

# The Beacon

August 2011



**The Official Newsletter of Sekolah Lentera Kasih & Lollypop Preschool**

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## Lollypop Principal's Desk

Ms. Ner

Dear Parents,

Wow! July and August past in a whiz and now the month of September is upon us.

The Independence Day Celebration on August 16 went "full blast" as parents and students alike participated in the games. Special thanks to all the parents who came and celebrated with us.

September promises to be a busy month with its theme "Family". We will invite mommies to come and share some fun activities in the classroom like cooking and handicrafts. If you are able to share your time with our students, please don't hesitate to contact us.

"Obedience" is the character quality that will be given emphasis in September. The children will learn the importance of this character quality through songs and memory verse. Real life applications will also be encouraged both at home and at school.

Now that the little ones have adjusted to their new environment, we request parents to advise their children's nannies not to stay in the school grounds during school hours. However, if for some reason, it is not possible for a nanny to leave, please contact us.

We have also observed that there are still students arriving late and are being picked up well after dismissal time. School activities are planned to begin on time and students are expected to be in class at 8:30 am, the commencement of the school day. Please ensure that your child/children arrive at school on time so that classes are not disrupted and they do not miss out on important introductory activities and explanations. Also, please pick your child/children up on time, as teachers cannot do their planning or preparations when they are delegated to supervise late pick-ups. If for any reason you will be late in picking up your child, please notify the school so that we can reassure your child and arrange for a teacher to do extended late duty.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC) for this school year will be held on September 30. We have set this day for parents to come and discuss with the class teachers their children's progress at school. No classes will be held on this day. Details regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> PTC will follow via circular and through the communication notebook.

To all our Moslem brothers and sisters, "Selamat Idul Fitri"!

If you have any questions or concern, please feel free to see me. Parents are always welcome at school.

Thank you for your continued support and let's all have a good month!

Sincerely yours,

Ms. Nerissa



Independence Day Games at Lollypop

# Sekolah Lentera Kasih Principal's Desk

## Mr. Mark

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank the staff, parents, students, and teachers of SLK for making the start of the new academic year run so well. We have made quite a few changes to make the school run more efficiently, to make the school more safe, and to strive to ensure your child is able to learn in a peaceful and enjoyable learning environment. From observations of children, classes, and talking with teachers and parents, Sekolah Lentera Kasih is a great school! Students are happy here and the academics is quite good. Our school wishes to continue our pursuit of academic excellence and we aim to make our school an enjoyable place to be.

We are delighted to announce that all the students in Grade 6 who sat the Cambridge International Primary Achievement Tests in English, Math and Science passed. This is a reflection of the hard work that the students put into their studies and the teachers into ensuring that each student reached the required international level set by Cambridge. Congratulations students!

Last Friday we celebrated Indonesian Independence day with traditional games at our school. Included in this newsletter are photos from the day. It was so pleasing to see students enjoying themselves, participating with vigour, and showing their support of the Independence Day by wearing the national colours of red and white. Many thanks go to Ibu Nenny and Pak Gathot for organising this day.

The school calendar that we have sent home contains set dates for end of term holidays. These are set for the academic year and will not change. Other dates such as Kuningan are included, but they could change due to the directive of the government. National exam dates are included in our calendar, but may change due to directive from the government body DIKNAS.

The discipline system we have introduced is to ensure your child is able to focus on their studies without disruptive behaviour from others. Students have a right to work in a secure environment without intimidation, bullying or harassment where they are able to fully develop their God given talents and interests. The reason for telling the students and parents about the rules is so that there is clear understanding of what the expectations are. Students have nothing to worry about if they are doing the right thing. Detentions for students is only for Grade 4 and above.

I wish all students and parents a safe and happy Lebaran! Mohon maaf lahir dan batin.

God Bless,

Mr.Mark

# Curriculum Corner

Our new section of the Beacon will give you an up-date of developments in curriculum and support at SLK Bali.

The New Primary Checkpoint outcomes in English, Maths and Science have been integrated into the SLK Bali curriculum. Students will sit the Cambridge Primary Checkpoint exams in Grade 6 during this transitional year from Primary to Middle School.

Resource books to support the curriculum have arrived. New Heinemann Maths provides comprehensive coverage of the Cambridge Curriculum from Grades 2 to 5. Oxford Quest Companion and Pupil book provide English activities that compliment the Cambridge Curriculum. Spotlight Science class sets for middle school with teacher's manual also arrived as well as text books to support the IGCSE programme. More readers have also been ordered for our students.

