AISM NEWSLETTER

The Fortnightly Community Newsletter of the Australian International School Malaysia

AISM fosters the ASEAN Spirit

Mother’s Day Stall

Anzac Day

Photo from Mother’s Day Stall
The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was founded in 1967 and now comprises ten countries; Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos. ASEAN was established to consider and address, as a group of closely located countries, the challenges of thinking globally while acting regionally. The establishment of the ASEAN community has provided the forum for these countries to discuss important regional issues and responses including:

- Determining maritime borders, potential and possible joint development zones,
- Resolving resources conflicts such as fishing zones in a region where the population is quickly increasing, thus threatening dwindling food sources, and
- Managing successful relations with powerful neighbouring countries such as India and China with increased mobility of these cultural groups.

To date there have been mutually beneficial agreements between the ASEAN community including understandings that:

- Preventive diplomacy must involve all parties in a dispute ,
- all parties must exercise impartiality and patience,
- Bigger countries should mindful of views of smaller countries, the emphasis should always be on regional and common interests,
- Gradual progress should be made from national resilience to regional resilience and regional cohesion.
- Help a neighbor or neighbours in need.

In 2015, the ASEAN Community is developing the ASEAN Youth for Peace and Democracy Forum (AYPDF). This forum will provide an opportunity to educate student leaders of the ASEAN countries to play their role in maintaining democracy and securing the long term prosperity and peace of the region. The AYPDF will bring together, once a year, the youth of the 10 ASEAN countries for a week-long retreat, initially at the Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang. AISM looks forward to the opportunity to send representatives to this forum as soon as details are finalised.
As an international school delivering the Australian Curriculum in the ASEAN region, AISM embeds a broad range of ASEAN community learning experiences into school life in two main ways:

1. through the syllabus for all students
2. through whole school ASEAN and International Community Programs throughout the year.

During research for our current Ministry of Education Audit, I was delighted to summarise many of the ways that AISM students currently engage with the ASEAN community through our academic, sporting, cultural and service programs. It is through these activities that we can achieve our school purpose:

**To educate the youth of the world to take their productive places as leaders in the global community.**

AISM activities incorporating a focus on ASEAN nations include:

- Student participation in Model United Nations (student led) and World Scholar’s Cup in ASEAN countries
- Community service work with Chin Student Organisation (CSO) refugees from Myanmar
- Community service work in Malaysia through the Matilda project which helps 30 rural children of Sabah access primary education
- Cultural camps to Indonesia, Vietnam and Cambodia
- Sporting opportunities twice per year at the Australian International Schools’ Association (AISA) Games in different ASEAN countries. In May 2015, the AISM Sport’s team is travelling to Singapore
- School-based International Day where food, culture, dance and national costume of each country are celebrated
- Theme of the 2015 Year Book is “International including ASEAN countries”
- Two of our teachers attended the International Awards professional development course in Brunei
- Appointment of Parent Language Representatives for the school to help parents from non-English speaking countries settle into the school

The Australian Curriculum was developed to equip students “with the skills, knowledge and understanding that will enable them to engage effectively with and prosper in a globalised world. Students will gain personal and social benefits [and] be better equipped to make sense of the world in which they live…” (ACARA 2013). This emphasis lead to the development of three Cross-curriculum Priorities, one of which is Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia.

I am proud of the way that AISM, as a school delivering the Australian Curriculum in Asia, respects the opportunity it has in Malaysia to educate our children not only to take their place in highly-regarded universities around the world, but also to take their place as global and informed citizens when they graduate from our school.
Cabarita Cafe Update

On Tuesday 5 May, the Cabarita Cafe commenced with a “soft opening”. The School had been hoping to have all aspects of the cafe in place and ready for the start of Term 2 but as often happens, delays in certain items meant that this was not going to happen. Hence, we commenced operation and you will notice improvements week by week in the aesthetics of the cafe and the range of foods available.

