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**NEWSLETTER No 4**  
**7th Sep 2017**

### **Dates to Remember**

<b>11st September</b>	<b>Early Years Curriculum Evening</b>
<b>12nd September</b>	<b>Secondary Curriculum Evening</b>
<b>20th September</b>	<b>Primary Curriculum Evening (This is a change from the date published in the calendar.)</b>

### **Upcoming Events**

Please see below the dates and timings for our upcoming Curriculum Nights:

#### **Early Years**

Our Early Years' Curriculum Information Night will take place on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in room 11-102, NBIS at 5.30pm**. All Early Years' parents are welcome to attend for a short presentation to find out more about how Early Years works in NBIS. There will also be a chance for you to meet your child's teachers and visit their classroom!

#### **Primary Curriculum Evening**

Our first all Primary event is the **Curriculum Evening**. The date has changed for this to accommodate after school clubs and so it will now be held on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September**. The evening begins at **6pm** and parents should go directly to their child's classroom. If you have more than one class that you need to visit it is best to prioritize one and make a visit to the others later.

Teachers will provide information in hard copy form for all parents so if you are unable to attend your child can bring home the material on the following day.

The purposes of the evening are: to meet the teachers; find out about expectations and routines; to have an overview of the curriculum for the year. It isn't a time to discuss individual children but you can book an appointment with your child's teacher for another day, when we will be delighted to discuss the progress of your child with you.

The classroom session will finish at 6.45 after which parents are invited to the auditorium to meet with the Primary Chinese teachers. Specialist teachers will not be in attendance but will provide an overview of their curriculum and contact details.

### **Secondary Curriculum Night (Years 8-13)**

Parents are warmly reminded that the Secondary Curriculum Night will take place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30 p.m. in room 10-507**. Parents will have the opportunity to find out more about the curriculum and the additional activities on offer, as well as the chance to meet with all the subject teachers.

**Year 7 Curriculum Night will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 6 p.m.** in Mr. Wilkinson's classroom. Ms. Lisa will give Year 7 parents an overview of Secondary school education at NBIS, before handing over to Mr. Wilkinson and Ms. Zhao who will explain in more detail about the Year 7 programme.

We look forward to seeing you.

### **Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne**



On Monday, Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne visited NBIS to talk to Years 8, 9 and 10 about careers in the hospitality industry. Students were given an insight into how it is possible to combine studying for a degree whilst having an internship in a five star hotel or with a company who are the world leaders in their field. We are very grateful to Fiona and her team for

coming and helping to broaden our students' understanding of higher education.

### **Staff Professional Development**

At NBIS we are committed to Professional Development for teachers and it is our students who reap the benefits of our teachers increased skills and expertise. Below Ms. Claire Walker and Mr. Martin Wylie outline their chosen courses:



**Phonics!**

During the summer holidays, I attended a two-day course conducted by Debbie Hepplewhite from Phonics International. Phonics International's method of teaching phonics is to teach both systematically and incidentally. Children are introduced to sounds using an alphabetical code, not dissimilar to Jolly Phonics. So, whilst teaching the sound associated with the letter we also show how to write the letter, therefore also including handwriting in the teaching. After several sounds are introduced the children are then able to start making words, both in writing and reading.

The sounds are grouped and divided up into units, starting with single sounds in the first unit. Phonics International shows that phonics is fundamental in our learning, that it is not just for young learners, such as Reception and Year 1 but it should be taught to be used for life. As an adult when we come across a word we don't know we use our phonic knowledge to break down that word to sound it out in order to be able to read it. Therefore, this programme is flexible enough to be used with all ages of children and their level of learning. After completing the two-day course, we also have a year's subscription to all teaching materials to support this program. It was well worth spending some of my holiday doing this. Ms. Claire Walker Year 1B

### **Diploma in Youth Counselling**

This year as part of my professional development, I will be completing a Diploma in Youth Counselling. This course is designed to give me an insight into the various approaches used to counsel young persons.

