



DECEMBER 2022



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JANUARY

- 10<sup>th</sup>: First Day for Years 7 - 13
- 11<sup>th</sup>: First Day for Pre-Nursery, Children's House, Lower Primary and Upper Primary
- 19<sup>th</sup>: Global Family Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: Public Holiday: Chinese Spring Festival
- 24<sup>th</sup>: Chinese New Year Celebration (TBC)
- 25<sup>th</sup>: Interschool Tennis

### FEBRUARY

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Public Holiday: Abolition of Slavery
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Public Holiday: Thai Poosam Cavadee
- 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>: Educational Trip to Dubai (Year 12)
- 9<sup>th</sup>: Parents Meeting (Pre-Nursery)
- 10<sup>th</sup>: Interhouse Swimming Gala - Year 7-13
- 14<sup>th</sup>: Valentine's Day Celebration
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Interhouse Swimming Gala - Year 5&6  
OVEC Unifair
- 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: Mid-Term Break
- 18<sup>th</sup>: Public Holiday: Maha Shivaratri

Please note that the school offices will be closed from the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 till 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

This term has ended with much activity and involvement in all areas of the school. Our student leaders have been key in organising special events to celebrate the holidays with our younger students at school and to help spread joy among our community through several initiatives with the support of our Parent Committee. I am very proud of all of our students' engagement in these projects and hope to see this generous spirit continue throughout the remainder of the year.

In this issue of our Newsletter, you will gain a glimpse of these and other activities that have taken place over the second half of term, along with highlights of some of our students' achievements in academics and extracurricular activities. It is always a pleasure to see how our students are developing in a wide range of areas and adding to the diverse texture of our school.

Upcoming opportunities for students to engage in meaningful ways with their peers will add greatly to a positive atmosphere for learning. Students will also be able to lead and participate in important projects to further our eco-school efforts as we continue in our Green Flag award work.

Thanks go to all who have made this term a success and have set the path for further learning and action over the remainder of the year.

I wish you and your families a very safe and happy holiday, and I look forward to a fantastic year ahead with you all.

Mrs Phyllis Philogène  
Head of School





## Upper Primary Camps

### YEAR 5 CAMP

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, the Year 5's set off for their camp at Nativ Lodge in Mahebourg. Upon arrival, the students settled into their lodges and were organised into their teams: red, yellow, blue and green. They participated in a variety of fun activities such as blindfolded team writing, grass skiing, fishing, a treasure hunt, a talent show, and a visit to The Naval Museum. At meal times, the children tucked into their delicious food and cleaned up after themselves. We are so proud of the children for being polite and respectful to the camp staff. We received only positive feedback from the children and they are already looking forward to their Year 6 Camp in 2023.

Mrs. du Preez



### YEAR 6 CAMP

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, our very excited Year 6 students boarded the bus and headed down to Nativ Lodge in the south of the island. On arrival, they were grouped into teams and settled into their cosy lodges. Fun activities began and didn't stop until we boarded the bus to head back home. The camp leader said that this was his best camp group this year and the children are commended on their fantastic teamwork, manners and attitude.

Mrs. Thyssen



We have been very happy to have completed all our school camps this year. Students went to either Nativ Lodge or 7 Cascades for 1-2 nights of team building and a variety of fun exercises. This has been the first time we have launched our camps after the pandemic, and we are happy to see our students happy and fulfilled with lovely memories.

### YEAR 7 CAMP

Our Year 7 students had a lovely time on their camp at Nativ Lodge. They made amazing memories for the future, and bonds that they will cherish a lifetime.



### YEAR 8 CAMP

We were very happy to see our Year 8 students leave for camp to Nativ Lodge in Mahebourg. The theme for this camp was developing compassion. The students made the best out of this new adventure.



### YEAR 9 CAMP

Year 9 students had a wonderful time at camp with some really fun activities down at 7 Cascades.

The team has been vibrant and both staff and students were really happy with the great weather which has greatly contributed in building great community spirit.



### YEAR 10 CAMP

From the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2022, the Year 10 group participated in their annual camp to 7 Cascades, Vacoas.

As part of their preparation for Duke of Edinburgh next year, the focus of the camp was both on teambuilding and basic survival skills such as map reading and first aid. The year 10s set up their own camp facilities and enjoyed spending time connecting with natural elements around them, culminating in a hike to the cascades.

