



STONEHILL
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
An Embassy Group Education Initiative

The Tiger

The Weekly
Bulletin of
Stonehill
International
School

18th January, 2019

Volume 7, Issue 124

CONTENTS

Whole School News
From the Head of School
From the Primary Principal
Primary Learning Focus
From the Secondary Principal
Secondary Learning Focus
From the Head of Boarding
Introducing
From the PTA

IMPORTANT DATES

January

22nd - Secondary Class Photos
22nd - 27th - Secondary ASA Sign-ups
23rd - Whole School Cross Country Run
24th - Primary Class Photos
24th - MYP Parent Workshop on Service
24th - 29th - Primary ASA Sign-ups
28th - New Family Orientation Morning (8:00 - 9:00 am)
31st - Secondary Trips Week Presentation to Parents

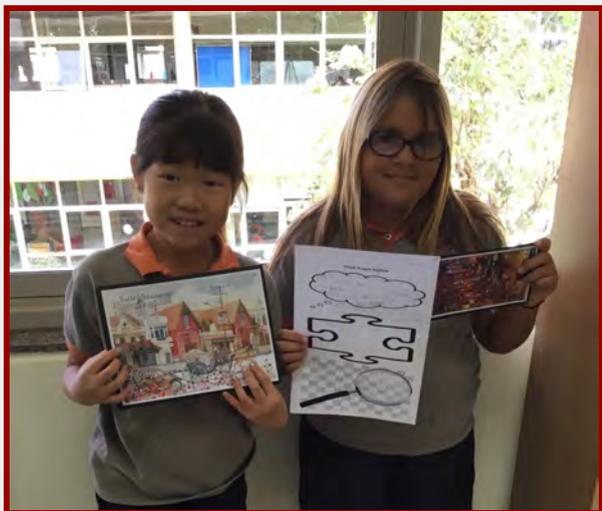
Featured Story

The Changing Environment We Live In



P7 students have been learning about the different environments around the world and how they are constantly changing.

They compared photographs of Bangalore as they see it now, with how it looked in the 1970s. This has enabled them to make comparisons and make inferences about continued change.



They have also had a chance to share their research findings with their peers and present their understanding by using digital tools and dioramas. It has been inspirational to see students show their understanding of key concepts, as well as their learning, in creative ways.



Students engaged innovatively by using visible thinking strategies to find solutions to present day problems. This has extended their learning and encouraged them to find out more about the different environments of the world.

The P7 Teaching Team

Spoken English Classes for Non-Native English Speakers



Stonehill is known for its diverse and inclusive culture and we all celebrate this rich community that we are a part of. With families from over 35 countries, we have many parents who are non-native English speakers. This can sometimes be challenging for these parents.



After requests and feedback from our parent community, we are pleased to now offer Spoken English Classes to our non-native English speaking parents. This is a 10 day, accelerated programme from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm from January 16th to February 6th. Conducted by Ms. Sarah Koshy, a Learning and Communication Consultant, we have close to 20 enthusiastic participants attending these classes. We hope that the challenges they face with language are considerably lessened after they complete this programme.

Ms. Rishika Ganapathy
Head of Admissions & Marketing

Whole School News

ASA Sign-Ups

To enable our students to have a successful and meaningful ASA programme please note the following improvements to our ASAs:

- MYP/DP and PYP sign-ups are separate
- Sign up times are scheduled on the school calendar
- ASAs are in age groups: P3-P5, P6-P8, M1-M3, M4-D2
- A balance of technology, arts, sporting and service ASAs are available on both days
- MYP service ASAs are offered but are no longer compulsory. Please note that students must still meet the MYP service requirements, but may choose to do so in their own time.
- If ASAs only have a few students sign up they will be cancelled, enabling the teacher to assist with a different ASA.
- Some popular ASAs will have unlimited spaces
- D2 study time will be available as an ASA

Please note the following important ASA dates:

- 15th January - ASA S2 Handbook Shared
- 22nd January - MYP/DP Sign Up
- 24th January - PYP Sign Up
- 19th February - ASAs Begin
- 23rd May - ASAs Finish

Please contact asa@stonehill.in if you have any questions.

Melvin Kumar
ASA Coordinator

From the Head of School

Recruitment

Last week, Narendra Mehrotra and I attended an international teacher recruitment fair in Bangkok. We interviewed over thirty prospective candidates for the 2019-20 academic year. I am delighted to announce that during the fair we appointed four very talented and experienced IB teachers who come with excellent references and recommendations. Next week Karen Croke and I will be attending the international teacher recruitment fair in London, where we aim to complete our overseas hiring. We will introduce you all to the new appointments in the Tiger Newsletter over the coming weeks and months.



