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27th - M4 and M5 Arts Field Trip
27th - MYP Parent Workshop on Science
30th - ISACI Football and Basketball Tournaments

December

1st - ISACI Football and Basketball Tournaments
5th - PYP Parent Workshop on Inquiry
5th - Early Years Winter Production
7th - PYP & MYP Inter-House Basketball, DP Parent Workshop and Secondary Student Council Movie Night

Featured Story

Google India Summit



Some of the Participants and speakers from this weekend's Google India Summit

Whole School News

The Stonehill International School learning community was proud to host India's first Google Summit in Bangalore with AppsEvents this weekend. This fantastic professional development opportunity included participants from ten schools across Bangalore, including our very own Stonehill staff. The first day was dedicated to three Bootcamps - Level 1 and 2 Certification for Educators and Level 1 Certification for Support Staff in Schools.



Keynote speaker [Craig Kemp](#) highlighting the importance of relationships, making mistakes, student agency and personalising the learning environment.



On Saturday and Sunday, teachers and trainers from around Asia came together to learn new things, share strategies for teaching and learning and find the inspiration to continually improve their practice. Participants visited The Great Barrier Reef through Virtual Reality and Google Expeditions, became data masters with Google Forms, Sheets, and Data Studio, explored their artistic sides with Google Drawings, and so much more. At the core of the sessions were the questions, "How do students learn best?" and "How can we use technology to make learning happen better?"

"The sessions and speakers brought tons of exciting and practical ideas that got my brain whirling with the possibilities. Teachers were buzzing all weekend about the new ideas they wanted to take back to their classrooms" explained Whole School Technology Coordinator and organiser, Katie Steen. "Providing this kind of experience for our teachers supports them to fulfil our school's stated mission of providing enhanced opportunities for technological innovation" added Head of School, Simon McCloskey.



MYP Personal Project - Dance for a Cause Fundraiser



There is only a week to go for the Dance for a Cause fundraiser! Please buy your tickets as soon as possible. If you are attending the event and have bought your tickets already, please remember to bring them to the venue. You can contact Ms Sneha (sneha.bennurakar@stonehill.in) for any queries.

The Mudrika Foundation of Indian Performing Arts presents a rendition of the great Hindu epic of Ramayana. This performance will be taking place on Saturday, December 1st from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. The venue for this performance is KEA Prabhath Rangamandira, Basaveshwaranagar. The cost for the tickets are INR 500 with seating on first come, first served basis.

Anyone who is unavailable to attend this event can still do their part and donate any amount. All and any contributions will be greatly appreciated as it is for a good cause. For those wanting to know more about India, this is a fantastic way of learning and experiencing a little part of our culture.

Shreya - M5

From the Head of School

At Stonehill we continually strive to ensure that we are 'walking the talk'. Our mission statement focuses on providing enhanced opportunities for technological innovation, sports and the arts.

This week at school, it was fantastic to watch our students making full use of our brand new, Multi-Purpose Sports Hall. This weekend I am looking forward to flying to Phuket to watch the Stonehill Tigers in action at the BISP Soccer Sevens. This a Football Tournament with over 1500 competitors from 41 different International Schools. Stonehill will be the only school representing India. I am very much looking forward to watching the games and cheering on the teams.



Simon McCloskey

At the weekend we hosted Bangalore's first ever Google for Education Summit. The guest speakers attending the event provided some excellent professional development for our teachers. In many of the sessions, I was impressed with the focus on how we can use technology to redefine how we teach and learn. I now look forward to seeing teachers utilise the knowledge and skills that that they have learned in classrooms across the school.

This week, members of our Leadership Team met with Andy Fisher, a Singapore based architect. We spent time discussing plans for the next stage of Stonehill's development. In the new year, we are planning to begin the construction of a Secondary STEM Building and a Primary Creative Arts Block. The buildings will include purpose-built science and design labs, art, drama and music rooms as well as a suite of practice rooms for our instrumental musicians. We are all thrilled about this next stage of our school's development and are looking forward to contributing to the creation of some exciting new 21st century learning spaces.

Simon McCloskey
Head of School



Children enjoying the new Multi-Purpose Sports Hall

From the Primary Principal

Hello Everyone,
Welcome to all the new families on campus. We are so glad you have joined us!

Google Summit

Our staff participated in the Google Summit held at school over the weekend. We now have some Google trainers! Congratulations to you all. A big thank you to all of those teachers who gave up their weekend to learn more about technology use in the classroom. Your commitment is commendable. Thank you.



Karen Crooke

Student Representatives

We've changed the name of our PYP Student Council. This group of leaders are now called Student Representatives. They represent the views of their grade and colleagues.