Some other highlights of our camp included, the 'slippery tug of war', cooking for their peers and the talent show which took place on the final night of the camp. It is clear that the year group left camp having made many positive experiences and memories to last a lifetime!



### YEAR 12 CAMP

The Year 12 students went on camp from the 16<sup>th</sup> November till the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022. They spent those 2 days at the Nativ Lodge. They did a lot of fun activities such as Kayaking, had a stroll in the nearby village, and in the evening, dance and sung around the bonfire.





## Odd Socks Day



Anti-Bullying week is an annual event at Northfields and it links to the values of our school, especially the value of respect.

Our youngest learners created anti-bullying sock puppets. In the walker class, the children were treated to a puppet show by Tanja, who told them a story using puppets, about how to treat each other with respect.

The students were intrigued and enjoyed the planned activities.



## Congratulations on Graduating

As we started to gear up for the festive season, we also sadly had to bid farewell to four children and their families.

Aiden, Andrei, Fedor and Kira had worked so hard during course of their first term and are now ready to embark on a new journey at our Nursery.

We celebrated their achievements and graduated them from our Pre Nursery.

We wish them all the best!



## Senses

Our youngest learners are the biggest explorers of our community!

During this term, our children developed their senses of touch, sight, smell, hearing and taste through many activities.

These activities were well received by our children.

Our sense of belonging is an important emotion that we experience. At the pre-nursery, our focus theme for the first term is about



celebrating each and every student; who they are and the family they form part of - our little global citizen.

We used international celebrations and fun days to help students learn about themselves and the world they form part of.

One of the fun events was our "Hat and Sunglasses Day".

It was cute seeing our young ones come to school in their hats and sunglasses, some of which were obviously borrowed from mummy and daddy!





## Halloween



Halloween comes once a year and this year the Pre-Nursery joined in with the festivities. It was a fun-filled morning with our students arriving dressed as pumpkins and farm animals.



During playtime, it seemed as though our garden had turned into a farmyard! We had chickens, cows, rabbits and even bees.

Our students also got involved in our first ever Pre-Nursery Halloween bake sale.

We are so proud of our little ones!



## PRE-NURSERY

### Beachwear and Water Play Day



Our students arrived to school all excited in their beachwear.

They were thrilled to be able to just spend the day with their friends, splashing around!



To celebrate our children's progress this term, we organised a day full of excitement, giggles and sensory exploration with water play.

### Christmas Celebration with Sing and Dance

We were delighted to showcase the musical talent of our children during our Christmas Sing & Dance,

During the course of the first term, we started our music programme with Katerina Sevastaki-Cohen with the aim of bringing music to our students.



In honouring our children's musical talents, we had arranged a morning for our parents to partake in the Christmas festivities through songs and joy surrounded by our Christmas theme.

We are so proud of our little ones as they brought the magic of Christmas to the eyes of an adult.



Over the course of our term we had the opportunity to see the delight in our children's faces as they got involved with Katerina and her love for music that was shared from around the world.





## World Children's Day

Le vendredi 20 novembre nous avons célébré la Journée internationale des droits de l'enfant. Au Primaire, l'accent a été mis sur l'aspect historique de cet événement, sur l'importance de cette date anniversaire. Les élèves ont pris connaissance d'un texte très important, la Convention des droits de l'enfant, signé le 20 novembre 1989 et ratifié par 196 pays. Ils ont pu comprendre qu'à partir de cette date, les enfants avaient eu des droits obligatoires que les adultes devaient respecter. Le droit d'avoir une identité et une nationalité, d'avoir une famille et d'être aimé. Le droit d'être soigné et protégé des maladies, d'avoir une alimentation suffisante et équilibrée. Le droit d'aller à l'école et de jouer, de ne pas faire la guerre, ni de travailler. Le droit d'être protégé contre toutes formes de violence et de maltraitance.

Nous avons choisi de célébrer le droit d'avoir une identité et une nationalité en demandant aux enfants de venir vêtu dans une tenue originaire de leur pays, de préparer un plat typique de chez eux ou encore d'apporter des objets provenant de leur pays de naissance. Cette journée a permis de renforcer les liens identitaires des enfants issus de mêmes pays mais elle a surtout permis la découverte d'autres cultures et de renforcer le respect et l'inclusion des enfants vivant au sein d'une même communauté. A travers ces journées internationales, nous avons l'opportunité d'aborder des aspects essentiels de la vie humaine, des enjeux importants du monde ou de l'Histoire et de sensibiliser la nouvelle génération ainsi que les leaders de demain.



