



Term 1 Week 1 2020

THE VINE

The Fortnightly Newsletter of the International Chinese School



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I trust that families of our school community enjoyed a blessed and refreshing Christmas break focused on the coming of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Isaiah the prophet, some 800 years before Jesus' birth announced Jesus to be Immanuel, God with us. It is so reassuring to know we worship a personal God who desires relationship with us, so much so that walked among us. It is my prayer that not only at Christmas, but all year round our school community knows Jesus' presence and seeks to follow Him daily.

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)*

Peter Jamieson
Principal

RETURN TO SCHOOL

The Teachers will be returning on Thursday 23rd January with students (Years 1-4) commencing on Wednesday 30th, Kindergarten on Thursday 31st. Kindergarten students have individual testing on Wednesday and Thursday (23rd & 24th).

As has previously been advertised school hours have been adjusted this year, in anticipation of our move to St Leonards.

- Kindergarten will commence their school day at 9:00am and conclude at 3:00pm.
- Years 1/2 school day will be from 8:45 – 3:15pm.
- Term 1 Years 3/4 will travel by bus to Pacific Hills Christian School, Dural, leaving our current school premises at 8:30 and returning by 3:30pm.

TERM ONE ARRANGEMENTS

The application and building processes are reaching the final stages and the School remains on schedule for a Term 2 commencement on our new campus at St Leonards.

We are grateful that St Paul's Anglican Church has made their facilities available for this extended period of time. Unfortunately, the School has approval for a maximum of 49 students on the St Paul's site. After much prayer and searching we have identified a solution to this dilemma. K-2 will continue on the present site. Pacific Hills Christian School (PHCS), Dural, have agreed to accommodate Yr 3/4 while we wait for the new campus to be finalised. Year 3/4 students under the supervision of their classroom teacher will be transported daily by bus to and from PHCS. A spacious classroom has already been allocated and ICS students will be able to enjoy the facilities and community of PHCS.

While this arrangement may not be ideal, the short-term inconvenience will be worth the long-term benefits that will come with the move to St Leonards. If you have any questions about the arrangement please direct these to me (principal@intcs.nsw.edu.au).

TEACHERS 2020

Mr Jamieson: Principal

Mr Jamieson holds a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. His experience as an educator spans three decades, with 17 years as principal of a number of independent schools across NSW.



Mr Jamieson is passionate about Christian education and unleashing the God-given potential in all students. He has vast experience in both establishing schools as well as leading cultural change. The schools he has led have been known as centres of academic excellence where students have thrived through a caring and supportive Christian environment.

Mr Jamieson is a committed Christian who has been actively involved in the ministry of the local churches he has attended. He is married and has four children beyond school age.

Dr Lina Liang: Chinese Curriculum Coordinator



Dr Lina Liang joins the ICS teaching staff in 2020. Dr Liang grew up in Yunfu, Guangdong Province, China. She has lived and worked in many parts of the world including China, New Zealand and the United States.

Dr Liang upgraded her teacher training in New Zealand and gained her Masters Degree and PHD through Macquarie University, each with a focus on bilingual education. She also holds a Diploma of Ministry.

For the past nine years she has taught K-6 Mandarin in the Hills district. Dr Liang is excited at the possibility of applying her knowledge and insights to the Mandarin bilingual immersion program of ICS. Dr Liang will be teaching Mandarin to both Kindergarten classes this year.

Miss Tina Nguyen

Miss Nguyen has extensive experience in bilingual education, having spent eight years teaching at Sydney Japanese International School before joining ICS in 2018.

She is very experienced at teaching the English components of the K-6 curriculum in a bilingual setting. She possesses particular strength in the area of Mathematics and is passionate about quality literature in schools.

Miss Nguyen displays a vibrant love of life which makes learning fun for her students. Further, she has extensive involvement in the children's and youth ministry at Chatswood Baptist Church. Miss Nguyen will be the English teacher for both Kindergartens this year. Further, she will assist in the coordination of daily and special routines.





Miss Melody Tang

Miss Tang joined ICS in 2019. She is a native speaker of Mandarin having spent the early years of her childhood in North East China, close to Beijing. She came to Australia at age 15 and completed her secondary schooling before gaining her teaching qualifications in Music and Chinese methods from the University of NSW.

