



NEWSLETTER

Dili International School

Issue One, 2011

Principal: David Key
dckey@hotmail.com

Manager: Carmel Bates
managerdis@gmail.com
website: www.distimor.com

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Term 1, Week 2

Welcome back for 2011 everyone!

Welcome back to DIS everyone for a wonderful 2011 ahead!

In this Newsletter we introduce our new Principal David Key and new teachers Olivia Soares and Helen Scott.

From the new Principal . . .



A warm welcome to David Key our new Principal.

David joins us in a week, flying in from Male in the Maldives.

David is an experienced Principal - with postings as Principal of Okpo International School in South Korea (August 2002- July 2008) and more recently at Green Oasis School in Shenzhen, China, and Male in the Maldives.

My teaching career began in Australia in 1977 and I have since been appointed to posts in England, Papua New Guinea, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Tanzania, South Korea, China and The Maldives.

My philosophy of management can be found in the word **Leadership**;

Liaison and conciliation, **Empowering**, **Adaptability**, **Diplomacy**, **Effecting Change**, **Resourcefulness**, **Supportive**, **Highly motivating**, **Innovative** and **Problem solving**

I believe that an essential component of teaching and a major consideration in being a successful Manager is the ability to develop quality working relationships with fellow members of staff, clients and members of the local community.

My ability to deal with people, in a positive and diplomatic manner, has played a very important role in the development of my career.

I have been nominated for executive roles on many different committees and was awarded honorary citizenship of Geoje City in South Korea for my work in fostering inter-cultural relationships between our

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Welcome back to DIS everyone for a wonderful 2011 ahead!

Here are photos from the end of year 2010 Activities Day celebrations.



... from Page One: Our new Principal

International School, local schools and the community. This is clear evidence of the faith and trust that both my colleagues and the public have in me as a principal, manager and community member.

Overcoming the problems associated with living and working in developing countries and isolated towns, has presented me with a unique set of working and everyday challenges.

In successfully dealing with these challenging situations, has helped me to accept and have tolerance towards people of different cultures, develop my patience and perseverance when problems arise and enhance my ability to communicate effectively on many different levels, with people from all walks of life.

As I have progressed in management, my enthusiasm to teach has not diminished and I enjoy getting back to the "shop floor" to be involved with teaching and training.

I believe that it is extremely important for members of a management team to motivate all stakeholders by being proactive and "hands on" in working towards the mission and aims of the school, company or association that they are the leader off.

Today, as the world becomes increasing smaller, through developments in communications, I see great need to embrace the rapidly expanding world of accessible information to develop learning focused programs which not only promote Internationality, without losing site of one"s own culture but also to develop creative, inspirational problem solvers as future leaders.

Introducing new teachers . . .

Olivia Soares ... Secondary Teacher



Three weeks ago I married Aderito Soares an East Timorese man from the Ermera district, at the Jean Paul II chapel in Tasi Tolu. We met in 2003 while I was teaching English and computing skills in Ermera.

I am very excited to be working at DIS. I love being in the classroom. I completed a University of Cambridge Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults. Teaching ESL is one of my passions and I have had two years ESL teaching experience overseas in both East Timor and South Korea.

In 2004 I completed a Graduate Diploma of Teaching with a major in Information Technology and a minor in English teaching. In 2001 I completed a Bachelor of Communications (Psychology), qualifying me to also teach Media Studies and Psychology.

In 2005 I worked at Irene McCormack Catholic College teaching year's 9 & 10 English and Information Technology and year's 9, 10 & 11 Religious Education as well as being a year 10 care group teacher and College

Community Service coordinator.

In 2006 I returned to Timor-Leste where I worked as a volunteer for 6 months teaching Medical English and working on general community development projects at the Bakhita Centre, Eraulo, Ermera.

In October 2006 I was invited to study at the Emmanuel School of Mission in Rome where I spent 9 months receiving formation in mission and evangelisation as well as spiritual and theological formation.



Helen Scott ... Transition Teacher

Just a few weeks ago I moved to Dili with my husband for a two-year Defence posting.