## Anti-Bullying Week

Throughout the week of 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the CH and LP participated in the annual Anti-Bullying Awareness Campaign which runs across the UK each year. The theme for this year was "Reach Out".



'Bullying' is a big word for our little ones so, in line with our Northfields mission statements, our emphasis during Anti-Bullying week was on kindness, sharing and caring. Children shared kind and thoughtful words to their friends and teachers. The use of good manners and respect was reinforced too. We discussed preventative and responsive measures should bullying occur. We also talked about the definition of bullying, so that students and parents do not inappropriately accuse other children of bullying.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance and its members have an agreed shared definition of bullying based on research from across the world over the last 30 years.

'Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online.'

*ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE -  
Definition of bullying*

Studies show that Anti-Bullying programs in schools may reduce bullying behaviours by an average of 20-23%. Evidence indicates that successful anti-bullying interventions take a holistic, whole-school approach. They include educational content that supports students to develop social and emotional competencies and learn appropriate

ways to respond to bullying behaviours.

Our week got started with Odd Socks Day. Students were invited to come to school wearing funny, loud, daring and colourful odd socks. The Anti-Bullying Alliance created this day to remind young people that it's good to stand out. By expressing oneself without fear of judgment reaffirms the idea that being who you are is more than enough. Odd Socks Day helped the children to understand that we are all different but yet the same. The students were happily observing their differences and similarities. In this fast changing and evolving world, our younger students took the time to appreciate giving and receiving simple and nice things that life has given us.

Throughout the week, activities were organised in class every day to share practical information, guidance and some inspirational material and videos that can teach and equip our young students to show kindness and compassion towards each other.

We concluded the week with a celebration of friendship with activities such as the making of friendship bracelets.



We thank our parents for assisting the children to be equipped to deal positively and respectfully with conflicts and challenges with peers and reinforcing the positive messages of friendship, tolerance and kindness to all.



## Diwali Celebration

As we walked towards the primary area on the 21<sup>st</sup> October, lamps were lit and lanterns were adorning the corridors. The Bollywood songs brought out the essence of the festival - celebration of life and goodness. Students talked about the significance of Diwali relating to how good always conquered the evil and also about why and how Diwali is celebrated across Mauritius.

Lower Primary Students showcased the spirit of Diwali through a mesmerizing dance performance together with their teachers. There was a fashion walk done to present all the traditional outfits. All teachers from Children House and Lower Primary wore beautiful sarees projecting the traditional look to mark this occasion. It was a beautiful sight to see students and teachers from all around the world, dressing up in Indian traditional outfits. The special assembly by the students set the ball rolling for the Diwali celebrations to be followed in the school. Mrs. Cornish, the Head of Nursery and Primary gave away the message of a clean, peaceful and a bright Diwali.

The whole primary section was lucky to bake some famous "Gateaux Patates" and learn about the importance of sharing and sweetness for this occasion. Children's House students made a Rangoli with different flower designs which symbolises wealth, joy, light. Our Lower Primary Students made theirs in the shape of a Peacock as it represents good luck and prosperity at Diwali. To end this day, all students shared something brought from home with their classmates and teachers which perfectly summarised our Diwali at school.



## CH Christmas Assembly

To celebrate this most wonderful time of the year Children's House put on a brilliant show full of festive singing, dancing and poetry. The show kicked off with CH1 and a lovely rendition of 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' and 'Santa Clause Is Coming to Town'. CH2 dazzled with a performance of 'Up on the House Top' and 'This Little Light of Mine'. CH3 gave a marvellous rendition of 'I'm the Happiest Christmas Tree' and a poem called 'Christmas Stars'. CH4 performed a Christmas classic 'Jingle Bells' and recited a poem



called 'December is the Best!'. After the show, we all enjoyed a delicious buffet generously provided by parents. I think we can all agree that the children did a fantastic job and made their parents and teachers very proud!

Award winners were:

Perseverance Pam: Maysa R., Annie T., Neervi B. and Noah R.

Independent Izzy: Megan G., Robert S., Aliette D. and Isaiah A.

