



NEWSLETTER

Dili International School

Issue Two, 2011

Principal: David Key
dckey@hotmail.com

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

25 February 2011
Term 1, Week 6

Celebrating Mother Tongue Day



Celebrating Mother Tongue Day in language and colour from all over the globe this week, including clockwise from top left, Japan, Hungaria, Albania, Timor Leste and Portugal.



From the Principal . .

I have now been at DIS for three weeks and must say that it has been a pleasant experience, in a school with a very happy atmosphere, great children and supportive parents.

A few reminders:

1. In general most children are turning up to school on time but some are not. Please remember, that children late to school are missing out on valuable time and disrupt the class routine.

2. Healthy snacks are better for break time. Please send fruit and fruit juices not crisps and fizzy drinks.

3. We are looking at changing snack and break time from Term Two and will inform before the end of term as to these changes.

4. The new buildings in the Upper Campus are nearly complete and the school grounds are now being tidied up so please feel free to drop in.

5. Please inform the school, in writing - email will suffice - if your child has been ill or you have taken them out for a few days to travel.



Above: Rama Razy whose mother tongue is Farsi, the language of ancient Persia (now Iran). Right, Nei Fuimaono, singing in Samoan.



... From the Principal (Continued)

6. The introduction of the Middle Years Program in the secondary is a great success and teachers now beginning to fine tune the assessment criteria for various subjects. You will be informed of this once we have established a satisfactory assessment policy.

7. PE Kit seems to be lacking with many of the pupils. I would like to suggest that all students wear appropriate clothing and shoes for the days when they have PE. Sports uniforms are available from the office. Jeans or jean shorts are not suitable.

8. The school has a pupil dress code and I would ask that you ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing to school. We have informed pupils over the last few weeks but still some are still not not appropriately dressed, especially in the senior school.

Thank you so much for your support in these matters. If we all work together we can make a positive impact on our students.

We have begun to have fortnightly assemblies in the upper campus and these will, over time, help to develop each child's public speaking ability and as well, they are a great way to have the parents come in to see what their children have been doing.

The International Mother Language Day Assembly in the Upper Campus and the activities in the Lower Campus showed us that we can get more parents involved with the school for special occasions and so we will be asking you for further help in the future.

I look forward to meeting you all on Friday 4th March at 5 pm at Esplanade when we are holding a formal get together.

..... **David Key**

Parent Teacher Friends Association - Parents as Partners (in your child's education) –

meeting Wednesday March 2nd at 9am to plan assistance with up-coming school events. Meet at Upper Campus.

For further information please contact Carmel on managerdis@gmail.com or 7299115

School Advisory Committee Meeting – Monday March 7th, Upper Campus

Meet the Principal and all staff – Social function Friday evening 4th March by the pool at Esplanada Hotel, drinks (purchase own) and snacks by the pool 5-7pm.

Please Return Library Books - Please take time this weekend to check if you still have any school books on your shelves.

PLEASE PAY TUITION FEES

It is now the end of Week Six and many fees have not yet been paid.

DIS Fees Policy states:

"Regrettably there are still many families whose fee payments are regularly paid late. For this reason the School Advisory Committee has decided on a penalty for late fees.

"A \$30 per week penalty will be imposed on fees which remain unpaid after the end of Week Two, Friday 28 Jan.

"We regret the need to take this action but late fee payments create great difficulties for managing day to day activity as well as longer term planning, and impacts on the education provided to all children.

"As such families who have made timely payments are unfairly disadvantaged."

Please pay fees as soon as possible.

Excursion to Dare War Memorial to find out about Timor in WWII

Last Wednesday the Grade 5/6 class stumbled into three cars and headed off back in time to find out what happened in Timor during World War Two, writes Ms Candiece.

Thirty minutes of climbing the hills behind Dili and dodging potholes, we arrived at the picturesque war memorial and museum in Dare.

And Oh! What we found out when we got there...

We in Grade 5/6 are currently studying the History of Timor-Leste and have just finished learning about what happened in Timor during WWII.



We have explored Japan's involvement and the Australian "Sparrow Force", who worked side-by-side with local Timorese to try and stop Japanese expansion.

To link what we have learnt in class to reality, this excursion helped us place the importance of Dare as a resting spot for Australian troops, as well as see many primary and secondary sources that helped us expand our historical knowledge.

After some reading, writing and discovering, we were treated to delicious home-made choc muffins and a juice for afternoon tea (not to mention the most amazing view of Dili one could get!), before jetting back off to school



We were even lucky enough to get to see the local school next door and boy, their classrooms are a LOT different from ours at DIS!

We are heading off for another excursion this Wednesday to see how traditional Timorese Tais are made, let's hope we have as much fun on that trip as we did at Dare.



Mother Tongue Celebrated at LC

On Monday 21 February all the students at Dili International School celebrated International Mother Tongue Day.

At the Lower Campus parents were invited to join in the activities and share a story in their mother tongue. The day was a great success. There were thirteen parents sharing



stories in 10 different languages.

As well as enjoying stories, games and songs were also shared with many of the students. Some students learnt how to sing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star in Portuguese while others got to sing along with a tune in Samoan.

Thank you to all Parents who were able to join us at the Lower Campus!



... by Ms Leila



Our Teachers ...



PRINCIPAL

David Key dckey@hotmail.com

PLAYGROUP

Leaders: Glaucia Miqueletti miqueletti.glaucia@gmail.com, Yen Serrano yenserrano@yahoo.com



JUNIOR PRESCHOOL (AND AFTERNOON PRESCHOOL)

Teacher: Jane Yon yonjane@gmail.com

PRESCHOOL

Teacher: Alison Morias alisonmorias@gmail.com



TRANSITION

Teacher: Helen Scott helenscott61@gmail.com

YEAR 1

Teacher: Leila Reilly le_reilly@hotmail.com



YEAR 2 AND 3

Teacher: Robert (Gus) Zieran rzieran@gmail.com

YEAR 3 AND 4

Teacher: Yvonne Abey yvonneabey@yahoo.com.au



YEAR 5 AND 6

Teacher: Candiece Tappin c.m.tappin@gmail.com

YEAR 7 AND 8

Teacher: Felix Goldstein felix9cat@hotmail.com



YEAR 9 AND 10, IB MYP COORDINATOR, SECONDARY TEACHER ENGLISH, ARTS

Teacher: Kirsty Hilson kirstyhilson@yahoo.com.au

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, HUMANITIES, ESL

Teacher: Olivia Soares livlav@hotmail.com



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						
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		

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June						
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		

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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					3	
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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)*