As a specialist music teacher Miss Tang nurtures a love of music within our students. Miss Tang will also be teaching Mandarin to Years 1-4 at the School.

Mrs Geraldine Llewlyn

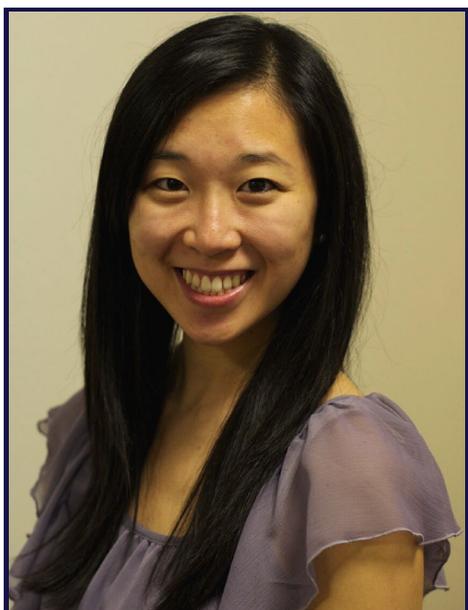
Prior to beginning her teaching career Mrs Llewlyn worked in senior Human Resource Management roles for large organisations such as the Sydney Opera House and Taronga Zoo. Possessing a life-long love of learning she decided to undertake a Masters of Education degree through the University of New England to pursue a passion she had for teaching.

Mrs Llewlyn proved an exceptional student attaining Distinction or greater results in all subjects undertaken in her Masters Degree. Further, her broader life experience has well equipped her as an excellent classroom teacher. She has proved a wonderful asset to the School since joining the staff in 2018.



She is also a highly accomplished musician, and is very involved in the music and youth ministry of Church by the Bridge, the Anglican church where she worships with her family. She also has a heart for mission and has been involved in several mission trips to Papua New Guinea and Africa.

Mrs Llewlyn will be sharing the Year1/2 class with Miss Tang. She will be teaching the English component of the Curriculum.



Mrs Kim Poy

Mrs Poy joins the teaching staff at ICS this year. She will be teaching the English component to Year 3/4.

Mrs Poy possesses impressive qualifications having obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree (Psychology) and Masters Degree in Teaching (Primary) from the University of Sydney. She has also completed a Graduate Diploma of Divinity from Sydney Missionary and Bible College.

Mrs Poy comes with great experience in teaching in the independent school sector, having taught at Queenwood, MLC School and Ravenswood.

Ms Keren Yu

Ms Yu continues with her role in administration where she wears many hats including registrar, receptionist, uniform shop, and occasional interpreter. She also assists Mr Jamieson with administration tasks associated with his role.

Ms Yu has spent most of her life living in Northern China. She is competent in English and Mandarin and as such proves a great resource in communicating with our Chinese families.



Mrs Jamieson

Mrs Jamieson, wife of our Principal Mr Jamieson, continues to volunteer her time in serving families of ICS. In particular Mrs Jamieson provides learning assistance to students from the school who speak little to no English. She also helps with administration and provides assistance to teachers in general.



UNIFORM

For those wishing to purchase some last-minute uniform items these can be purchased through Mrs Yu on reception on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Thursday January 23.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

The School will be celebrating Chinese New Year with a dinner. This was advertised late last year and many families have already booked their place. The details of the dinner are as follows:

Venue: King Dynasty Restaurant, Level 6,
Chatswood Westfield Shopping Centre

Date & time: 8th February 2020
(Saturday), 6pm

Fees: \$50 per person including
students, \$25 for younger siblings aged
under 5

It is not too late to register for the
celebration. We would love to see your
family on the evening. To
registrar contact Ms Keren Yu in
reception (keren.yu@intcs.nsw.edu.au).



PARTNERSHIP WITH HOME

We value the partnership we share in the education of your children. Parents are encouraged to as need touch base with teachers at pick-up time each afternoon. Further, I have an open-door policy and am more than happy to speak with parents should issues or concerns arise. I can be found out and about around the School, or in my office adjacent to reception. Alternatively, parents can contact me via email principal@intcs.nsw.edu.au or by phoning the School.

We enjoy a very special school community. I look forward to another profitable year of learning where we will see your children grow to embrace their God given potential.