

A Message From Roy G. Crawford, School Head

We have begun the process of reviewing the **NISC Mission and Vision**. Our mission our primary purpose as an organization. Vision is defined as “what we hope to become if we are true to our purpose. The Board of Trustees was engaged in mission and vision discussions at its 10 November meeting. We will involve our students, teachers and staff, and parents in similar such conversations. Our mission and vision will then drive all of our important school decisions.

Please see the attached **Board of Trustees** minutes from 20 October and 10 November. Our Trustees are a very dedicated group of parents who are committed to the improvement and growth of NISC.

Included in this edition of the Mekong Messenger is a **parent survey** regarding our food service or lunch program which is offered by Northbridge Catering. Please complete the survey and turn it in at the administration office. Your child may also give it to their teacher. All of our students and staff will complete the survey here at school using an on line version of the survey.

Also attached to this newsletter is a **revised 2009-2010 school calendar**. This calendar is also available on our website. Key changes or additions:

9 December: Winter Festival, which is an evening of student holiday season music, dance and art work. More detailed information will be coming.

24, 25, and 26 March are no longer teacher work days to attend the teachers’ conference in Manila. They are now student days. We have reallocated the funds used for that conference to professional development here on Campus. This is an attempt to be more cost effective and to best use our precious professional learning and growing time together.

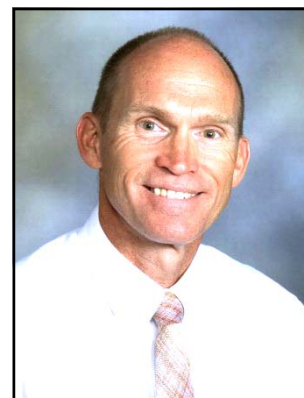
19 March and 19 and 20 April are the new teacher professional development days.

Also note that all **parent teacher conferences** grades N-12 will be on the afternoon of 17 March and all day 18 March. We hope this will be more convenient for parents who have both elementary and upper school students. They will be able to see all of the teachers in just one trip to the school rather than two.

We apologize for any inconvenience these changes may cause. Hopefully our early notification will allow time for you to plan.

Lastly, I thank those of you who submitted the information we requested regarding your **nannies, drivers and body guards**. If you have not already submitted the information, please do so immediately. A parent brought to my attention that some adults who bring children to school are family members and do not fall into the categories I included on the sheet I sent home. Next year I will account for family care givers when I collect the security information.

As always, many thanks for trusting us with the important job of educating your children!



Sports News



HS Boys Volleyball Team:

Front - Narith Long, Nicky Bijayananda, Nouth Noun, Meng Hong Tang

Back - Ms. Lois Arndt, Reach Cha, Rattanak Tara, David Sok, Sothea Thol, Eusteen Barte

HS Girls Volleyball Team:

Front - Trixie Francisco, Jeannette Gitobu, Nikka Pisith

Back - Deva Ly, Hannah Kim, Grace Khor, Saerom Yang

MRISA - High School Boys and Girls Volleyball, 12-15 November 2009

On Thursday, 12 November, 16 high school students and three coaches travelled to United Nations International School in Hanoi for the High School Volleyball MRISA competition. Nine boys and seven girls represented our NISC teams and competed against seven other schools within the MRISA region.

After many hours of practice and local matches, the athletes were ready for their final weekend of competition. On Friday, both teams had matches with three other teams. At the end of the day, teams were then placed from 1st to 4th place depending on the number of games won. The format of the tournament was such that on Saturday all teams had the opportunity to continue playing towards the championship bracket depending on the matches they won. Teams played each other according to their placement from the Friday games.

This proved to be quite a challenge for the boy's team as they finished in second place at the end of Friday's games defeating ISE and UNIS (B) but losing a close match to ISHCMC. However, on Saturday, they lost a close first match with across town rival, ISPP. After being very disappointed that they could no longer play for 1st place, they rallied to come back and win their next two matches to finish in 5th place overall in the tournament. Narith Long was named to the All Tournament team. The boys did a fine job this season with all team members contributing to the effort. Our 2009 team consisted of four Seniors: Narith Long, Meng Hong Tang, David Sok and Rattanak Tara, three Juniors: Nouth Noun, Reach Cha and Nicky Bijayananda, and two Freshmen: Eusteen Barte and Sothea Thol.

The girl's team also worked hard and after a day of tough competition were in 4th place losing some close matches to ISPP, ISHCMC and HIS. However, teamwork was gradually improving and on Saturday the girls came out strong against a local favorite team, UNIS. Although they lost that match, they went down in three sets and played good volleyball. They then came back and defeated ISE in the next match and finally played VIS and they finished in 6th place. Grace Khor was selected to the All Tournament team. The girl's team is quite young consisting of Senior-Trixie Francisco, Junior-Grace Khor, Sophomore-Jeannette Gitobu, and Freshmen-Deva Ly, Hannah Kim, Nika Pisith and Sae Rom Yang.

Thanks to all of you for your long hours of dedication to volleyball and the quality job of representing NISC at the tournament. To the Seniors, the best to each of you. To the rest, we hope to see you playing volleyball again next year!!

Coaches Karl Broecker, Lois Arndt and Steve Paterson

MRISA Middle School Basketball Tournament

As many of you know, NISC will be hosting the MRISA Middle School Basketball Tournament on 26 - 29 November. Students will be arriving from Laos, Vietnam and Thailand.

Kindly mark 27 - 28 November on your calendar and come to NISC to watch the MS basketball competitions. The game schedules will be sent home and posted on the NISC web site by next week.

