

1st February, 2019

Volume 7, Issue 126

CONTENTS

Featured Story
From the Head of School
From the Primary Principal
From the Secondary Principal
Secondary Learning Focus
Introducing
From the PTA

IMPORTANT DATES

February

1st - Primary Semester One Reports Published
2nd - PTA International Food Fair (12:00-3:00pm)
6th - MYP Music Concert
8th - 15th - D2 Practice Exams
8th - PYP Student-Led Conference
8th - PYP Art Exhibition
8th - Secondary Semester One Reports Published
11th - 15th - Secondary Trips Week
13th - 15th - P7 Field Trip

Featured Story

The HandleBards Perform Shakespeare's Twelfth Night at Stonehill



M3-D1 students were treated to a special performance of The HandleBards' *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare on Thursday, 31st January.

A theatrical troupe from the UK, [The HandleBards](#) are cycling actors who carry all the sets, props and costumes needed to perform extremely energetic, charmingly chaotic and environmentally sustainable Shakespeare plays across the globe.



The interactive performance saw our students and teachers getting pulled into various parts of the play. The audience was kept excited and engaged for the entire two hour duration of the show.



After the performance, M3, M4 & M5 drama students had a workshop with members of the troupe. This was especially exciting for some of our students, as this was the first time they had worked alongside professional theatre actors.



Thank you to the HandleBards for giving our students an amazing theatrical experience - one I am positive they will remember for a long time.

Mr. Jonathan Sanger
Secondary Drama Teacher

From the Head of School

Tomorrow we welcome our school community to the International Food Fair, a highlight in the Stonehill calendar. I know that many of you have been busy buying food from around the globe to get ready for this event.



Simon McCloskey

Thanks to all of the chefs busy baking and preparing the culinary delights for tomorrow's event. We look forward to tasting the many lovely dishes from around the globe. I am very pleased to see that this year the event is encouraging reusable plates and cutlery in an effort to reduce the use of plastic - this is a great initiative. Please note that all profits will go to the PTA charities.

For the first time this year, we are starting the day with a volleyball and football match to give our ISACI senior teams some practice. If you are feeling energetic in the morning then please feel free come and join us at 10:30 am.

The PTA International Food Fair is an annual event in which parents prepare snacks from their home country to be enjoyed. This is a wonderful time to celebrate the diverse community that we have at Stonehill. It is also an opportunity to welcome our new families. Please take the time to meet and greet new faces to welcome them to our community. I look forward to seeing you at the food fair tomorrow.

Welcome to Stonehill



February marks the beginning of Semester Two at Stonehill. As we begin the new semester we welcome 19 new students to our learning community. To ensure that we provide a smooth transition for incoming families, we offered an Orientation Morning this week for all of our new families. We look forward to getting to know all of the new students and hope that they will all soon begin to feel like Stonehill is home. If you are new to Stonehill, please remember that a great deal of information that you require will be accessible from the [Parent Handbook](#) and the [Community Calendar](#). These can both be accessed on the [School Website](#).

Simon McCloskey
Head of School
[@SimonJMcCloskey](#)

From the Primary Principal

New Parent Orientation

We welcomed 10 new families to the Primary School on Monday, 28th January. Anthony and I spent time with the parents whilst the students confidently joined their classes. It was a pleasant morning of questions and answers in regard to the PYP and the procedures and processes of our school.



Karen Crooke

After School Activities (ASAs) sign-up

The sign-ups have been completed. If you are yet to sign-up your child and wish to, please contact Mr. Melvin at melvin.kumar@stonehill.in

Semester Two ASA's commence on Tuesday, 19th February 2019.

The International Food Fair

This Saturday, 2nd February, the PTA will host the annual International Food Fair. I hear it is an exciting event and that we should all attend. I am very excited to be attending my first PTA International Food Fair at Stonehill! Please join us for a day of eating food from across the world.

