



Term 1 Week 4 2019

# THE VINE

*The Fortnightly Newsletter of the International Chinese School*



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### **Picnic and Play in the Park**

*Wednesday 6th March*

### **'Bullying, No Way!' Day**

*Friday 15th March*

### **Life Education (Healthy Harold)**

*Thursday 21st March*

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### ICS CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday's Chinese New Year concert proved a wonderful celebration for our school community. As a bilingual school in the midst of Sydney Australia, celebrating events relevant to Chinese culture serves as a reminder of the diversity of God's creation and the many God given gifts and beauties enjoyed by each culture. Such Godly gifts and beauties include the relationships we share with others and the accompanying sense of belonging; Godly values such as justice, wisdom, peace and love; creative expression through dance, song and visual arts.

Further, cultural celebrations foster greater love and respect for others. This love of others is central to the Christian Gospel, second only to the love of God.

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

CONTINUED

## Harmony Day

*Thursday 21st March*

## Parent-Teacher Interviews

*2nd, 3rd & 4th April*

## Easter Service

*Friday 12th April*

## Term End

*Friday 12th April*

## Staff PD Day

*Monday 29th April*

## Term 2 - Students commence

*Tuesday 30th April*



Jesus demonstrated this through the people He chose to associate with. He did not choose the influential political and religious leaders, but more often than not it was the lonely and outcast that he chose to spend time with. A prime example was Jesus conversation with the woman at the well (John 4:4-26). This woman was a social outcast on several levels, but most significantly because she was a Samaritan. Jews would have nothing to do with Samaritans, and it is fair to say that Jewish religious leaders encouraged their people to hate Samaritans. However, Jesus (a Jew) chose not only to speak with her but offer her eternal life. In all He does, Jesus is a living expression of the heart of God.

Working in a multicultural context is a new experience for me, a boy who grew up in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney. I must say my life has become far more enriched since joining the ICS community. Mrs Yu (Wendy) mentioned to me that it would be good for me to adopt a Chinese name, in the same way as those from China often adopt a Western name. I asked Mrs Yu (Keren) to help me with this task. She suggested;

zhān pèi dé  
詹沛德

I was humbled when she explained to me the 'Zhan' represents my surname, with 'Pei De' meaning rich in moral character. I hope that in all my interactions with members of our school community that I can live up to my Chinese name, a man of high morals with Jesus' heart.

*The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans)*

*Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."*

*"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"*

*Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.""*

*(John 4:9-14)*

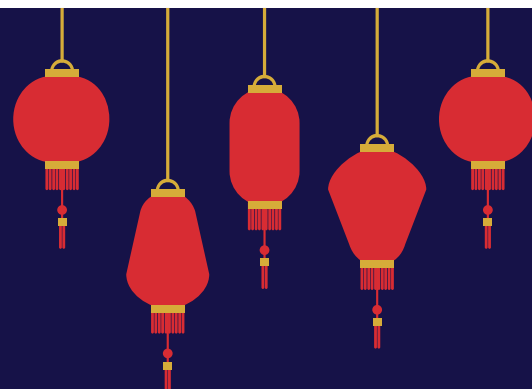


Peter Jamieson  
Principal





# PHOTOS FROM ICS CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS







## KEYS TO A GOOD DAY OF LEARNING

Just like plants need sunlight, water and good soil to flourish and grow, there are some elements essential to children flourishing in their learning. Following are some practical tips in setting your child up for success at school:

### **Routine:**

Children find security in routine. They are naturally nervous about the unknown, and changes can appear quite daunting. Children, like the rest of us, handle change best if it is expected and occurs in the context of a familiar routine. In terms of school routine, it is most important that children arrive on time each morning. This allows them to enter class with their peers and enjoy a positive beginning to the new day of learning. Other significant aspects of routine include consistent bed times, wake up times in the morning, dressing and eating breakfast without feeling rushed.

