

Newsletter

NIS

Let Your Light Shine

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**Ramadhan
Mubarak!**

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New HODs

Management has appointed new department heads. Ms Joyce is Head of ESU, Mr Stephen is Head of Co Co/P.E and Mr Reid heads the Math & Science Department. Mr Hang doubles as Head of Humanities and Acting Head of Languages. Ms Nurliza has been tasked to set up the Early Stage Foundation Years (EYFS), which will be launched in September of 2013.

Blue House Scores Historic Win!!!

In the NIS summer inter-house games, 2013, held on 4th and 5th of July, Blue House won for the first time since the inception of the school in 2010. Scoring 185 points, the under-dog to reigning champion Yellow house, Blue house emerged 1st place in Road Relay, Road Run, Obstacle race (Primary), Netball, Shot Put, Discus and Javelin. Runner up Yellow House closed in at 178 points, followed by Green House (173 points) and Red House (134 points).





Vision for 2013 and Beyond

by Acting Principal Ronald Franke

In this newsletter, I would like to present to you my hopes and expectations for next semester and those that follow. At this point in the life of Nilai International School, my vision is neither surprising nor complex; nevertheless, it will require us all to pull together for the betterment of your children. My ultimate goal for the next school year is robust moral, academic, and physical growth. Outcomes in each of these areas will form the foundation to support our school vision: 'Character Formation and Academic Excellence'. One of these outcomes is quantified through tests.

While we will not test randomly or simply out of tradition, there will be final exams at the end of every semester that will be weighted heavily (but not exclusively). This testing will serve multiple purposes. First of all, it will give parents a clear view into the progress of their child. It also gives our teachers a clear understanding of what each student's strengths and weaknesses are so that they can focus their teaching. Another aspect of test-taking is that it is a skill that improves with practice; university entrance examinations will not seem to overly daunting to one who has prepared for exams throughout his or her academic career. Finally, tests act as a goal to work toward and to overcome; the diligent person gains a sense of accomplishment. We want to graduate men and women who are not afraid of challenges and difficulties because they have that confidence that began to form as they faced examinations in the classroom.

In order for this teaching, learning and testing to

make much sense, there must be a strong language base. To that end, we are starting an English Proficiency Programme (EPP) so that students who need help with English can focus on the language before being mainstreamed into the regular classroom. There may be some of our present students who would benefit from the EPP as well.

Assemblies will take on a more consistent schedule during the next school year. Every Monday morning will start off with a short assembly, often emphasizing a character attribute. It will be a part of the schedule so that no class time is lost, but it will not be optional.

Communication with parents remains a top priority. We are constantly looking for ways to promote that communication. All of our teachers' email addresses are available on the website. Furthermore, you are free to set up appointments with us whenever you like so that we can dialogue over the best educational plan for your child.

Finally, physical education will remain a priority. The ability to work together as a team, develop life-long exercise habits, and promote *esprit de corps* as we participate in inter-scholastic sports are all important to growing up healthy and happy, letting our lights shine to those around us.

Let Your Light Shine



A Final Note from Mr Wong...

Just a note to say I will be retiring on 10th July, 2013. I am privileged to be part of the NIS community. To the parents, I want to thank you for sending your children to NIS and trusting us with them. I appreciate the support, understanding and cooperation that you have extended to me during my years of service as a deputy principal. I am going to miss you all, the staff and the students... the sharing and the spirit of togetherness in the staff room, the teaching and learning, the concerts and the celebrations, and the laughter in the cafeteria, ... I am going to miss the colors of NIS.

Never forget that I care about your success. Concentrate on doing things that will have a positive effect on your lives and do the best you possibly can in everything you attempt.

I will recall each of you with fond memories. To the students, continue to 'let your light shine'. I wish for you happiness, good health and success. I hope you will stay in touch to let me share in your success.

Thanks for the memories.

Wong Kam Piew

Check Point Test

Secondary Check Point Test

A total of 31 students sat for the Secondary Check Point Test in English, Mathematics and Science. Lee Zhuang Yin and Ooi Eng Huat obtained a perfect score of 6.0 in Mathematics and Science.



Primary Check Point Test

A total of 14 students sat for English, Mathematics and Science in the Primary Check point Test. Garikai Francis Gijima and Edward Wong attained a perfect score of 6.0 in Mathematics.



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013/2014

Nilai International School (NIS) has released the School Calendar for the Academic Year of 2013/2014. The school has taken into account of the public holidays as well as other festivals celebrated by our diverse group of staff members and students such as Chinese New Year, Diwali and Christmas. School session for term 1 will commence on 9th September 2013 until 13th December 2013. School session for Term 2 will commence on 6th January 2014 until 11th April 2014. School session for Term 3 will commence on 21st April 2014 until 22nd July 2013.

The School Calendar and other latest announcements can be downloaded from the school's official website at www.nis.edu.my. Parents and students can also get a copy of the latest School Calendar from the Registrar.

Visitors from Brunei

Officials representing The Brunei Department of Education visited NIS on the 3rd of July. They were given a tour of the school and were particularly impressed with the incorporation of smart board technology in lessons. Accompanying them were representatives of the Negeri Sembilan Education Department. The delegates were given a brief summary of the NIS inclusion programme and the strategies on how to support high functioning autism students in the classrooms.



Vinayak of Year 5 Elymus goes home with an I-Pod...

Michael Cook of 1 Aspen wins a Mini I-Pad in reward cards lucky draw!

Reward Card Winners

Report Card Day

Report card will be given out at the assembly hall on the 25th of July, 2013 between 2:30-4:00pm. We have the privilege to have two expertises from Western Autistic Institute to share with parents of NIS students on how to gain social skills with these students, and how children can develop and maintain friendship skills. You are welcome to join us in the assembly hall on Report Card day.