Hosting Visiting Students for 26 - 29 November

First of all, I would like to thank all of you who are hosting the students from visiting schools. If you have children who have participated in MRISA exchanges in the past, you already know how meaningful it is for a child to be able to participate. You are helping NISC in a great way, and I can't thank you enough!

For the upcoming MRISA tournament, it is critically important that we have enough families hosting athletes from the five other schools. We still need to find hosting families for the visiting students.

In general, hosting requires:

1. The Host family to provide sleeping accommodation for the duration of the tournament.
2. Thursday and Friday evening meals and breakfast over the tournament weekend.
3. The Host family will need to assist with transportation to and from NISC [no motos or motorcycles] and other social events organized for the exchange.
4. As a Host family, it is also important that a 10:00 PM curfew be enforced. No students are to be out after this time even with adults.

On Sunday, the students will be with you until the time to take them to the airport which will probably be around midday, depending on the flight schedules.

Secondly, we will need to be able to host around 15 coaches, so if there are any teachers interested in hosting a coach from another school, please let me know. The job entails providing a bed, some food, transportation, and some company for the coach. It would involve three nights from Thursday, 26 November to Sunday, 29 November. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to email or talk to me.

If you would be interested in hosting students, please contact me.

Mr. Austin Koledoye

MRISA Cultural Exchange 2009:

Congratulations to the following students who will be a part of the MRISA CULTURAL EXCHANGE 2010 at the Hanoi International School in Hanoi, Vietnam on 20 - 24 January 2010:

Sarah Kim, Putree Ly, Somi Ha, So Jung Ha, Lily Park, Young-A Sung, Toy Sirichindakul, Modina Sok, Sally Kim, Tanya Ahn, Sentosa Mam, Nicole Gitobu and Jome Suwannarat.

The MRISA Cultural Exchange (MRISA CX) is an event hosted by one of the MRISA participating schools and attended by a total of 120 students from UNIS, HIS, ISE, NISC, ISPP, ISHCMC, SSIS and VIS. The main purpose of the CX is to provide an opportunity for MRISA students to participate in a wide variety of workshops in the arts : visual art, music, drama and dance. The CX also provides students with the opportunity to learn about the culture of the host country.

This year's theme is "Life in a Flying House."

After School Activity (ASA) : Second Session: 26 October - 11 December 2009

The second session of the after school activities program is in full swing. Newly introduced activities and the on going offerings such as computer games, swimming (beginner/intermediate), mini soccer, ping pong, ABC Music & Me, embroidery, tennis, chess club, horse riding, flower decoration, golf, break dance and beginner Thai language have experienced an increase in the number of participants. In addition, the private music classes of piano, guitar and violin are going very well.

If you like to find out more about our after school activities program, please contact the ASA coordinator or visit the school office or website where you will find the list of current offerings and registration forms.

A Call for Substitute Teachers

NISC is always looking for qualified substitute teachers to fill in when our permanent faculty are away from the classroom. If you, or people you know, would be interested in substitute teaching at NISC, please drop off your CV to Margie Gomez in the Principal's office.

Dates to Remember

November 26 to 29 - Thursday to Sunday

MRISA MS Basketball at NISC

November 30 to December 8 - Monday to Tuesday

Model United Nations Trip to Paris, France

December 1 - Tuesday

Board of Trustees Meeting

December 2 - Wednesday

Early Release Day

December 3 - Thursday

Christmas Craft Day

December 9 - Wednesday

Winter Festival

December 14 to 16 - Monday to Wednesday

High School Exams

December 18 - Friday

End of Quarter 2, Semester 1; half day

December 19 to January 11

Holiday Break; no school

January 12 - Tuesday

Quarter 3, Semester 2 begins

January 20 to 24 - Wednesday to Sunday

MRISA Cultural Exchange in Hanoi, Vietnam

January 20 - Wednesday

Early Release Day

January 25 - Monday

After School Activities #3 starts

January 28 to 31 - Thursday to Sunday

MRISA HS Soccer

We like to recognize and acknowledge the accomplishments of our students by sometimes placing pictures of them in NISC publications or on the Web. If you do not want the picture of your child to be included in the school web site or publications, please contact the school office immediately. Thank you.



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Lunch Menu

Monday, November 23

green salad, minced pork soup and tomato soup, bread, beef casserole, stir fried mushrooms in oyster sauce, steamed rice, baked sweet potatoes, fruit salad with ice cream

Tuesday, November 24

grilled vegetable salad, Laksa noodle soup, bread, grilled chicken, stir fried vegetables, steamed rice, parsley mash potato, Khmer sweet

Wednesday, November 25

green salad, Chinese chicken soup, bread, capretto beef stew, sweet and sour bean curd, steamed rice, sweet potato, chocolate cake

Thursday, November 26

sushi, Khmer noodle soup, egg sandwich, coc au vin, stir fried pok choy in oyster sauce, steamed rice, apple

Friday, November 27

green salad, egg sandwich, chicken skewers in thyme sauce, baked vegetables with cheese, egg fried rice, chocolate cake

Monday, November 30

red cabbage and carrot salad, Indian beef curry, chicken sandwich, pork skewers, vegetable spring roll, steamed rice, potato, ice cream

Tuesday, December 1

grilled vegetable salad, pork wonton soup, grilled pork with mayonnaise sandwich, roasted chicken in basil sauce, vegetable moussaka, steamed rice, rosemary potato, fruit

Wednesday, December 2

Early Release Day; No lunch

Thursday, December 3

vegetable crudite, fish ball and cabbage soup, mini beef burger, chicken stewed in palm sugar, stir fried noodle with pok, steamed rice, potato, banana cake

Friday, December 4

blue cheese salad, minced pork soup with mushroom, chicken sandwich, Hainanese chicken rice, vegetables in oyster sauce, potato cake, corn pudding