### **Sleep:**

School age children require 9-11 hours of sleep per night. A bedtime routine such as reading a book to/with your child helps children settle and fall asleep more quickly. Sleep provides energy and alertness in learning.

### **Healthy Diet:**

Diet has an impact on children's cognitive abilities. Breakfast is an essential way to start the day. Studies reveal that when children miss breakfast, or are generally poorly nourished, their performance on mentally challenging tasks and those requiring working memory is negatively impacted. Being well nourished is more than simply ensuring children have enough to eat. Well nourished children enjoy healthy foods in the right balance. For more information on children's nutrition visit <https://healthy-kids.com.au>.

### **Physical Activity:**

In today's world, children are spending increasing amounts of time in front of the computer. The lack of physical activity has great impact on children. Encouraging children to play outdoors with their friends or join a sporting team not only helps maintain a healthy weight, but also helps children develop better social skills, greater self-confidence and improves their emotional stability which can lead to strong self-esteem.

**Responsibility:**

Children benefit when they are encouraged to take responsibility for themselves. In relation to school this could mean dressing themselves of a morning, helping make their own lunch, packing their school bag ensuring all items that are needed are included.

**Parental interest:**

Children will be motivated to learn when their parents show an active interest in their school day. Chat with your child each afternoon about their school day; establish a regular and special 'cafe' time to talk; display your child's school-work around the home; be involved at school.

## **CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE: YOUTH CHINESE TEST**

Late last year four of our older students (Tristan, Faith, Alycia and Julian) were keen to participate in the Confucius Institute Youth Chinese Test. This was the first time they had been involved and they sat the Level 2 Examination. I am very pleased to report that all four performed extremely well scoring near perfect scores in both the listening and reading sections, with overall results ranging from 195-200 out of 200.

Tristan, Faith, Alycia and Julian are to be congratulated on their fine results. Acknowledgement must also go to Mrs Liu for her dedication and expertise to our student's Chinese learning throughout the years. I look forward to equally impressive results later this year.







# Merit

## AWARDS



### Merits Term 1 Week 3

<b>Celina (K)</b>	Outstanding recognition of the Chinese Hanzi
<b>Kristen (K)</b>	Active participation during English reading lesson.
<b>Evelyn (Yr 1)</b>	Listening attentively in class.
<b>Zoe (Yr 2)</b>	Always listening well in class and participating more in discussions.
<b>Ha Yun (Yr 2)</b>	Taking great care in completing her Chinese artwork beautifully and neatly.
<b>Luke (Yr 3)</b>	Always looking for ways to help out in the classroom.
<b>Julian (Yr 4)</b>	A positive attitude and approach to learning.



# Merit AWARDS



## Merits Term 1 Week 4

**Kenson (K)**

Listening attentively in class and following teachers instructions (English).

Singing beautifully for the Chinese New Year song Chinese).  
Active participation during English reading lesson.

**Alicia (Yr 2)**

Encouraging her peers to speak Chinese.

**Elsa (Yr 2)**

Being a kind and helpful friend, always looking after others.

**Chloe (Yr 3)**

Participation and diligent work.

**Julian (Yr 4)**

Always being on task.

**Grace (Yr 4)**

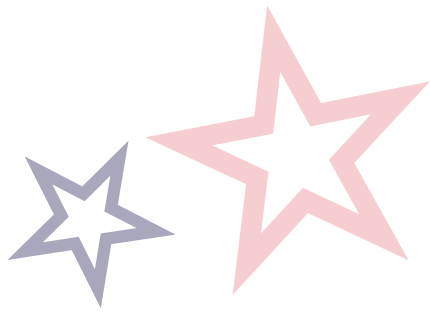
Principal's Chapel Merit for listening attentively and singing beautifully.





## COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE FORTNIGHT

This edition we feature Kenson from our Kindergarten class. Kenson has made a terrific start to the year. He has settled well into school, tried his best in class, and has developed some good friendships. He is a very happy and positive student, as demonstrated by the huge smile he displays daily. Kenson, and his peers, have a great year of learning ahead.