We are pleased to be able to offer a comprehensive IGCSE programme with the current grade 9s the first to sit these exams in June 2013. Subjects include English (first or second language), English Literature, Maths, Combined Science, Environmental Management, Geography, Bahasa Indonesia, ICT and Business Studies. Students will also have an option to take Mandarin as a second language.

All Grade 6 students last year passed the Ujian Ahir Sekolah Bertaraf Nasional! Selamat atas keberhasilan siswa siwi kami!



Ms. Dawn & Ms. Deb



SLK Independence Day Games

## *WHAT'S UP at LOLLYPOP?*

### **TODDLERS**

We would like to say Happy Idul Fitri to those who celebrate it.

After the teary weeks, students are more comfortable and confident to go to school even though some of them are still accompanied by their nanny. They are now getting used to the activities at school.

For September, our theme is "Family". We will introduce the different members of the family through pictures. To enhance our lessons, we encourage students to bring their family pictures so we can have discussion about it. Our Art & Craft activities are also related to the theme. The children will make a photo frame, a house, and puppets.

Numbers 1-5, the basic shapes and the primary colors will be introduced. For language arts, we will introduce them to the phonic sounds through songs and flash cards.

As we have holiday by the end of August, we plan to have our "Red Picnic" on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September. For this activity, the students should wear "Red". And they can bring their toys according to our picnic theme.

We will have lots of fun in September!

MS. IKA, MS. MADE & MS. DES

### **PRE-NURSERY**

Happy Idul Fitri to all those who are celebrating this event! Now, the Pre-Nursery students are more confident to stay at school. Nobody cries or is being accompanied by their parents anymore in doing the school activities both inside and outside the class.

"Family" will be September's theme. We will introduce family member through their family pictures that they bring to school. We believe that "family" will be an interesting topic to talk and discuss. Art and Craft activities will be surely related to the monthly theme, like making a photo frame and decorating it.

In Math, the Pre-Nursery students will continue to count 1 -10. Triangle is the next basic shape and yellow will be the next basic color that we will learn in September.

As we will have Lebaran Holiday, we postponed the Red Picnic and plan to have it on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September. Then for the yellow picnic day, we will have it on the last week of September. In this activity, we wear red clothes and bring toys from home in red. Also the same in Yellow Picnic Day, all of us will wear yellow clothes and students can bring yellow colored toys from home.

Wow! It seems that we are going to have lots of fun here at school in September. So don't miss it! Let's go back to Lollypop after the holiday. See you again soon. God bless!

MS CICI, MS. TRI & MS. DAYU

## **NURSERY**

It's September and the Nursery children are ready to face the new challenges that this month will offer and everyone is ready to move on.

Our theme for September is "Family". The Nursery children are getting settled day by day. They are also getting more familiar with the classroom routines. We will do lots of class work and projects related to the theme. September will be an interesting month for Nursery! We will have fun acting out the roles of the different members of the family.

In Math, we will start to count 1-20, recognize shapes and identify the primary colors and some of the secondary colors.

The gross motor skills will develop further in the kiddy gym, indoor and outdoor playground and also during creative movement.

MS. MAHA, MS SHARON, MS. TINI & MS. YETI

## **KINDERGARTEN**

I am sure that all of you have enjoyed the hot, sunny days of August ☺. I hope that these sunny days are still going to continue for the coming months. I am sure that you will have a lot of activities with your children during weekends. The Kg classes have been enjoying the wonderful summer sessions at school particularly during outdoors and swimming activities.

The month of August ran well as the children have been settling into the school routine quite nicely. We have been reviewing the letter sounds, numbers 1 to 10, shapes and colors. In Science we have covered "My Body and My Senses".

Come September, after the one-week break, we will start with the theme "My Family". We need family pictures and another picture for the family tree project per student including parents, siblings and grandparents. Those are for our Art and Craft, also during Language Arts and Science sessions.

We will continue with our writing book on the alphabet in the class and also to send home for review. We really hope for your cooperation to send it back before the weekend. In Math, concept of numbers 8,9 and 10 will be enhanced.

And parents, if you do have time to spend your morning with the KG class at the end of the month to share about your newly born child, it will be great for the students and they will be overjoyed.

MS. JEN, MS. COLETTE, MS. YUNI & MS. TITIN

## **PREPARATORY**

It's almost one month since SY 2011-12 has started and the Prep students have already settled in their respective classes. We've been busy for the past weeks reviewing the letter sounds. To enhance our lesson, we had drills on initial and final sounds. We will be moving on to medial sounds and consonant blends these coming weeks. Progressive Reading Program and Spelling Test will start in September. For sure a lot of preparatory students are already looking forward to this. So far, even if we are facing so many challenges academically, the prep children are still having fun and enjoying their time at school.

