



ACS (International)

DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents,

This December Newsletter is of course the last of the year, but as I write this Principal's letter I am very aware that it is also the last that I will write as Principal. It is very much with mixed feelings that I hand over to Kerr Fulton-Peebles, my successor. I am very confident that he is the right person to take the school forward in the next phase of its development, but I am very attached to this school, its students and teachers and the culture we have developed here. It will be very difficult leaving. This has been a most rewarding and fulfilling five years and my wife and I have made very friends. It is a great comfort to think that my joining the Board gives us an excuse to return regularly to Singapore and to the school.

The last month has been full of a series of "farewells" and I have been overwhelmed by everyone's generosity. I only wish I felt it was all deserved. But thank you all the same, from the bottom of my heart. I am very grateful indeed for the kindness and support of parents, especially Parent School Partners, over the years. The school is indeed fortunate to have such enthusiastic and committed parents. One of the very special occasions was the Alumni reunion and farewell on 4 December. It was so good to see 60 of our former students gathered for what we hope will be the first of a series of regular reunions.

The year finished as always with Speech night – this year divided into Junior Speech Day and Senior Speech Night and Graduation. They were both very special occasions for all involved.

On that day, we said farewell to one or two staff who are leaving us. Three full time teachers have left us – David Cobb who is moving to an International School in France, Yenny Djohan who is returning to Indonesia with her husband and An Yan, whose health has forced her to retire though we hope she may be able to return

part-time in due course - and also Mr Bernard Lee and Mrs Pushpavalli who have been part-time. New teachers are Ms He Xia, B Eng, M Eng., M Sc(Mathematics) who has been teaching at St Francis Methodist School, Mr Stuart Payne, BSc, MEd, (English), currently at the International School of Madrid and Mr Reddy, Adi Narayan, BSc, PGDE,(Science) who has moved from Hwa Chong International School and Mr George Thomas, BSc, MSc, Bed, BD(Science) from Raffles International School.

I have been discussing with the Music Department the setting up of an annual Music competition for Musical Performance. I am quite sure that we have talents among our students that are as yet unrecognized. So I have given a trophy to the school to be awarded to the winner of an annual competition. Details are below.

I end by sending my very best wishes to you all, especially those whose children are leaving. To those returning, I draw attention to the requirement that all students are in school at 8.30am on Friday, 15 January for the start of year service and distribution of timetables. Students will be dismissed mid-morning. Formal lessons begin on Monday 18 January.

**Yours sincerely,
John Barrett**

Forthcoming dates:

2010

6-Jan	IB Results
6-8 Jan	OGL Camp for Orientation
11-Jan	Staff Conference
12-Jan	Staff Conference
13-Jan	Staff Induction/Orientation Begins/Tea Party for New Parents
Term 1	15 Jan to 12 Mar 2010
15-Jan	All students in school 8.30am - Chapel Service/Tutorial session/ Distribution of timetables 6.00pm - Orientation Ends with Campfire/Timetable
16-Jan	ACS Staff Dedication - ACS Barker Road, 8.30 am
18-Jan	Academic Lessons Begin
25- Jan	IGCSE Results
29-Jan	CCA Fair
30-Jan	Yr 1 Parents Briefing

The full 2010 Calendar is on the school website

IB Results – information

IBDP Results Information for Y6 Students & Parents

Results for Y6 – will be available at School on **Wednesday 6 January 2010 at 10am**. Results will only be given to the student themselves or their parents. They cannot be collected by anyone else.

If you are out of Singapore, or already started NS, please contact the IBDP Coordinator, who may be able to issue a password/PIN to access results on Thursday 7 January 2010.

Retakes – students may retake any subject (either the whole subject or just the written papers, keeping the IA marks from November 2009). Registration for May 2010 closes on Friday 29 January 2010.

Re-marks – you may request a re-mark of examination papers for any subject, TOK Essay or Extended Essay. This must be done by Monday 15 March 2010. Please note: a re-mark may result in a grade going down.

Fees – there are charges for both retakes and re-marks. If the re-mark results in a change of grade the fee is returned. Students will only be registered for retakes or re-marks after the fees have been paid to the School. Please contact Mrs. Ivy Teo regarding details.

Library books – in order for results to be issued & security deposits returned, please make sure that all library books are handed in on or before 6 January 2010.

Diplomas – IBDP Diplomas will arrive in School in the last week of February 2010.

IBDP Results Information for Y5 Students & Parents

Y5 students who have taken Group 2 subjects a year early can access their results on-line on Thursday, 7 January 2010. Passwords/PINs have already been issued.

Commonwealth Essay Competition

In the Annual Commonwealth Essay Competition, Tania Ho Safii was Highly Commended.

OLYMPIADS

Groups of senior students took part in Chemistry and Biology Olympiads recently.

BIZness Club

BUSINESS COMPETITION

Three of our teams won through to the Finals of the JA Titan Virtual Company Business Competition and one of our teams earned third place. The team was Jeffrey Yip, Narendranath (both Year 5) and Nguyen Nghiem Hoang Nam (year 2)

LEAD TUTORS 2010

Year 1	Mrs Lim-Tan Lay Pian – LayPian.Lim@acsinternational.com.sg
Year 2	Ms Jennifer Wang – Jennifer.Wang@acsinternational.com.sg
Year 3	Mr Praeman Balasundram – PraemanB@acsinternational.com.sg
Year 4	Ms Cheryl Seah – Cheryl.Seah@acsinternational.com.sg
Year 5	Mr Nehemiah Onyango - Nehemiah.Onyango@acsinternational.com.sg
Year 6	Mr Ronald Lim – Ronald.lim@acsinternational.com.sg

PARENTS PRAYER GROUP

Praying Parents' Group (combined Mothers and Fathers Group) meets every first Tuesday morning of each month. *The meetings will start at 8.30am and end by 10am and are held in the Conference Room.*

MUSIC PRIZE

The John Barrett Prize for Music performance

1. An annual recital competition shall be held, open to all students in the school.
2. The competition shall be held in school, or at some other appropriate venue, at an agreed time and shall be open to all students, teachers and parents to attend.
3. Competitors shall play a complete movement of a concerto/sonata (or equivalent) as a soloist.
4. Piano accompaniment may be provided, but the accompanist will not be part of the competition.
5. An adjudicator shall be appointed (normally not a member of the staff of the school) to give his/her adjudication on the competition and decide the winner.
6. The winner will receive the John Barrett Trophy (which shall be engraved with his/her name and be held on display in the school).
7. The winner will also receive a miniature trophy to keep.

