

"Today was good. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another one."

Dr. Seuss



Dear Chatsworth East Community,

Monday back to school was indeed a wonderful day! The staff and students were back to school and the place felt vibrant again after being nearly empty for a few weeks. It was wonderful to see all of the smiles and hear the well wishes from people as we moved around campus. Monday was also the day that we opened our mail to receive our official Authorization to offer the Primary Years Programme at Chatsworth East! We are now officially an IB World School and we could not be happier at our achievement. Again, 'hats off' to all staff, both past and present, for all of the hard work, determination and diligence in gaining our authorization.

The Christmas holidays have passed and we are now moving forwards to Chinese New Year here in Singapore. Please check the calendar at the end of the newsletter for the dates we will be off from school, as well as all other important dates for the coming months.

I am very pleased to announce this **important information for all parents/guardians from our Directors**: due to the current economic situation and the strain that this is putting on many of our families, Chatsworth East will not be seeing an increase in school fees for the coming academic year.

As an update to our continued staff development, I am pleased to inform our community of the following: after a successful 5 day workshop with Apple in December, I am now considered to be an official 'Distinguished Apple Educator', of which I am quite proud. This will be beneficial as we move towards more integrated ICT in the curriculum. In January both Ms Potaka and Mr. Ashby will be off to Jakarta for PYP training. These courses will help us in our curriculum development. In February, our Music/Mandarin teacher, Ms Chan, will be attending a workshop for Music, and both Ms Banerjee and Ms Pinto will be attending early years workshops. Finally, all teaching staff will be involved in Apple training in the month of February to further assist in our familiarity with, and integration of ICT in the curriculum.

Please note an important adjustment to our calendar: approval for our in-service workshop from the IBO has come through and we will be having this workshop at school from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Thus, **there will be no school for students on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> of March**. This weekend workshop will involve Assessment in the PYP and help to further our understanding and delivery of the curriculum.

December brought with it some changes in our staffing here at Chatsworth East. I would like to welcome our new school nurse, Ms Siti to the school. Ms Siti is a very caring and energetic person and I know she is going to feel very at home here. Please do say hello to her when you see her in the mornings. Ms Siti is at the school from 8:30-4:30 each day. I would also like to welcome our new teaching assistants, Ms Teo in Year 1, Mrs Balaji in K1 and Mrs Habsah in K2. Ms Wendy, who has been helping out in K1 for the past short while, has returned to her duties in Year 2. We thank her for assisting us and the children in K1 will certainly miss seeing her every day, though they are sure to run into her daily on the campus.

I am pleased to announce that we are considering running Summer School on the East campus this year. Mr. Hynes will be sending out a short survey to consider interest level from parents and students in order to make it as successful as possible. Typically summer school within the Chatsworth Group of Schools is non-academic and usually involves sporting, ICT and an extension of the Arts. Once Mr. Hynes has received feedback we will send out further, more concrete information for families.

Mr. Hynes' next PYP Coffee Morning will be held on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Hynes' next Newsletter will be out soon to provide more information and he is looking forward to having another enjoyable conversation with parents regarding elements of the PYP. He is also looking forward to seeing some new faces from our new members of the school community. All are welcome!

Student Led Conferences are coming up soon in February. Mr. Hynes is currently putting together information about these special opportunities for your child to discuss their learning with you. Where these have happened for the past couple of years, many families will be very familiar with them by now. However, where we have some new families who have joined us this year, as well as for a refresher, please do read the information that comes home carefully. The involvement that parents put into these conferences enhances their child's learning a great deal. As mentioned above, please do remember that your child will only be at school on this day whilst they are involved in the conference. Students arrive and leave the school with their parents on this day.

**Important Upcoming Events for your calendar:**

January 26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup>	Chinese New Year Holiday – School Closed
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Start of Semester 2
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mr. Hynes' PYP Coffee Morning in the Library
February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Semester 1 Reports Issued
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Student Led Conferences (students only in school for conferences)
Feb. 16 <sup>th</sup> 20 <sup>th</sup>	School holiday – no students
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	PYP Training – no school for students
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Second Session of CCAs finished

A more complete Calendar can be found on the school website.

As always, should you ever have any questions or concerns, please do stop by my office, find me on the field in the morning, or drop me an email. I value and encourage the opportunity for discussion.

Sincerely,



Tyler Sherwood  
Principal

## **School Song 'We Are One'**

**I come from Europe,  
From Asia, from Africa,  
America may be my home  
Or Oceania,  
It doesn't matter where I'm from  
Or where I live right now.  
It matters only who I am and  
Who I will become.**

**(Chorus) We are one,  
But we are many!  
And from all the lands on earth  
We come.  
We share a dream  
And sing with one voice.  
I am , you are  
We are international.**

**I know we are all different  
We speak in different tongues  
We come from many places  
At Chatsworth we are one.  
We care about each other,  
'Cos we're the best of friends!  
We're the students of Chatsworth  
We are international.**

**(Chorus)**

**We'll try to find the answers,  
And we know our right from wrong  
Though it isn't always easy  
We will stand up and be strong  
We come to work, we come to learn  
We have a lot of fun  
We're the students of Chatsworth,  
We are international**

**(Chorus, repeat last line)**