

# NIS Bulletin

WEEKLY  
NEWSLETTER

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## NIS responds to Haitian Earthquake - Update

Our caring and active students have been very quick to move forward with our response to the tragic Haitian earthquake. Both the Grade 3 and our Global Issues Network students have written about their motivation to help on our own NIS response page. By clicking the ticker tape message on the homepage of our NIS website you will be able to see that we have raised, US\$1,600 so far, with our goal set at US\$3,000. There is a very safe and easy way for you to contribute if you so wish. Please see the letter from Partners in Health later in the newsletter.

## NIS Continues to Grow Steadily

In the days following Chinese New Year we will be welcoming more than 40 new students from 4 different countries. Our new 4th Grade classroom will be open as we expand 4th Grade to three separate classes. Unfortunately we will still experience waiting lists in at least two grade levels. During the summer we will construct three additional classrooms in the existing administration block as the admin team will have moved to The Centre, our newly constructed building which will open during the month of April. The Board is actively working to try to present a clear plan of the timing for the next two phases of our construction which will complete our superb facility with more classrooms, a theatre and a second gymnasium.

See you at the Chinese New Year assembly - Have a Fantastic February.

Laurie McLellan  
Director

[lauriemclellan@staff.nanjing-school.com](mailto:lauriemclellan@staff.nanjing-school.com)



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## Important Dates:

### Dates for the diary:

This week is week 21

Thursday - Saturday  
28th - 30th of January  
ACAMIS Basketball, Beijing

Wednesday 3rd of February  
3 Way Conference

Friday 5th of February  
Chinese New Year Celebration

Tuesday 9th of February  
Talent Show

## *Letter of Appreciation from Partners in Health*

*Dear Mr McLellan,*

*I'm writing today to thank you on behalf of Partners In Health and our Haitian colleagues at Zanmi Lasante (ZL) for the lifesaving work that your support has made and continues to make possible.*

*On the evening of January 12th, Partners In Health began mobilizing our earthquake response with great apprehension for the lives and livelihoods at risk. We were both heartbroken and inspired to receive messages from colleagues who—despite having lost family members and homes—were crying out not simply “help us” but rather “we are responding to those in urgent need of care. Can you help us mobilize resources to reach more people?”*

*With your contributions and solidarity we have answered our colleagues' call over the last two weeks.*

*We have already airlifted nearly 50 plane loads—more than 150,000 pounds—of medical supplies and over 150 orthopedic surgeons, nurses and health care workers to buttress more than 4,000 ZL staff already on the ground.*

To see what your contributions have enabled, we invite you to watch these videos from the Boston Globe and the PBS News Hour:

<http://act.pih.org/pihhaitivideos>

It is clear that Haiti now faces many years of reconstruction and recovery. PIH will continue to play a central role in strengthening Haiti's health care system, and we hope that you will continue to work with us to keep Haiti in the hearts and minds of people around the world.

The real danger will arise, one supporter told us, if we are unable to sustain our commitment to Haiti after the headlines fade and the benefit concerts end—if we refocus our lives once again only on needs closer to home.

Thank you for your solidarity and generosity in this time of need.

Suzanne Battit

Director of Development

Partners In Health

## Keyboarding Stars!

Our students in grades 3-4-5 are developing keyboarding skills. With the increased use of technology in our world today, good "touch typing" skills are essential for effective computer use. Students should be practicing their keyboarding skills at home on the website "Typing Master Online" located at: <http://online3.typingmaster.com/tmonline3/login?id=mbzug42gv> Thank you to parents who are encouraging their child's development of this necessary skill.

When students are ready to try and pass a level they make arrangements with their classroom teacher or Ann Martin, our Educational Technology Integrator. During the test time, they must type **with their hands covered!!** Students may practice a test at home to build their confidence and skills.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have passed a keyboarding test:

Grade 5A	Ji Su Lee	Basic	25 WPM	70% Accuracy
Grade 5B	Daniel Sieslack	Basic Plus	19 WPM	92% Accuracy
Grade 5B	Joe Collins	Advanced	34 WPM	91% Accuracy

Ann Martin

[annmartin@staff.nanjing-school.com](mailto:annmartin@staff.nanjing-school.com)

# **3-Way Conference**

Parents are invited to share the joy of learning with their children and teachers at our 3-Way Conference, Wednesday February 3rd. As these conferences run through the day, there will be **no** school that day. This is an opportunity to reflect on student progress in individual subjects, meet teachers, and look ahead to supporting individual academic and social growth. Please bring with you reports (school and ISA) that can assist in these conversations.

