

# NEWSLETTER

What's happening | Coming Soon | Messages and Reminders

## School Photos

Next Monday 30th May will be our special day for taking School Photos. Children will have their photos taken in class groups and then individually and we ask that parents kindly ensure that students are wearing their appropriate uniform on this day, as always. For Monday, it will be the standard Formal Summer Uniform. Thank you for ensuring that your child is wearing their blue checked dress (girls) or grey shorts and blue checked shirt (boys).

## Absence Procedure

If your child is due to be absent due to illness or any other reason, please be sure to inform the Class Teachers via email by 8am at the latest to assist attendance systems at the school and ensure teachers or the school doctor can follow up with you as needed.

## Dates

**30th May:** School Photos

**1st June:** Children's Day

**9th June:** Dragon Boat Festival - school closed

**24th June:** School ends at noon



## Lunch Tasting for Parents

We were honoured to welcome some very important VIPs to MHIS Pre School this Tuesday. At 12:30pm, a group of parents from our MHIS community joined Principal Anna and Vice Principal Grace for lunch tasting in the Atrium. Table cloths, flowers and personalised menus, were laid out to welcome parents. We enjoyed tasty soup, Chinese and Western style dishes and delicious desert while chatting about a variety of school, local and global issues.

At the end of the meal, parents were invited to offer suggestions for us to use to enhance what we offer to our students. We are pleased to report that 100% of the surveys revealed that parents thought the food was 'delicious'. Some of the best features identified were the braised chicken, red date and mushroom dish and the healthy soup. We were advised to ensure vegetables were not overcooked or over seasoned. It was a very positive experience and we thank our parents for their feedback, time and support.





## Coffee Morning

Our next Coffee Morning information session will focus on 'Chinese Language Development':

**Date:** 2nd June 2016

**Time:** 8:45-9:45am

**Location:** Music and Dance Room

This session will focus on developmental stages for young children in Chinese Language learning, Chinese language teaching at MHIS and how you can help your child to build their Chinese language skills at home.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Children's Day

Next Wednesday is Children's Day and we plan to make this a special day for our students. Vice Principal Grace is organising some exciting activities to take place in the morning including:

- Fun games in the Atrium
- Shared picnic snack-time in the Outside Area
- Children's Day arts and crafts

We hope the children will have a wonderful time and feel even more special than they usually do! As this is a day for kids, on this occasion we are not asking parents to attend the event but hope you will enjoy the little memento that the children will bring home following the event.

## Communication Channels

This week's newsletter serves to remind parents about our different communication channels to help us keep in positive contact.

1. **Daily Emails** from teachers will keep you informed of what is happening in class on an ongoing basis, as well as any issues or special achievements that need to be shared.
2. **Class Blogs** are posted every Friday by teachers and include information about Inquiry, language and maths as well as suggestions for activities you may like to try at home. Please do comment on the blogs and make them another form of 2-way communication.
3. **Whole School Newsletters** such as this one aim to celebrate important events and keep parents informed.
4. **Coffee Morning Information Sessions** take place every two weeks, alternating with the Newsletter, and focus on different areas of the MHIS curriculum, child development and how to help at home.
5. **Class Parents** were put in place at the start of the year to aid communication between the class group and the school. Please be sure to pass any ideas or thoughts on to your Class Parent as needed.
6. **Suggestions Box** - this can be found by Reception, along with feedback forms for you to complete anonymously or with your name. We check the box each week and respond as requested.
7. **Reports and Conferences** have been ongoing throughout the year including the Two and Three-Way conferences, Settling In and Term 1 report cards. End of Year reports will comprise of your child's Term 2 Portfolio and teacher summary including summative assessment of progress in different areas of the curriculum and a written comment.
8. **WeChat** is used informally as a social networking platform for communication between parents and is checked by teachers on a weekly basis to offer feedback and share photos as appropriate. We also have our own WeChat platform and posts are made on a daily basis from Monday to Friday by our Admissions Team.
9. **Celebrations** are integrated throughout the year and allow us the chance to demonstrate what and how the children learn at MHIS. International Festivals, Inquiry Unit connected showcases like Friendship Day, Christmas and Chinese New Year events all allow parents to come into school and see how we operate.
10. **Website** access allows parents to view broad information about the school.
11. **Parent Handbooks** were distributed at the start of the year to outline our procedures and systems.
12. **Parent Surveys** are used, such as those sent out to get feedback about ASAs. A survey to all parents to reflect on the year will be sent out in June.

Please remember that communication is a two-way street. By following these channels you can be assured of timely responses and will be well informed about life at MHIS. Thanks for helping us work together!