

From The Principal's Office - December 2016

Dear WInS Community,

It is an honour and privilege to have been employed to lead Woodlands International School, and I would like to say a huge thank you for the warmest of welcomes from the students, teachers, staff and the School Board members. I feel very spoilt.

I come to Woodlands with a wealth of experience and expertise. This is my 27th year in international education, and I have led schools in Colombia, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka. I have a Master's degree in Education and am a qualified international school inspector so I truly understand and recognise the elements that constitute quality teaching and learning.

I am a firm believer in offering a personalized education to each student and I have stressed this to all the teachers. We are blessed with small class sizes that will assist us.

Although I have only been in Sibiu since the 1st November, I can see the enormous potential that the school has to offer the local community. I have also observed the hard work, dedication and commitment of its staff who show a genuine desire to develop and extend their skills, modelling to your child that we are all life-long learners.

Research has shown that when parents and school work together students are more successful, and I look forward in working in a genuine partnership with you all.

To this end I kindly request your help and support in the following matters.

- **Channels of Communication** – If you have any concerns regarding your child you are encouraged to speak to the relevant class / subject teacher in the first instance. In the unlikely event that this is not resolved to your satisfaction, you can book an appointment with the relevant Heads of Section – Ms Suhanti in Early Years and Primary (WInS Angels - P6) or Mr Bong in Secondary (Years 7 and above).
- **School Uniform** – Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for school. This includes footwear (black) and socks (white). Make – up is not acceptable!
- **Electronic Devices** – Following continuous breaches of rules of electronic devices being brought in by students, the Senior Leadership Team have agreed there will now be a zero tolerance approach to such articles. Spot checks will be carried out on a regular basis and such devices will be confiscated for the remainder of the week. Continuous breaches of this will result in a detention and / or suspension. Please speak with your child on this matter. Students can make phone-calls in case of emergencies from the School Office.
- **Students driving to school** - Please be informed that **no student** should be driving to school

Other WInS News:

IGCSE Results 2016: I would like to congratulate our IGCSE students and teachers for their wonderful results in this year's external Cambridge examinations.

- 88% received an A* or A in English as a First Language (All students achieved a B grade or higher)
- 100% of students achieved an A or A* in Chinese as a Foreign Language

- 100% of students achieved an A or A* in Chinese as a Second Language
- 100% of students a B or above in Malay as Foreign Language (with 90% achieving an A or A*)
- 80% of students achieved an A or A* in Chinese as a First Language
- 100% of students achieved a C grade or above in Global Perspectives
- 80% of students achieved a C or above in Information Communication Technology
- 77% of students achieved a C grade or above in Higher Mathematics
- 72% of students achieved C or above in Biology

Staff Retention: Several parents have raised concerns about the staff turnover at WInS. Whilst in 2015 the percentage of departing teachers was 32%, we are delighted to report this figure has been halved to 13% over the course of the year. The Senior Leadership Team are working diligently to look at further ways we can retain high quality teachers.

Student Discipline: Whilst all our students are generally friendly, well-mannered and well behaved, I am keen to develop this further, most especially amongst our Secondary students. I am very grateful to Head of Secondary, Mr. Bong, working alongside a Discipline Committee to look at ways of further improving student behavior. I am personally assisting in this process. Whilst it is a work in progress I am looking forward to fine-tuning across the academic year 2017.

School Uniform: We have further updated the school uniform policy which we will be strictly adhering to for January. This will be in the Student Diaries 2017. Please note as of Monday 9th January students not adhering to this policy will be sent home to change. We also want to ensure that all student uniforms are updated to the eagle logo for further consistency. Your support in this matter is appreciated.

Parent Support Group: I am very grateful to Mr Charles, our Chief Operating Officer, for developing the concept of a Parent Support Group as part of our philosophy of working in partnership between school and parents. If you are interested in getting involved in this exciting project, please let him know at your earliest convenience.

Back To School Evening: Woodlands International School will be holding a Back to School Evening on January 18th January 2017 at 7.30 pm. This will provide you with an opportunity to meet the relevant teachers for the academic year. Please note this is not a traditional Parent Teacher Conference day, but will provide you with an opportunity to meet your child's relevant teachers. Our teachers will be sharing information about their expectations for your child and enable you to put a face to the name. We hope many of you will be able to join us.

Improving Home/ School Communication: I am keen to keep the community informed about school improvement and development. We plan to regularly update the school website, looking at proposals to promote the school through social media including Face Book and Twitter. I will be regularly sending newsletters and the Heads of Section will also be having an input every term. I will be encouraging staff to also communicate with you on your child's progress on an informal but regular basis. I would like to utilize Student Diaries to this end. **Please ensure** your child brings this book to school every day. I would be grateful if you could acknowledge that you have read messages by signing, and I will ask teachers to reciprocate.

Unfortunately, I am aware that there are a few parents that are spreading gossip around as fact that appears to be undermining the good name of Woodlands International School. One of the best pieces of

advice that I ever received was “if in doubt, find out”. Please touch base with the teacher, Head of Section or myself to clarify any concerns.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 3rd January 2017.

