



27 February 2015

Dear Parents,

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

All of March	Cover 8,566km by any (non-motorised!) means and 'March to Athens' in support of our COBIS Team. <i>Details below.</i>
2 – 27 March	'COINS FOR KIDS' – Dig out your old copper coins and bring them to school to support Syrian children displaced by the civil war. <i>More details below.</i>
2 March:	Year 3 Coffee Morning – Cafeteria – 8.00am to 9.00am
3 March:	Year 1 Trip to Hong Kong Park.
9 March:	Mid-Year School Reports (All years).
17 & 18 March:	Parent & Teacher meetings. 3.00pm to 6.00pm on both days. (All years)
19 March:	Indoor Mini-Sports Day! - Part of our 'March to Athens' month.
20 March	Year 5 – World Poetry Day Performance (Year 5 parents invited)
20 March	Auditions for the Nord Anglia Global Orchestra. <i>Details below.</i>
26 March	International Day. Morning and Afternoon.
14 – 16 May:	COBIS Primary Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.
6 June:	NAIS Gala Dinner (You still have time to complete this <a href="#">short survey</a> and give your views).
Week of 15 to 19 June:	Residential Trips for Years 3 to 7.
23 June – 1 July	Nord Anglia Global Orchestra Residential Trip to New York.

Please remember to check the homepage of our website – and scroll down – to see all the

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*latest activities and news!*

### **NORD ANGLIA'S GLOBAL ORCHESTRA – Aim to be part of our first**

The big news of this week is our search for talent for our **first ever Nord Anglia Global Orchestra!** Our music teachers will be inviting singers and musicians (Years 5 and above) from all our schools to audition to join our Orchestra. We'll be having local, regional and then worldwide auditions, with the chosen pupils being invited to a week-long residential trip (all expenses paid) to New York, ending in a public performance of our talented singers and musicians. We'll be holding auditions on 20 March, and Miss Rowan and Mr Widger will be contacting a selection of our best singers and musicians next week to invite them to our auditions. Please keep [checking our website](#) and Facebook for more details of this amazing project!

### **'MARCH TO ATHENS' WITH OUR COBIS TEAM!**

I wanted to flag up a great initiative that our PE Team will be sharing with your children next Monday. To support our team of 14 athletes who are heading to Athens for the COBIS Primary Olympic Games in May, our PE Team is inviting all our pupils, parents and staff to do a sponsored "March to Athens" during the month of March. The bad news is that it's 8,566 km from Hong Kong to Athens! The good news is that we'll all be sharing the pain and the excitement! Your children will be bringing home a sponsored 'March to Athens' sheet, on which they can log every kilometre that they travel during the month of March: on foot, by bike, swimming, roller-blading, dragon boating – any sport you like. We'll be posting more details on the website next week, and the letter will be coming home in your child's bag. We're all looking forward to ticking off the kilometres over the next four weeks.

### **LATEST PARENT WORKSHOPS**

We've now added the schedule for Parent Workshops for March and April. Please see [full list here](#). Over the next two months we'll be covering 'How we teach your child Mandarin' (difference sessions for different year groups); 'How we teach Spanish', 'Effective Parenting' and a broad introduction to the benefits of the English National Curriculum. As usual, please RSVP to [ricky.auyeung@nais.hk](mailto:ricky.auyeung@nais.hk) so that we can ensure that we have the right number of chairs (and the right size venue!) for all the parents that wish to attend.

### **GIVING BACK – NAIS PUPILS SELECT LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CHARITIES TO SUPPORT**

Appreciating how fortunate we all are here in Hong Kong, and understanding the responsibility of giving to those less fortunate than we are, is an important part of our school ethos. Over the past few weeks our pupils have been talking about charities – local and international – that they would like to support. This week, they made their final selection.

We're delighted that our pupils – after a vote among years 4 to 7 – have chosen to support the UNICEF's Syrian Refugee Fund. Each House also selected a local Hong Kong charity to support. These are:

- Balmoral – Changing Young Lives
- Caernarfon – Feeding Hong Kong
- Windsor – Heep Hong Society

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- Sandringham – Bring me a Book

The Heads of Houses have asked me to announce our first initiative: **COINS FOR KIDS**. All our children and staff are being encouraged to empty those little copper coins out of the bottom of drawers and from behind the sofa cushions. Each House will have a large pot that the children can fill with the coins. On the last day of the Spring Term (27 March), each House will take their pile of copper coins and lay them out in a long line in the Hall. The longest line in the House Winner! These coins will then be collected up and donated to the UNICEF Syrian Refugee Fund.

We really are delighted and proud that the children have taken such a strong sense of ownership of this process and they are already planning lots of fundraising activities.

### INTERNATIONAL DAY – 26 March

Mariam Khalik has asked me to thank all the volunteers who came to the meeting on International Day this morning. We now have parents organising displays for almost all of our 31 countries, which is a great representation of our multinational student body. I am, as always, in awe of all the amazing mums and dads that give their time, enthusiasm and ability to help us organise these fun and interesting activities for our children. If you'd still like to get involved – whether by coming into the school, or by lending or donating items from your country – please contact Ms Khalik on: [mariam.khalik@nais.hk](mailto:mariam.khalik@nais.hk) and she can put you in touch with your country's volunteers.

### STAR OF THE WEEK – CELEBRATING OUR GREAT THINKERS

Year 1: Howard Tan, Lawrence Doe, Hiro Hida, Talha Waleed, Imogen Harley

Year 2: Jack Cooper, Rafi Mithani, Benjamin Thomas, Jayden Coan, Alex Wadsworth, Chun Fai Wat

Year 3: Angel Ju, Luca Cavanagh, Jacopo Carazzai

Year 4: Sherise Cheung, Vita Tang, Justin Wong, Rayyan Saad

Year 5: Hugo Hui, Kaho Ishida, Joseph Whitaker

Year 6: Mattia Muggeri, Crystal Deng

Year 7: Ryan Chu, Toby Fung

### REMINDER – MARCH LUNCH MENU

If you've not yet signed up for your March lunches, please see the [menu](#) here.

Finally, please remember that **we need three months' notice if you intend to withdraw your child from NAIS, so please let us know by 31 March if you'll not be back after the summer break.** Obviously, we hope that we don't hear from any of you!