

Panaga School Newsletter

Message from the Principal



Dear All,

Welcome to our first colour newsletter of the new academic year! Whilst the summer vacation may now seem a long time ago, I hope your family holiday was happy and relaxing.

We begin the school year with 620 children on roll from 37 different nationalities. Eight new members of staff have joined the Panaga team (see separate article), with at least one new face in each of the year groups from P1 to P7. This, together with a reshuffle of existing teachers, has secured a fresh dynamic across the school.

By the first week of the new term the children had quickly settled into their new classrooms and were working hard for their teachers. The articles within this newsletter amply reflect this.

I am pleased that so many parents were able to attend the recent Parent Teacher Introduction Meetings. We trust that the SLT presentation served to identify the school's recent successes and future targets. Equally, we hope the year group discussions helped clarify what and how your child will be learning this coming year. Please remember that the teachers are always available to answer your queries and that the Senior Leadership Team also operate an 'open-door' policy.

A little later this term, you will have the opportunity to attend our Open Classes Session – an informal chance to see the children's work in their books and on the walls and discuss the learning with them. Further details will follow shortly.

Once again, the children can look forward to an exciting year of learning and fun. Teachers are already planning residential, day trips and concerts. The School Councils are generating exciting ideas for theme days. Equally, the new PTP has recently met and the group is committed to supporting the school in special activities and events.

This academic year has started very well with the arrival of the results of the *End of Key Stage 2 SATs* taken by IP7 in Term 3. The results are extremely good - the best that the school has obtained. This - together with the very good assessment results across the year groups in both streams - serves to reflect the great learning taking place. At the same time, it also raises our 'expectation bar' one notch higher still!

On Monday 4th October, we welcome Henk van Hout – Head of Shell Education Services – to Panaga. Henk was once a Deputy Head Teacher and Head of Dutch Stream at Panaga School himself. An account of his visit will figure in next month's issue.

We look forward to a great 2010/11!

Kind regards,

Richard White

Welcome back!



More on page 2

Parents' Sports Day

On Wednesday 15th September 2010, as a part of their *Health and Fitness IPC* topic, P4 had the pleasure of inviting their parents to participate in a Parents' Sports Day.



To learn how effective exercise is needed to complement a balanced diet, P4 planned, designed, devised rules for and then led activities suitable for their parents.

In groups, the children had to think of what activities would not only challenge their parents, but keep their interest. As result, events such as hockey relay, football dribble and ski race were chosen, together with more traditional favourites such as the egg and spoon race.



The afternoon proved that the P4 parents were not only good sports, as well as keen competitors, they already know plenty about being *healthy and fit*.
By Damian Brady

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Quote for the month:

"Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity."

- Aristotle

Newsletter designed and edited by Damian Brady

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From Page One

First day for 2010/2011 - a success

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There were smiles all round and hardly a tear in sight (from the students anyway) as Panaga's new school year began on the 31st of August, 2010.



After a well-deserved break, all children settled into their new classes eagerly and easily.

Plus, we welcomed many new students and teachers to the school community.

It was fantastic to see so many smiles on the faces of the children as many have long awaited being reacquainted with their friends, making new ones and beginning their studies this school year.

There are many exciting events occurring all year - school trips, concerts, theme days, ASAs and sports competitions - just to name a few. Keep posted to the school website and the

Parent Information letters for details.



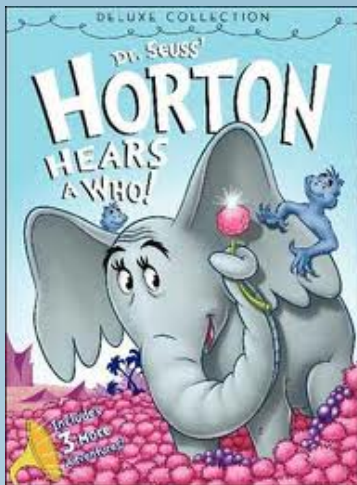
But for now, welcome back! It's going to be a great year!

By Damian Brady



Horton shares personal goals with P4

During the first week of school the P4s were reminded of the importance of the IPC Personal Goals.