Student Led Conferences

Student-led conferences offer authentic opportunities for students to share their learning with their parents. Activities will occur in homerooms, single subject classrooms and in learning spaces. Please come to school at the designated time with your child. Your child will lead the conference. Homeroom teachers will sit with you to set learning goals for the coming semester.

This is an exciting day where you see 'school' through the eyes of your child. Please ask lots of 'how' and 'why' questions whilst you stay tuned to your child's narrative. And finally, just have fun, and enjoy the day. I look forward to seeing you on Friday, 8th February, during the conferences.

PYP Art Exhibition

Our Visual Arts programme is held up as an example of excellence all over the IB world. Students use the design cycle to make decisions about what they will create, how they will create it and reflect upon their creative outcomes. Mr. Ron is an inspiration to both students and teachers here at Stonehill and abroad through his online presence. You can read through his educational philosophy at [Art with Ron.](#)

The exhibition of our students' art-work will take place on Friday, 8th February. You will be able to spend time with artistic pieces and the artist (aka, your child) during the student led conferences. Please don't miss this exciting element of the day.

Karen Crooke
Primary Principal

From the Secondary Principal

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 that cover the work students have been doing for the entire semester.

Secondary Trips Week – February 2019

Trips week will take place from 10th/11th to 15th February 2019. Thank you to the 52 parents who attended the final presentation on Thursday, 31st January from 1:45 to 3:00 pm in the MPH. The parents had the opportunity to meet with the chaperones and service providers for each trip.



Narendra Mehrotra

DP Subject Options Presentation

The DP subject options afternoon is scheduled from 1:45 - 3:15 pm on Thursday, 21st February in the Secondary ICT Lab. The presentation will be approximately 45-50 minutes long, followed by a question and answer session with the various Heads of Department, College Counsellor, DP Coordinator and the Secondary Principal. M5 students and parents are encouraged to attend this important presentation.

D2 Practice Examinations

The D2 practice examinations will commence on Friday, 8th and end on Friday, 15th February. The D2 report cards will be issued on Friday, 1st March. The D2 Parent-Student-Teacher conferences will be held on Wednesday, 6th March. A separate sign-up email will be sent in the third week of February.

