



Term 1 Week 2 2019

THE VINE

The Fortnightly Newsletter of the International Chinese School



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Chinese New Year Concert

Wednesday 20th February

Picnic and Play in the Park

Wednesday 6th March

'Bullying, No Way!' Day

Friday 15th March

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Students have made a wonderful start to the new academic year. As I have moved around the classrooms I have been particularly impressed by the attentiveness and effort I have observed. It is wonderful to hear students learning in both Mandarin and English. Research shows that students who learn a second language benefit as brain activity and development is stimulated with benefits to overall learning. Further, with our nation's growing economic ties with China, learning Mandarin will prove a great benefit to our students in life beyond school.

Philosophically, the School believes that God has granted parents primary responsibility for the upbringing and education of their children. In our modern context, schools are established to support parents in this role. As such, ICS places high priority on nurturing an effective partnership in learning with the families it serves.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

CONTINUED

Life Education (Healthy Harold)

Thursday 21st March

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

Open and effective communication is central to this partnership. The first formal opportunity for parents to meet with teachers was the Parent Information Evening held on Wednesday February 6. The occasion proved a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet their child/ren's teachers and discover what has been planned for their classroom in 2019.

Other opportunities throughout the year include:

- Pick up time each afternoon (3:30pm): Teachers will be available for 15 minutes at the end of the school day for quick matters that parents may like to discuss. For more complex issues, parents should book an interview with the teacher to ensure there is adequate time to discuss them.
- Student diaries: Students will be issued with a school diary which we encourage parents to check daily.
- Principal's open-door policy: I have an open-door policy and am more than happy to speak with parents should issues or concerns arise. I can be found walking around the School, or in my office adjacent to the Reception.
- Newsletter, The Vine: The Vine will continue to be published fortnightly online and will keep parents informed of significant events in the School.
- Formal Parent/Teacher interviews late in Term 1 and early in Term 3.
- Phone or email communication: Staff can be contacted by phone (8440 8450) or via email addresses published in the previous edition of The Vine.

All enrolment and fees enquiries should be direct to Mr Anthony Tse on registrar@intcs.nsw.edu.au. General enquiries should be directed to reception on admin@intcs.nsw.edu.au.



Peter Jamieson
Principal



豬
Pig

CHINESE NEW YEAR

新春快乐

xīn chūn kuài lè

Happy Spring Festival (Chinese Traditional New Year)

Chinese New Year is a very important celebration in our school calendar. Chinese New Year is the most important holiday to the Chinese community and is celebrated by more than 20% of the world's population.

2019 is the Year of the Pig. The Pig is the twelfth of all Chinese zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which guests arrived at his party. Pig was late because he overslept. When he arrived, he was the last one and could only take the twelfth place. In Chinese culture, pigs are the symbol of wealth. Their chubby faces and big ears are signs of fortune as well.

Here are some interesting general facts about Chinese New Year:

Chinese New Year is also known as the Spring Festival

In China, you'll hear it being called chunjie, or the Spring Festival. It's still very wintry, but the holiday marks the end of the coldest days. People welcome spring and what it brings along: planting and harvests, new beginnings and fresh starts.

The most fireworks are set off in the world that night

People stay up on Chinese New Year's Eve and set off firecrackers at midnight. In the morning, firecrackers are used again to welcome the new year.

It is the longest Chinese holiday

The Spring Festival is technically 15 days, however celebrations start on New Year's Eve (making it 16 days).



The Chinese decorate everything red for Chinese New Year

Red is China's favourite colour and it's pretty obvious during Chinese New Year. Families will deck their homes in red. Chinese people will hang up red lanterns and strings of (real or fake) chili peppers, paste red paper onto doors and windows. People will add new red clothing to their Spring Festival wardrobe too.

Chinese New Year ends with the Lantern Festival

The first full moon of the (lunar) year is the Yuanxiao Festival (yuán xiāo jié) or Lantern Festival (dēng jié). Though family is still important, it's still a night of partying and freedom. In ancient times, girls weren't allowed to venture outside by themselves. But on this night, they were able to walk around, moon-gaze and look at the beautiful lanterns. Because of this, it's also known as Valentine's Day in China.