Community Camille: Luna B., Kyra B., Havya D. Inaya K.

Honest Oskar: Ayaan C., Mahish S., Petr S. and Louis P.

Discipline Dan: Sofia K. Remi T., Yeofi P. and Samya A.

Excellent Eric: Elijah R., Amelia V., Winta T. and Felix D.

Respectful Raju: Clara M., Kalej C., Emma A. and Sasha F.

## LP Christmas Assembly

The annual LP Christmas Assembly is a delightful showcase of the students performing art skills. It was with such pleasure that parents, grandparents and siblings were able to attend and join in the celebration of our students' achievements on the 8<sup>th</sup> December. The development and exercising of their creativity, performing arts skills, imagination and more are all such an important part of your children's growth.

As an international school, we are so lucky to have children from all over the world and who speak a variety of different languages. This helps us grow and enriches our community as we experience new cultures and traditions. Today the program included songs and poems in English, French, Russian and Creole. We also had an original play and song, The Smiling Moon, written and composed by the students themselves. It was a heartwarming performance by all the students.

To the LP staff, a huge thank you putting on a great performance and for all the care and attention which show your true dedication to each and every one of our students.



Thank you to the other teams including Facilities, IT, Procurement and Admin who do a lot behind the scenes to make events like this possible. We also took this opportunity to award our students with certificates to recognise the students who most embodied our school values over the past term.

Award winners were:

Perseverance Pam: Hayley L., Ariel A. and Dmitrii Z.

Independent Izzy: Peter G., Hannah K. and Neisha S.

Community Camille: Dylan C., Sasha B. and Vicente T.

Honest Oskar: Tessa B., Amelia V. and Hilton H.

Discipline Dan: Anais C., Jean L. and Rafael R.

Excellent Eric: Katyayani S., Alice B. and Jody L.

Respectful Raju: Christian K., Yohann R and Vico P.



## Halloween

We had a spooktacular time celebrating Halloween on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Children came to school dressed in all kinds of fun costumes, from witches to pirates, dragons to skeletons, and everything in between.



During circle time we discussed the origins of Halloween as a celebration to welcome the harvest at the end of summer. In CH, children got creative with some empty toilet rolls, using a bit of Halloween magic to transform them into bats.



In LP, class activities such as crafts, crosswords and more were geared around Halloween. The children really enjoyed the Bake Sale to end a great day. Thank you to parents who brought cakes and goodies to sell.



## CH Football World Cup

To celebrate the 2022 Men's Football World Cup, and to raise the children's awareness of global events, the Children's House students participated in a friendly football tournament. The semi-final and final matches were held on Thursday 1st December. Each class represented a different country:

- CH1 = England (Red)
- CH2 = Belgium (Yellow)
- CH3 = Brazil (Green)
- CH4 = France (Blue)



Children were invited to come to school in the 'strip' of that country and bring a flag of the country they were representing. We would like to thank our parents for supporting this initiative and cheering on our students by bringing flags, glasses, and themed clothes.

In class, Reception and Year 1 worked on a project about their respective countries and researched about their country and completed related activity sheets and lessons to widen their knowledge experience of geography and to be true global citizens.

Semi- Final scores:  
ENGLAND VS BELGIUM 0-2  
BRAZIL VS FRANCE 3-1

The final match score was:  
BELGIUM VS BRAZIL 1-0

And the winner was:  
**BELGIUM!**



Congratulations to our winning team Belgium (CH2) for winning this championship. The students put forth an outstanding team effort and you made it.

"Winning is not everything...but making the effort to win is."  
-Vince Lombardi



We would like to thank all the teachers for organising the Football World Cup at the school. It gave our students an opportunity to experience the FIFA World Cup which is happening currently in Qatar.

It was also a pleasure seeing the students develop the Northfields values of Discipline, Honour and Community through this competition.





## LP Project Work

In Montessori Primary, our aim is for the children to learn about everything! The years start off with the 'Great Lessons'. These impressionistic and scientific stories are presented every year and give the students the 'big picture' of cosmetology, astronomy, geography, biology, anthropology, chemistry, physics and much, much more... Meaningful learning begins to happen when children are inspired by these lessons and start to explore a subject and work on it in depth and over a prolonged period of time. Project based learning is an excellent way to give children the freedom of choice, whilst at the same time requiring them to demonstrate their mastery of concepts and skills such as reading and writing.



