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Supervisory Principal's Report

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope that families enjoyed the mid-semester vacation.

We are disappointed that Mr and Mrs Clark had to return to Australia. However, I am pleased to inform you that arrangements are being finalized for a suitable replacement for Mr Clark. Commencing on 07 October, Mr James Kerr will be the Interim Principal.

Mr Kerr has extensive experience in education as a teacher, Curriculum Advisor, Deputy Principal and Principal. He has international experience having worked in the UK, Australia, UAE and Vietnam, where he was a Principal of a KinderWorld school in Hanoi. He has also previously worked at Pegasus International School from October to December in 2013.

In the meantime, Ms Limin Lum will continue to coordinate and manage general day to day academic matters in consultation with Mr Stephen See and myself.

After spending a week and a half here at the school, I am very pleased to see how well the students are progressing. I have been very happy to meet with some parents and I am confident that we can work together to make the school even better as a school that nurtures, strengthens and extends its students.

I am looking into the possibility of establishing EFL enrichment classes for students who need extra support with their English language and further advice will be provided to parents in the near future.

Peter Baker
Supervisory Principal



Interim Principal (October – December)

Mr James Kerr has previously spent time at Pegasus International School and will be returning to oversee school operations until the end of the academic year. Mr Kerr is an experienced educator having worked in a range of countries as Principal, Deputy Principal and in other key leadership positions. With over 25 years' experience in education as a teacher and school leader, Mr Kerr has the knowledge and skills to successfully manage all aspects of the school's operations.

Leadership Roles:

2010-2012 **Singapore International School @ Van Phuc** (Principal)

2009-2010 **Abu Dhabi Education Council, UAE** (Education Advisor)

2008 **Cempaka International School, Kuala Lumpur** (Master Teacher of English, Mentor for local staff)

2005-2007 **International Academy Amman, Jordan**. (Deputy Principal/Principal and ESL Department Head)

2004-2005 **Al Zahra College, Sydney** (Principal)

Welcome to New Teaching Staff

Pegasus International School is pleased to welcome Ms Carolyn Ho as the new teacher for P1/P2. Ms Ho brings a wealth of experience to our school having previously taught across all primary year levels as well as having experience at Secondary 1 and Secondary 2 level. She is a committed and passionate teacher with a special interests in Music.

Extra Curricular Activities

The Extra Curricular Activities programme will continue this term to allow students to have an opportunity to engage in a range of activities to develop their interests and talents. We will continue with most of the activities from last term but in order to increase ECAs for students, we will offer half of the activities on alternate week. In Week A, students will be in one of the following ECAs: Football, Dance or Photography. In Week B, students will join one of the following ECAs: Theatre, Chess & Board Games or Choir.

Arrangements will be made this week to organize the students into the various ECAs and these will recommence from Week 3 to Week 6. Students will remain in the same ECAs for the 4 weeks.



IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT LEARNING ENGLISH FOR EFL STUDENTS

- It takes from **1 ½ to 2 ½ years** to reach a satisfactory level of academic English fluency
- Most EFL students need up to **seven or more years** to acquire academic English equal to native-speakers.
- Home strategies that help:
 - Read English books every day at your current level
 - Write a half to one-page in English in a journal every day
 - Use online English learning sites to practice and reinforce English
- Time, encouragement, persistence and patience are the keys to second language mastery.



Electronic Dictionaries/Translators

It has been good to see the perseverance of students whose English skills are weak. To assist students in their mastery of English, they are allowed to use electronic dictionaries/translators in class. These can be used to check the meaning of words and to translate English words for better understanding. Not all students require this support but those who do can purchase an electronic dictionary/translator and bring it to their classes.

Mobile Phones

Mr Baker reminded Sec 1 and Sec 2 students that mobile phones are not permitted to be used in lessons as they can be a significant distraction to students. It is preferred if students keep mobile phones safely in their lockers during lesson time or they can leave them with the teacher during the lesson. Procedures that are followed when mobile phones are a source of distraction in a classroom include handing the phone in to the teacher who will pass it to the Principal until the end of the day. Where this is a repeated problem, the mobile phone will be passed to parents by the Principal.

School Swimming Programme

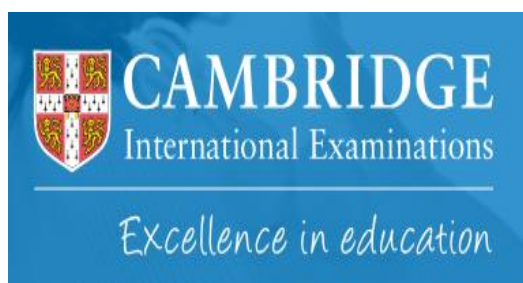
The Primary and Secondary school students of Pegasus International School have been making waves in Malaysia – literally.

August marked the start of their swimming programme whereby the entire school went swimming. As the Pegasus swimming pool is not yet ready for use, the students made their way to the Daiman Sports Complex in Johor Jaya to learn how to swim.

Although some students are already able swimmers, a large group of the students do not have much water confidence. The instructor, Mr Ryan, split them up into different ability groups and put them through their paces. The course will be completed over 5 weeks and it is hoped that the students will be able to swim by the end of it.

Swimming is a very important life skill which not only saves lives but builds confidence as well. It is hope that the students will acquire this skill which will make them well-rounded individuals.

Cambridge qualifications are recognised throughout the world. Cambridge students are widely accepted in top study destinations.



“At the University of Washington we are particularly interested in students who are not only good at learning, but who love to learn. These students are willing to be challenged, willing to dive into new things, and often more able to synthesize what they have learned. The Cambridge approach fosters such students, such learning, and such results.”

Philip Ballinger, Associate Vice-Provost for Enrollment and Admissions,
University of Washington

Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)

Pegasus students will move onto the next phase in their education with the commencement of the Cambridge IGCSE course.

The Cambridge IGCSE is the world's most popular international qualification for 14 to 16 year olds. It is recognised by leading universities and employers worldwide, and is an international passport to progression and success. Developed over 25 years ago, it is tried, tested and trusted by schools worldwide.

The IGCSE is a two year course culminating with the IGCSE Examinations which will be held in November 2016. The course is designed to encourage learner-centered and enquiry-based approaches to learning. It helps to develop student's skills in creative thinking, enquiry and problem solving, giving students excellent preparation for the next stage in their education.

Students will study a range of subjects as follows:

- English First Language OR English Second Language
- Mathematics OR Mathematics Additional
- Coordinated Science
- Global Perspectives
- Chinese
- Business Studies
- Information Communication Technology
- Bahasa (Elective)

Textbooks will be ordered in the near future so that they are available for purchase before the new academic year commences.



Merdeka Day Celebration

31 August 1957 marks the 57th year that the Federation of Malaya gained its independence from British colonization, forming what we know of today as Malaysia. Hence, 31 August is a National Public Holiday to commemorate and celebrate the freedom and independence gained.

At Pegasus International School, the students also commemorated this important day on the 29 August. On that day, the students were asked to dress in 'Malaysia colours' – red, yellow and blue, which are colours found on the Malaysian flag. In the morning, they gathered in front of the flag poles and had a formal flag raising ceremony where they sang the Malaysian National Anthem and the school song proudly.

After lunch, the students watched a short video to understand more about how the country gained independence and later took part in a mini-quiz. They also had much fun when they participated in the Merdeka Day Scavenger Hunt. To mark the end of the celebrations, our students waved their flags in the air and sang national day songs.