Simon McCloskey

Head of Boarding Appointment

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Glen Johnson has now been formally appointed as the Head of Boarding at Stonehill. Glen had been filling this role on an interim basis since last year. We are delighted to now make this position permanent. Please join me in congratulating Glen. We look forward to seeing Boarding go from strength to strength under his continued leadership.

From the Primary Principal

Virtual Learning

Thank you for your commitment to the virtual learning day. It is our goal for learners to be as independent as possible. I was delighted when several children told me that they had been able to achieve this status. We will continue to work toward this goal. We will also be continuing to learn how to get the best out of the Seesaw app and Google Classroom. Ms. Blessina is providing further training to our teachers to ensure they and their learners, can utilise both tools to the best of their capabilities.



Karen Crooke

Mathematics in the PYP Information Session

Mr. Anthony ran a very informative information session this week on Mathematics learning in the PYP.

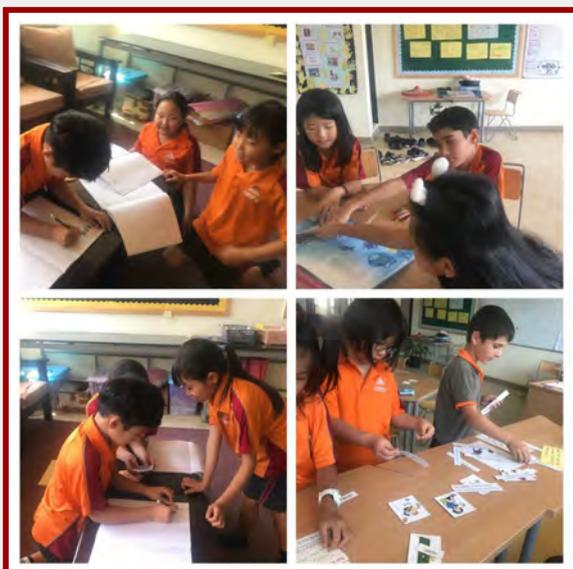
We watched a very interesting video on the connections within and across the strands of Mathematics. We looked at the cycle of understanding that children need to go through to really take on the concepts, skills and knowledge of the subject. Please look out for the presentation on Seesaw. There are some great activities that you can do at home with your child/children. There are also connections to our Mathematics curriculum including the scope and sequence documents.

Absence from School

I will be out of school from the 21st - 25th January. Simon and I will be in London for the Search Associates job fair where we will employ additional teachers for the academic year beginning in August. Anthony and the Primary Leadership Team will be on campus should you need them. David Gostelow leads P1 - P3, Deborah Tellis leads P4 - P5, and Moushumi Gupta leads P6 - P8. I will have email contact and check in during each day should you need to make direct contact with me.

Primary Learning Focus

Students Learning Goals Lead to Learning Centres



Here, EAL students are seen working on their different learning goals by participating in Learning Centres and Learning Stations. They are encouraged to take part in fun activities that help them reach specific learning outcomes. Students use this opportunity to work independently or in a team to master a skill of their choice. In our EAL lessons, we make learning meaningful and fun.

Ms. Ina Chakraborty
Primary EAL Teacher

From the Secondary Principal

M4, M5 and D1 Examinations

I am very pleased to inform you that the Semester One Examinations for M4, M5 and D1 have run very smoothly. I would like to commend our students on the way they have approached the exams and the effort that they have invested in preparing for them. I look forward to seeing their results very soon.

Semester One Reports

Our Semester One Reports for students in M1 to D1 will be issued on Friday, 8th February. These are full written reports for each subject and cover the work students have been doing for the entire semester.



Narendra Mehrotra

Secondary Class Photos

M1-D1 class photographs for the yearbook will take place on Tuesday, 22nd January. All students must be in the proper school uniform. D2 class photographs will take place later - information on this will be shared shortly.

Secondary Trips Week – February 2019

The Secondary Trips Week will take place from 10th/11th to 15th February 2019. An information session was held for all M4 – D1 students on 29th November. Detailed information has been shared with all students and parents. If you have not received any information or have queries, please contact Mr. Melvin Kumar at melvin.kumar@stonehill.in. The final information session for the parents will take place on Thursday, 31st January from 1:45 to 3:00 pm in the MPH.

D2 Mock Exams

The D2 practice (mock) examinations will commence on Friday, 8th February and end on Friday, 15th February 2019.



Secondary Learning Focus

CAS Project - Lifting Women Up

According to the Times of India, only 18% of women in India have access to clean sanitary napkins. Many girls in rural India are forced to stay at home during their menstruation cycle every month. This prevents them from going to school to gain the education and knowledge they deserve.