As the range of food was limited this week, we limited access to the cafe but from next week we welcome students and members of the community to visit the cafe according to the details in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Access</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior School Students</td>
<td>Can only access the cafe accompanied by their parent before and after school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School (6-8) Students</td>
<td>Access - Before and after school, Morning Tea and Lunchtime (NO HOT DRINKS can be purchased)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Senior School (9-12) Students | Access - Before and after school, Morning Tea and Lunchtime  
  Years 9-11 - can purchase food and hot drinks but NO COFFEE  
  Year 12 - can purchase food and hot drinks including coffee |
| Parents and Staff             | May access all food and drinks during hours of cafe operation          |
Message from Middle & Senior School

Simone Fuller, Head of School

With the end of the exam period fast approaching, it is important that students don’t lose sight of their study regime. There are still a number of assessment tasks that are due over the upcoming weeks and I encourage you to check the assessment calendars on Studywiz for this information. The Assessment Calendars have been updated and will be uploaded to Studywiz by Monday.

It has been a very busy two weeks with the commencement of CCA’s, Parent/Teacher Interviews and excursions. I have received positive feedback from parents and staff regarding the online booking system that is now in place for interviews. We do understand that there were a couple of small glitches and are working towards fixing these for future interviews. In implementing this new system, we were overwhelmed with the number of bookings that were received and as a result, some interviews have had to take place before and after school. We will also be working towards a solution to ensure that all parents will be able to meet with their child’s teachers in a timely manner.

After School Pick Up

There have been a number of students who have been remaining back at school after the pick up time of 4.30pm. I appreciate that at times parents may be held up in traffic which is understandable, however the school is not able to provide supervision for students beyond this time. The other concern is the impact that this has on the students after the end of a lengthy day. If for some reason you are running late and will not be able to make the 4.30pm pick up time, please contact the MSS Reception so that we are aware of your child remaining at school.
Year 10 Excursion: Pantai Morib

On 6 May Year 10 students visited Pantai Morib as part of their Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship course. Pantai Morib is a small coastal settlement 65km west of AISM, near Port Klang. The objective was to observe an environment at risk and to look into ways that the area can be sustainably managed. The site is interesting as they could observe a natural mangrove ecosystem, a stretch of beach and two sea defences.

Students conducted a variety of fieldwork collection techniques including beach profiling, sea defence sketches and litter surveys. Students also took part in some service learning by doing a beach clean up. It was a hot day, but I was very impressed with how keen and motivated our Year 10s were and how much they were able to achieve in only a few short hours.

Visible Learning

This week I have been visiting class-rooms and asking students about their learning intentions for the lesson and I am delighted that students can articulate quite clearly about what they are learning. The leadership team is also beginning to focus on discussing differentiation with the students. By this we mean, how the students learning needs are being met.

“Students conducted a variety of fieldwork collection techniques including beach profiling, sea defence sketches and litter surveys”

Teachers differentiate in a variety of ways depending on the needs of the student. Teachers at times may choose to differentiate a task, teach the content in different ways or change the environment to accommodate the various learning styles within their class. Even though this is happening in our classrooms, students may not be aware of this. What we aim to do is ensure that all students understand their learning style and the strategies that help them to learn best. By talking with the students and providing feedback to the teachers we aim to improve the learning environment for each and every student.
On Wednesday 6 May, all Year 9 students ventured to Melaka to undertake fieldwork, as part of the Australian Curriculum History Course. The purpose of the trip was to get first hand contact with the various cultures that have had an impact upon the formation of present day Malaysia. The field trip began at the Sultanate Palace, continued to the Portuguese A’ Formosa Fort and St Paul’s Church. We then visited the Governor’s Mansion before continuing to the Dutch Stadthuys (City Hall) and the Christ Church. We then progressed to Jonker Walk, where we had a lovely lunch in the oldest building in the Chinese settlement. The students then explored Jonker Walk and Harmony Street, home to historical Hindu, Chinese and Muslim places of worship. Our tour concluded with an exploration of the Maritime Museum.

Along the way, during the day, the students were informed of the historical importance of a number of cultures through various periods in Melaka. At each stop, the students were encouraged to question the narratives and to draw their own conclusion about the relative importance of each culture. To this end, stemming out of this trip, the students now have the task of drafting an essay which takes a position on which of a choice of six cultures has had the greatest impact upon the foundations of contemporary Malaysia.