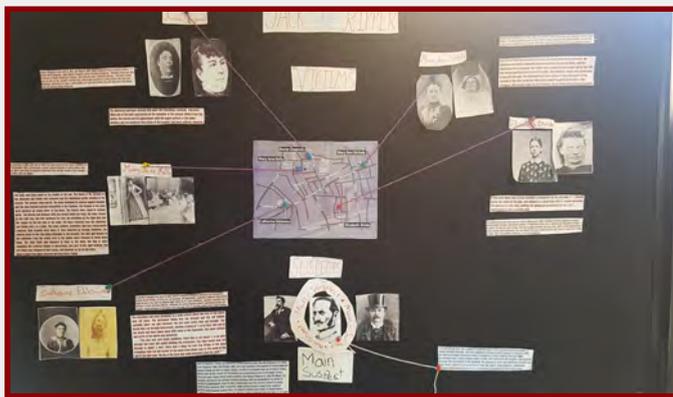
Narendra Mehrotra
Secondary Principal

Secondary Learning Focus

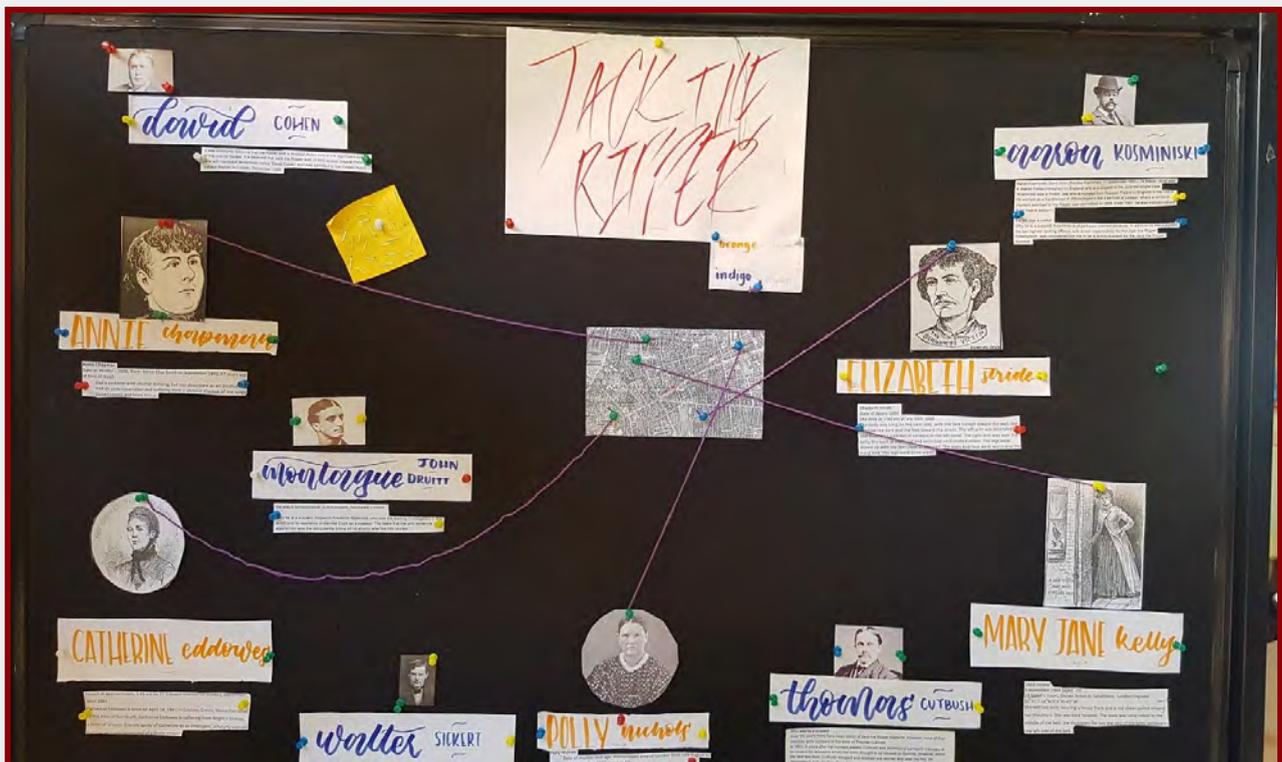
Students in M2 Individuals and Societies Investigate Unsolved Crimes by Jack the Ripper

In 1888, London saw a spate of gruesome murders that the Metropolitan Police were never able to solve. M2 students are doing their best to succeed, 130 years on, by solving the infamous crimes of Jack the Ripper.

As part of a mini-unit that has looked at the conditions in the City of London in the late 19th century, in particular the smog and pollution, which Bangalore residents can relate to! Students are developing their critical thinking and analytical skills by studying a range of source material to try and reach their own conclusions.



Students have trawled through the many suspects and focused on 4 or 5 they feel are most likely, after which they made a decision. They need to explain their findings and critically give a valid reason why the murders stopped in December 1888. Their findings were presented on CSI style 'murder boards'.



Mr. Joshua Morris
Individuals and Societies Teacher

Introducing

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

Qualification and certifications:

I have a Master's Degree in French as a Foreign Language; Major: Integrating ICT in Language Teaching - Grenoble III, France; Teaching Certificate: CEDIFLE A (Certificate of French as a Foreign Language Didactic through multimedia tools) - Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris III - France



Catherine Viart

What do you teach at Stonehill?

I teach French (Language Acquisition): Phase 1 in M1, M2 and M3; Phase 3 and 4 in M4 and M5; French B Standard and Higher Levels in D1 and D2. From 2012 to 2016, I have also taught French A Language and Literature (SL and HL).

