



**AUSTIN
HEIGHTS**
Private & International School
TOGETHER WE EXCEL

NEWSLETTER

**Nov 2012
Issue 8**



Principal's Note

I was delighted to take part in the recent Prefects' training day, despite being asked at short notice to act the part of a prefect in the role playing activities! The information imparted and issues discussed during the day focussed strongly on the kind of management, leadership and decision making skills which our students will need in the future.

We have now reached the final stages of the formation of the School's first Senior Student Council, the representatives having been elected by their peers. The students were required to choose their representatives carefully basing their decisions upon the candidates' communication skills, ability to think creatively and genuine commitment to what will be a highly responsible position within the School. I look forward to working with them personally – and I already have a major task I wish them to perform.

Congratulations to everyone – teachers and students – who worked with such enthusiasm to make Children's Day a success. There were superb performances from all our Primary classes and it was very encouraging to see our secondary students assisting so responsibly.

Prefects Motivation and Leadership Training on 20th October 2012



Prefects in Austin Heights Private and International Schools attended a motivation and leadership camp on Saturday, 20th October 2012.

The camp was held at the Austin Golf and Hotel Resort from 8 am till 9 pm. The prefects had a packed but fun-filled day. They had an exciting training session with role play, magic tricks and teambuilding activities.

Two assistant head prefects, Eileen Chu of Year 10A and Raehan Haementh of Year 10U were elected that day. Each of them gave a heartfelt and persuasive speech and won the support of their fellow prefects.

They also had a bowling session and enjoyed their barbecue dinner that night. The prefects were kind and compassionate to their fellow friends who were from different levels and different classes.

In general, the Prefects enjoyed their day tremendously. They got to know each other better, worked well in their groups and had better teamwork and cooperation.

Many thanks to all those who had put in such great effort to ensure the day was successful.



Prefects Installation Ceremony on 22nd October 2012

A total of 59 prefects from Year 6 to Year 11 were installed during assembly on 22nd October 2012. They marched grandly into the school hall to receive their badges. Hanif Bin Rezal, the current Head Prefect, gave a speech to students seeking their continued support and cooperation. He also welcomed two newly elected Assistant Head Prefects, Eileen Chu of Year 10A and Raehan Haemanth of Year 10U.

The prefects proudly recited the prefects' pledge after the announcement. In their pledge they promised to uphold the good name and discipline of the school, to carry out their duties diligently and to be role models. They also promised to strive for excellence, and bring honour and glory to their beloved school.

First Assessments

Our first round of assessments began on November 5th and all students were clearly briefed as to what they were expected to revise. Long hours revising are not productive; it is preferable to study for short periods with breaks, and studying late into the night is not conducive to being mentally alert the following day. Students should use their revision time smartly by devising a revision programme and trying different strategies to help them retain information – not simply staring at a book but for example, highlighting key points on worksheets, making up revision cards, self-testing or testing each other.



Remembrance Day Assembly

The Principal explained the purpose of Remembrance Day which is marked in many countries worldwide on the Sunday nearest to November 11th in order to commemorate and to thank those who have given their lives or suffered in the struggle for freedom. The students were informed about the First and Second World War, including the occupation of Malaya and Singapore, and shown an extract from the Remembrance Day service in London. They also heard some personal stories of individuals – both military and civilian – who have lived through conflicts. The assembly ended with the traditional Ode to Remembrance, the students – like millions of their peers globally – respectfully repeating the last line “We will remember them.”





Children's Day Celebration

"Celebrate the beaming lights-our students at AHS"

The School celebrated Children's Day on 25th October 2012. The day comprised a tele-match, and a speech from the Principal of Austin Heights Private and International School. This was then followed by a variety of performances from the children themselves. The celebration did not stop there but continued in their respective tutor groups, where they shared food with their friends and teachers.