In Math, this beginning of the term, we will review what the students have learnt in KG. We review numbers from 1 to 100, recognize 1 to 100 and count objects to 100.

We will learn bigger and smaller numbers, compare bigger and smaller numbers using symbols  $<$ ,  $>$  and  $=$ . We will also study the odd and even numbers, days of the week, months of the year and estimate and compare objects using non-standard units.

Science and Cultural Arts lessons will be in accordance to the theme of this month. Our theme for this month is about family and home. Family will be a very interesting topic for the children. We will discuss about the members of the family, their duties and function and the basic parts of the house. The students will learn why having a family is important and how special they are in the family.

For sure the prep children will learn a lot and have fun at the same time.

MS. NELL, MS. MYRNA, MS. MARLINE & MS. ASTRID



Independence Day

## *What is happening at SLK*

### **Grade 1**

Diamond have been very busy this past month. In Math we have been reviewing numbers from 1-100 and performing operations involving these numbers. We have been having fun working with the clocks and learning o'clock and half past.

In Language, our spelling programme is well under way with some great results last week and 11 children receiving the Super Speller Award! Please make sure you are helping your child learn the words at home so they perform well. In Art we have been exploring Warm and Cool colours with different media and techniques. We have learnt a poem called 'What is Pink?' and written our own poems to future extend our art explorations. The children are settling well into their new environment and we look forward to the rest of the semester.

Ms Sinead and Ms. Deb

### **Grade 2**

We are delighted to be teaching the Grade 2 students this year!

Our unit 'Myself, My Health' has been full of scientific inquiry into body parts, foods and creating a healthy life style. We looked at different types of foods, made soups, curries and healthy sandwiches. In Maths, students have been learning mental addition and subtraction strategies, how to measure, shape, symmetry and reviewing times tables. In English, students wrote 'Dream Food' poems about their favourite foods. They are also learning how to write diary entries and letters. In Art, students have been experimenting with line and looked at pop art.

It has been a fantastic start and all the students are highly motivated, responsible, independent learners!

Ms Dawn and Ms Ingrid



### **Grade 3**

In English this term we have been focusing on writing exciting recounts and honing our English writing skills and building on our reading. We have some budding authors and excellent readers among us. In English we have also been focusing on our sentence level writing through studying nouns, punctuation and sentence structure. At the word level we have been building out spelling and vocabulary skills.

In Mathematics we have been using our analytical brains to practice rounding numbers. We have also been practicing our writing numerals in words and our times tables. We have some super mathematicians on our class who are doing exceptionally well with their times tables, however it would be very helpful and beneficial for your child if they could practice them at home with you.

In Science we have been studying the human body. We have learned about bones and muscles and are now learning about our organs and body systems. We had fun making skeletons to display in our classroom and we had a great time decorating them and naming them.

Social studies has seen us looking at food chains, habitats and adaptations.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate everyone in grade 3 for their efforts so far this term. We have seen some huge improvements, and have had some truly wonderful learning experiences.

### **Grade 4**

Grade 4 has been busy, busy, busy since the start of term.

In English we have been reading and analysing a fantasy story, learning lots of vocabulary and getting to know the characters. We are learning how to set the scene and write a good setting. We have also been practising our spelling and our reading comprehension.

In Mathematics we have been focusing on areas of weakness and improving our mental Maths. We have many fast starter activities and are getting to grips with new mathematical terminology. Each week we are having a tables test, we know how important it is to be able to recall our times tables. In science we are learning about solids, liquids and gases. Again... there is lots of new vocabulary which everyone is starting to remember and apply. Everyone in grade 4 can tell you all about melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation. We are now investigating what can dissolve and which changes are reversible or irreversible.

In Social Studies we have been looking at people from many places, discussing why people migrate. We are learning about different nationalities, countries, capitals, religions and cultures. All the children in grade four have made an excellent start to their studies this year and have produced some excellent work.

Ms. Katie

## **Grade 5**

In Maths, the Grade 5 students have been working on basic algebra and averages. In the coming weeks the students will continue to work on the unit number properties, in which they will learn about sequences, square numbers, products of even/odd numbers, negative numbers, multiples, factors and primes.