All of the classes discussed what they thought the 8 Personal Goals meant. The children were then treated to some movie time. They watched Dr. Suess's

"Horton Hears a Who!" to try to identify when the Personal Goals appeared. Much dis-

cussion was had and the children then set to task to present what they had learned.



Brainstorming what the goals mean

ers, informative leaflets and well acted drama skits. These all highlighted the importance of the IPC Personal Goals.



Sharing the Personal Goals

On Friday afternoon they shared bright and colourful post-

By Paul Moffett

Panaga School's best ever IP7 SATs results

Panaga School has achieved another set of excellent End of Key Stage 2 SATs results: in fact the best results to date. The IP7 students once again out-performed their UK counterparts in the National Curriculum core subjects, with an even greater number than last year achieving Level 5 - above the expected level for their age. The results amply reflect the high quality teaching and learning that takes place across the Panaga School year groups.

By Richard White

Panaga School Test Results and UK National Test Results 2009/10				
		Percentage at each level		
		Level 4 +		Level 5
English	Panaga School	100%	(100%)	67% (37%)
	National	81%	(80%)	33% (29%)
Mathematics	Panaga School	95%	(95%)	69% (67%)
	National	80%	(79%)	35% (35%)

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Welcome aboard, our new teachers



Name: Andy Winder
Last school: St Christopher's, Bahrain
In Brunei with: wife, Jenny, and son, Alfie, 9 months
Interests: Scuba diving, tennis, touch rugby.



Name: Andy Ryan
Last school: British School, Karachi
In Brunei with: wife, Tamkeen
Interests: "I'm a passionate follower of professional cycling and 'Cycling Weekly' magazine from the UK."



Name: Sarah Josefsen
Last school: Martongate Primary School, Bridlington, East Yorkshire
In Brunei with: husband, Michael
Interests: swimming, gym, reading, bike-riding, visiting new places!



Name: Roos van Aagten
Last school: HSV, Den Haag, Holland
In Brunei with: husband, Rick and son, Frederik (8 months)
Interests: hockey, cooking, painting, travelling.



Name: Donna Bonham
Last school: Newton British School, Doha, Qatar
In Brunei with: fiancé, Mark
Interests: football, badminton, reading, socialising and volunteer work.



Name: Sam Egan
Last school: British International School of Shanghai
Interests: Yoga, squash and most outdoor activities, love to travel see the world, reading and cooking.



Name: Jenny Dunlop
Last school: Farleigh Prep School, Hampshire, UK
Interests: Sailing, travelling and cooking.



Name: Kathryn Carter
Last school: Blackwood Primary school in South Wales
Interests: reading, walking, swimming, diving and just started wind surfing.

IP6L IPC Entry Point

To start our topic we played some games which involved us standing on a bench and not speaking! We had to get ourselves into date order using signals and teamwork.



We were not allowed to fall off the bench!



We then created a huge timeline around the classroom. We put on dates that we already knew and added more information we had found out using books and the internet.



We made a timeline of our own life. This meant we did not have to decide when to start and finish it! We included important dates and events from our lives and those around the world.



Above right: Aaron and Sophia with their personal booklet timelines. By Miss Liz

IP6S History - the Big Picture

IP6S have been very busy these past few weeks looking at the 'Big Picture' in IPC and specifically at time lines and historical events.

The children have been researching all kinds of events that happened in B.C and A.D and up until this present day—2010. Here are some pictures of them hard at work in the classroom and library; they are doing some investigative research whilst demonstrating how they can work as a team. IP6S are also using some of their important 'Personal Goals'. Can you guess which ones?



Story and pictures by Miss Sam Egan

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Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri

maaf zahir & batin



Children take their playtime indoors with lots of board games, drawing and reading

Many Muslim children in Teraja spent their break times playing games inside this month to help them rest while fasting.

For a lot of them, it was not their first year of fasting during the holy month of Ramadan. Some have had many years of ex-

perience already.

According to our Muslim children, Ramadan is a time to reflect and to think of people not as fortunate as us. To make a simple sacrifice—to go without food in daylight hours to feel the hunger many other people less fortunate feel everyday.

And at the end of the month, to celebrate by helping charities and welcoming friends, family and strangers to share in feasts.

To everyone in Panaga, and beyond, Selamat Hari Raya!