Children at this stage have a strong internal drive to discover how our world works. Through projects they study both broadly and deeply and develop the expertise in a subject that is especially interesting to them. Montessori environments allow for children to move freely around the classroom. They are able to see what others are working on, so it is not uncommon for an idea to spread. Children are not just stimulated by the teacher but by their peers too! Our LP children have initiated project work based on various topics this term. The Life Cycle of a Frog, the Human Organs, Arctic Life, Solar Systems, Botany and the study of various countries were amongst a few that were broadly researched, documented, presented and enlightened all. We look forward to the other topics our young LP researchers will attempt.

## CA Jobs by Miss Zah

I remember when I was 4 years old, my pre-school teacher asked me 'What would you like to be when you grow up?' Innocent as I was, I said 'I want to be like you, with a big smile on my face. And years after, I find myself asking the same question to the children I teach. But why do teachers ask this question?

The answer is very straightforward. It is to see who inspires the children in their daily life and who they look up to. Children are amazed by adults around them. They see adults as superheroes in their world. Adults are the savers of the world; they make the world a better place for the children to live in. One of the main aspects of teaching children about different jobs that make our society a better place is to teach them about respecting all jobs. No job is too small or menial to be recognised or valued. When children learn about different jobs and how they are performed, they see these jobs as something extraordinary and they feel inspired, they appreciate all the efforts of the people doing these jobs.



In Children's House, we started our learning journey about different jobs around us, through a whole group discussion where we talked about the job of our parents, grandparents, older siblings and people in our immediate family. It was very interesting to hear many of the children talking about how they perceive different jobs. One of the little boys in our class, spoke about how hard it is for his dad to get some time for himself as he is always busy with his job. And when asked why he thinks his dad is working so hard, he answered "Because he loves us so much that he works very hard to get some money and pay for things that we want.' How heartwarming

that the boy is already appreciating the effort his dad is making to earn a living.

In class, we continued our learning journey by inviting the school nurse, the housekeeper and the handyman into our classes. We asked them many questions and they were extremely happy to answer all of them. We asked them, 'Why did you choose this job? What makes you happy about your job? Would you change your job for another one? Is it difficult to do your job? Do you get tired?'

Children were surprised to hear the guests' answers. The guests said they were very happy to do their job, it is sometimes hard and difficult but then when they think again about why they chose this job, they feel motivated, and they continue to work with a smile. They would not change their job for another one as they feel they are really making a meaningful contribution to the society we are living in, and most importantly, they are making the world a better place to live.

At the end, children had not only increased their vocabulary about jobs, but they also learned about jobs that they did not realise existed and they maybe took for granted. They have a more open mind about respecting the different types of job, which will make them respectful citizens of the world. They understand no job is too difficult, too dirty or too small to do. They understand that all jobs must be appreciated as they contribute a lot to our world, to our safety and to our well-being. They saw that some of the Montessori Materials, especially those on the Practical life shelves, are already helping them to develop the skills required to perform certain tasks.







## Christmas Celebration Day

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December, the Upper Primary spent a fun-filled day celebrating Christmas at school.



There was a festive Christmas buzz in the Upper Primary classrooms. The Year 5 and 6 students were given an opportunity to experience and understand the joy of giving while listening to festive sing-along songs. They created and designed decorations and hand-made Christmas cards for others and completed an 'elf yourself' activity.



Our Year 6 students presented Christmas skits and our Year 5 learners had great fun participating in a 'Christmas Around the World' quiz. We wish our Upper Primary Northfields families a happy and fabulous festive season.



## UPPER PRIMARY

### Global Action Day



The Upper Primary students celebrated Global Action Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The purpose of this day was to inform students around the world to be active and share their actions on being more sustainable in our modern world.

Our Year 5 and 6 learners were inspired to be part of this initiative and they designed and created

posters to communicate their thoughts and ideas on how they can make a difference to our environment. We focused on two themes: 'Our house is on fire' and 'Time is running out. The students together with the teachers enjoyed sharing their ideas on how to protect and preserve the environment on our display boards in the Upper Primary area.



### Humanities Exhibition

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December, our Upper Primary students hosted their Humanities Exhibition. The Year 5 and 6 learners worked hard during their History lessons in their respective groups for many weeks to make this event successful.



