



FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

## Friday School Newsletter Term 1: Issue 12, 02 December 2011

Dear Parents,

Thanks, first of all, to all those parents, staff and students who supported Wednesday night's Nutcracker Christmas and Carol Singing - a magical evening was had by all and the student musicians were, as usual, full of energy and talents. A special thanks to the UPTA members who helped organize and run the event and to Catherine Thomas, Kathleen Bristow, and Christina Goczol for their musical inspiration and direction.

ECAs are now finished for the term and the feedback from students is that they found the activities both challenging and enjoyable. Many thanks to all those teachers and parent helpers for donating the time and energy to create such a diverse ECA program. Next term the ECA selections on offer are looking very attractive and there will be several new activities to tickle the activity taste buds. I hope you notice that the on-line registration process is becoming ever more refined with each term of use, but please send any feedback or comments to [eca@uplands.org](mailto:eca@uplands.org). Registration will begin on the Wednesday, 04 January, and the first ECA session will begin Monday, 09 January.

The proposed Uplands Ski Trip 2012 has generated enthusiasm among a significant number of students, and details of the trip will be sent to those families expressing interest on Monday. There will also be a parent information evening on Tuesday, 06 December at 7pm in room BG03. As our mid-term break is earlier this year there is, I'm afraid, a need to make a financial commitment by 09 December, and the projected cost of the trip will be approximately RM 8,500 as long as a minimum of ten students attend. Last years' trip was a great success in a lovely location in central Japan, and I am sure the next one will be equally memorable - especially for any first-time skiers!

Any parents who would like to pre-purchase School lunch tickets, and have the costs included in their Term 2 bill, may do so by completing the attached form and revert to the Accounts Department via ([accountant@uplands.org](mailto:accountant@uplands.org)) at the latest by next Tuesday, 06 December 2011. These pre-purchased tickets may be collected during the School holiday (Monday to Friday) or on the first day when School starts.

The Term 2 School Bill will be sent to all parents on 09 December 2011. Please telephone Accounts and let them know if your bill does not arrive by 16 December 2011

On another money matter, the School now has the software installed to track all printing activities by each student, according to their network identity, anywhere in the School. Because the printing demand of different students are so very variable, any fair system is one that has to bill by usage, and we will be tracking demand to see how the patterns develop. At the same time, as noted in a previous Newsletter, we continue to gather information on our real printing costs so that we can provide this service as cheaply as possible to the students. More on this next year.

Yet another billing issue is that parents of any students leaving Uplands at the end of this term should be aware that all School books and other property must be returned to the appropriate member of staff by next Thursday, 08 December 2011, and that parents will be billed for any lost items.

As most parents will know, we have been working to revise both the content and the "retailing" of the School uniform for some time now - actually a very long time that I hope, very soon, we can dismiss to the dust-bins of history. If all goes well we intend to be selling all relevant items of School kit, both absolutely necessary and merely fashionably desirable, within the School from next term. I hope to be able to give preliminary details in next week's Newsletter, along with opening times of the LM clothing shop during the vacation.

Moving away from money, Parents can expect the Term 1 academic reports of their sons and daughters to be

available next week. This is the first time we have used the new School database as a foundation for our reporting system and, having seen some of the results, my own view is that we certainly have the "cleanest", in the sense of typo-free, set of Uplands Reports, certainly in recent years. Once any problems have emerged and been crushed in the new system, we will move to communications based on paperless, on-line Reports, each containing ever more information as the student database accumulates data over the years - but please don't expect to see that overnight!

Several Primary classes are in the midst of completing their unit of inquiry **summative assessments** this week, and some groups would like to extend invitations to parents and friends interested in seeing the students' work. Year 3/4 students will be assuming the roles of travel agents from 9:00 to 10:00am in the Year 3/4 classrooms on Thursday, 08 December. Come have a look at some interesting holiday destinations! Then, Year 5 students will be sharing their poetry on Tuesday, 06 December between 9:00 to 10:10am in the foyer, and Year 6 will be presenting their 'Explorer' summative assessment from 8:30 to 9:45am in on Wednesday, 07 December. All welcome!

Please be on the lookout for lost **Primary Library Books** in your home over the weekend and have your child return them to the library on Monday. There will be no further borrowing of books this week as we are preparing for long Christmas holidays. Thank you!

Primary students Lydia and Grace Bradnam have shown student initiated 'Action' at school and have been **collecting aluminum** pull top rings from drink-cans. The girls are collecting these so they can be donated and used to make artificial limbs for people with disabilities. Over the Christmas holidays, please help collect these in your household and return them to school to help their cause. Well done for showing great initiative girls!

Thank you to all the students who took part in today's **non-uniform day** and who contributed money towards a student-chosen charity. We raised exactly RM 298.60 and the Year 6 students chose to donate the funds to Tzuchi - a charity that helps the poor on a regular monthly basis.

The Primary School will be holding **parent-teacher consultations** directly after school on Wednesday, 11 January. Please keep this important date open!

And, almost finally, an important reminder that **School Ends** at 12:00 noon for all students on Friday, 09 December. Term 2 begins for all students on Wednesday, 04 January 2012.

Finally, we have to say a sad goodbye, at the end of this term, to Mr Ross Whitfeld, who has been our School Counsellor, and Deputy Principal (Non-Curriculum) for the last fifteen months. I know only too well how sorry the students and staff are to see Mr Whitfeld leave Uplands, and we are all well aware of what a huge amount he has accomplished during the time he has been here. May I wish Mr Whitfeld and his family, on behalf of the entire community, all the best in his exciting new position in Australia and promise him that he had better buy himself a HUGE tucker-bag before all his new international friends take advantage of his hospitality at the first opportunity!

Have a good weekend,  
**DR JOHN HORSFALL**  
Principal &  
**MRS ALI NICHOLSON**  
Deputy Principal (Primary)

# BILLING FOR TERM 2 LUNCH-TICKET BOOKS

If you would like the lunches and snacks for your child/children to be included in Term 2 billing, please fill in the form below and return via email to the Accounts Office ([accountant@uplands.org](mailto:accountant@uplands.org)) at the latest by **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2011**. You may collect these tickets during the holiday break (Monday to Friday) or on the first day of School. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Accounts Dept.

Thank you,

Ms Renee Tan, Accountant

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## TERM 2 2011/2012 LUNCH

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Kindly include these charges to my Term 2 bill:

Secondary	Type	Cost	Quantity	Total To bill
	1 book for 30 lunches	RM210.00		
	1 book for 60 lunches	RM420.00		
Primary				
	1 book for 30 lunches	RM150.00		
	1 book for 60 lunches	RM300.00		

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Signature of Parents / Guardian