This trip was very enjoyable and ran smoothly and all of the students involved, as well as Mr Jafari and Ms Farah deserve a great vote of thanks for their efforts.

“The students now have the task of drafting an essay which takes a position on which of a choice of six cultures has had the greatest impact upon the foundations of contemporary Malaysia.”
Message from Junior School
Graeme Naftel, Head of Junior School

Visible Learning

AISM is not an academically selective school, and there are students at our school with a range of academic and social needs. Whilst significant resources go into providing support for our students with remedial needs, we also need to provide opportunities for our most able students. We aim for each child to progress academically, socially and emotionally and for most children, this is achieved through a differentiated curriculum.

Some students, however, require additional enrichment support. This week I had the opportunity to start working with a group of Year 5 students who have been selected to participate in the ‘Mathematics Challenge’ run by the Australian Mathematics Trust. Students from Years 2 to 5 are presented with four extremely challenging problems and are required to work in small teams to solve these problems. Each question has a number of parts and each part has clear success criteria and a marking grid. During this session we worked on using this marking grid to determine the amount of time spent on each question, and to assist the students to focus their attention and refine their answers. Making success criteria clear to students is a key aspect of Visible Learning, and it is encouraging to see success criteria being used frequently throughout the Junior School.
Anzac Day

Congratulations to Mr Herron and the Young Voices Choir for their performance at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service on Saturday 25 April. It was a truly moving service at Tugu Negara attended by several hundred people and the singing by this group, made up of predominantly Junior School students, was a highlight.

All AISM students attended an ANZAC Day service at school on Friday 24 April, where we remembered those brave service men and women who sacrificed so much for us all. Students in Years 3 to 12 attended a service in the Auditorium, whilst our ELC and Stage 1 students attended a separate service led by the Year 2 students.

Following these services, students created memorial poppies and used them to decorate the tree in the Junior School Reception.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Junior School Parent/Teacher Interviews are still being held over the coming weeks. If you have not made an appointment to speak with your child’s class teacher, you are encouraged to login to the Parent Engage Portal and book a time. If there are no suitable times remaining, please contact your child’s teacher directly to arrange an alternate appointment. Each session runs for 20 minutes either before or after school. If you are unable to login to the portal, please email elearning@aism.edu.my

Art Room Working Bee

All interested and available parents are invited to a Monday morning help out in the Art room. We would very much appreciate an hour of your time, from 9:00 am on the first Monday of each month to help sort, tidy and straighten. The dates for this term will be: Monday 11 May (in lieu of Wesak Day public holiday) and Monday 1 June. Please RSVP to Ms Kelly Holmes on kellyh@aism.edu.my by the preceding Thursday (7/5 and 28/6 respectively) if you are available.

Mother’s Day Stall

The children in the Junior School thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to go 'shopping' at last Friday’s Mother’s Day stall. Thank you to all of the parents for their contributions, especially the Parent Association, who put a great deal of time and effort into arranging this event.

For more photos click here: Mother’s Day Stall
In our quest to provide more play opportunities at break times, we are hoping to create boxes of equipment for physical, imagination and skill development. If you are having a clear out, we would welcome donations of any of the following, as long as they are in clean and in working condition. Please bring your items to the Junior School Reception, for the attention of Mrs Kerry Smith.

- Toy cars - any size
- Toy animals - any size (farm and zoo animals are great)
- Baby dolls (not barbie-type dolls) and any doll clothes, bottles, brushes, prams etc
- Role play sets - doctors, nurses, policemen, kings and queens...
- Imaginative play - ‘kitchen’: old pots and pans, plastic cups and plates, wooden spoons, aprons, chef hat...
- Dress up equipment - hats, shoes, handbags, scarves (no general clothing)
- Skill development - threading cards, beading sets, weaving sets, big jenga sets (no leggo)...
- Physical development - space hoppers, scooters, skipping ropes...

CRECHE PICK-UP
Please collect your child from Creche at 4.20pm at the Prep Courtyard Gate. Any uncollected child will be taken to the JS Reception so we can call home and to await your arrival.