'Rivers' is the first unit in Social Studies, and our work so far has included finding and labeling major world rivers, making a mind map about the water cycle, as well as building a rain cycle model, using a water play table, soil, plants, a tray of water and plastic sheeting. In the coming weeks, the students will learn about 'permeable and impermeable surfaces' and 'erosion, transportation and deposition'.

In English in grade 5 we have been concentrating on what makes a good explanatory text. We have analysed and annotated sample texts and now the children are half way through writing their own text. Alongside this topic we have also been practicing our reading comprehension skills and leaning the importance of connectives and complex sentences, we have also been studying how to use higher level punctuation.

Mr Joost and Ms Katie

## **Grade 6**

We're well into the start of the new school year and for Science 6 this first term, we're focusing on Biology as part of our preparation for the CIPP exams. Students will once more discover the wonders of the Human Body, its function and importance. We will be doing lots of activities to make our subject matter interesting such as interactive work, documentary film viewings and online researches. Other topics will be an in-depth look into the Cells, Characteristics and Classification of Living things. This year we hope to make Science a great and fun learning experience.

In Maths, the Grade 6 students have been working on the unit number which consists of significant figures, decimal places and estimating. Currently, in the unit algebra they are solving equations, which *luckily* is not as hard as most students thought it would be. The next unit about handling data includes collecting data and displaying data (frequency diagrams and pie charts).

In English the Grade 6 students have been studying different types of traditional literature – traditional stories, fables, myths and legends. They are learning about the features of each genre, reading stories from different cultures and have been writing their own stories. In September, we will continue and finish this unit of work. The students will then focus on non-fiction for the remainder of the term, with an emphasis on explanatory and report texts, which will relate to their studies in other subject areas.

Ms Janie, Mr Joost and Ms Lezil

## Grade 7

In English this term we're incorporating various topics related to both the Cambridge as well as the SLK curriculum. The Oxford2 text book is very versatile covering a wide range of categories and very much in line with the Cambridge requirements including--styles of writing, articles, news reports, discussion dialogue, argument speech, advertisement, Informative writing, fact and opinion, creative stylistic effects, and persuasive effects.

We're also continuing our weekly drills on vocabulary. Choosing the correct meaning of a word based on its context in a sentence.

Grammatical usage: verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, tenses, synonyms, relative clauses, and punctuation,

In Mathematics grade seven we're presently covering material on Algebra. This includes Standard index, simultaneous equations, solving inequalities, quadratic equation, factors, Pythagoras, and time-distance graphs. I've also implemented a daily mental maths drill to strengthen their basic math skills such as fractions, decimals, multiplication, division, percentages, proportion to name a few. A thorough knowledge of these basics is required as all new material is built upon these areas.

In Social Studies we are having fun with maps, creating a map, reading a map: symbols, scale, gridlines, legend, north arrow, title. Students are using an atlas and studying latitudes/ longitudes of the wonders of the world, international date line, and standard time zones. Students are studying topographical maps, six-figure figure grid references, compass points, measuring bearings, measuring distances using a scale, curved distances, contours of mountains, valleys, plateaus, ridges, interpreting the human environment, transport lines, and land use.



Ambil koin di dalam tepung



Memasukkan pensil ke dalam botol

## **Grade 8**

In English the Grade 8 students have been focusing on newspapers and media texts, learning about the different types of newspaper and their target readership and using new vocabulary related to newspapers and journalism. Having read a selection of newspaper articles, the students have been writing their own newspaper reports, with the goal of developing a journalistic style of writing. From September, the new theme in English will be Friendship. We will start reading a shared novel, *Face*, by acclaimed poet and novelist, Benjamin Zephaniah, which deals with the themes of friendship, discrimination and overcoming adversity.

The first area of study in Grade 8 Social Studies has been Development, which includes case studies on Ghana and Afghanistan, and we will be continuing with this theme into September. The students have learned about the meaning and aspects of development and about how armed conflict can halt or reverse it. In September, we will be looking at ways that development is measured; the historical, geographical, social and political causes of the development gap between countries; reasons why the gap is not closing and the Millennium Development Goals.

Ms Janine

## **Grade 9**

In Grade 9 English, the theme for this term is Leisure: sport, travel and pastimes. The students have been developing skills in skimming and scanning texts, selecting points for summary, making notes and looking at writers' language choices. We will continue this unit of work through September, writing diaries, formal and informal letters and will work on developing style.

Ms Janine



- *Other subjects will be covered next newsletter at the end of September*

*Don't forget Lebaran holidays August 29- September 2. School resumes September 5.*