The Year 5 students' exhibition focused on Ancient Greece, while the Year 6 learners' exhibition celebrated the Shang Dynasty. Students were most excited to come to school dressed up in Ancient Greece or Shang Dynasty attire and show case their beautiful posters, hand-made games and decorated tables.



Thank you to the parents who attended the exhibition and for engaging in the children's interactive games and for providing delicious traditional Greek and Chinese food. A fun day was had by all!





## Diwali

We celebrated Diwali with great pomp and festivity on the 21<sup>st</sup> October. We had Rangolis done in the morning, then our students and teachers gathered for an afternoon of fun and celebration. We had a number of musical items and our famous fashion show including the participation of our teachers. We shared traditional cakes thereafter. Diwali was thus celebrated as moment of love, light and happiness.



## Día de los Muertos

Día de los Muertos is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of November. It is a time to remember family and friends who have died. It is a sad tradition however it is also a festive time to honour all those who are not here with us anymore. As part of Día de los Muertos celebration, we had several activities in the Year 8 and 9 Spanish lessons, such as workshops on the creation traditional Mexican skull masks. Moreover, videos on Día de los Muertos have been shown in homerooms and students had the opportunity to learn more about the traditions. Most of the staff and students has dressed up in bright colors and flower patterns.



## Maths Coordinates

As part of their Mathematics learning this term, the Years 9's were introduced to the topic "Coordinates Geometry", where they started by using the coordinates grid (Cartesian Plane) to plot points. The Cartesian plane is named after the French mathematician and philosopher René Descartes (1596–1650), who introduced the coordinate system to show how algebra could be used to solve geometric problems.

As Christmas is a time for fun, joy, and laughter, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November, The Faculty of Mathematics decided to organise a Christmas activity for the Year 9 students to bring joy to their learning of Mathematics. The aim was to construct a Santa Claus using coordinates on the basketball court. The students were given chalks to draw the axes on the court. Then each student had to stand on the coordinates given to them to design Santa's head. A drone was used to capture the outcome. This activity has indeed helped the students to apply

their Mathematics to real -life context (Criteria D). They had the opportunity to engage with a range of ATL skills: Social, communication and self-management skills on the basketball court.

They definitely used a variety of IBMYP Learner's Profile (Knowledgeable, open-minded) to describe that human capability can go beyond academics and learning of mathematics can happen without walls.



## Year 8 Field Trip

The Year 8's went to Trou au Cerfs to observe the volcano. We walked around the crater and it was fascinating. We were later asked questions on the volcano.

From Trou au Cerfs, we made our way to Tamarin for lunch. After having had our lunch, we were divided into groups of 23. We visited the museum in the Martello Tower

which was followed by another quiz. It was a fantastic trip which we all enjoyed.



## Mental Health Awareness Day

We all had fun dancing to pop music in the school hall for mental health.

Quite hesitant in the beginning, students then gathered and had fun dancing for health and happiness.

We hope to make this a yearly event at Northfields.





## Christmas Fair



On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December the Year 12 students hosted a Christmas fair for the younger pupils. The fair featured a number of booths where visitors may participate in activities including coloring, face painting, and cookie decorating. The primary kids were divided into smaller groups at a time, and each group had the chance to take part in the fun fair and festive holiday atmosphere. The event was enjoyable not just for the young children but also for our older students who had the opportunity to collaborate and form bonds. The year 12 students learned a lot about dedication, planning, and hard work, but they also developed their ability to collaborate with peers they don't often get the opportunity to do so. As a result, the fair was a success since everything went as planned and everyone had a good time.

## Safeguarding Survey

We were very pleased to have received 420 completed survey responses, enabling us to have a clearer idea as to how our students view their schooling experience at Northfields. This survey reassured us that the majority of our students are happy and thriving on campus, and that they feel connected to their community. We are using the Ambassador and Mediation Programmes as a means of creating a peer on peer support network. Through these channels we aim to make the students feel more encouraged and supported on campus. At the start of Term 2 we will be sending out another survey and we look forward to continually striving to improve the health and well-being of all our students.

## Health Day: Movember and Diabetes

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, we had an assembly to raise awareness on Movember and Diabetes.



Our Year 8 students presented a fascinating PowerPoint on the struggles and causes of Diabetes, whilst our Year 12 team presented on men's health issues.