Being a female and having the privilege of such easy access to ready to use sanitary napkins, it is hard for me to imagine what the girls and women in rural areas have to go through. Therefore, I decided to start a social campaign where I taught girls studying at the Stonehill Government School (SGS) how to make reusable and washable sanitary napkins themselves. Debunking the false beliefs and taboos regarding menstruation and teaching them how to be hygienic, I hope, will allow them to go study every day of the month while also boosting their self-confidence.

By teaching them how to make these reusable and washable sanitary napkins, they can be self-reliant. I provided them with the raw materials that were needed to make the napkins and the necessary equipment - a sewing machine. I believe that the girls and the women in the community could make a business out of this, as they will be able to earn money and retain their revenues in the business to buy the raw materials themselves and keep the business running. Of course, this depends on their will to do this, but if they do run this business it will give them the means to increase their income.

While SGS receives readymade sanitary napkins from other organisations for the girls studying there, when they graduate they no longer have access to this benefit. Therefore, I felt it was important to teach them how to make this so that they are self-sufficient and can make some anytime they want with the most simple household items.

I have now finished teaching not only the girls at the Stonehill Government School, but also the women in a nearby village, T. Agarhara. I hope by doing this campaign I have increased the number of women who have access to their own sanitary napkins. In the last few months that I have in Bengaluru, I want to make the most of the opportunities I have to make a positive change in as many of these girls and women's lives as possible.

Arushi, D2

Twelfth Night by the HandleBards

On Tuesday, 22nd January we are very fortunate to be hosting a performance of Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' performed by The [HandleBards](#). Our M3-D1 students will be treated to a professional production. The HandleBards are well known, both in the UK and abroad for the high energy and humour they bring to Shakespeare's works. Students will also have the opportunity to interact with the cast afterwards in a short Q and A.

From the Head of Boarding

Stonehill Boarding Houses are back in business! Over 54 boarders returned to school following their fun-filled winter break. Boarders were happy to be back to school and see our boarding mascot, Gucci.

The long weekend saw our boarders use their time constructively to study for their semester exams. In the evening students played volleyball and badminton in the new sports hall.

As Monday, 14th January was the Makar Sankranti holiday, boarders chose to celebrate this festival by flying kites. This proved to be hours of fun, giving boarders a chance to unwind from their exam preparations.



Glen Johnson



Congratulations to M4 student, Jack, who recently played at an International baseball tournament in Manila, Philippines. He represented the Tai Tam Baseball club who were runners up

Weekly Boarding

If any parents of M1-D1 day students may be contemplating the option of weekly boarding for 2019-20, please feel free to contact me at any time:

- Email: glen.johnson@stonehill.in
- Mobile: +91 7026612412

I will be happy to show parents through the Boarding Houses and to discuss the advantages of weekly boarding.

Introducing

Each week we feature a Stonehill Teacher in our weekly bulletin. This week we interviewed Secondary Teacher, **Bindu Balakrishnan**.

Name:

Bindu Balakrishnan

Qualification and certifications:

Masters in Microbiology, IB Examiner for Biology and EE

What do you teach at Stonehill?

DP and MYP Biology and MYP Chemistry.

Where are you from and where else have you lived?

I am originally from Kerala, India. I have lived in Indian cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.

What inspired you to become a teacher?

Passion for the subject and to be able to make a positive impact on the impressionable young mind as a teacher.

What is your educational philosophy?

I strongly believe in the concept of collaborative learning. Where the focus of the classroom environment is not merely an unidirectional flow of knowledge, but to stimulate cognitive skills. This encourages students to share their thoughts and draw logical inferences.

What made you choose Stonehill?

I wanted to be a part of an international school that is truly global, with a diverse teaching and learning community.

What is the best part of your job?

To revel in sharing knowledge and learning.

What are your hobbies and interests?

Travelling and diverse reading.

What is your favourite book?

'A Man Called Ove' by Fredrik Backman.

What is your favourite music?

Hip-hop, pop and Hindi music - both contemporary and old.



Bindu Balakrishnan

From the PTA



2019 International Food Fair

What is IFF?

Date: Saturday 2nd February 2019

The International Food Fair is an annual event where each country represented in the school has a parent-led food stall and activity table. This event truly reflects the diversity of nationalities and cultures within the Stonehill community.



Important Note!

Please remember IFF is **NOT A COMPETITION!**
All Proceeds go towards funding three PTA Charities

Stonehill Government School	Morning Star Ashram	Isha Foundation
-----------------------------	---------------------	-----------------



Reduce, Reuse & Recycle!

- Bring your own reusable plates and cutlery and get 10% discount!!!
- Patrons can purchase paper plates and disposable cutlery at the event.

Coupon Amounts → Rs. 50



Stonehill International School

259/333/334/335 | Tarahunise Village Post | Jala Hobli (Bangalore North) Bangalore 562157

+91 80 43418300 | info@stonehill.in | www.stonehill.in