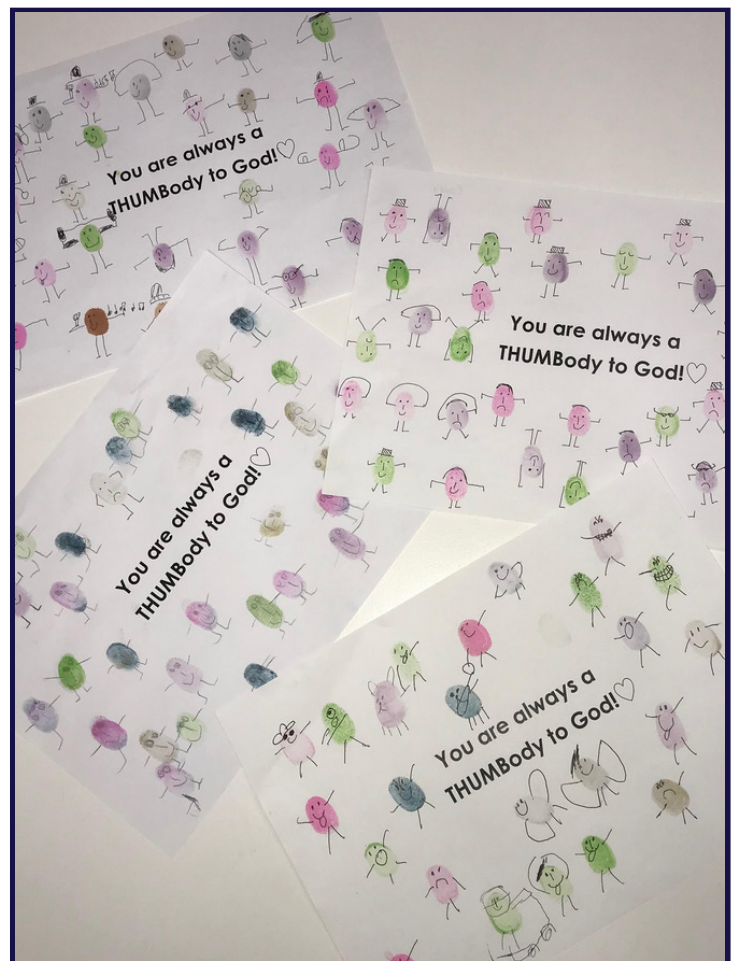


## IN THE CLASSROOM

Students from Yr 1/2 have been enjoying some wonderfully creative learning opportunities with Miss Nguyen. Integrating their Christian Studies' lesson with Art, students produced works that reinforced they, "are always a THUMBbody to God!"

## NEW SCHOOL SITE

Preparations are well underway for the submission to State Government of the first submission of the development approval process. Architects have been working on concept drawings to accompany the submission and a town planner has been engaged to manage and drive the process. I encourage our school community to continue to pray that God will go before us ensuring a smooth approval process with a positive outcome.



## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Student wellbeing is of the highest priority in the School, and as such has been the focus of staff development since the start of the year. Last Wednesday all staff participated in a Child Protection course presented by the Association of Independent Schools. This course has been designed to help schools ensure they are doing all that is necessary to protect the students in their care. It provides staff with an overview of the critical elements for creating a child-safe organisation as well as helping schools reduce the risk of child protection allegations being made. This course built on earlier sessions completed by staff, including *Senior First Aid* and *NSW Reportable Conduct*.

## CHINESE HOME READERS

A number of parents have commented that they are finding it difficult to support their children's Chinese reading as they lack competence in Mandarin. Mrs Liu discovered a solution to that problem which she trialled with her Year 3 class last year. 'WaWaYaYa' is an online resource that provides access to over 2,000 Chinese readers, all graded in levels according to students' competence in the language. The benefit of the program is that the program provides an audio recording matching the characters on the page. This is a great asset to parents and students alike.

