

## Principals' Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6 and 7

Dear parents, staff, students and interested community members.

Technology has made our lives a lot easier...apparently!! Well technology got the better of me last week with all attempts at getting out the Principal's Newsletter being thwarted by gremlins running around inside my computer. So with the help of Nortons and McAfee and a little bit of luck I am pleased to bring you a combined fortnight newsletter 😊

So much is happening at the moment with EtonHouse Wuxi.. it certainly has been a wonderfully jam-packed fortnight of events. Before I reflect on them however, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what it is to be a student in an International School.

Having obtained Candidacy status for the PYP program and delivering a PYP/MYP curriculum that is reflective of the values and mission of the International Baccalaureate, our students have a strong focus on being active in caring for our 'world' environment both physically and socially. It is essential that our students get drawn into the arguments of how to care for our world, to be aware of global issues and to be able to respond in a rational, intelligent and meaningful way. Our students come from all parts of the world and bring with them backgrounds and experiences that contribute significantly to the dynamics and diversity of ideas and opinions discussed in classrooms. What a wonderful opportunity they have in hearing first hand from their peers about life in other countries and issues that may be prevalent there. I mentioned earlier about the terrors of technology... but there is also the wonder of technology that bring all parts of the world and the demanding issues facing our youth and the future right into our classrooms and to every student. At EtonHouse we take being an International School very seriously and are proud of the way we guide and facilitate our students to be 'global citizens'. I remind you of the poem I shared with you from Louis Malaguzzi 'One Hundred Ways', if we give our students opportunities to discuss and debate global issues imagine the 100 solutions they can come up with and the bright future that beholds them.

### Open House – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 11am – 1 pm

We will be holding the Open House on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. This is our opportunity to showcase our school to our parents and also prospective parents and local Wuxi industries. Please keep this date available as we want all our parents to attend and bring along at least one other person! A Flyer has been sent to everyone and to local businesses. Looking forward to seeing you at school.

### 100s Club

You may have noticed at breakfast time lately that your child has extra energy or enthusiasm to get to school. Don't worry this is probably due the excitement of the school's *100s Club*

Every morning from 8.30 until 8.45 the children make their way straight to the school field and begin running or walking its perimeter. After each lap is completed the children will get a spot on the back of their hand then at 8.45 teachers will log the number of laps each child has completed.

Children will try to cover enough kilometers to reach cities around the world. The first target is Suzhou which is 43 kms. The next target will be Shanghai, followed by Beijing. The ultimate goal will be to reach their home town.

The children will benefit greatly from the exercise as the increased blood flow to the brain helps with learning. Also the long term benefits to their aerobic fitness.



## Parents and Friends' Association – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 1 pm

I wish to strengthen our parent support within the school by establishing a more structured Parents and Friends body. This group will need to hold a meeting to elect a President and executive team that can help support the school with running major school functions such as Carnivals, School Community Fun days and various fundraising events. I would like to hold our first meeting of the PFA on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1pm following the Open House event.** The meeting will be held in the school Conference room. All parents are welcome including those that do not wish to hold a specific role but want to be part of the EtonHouse P&F. I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at our first meeting. Future meeting dates and times can be decided at this meeting as well.

## Swimming Carnival – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

The swimming carnival was held last Wednesday and all students had a fantastic time participating in the different events. The competition was fierce with Han taking out first place with 149 points. Tang came second with 123 points and Ming was third with 94 points. Congratulations to all the students who participated and earned points for their house. House spirit was very high and students enjoyed cheering on their team mates. Thank you to all the staff and parents who attended and offered their support for our swimming program.



On another positive note, two of our Middle School students, Rio and Manaka, attended swimming trials in Suzhou last Tuesday. They competed as part of the EtonHouse team (Wuxi and Suzhou campuses) against other schools in Suzhou. Both girls were extremely successful their races with Rio coming second in the 50 metre breaststroke and Manaka coming second in the 50 metre freestyle. They joined two other EtonHouse girls to win the 4 x 50 metre medley relay. Congratulations girls!