We also welcomed two amazing hairdressers that gave the opportunity to students who have been growing their hair and beard during the month of November, to get a trim.



## Christmas Concert



It is with great enthusiasm that we returned to a live Christmas Concert this term. All year groups were represented by at least one student and the big crowd came from the year 7. The repertoire featured a wide range of music, from traditional carols like Silent Night and Feliz Navidad to seasonal favorites like Last Christmas and Happy Christmas.

We were blessed to hear the beautiful voices of some and amazed by the passion of others who played instruments like the piano, keyboard and the guitar. Some students made solo performances while some others sang in small and large groups. The school ensemble also

participated in the event with Eloise Cornish on the keyboard, Ameline Cornish, Ines Hurnaum and Ines Espitalier Noël on guitar and Vetrici Kallee on vocals. This ensemble is very recent and despite the fact that they are all beginners, they managed to play and sing White Christmas. I do encourage the singers and instrument players in the school community to join us on Fridays after school, to help expand and improve the repertoire of the group.

A massive well done to all those involved in the concert. Special thanks to the participants for their hard work and dedication, the two MC's Lucie and Suryansh, Reneeta & Julie from the marketing department, Mrs. Ribbonaar, Miss Nadia, members of staff who were here to help, the year group leaders, the IT department, the heads of school and the parents. It was a really enjoyable time and helped to spread some festive cheer.

Mr. Ashley Patten

## Safeguarding

Northfields is a caring school and we have organised sessions with all age groups to inform them about the Safeguarding Team and the role of the team in the school. It was also an opportunity for the team

to once again reiterate that we are a nut-free campus. The protection of our students are very important and Northfields will strive to keep everyone safe.



## Interhouse Public Speaking

During our annual Interhouse Public Speaking event, finalists from Years 7-13 worked together to deliver their speeches to an audience of their peers. Their chosen quotes were used as a spring board to write inspirational speeches that were delivered with passion and eloquence. We are pleased to announce the winners of the junior team were the Dolphins: Keva B. (overall best speaker), Hugo D., Eja R. and Anya H. The winners of the Senior team were also the Dolphins: Luqmaan N., Hannan S. (overall best speaker) and Tiffany S. What a great day for the Dolphins! Congratulations! We would also like to congratulate the Phoenix and Eagle speakers - well done for some amazing speeches!



## Interhouse Tennis

InterHouse tennis took place over a few weeks where doubles was played. We had some new tennis players which added to the high level of competition and the support on court was admirable. Thank you to all those who were involved, until next time.

The results are as follows:

- 1st- Eagles
- 2nd- Dolphins
- 3rd- Phoenix

Congratulations to the Eagles tennis team:

- Amisha. C and Shreya. J
- Artagnan. M and Rayan. V
- Lucas. C and Campbell. F
- Neel. A and Antoine. H
- Ines E. and Calypso. J

## Interhouse Boys Football and Girls Netball

### INTERHOUSE BOYS FOOTBALL

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November (Year 7 – Year 13) and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November (Year 5/6) the boys were involved in battling it out for inter-house glory on the football fields.

The matches were 8 a side and everyone could participate if they wished to. The DJ kept the boys entertained and everyone enjoyed themselves on the day.

The final results were as follows:

- 1. Dolphins
- 2. Eagles
- 3. Phoenix

- Best Junior player: Daniel C.
- Best Senior player: Antoine B.
- Best Year 5/6 player: Scott S.



### INTERHOUSE GIRLS NETBALL

Interhouse girl's netball took place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November for the High School and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December for the Year 5/6 students. It was extremely hot on the courts but this didn't deter the girls who played their hearts out.

The spirit and support from the side lines was also commendable and fun was had by all.

The final results were as follows:

- 1. Phoenix
- 2. Eagles
- 3. Dolphins

- Best Junior player: Chloe M.
- Best Senior player: Capucine P.
- Best Year 5/6 player: Abby A.



## Tennis Championships

We have had an exciting and competitive few weeks with the running of the school tennis championships.

There were two categories catering for both juniors and seniors and singles were played.

It was a positive turn out and the players were keen to be back on the court competing against their peers, demonstrating perseverance and high competition.

The results of the competition are as follows:

- Junior girl runner-up: Shreya J.
- Junior girl winner: Amisha C.
- Junior boy runner-up: Rayan V.
- Junior boy winner: Artagnan M.