Community Time

We have also made some changes to our Assembly structure. Firstly assemblies are now called Community Time – a time for the whole community to contribute or share. They will be led by the Student Representatives not teachers. There will be a format that includes celebrating birthdays, saying hello to new students, wishing those who are leaving goodbye and being an audience to grades or single subjects who wish to share learning. Ideally, Community Time is about learners and learning. Performances have clarity but are not expected to be perfect. They will happen every 2 weeks. We will certainly let you know when the next opportunity is. Please feel free to join us.

Phuket Soccer 7s

Four teams are headed off to Phuket this weekend in order to play soccer. The children are very excited and ready to take on their colleagues from other schools. We wish them well.

Calendar

Check out the [calendar dates](#) for our upcoming concerts. The early years will share their work on the number 10 through song, rhyme and recitation. The instrumental music students and the junior choir will play and sing along with their Secondary School counterparts.

Congratulations

Our P6 teacher, Hafsa Quadri has been invited and has accepted a voluntary out-of-school position to review the PYP Scope and Sequence documents for the IBPYP. Hafsa will be a part of a team of teachers across the world whose expertise will ensure our curriculum documents are up to date and relevant. We are very proud of you and your contributions to our school and the world beyond Hafsa.

Our Visual Arts teacher, Ron Gresham has completed and earned a place as a Workshop Leader for the IBPYP. He is now qualified to train teachers in the framework structure of the PYP. He of course is keen to share his knowledge and understanding of Visual Arts education. We are honoured to work with you Ron

PYP Basketball

The PYP Inter-house basketball tournament will take place on Friday 7th December from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Further information will be shared in next week's Tiger.

Primary Learning Focus

PYP Spanish Classes Learn About the Day of the Dead



The Day of the Dead (Spanish: El Día de Muertos) is a Mexican holiday celebrated throughout Mexico, in particular in the Central and Southern regions, and by people of Mexican heritage across the world. The holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have passed away, and to help support their spiritual journey.

The holiday is sometimes called Día de los Muertos in Anglophone countries, a back-translation of its original name, Día de Muertos. It is particularly celebrated in Mexico where the day is a public holiday. At Stonehill, students who study Spanish had the opportunity to do some activities to learn about this festival. It was a good way for them to express their creativity and understand the culture of the language they are learning.

P7 learnt some Spanish words connected to this festival through a variety of activities and videos. They also showed their creativity by decorating a Día de los Muertos skull which is one of the symbols of the festival.

P5 learnt vocabulary related to this festival and worked on a paper-made altar or decorations we can put on an altar. They discovered that these altars are very colourful and that specific objects are used in order to decorate them. It is a way for the Southern American population to honour their loved ones who died.

P4 celebrated by designing their own calavera masks. Calaveras are brightly decorated sugar skulls which are an essential element of any Día de Muertos ofrenda as they represent rebirth into the next stage of life.

Ms. Dorothée Chareyron & Ms. Samantha Kidd
PYP Spanish Teachers

Primary Learning Focus

P6 – Sharing the Planet

Our current unit of inquiry *'Sharing the Planet'*, has provided an opportunity to explore the concepts of form, function and causation. We began our investigation with an element of fun, shock and surprise.

The students role-played various situations to understand the central idea - *'Water is essential for life and a limited resource for many'*. We dug deep looking at uses of water with some practical demonstrations related to health and hygiene, cooking, hydration and so on.



Uses of water

To understand the sources of water, students investigated various water systems in our community; water treatment plant, sewage treatment plant and rainwater harvesting. The students went further, forming expert groups to study other natural sources of water such as oceans, seas, rivers, lakes, glaciers and underground water. On exploring the distribution of Earth's water through the bottle experiment, students realised that only 1% is potable.



Investigating Water Systems

They were empathetic and concerned about how we use water. This led to great discussions on how we can be more responsible for this most essential but limited natural resource. The experiments focusing on the water cycle were also enjoyed by all. The inquiry focusing on the water cycle helped the students to understand that the amount of water on Earth is constant and keeps recycling naturally. It was one of their 'AHA!' Moments.



Water Cycle Experiments

P6 is back with more positive energy and zeal after the Diwali break. The learning journey so far has been an exciting one with a focus on student agency and students driving their own learning. We hope to explore further with some more exciting learning, helping students to become more caring and responsible global citizens.

Ms. Hafsa Quadri and Suparna Mitra
P6 Class Teachers

P8 Field Trip to Yercaud, Tamil Nadu



The P8 gang

P8 students travelled to Yercaud in Tamil Nadu for their residential field trip recently. Students spent four days and three nights, developing their collaborative skills and character dispositions. The experience also provided a great opportunity to build new friendships and a community.

The group pursued a series of adventure and team-building challenges. The students challenged themselves with various activities, developing trust, building attitudes of resilience and tolerance and learning to communicate whilst developing survival skills. It was a memorable and highly valuable experience for all. Students exhibited the attributes of the Learner Profile throughout.