GRADE OF THE WEEK - Year 3
The Little Black Rat
There once was a little black cat
Who was running away from a cat
The car nearly caught up
The rat hid in a cup
The cat didn’t find the black rat!

By Tayla Halvy, 3G

There once was a dog called Cat
And as he sat on the matt
He felt very lazy,
I thought he was crazy,
Although I gave him a pat.

By Tayla Halvy, 3G

Pan Shin Yi, 3W

ANZAC - Lest we forget - Elanor Evans, 3G
Sports

Kim Bradley, Middle & Senior School Sports Coordinator

Middle/Senior School Sportsperson of the Year

The Purpose of this award is to recognise the best all-round sporting (male and female) talent in the Middle/Senior School (Years 6 to 8 & 9 to 12), based on the following criteria.

The following table outlines the points a student can obtained through the Official AISM and ISAC sporting events, plus approved external Elite Sporting Events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sportsperson of the Year Criteria</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
<th>5th</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>Age Champion</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISAC Athletics</td>
<td>Representation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 points per event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Age Champion</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISAC Cross Country</td>
<td>Representation</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAC Swimming</td>
<td>Medal/Placing **</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>ISAC Sport</td>
<td>Medal/Placing **</td>
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<td>AISA Games</td>
<td>Medal/Placing **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elite External Sporting</td>
<td>Medal/Placing **</td>
<td>6 points per elite State/Regional event</td>
<td>8 points per elite National event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Series/Events***</td>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
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- ** ISAC Cross country placing will be awarded from 1st to 10th with points being allocated to each placing.
- ***If a child chooses to participate in an elite sporting event/series and receives a medal (placing), points will be awarded as indicated.
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- *** The definition of an ‘elite’ sporting event is left to the discretion and determination of the school but as a general guideline, the event should be of ISAC standard or above. Parents who believe their child has participated or won a medal at an elite event, must apply and provide relevant documentation to the school for this sporting event to be considered.

ISAC Cross Country 2014
Junior School Sportsperson of the Year

Damian Pietsch, Junior School CCA Coordinator

The purpose of this award is to recognise the best all-round sporting (male and female) talent in the Junior School (Years 3 to 5), based on the following criteria.

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<td><strong>AISM Athletics Carnival</strong></td>
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<td>Age Champion</td>
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It is fabulous to see these students setting such a high standard and being such great ambassadors for our school.

Anyone who is interested in entering next year's event may visit the Metasprint website at http://www.metasprintseries.com/ and put in an early entry at 35% discount.

The third and final race of the Metasprint Series was held recently in Singapore. A number of AISM students participated in the three race event. Eliza Tan and Tania Thong continued their fine form in the final race, coming 2nd and 3rd in their respective races.

After the 3 races, the aquathlon, duathlon and triathlon, Eliza finished a highly respectable 3rd overall in the 8 to 9 year old girls category. Tania was able to achieve one place better in the 10 to 11 year old girls, coming runner up to the overall champion. Congratulations to both girls on their outstanding performances.

Congratulations also to Euan Latimer, who came in 16th in the 10 - 11 year old boys triathlon and to Christian and Jeremy Bartley who placed 26th and 28th in the 14 - 25 year old boys triathlon. Well done boys.
The students are enjoying using our new I-Pads to search the library catalogue. These iPads have created a more portable and user-friendly way to access our catalogue.

I would like to highlight some of our new resources.

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini is now in beautifully illustrated graphic format. This book which was first published in 2003 is an award winning, international best seller.

War Child to War Horse by Maggie Fergusson is a biography of the brilliant author, Michael Morpurgo. Morpurgo has written over one hundred amazing stories for all ages.

The Colossus Rises is the first book in the Seven Wonders series by Peter Lerangis. Lerangis is the bestselling author of the 39 Clues series.

A very popular fantasy series for younger readers is The Warrior Cats by Erin Hunter.

Helping hands to cover books are always most welcome in the library.
Here is the list of the New Students for Term 2/2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Surename</th>
<th>First Name</th>
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<th>Gender</th>
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<td>6</td>
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