Previously I taught Transition at Ludmilla Primary in Darwin for three years and Grade One in Canberra prior to that.

I love the outdoors and travelling and am looking forward to Timor and all it has to offer.

I am a highly motivated and organised person and I am excited for all the joys and challenges teaching in Timor will bring.



More photos from the Activities Day at the end of last year.



News ... News ... News ...

Renovation of the Upper Campus

Much renovating took place over the holiday with completion due in a few more weeks. Classes from grade 2 – 12 have spread out and there is still space for a separate library, computer room, arts room and science lab.

We will have photos of these in the next newsletter.

Fees

Fee Invoices have been sent home. Please note the fee payment be made as soon as possible or within 14 days of the start of term. Thank you to those families who have already attended to this.

Extracurricular Activity

Extracurricular Activity will commence next week and information about offerings will be sent home in the next day or two ... so please return your child's preferences promptly.

After School Care

Please note that After School Care is not operating just yet so please collect your children promptly after school as well as extracurricular classes.

'Meet the Teacher' Parent Information Evenings

Come along and meet your child's teachers and find out more about their exciting plans for learning. You can have curriculum, policies and strategies explained and all of your questions answered. The sessions will be held in Week Four and more details will be sent home soon.

International Baccalaureate Workshop kicks off the School year

Our 11 qualified teachers attended the IB Middle Years Program conducted by Ms Jane Alteman from Jakarta on behalf of the International Baccalaureate Association. DIS has been granted 'Candidate School' status to offer this program to our students studying in years 7-10.

The workshop is one of the necessary criteria towards attaining full accreditation. Teachers enjoyed the challenging two days of professional development.

Can you teach Ballet and/ or Indonesian language?

We desperately seek persons who can teach either of these for just a few hours each week. Please contact Carmel on managerdis@gmail.com

And the usual reminders...

Please remember children's hats, sunblock, mosquito repellent, only healthy food for snacks and no carbonated drinks or iced tea or coffee.

Junior Preschool Fun with Ms Jane

Junior Preschool Fun

Playing and learning are two important parts of Junior Preschool at DIS. Our planned activities are used to help children advance in pre-literacy and numeracy skills.

In the last week of last year, we sequenced items and followed directions to make a snowman.



First, we discussed the procedure on the board.

Each child got a 'snowman' and put his/her name on it.



Next, we glued eyes on our snowmen.



Then, each of our snowmen got a 'carrot' nose.



No snowman is complete without a happy smile and some buttons.



Everyone knows that snowmen might get cold, so we added a lovely orange scarf. Our snowmen were finished with stick arms and hats!!



We are so proud of our snowmen and hope they'll be hung up at home for all to see.

This is just one example of the 'fun' we have had learning this year!

~ Miss Jane, Junior Preschool

DIS Calendar 2011

The school year calendar is a hybrid that caters for families from Australia, as well as those from Timor Leste, and countries in the Northern Hemisphere.

There are four, ten week terms. Students have a six week holiday at Christmas, a five week holiday the middle of the year, and a one week holiday in March and September.

DIS has eight Pupil Free Days each year, set aside for the first day/s back at the end of each holiday period, and for one report writing day each semester. DIS closes for national public holidays as outlined in below.

DIS Calendar 2011

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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May						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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July						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August						
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28	29	30	31			

September						
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					3	
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

October						
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						1
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30	31					

November						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December						
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					3	
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Public Holidays

Apr 22 nd	Good Friday
Apr 25 th	Easter Monday
May 2 nd	May Day (in lieu of May 1 st)
May 20 th	Independence Restoration Day
Sep 20 th	Liberation Day
Nov 1 st	All Saints Day
Nov 11 th	Santa Cruz Day (in lieu of Nov 12 th)
Nov 28 th	Proclamation of Independence Day

School Holidays

Pupil Free Days 17th, 18th & 19th Jan,
4th Apr, 18th July, 3rd Oct
Report Writing Days 23rd May, 21st Nov

*2012 school year commences Jan 25th
(Staff commence on Jan 23rd)*