(This information was gathered from
<https://chinesenewyear.net/>)

To find the best Chinese New Year activities around Sydney visit:
<https://www.timeout.com/sydney/things-to-do/the-best-chinese-new-year-events-in-sydney>.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CONCERT

The School will be celebrating Chinese New Year with a concert on Wednesday 20th February from 2:30pm. All students will be performing an item in Mandarin with their class.



Students are encouraged to wear traditional Chinese clothing (Qipao or Tangzhuang) if they have it at home. Parents are encouraged to join with their children for this special occasion.

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE FORTNIGHT

This edition we feature our visiting Chinese teachers aid, Mrs Zeng. Mrs Zeng has been very excited to join the ICS community and has been volunteering to help staff and students in as many ways as possible. From classroom help, to translation, to fitness sessions she is always willing to lend a hand. We give God great praise and thanks for bringing Mrs Zeng to our school community. We are still seeking a family to host Mrs Zeng this term for a period of around 4 weeks. If you can assist, please email principaleintcs.nsw.edu.au.



PARENT PRAYER GROUP

Prayer is simply talking with God. Why bother to talk with God? Simply because He loves us and desires a personal relationship. God is very interested in the success of the School and wants to see each child grow to become all that He has created him/her to be. Therefore, we can be sure that when we come to God in prayer, He hears us and is busy accomplishing His will through this place. A group of parents meet for prayer every Wednesday morning at 9:20am in the staffroom adjacent to reception. All are welcome.

PICNIC AND PLAY IN THE PARK

Staff are aware of the limited playground space at the School. Students last year enjoyed our Picnic and Play in the Park (PPP) excursion where families were invited to join with students and staff for a picnic lunch as well as a run around at a local park. This year we have programmed 6th March as the Term 1 date. More details to follow but we ask parents if at all possible to lock this time in their diaries.



Merit AWARDS

During Chapel each week, students from all classes are presented with Merit Certificates for their involvement and effort in varying aspects of school life. Rather than view the awards as prizes, the School recognises children who in the preceding week have made the most of their God-given gifts, interests and opportunities at school. Teachers keep track of weekly award recipients and ensure all students are acknowledged throughout the year.

To help parents understand the merit system an explanation follows:

- Five regular assembly merits = Bronze Award
- Three Bronze (fifteen regular merits in total) = Silver Award
- Three Silvers (nine bronze/forty-five regular merits in total) = Gold Award



To receive their Bronze Award students must present to their teacher their five regular assembly certificates. To obtain a Silver they must present their three Bronze, and likewise to receive a Gold award they must show their teacher their three Silver Awards. It may take some time for students to collect enough regular merits to achieve the higher levels. As such students can accumulate their certificates over several years of schooling at ICS.

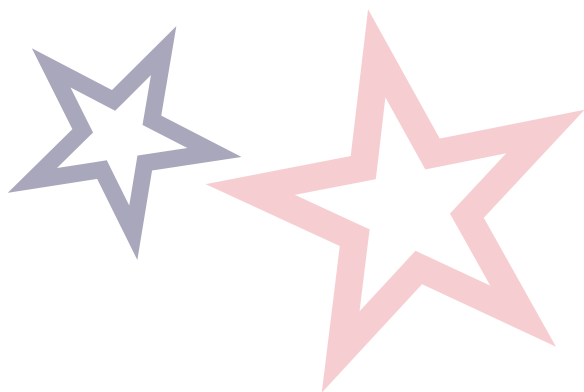


Merits Term 1 Week 2

Sophie (K)	Settling well into Kindergarten and paying attention in class.
Nikita (K)	Being an awesome and fantastic helper to the new Kindergarten students.
Olive (Yr 1)	Settling well into the ICS community and making good friendships.
Alice (Yr 2)	Practicing diligently for Tai Chi performance piece.
Alycia (Yr 3)	Outstanding effort with her holiday recount and beautiful bookwork.
Elijah (Yr 4)	Outstanding effort in class to work hard, stay on task and complete all set work.