Here are some of the experiences shared by the students:

'The mudpit had thick blobs of mud and it was a struggle to move around. I loved getting dirty as we don't get to do that at home. We washed the mud off in a stream.'

'Rappelling was scary. I was a risk taker because I tried many new things even though I was scared'

'I was caring because I helped my friend pack his suitcase'

'We had to work as a team to be successful and it was challenging. I can apply this skill in my life.'

'I was more responsible for my stuff. I felt happy, excited, scared and sometimes frustrated.'

'The most challenging part was going to bed on time as we kept chatting past our bedtime.'

'I now feel more secure about my friendship group'

'We were open-minded as we listened to ideas of each member in our group and combined them.'

'I have learnt a lot and have come back a better person'

'I was a communicator because when we were playing games we had to share plans and ask questions.'

'For me, one of my goals was to go down the rock because when you get up to the top it's a little bit scary...I got down! I was so happy to beat my fear. I wanted to do it again.'

'I would recommend the camp to you because you develop teamwork skills (which is good).'

**Ms. Sarita Ngarden and Mr. Andrew Clark
P8 Class Teachers**

From the Secondary Principal

Ivy League Model United Nations Conference (ILMUNC)

Eighteen students and three teachers (Ms. Blessina, Mr. Premson and Mr. Jonathan) will participate in the ILMUN conference in Bangalore from 22nd – 25th November.

Phuket Soccer 7s

A contingent of thirty-eight students and six teachers (Ms. Katie, Mr. Andrew, Ms. Zoe, Mr. John, Mr. Joshua and Ms. Vandana) are travelling to Phuket to participate in the soccer tournament on 22nd – 25th November.



Narendra Mehrotra

Secondary Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

The Secondary Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences (M1-D2), held on Tuesday, 20th November, was a huge success with over 950 appointments. On behalf of the teaching staff, I would like to thank all the parents who came and discussed the progress of their child/children. Please note that it is mandatory for students to attend these conferences.

Secondary Trips Week

Trips week will take place from 10th/11th February to 15th February 2019. There will be an information session with students during their advisory lesson on Thursday, 29th November. Detailed information will be shared with the students and the parents on Friday, 30th November 2018.

MYP Basketball

The MYP Inter-house Basketball tournament will take place, per grade level, during PE lesson time between Monday 3rd December and Friday 7th December. The results for each grade level will be added together to establish the overall results.

Have a good weekend.

Warm regards,

Narendra Mehrotra

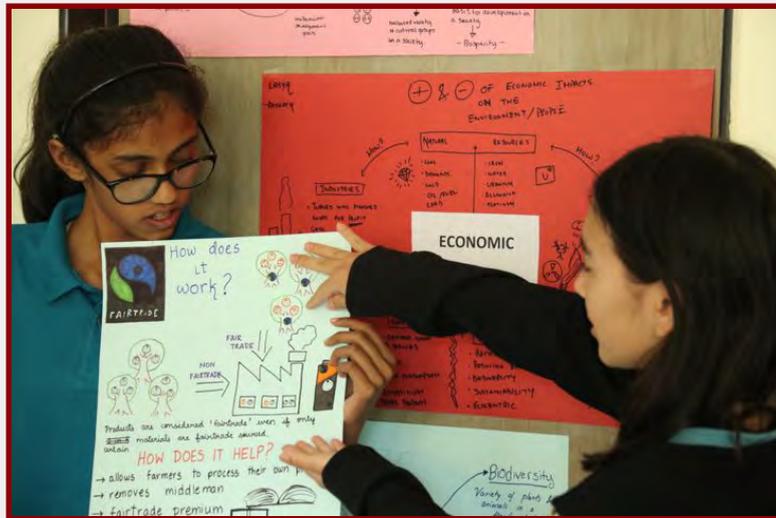
Secondary Principal

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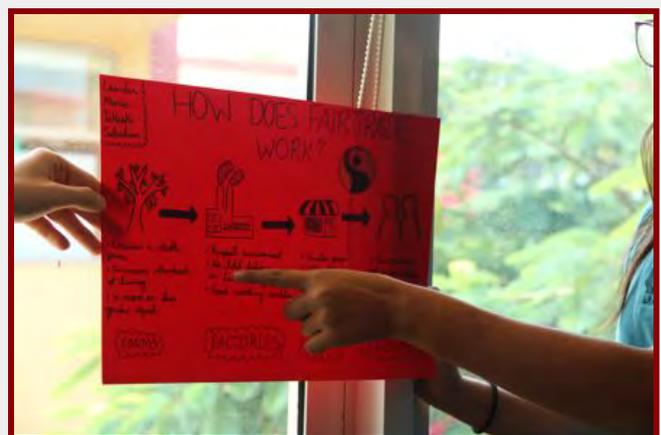
Secondary Learning Focus

Everyone Loves Chocolate!