## **MYP Subject selections:**

G10 parents/students can make appointments to see Dr Saavedra regarding subject choices for G11.

There is a Course Choice Meeting for parents and students (Grade 8) on February 10th at 8:20am - however, if you would like a brief conversation ahead of time, please make an appointment to see Mrs Tyoschin

## **PYP**

Appointment times have gone out with the reports for PYP - remember to write any questions you would like to discuss during Conference time in the space under the appointment time. Please return this prior to the conference as it will help teachers to make the conference as useful as possible for you and your child.

## **International Schools Assessment**

If you would like further information on how to read the reports please drop in to see me during the course of the day - no appointment required.

Enjoy the Day!

Richard Swart  
Principal  
[richardswart@staff.nanjing-school.com](mailto:richardswart@staff.nanjing-school.com)

## **INVITATION TO PARENTS!**

### **GRADE 8 AND 9 STUDENTS**

- Have you started thinking of career plans?
- What are your favourite subjects?
- What are your best subjects?

**On Wednesday, February 10 at 8:20, parents are invited to an informational session on COURSE CHOICES for next year.**

**Grade 8 students will make option choices in:  
Sciences -- Languages -- Arts -- Technology**

**We are happy to offer increased options for next year in Arts and Technology to our Grade 9 students for next year.**

#### **Overview of Option Classes**

Language Other than English	English for Academic Purposes (EAP) ( <b><i>required if Eng B Standard</i></b> )
	Mandarin B or A
	French B
	Korean A
	German A
Science	Biology or
	Physics
Option (Science / Language B)	Chemistry or
	Mandarin B
Arts	Visual Arts or
	Music or
	Drama
Technology ( <b><i>semestered: 2 out of the 3 over 2 years</i></b> )	Computer Technology
	Design and Technology
	Media and Technology

*Note: English, Humanities, Maths, Physical Education are required courses and levels are determined by teachers, where applicable.*

**If you have any questions prior to February 10, please feel free to contact me.**

***Arden Tyoschin***

**MYP Coordinator - [ardentyoschin@staff.nanjing-school.com](mailto:ardentyoschin@staff.nanjing-school.com)**

# **BOOK CLUBS are Back for 2010 (Yeah!)**

## **Scholastic Book Club @ NIS ~ February 2010**

Dear Parents

The first of our Scholastic Book Clubs for 2010 starts on Friday 29 January.

Our goals in running the Book Clubs are:

To provide access to English language books for the NIS Community that are:

- Not easily available locally
- At a competitive price

Provide a service that has books delivered within 4 – 6 weeks after the close of orders

### **How it Works – What Do We Have to Do?**

#### **Friday 29 January:**

This day your child will bring home a Catalogue pack from Scholastic together with a cover letter and an envelope pre-printed for you to write in your Child's Name, Class and the Amount of RMB in the envelope for your Order.

#### **Monday 08 February**

***Order close at 3:30 p.m. on Monday 08 February***

*As we courier the Orders to Scholastic in Shanghai that day we cannot take any orders after 3:30 p.m.. Sorry NO late orders can be taken.*

#### **Middle of March 2010:**

Books will be delivered to your child in their classroom

We hope to run one more Book Club in April as well as our on - site Book Fair during Library Week March 2010

Enjoy ordering!

*Mr. Kilah, for the Library Team*

## Chinese New Year Customs

Chinese New Year is a time when families get together to celebrate. It is also a special time to remember members of the family who have died. In the days coming up to New Year every family buys presents, decorations, food, new clothes and people have their hair cut. Houses are cleaned from top to bottom. The aim is to sweep out any bad luck from the old year and clear the way for good luck. However, it is bad luck to clean on New Year's Day itself.

Doors and windows are often newly painted in red. On New Years Eve decorations made from red and gold paper are hung down the doors to keep in good luck. These are marked with messages of good fortune such as happiness, prosperity and long life.

Lucky Character: The single word “福fú”, or fortune, is often displayed in many homes and stores. They are usually written by brush on a diamond-shaped piece of red paper. Sometime we can see people put “福fú” upside down on places, that is symbolize wealth will be coming because “福倒 fú dǎo” “upside down fu” is the homophone of “福到 fú dào” “luck is coming”.

Bing Ge

Mandarin Department

[bingge@staff.nanjing-school.com](mailto:bingge@staff.nanjing-school.com)

# Chinese New Year Celebration

On Friday the 5th of February, we will celebrate Chinese New Year at Nanjing International School. All parents, students and NIS staff are encouraged to wear traditional Chinese clothing on this day. Also, this year, students, parents and teachers may choose to bring some money, as we hope to set up a mini marketplace in the foyer with local artists and vendors displaying and selling Chinese crafts and goods until 2pm. Parents are encouraged to come to school with their children on the day and to join us in viewing the assembly until 9:00 am. The dragon dance, lion dance and other performances will start at 7:45 am. You may like to bring your camera to capture the occasion.

