

NEWSLETTER

What's happening | Coming Soon | Messages and Reminders

Uniforms

Many thanks to all those parents who responded to Mr John's recent request, at our latest Coffee Morning, to please adhere to uniform guidelines. We have noticed a marked improvement and the students look great. Our Winter uniform samples were tested for sizing last week and we hope they will be available to you in two weeks time. We will keep you informed as information comes to us.

Environment Matters

The health and safety of our students is of the utmost importance to us at MHIS. As such, our new top-of-the-range air filtration machines are now in use in each classroom. Last week our MHIS Sustainability Department supported us in organising for the testing of our outdoor materials by the international institution, SGS, details of whom were shared previously via email. We expect the results by early November and will be sharing these with you once they arrive.



Artistic Flair in the Air

At MHIS we value Arts education, through Dance and Drama, Music and Visual Arts. You may have noticed the display boards that have been going up around the school over the past couple of weeks showcasing some of the students' artistic creations connected to their current Inquiry Units. We are enjoying seeing the campus continue to come to life with the addition of the children's work.

Many thanks to the lovely Joanne Jalsevac, who has been volunteering her time each week to work with students and teachers on a range of art projects. The children have enjoyed getting to know her and have produced some beautiful artwork.





Parent Information Sessions

Our last session was held on Thursday 15th October and focused on Behaviour Management. Please view the MHIS website under News&Events for details of information and PPTS shared at previous Coffee Morning Information Sessions.

At our next session we will focus on '**Phonics - Learning about Letters and Sounds**':

Date: Thursday 29th October

Time: 8:45-9:30am, after drop off

Location: Music & Dance Room

We will learn about Phonics, which refers to the letters of the alphabet, the sounds they make, and how they are used as the building blocks of the English language. Learning phonics is the precursor to reading and writing and a fundamental part of our K1-K3 curriculum.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Countdown to Halloween

Next Friday 30th October will be our MHIS Halloween Day. We encourage all students to dress up to celebrate the event. Traditionally, Halloween costumes are spooky - such as ghoulish ghosts or wicked witches. Events for the day are as follows:

- ◆ **8:30-9:00am;** Students go to class as normal (in fancy dress). Coffee and tea available for parents in Music & Dance room.
- ◆ **9:00am;** Halloween Parade on the Astrofield. **Parents are invited to attend** and watch the children parade their Halloween costumes in the class groups.
- ◆ **9:30am;** Return to class & parents depart
- ◆ **9:30am-12:00pm;** Trick or Treat activities around the school

Book Lovers at MHIS

Our students visit the Library each week to enjoy stories, check out books to take home and learn about how to use a Library and care for books effectively. Thank you to those families who support their child by reminding them to return their books in good condition on the correct day each week. Please see below for some useful tips from our Teacher Librarian, Nancy Chen, on how to care for books at home:

- ◆ Place school books in your zip-up book bag to transport to and from school. This will prevent books from backpack accidents such as water bottle leakages!
- ◆ Keep Library books in a special place, such as by your child's bed, for the week to keep it safe and maximise reading opportunities.
- ◆ Talk to your child about how to care for books, turning pages one by one, tidying it away when reading time is over, and treating these precious learning resources with respect.



2016 Admissions

Our Admissions Team have been busy over the past few weeks with an increasing number of inquiries from prospective families. In order to meet these needs and grow our school community next year, we will be holding a series of Information Sessions, followed by Assessment Sessions on the following dates (starting 9am):

1. Information Session, 11/14 & Assessment Session, 12/5
2. Information Session, 1/23 & Assessment Session, 2/27
3. Information Session, 3/12 & Assessment Session, 3/26

Please be sure to invite any friends and family with Pre School aged students who are interested in joining MHIS.

International Kite Festival - October 24

This exciting event will take place this Saturday 24th October at Centerville. We hope those of you who have signed up for Kite Painting in the afternoon will have a wonderful time and encourage others of you to go and see the kite flying displays from around the world. We feel very fortunate to have world-class events like this on our doorstep!



Staff Profiles

In this edition of the Newsletter, we take pride in introducing our wonderful KIB team:



Leigh Yates



Sophie Xiang



Apple Hu

Leigh Yates completed her Bachelor of Education Degree program at Embury Institute for Teacher Education in South Africa. She also completed post graduate certificate programmes in 'Inclusive Education & School' and 'Guidance Counselling' from the University of South Africa. Leigh has worked successfully in a variety of Early Childhood and Primary settings in her native country of South Africa.

Sophie Xiang graduated from St. Clair College in Canada in Early Childhood Education. She comes to us most recently from Shen Wai International School and has also taught at the British School of Beijing, Shenzhen Experimental School Kindergarten and Gymboree in Shenzhen.

Apple Hu worked previously with 2.5 to 3.5 year olds in a Kindergarten in her hometown, Hubei. She loves reading stories, singing songs and reading books with the children.

Teacher PD Day - Friday 23rd October

Today was a student-free day as teachers were engaging in Professional Development (PD). All good schools have a strong focus on PD for their staff, recognising that for student learning to continue to improve, so must those delivering the teaching. Our PD session was focused on developing a shared 'Theory of Play', as well as collaborating on planning for our upcoming Quarter 2 Inquiry Units. We believe in life-long learning!