

Panaga School Newsletter

Featuring this month:

School Trips 2010

In October, P6 explored the Permai Rainforest, Kuching, while P8 savoured the sights of Singapore. P7 are currently *Outward Bound* in Kota Kinabulu - it's adventurous times!

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Message from the Head of the International Stream



Welcome to the October edition of the Panaga School Newsletter.

Firstly, I would like to thank all parents for attending the Parent Introduction Evenings at the beginning of the academic year. These evenings and the subsequent class sessions are an important aspect of the new academic year. There is always some apprehension and excitement at the start of the school year with everyone going to a new class, new teacher and in some cases a new site! The Parent Introduction Evenings are intended to allay any anxieties for children and parents at the start of a new academic year. It is pleasing to report all children and teachers have settled in well and learning in school is 'in full swing'.

This academic year we are looking to develop the 'Panaga Pupil Voice'. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the United Nations in November 1989, spells out the basic human rights to which children everywhere are entitled. Two of the articles in particular refer to 'Pupil Voice': Article 12 refers to children's rights to express their own opinions and to have them taken into account in any matter affecting them; Article 13 refers to children's right to freedom of expression, which also says that they have a right to receive and disseminate information. Every day, in every classroom at Panaga School, we see children working in partnership with their teachers and peers, on various aspects of their learning. Through the Student Councils, we are embracing Articles 12 and 13 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Children. Student Councils are an opportunity to involve children in the wider elements and decisions regarding school life as a whole. As of this year, both Student Councils are represented by teachers sitting on the PTP. The Student Councils have already identified target areas they want to improve, for example safer journeys to school: Rampayoh's *Cycle to School* day will take place on Friday, 5th November, 2010.

The Teraja Student Council's improvements so far include the provision of a blossoming 'student garden' on the outskirts of their playground.

So watch out this year, the Panaga Pupil Voice is going to get louder!

- Craig Heaton

P6 Hang out in jungle



Music Day 2010

A musical Wednesday took place on the 13th of October, 2010.

Both the Rampayoh and Teraja children enjoyed live performances from Jun and his band.

The musicians, from the Kim Music School in Kuala Belait, kindly gave up their working day to perform to all of the children in school.

The afternoon followed with a Music Workshop for the Primary 6s and Primary 7s.

They eagerly enjoyed learning about some of the techniques used to play a violin, keyboard, electric guitar, bass guitar and drum set.

Lots of the children were keen to share their musical talents with the musicians and their class.

By Miss Imogen



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Quote for the month:

"A mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimensions."
- Anonymous

Newsletter designed and edited by Damian Brady

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From Page One
Written by Miss Liz

The adventurers return from the 2010 P6 Kuching trip

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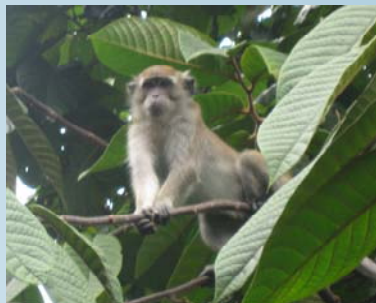


P6 visited Kuching, Malaysia for a 4 day and 3 night adventure course, where we stayed at the Permai Rainforest Resort.



BBQ dinner on the last evening

The setting was wonderful and despite rain on the first day, it was a great trip. The staff at the resort and the teachers had to be very flexible with activities and timings! The food was fabulous, with a wide selection of tasty treats for us to try. The teachers and children ate far too much – it was difficult not to with 4 meals a day!



Local wildlife

Activities completed during the trip included: Team Games, Flying Fox, Abseiling, Obstacle Course, Tar-

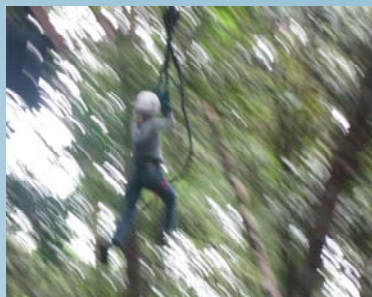
zan Swing, diary writing and sketching. We also had a wonderful time splashing about in the waves on the beach.



Teamwork on the Obstacle Course



Boaz Abseiling



Who is flying?



Mr Meino helping out

The trip to the cultural village was very successful and the children had the opportunity to experience



Sidhu shows us how to move a rope without using hands!



Those annoying triangles!



Ezra turns himself into a sandcastle!



Swimming in the sea



Team Games

the different styles of houses the tribes throughout Borneo use. We also watched the cultural dances and saw how the tribes vary in styles of dance and clothing.



Joining in with the cultural dances.



Kylie and Sasha in the Iban Longhouse

The children learned some very valuable lessons about being independent, organised and working as a team. Their excellent behaviour was commented on by other guests at the resort and the teachers felt very proud to be part of such a wonderful group.



Wet but happy

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P2'S EXIT POINT FOR 'MY WORLD' IPC TOPIC.



During our IPC topic, 'My World', we learned about different ways to keep healthy.

These included resting, keeping clean, eating healthy food and drinking lots of water, and doing lots of exercise. For our Exit Point, we enjoyed exercising in a fun way...Miss Julie showed us how to do Hip Hop! We had a great afternoon dancing to pop music and keeping fit. Mr. Philip also entertained us with his dance moves! *By Miss Vanessa*

P2 find their way

P2 children learned about maps this month for the geography element of the IPC topic, *My World*.

We used a simple map to find our way to the Panaga Club from school. We noted things along the way that we could add to our map, such as fire hydrants, road signs and the Panaga Club playground! We had lots of fun.

By Miss Vanessa



Friday the 15th of October saw the Funfair arrive in P7 as the parents came to 'test drive' the rides and games that the children had made during their IPC topic, *The Physical World*.



