



MUTIARA INTERNATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL SDN BHD

(391277-M)

DISCOVERING POTENTIAL • LEARNING TO CARE • RESPECTING DIFFERENCES

“Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.”

Carl Bard

20th January 2020

MIGS/ADM/PRC/WS/PS/2020-0182

Dear Parents/Guardians,

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL – TERM 2 2019/2020

A warm welcome back to everyone and we have already started the year with a smooth transition. I begin with a quotation from Carl Bard, an American writer and editor, probably best known for his poetry and a winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, most notably for his biography of Abraham Lincoln.

The pace of engagement really does continue here at MIGS, I must take this opportunity to thank parents who were able to join me in the very first week of term, discussing our preparations for CAIE Checkpoint Assessments in April of this year. I can confirm the assessments will take place for both Year 6 and Year 9 during the week beginning Monday the 20th of April 2020. Further details will be sent to parents soon.

The first week also involved our Year 6 Mathematicians engaged in a competition organised by the AIMS group and hosted by the Alice Smith School. Two days of fairly intense competition that our students thoroughly enjoyed and received an interesting Tee Shirt crafted from 100% recycled plastic. Thank you to Ms Sharon for leading the team.

Chinese New Year approaches rapidly and I can already see the influence with many appealing decorations in our corridors. The School break will be in late January with the school closing from the **24th of January until the 28th of January** and reopen on **Wednesday 29th of January**. Our Lion Dance celebration and blessing is scheduled for the morning of the **7th of February**.

I am also pleased to share some news for our **Early Years Section** which we are very excited to launch following Chinese New Year, a more detailed letter and information will be available soon. Please also keep a look out for our new **Scholarship Program** that will launch shortly. Focused initially for students who are currently in Year 6 (for academic intake in September 2020 into Year 7), students who are currently in Year 9 (for academic intake in September 2020 into Year 10) and finally for students currently in Year 11 for access into our planned **A level Programme**. The application, eligibility and selection/assessment process will be published very soon.

Following a thorough review of a successful first term allow me to share some updates and amendments. During the reflection process, I believe it is always important to ask he not simply “Whether to change?” but rather “When to change?” as we strive to continually progress.

JUNIOR SCHOOL UPDATES

Next week sees the start of our CCA programme with a range of activities that students will take part in from sewing to cricket. The activities will run for three weeks and then all the years will come together for house sports in week 4 and then the activities will continue for an additional three weeks. The rotation will then repeat, Mr Charlie and the CCA team will send out a letter with further details shortly.

In the Junior school the CCA programme will continue to be completed in the morning sessions when the weather is more comfortable and it also allows effective sharing of facilities with the Senior school. However; Thursday is a relatively long day for the Junior school and we have some tired students during the last period of the day. To gain more exposure (to our often more beneficial learning times) the last period will move to become period 2, rotating into the morning session. *The day will now end at 15:30.* This will become effective on Thursday the **23rd of January 2020.**

For example, the current timetable on Thursdays for the *Junior school* is as follows: -

Current Thursday *Sample Schedule*

07:30-08:00		08:00-09:30				10-11:00		11-12:00			12:30-13:30		13:30-14:30			14:35-15:30		15:30-16
0	1	2	3	4	Break	5	6	7	8	Break	9	10	11	12	Snack	13	14	15
Arrival & Tutor Time		CCA				Science	English		French/Mandarin		Art		Social Studies			ICT		

The revised schedule features

- A reduced CCA time from 1hr 30 mins to 1 hr
- The last period of the day is removed and all students will finish at 15:30 on Thursdays.

Revised Schedule for Thursdays (Junior *school only*)

07:30-08:00		08:00-09:30				10-11:00		11-12:00			12:30-13:30		13:30-14:30			14:35-15:30	
0	1	2	3	4	Break	5	6	7	8	Break	9	10	11	12	Snack	13	14
Arrival & Tutor Time		ICT	CCA			Science	English		French/Mandarin		Art		Social Studies				

Please note that these two schedules are for illustration only and as such do not belong to a certain year group.

As a reminder the whole school finish times are below

Division/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00
Juniors Years 1-6	14:35			15:30	12:30
Year 7-9	14:45			16:00	12:30
Year 10 &11	15:00			16:00	12:30

Please note that for students attending Fardhu Ain classes or Elective activities the times may differ from above, these are the general finish times.

Scientific Enquiry

Last term our students took part in an enjoyable IDL project, that they presented with great enthusiasm and I was very pleased to see many parents join us for this celebration. I am also very pleased to share that our next focus for this curriculum area will be Scientific Enquiry. This unit will span the Junior School and will utilize traditional Scientific topics combined with some of the more diverse or innovative ways in which scientists study the natural world and propose explanations based on the evidence derived from their work. Students will make observations, form questions and develop hypotheses. This is an area of the curriculum is firmly supported by the Cambridge Pathway and assessments.

SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATES

Mock examinations - Year 11

As the IGCSE Mock examinations draw to a close our teachers are heavily involved in marking papers and assessing performances. The Year 11 students will receive detailed feedback during lessons and a Yr 11 Mock Report will also be created. On **Monday the 10th of February** starting at 15:00, all Year 11 parents are invited to join the IGCSE Specific Parent Teacher Conference. During this time, myself and the staff will share grades, share revision techniques, give advice on the next steps to examination success and confirm examination entries for the May/June session. We will also share predicted grades based on our assessment data and experience of previous student comparisons. I urge all Year 11 parents to join us in the hall on this day.

Senior School Camp Year 7-10

Following our successful day trips and very enjoyable year 11 camp last term, our Year 7-10 students are ready to increase their level of challenge and experience on a 3 day and 2-night camp. Mr Megat will send full details shortly, please find the key details to follow: -

Camp Date 18th -20th March 2020
 Locations Year 7 Lumut, Year 8,9 & 10 will travel to Port Dickson

Dates for your Diary

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|--------------------------|--|
| • Chinese New Year break | 24 th - 28 th of January |
| • School reopens | 29 th January |
| • MIGS Lion Dance | 7 th February |
| • Year 11 Parent meeting | 10 th February |
| • MIGS Cross Country | 21 st February |
| • MIGS Wellbeing week | 24 th February |

Please continue to follow us @migskl #migskl on our social media platforms on IG, FB, Twitter, Youtube to see the teaching and learning updates happening within our school campus and community this year.

Finally; allow me to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Chinese New Year & Gong Xi Fa Cai!

Best regards



JOHN P BIRCH
Principal