



23rd November 2018, Term 4 week 6

# THE VINE

*The Fortnightly Newsletter of the International Chinese School*



## KEY DATES

**Presentation Assembly**

*December 5*

**ICS Picnic Day**

*December 6*

**Last day of School**

*December 7*

**2019**

**Yr 1-4 Students return**

*January 30*

**Kindergarten Students  
commence**

*January 31*

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY

As previously has been advertised the end of year Presentation Assembly will be conducted on Wednesday December 5 at 2pm. The occasion provides a great opportunity to celebrate all that has been achieved in the lives of your children over the past 12 months. As a normal school day there is the expectation that all children will be in attendance.

It appears there may have been some confusion around the date of the Presentation Assembly, and several school families have planned to leave for overseas and therefore their children will not be present on the day. It will be a shame that these children will miss sharing this important end of year event with their peers.

I ask parents to note that next year's school year finishes round a week later, with the Presentation Assembly scheduled for Wednesday 11th December. Please plan your travel around this date as there is the expectation that all students will be present from next year onwards.

## STAFFING 2019

I am pleased to report that there will be few changes in staffing for 2019, however as in all schools the end of the year usually comes with mixed emotions as some staff move to new ventures in life.

As such I am very sad to inform our school community that Mrs Fitzpatrick will be finishing her time with ICS at the end of this year. Mrs Fitzpatrick has been an integral member of the teaching staff for the past three years. Most recently she has taught our students Visual Arts, library, and some literacy and mathematics for Yr3 on Fridays. She completed her Masters' Degree in Counselling this year, and next year will explore options for making greater use of her new qualifications. She will be greatly missed by all.

The rest of the teaching and administration staff will remain with the School next year, although Mrs Liu will

reduce her load to one day a week as she desires to have more time available to support her daughter through her HSC. We are very pleased to retain Mrs Liu and presently are interviewing applicants to team teach with her.

Mrs Yu will be returning from maternity leave to the position of Curriculum Coordinator. She will be working 2 days a week and will pick up Mrs Fitzpatrick's Library and Visual Arts lessons.

Mrs Llewelyn will be increasing her work load at the School and will be with us 3 days a week. This will mean that Yr3/4 will have Mrs Llewelyn for all English based lessons and as well she will be teaching music K-4.

I look forward to a very successful 2019, where we will continue to see your children blossom and grow into all that God created them to be.

## TEACHERS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR 2019 WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

**Mr Peter Jamieson**

**Principal**

**Mrs Wendy Yu**

**Curriculum Coordinator, K-4 Library & Visual Arts**

**Miss Tina Nguyen**

**English Teacher: K, Yr1/2**

**Miss Vicki Su**

**Mandarin Teacher: K, Yr 1/2**

**Mrs Geraldine Llewelyn**

**English Teacher: Yr3/4, K-4 Music**

**Mrs Stella Liu**

**Chinese Teacher: Yr 3/4 (job share with yet to be appointed teacher)**



## ENROLMENTS 2019

There has been a number of recent enrolments with students set to commence at the School in 2019. It is pleasing that these are not just for Kindergarten, but for other year groups as well. There are still a number of vacancies across all year groups. If you know of anyone that may benefit from enrolling their child at ICS, please ask them to contact our registrar, Mr Anthony Tse ([registrareintcs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:registrareintcs.nsw.edu.au)), without delay.

There is also great enrolment interest for the year after next, 2020. We already have 2 students fully enrolled for Kindergarten, and another 10 enrolment interviews booked over the next fortnight from families that are keen to ensure their child does not miss out. By the end of this year, we expect to have at least 12, likely-more, students fully enrolled ready to commence

Kindergarten at ICS in just over 12-months time. This will leave limited vacancies as the maximum enrolment is 20 students.

If you have a child due to start Kindergarten in 2020, and our registrar has not contacted you, please make immediate contact to ensure there is a place available. While siblings have priority in enrolment, they must go through the normal enrolment application processes to secure the place. It would be such a shame if a sibling had to join a waiting list because places filled.

## ICS UNDERCOVER NEWS

Parents and friends of ICS were well protected from last week's rain under their special ICS umbrellas, a gift from the School. Many thanks to Andy Lee, father of Enoch (K), for organising the manufacture and delivery of the branded umbrellas just in time for Kindergarten 2019 orientation day. It is hoped that whenever it rains, Chatswood and surrounding areas will become flooded with ICS umbrellas, proving a most effective advertisement for the School.

*Below left: Kindergarten students Joshua, Enoch and Anthony (pictured) were keen to try out the ICS umbrella, even though it was only sprinkling. If your family has not received an umbrella yet just catch Mr Jamieson and he will make sure you receive one.*





Above: Miss Merle had Year 1/2 students mesmerized as she shared what life was like for her growing up.

