



# NETWORK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

*Kindle the fire, brighten your future*

## Network Newsletter T2

## December 2022



### A successful term

We have successfully navigated our way through an exceptionally busy term. A term in which we have seen the return of "Camp Week", swimming, music concerts, art exhibitions, project presentations, Steam week, and Christmas performances featuring Foundation 1 to 6th Form, to mention just a few things.

It has been truly wonderful to see so many parents at these events, enjoying the fruits of so much collective effort. It means a great deal to the children and staff when attendance is good, as we can all celebrate the children's success together.

This has also been the first year in which we have had whole section performance. There has been so much good work done that I must thank a few people.

Firstly; Thank you to all Network teachers, both international and Myanmar, for making this term such a memorable one.



Thank you to the Early Years team for putting so many stars, sheep, angels, tigers and jelly on a stage. The Foundation stage performances were a delight to behold and the children did a fantastic job.

Thank you to the Primary team for braving a whole school performance. This took a tremendous amount of effort to plan, practice and deliver. It was 100% worth it. The evening was magical.

Thank you to the Secondary team for putting on not one, but two end of term performances! A celebration of Music and Art and our first school play for three years: "Arabian Nights". Both events were a great success with the children performing admirably.

Thank you to our site teams and all our admin staff for the significant support given in making these events successful.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas holiday and a very happy new year.

**Principal Stephen**

[www.networkinternationalschool.com](http://www.networkinternationalschool.com)







## A busy term

As families come together from all over the world to spend this special time of the year together and to celebrate Christmas, I would like to take this time to wish all of our Network families a very happy Christmas and to thank you for all the support you have, and continue, to give our school.

We have had such a busy term, which ended with such a wonderful week celebrating with you all at our amazing Christmas concerts.

I feel truly blessed and I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you again at the start of term 3 in January.

Safe travels to all who are travelling. Have a wonderful Christmas holiday.

With love,

**Teacher Carole**





## Camp Week

Term 2 began with a great deal of excitement with the first Camp Week in years. While it was not quite as Camp Week had been previously, the whole school stayed in Inya Lake Hotel and participated in an array of activities over the week, from Archery to Cooking and from Talent Shows to Yoga. One highlight for many staff and students was the formal dinner in the Grand Ballroom, which was followed by a very energetic disco. Tr Carole couldn't help herself in dancing along. There was also volunteer work with students working with Doh Eain on painting alleys as part of their Alley Project downtown, and we had Sixth Form students volunteering in our very own EYFS and Primary School.



## Student-Led Charities

This year, a new ECA, Student-led Charities has been set up. This allows groups of students to get together and work on a project to raise money for a charity of their choice. Students have to plan each step carefully and ultimately reflective on whether their project was a success or failure and why that was the case, so they might learn for the future. Towards the end of Term 3, we have seen three groups run their projects, with the Education Division hosting a Film Night, the Animal Division running a Carnival, and finally the Environment Division running a Christmas Photo Booth. All three seem to have been a great success with enjoyment had by all.



## Term 2 Sports

This term has been absolutely marvellous for sport in Secondary, with three tournament victories. Firstly, the U14 boys and girls won their respective MISAC Basketball tournaments. The focus sports for the remainder of the term were U14 Volleyball and U19 Football. Like any season, there were ups and downs with fixtures, but the students showed determination throughout and developed with each game. The term culminated in the U14 Volleyball tournament, in which the girls came 3rd, but the real icing on the cake was the girls fantastic victory in the U19 Football tournament. They worked their way to the final and were held to a draw by the opposition, so the match went to penalties. It took each team 10 penalties to establish a winner and to crown Network as the victors, with every player taking a penalty. Congratulations go to all our sports players this term, with particular credit to those victorious at the tournaments.