During the first half-term, the children had been learning about the different forces that surround us, focusing on how they are used in making different fun-fair rides and electri-

P7 take their parents for a ride



cal and magnetic games. Visitors to the class during the last week of the topic witnessed the children planning, reviewing and amending their constructions. The last two days had a feel similar to the weeks before an Olympic Games with a deadline for completion approaching fast.

Parents had the opportunity to 'ride'

rollercoasters and log flumes, test drive racing cars and send human cannonballs flying through the air. Those with a steady hand attempted to navigate through David's electrifying challenge and those with a steady stomach could even ride the 'Vominator'!



The Vominator

At each ride, the children were able to explain the science behind the

ride's action and how it had been constructed.



Just like a real fun-fair, the P7 classrooms were a buzz of excitement and towards the end, a smell of fresh popcorn was even detected wafting above the rides.

A big thanks to all the parent 'test dummies' who came to enjoy our exit point.

By Mr Andy Ryan

Parents visit our 'open classes'

On Wednesday 13th of October, across both sites, children introduced to their parents evidence of the hard work and fun they have been having at school so far this academic year. All mums and dads were very impressed with not only what, but how, children are learning in their classes at Panaga School. *By Damian Brady*



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It's time to celebrate

This month for every class across the whole school, children were rewarded for their hard work, teamwork and fairness.

In Rampayoh for example, Hamish Paton of IP1L was awarded an Achievement Certificate his positive attitude and enthusiasm towards school and his learning. While Maisie Ann Thuy Prestridge of IP2D received hers for showing wonderful progress with her spoken English.

In Teraja, Mohammad Al Shaibani picked up 2 awards—one from his class teacher, Mr Andy Ryan (IP7AR), and one from Miss Clare; both for his improvement in English and the excellent support he gives others.

Miss Helen awarded her whole class a certificate for being excellent P8 ambassadors either on the Singapore trip, or if they did not attend, back in school.

By Damian Brady



Our Teraja Celebration Certificate awardees



The P8s were all winners either on the Singapore trip or still in school

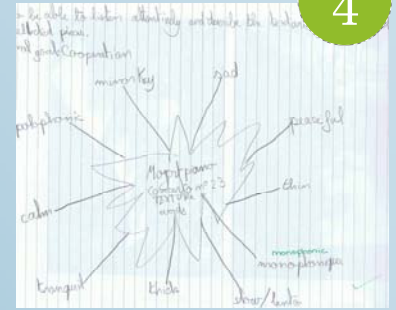
They see the world like this

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For their IPC Music Task, Primary 8 listened to two contrasting pieces of music: Mozart's *Piano Concerto no. 23* and the Arctic Monkey's *Brianstorm*.

They listened attentively to the different 'textures' in each piece of music and mind-mapped various 'texture' and 'mood' words.

By Miss Imogen



In groups, they created a collage to express the different 'textures' they heard in the music.



Shadows, stories, senses... science



The P3s enjoyed learning about shadows during our IPC topic, Senses.



In our science lessons we investigated how shadows change throughout the day. We planned and carried out a fair test investigation and then made conclusions.



We also made shadow puppets, carefully considering which materials to use – transparent, opaque or translucent, depending on the type of shadow we wanted. We used our puppets to tell simple stories.

By Miss Yvonne

P3s are authors in the eyes of the P1s



In Literacy, the P3s have enjoyed writing stories based in familiar settings. We started our learning at the beach, using our senses to write some fabulous descriptions.



We then made our own story books; including a beginning, middle and ending. When we had finished and edited them, we felt like real authors sharing them with P1. By Miss Yvonne



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Mr Henk Returns to Panaga

Former Panaga School Deputy Head and now Director of Shell Education Services in the Hague, Mr Henk Van Hout, visited the school this month and was very impressed by what he saw.



Among the many things that caught his interest was the colourful canopy play area in the centre of the Teraja playground.

“The children didn’t have this to enjoy when I was here,” he said.

Mr Henk also visited many classes and was further impressed by the excellent learning that takes place across the whole school.



One class he dropped in on was a PE lesson, conducted by his long-time friend, Mr Paul Deelen. He and Mr Paul shared stories with the children and discussed how the school, including the PE facilities and learning opportunities, have improved over the past few years.



Mr Henk Van Hout is a current member of the Panaga School Board.

By Damian Brady

rainbow

Basketball has been one of the big hits of this year’s ASAs so far. The purchase of new colourful, easy to handle balls has made the sport even more fun for the children.



Basketball ASA

Ace roving reporter, Miss Hazel, asked some of the children what they thought of the new balls.

“These balls are really bouncy, good quality and better than the old ones.” Hamish (IP6S)

“I like the rainbow colours, especially when you spin the ball.” Patrick (IP7AR)

Basketball 5

“These are really bright and more colourful than the other balls.” Thomas (IP5P)



James makes a basket

As can be witnessed, all the children enjoyed playing with the new basketballs. Even the P4s could handle the smaller-size balls which made playing a lot more fun and easier. Thank you Mr Paul D for getting the new balls.



P6 Fit for Life IPC Entry Point



P6 started their ‘Fit for Life’ topic energetically with a yoga and dance session that got everyone moving to the music. The year group are lucky to have their very own yoga instructor in the shape of Miss Sam and it was she who led the session.



After a thorough warm up, the children were introduced to some of the moves associated with yoga. Everyone soon found that as well as physical movement yoga requires concentration.

Children participated well



and there were some excellent yoga practitioners in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the session and there may have been quite a few sparks of interest ignited by the workout?

The afternoon was completed by a dance session



led by Miss Liz. Pupils were quick to learn a dance routine. It was a great way to round off an active and memorable Entry Point that brought both the International and Dutch Streams together.

By Mr Gordon (No I didn’t wear a leotard!)