

THE VINE

6 February 2017 Term 1 Week 1

Dear parents,

A warm welcome to all the International Chinese School families this year!

We are thrilled to partner with you in the education of your child. We look forward to witnessing their academic, social, emotional and spiritual growth.

This year, we are very excited to be the first and only school in the state to offer the highest percentage of language immersion for our Year 1 & 2 students. I expect that this will be offered to all grades in 2018 after this transitional period.

I am so pleased to have you all on this adventure, as this is only made possible with a team of exceptional teachers, committed parents, eager students and a prayerful and caring church.

Our vision is to raise up a new generation of global leaders who can not only break through language barriers, but also cultural ones. In the world we live in today, I can not think of anything more important or needed.

I look forward to seeing you at the Chinese New Year school celebration.

Wendy Yu



Happy New
Year!
新年快乐!



DIARY NOTES



School Chinese New Year Celebrations

Thursday 9th of Feb
2pm - 3pm (starts in the Chapel)
Parents welcome

Parent Information Evening

16th of Feb
6:30pm

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

17th of March

Harmony Day

21st of March

Premier's Reading Challenge Launch

27th of March

Week 10

Parent Teacher Evening (Interviews)

REMINDERS

Official school hours: 9:15 - 3:30pm



In Week 1 - 3, Kindergarten will finish early at 3pm.

In the morning, teacher supervision starts at 9am, please ensure your child arrives at school promptly by 9:15am as this will help them feel settled and ready to learn.

After the 3:30pm bell (Whole school finish time in Week 4), it is the parents' responsibility to provide full supervision for their child.

If you would like other family members or friends to pick-up your child, please go to reception and fill out an Alternate Pick-Up form, so that the school staff can officially release your child to alternative guardians.

Wet Weather

If it is wet weather in the morning during drop-off, please direct your child to their classroom for further instructions.

School Parking

School parking is limited and only available during drop-offs, pick-ups and any school/church related functions on site. Please do not leave cars parked on the site under any other circumstances.

Absences due to Illness

When your child is sick, please call or email the school early on that day. Please follow this up with a signed note to the class teacher as soon as possible explaining the absence.

Two or more sick days require a medical certificate from a General Practitioner.

School phone: 02 8440 8450 (School hours only)

School email: admin@intcs.nsw.edu.au

Attendance

Students are expected to be in attendance from the start to the end of each school day as required by law. The International Chinese School has a legal requirement to maintain accurate and complete attendance records.

If your child is absent from school for known reasons, parents will need to apply for leave for any school period longer than 5 school days and let the school know before taking leave.



NOTICEBOARD



Welcome to some of our Kindy students!

NOTICEBOARD

At ICS, we want to encourage students to be mindful of the environment and to reduce the amount of packaging waste.

Every Wednesday, students are encouraged to bring food that does not require throwing anything away such as plastic packets and yogurt pouches, with the exception of compostable items like apple cores.

The idea is to reduce the buying of individually wrapped/packaged goods such as chips and to buy larger portions to be placed in washable containers. Please speak to your child about it and it would be great if it becomes part of their home learning.

The school will encourage "No Waste Wednesday" by linking it with classroom reward systems.

No Waste Wednesday applies to Crunch & Sip, Recess and Lunch.

We also have a lunchtime gardening club and through the program the children learn how to care for the environment and differentiating between biodegradable and non-biodegradable products.



Gardening



Before the Christmas holidays last year, our gardening club started a very interesting experiment. We buried different products such as mango skin, tea bags, plastics etc. to see which item decomposes by the time school starts.

We're looking forward to digging all the products up when the gardening club starts up again!

DOLLARMITES

School Banking starts in **Week 3** on Monday morning at 9am.

Please ensure that your child has already filled out the deposit book so that it can be quickly given to the parent volunteers.

If you would like to open a Dollarmite account for your child or you would like to be a school banking parent volunteer, please contact the School Banking Coordinator, Miss Jacqui Ng: jacqui.ng@intcs.nsw.edu.au

CHINESE

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N
Y



Happy New Year of the Rooster!

We will be celebrating CNY this **Thursday 2pm - 3pm.**

Children are to wear the **traditional Chinese dress or in red and gold.**

ICS students will present a song/dance and then parents are invited to play a game with the children. We will finish with craft and treats!

Hope to see you there!

CHAPEL CHATS

Greetings and Happy New Year to you!

There is the noise of children excitedly coming back to school after a long break new children with their own excitement and small anxieties of something new. Teachers have been popping in over January to make sure everything is ready for a new year.

I, too have had a break over the summer and am ready to lead the children in Chapel time and to watch them grow in all ways through the year.

As many of you would know, ICS is an initiative of St Paul's church. This year, there will be at least two opportunities for ICS to engage with St Paul's and the members of St Paul's will have the opportunity to meet the families of ICS. These will probably be dates before Easter and Christmas, but I will be sure to inform you when the dates are locked in.

I want to also remind all parents that in my role as School Chaplain that I am not only here for the children, but if you need someone to talk to, then I'm your person.

I very much would love to get to know each of you and will endeavour to be at the school gate in the afternoons as often as possible.

May this year be one where we all grow in learning, caring and wisdom in the things that are important.

Blessings to you all.

Deb Gould

Chaplain