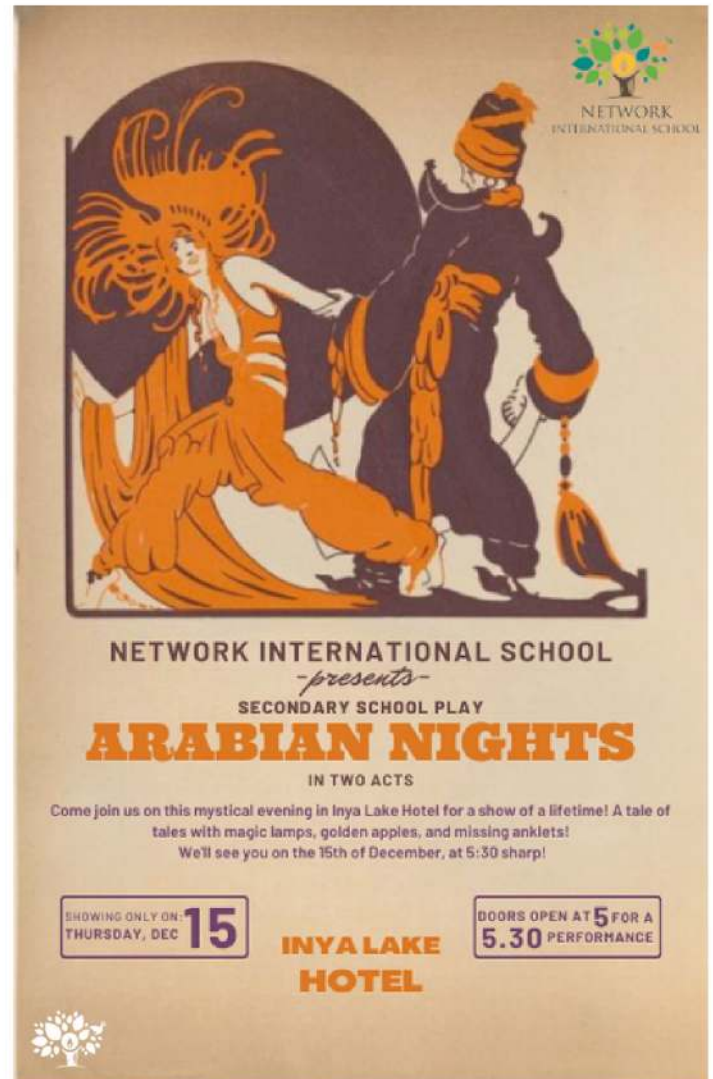
## Christmas Concert

Christmas was in the air for the our first face-to-face concert for three years. There were performances from our very own ECA band, a number of soloists and the whole Key Stage 3 Choir. It was not just Christmas songs, with a range of classical pieces, as well as rock and pop being performed within the Plaza, with family and friends sat by the stage as well as watching from the balconies above. Beforehand, it was lovely that so many parents had embraced the opportunity to partake in the students' tradition of Shared Snack, with a plethora of food for all to try - so much so that there was plenty of leftovers for audience members after the concert had finished. Our artists had also put together a fantastic exhibition of their work from over the year so far. It was a lovely occasion and we thank everyone who was involved.



## Christmas

We wish all of our Network Secondary family and friends a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



## Arabian Nights

On the final Thursday of term, our thespians put on a delightful production of of Arabian Nights at Inya Lake Hotel. To do this, the students researched the various traditional tales to put together a performance that showcased both their own talents and a variety of theatrical techniques, such as physical theatre, traditional British pantomime, wayang kulit puppetry, commedia dell'arte and Bollywood-style dances. It was a wonderful occasion to round off the second semester, and congratulations and thanks go to all both onstage and backstage in whatever role and contribution.





## Seasons Greetings

### Seasons Greetings To Our Primary Community



Tr Jay  
Head Of Primary

Christmas and the new year are traditionally associated with the values of **respect**, **reflection** and **community**. As we near the half-way point of the academic year, I have been reflecting on the importance of these values within the Primary School.

Developing a respect for ourselves, others and the environment is an important part of becoming a **global citizen**. Our units of work have been examining how individual actions can have wide reaching impacts and the importance of understanding the interconnectedness of people around the world. Culminating tasks have allowed students to **apply their learning** to real world problems and look for opportunities to make a **positive change** in their local communities at school and beyond. We encourage all of our Network families to use this time of year to think about how they too can have a positive impact on their community.

On behalf of the primary team, we wish all of our families a safe and enjoyable break and a happy new year. We will see you all back on Monday 9th January 2023 .



## PE & Sports Update

What a term it has been! Key stage 2 enjoyed their swimming lessons which ended with a phenomenal pool party with music and lots of exciting equipment to play with.

Years 1 and 2 had a great time developing their throwing and catching skills with thrilling games like mushroom ball. While years 3 and 4 spent time improving their dynamic balance and sending. Challenges included '**how many tennis balls could you throw against a wall in 30 seconds?**' and '**Could you walk backwards on a balance beam with a bean bag on your head?**'.

Year 5 and 6 focused on their striking skills in tennis and badminton, with this being the first time playing these sports for many children. This made is even more amazing to see their perseverance and skills improve.

Our Sports teams also had great success with our boys' and girls' teams competing in the MISAC U11 Basketball Competition. The students represented the school brilliantly and capped a great day with some trophies. Our girls' team won bronze by finishing in 3rd place and our boys' team went unbeaten to finish 1st and win gold!