Kind regards,

Mr. Aubrey M Groves (Principal)

Important Dates for Your Diary

1. Back to School Evening -18th January – 7.30pm
2. Chinese New Year Holiday – Please note WInS will be closed 27 -31st January 2017

校长办公室启 2016年12月

亲爱的 WInS 社群：

我感到非常荣幸能被聘请为 Woodlands 国际学校的校长，感谢全体学生、教职员和学校董事会成员所给予的热烈欢迎，令我深受感动。

我希望将我丰富的经验和专业知识奉献给 WInS 国际学校。我在国际学校服务至今已有 27 年，我曾经领导过哥伦比亚，埃塞俄比亚和斯里兰卡的国际学校。我拥有教育硕士学位，并且是一位合格的国际学校督察，所以我能透彻了解构成优质的教学和学习的要素。

我坚信能为每个学生提供个性化的教育，我已经向所有的老师强调了这一点，值得一提的是 Woodlands 小班级教学将有助于我们达成此教育目标。

虽然我在 11 月 1 日才抵达诗巫，但我已经发觉到学校能为本地社区提供极大的潜能。我也注意到学校的教职员工们都非常努力工作，并且承诺竭尽所能去引导及塑造您的孩子，因为我们都是强调“教学相长”的终身学习者。

为此，请您在以下事项中提供我们帮助和支持。

沟通管道 - 如果您关注孩子的一些问题，我们鼓励您首先与相关的班级/科任老师面谈。如果结果不能令您满意，您可以与相关部门的主任预约，进一步协谈。幼儿园至小学六年级，请联络 Ms Suhanti；中学部 7 年级及以上请联络 Mr Bong。

学校制服 - 请确保您的孩子在学校穿着合宜。这包括黑色鞋子和白色袜子。化妆是不能被接受的。

电子器材 - 由于学生不断违反有关电子器材规则，学校决策团队已经同意不再容忍这些行为。校方将定期进行抽查，如果发现有同学违规，这些器材将被没收至本周结束，如果再次违反规则将导致限留和/或暂时停课，请您告知孩子这件事。在发生紧急情况时，学生可以在学校的办公室拨打电话。

学生驾车上学 - 请注意，学生一律不允许驾车上学。

其他 WInS 讯息：

2016 年 IGCSE 考试成绩：我要祝贺 IGCSE 的学生和教师在今年剑桥校外考试中取得出色的成绩。

100%的学生，在参加“华语作为外语”的考试中，考获 A 或 A *

100%的学生，在参加“华语作为第二语言”的考试中，考获 A 或 A *

100%的学生，在参加“马来语作为外语”的考试中，考获 B 或以上
(90% 的学生考获 A 或 A*)

80 %的学生，在参加“华语作为第一语言”的考试中，考获 A 或 A *

100%的学生，在参加“全球视野”的考试中，考获 C 或以上的成绩

80%的学生，在参加“信息通讯技术”的考试中，考获 C 或以上的成绩

77%的学生，在参加“高等数学”的考试中，考获 C 或以上的成绩

72%的学生，在参加“生物学”的考试中，考获 C 或以上的成绩

教员挽留：一些家长对 WInS 的教员流失感到担忧。虽然在 2015 年离校教师的百分比是 32%，但是今年离职的老师只有 13%，比去年减少了一半，这是值得高兴的。学校决策团队正在努力研究如何可以留住高素质的教师。

学生纪律：虽然我们所有的学生一般上都是友善，有礼貌和行为良好的，我期望能有更大的进步，特别是中学部的学生，我非常感谢中学部主任

Mr Bong 与纪律委员会一起探讨如何进一步改善学生的行为。我也会居中提供帮助。如今这项工作在进行中，我期待在 2017 的学年中能看到调整。

学校制服：我们将更新学校制服政策，有关政策将在 1 月份严格执行。这将会记录在 2017 年的学生日记本里。请注意，从 1 月 9 日（星期一）开始，凡有不遵守此政策的学生，将被勒令回家更换衣服。我们还要确保所有学生制服都有更新的老鹰校徽，以达到一致性。對於您所給予的支持，我们非常感激。

家长支持小组：我非常感谢我们的首席运营员 Mr Charles 提出家长支持小组的概念，以作为学校和家长合作的理念的一部分。如果您有兴趣参与这个小组，请尽早让他知道。

返校夜：Woodlands 国际学校将于 2017 年 1 月 18 日下午 7:30 举办一项家长与教师返校之夜，以让家长与在新学年执教的教师有一个晤机会。请注意，这不是一个传统的家长教师会议日，但会为您提供一个机会与贵子弟的相关科任老师进行交流。我们的老师将会近距离与你接触，分享他们对孩子的期望。我们希望各位家长能踊跃出席该项交流晚会。

改善家庭与学校的沟通：我渴望让社群了解学校的进步和发展。我们计划定期更新学校网页，希望能透過社交媒体（包括 Face Book 和 Twitter）以获取提升学校的建议。我将定期发送校讯，各部门的主任也将在每个学期提供资讯。我将鼓励老师们以非正式，但定期性利用学生日记与您沟通，以让您了解孩子的学习进度。故此，请确保您的孩子每天带着日记本上学。如果您能在看完学生日记之后签名，以确认您已经阅读了信息，我将無比感激，我也会请教师做出回应。

很遗憾，我知道有几个家长正在散播流言，破坏 Woodlands 国际学校的声誉。我建议最好的做法之一是“如果有任何疑问，就去了解真相”。请与老师，主任或我本人联系，以澄清任何您的疑虑。

最后，我想借此机会祝大家圣诞快乐，新年快乐。我们期待在 2017 年 1 月 3 日（星期二）欢迎大家回校。

祝福您

Woodlands 国际学校校长

奥布雷

你日记里的重要日期

1. 老师会见家长夜：18. 1. 2017 7. 30p. m.
2. 华人农历新年假期：27 - 31. 1. 2017