



## **Xi'an Hi-Tech International School** *The International Department*

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### Principal's News Letter Term 1 Week 4

Dear Parents,

The first month of the school year has passed quickly. It is hard to believe October break is a matter of days away. This means as a school, we are closer to having the building refurbished. As you are all aware, the contractors will be working through October break to complete all the building requirements.

We are all looking forward to seeing the changes that will take place. The new furniture is being made in Shanghai and will arrive shortly after October break. It is wonderful to have all these new things in our school, but our core business is education –educating your children.

### Parents Association Meeting

I was pleased to meet so many of you at the Parent Association meeting last Saturday. It was nice to catch up and discuss school issues and hear such positive feedback.

The areas that came through as concerns were:

1. **P.E facilities:** We still have limited to no access to the school gymnasium. The advisory board will approach the Gao Xin government to discuss increased access to the gymnasium at school.
2. **Changing into P.E Equipment:** There are no places to change at school other than the toilets or the fourth floor locker room. I have had the windows in the fourth floor change rooms covered with paper until the blinds arrive. The students can change in this room. There seems to be no other option for us at this moment.
3. **P.E Off Site:** Jude, the PE teacher, is exploring options offsite. At the moment we don't have access to showers, changing facilitates or regular use of the gym.
4. **Flu vaccination:** It was raised that last year the school provided flu vaccinations. Nancy is finding out costs of this and what type of vaccination is needed. She will also explore the possibility of H1N1 vaccinations.
5. **Building:** An update on the school building presented by May Liu. The majority of work will begin over the holiday period as discussed above.
6. **Sports:** A Saturday morning sports committee has been formed. Mark Franklin, Caroline Franklin, Patrick Watene and myself will organize a Saturday morning sports programme for all students – more information out after October break.
7. **Curriculum:** Parents wanted to know when we would hold a curriculum evening. These will be held two weeks after October break at Patrick Watene's company. I cannot hold this in the first week as I am in Suzhou for the majority of that week to meet with all the principals of EtonHouse, China. The

curriculum information evening will be a time for teachers to present the curricula for primary and secondary students along with expected outcomes and assessment procedures. In addition, we will discuss how all of these things tie in with IB (International Baccalaureate) in our school.

8. **After School Clubs:** As decided in the Parent Association meeting, clubs will run each Tuesday from 3:40 to 4:30. Teachers have turned in their ideas for the types of clubs, group sizes, and appropriate ages for various activities. Students have also given suggestions based on what they would like to participate in. Mr. Van is compiling this information and will send home a list of club choices for students to select from on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. Clubs will begin on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Scholastic Books

Scholastic book orders will begin at school in October. You will be receiving a letter in regards to book orders on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Scholastic Book Club offers an enormous range of books throughout the year and makes it easy for you to acquire children's books at reasonable prices. The books circulated within book clubs are discounted in comparison to retailers recommended prices and some are as low as 10 RMB. Another added bonus of this is the more books you purchase as parents, the more points we all accumulate as a school. These points are translated into a monetary figure for us to spend on books for your children.

## Alex Goh –Star Books

Alex Goh from Star Books will come to our school on November 18<sup>th</sup> for three days. Alex will bring hundreds of books to our school. You, as parents, can come and choose from a wide variety of literature.

Because of precautions in place due to H1N1, we are unsure of whether or not we can hold the book fair at school. If you have any suggestions for an alternate site, please let me know. A central place with easy access for all would be best. In my experience, book fairs are generally very successful. This is a great service and will allow you and your children to select books together.

More information out about this later.

### **Assemblies**

Oct. 16: Nursery - Year 1 with Mrs. Miller

Oct. 23: Year 2 and 3 with Mrs. Stenson

Oct. 30: MYP/DP Humanities with Ms.  
Sudborough

### **Upcoming events:**

Parents Information Evening: Curriculum,  
assessment, and IB (Date to be arranged)

### **Contact Numbers**

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## Wednesday Collection of Students

After school on Wednesday it is very busy at the school's main gate. Only on Wednesday's can parents please come to the school's back gate to collect their children.

## Rugby

At lunch time the students are playing rugby. We recommend that students change into PE gear to participate in this game. This is a suggestion in the interest of saving on cleaning for uniforms. For safety reasons the game will be limited to hold or touch, not tackle, because the ground is very hard and abrasive.

## Sponsorship

I will be participating in an endurance bike ride for charity and am asking for support from the community. Please see the attached flyer for more specific information.

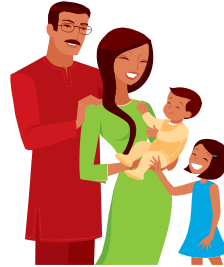
## Snacks

Starting this week, along with your regular lunch order form, you will find a "Snack Menu Order Form". As in the past, snacks are free to students. Our hope is that by offering parents and students a chance to see the weekly menu for snacks and choose the snacks students want, we will be able to better choose healthy snacks that the largest possible number of students enjoy.

Have a happy holiday

Yours Sincerely,  
Alasdair Maclean

# Ms. Zhai's Chinese Assembly



In PYP Chinese for Year 2,3,4,5 students are looking at Communities and Family Members, so these classes focused on Mothers for our assembly. During this assembly, children will give their best thoughts to their mothers, and they will sing a Chinese song “Shi shang zhi you ma ma hao” (There is only one perfect mother in the world). At the same time, some girls will dance an elegant coloured fan dance to express their best wishes to their Mums.

The performances of this assembly highlight three parts of the IB’s Essential Elements:

1. **Attitudes:** Making a card and giving their best thoughts can enhance the children’s feelings toward their mothers.
2. **Knowledge:** Singing a Chinese song is also studying Chinese language and culture.
3. **Action:** Dancing a coloured fan dance can motivate students to practise body action and make their bodies healthy. At the same time, students can learn more about Chinese culture through their performance.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ms Zhai



XHIS International Department Lunch Orders			
Date 2009/10/12--2009/10/16			
Total RMB: _____			
Student(s) Name(s): _____			Price
			NO.
<b>Monday</b>	Pork cutlet (From Dolce)		15
<b>Tuesday</b>	Chinese bread with meat		4
<b>Wednesday</b>	Spaghetti Bolognese (From Village Café)		15
<b>Thursday</b>	Subway Italian B.M.T. (with salad)		15
	Subway Italian B.M.T. (without salad)		
<b>Friday</b>	Mixed fried rice		5

**Snack Menu Order Form: October 12 – 16**

Please check the boxes in the “Snack Menu Signup” form.

**NOTE:** There is still no cost to parents. The chance to opt for snacks will give us a clear indication of which of the snack options are popular and which should be replaced.

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

	Oct. 12		Oct. 13		Oct. 14		Oct. 15		Oct. 16	
Morning	Apple	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Banana	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orange	<input type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon	Yogurt	<input type="checkbox"/>	Juice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yogurt	<input type="checkbox"/>	Juice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yogurt	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

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