PRINCIPAL'S CHAPEL MERIT

Kaiden of Kindergarten was the first student for 2019 to receive the Principal's Chapel Merit Certificate. He was awarded the certificate for listening well and participating actively in all Chapel activities, especially the singing.



IN THE CLASSROOM

This week we feature a variety of class activities from the first week of school.

Our visiting Chinese teachers' aid, Mrs Zeng, has been leading our students in their fitness sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays. She is implementing daily exercise to music as practised across schools in China. We are really appreciating the contribution Mrs Zeng is already making to our school community.

Kindergarten are featured hard at work with Miss Su on a practical Mathematics counting activity. Year 1/2 enjoyed their art lesson with Miss Nguyen, painting trees using traditional Chinese ink technique to celebrate the New Year.

It is important for children to enjoy learning, and it is clear from the smiles on students faces that ICS is a great place to learn.



EARLY FINISH TIME FOR KINDERGARTEN

The transition to formal schooling can prove challenging for some Kindergarten students and often sees our youngest students very tired at the end of the day. Therefore, as previously advertised, for the first four weeks the school day will finish for Kindergarten at 3:00pm. Parents are encouraged to pick their child up at this time to allow ample opportunity to discuss the school day and rest. If parents are unable to collect their child at 3pm, supervision by the classroom teacher will continue until our normal finishing time of 3:30pm. Kindergarten will move to standard school hours the week commencing Monday 25th February.

LIBRARY

Mrs Yu will be our school librarian for 2019. She has been excited to see how the library has grown and is keen to see new books on the shelves as quickly as possible. A reminder to students and parents that library is on the following days:

K - Thursday

Yr 1/2 - Tuesday

Yr 3/4 - Tuesday

Students are asked to bring their library bags in order to borrow library books. Only a few students remembered this week and others were disappointed that they would have to wait another week before they could borrow.

YEAR 3/4 VISUAL ARTS

Year 3 and 4 students will be involved in a tree wrapping project as part of their arts curriculum.

Students will be learning French-knitting and wrap one of the trees around the School site as an act of artistic expression. The project is to encourage fine motor development, combine man-made and natural materials as well as to acquire a new skill as a possible future hobby. In encouraging responsible usage of our resources, students are asked to gather balls of colourful wool that may be lying around the house and bring these to school for use in this art project.



SCHOOL BANKING

School banking for students will occur on Fridays this year, commencing Friday 8th February. For any families that would like to find out more about student banking please see our banking mums, Mimi Lu or Ruth Chong. They will be at the School each Friday morning.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff of the School undertook professional development in the lead up to students returning for the new academic year.



On Friday 25th January all completed Senior First Aid training ensuring that the School is up to date with the latest in emergency care. This supported the School's emphasis on student safety and wellbeing.

On Tuesday 29th January teachers received training with online resource provider ClickView. For over a decade ClickView has been providing deeper educational understanding for students through video with 40,000 educational videos and movies available online to empower student learning. Their team of educators in Australia produce content for Primary, Secondary right through to Further and Higher Education. Resources are catalogued and aligned with the Australian National Curriculum providing great support to classroom learning. Further, it provides access to TV recordings from 18 Australian free-to-air channels. When fully functional students of ICS will have access to the online library both at school and home.

On the evening of 14th February staff will also be involved in professional development facilitated by the NSW Association of Independent Schools. The training course, Creating Safer Independent Schools, will equip staff in their Child Protection duty of care, updating them on their professional and legal responsibilities for children placed in their care.



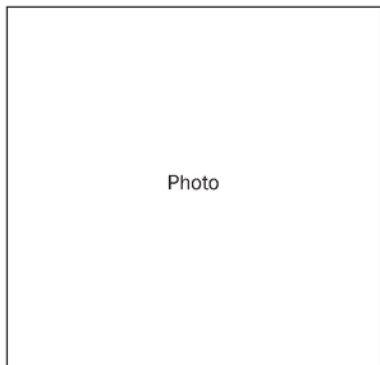
STUDENT MEDICAL ACTION PLANS

Parents must supply the School with a Medical Action Plan for students who have been diagnosed with a serious medical condition. These plans inform staff of the correct course of action should such a student experience a medical emergency. The Plan must be supplied by the family doctor and be updated annually. Asthma, Anaphylaxis reaction, epilepsy and diabetes are examples of medical conditions that would require such an action plan. We ask parents to ensure the School has received Medical Action Plans should this be relevant to their child/ren. The sample Anaphylaxis Action Plan provided is a generic example only.

