

# OWIS Newsletter



## Message from the Head

Welcome back to the start of Term 2 and to new students Remus Fung (Grade 1) and Hyung Mo Cho (EC2B) who joined our school this week. Many thanks to the parents who attended our Mandarin Morning Tea last Tuesday. It was an informative session finishing with our Chinese teacher Gladys Ong demonstrating websites (see over) which can be used at home to help with Mandarin learning. On Wednesday 24th November, please do come and join myself and Alyson Rees, Deputy Head for an informal Q and A session where we can share ideas to further improve our school in collaboration with parents.

## Field Trips

Field trips are an important way of enriching our children's learning experiences. They may be linked directly to promoting knowledge, understanding and skills linked to a particular Unit of Inquiry, or to promoting the development of the attributes of the Learner Profile. We aim to expose children to new experiences and make the most of the rich local



environment. Grades Three and Four each took part in an exciting field trip this week: As part of their inquiries into

communication systems, Grade Three students visited the Lighthouse School for the Deaf and



Blind. Our students met some of the Lighthouse students and learnt from them how they use Braille and Sign Language to communicate. During the visit the students particularly showed the Learner Profile attribute of being open-minded and discovering that they had a lot in common with the Lighthouse students, including enjoying a game of *Jenga*.

As part of their inquiries into The Middle Ages,



Grade Four students visited the Asian Civilisations Museum. With the help of a guide, they explored The Middle Ages from an Asian perspective. This enabled them to become more knowledgeable (another learner profile attribute) and develop a global perspective. For example, they found out about how the silk trade led to connections between different countries.



If you would like to know more about how field trips fit into our PYP curriculum, please contact [alyson@owis.org](mailto:alyson@owis.org).

## School photographs

This week all children had their individual and class photographs taken as well as being included in a whole school photo. A print of the individual photo will be sent home and you may choose to buy or return this. Along with the print, you will receive details on further options.

## Dates to remember

**Mon 15th Nov**  
Swimming begins for EC2-Prep

**Wed 17th Nov**  
Hari Raya public holiday

**Wed 24th Nov**  
Morning tea with Head and Deputy Head of School





### Calendar updates

We have sent home an updated school calendar as Vesak Day has now been confirmed as 17th May rather than the original date placed on the calendar. As the school calendar was published last academic year, the 10th May holiday will not be removed. Students will have the extra public holiday on 17th May whilst staff will have an extra staff training day. Calendars are not just about school holidays, however, and the number of days available for learning does have an impact on student progress. For next year, the calendar will be reviewed with the aim of working towards an academic year with over 190 school days. We welcome any thoughts you may have on the structure of the school calendar for the future.

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### Thank you

Many thanks to the parent who donated a large number of books to our library this week and also to the parent who is kindly helping us to run a ball skills programme each Friday for Grades 1-6 this term. We really value your



support and help in school.

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### Extracurricular activities

To extend the range of extra-curricular activities we offer your children, the teachers will be offering some clubs for this and next term on a no-charge basis. They will be held after school on Thursdays and further details will be sent soon. We would be pleased to hear from any parents who would like to help with or run clubs.

In addition, our present fee-based clubs will continue as follows - Basketball: Tues 16th Nov to 25th Jan (3.05 pm, auditorium); Yoga: Wed 23rd Nov to 2nd Feb (3.05pm, music room); Tennis: Fri 19th Nov to 28th Jan (3.05pm, tennis court). We are also considering soccer

training.

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### Mandarin websites

The following are the Mandarin websites which help the parents to guide their kids in learning Mandarin at home:  
<http://xuele.edumall.sg/xuele/slot/u107/index1.html>  
<http://www.iflashbook.com.sg/iflashbooken/>

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### New arrangements for the start of the EC1 day

At the beginning of the year we arranged for children be dropped off in the EC1 classroom to provide more security. However with added maturity we would like to give them the opportunity of playing in the hall in the mornings and mixing with the other children. Therefore, on

arrival at school, please bring your child to the hall where they will be supervised together with the other children and Mr Peters will take them to the classroom at 8.40 for the start of school.



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### Updated bank details

Please note that these are our bank account details with effect from 1st Jan 2011.

The parts in red have changed.

Bank: OCBC Bank  
 Address: 65 Chulia Street, OCBC Centre, Singapore 049513.  
 Swift Code: OCBCSGSG  
 Account Name: One World International School **Pte Ltd.**  
 Branch: 7339-654  
 Account No: **817733001**