Children's Day



Results of the Tele-match conducted on Children's Day

Winners	Runners-Up
Year 1A	Year 1U
Year 2A	Year 2U
Year 3S	Year 3U
Year 4 Winners:	Green House
Year 5U	Year 5A
Year 6A	Year 6U



Results of Inter-House Competitions

(Junior)

Football

- Blue House: Winners
- Red House: Runners up
- Best player of the tournament: Shawin Prakash Kumar Y6A (Blue House)*

Basketball

- Green House: Winners
- Yellow House: Runners up
- Best player of the tournament: Lee Bin Year 6U (Green House)*

Netball

- Blue House: Winners
- Green House: Runners up
- Best player of the tournament: Ungku Maimunah Shaharudin Y6U (Blue House)*



Results of Inter-House Competitions (Senior)

- Senior finals have so far only taken place in netball with Blue House the winners, and Green House runners-up.
- Best player of the tournament: Ji Ping Long Y10 A from Blue House



Halloween Celebration



On 30 October 2012, the big family of AHS assembled to celebrate Halloween Day. Students as well as teachers arrived in exotic costumes which brought forth both admiration and horror in the minds and hearts of their peers. The distinguished panel of judges had a hard time selecting the best amongst 400 students who had made every effort to make a great impression on their audience. According to the categories of the most beautiful, most creative and scariest outfits, AHS students gathered in the Hall to boast their fantastic creations. Students of each year group from Reception to Year 11 were invited on stage, the appearance of which raised praise, wonder and fear, accompanied by loud applause. Later in the programme, the Masters of Ceremony announced the winners of AHS 2012 Halloween Day, who came on stage and to receive their certificates of achievement from Datin Low Peck Tim, the CEO of AHS and Deputy Principle Mr. Lui Lai Nam. The programme, ending with a spectacular dance performed by a mixed group of students from across the year groups, was an impressive display of talent and innovation.



Cambodia Workshop

The Principal has just returned from Cambodia having made the final preparations for our forthcoming expedition in January. All those involved in Cambodia itself are cooperating enthusiastically to ensure that the expedition is a great success.

The presentation and workshop sessions for the 29 participants will be held at school on Saturday, November 24th. During the day, all the key information will be presented including itinerary, accommodation, contact information, spending money, items to bring, and dos and don'ts while in Cambodia. During the presentation, information will also be given as to the activities in which the students will be participating.

After the first presentation, the students will be divided into groups for team building activities, planning sessions and research groups as they will have a very full programme while they are in Siem Reap, and they need to be well prepared.

One of the students' tasks will be to devise creative ways to raise funds for construction projects in which they will be involved at the Savong Charity School.

Two of the many destinations while in Cambodia...



Angkor Wat



Savong School

Year 2 IPC Entry Point

Theme: The Magic Toymaker (Toys & Games)

The Year 2 students had a wonderful puppet-making session on 19/10/2012 (Friday) as the Entry Point for this theme. They each decided on a character they wanted to make and create a live puppet.

The Year 2 students collected and brought materials needed for this activity and they used junk materials such as old socks, old costume jewellery, stick-on fake jewels, buttons, ribbon, velvet, fabric flowers, net, glitter, etc. to make their puppet. Each student was also given a chance to present and share information about their puppet character.



Year 4 IPC Entry Point

Theme: Treasure;

Activity: Treasure Hunt

The 'Treasure Hunt' held on 30 November 2012 has enabled IPC learners to experience learning outside the classroom, and to acquire creative thinking and good listening skills. Also, this activity has encouraged teamwork, leadership, communication and interaction among students and the use of effective research to arrive at a correct conclusion.



This was the first location where 2 mysterious items to be found..... The students searched every spot of the classroom including under the carpet.....



At the second location, the students had to find marbles and a will from a very wealthy woman who had left tonnes of gemstones and gold bars.



At the third location the students even searched the gardener's shoes. The whole exercise was about teamwork. The students looked for answers to the puzzle and checked the items they found. The teacher verified the score of each team. The winning team was Yellow Team.

Korea Education Fair

Austin Heights International School recently participated in an education fair held on 6th and 7th October at the COEX Convention and Exhibition Centre in Seoul, Korea. It was organized by the National Association of Private Educational Institutions of Malaysia (NAPEI) in collaboration with PEMANDU, a unit in the Prime Minister's Department.

The weekend event presented a great opportunity for Korean parents to learn more about Malaysian International Schools, especially for those planning to work or migrate to Johor. By being a participant in the educational fair we were more than happy to be able to brief parents in Korea on our school's curriculum and programmes, and the facilities available at Austin Heights International School. They also had the opportunity to meet our staff who were ready to answer any queries the parents may have on education for expatriate students. Judging by the good response from the Korean parents, our participation at this fair was a success which encourages the school to participate in more overseas education fairs in future.



Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.

-G. K. Chesterson

Art Blurb



*Mona Lisa by Lim Ka Chin
(Y9)*

Currently our students are experiencing, exploring and experimenting with art making techniques during their art classes. We would like to share some of their work with the rest of the school. The students are from the Key Stage 3 classes and they show commendable art making talents that we hope they will develop even further.



*Cubes by Jesclyn & Lau Yii
Nuoh (Y7)*

Students' Science Blogs

What these two students have achieved precisely reflects the skills and creativity which are required of our young people in the 21st century...

Students have created ICT and Science blogs during their ICT class and ICT CCA. They have learned to select a dynamic layout with widgets, plugins, SEO tools and have learned to attract visitors on their web page or post. A blog by Aryan has 3000 visitors in 2 months. Professional web designers sometimes lack the skill of increasing a website's ranking on Google, but these students have put in a lot of effort to learn Search Engine Optimization in CCA as an advanced activity and are successfully getting more page views every day.

Students have learned the skill to download and use high resolution images instead of normal/medium resolution images.

This activity is part of their Curriculum in Website design for a Purpose (ICT Starters). Students are expected to create web pages and link them. They should be able to enter and amend text, insert videos and pictures.



<http://explorespace-in.blogspot.com> by Aryan
(Y6U)



<http://ancientworld-in.blogspot.com> by Anirudha
(Y6U)



This is to certify that

Akihiro Cheng

of

Austin Heights International School

gained the highest mark in the World in the June 2012 Cambridge IGCSE examinations for

Foreign Language Malay

awarded at the

Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards, Malaysia

on 22 November 2012

Ann Peck Tim
Chief Executive
Cambridge International Examinations



Winner of Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award

Akihiro Cheng, a Year 11 student of Austin Heights International School (AHIS), has not only brought honour to himself academically but also brought pride to the school for having gained the highest mark in the world in the June 2012 Cambridge IGCSE examinations for Foreign Language Malay.

Akihiro received a certificate in recognition of his outstanding achievement from Cambridge International Examinations on 22 November 2012 in Petaling Jaya, Selangor. At hand to witness the ceremony was Akihiro's parents, Austin Heights Private & International School Chief Executive Officer Datin Low Peck Tim, AHPIS Deputy Principal Mr Lui Lai Nam and teacher Radhika Subamaniam.

The June IGCSE examinations, conducted by Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) yearly at various centres throughout the world, normally attract only Year 11 students. But due to Akihiro's quest to excel in the Malay paper, guided by his teacher Ms Radhika Subamaniam, he signed for the exam when he was in Year 10. Obviously, his determination and persistence have paid off handsomely in the form of recognition by CIE.

AHIS would like to congratulate Akihiro for the magnificent achievement which should serve as a source of inspiration to all AHPIS students to strive for excellence in all your undertakings.

Return of Library Books

Students who have borrowed books from the school library are requested to return them to the library on or before 30th November 2012.

Students may borrow books again when the school reopens in January 2013.

Car Stickers & ID Tags

Please remember to display the new car sticker issued by the school on the passenger side of your car windscreen before entering the school compound.

Parents who have yet to obtain a new car sticker are requested to exchange their old car sticker for a new one at the Reception Desk in the Admin Office. Parents may do so at any time during school office hours. Please wear ID Tags prominently whilst on campus.

Key Dates for the Term

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
6-9 Nov	AHIS Assessment Term 1
12 Nov	Half Term Break
13 Nov	Deepavali
15 Nov	Awal Muharram
22 Nov	Sultan of Johor Birthday
23 Nov	Fun Run & Back to Nature
4 Dec	Swimming Gala
7 Dec	End of Term 1
8 Dec	PTC (Parent- Teacher Conference)

Student Dress Code Whilst on Campus

Students are expected to remain in either full school uniform or be in PE/Sports kit while in school compound. This includes after school while waiting to be picked up.

School Fees for Term 2, 2012/2013 (AHIS) and Term 1, 2013 (AHPS)

School fee invoices for next term will be handed to students in sealed envelopes on 1st December 2012. Parents are requested to make payment before the new term starts in 2013. You can make payment by cash or by cheque (payable to Austin Heights Education Sdn Bhd). If you fail to receive the school fee invoice from your child, Please contact Ms Teo at 07-3513003.

Austin Heights Private and International Schools

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