## IN THE CLASSROOM

Year 3 were very excited to finish their jig-saw puzzle of Australia. The challenging 500-piece puzzle took some time to complete and students were keen to be photographed with their accomplishment. Following are some interesting facts about Australia that Yr 3 students recalled:

- Elijah: "Australia has more desert than wet areas."
- Susannah: "Platypus are mammals that lay eggs."
- Julian: "The Tasmanian Tiger is now extinct."
- Faith: "Koalas drink from leaves."
- Grace: "Convicts were sent to Australia from England."
- Tristan: "Australia is full of natural resources."

Further Year 1/2 have been exploring how life and the Chatswood local area has changed over the years. Students were delighted to have Miss Merle (who runs our student gardening club) share with them of her experiences. Miss Merle's teacher pedigree shone through as she gave students a very informative and engaging presentation. Some of the students' recollections included:

- Luke: "Miss Merle had a ride in the first car with indicators."
- Chloe: "Old times' cameras are bigger then cameras are now."
- Alycia: "When Miss Merle went to school there were no lights in the room."
- Jethro: "The train station in Chatswood has changed a lot."



# School

## MERITS

*Merit award recipients  
over the past fortnight:*

### Bronze Award

A Bronze Award is presented to  
students who have gained 5  
individual merit certificates.

Zoe (Yr 1/2 ),  
Evelyn (Yr1/2),  
Elsa (Yr1/2),  
Alycia (Yr1/2),  
Susannah (Yr3).

### Term 4 Week 5

Joshua (K): Excellent Chinese flash card  
recognition.

Evelyn (K): Always willing to lend a helping  
hand.

Elsa (Yr 1/2): Her excellent attitude during  
fitness and PE lessons.

Skye (Yr 1/2): Be a kind and caring friend An  
excellent Chinese diary entry.

Julian (Yr 3): Outstanding effort in Maths and  
English.

Principal's Chapel Awards - Alysha (Yr 1/2) &  
Susannah (Yr 3) [tied] : Setting a fine  
example for all during Chapel



# School

## MERITS

(continued)



### TERM 4 WEEK 6

Sarah (K): Improvement in speaking loudly and confidently during Show & Tell.

Josie (K): Great improvement in reading Chinese readers.

Ha Yun (Yr 1/2): Consistently achieving 100% in her weekly spelling tests.

Luke (Yr 1/2): His enthusiastic participation in fitness and PE lessons.

Genevieve (Yr 1/2): Being proactive in the classroom in asking for help when needed.

Susannah (Yr 3): Always engaging in thoughtful discussions during devotions.

Principal's Chapel Award - Julian (Yr 3): Setting a superb example during Chapel



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The end of the year is approaching rapidly and before we know it students will be returning for a new year of learning. If your child requires uniform items for next-year please note that these may be purchased on Tuesday and Thursday up until 6th December. While the uniform 'shop' will reopen on Thursday 24th January, it is suggested that parents finalise purchases this year. If we run short of a certain item, this will allow adequate time to place backorders.

## AT THE pool SWIMMING

Students continue to enjoy their Wednesday swimming lessons. They arrive at school very excited and smiles are plenty as they get wet and learn/refine their swimming ability. As such I have spoken to Fitness First and have extended the program for a further week to include Wednesday 28th November. An additional permission note will be distributed to cover the extra session. Staff would ask parents to carefully check their child's swimming bag each Wednesday morning. There have been children who have forgotten items, and this can lead to quite a bit of stress for them should they not be able to participate.

## STATIONERY PACKS

The school stationery packs will be available for purchase on Tuesdays and Thursdays until the end of the school year. Some parents had expressed concern regarding the quality of products this year, so the School has chosen not to outsource to an external supplier but have ordered in all items individually. This is to ensure the quality of the products. Cost of the stationery packs is as follows:

Kindergarten	\$40
Years 1/2	\$35
Years 3/4	\$40



## TERM DATES 2019

### Term 1

Thursday	24th January	Teachers commence
Wednesday	30th January	Students (Yrs1-4) commence
Thursday	31st January	Kindergarten students commence
Friday	12th April	Term end

### Term 2

Monday	29th April	Staff Development Day
Tuesday	30th April	Students return
Monday	10th June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	28th June	Term end

### Term 3

Monday	22nd July	Students return
Friday	27th September	Term end

### Term 4

Monday	14th October	Students return
Wednesday	11th December	Presentation Assembly
Thursday	12th December	Term end



## TERM DATES 2020

### Term 1

Thursday	23rd January	Teachers commence
Wednesday	29th January	Students (Yrs1-4) commence
Thursday	30th January	Kindergarten students commence
Thursday	9th April	Term end

### Term 2

Monday	27th April	Staff Development Day
Tuesday	28th April	Students return
Monday	8th June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	26th June	Term end

### Term 3

Monday	20th July	Students return
Friday	25th September	Term end

### Term 4

Monday	12th October	Students return
Wednesday	9th December	Presentation Assembly
Thursday	10th December	Term end

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

At our recent Kindergarten Orientation Morning parents were informed of the importance of regular school attendance. I take this opportunity to also share the information with our whole parent body.

