

# EtonHouse International School – Wuxi

## 无锡伊顿国际学校

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### Special Message to Parents

Dear parents

Welcome to EtonHouse International School – Wuxi's new school year.

I would firstly like to introduce myself and then inform you of some important matters to ensure we have a smooth and positive start to the new school year.

I have joined the EtonHouse International School group after spending the past 25 years as an educator with the Western Australian Department of Education.

For the past 16 years I have held numerous leadership positions. These include; being Principal of a large K-12 school (Morawa Agricultural College and District High School), Seconded Principal for the Western Australian Government Schools' Leadership Centre (running professional learning for all school Principals on Leadership throughout Western Australia) and most recently Principal of Kinross Primary School WA (enrolments of over 800 students).

I bring a number of strengths to EtonHouse Wuxi that include; strong experienced leadership based on a collaborative approach, Council of International Schools' accreditation reviewer, Growth Coaching International accredited coach and a wife (Belynda Seale) that has extensive experience as a school leader (Deputy Principal for 6 years at Falls Road Primary School Western Australia) and has a wealth of experience in Early Childhood Education. Belynda will be the Early Years' Coordinator and Nursery/Reception Teacher.

I, along with Belynda am excited about working with EtonHouse and living in China.

### ***Organisational Structure:***

The following restructure has occurred to better meet the needs of our school community.

A new Curriculum Team has been established. This team is made up of the following;

Early Years Coordinator – Ms Belynda Seale

Primary Years Coordinator – Ms Anna Davidson

Middle Years Program Coordinator – Mr Tony Valentine

Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator – Ms Belynda Seale

The Curriculum Team will be responsible for curriculum development, delivery and review. They will maintain a strong parental liaison to ensure student progress and achievement is clear and regularly communicated. The team will also be responsible for teacher development to ensure the teachers are effective in the way we teach our students.

## ***Class Structure:***

### **Early Years:**

Japanese Kindergarten – Reika Sasaki (Japanese)

Nursery/ Reception – Ms Belynda Seale (Australian)

Year 1 – Ms Melinda McKenzie (Canadian)

### **PYP**

Year 2 – Ms Debbie Thomson (Australian)

Year 3 – Ms Christine Hechanova (Filipino)

Year 4/5 Mr Michael Anderson (British)

### **MYP**

Year 6 – 9 – Mr Peter Donkin (Australian) and Mr Tony Valentine (Australian)

A more detailed Teacher and Class overview with information about each teacher will be sent home at the beginning of the school year with the Parent Information Booklet.

## ***New Students Orientation:***

The New Students Orientation is scheduled for next week. You will be able to meet myself, pick up student school uniforms and receive specific information to ensure a smooth start to the school year.

Korean Parents: 10 am Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August

Japanese Parents: 9 am Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August

Foreign Parents: 10 am to 2 pm Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August

## ***Parent Teacher Reception Evening – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 6-7pm***

You are invited to a special welcome to new staff, parents and those returning reception to be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September from 6pm in the school foyer.

All parents and staff are welcome to attend and meet the EtonHouse staff and welcome the new staff and Principal. Please RSVP to SCLs (School Community Liaisons) by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## ***New House Names and Colours:***

This year we will be providing each student with a House Uniform. We have had to change the House names and colours slightly to take advantage of the buying power EtonHouse group of schools enjoys. The following Houses and colours will operate this year and beyond:

### **New**

**Han (Red)** – use to be called Xia

**Ming (Yellow)** – use to be Blue

**Tang (Blue)** – use to be Green

Finally, we had an excellent budget meeting in Shanghai last month with Chiway Building developers who are our partners in the EtonHouse Wuxi project. They are equally excited with the prospect of what this year will bring to Wuxi and how we can make it the school of choice for parents (we are already exceeding expected enrolments!). This year is shaping up to be a dynamic and fun filled year of learning and being together. I look forward to working closely with you all in forming a strong partnership and meeting the challenges ahead together.

Have a wonderful last week of your holidays, I look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks and especially your children on Day 1 (Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August). Keep smiling 😊

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rob Stewart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rob Stewart

Principal