stuff". So, what is this 'stuff' that the children are doing that keeps them so busy, so engaged and so excited about learning?

Each week at NAS Jakarta the stuff that is going on is so varied and provides children with such a rich education, academically, socially and physically. At the heart of our approach is the belief that children are naturally curious and that it is our job as educators is to feed that curiosity. Whatever the age of the students, it is essential to retain the agency and

creativity inherent in play and inquiry, and to use this in a constructive and exciting manner to enhance the learning process. It might look different for older students but the spirit of play and inquiry, and excitement in learning and making sense of new concepts, is there whether you are in Nursery or Year 6.

Our approach is to create opportunities and tasks to challenge and deepen children's learning; to get them to think in different ways, to question, to learn through exploration and imagination, while working individually or collaboratively. In different contexts we open the learning tasks so that students can take their learning in different directions – exploiting their individual strengths, interests and existing knowledge. Where possible we try to link learning to real life contexts such as; comparing the social geography of Jakarta with that of children's own cities and countries; using cooking as a method for teaching measure; setting up a social enterprise company to address the issues of ethical commerce. We also place great emphasis on children gaining the confidence to present and speak in front of an audience and love to see the children sharing their learning successes during our assemblies and in class presentations, and presenting their opinions in debates or circle time activities. We also love to take learning outside the classroom, and it is common to see children playing the ukulele under the tree, being botanists or artists in the garden, or physicists exploring levers and pulley systems to move things up and across the climbing equipment.

So, when your child tells you that they did 'stuff' today, please know that this means they have had a day full of exciting learning. Know that their teacher is feeding their curiosity and challenging them to know about the world around them. We look forward to sharing this great learning with you during our parent-teacher conferences and learning showcase mornings that are coming up soon.

**Niki Meehan**  
Principal

## Family Fun Day



A wonderful day was had by all on Saturday as we enjoyed our first family Fun Day of the new school year. The sun shone and our community spirit was plentiful as returning and new families came together with staff to enjoy this opportunity to socialise. The children delighted in all the activities available to them and looked cute after their visits to the face painting and nail art bar. Fuelled with delicious foods and tasty drinks, and entertained by our resident DJ Ms. Lou, this was a perfect way to spend a Saturday morning. Thanks to everyone who came along and made the day so special.

## Community Playtime each Friday



We will opening up our playgrounds each Friday afternoon to the children in the local Kampung so that they can come and enjoy our wonderful play facilities. We know the local children will have a great time accessing the climbing frames, football field, and the sand and water play. But, we also know that they will have an even more enjoyable time if they play not just IN our school but WITH our school community. We would love our students and parents to stay a bit longer on a Friday when they can so that NASJ children and the local children can become friends and play together. We begin this wonderful community partnership next Friday 20 September.

## Exploring Forces in the Eagle Class



As part of their themed learning unit 'Fairgrounds and Forces', the Eagles class have become young scientists. At every turn, there is evidence of their learning as they have been conducting many interesting and challenging investigations involving forces. This hands-on approach to learning engages them in real life learning and strengthens their scientific knowledge and skills. They have been learning about fair testing and using scientific language to explain each step of the scientific inquiry process.



## Weekly Farmer's Market @ NAS Jakarta

Each Friday at 7:15 - 8:30

We invite parents to come and buy your vegetables and fruits from our community sellers. Each Friday, under the tree, we will have one local vendor offering local produce at fair prices and with no plastic packaging. Parents are asked to bring along their own bag or reusable vegetable bags will be available to purchase. Please also ensure you have 'small change' to pay the seller. This is a convenient, plastic way to shop that also supports our local community.



## Exploring Batik in Year 1 Komodos

Year One Komodos are really enjoying their themed learning topic, 'Let's Celebrate!'. They explored and discussed Batik and other fabrics that can be worn at celebrations around the world. In their first exciting trip to the art room this year, they used masking tape and watercolour paints to design a celebration fabric on paper. They are looking forward to making a Batik design on fabric and exploring the magic of wax resistance in the coming weeks.



## Buddy Reading

We love reading here at NAS Jakarta and always enjoy spending time with a good book. Even better when that book is shared with someone else! Last week we held a 'Buddy Reading' afternoon where our older children selected a book and then shared this with a younger student. The older students were wonderful, using animated voices and gestures to bring the stories alive for the younger children who were enthralled. A great way to develop a shared love of reading in all our students.



## Air Quality Management

We are continuing to monitor AQI levels and to implement our AQI protocols. From next week, we will also be monitoring internal AQI readings in different locations within school and cross referencing this data from the monitoring stations in South Jakarta. More plants will also be appearing in classes and teachers and children are getting better at closing their doors. Principals from the international schools across Jakarta will be meeting next Monday to discuss the topic of air quality management and to share best practice. In line with our protocols, any parents requesting children to remain indoors when the AQI levels are at 150+ should put their request in writing to the class teacher. (Please be aware that this may mean that children will be withdrawn from swimming, outdoor play, outdoor learning or ECA activities. When this happens, the school will endeavour to provide a suitable indoor activity for the children).



## Diary Dates

### 2019-2020 Term Dates Calendar

Please see our website for our school's calendar

### Learning Overview

Weekly for each class

### Class News & School Newsletter

Every two weeks (alternating)

### Student Report Issued

Monday 16 December

### Catch Up & Coffee (Nursery & Foundation 1)

Thursday 26 September (7:45-8:30)

Thursday 21 November (7:45-8:30)

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wednesday 2 & Thursday 3 October  
(14:45-19:00)

### Learning Showcase Week

Wednesday 9 - Friday 11 October  
(8:00-9:00)

### JASIS ATHLETICS

Saturday 16 November  
(hosted at NAS Jakarta)

### EYFS Concert

Wednesday 27 November  
(8:00-9:00)

### Primary Concert

Friday 29 November  
(13:00-14:00)

### NAS Jakarta Bazaar

Saturday 7 December