Where are you from and where else have you lived?

I am from France, originally from the Champagne region. Now have a house in Dordogne (south west). During my studies, I have lived in the UK, China and Taiwan. I have worked in international schools in China, Bangladesh and Zambia.

What inspired you to become a teacher?

My teachers at school and university! More than the subjects that my teachers taught, it was how they taught me, how creative they were that left a lasting impression on me. The open discussions we had in class were very similar to the TOK classes we have in the IB DP. I am still in touch with some of the teachers I had 39 years ago!

What is your educational philosophy?

Inspire students to try their hardest and be proud of their achievements, while enjoying the ride. I also believe in developing learning skills that can be used in life.

What made you choose Stonehill?

There were many reasons for this. First, I knew the Founding Head of School, John Sperandio, as I worked with him at the International School of Dhaka - and knew I could trust him on the information he shared about the school. Secondly, I chose Stonehill because it was a rather new and small school at the time - one where a teacher's input is essential to shape the kind of school it wanted to be, where you end up knowing everyone. Lastly, because it is in India - the ultimate cultural and touristic experience and I heard many good things about Bangalore's climate!

What is the best part of your job?

The students! They are the reason why I am currently in my seventh year here.

What are your hobbies and interests?

Painting, reading, cross-stitching, playing poker, cooking and gardening... most of which happens during vacation as a teacher's life is so busy! I am very interested in history. I wish I could do time-traveling, and 'live history' (yes, even World War I - a period I am particularly interested in).

What is your favourite book and your favourite music?

It is impossible to choose one book. However some of my favourites are "The evil flowers" by Baudelaire - a book of poetry and "The shame of the family!" by Exbrayat - a crime story. I like listening to Jazz, Blues, Rock, Opera, Classical... it depends on the mood I am in!

PTA Charities Update

Summer Angels Gift Cards

It's time for our annual charity gift drive, Summer Angels. Please help make a difference. Gifts go to children through two of our amazing charities: IKSHA Foundation that helps kids with Retinoblastoma (eye) cancer; and Morning Star Ashram, an orphanage for 80 street boys.



This is a chance for these kids to ask for a gift they would really like to have. You buy it up to a value of INR 1000. Gifts are due back by March 1st and the gift giving will happen later in March. You are welcome to come to the gift giving visits too. These are really special and fill you with positivity when you experience first hand how much the kids appreciate them. Please take a card, (or several!). This year we have 180 children to buy gifts for. Cards will be available at the International Food Fair on Saturday, 2nd February, as well as by contacting myself (Sarah Jane) on 7406850066 or sjkaway@hotmail.co.uk

Morning Star Ashram Art Day - Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers for 2 hours for an Art Day at Morning Star Ashram. The boys at the Ashram have varying degrees of disability and Art Day is a chance for them to express themselves artistically - something we take for granted. Last year the Art Day was great fun for all involved and really brought something special to these boys' lives. This year's theme is 'The Art of Books', where we will be reading and then recreating artwork from stories. As well as volunteers for the 2 hour session, we would like to receive any second-hand picture and story books that we could use on the day. A once-loved book that is no longer needed could find an exciting new home and inspire art. If you are interested in getting creative with these lovely and lively boys, please contact me on 7406850066 or sjkaway@hotmail.co.uk

When: Saturday February 23rd - 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Where: Morning Star Ashram, Chagalatti Village, Yelahanka (25 minutes from Stonehill)

Sarah Jane King
PTA Charity Coordinator

International Food Fair Poster

Dear Korean Parents,

The PTA extends a sincere apology for our mistake regarding the the Korean flag on last week's International Food Fair poster. As always, we are thrilled to have the Korean community take part in our events and of course, our diverse community would not be the same without your presence. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to make the Stonehill International Food Fair a success. We are eagerly looking forward to tomorrow's Food Fair!

With best wishes,

Team PTA



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