The course is split into two parts. The first module will give me a comprehensive and practical understanding of a variety of counselling skills. The second module looks specifically at youth counselling and gives a deeper insight into the various issues that may affect the students at NBIS, as well as how to use the various counselling techniques to help them through difficult or challenging situations.

Times are extremely different from when we, as adults, attended school. There are many issues faced by our students that we did not have to cope with, social media being one of them. I feel that this Diploma will help me gain the knowledge required to assist and guide the students at NBIS through any issues they may face.

This area of education has always been a passion of mine and I am thoroughly excited to work through the Diploma. Mr. Martin Wylie

## Secondary School Physical Education Uniform

This year, it is compulsory for Secondary school students to wear the NBIS designated Physical Education uniform during all practical Physical Education classes. This will mean students will always be in a uniform that they can be proud of and which is suitable for the activities they are participating in. A lot of research and consultation has gone into deciding the final design, with input from staff, parents and students. It is made from lightweight, technical fabric that is breathable and quick drying. The top is navy blue in colour with the school logo on the chest and a sky blue panel down each side. The shorts are also navy blue and will have NBIS printed in white on the front.

Letters have been issued to all Secondary school classes (Year 7 – 13). Please read the information, complete the attached order form and return it with the exact money, in a sealed envelope, to Mr. Martin Wylie. The deadline for orders to be placed is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

## Old Computers

Do you have an unused computer that you would like to donate to the NBIS computer department for learning activities? Old computers can be taken apart for students to see the inner workings of computers and develop their theoretical understanding. Many thanks. Mr. Helmy

## Secondary Student Council Update

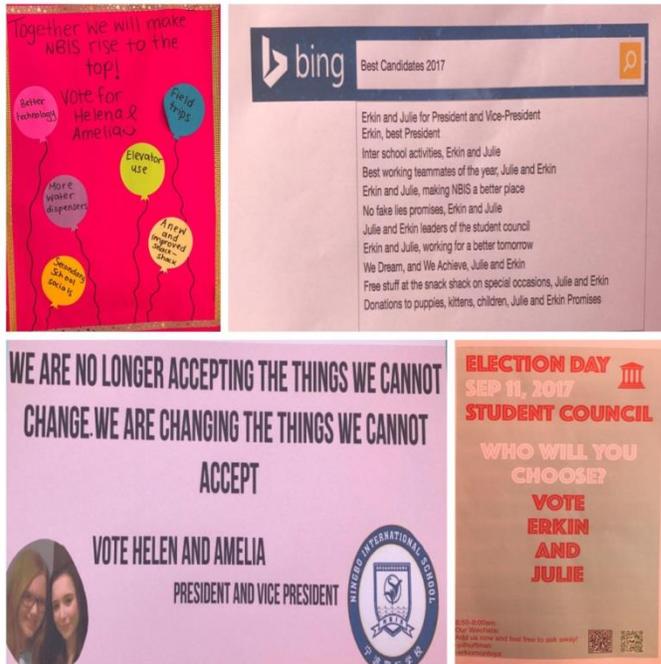


Campaign season is in full swing!

The candidates have been working extremely hard this week to share plans for the year with their peers.

On **Friday, September 8**, these worthy candidates will have the opportunity to present a speech highlighting their innovative ideas and commitment to the school.

The candidates will also interact with the audience by responding to questions about their plans.



Voting will take place on **Monday, September 11**. We would like to wish our exemplary candidates all the very best! Thank you for your spirit of volunteerism and willingness to serve.

### Primary ECAs (Extra Curricula activities)



ECAs, more commonly known as Afterschool Clubs, have begun. This is the second year we have been able to offer these. Initially it was thought they wouldn't be popular as transport home has been an issue, but we have seen a huge increase in the number of children taking part. We are grateful to the teachers who give their own time for these clubs. This year we have begun with some very different clubs including: a junior choir (for the first time), upper primary and lower primary homework clubs, swimming lessons and an art/craft club for lower primary. In all we have 90 students taking part during the week. These clubs will run for 6 weeks. If there are any parents who have special talents (e.g. cooking, running, badminton, table tennis, chess) that they would like to share, please feel free to talk to Mr. Fuller.