## Halloween Assembly



Halloween has been a big success at Etonhouse this year.

The day started with students turning up dressed in their Halloween best. There were pirates, fairies, skeletons, witches, grim reapers to name but a few.

The Petite Red Pandas then went around to the various classrooms to go trick or treating. They scored a swathe of goodies. Unfortunately, Mr Donkin had no treat so he ended up wearing confetti.

The Halloween fun day commenced in the hall at 1.30; students had fun apple bobbing, feeling yucky things, target shooting and, best of all, the haunted house.

Ines told gave a lecture on the history of Halloween and the Middle Scholars showed the school how to do the "Time Warp Dance."

The Halloween fashion parade was held. The prize winners were:

	Best Costume	Best Dancer
Lower Primary	Terry	Ryusuke
	Cindy	
Upper Primary	Yuya	Airi
	Heide	
Middle School	Eun Seok	Yigit
	Ines	

This year's Halloween has been an enormous success. The Middle Scholars have shown the utmost enthusiasm in organising the day and should be commended for their efforts.

## Interschool Football Competition kicks off

We are extremely excited to announce that a three round competition for football has been established in Wuxi by the International Schools. Competing schools include Taihu International School, International School of Wuxi and EtonHouse International School-Wuxi.

The three rounds are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of November and the 1<sup>st</sup> of December all days beginning at 2.30pm.

We will be hosting the competition on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November starting at 2.30pm and all parents are invited to attend. The following is the schedule of games on the day.

Kick Off Time	Under 10	Under 13
2.45-3.20	Eton vs TIS	Eton vs TIS
3.30-4.05	TIS vs ISW	TIS vs ISW
4.10-4.45	Eton vs ISW	Eton vs ISW

Players do not require boots and may play in sneakers but shin pads are compulsory and parents are requested to purchase these this week to be used at training. Parents will also need to purchase the football socks but we will get these as a school to maintain a uniform colour and ask you to buy them through us. I expect the cost to be around 20rmb.

On the day, the middle school students who are not playing will be conducting 'media' tasks such as report writing and photography as well as selling snacks and drinks to raise money for charity. Please support them in this worthy cause. Any questions please feel free to contact me at [tony.valentine@etonhouse-wx.com](mailto:tony.valentine@etonhouse-wx.com).

## Calendar Update

A fully updated calendar for the whole year has now been completed and will be available on our school website. We are also updated our website to bring all sections up to date. Thank you to our IT Technician Mr Jeef Zhang for your work in this area.

## PYP Corner

The staff are very busy working on portfolios and assessment to enable us to write reports that reflect what the child has learnt and where they need to focus on for continuous improvement. Reports will go home on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November with Parent Teacher conferences being held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November commencing at 1.30 pm. Details of this conferencing will be sent to you next week.

The IB Learner Profile is a series of 10 qualities that embody the ideal of an internationally minded person. Each week for the next 10 weeks, we will be running a Learner Profile theme of the week. This week's profile is;

## Balanced

They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Have a fantastic holiday and keep smiling ☺

Yours Sincerely



Rob Stewart

Principal

## Fortnightly Calendar

<i>Monday 2009/11/02</i>	<i>Tuesday 2009/11/03</i>	<i>Wed 2009/11/04</i>	<i>Thursday 2009/11/05</i>	<i>Friday 2009/11/06</i>
ECA	Interschool Football Comp Staff meeting 3.45 pm Yoga class 10am	Open House 11am – 1pm P and F 1pm EAL	MYP to Suzhou ECA	End of Term 1
<i>Monday 2009/11/09</i>	<i>Tuesday 2009/11/10</i>	<i>Wed 2009/11/11</i>	<i>Thursday 2009/11/12</i>	<i>Friday 2009/11/13</i>
Start of Term 2 ECA	Staff Meeting Yoga class 10am	EAL	MYP to Suzhou ECA	Student Reports Home