

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2024 | VOL 3

HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

by Ms Kitty Ho

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well and refreshed after the winter break. The start of the new year has been fantastic, and it's been heartwarming to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and eagerness to learn.

I would like to express my appreciation for your participation in our recent parent workshop on the IB Learner Profile. This workshop was designed to provide you with a deeper understanding of the IB framework and its impact on your child's educational journey. I hope that the information shared during the workshop has empowered you with valuable insights into how you can encourage positive character development at home. I would like to extend a special thank you to our PYP Coordinators, Mr. Don and Mr. Josh, for their exceptional efforts in organizing and conducting the workshop.

Looking forward, the Chinese New Year is almost upon us! We are excited to celebrate this significant cultural event with our students and create a memorable experience for them. One of the highlights of our celebrations will be the Chinese New Year Market. This event will provide an opportunity for the children to engage in hands-on learning experiences, explore Chinese artifacts, try traditional food, and participate in various activities related to the festival. We believe that these experiences will not only be enjoyable for the children but will also foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for different cultures.

On behalf of the PIPS team, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to all of you for a great Year of the Dragon. May this year bring you good fortune, happiness, and prosperity. May your children continue to thrive and make remarkable progress in their learning journeys.



IMPORTANT DATES:

4TH JANUARY 2024

SCHOOL RESUMES AFTER
WINTER BREAK

1ST FEBRUARY 2024

TERM 2 BEGINS

8TH FEBRUARY 2024

CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

9TH - 16TH FEBRUARY 2024

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

19TH FEBRUARY 2024

SCHOOL RESUMES AFTER
CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

Facilitating Thinking Skills in Early Learners by Ms Indira

As parents and educators, we understand the importance of nurturing our children's cognitive development. While we may not be able to physically see their thoughts, we recognize that thinking is an integral part of their growth. Therefore, it is our responsibility to create an environment that encourages and supports their thinking process.

One effective approach we use at PIPS is the integration of thinking routines into our daily activities. By incorporating these routines, we aim to enhance young children's problem-solving skills, critical thinking abilities, and creativity. Through the use of visuals and open-ended questions, we make thinking more visible for our early learners. A practical example of this is the implementation of a visible class schedule. This child-friendly routine allows children to observe and mentally plan their day. By engaging with the schedule, they develop a sense of organisation and learn to think ahead.

Additionally, we utilise the 'See, Think, Wonder' method, which is part of Harvard's Project Zero Visible Thinking routines. This approach encourages children to explore ideas and engage in short discussions to express their thoughts. By incorporating visuals such as photos or pictures, we provide stimuli that prompt reflection and deeper thinking.

Mindfulness is another activity we incorporate into our curriculum. By creating pockets of time for relaxation and short mindfulness exercises, we encourage children to reflect on their mind and body. This practice fosters self-awareness and helps children develop a deeper understanding of themselves.

At PIPS, we prioritise providing children with the necessary time and environment to process ideas and express themselves in their own unique ways. By making thinking more visible and offering various opportunities for reflection, we empower our young learners to become confident thinkers and learners.

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023



The children had great fun celebrating Christmas with their classmates! They enjoyed a whole range of exciting activities but most of all they experienced that magical Christmas spirit!

Thank you to those who attended our PIPS Parent Workshop. It was lovely to hear your dreams and ambitions for your children's futures.

PARENT WORKSHOP



IMPORTANT REMINDERS/ SCHOOL EVENTS

Chinese New Year Flower Market

We will celebrate Chinese New Year by organising a “Flower Market” for our students on **Thursday, 8th February 2024**. Our school will be opened from 9:00am to 12:00pm. There will be no regular morning or afternoon classes on the day. Parents and children can join us during this time to participate in a variety of festive activities and are most welcome to dress in traditional Chinese costumes on this special day, too. More details will be shared with you in due course.

Winter Uniform

Winter school uniform is now available for purchase at the school office. If you would like to make additional order as the weather can become quite unpredictable these days, please contact Ms. Tracy and Ms. Rebecca at the Reception to arrange a time for uniform fitting. Each order will take about a week to process.

Extra Curricular Activities (Term 2)

Our school offers a wide range of extra curricular activities on weekdays and Saturdays. Applications for classes starting after Chinese New Year (Term 2) are now open. Please collect a leaflet from our school office. All applications will be accepted on a “first-come, first-served” basis. We suggest that you apply as soon as possible while spaces are still available.