By law children are required to attend school each day.

Why is it important for your child to attend school every day except when sick;

- Continuity of learning is maintained. Missing a day can leave huge holes in a child's learning.
- Children who miss school regularly are more likely to become isolated from their friends.
- Attendance every day provides important routine for children and develops a sense of responsibility within.
- It prepares them for real life in the workforce when they leave school.

Likewise, it is important for children to be punctual at the start of the school day. To regularly arrive late can cause the following challenges for students:

- It can be embarrassing.
- It can damage a child's confidence and self-esteem.
- It may lead to children being confused and missing vital instructions, information and bits of news at the start of the day
- It disrupts the learning of others

Occasionally families will plan holidays away from the local area. To limit impact on schooling parents are encouraged to plan these within the scheduled school vacation breaks. If this is not possible due to difficulties in coordinating time off from work, then parents are required to write to the Principal to request such leave.

However, please do not send your child to school if they are ill, particularly if they may have a communicable disease. The School does not have an employed nurse nor extensive sick bay facilities. If a student presents sick at school, parents will be contacted and asked to pick their child up as soon as possible.



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ENROL NOW  
FOR 2019



## NEWS FROM MING LIU

We all have missed Ming-liu since she left us in June. I recently received the following update on her activities.

"Dear ICS families,

I am now studying a one-year MBA program at ESSEC Business School (Paris), and my track is Luxury Brand Management. Today, people's understanding about luxury is becoming more diversified, and the consumption is gradually moving from luxury goods to experience. To me, the No.1 luxury in the world is Jesus. I wish I can establish a gift shop brand with Christian Culture one day, sharing the grace and peace from God in luxury industry, in which most clients usually spend their money for showing off and personal pleasure.

My classmates are from all over the world and it's interesting to do group works and case studies with them. However, I can't stop missing Sydney and the ICS community. I'd say the 6 months I spent with you is the are the happiest and most unforgettable ones in my life so far. I would like to meet you again when I finish my study in France.

A good news for you: my church friend Yi Zeng is going to be the Chinese Teaching Assistant in Term 1 next year. Yi is a teacher with 3 years experience and she is now working in a great early education school in Shanghai. I believe you will have a good time with Yi and I'm very jealous of her now!

All the best wishes,  
Mingliu"



## TOYS AND TUCKER

The Christmas tree has been decorated by students in Year 3 and now stands tall in reception. Some items have already been placed beneath for Anglicare's Toys and Tucker Charitable appeal. Students are asked to bring in Toys (new) and Tucker (non-perishable food items) and place under the tree for distribution to struggling families over Christmas.

*'Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'* (Matthew 25:34-36)



# St Paul's Family Christmas Extravaganza Cake Decorating Competition



## Rules

- All entries to have completed registration form with a fee of \$5 upon submission.
- Decoration theme is Christmas.
- All entries will be sold under silent auction to the public, with proceeds going to St Paul's.
- Admissions under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Every ingredient must be listed.
- All decorations must be edible.

## Entrant Categories:

- Juniors
- 13+

## Prizes for:

- Most skilled cake
- Most original
- Most artistic

**DEC 16 2018** **St Paul's Chatswood Anglican Church**  
**1 View St Chatswood**  
**9:30AM** Join us for carols and then judging.

To register for the cake competition go to:

**[tinyurl.com/ycpxkkht](https://tinyurl.com/ycpxkkht)**

**Registration closes December 9 2018**



We'd love you to join us for a  
family Christmas

# *Extravaganza!*

SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER

9.30am - 2pm

St Paul's Chatswood  
1 View Street, Chatswood NSW 2067

- Family Carols Service
- Cake competition for both kids & adults
- Kids Fun & Games
- Coffee Cart & Food for purchase
- Live Music by Hummingsong
- Bring some gold coins to be part of Dunking the staff!

## *Plus, our annual Fair Trade Expo*



Grab some fantastic, high quality gift and produce made by people from all over the world in fair work conditions. Let's help build a better future for these communities.



Got questions?  
Phone: (02) 8440 8400

[www.stpauls.org.au](http://www.stpauls.org.au)