Although the world every year consumes more than 4 million tons of chocolate, the success of this industry has a dark side to it. Students of both M4 and M5 Geography explored links between illegal forced migration among the children of West Africa and the delicious chocolate consumed in different parts of the world. To start with, they explored and mapped the child refugees in the cocoa farms of Ghana and the Ivory Coast. This was followed by a close examination of how powerful chocolate companies in Europe failed to take responsibility in preventing this problem.



They closely looked at models of safety and certification process of consumer companies and one such model was 'Fairtrade'. They investigated how Fairtrade worked in different parts of the world and particularly in West Africa with cocoa farms. During each stage of this project, students generated a list of 'thick' questions before they went onto investigate.



Eventually, as part of their service action within Stonehill community, M4s developed a variety of presentations to create awareness on chocolate and child labour. They visited a select number of classes across PYP, MYP and DP, and shared their findings. The understanding presentations culminated with reflection and feedback.

Mr. Srinivasan Kandaswamy
Secondary Geography and I&S Teacher

Introducing

Each week we feature a Stonehill Teacher in our weekly bulletin. This week we interviewed PYP Teacher, **Heather Thomson**.

Qualification and certifications:

Bachelor of Music from Mount Allison University, New Brunswick. Masters in Teaching English as a Second Language, Trinity Western University, British Columbia. Masters in Education, University of Toronto, Ontario.

What do you teach at Stonehill?

PYP Music.

Where are you from and where else have you lived?

I was originally born in Canada, but for 3 years of my childhood I lived in a remote community in Rajasthan. As an adult, I followed my husband's career across 5 provinces within Eastern and Central Canada. My first international teaching post was in Beirut, Lebanon, and I moved to Bangalore from there.



Heather Thomson

What inspired you to become a teacher?

I come from a long line of teachers, with most of the adults in my close and extended family serving as educators, so perhaps you could say that teaching is in my blood. A more accurate appraisal might be that I have had good teaching modelled for me all my life, and that I have known many family members who have created a happy and fulfilling life in this profession. I am passionate about learning new things and I love the moment when students grasp a new skill or idea and get excited about it. Those moments are what fuel the ups and downs of my daily teaching routine.

What is your educational philosophy?

I think that good teaching comes from knowing how to balance the control needed to maintain a solid learning structure with the freedom necessary for individual learning and creativity to take place. Musical ability is listed as one of Gardner's nine multiple intelligences, but I would expand upon that by suggesting that music actually encapsulates at least six of the other eight abilities. Music is a language which can be used as the vehicle for communicating emotions and ideas (linguistic and interpersonal). It involves the decoding and creation of note and rhythm patterns (logical-mathematical) and both voice and instrumental study require an exacting physical coordination similar to sports training (bodily kinesthetics). Lastly, musicians need to understand themselves and tap into their emotions to create moving and memorable performances (intrapersonal). To nurture all these skills in a classroom of young learners requires the ability to both nurture and push boundaries. Without structure, no significant new learning will take place, but a teacher must also encourage students to bring themselves to their musical training so that they are creating authentic performance art. It is a delicate balance, and one that still excites and challenges me three decades into my career.

What made you choose Stonehill?

I visited Stonehill last fall and was immediately taken with the calm, purposeful and happy learning I saw all around me. Children are allowed freedom of expression at Stonehill, but with that comes the responsibility to consider others as well. It is a shining example of the IB Learner Profile traits in actions.

What is the best part of your job?

Watching children engaged in a musical community to achieve a common goal. I get to experience that every week at every age level, from preschool action songs to choirs and string ensembles. For me, nothing else matches the thrill of musical collaboration.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I am an outdoor enthusiast and have looked to embrace the natural world within every community in which I lived. I enjoy hiking and biking, and I am gradually exploring the various roads and villages around campus on my morning bike rides.

While piano is my first instrument, I recently polished my violin skills and, when I have time, I love to immerse myself in a good book.

What is your favourite book?

While it's difficult to choose a favourite, I have come back to the Narnia series numerous times throughout my life. The allegory within the writing of C.S. Lewis holds a depth of meaning which can be enjoyed far beyond childhood.

What is your favourite music?

As a trained classical musician, I have spent my life exploring and mastering this genre, however, when I want to relax I listen to jazz.

From the PTA

Heads Up!

The PTA will be holding its annual holiday Bake Sale on December 10th. More information to come in next week's edition of the Tiger!

Cafeteria Menu

A detailed monthly menu can now be downloaded from the [menu page on the school website](#). It contains the Continental, Indian and Boarding Menus.



AUSTRALIAN
BOARDING
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