*This year Chinese New Year day falls on the 14th of February. The new year will be year of the tiger.*

新年快乐！恭喜发财！Xīn nián kuài lè！ Gōng xǐ fā cái ！

## CNY @ NIS

**Friday 5th of February; Wear Traditional Chinese Clothing; Mini Marketplace; Local Community Performers and Artists**

Time	Activity	Location
7:45 - 8am	Dragon Dance, Lion Dance, kongzhu show	Outside in the square
7:45 - 8am	Greeting by IB Coordinators in Opera costumes	Entrance to school
8:10 - 9:00am	Assembly of student and local community performances	Cafeteria
7:30am - 2pm	Stalls displaying and selling paper cutting, knotting, dough sculptures, traditional painting, fabric arts, in side bottle painting, magic, sugar art, cotton candy and lantern making	Foyer
10:50 - 11:15 and 12:35 - 1:40	Kong zhu show	Playground

**Bing Ge**  
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## Mark the Date!

NIS Expo 2010 March 20, 2010

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

PTA is sponsoring this year's international day in an all-new format. All countries will be showcased together in the gymnasium in individual booths. We are very excited that this will allow us to celebrate together the school's great diversity.

You might consider a display, activities or serving food from your country. In the past, people have dressed in their national costume, played music and games or shown DVDs.

We would also encourage countries who have a special dance, song or demonstration to prepare a performance. We plan to have a stage set up in the gym where these can be viewed by all in attendance.

If you are ready to sign up for a booth or a performance; if you have questions about the format of the day; or if you need more information about others from your home country you can contact:

James Garrett at the school or by email at

[jamesgarrett@staff.nanjing-school.com](mailto:jamesgarrett@staff.nanjing-school.com)

Suzy Walker by email at [suzywalker31@hotmail.com](mailto:suzywalker31@hotmail.com) or Becky Chennault at [mikeandbeckychennault@gmail.com](mailto:mikeandbeckychennault@gmail.com) or by cell at 136 7511 4573

(Please note that all food served must be pre-baked or prepared as there will be no cooking allowed this day for obvious safety reasons. This is also an alcohol-free and smoke-free event. No pets are allowed.)

## Teacher Appreciation Day

It will take place on Friday, February 5th. PTA would like to encourage students to make cards for their teachers.

## **ACAMIS Middle School Model United Nations Conference**

February 5th and 6th NIS will be welcoming students and teachers from schools around China for the first MUN Conference to be held at our school. Schools attending include: Taihu International School in Wuxi, Eton House International School in Suzhou, Hong Kong Academy, Hangzhou International School, the American International School in Guangzhou, Access International Academy in Ningbo, and of course Nanjing International School.

Opening ceremonies begin at 9:15 a.m. in the cafeteria on Friday, February 5th. The students have been separated into two groups. The Security Council will meet in the PYP Large Group Room and use the Library for their Ad Hoc Meetings and printing. The General Assembly will meet in the MYP/DP Large Group Room and use Mr. Allen's classroom (D219) for their Ad Hoc Meetings and printing. There will be dinner and a dance for participants of the conference Friday night. The closing ceremonies will be at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 6th.

The students will be discussing such important topics as Climate Change, Security on the Korean Peninsula, and the Haiti Earthquake, among others. NIS will be represented by Lucas Baumgaertel (representing Pakistan in the General Assembly), Jenny Lin (representing France in the Security Council), Nynke Westerdijk (representing Burkina Faso in the Security Council), and Jeff Cheong (representing the United Kingdom in the Security Council). We will also have nine high school MUN students helping run the conference to learn from the proceedings in preparation for the BEIMUN Conference they will be attending in March. They are: Tae Guen Kuan, Hee Young Park, Tae Ryang Kim, Lucy Messom, Sang Woo Kim, Derek Yu, Michael Choi, Kai Li Xie, and Julia Zhao.

Parents, teachers, and students are invited to observe the proceedings throughout the two day conference at NIS. We only ask that they do so respectfully and do not interrupt any of the events going on. This is not a suitable event for younger children. There will be chairs set up around both Large Group Rooms for people to sit and observe what is going on. If you have any questions about the conference feel free to speak with any of the NIS teacher sponsors.

Christopher Allen  
Janet Aston  
Evy Cambassedes