SATS Preparation course

On-Campus Prep Course for the SAT

What: SAT preparation course

When: 3rd February 2010 – 28th April 2010 (Every Wednesday – 3 hours)

Where: ACS(International)

Who: Testtakers Singapore – a company specializing in SAT preparation

More information at www.testtakers-sg.com

The course includes 21 hours of regular classroom time, three computer-scored diagnostic tests, a 400-word vocabulary flashcard box and the College Board's Official SAT Study Guide. The comprehensive fee is \$850 which covers all course materials and GST. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Testtakers at 67287476 or email on info@testtakers-sg.com
* Forms available at the ACS (International) admin office

ADVANCE NOTICE OF PLANNED TRIPS

Africa Trip 2010

Provisional Dates: 1st – 19th June

The Africa Adventure & Service Trip will be running again in 2010, taking in South Africa, Botswana & Zimbabwe.

Highlights:

Include Okavango Delta Canoe Safari, Chobe River and Game Park Safari Drives, Salt Pans, Victoria Falls, Adventure & Adrenaline Activities, Lion Sanctuary and Breeding Programme, Walk with Lions, and building a Science Lab at the Mosi-Oa-Tunya High School in Zimbabwe.

Places will need to be booked VERY early in 2010 due to flight capacity at the time of the World Cup in South Africa.

Only students aged 16 and above at the time of the trip are eligible.

For more information email paul.west@acsinternational.com.sg;

A cultural trip is planned to Kyoto, Japan in March 2010.

Tentative details are as follows.

Date: 12 - 19 Mar 2010

Duration: 7D5N

Number of students: <25 (open to 2010 Y3 to Y6 students)

Cost per person: ~S\$2500 (flying on SIA or equivalent)

Planned Highlights:

Sightseeing - Mount Hiei, Arashiyama; Ninja town in Iga, cosplay shops in Nagoya, samurai castle in Kyoto Religion - Shinto shrines, Buddhism temples

Museums - Toyota museum, Miho museum, Ninja museum, Kimono museum, Manga museum (Manga culture)

Accommodation - traditional Japanese hotel (ryokan), 5-star hotel (Rhiga royal hotel)

Contact persons: Mr Chin Chee Kin (cheekin.chin@acsinternational.com.sg);
Mdm Cheng Wei (Wei.Cheng@acsinternational.com.sg)

2010 DESKTOP CALENDAR

Barker Road Methodist Church Preaching Point will be selling a 2010 desk calendar, with photos of flowers taken by Rev David Wee while in the UK. The Calendars are priced at \$10.00 each. You can place your order with Ivy Teo during school hours. Money raised will help pay for the fitting out of the new Church offices.



SPORTS and COMPETITIONS

BASKETBALL

Championship

Having defeated the Canadian International School in the semi- finals of the international schools' basketball league, our U16 team played UWCSEA in the finals and emerged the Champions.

RUGBY

Touch Rugby

Our girls have emerged Plate champions in the Girls 18s category in the Asian All Schools competition on Sat!

We lost to 2 schools and beat several schools en route to the championship.

ACS (Int) vs Jakarta International School: Lost 4-1

ACS (Int) vs UWC: Lost 3-0

ACS (Int) vs International School of KL : Won 2-1 and 3-2 (met them twice)

ACS (Int) vs Temasek Polytechnic: Won 1 - 0 (SemiFinal)

ACS (Int) vs Alice Smith International School (KL): Won 1 - 0 (Final)

M1 Touch Rugby Under 17s Competition

The girls touch rugby team beat Jurong Junior College, Pioneer Junior College, Bukit Batok Secondary in the pool rounds to secure a semi final spot.

Unfortunately we lost 1-0 to Nanyang Junior College, and moved on to the Plate Final. We beat National Junior College 3-1 in the final to be awarded the Plate Champions for this M1 series

SWIMMING

Mikael Chan represented Chinese Swimming Club in 11th Royal Bangkok International Swimming Meet in Nov

MISCELLANEOUS FEE

It is necessary to increase the Miscellaneous Fee from January 2010. The Miscellaneous fee will rise to **\$650** and for years 5-6 there will be an additional \$200 towards the cost of the CAS programme (this does not include the cost of Service trips and Camps). This additional \$200 will be deducted from the initial deposit paid to the school.

FEES

School Fees Notice – due first week Jan 2010

Y1-Y4 students – 1st semester fees will be \$9630 + \$650
+ \$25 (PSP student event fund)

Y5 & Y6 students – 1st semester fees will be \$11235 + 650
+\$25 (PSP student event fund)

EXTENSION OF TRANSIT LINK STUDENT'S CONCESSION CARD

The school has forward request for extension to TransitLink.

Once the extension has been propagated throughout the public transport system, the new expiry date for concessionary travel will be updated onto the Card upon the next presentation of the Card at any Transit Link Ticket Office or Passenger Service Counter situated at all MRT stations. **Therefore, students are reminded to do so before the student's current concession expiry date which is end of December 2009.**