## Year 1 - Under The Sea

Year 1 have taken a dive into the unknown through our '**Under the Sea**' topic this term. We explored the depths of the oceans and discovered the 5 layers that make up their structure. Using this knowledge, students created posters and dioramas to showcase their learning as part of our culminating task.

In English, we have been exploring the concept of '**Understanding Others**' through our books '**Leo and the Octopus**', '**Somebody Swallowed Stanley**' and '**The Sea Saw**'. We have worked on interview skills and questioning to conduct interviews about recycling.

In Art, we focused on using only recycled materials and our imaginations to create an exotic underwater environment. Students made fish from plastic bottles and jellyfish from recycled cups, straws and bits of fabric. We then all worked together as a class to create a mural of a sea creature and our very own octopuses.

Meanwhile in Humanities, students ventured all the way back to the past; looking at different scuba suit designs throughout the years and the ways people used the ocean both then and now.



## Year 2 - Be The Change

Year 2 has been very busy this term learning all about '**Be the change**' and understanding others. In English, the children have thoroughly enjoyed reading '**Tadpole's Promise**', by Jeanne Willis, and '**If All the World Were...**', by Joseph Coelho. Using these two very different stories as inspiration, the children created some wonderful, and varied, pieces of writing.

In maths, the children looked at the value of British currency as well as other money from around the world. They talked about using money in practical ways and how to give change through classroom role plays.

In science and humanities students, focused on how the world around us is constantly changing. They researched, explored and observed how our planet is affected by global warming and how we as global citizens can help reduce the effects of climate change. Everyone enjoyed our climate change experiment, where we observed the effect of melting ice.



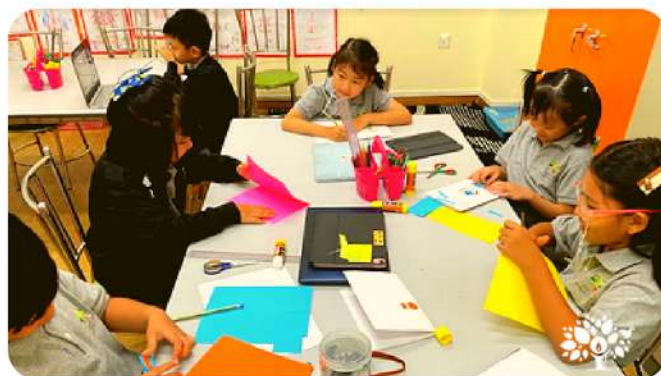


## Year 3 - Magic and Wonder

This term we have been exploring our theme '**Magic and Wonder**' through our class text '**Leon and the Place Between**'. This story looks at the wonder of life around us and the different experiences that make up our lives. In English, we wrote and published our own stories based on our theme; focusing on our grammar, spelling and editing skills. In Science, we studied the wonders of plant life cycles and reproduction, while in Maths we sharpened our understanding of multiplication and division.



In Humanities, students uncovered details about the ancient Pagan Kingdom and how it left a lasting influence on modern Myanmar. In Art, we displayed our artistic skills by designing our own circus stage and Venetian masks, while making representations of historic Burmese pagodas. Children also enjoyed splashing in the pool for swimming lessons in PE and also experiencing the wonder and joy of dance.

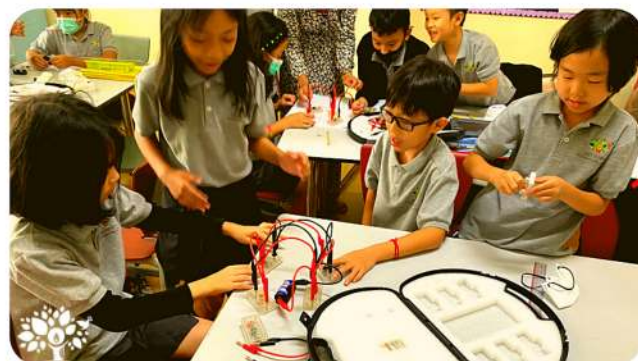
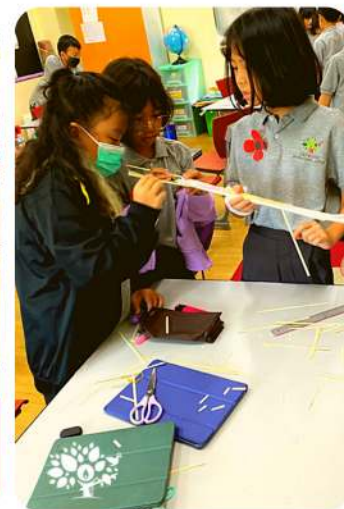


## Year 4 - Incredible Innovation

Our inquiry unit this term has been '**Incredible Innovation**' with students exploring solutions to local and global problems. Students have been learning about global warming and the effect it is having on our planet and what we as individuals can do to help.