By Damian Brady

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Aisha IP8H



Isyhad IP4S



Urwa IP5R



Fathan IP4PS

What do you enjoy about being a Muslim?

Urwa: I like it because I can worship Allah. I wish that all the poor people receive, food, water and shelter.

Aisha: I enjoy being a Muslim because by reading the Quran I can learn all about the world, the Day of Judgment and the way of life of Prophet Mohammed (SAW).

Isyhad: Giving poor people money. I like reading the Quran a lot.

Fathan: I enjoy praying to God. I like giving money to poor people.

What does fasting mean to you?

Urwa: Sometimes it makes me happy because I feel I have done a good deed.

Aisha: It is an important

lesson to learn about giving a sacrifice for Allah.

Isyhad: Fasting makes me think about how poor people feel.

Fathan: To feel how people who have no money feel.

What are doing for Hari Raya?

Urwa: I am going to make some cards and go

to some parties.

Aisha: On the second day of Hari Raya there is going to be a party. I am going to make a special dessert and also wear some nice new clothes.

Isyhad: I am going to Malaysia to have a big, big party with all my cousins.

Fathan: I am going to give my pocket money to poor people.

P8 BIOLOGY

Can you tell the difference between plant and animal cells?

P8 took a novel approach to their understanding of the differences between plant and animal cells – they made ‘edible’ cells to help them remember difficult words like – chloroplasts, vacuole, nucleus...and which ones have a cell wall?

Everything was used, from a pizza “animal cell” to a Danish pastry style “plant cell” with half peaches and jelly floating with raw eggs, nice!

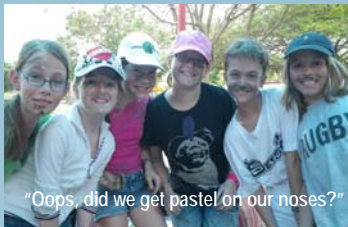
By Miss Helen



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P8: IPC – How they see the world

P8 have been testing their skills with Impressionist art techniques. After working with different brush techniques and paint they tried their hand at pastels and the great outdoors, focusing on how light affects a painting and trying to move away from detail to create an 'impression'. *By Miss Helen*



"Oops, did we get pastel on our noses?"

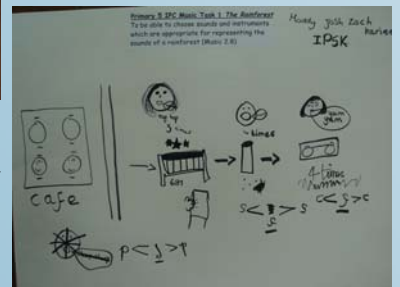
Primary 5 are sound creators!

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For their IPC *The Rainforest* Music Task, Primary 5 were asked to explore the use of instrumental, vocal and body percussion sounds for their 'journey' down the rainforest river.



form (ABACAD...) structure. The children created graphic scores to 'record' their chosen sound effects.



The children worked in small groups to create sounds for a chosen location.

Each group's sound effects were performed together as a class composition, creating a Rondo

By Miss Imogen

Panaga goes wild at the Sungai Liang Forestry Centre, Labi Road

On Wednesday 22nd September the P5s visited the Sungai Liang Forestry Centre in Labi Road.



The children learned the characteristics of these layers as well as some of the plants and animals that inhabit them.

Sungai Liang to see the fauna and flora of the rainforest for themselves.

and then went to the Forestry Museum to see close up, many of the animals of the rainforest. Giant ants and long tailed macaques were spotted!



They are currently studying rainforests as part of their IPC topic and took the opportunity to experience one at first hand.



The topic's Entry Point started with creating a rainforest within the classroom. Although some wild animals have been spotted lurking in the under-storey, luckily no pupils have been eaten yet!

What struck everyone was how noisy the rainforest was, as well as being very hot and humid.



Prior to the trip, the children learned that scientists view the rainforest as a series of layers; the forest floor, the under-storey, the canopy and the emergent layer.



The topic continued with a trip to

They got to see a wide variety of plants and trees in the forest itself

"It was hard work going up and down the hills in that sun," said Mr Paul. He continued, "But it was worth it. There's only so much you can learn from books."

By Miss Kathryn and Mr Paul C