The school is expanding the program this year to incorporate all students of the School, from K-4. As this is primarily a home resource we are asking parents (K-4) to contribute the annual subscription of \$40 (\$30US). We suggest that parents pay the \$40 directly into the schools' account via electronic transfer. The school's account details are:

Bank: Westpac

Account Name: International Chinese School

BSB: 032-000

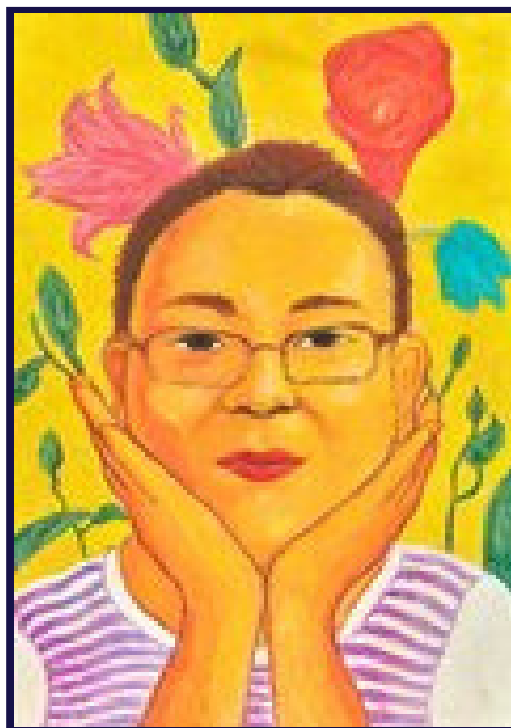
Account No: 679195

Please note the payment as '*Chinese Home Readers*'.

The school will organise the registration of students and the resource will be available in the very near future.







## ART NEWS

Budding artists are invited to submit a portrait for the 2019 Young Archie Art Gallery NSW 2019 Competition. The age categories suitable for ICS students are 5-8 years and 9 - 12 years. Entries must be received before 10 March 2019, 5pm with finalists announced: 2 May 2019. The Young Archie exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW will run from 11 May to 8 September 2019. For more information on the competition, visit: <https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/prizes/young-archie/enter/>

## KINDERGARTEN 2020

We are moving into a key enrolment period for those with children commencing in Kindergarten in 2020. As previously mentioned the School already has 16 students fully enrolled for Kindergarten 2020 and this only leave a handful of spaces for our present model of a single class. While the Board may consider adding a second class if demand is there, if you have friends with children starting school next year, please encourage them to contact the school to arrange a tour and subsequent enrolment interview. Similarly, enrolment interviews will be conducted for Kindergarten the following year, 2021. In all likelihood, there will be a waiting list for Kindergarten 2020.

## KINDERGARTEN FINISH TIME

This is the last week that Kindergarten will be finishing their school day early, at 3pm. From Monday 25th February Kindergarten will finish their day at 3:30pm, the same as for the rest of the School.



## INTERNATIONAL CHINESE OSHC CENTRE

Email address: [icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au](mailto:icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au) Mobile: 0488 040 332

### Homework Club

An essential part of our service to families, is offering children the opportunity to complete their homework with support and supervision from our educators. If you are interested, please contact the Co-ordinator.

### Health and Wellbeing

We see health and wellbeing as an aspect that should be integrated holistically. Our programs and menus are intentionally framed so children take ownership in their own health. We achieve this through healthy foods in our menu and cooking club, and a range outdoor activities.

If you are interested in any of our programs, you can make a booking on the QikKids My Family Lounge:

<http://www.primaryoshcare.com.au/enrol-and-book>.

Children do not need to have a regular booking to join our programs or club.

For more information, families can contact Centre staff on 0488 040 332 or by emailing

[icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au](mailto:icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au).

We hope to see you in our centre soon!

**Ash Kwok**

**Co-ordinator**

**On behalf of the ICOSHC team**