ACTION PLAN FOR Anaphylaxis

Name: _____
Date of birth: _____

For use with EpiPen® adrenaline autoinjectors



Confirmed allergens:

Family/emergency contact name(s):

Work Ph: _____

Home Ph: _____

Mobile Ph: _____

Plan prepared by:

Dr: _____

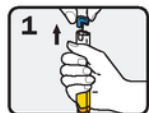
I hereby authorise medications specified on this plan to be administered according to the plan.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date of next review: _____

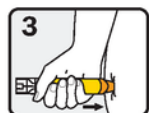
How to give EpiPen®



Form fist around EpiPen® and PULL OFF BLUE SAFETY RELEASE.



PLACE ORANGE END against outer mid-thigh (with or without clothing).



PUSH DOWN HARD until a click is heard or felt and hold in place for 10 seconds.
REMOVE EpiPen®. Massage injection site for 10 seconds.

Instructions are also on the device label and at:
www.allergy.org.au/anaphylaxis

MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTION

- Swelling of lips, face, eyes
- Hives or welts
- Tingling mouth
- Abdominal pain, vomiting (these are signs of anaphylaxis for insect allergy)

ACTION FOR MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTION

- For insect allergy, flick out sting if visible. Do not remove ticks.
- Stay with person and call for help.
- Locate EpiPen® or EpiPen® Jr adrenaline autoinjector.
- Give other medications (if prescribed).....
- Phone family/emergency contact.

Mild to moderate allergic reactions may not always occur before anaphylaxis

Watch for **ANY ONE** of the following signs of anaphylaxis

ANAPHYLAXIS (SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION)

- Difficult/noisy breathing
- Swelling of tongue
- Swelling/tightness in throat
- Difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- Wheeze or persistent cough
- Persistent dizziness or collapse
- Pale and floppy (young children)

ACTION FOR ANAPHYLAXIS

- 1 Lay person flat. Do not allow them to stand or walk. If breathing is difficult allow them to sit.
- 2 Give EpiPen® or EpiPen® Jr adrenaline autoinjector.
- 3 Phone ambulance*: 000 (AU) or 111 (NZ).
- 4 Phone family/emergency contact.
- 5 Further adrenaline doses may be given if no response after 5 minutes, if another adrenaline autoinjector is available.

If in doubt, give adrenaline autoinjector

Commence CPR at any time if person is unresponsive and not breathing normally.

EpiPen® is generally prescribed for adults and children over 5 years.

EpiPen® Jr is generally prescribed for children aged 1-5 years.

*Medical observation in hospital for at least 4 hours is recommended after anaphylaxis.

IF UNCERTAIN WHETHER IT IS ANAPHYLAXIS OR ASTHMA

- Give adrenaline autoinjector FIRST, then asthma reliever.
- If someone with known food or insect allergy suddenly develops severe asthma like symptoms, give adrenaline autoinjector FIRST, then asthma reliever.

Asthma: Y ☐ N ☐ Medication: _____



INTERNATIONAL CHINESE OSHC CENTRE

Email address: icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au Mobile: 0488 040 332

We are pleased to continue our partnership with the International Chinese School for out of hours school care.

Our program covers construction, arts and craft, dramatic and cognitive play. The clubs to highlight for this semester are Morning Masterchefs, STEM Club, Cooking Club. ***Every Thursday Morning, children will be learning to cook and make recipes like pastries, cupcakes, pizzas etc.*** During this sunny weather, children will be involved in lots of active play, including gross motor for younger children.

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.

We hope to see you in our centre soon!

Ash Kwok

Co-ordinator

On behalf of the ICOSHC team