This unit also took students on a geographical journey, investigating different countries using maps from different environmental regions. In science, students have also been exploring electricity, becoming engineers and creating an electric circuit with alarms and lights, linking to our inquiry question.

In English, students enjoyed reading '**The Wild Robot**' by Peter Brown, following the journey of the Rozzum Unit 7137 as she learns and develops on a strange, remote and mysterious island. Not only were students able to make fantastic connections to our inquiry unit, they improved on their reading and comprehension skills and gained valuable writing skills, mapping out character arcs and summarising key plot points.







## Year 5 - I Belong

This term's academic work has been focused around the theme '**I Belong**'. One thing that all teachers, students and parents have in common, is that we all belong to the Network community. With this as a focus, Year 5 students have examined the experiences and perspectives of different people, looking at how the relationships we form shape our sense of identity and our view of the world.

In English we read '**The Lost Thing**' by Shaun Tan, about a man who finds a surreal looking creature that appears to be lost and by the end of the book helps the creature return to its home. Through reading this story, students adopted the perspective of the creature to build their grammatical understanding of emotional language, modal verbs and the use of imperatives.

In art we focused on the work of 'surrealist' artists, delving into the weird and wonderful world of self portraits without faces, the landscape of dreams and Salvador Dali's famous elephants on stilts. Students also developed their sketching abilities by learning how to hold a pencil, how to outline, sketch edges and use shading.



## Year 6 - Human Movement

What a journey Year 6 has been on this term! Our overarching theme of '**migration and movement**' has led to powerful discussions about current migration in the world and different views and beliefs people have about migration. We also explored how migration and movement in the past has influenced societies and cultures today.

Our culminating task was to demonstrate how we could take action through the arts. In preparation for this, we have studied how artists can express meaning in various ways: sculptures, live performance, graffiti art, dance, poems, and many more. The students have been incredibly excited to create their own art pieces to demonstrate their understanding of migration and the impact of this

Throughout this term, we have been using the book '**The Arrival**' by Shaun Tan to structure our English lessons. This is a wordless book all about one man's journey to find a better life for his family.

The students have produced fantastic narratives from this. Meanwhile in maths, we have been continuing our understanding of number, in particular fractions.

An excellent term full of wonder, collaboration, research and perseverance. We all look forward to a well-deserved break and to prepare ourselves for more exciting learning in Term 3.







## Foundation 1 - Sensory Play

This term Foundation 1 children used all their senses; touch, taste, smell, sight and hear, to explore and make sense of the environment around them.

Sensory play is incredibly important to young children's development as it supports, language development, gross motor skills, social interaction and problem solving skills.



Throughout the term, the children had the opportunity to hone their different senses. They developed their listening by playing different instruments and then playing 'What's that Sound?' There were different textures to touch and look at, and the children discovered what smells they liked. The overall favourite experience was making and tasting delicious fruit smoothies.



## Foundation 2 - Water

Foundation 2 had a splash-tastic time this term as they learnt about water. They discovered how important clean water is by cooking with it to make pasta. We learnt how to turn water into bubbles and had lots of fun blowing and whisking different bubbles inside and outside. The children investigated what happens when they put water in the freezer. It was interesting painting with the ice and experimenting with different ways to melt ice and free the animals!



Now the children are fully settled into school life they have been working very hard to develop their social skills. Sharing is a very difficult life lesson and there have been lots of activities to support children learning to share toys and take turns.

It has been wonderful to see the children benefit from independently sharing and seeking others out to experience opportunities together.





## Foundation 3 - Space

Foundation 3 have been discovering space. The children traveled to the moon in a rocket, explored stars and the 8 different planets. They learnt the difference between fact and fiction texts. Everyone enjoyed stories such as 'Aliens Love Underpants' and 'Whatever Next', but extended out knowledge by reading factual texts.

We finished the topic with an alien day, where everyone dressed up as aliens. We were sure not to let any aliens steal our underpants!



In phonics the children learnt lots of new letter sounds, including new digraphs and even a trigraph. To help remember new sounds lots of games were played - everyone loves splat the sound!

On top of new sounds, the children even started to read tricky words. It is amazing to see the children in the first steps of becoming confident readers.

## Christmas Shows

Both Christmas performances by the Foundation Stage were amazing! All the children performed to their highest ability and it was hard to believe that it was their first time on stage performing to a live audience. They were all so confident and remembered their lines, songs and dance moves. All the teachers were incredibly proud of their achievements and we thank all parents for attending.



Everyone at Early Years Foundation Stage wishes all Network International School families a joyous holiday, a merry Christmas and a happy new year!