- Senior girl runner-up: Jill H.
- Senior girl winner: Ines E.
- Senior boy runner-up: Neel A.
- Senior boy winner: Antoine H.

Well done to all the players!





## Fun Run

Congratulations to all the students, moms and dads who participated in our Fun Run on Saturday morning the 29<sup>th</sup> October.

It was an extremely enjoyable morning and the tasty treats on offer as well as DJ's tunes the certainly contributed to a very pleasant atmosphere on the day.



The race winners were as follows:

### 13 AND UNDER BOYS

1. Henco U.
2. Shaun M.
3. Jack B.

### 13 AND UNDER GIRLS

1. Sienna H.
2. Ameline C.
3. Helena D.

### 14 – 18 BOYS

1. Matthew S.
2. Sanjeev R.
3. Miles C.

### 14 – 18 GIRLS

1. Capucine P.
2. Tiffany S.
3. Abigail F.

### MOMS

1. Elizabeth K.
2. Isabelle D.
3. Caroline D.

### DADS

1. Marc M.
2. Vincent H.
3. Sydney F.

Thank you to Mandy Arazym and the Parents Committee moms who helped on the day as well as to the sponsors of our prizes: Luigis, The Meeting Place, Altimate Sushi and Spice Finance.

## Football

### BOYS FOOTBALL

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November the Northfields senior and junior football teams played a number of friendly matches against Ecole Du Nord.

The matches were highly competitive but played in a good spirit.

The results were as follows:

**2008 TEAM**  
Northfields won 4 - 1

**2009 TEAM**  
EDN won 2-1

**2010 TEAM**  
Match drawn 1 -1

**2011 TEAM**  
EDN won 3 - 0

### GIRLS FOOTBALL

The Northfields senior and junior football teams were very excited to play their first match against IOFC, a club side who participated in the Mauritian football league. Our girls were very intimidated at first but eventually settled down and played very well against tough opposition.

It was an enjoyable afternoon and the Northfields teams are to be commended for acquitting themselves extremely well.

The results were as follows:

**JUNIOR TEAM**  
Northfields lost 1 - 0

**SENIOR TEAM**  
Northfields lost 3 - 0



## Boys Basketball at Ecole du Nord

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, the Northfields senior and junior basketball teams played matches against Ecole Du Nord.

The boys played incredibly well and thoroughly enjoyed their outing against EDN, displaying outstanding teamwork, skill and determination.



The results were as follows:

**SENIOR BOYS**  
Northfields won 18 - 0

**JUNIOR BOYS**  
Northfields won 16 - 14



## Library News

What hasn't the library been up to in Term 1? We started the term off with our new range of cookery books for the Northfields community after request for more recreational reference material. We also mourned the death of Queen Elizabeth with a memorial board for students to write their wishes.



Step into Halloween and Dias de Los Muertos, with a colour in board, spooky decorations and of course the obligatory scary book reading event. We have loaned 500 more books this school Term 1 versus Term 1 last year, and our reading circulation is up over 14%. Nothing proves our success more than one of our year 10 students completing the top 100 books challenge, the epitome of a successful term, congratulations to Zara S., and we hope to welcome more students to our top 100 wall of fame next term.



Speaking of next term, we will welcome all of our students into our new upgraded library in Term 2, which will be double the size and include a silent study area, we are sure with our new facilities and continued enthusiasm to build on the joy of reading.

## Luca & Anshee

Congratulations to our students Anshee and Luca who recently participated in the CJSOI.

Our students dedication to their training, commitment to sporting excellence and perseverance through their preparation paid off with fantastic results.

Luca won 3 silver and 1 bronze medal and achieved national records in 50m Freestyle (15-16 years) with a time of 24:40 and in 100m freestyle (15 years) 55:16.

Anshee won a bronze medal in 100m butterfly and a silver medal for 100m freestyle relay.

On behalf of the Northfields community, we congratulate Luca and Anshee on their sporting achievements and thank them for inspiring their peers.



## Sona

Sona K. is currently in Year 10 at Northfields. This year, she achieved some outstanding accolades for dancing.

During the month of October, Sona fulfilled a lifelong dream of dancing on an international stage at the Hip Hop World Championships held in Graz, Austria. Sona and the South African national team competed against 4500 of the best hip-hop dancers in the world, making their mark and establishing themselves as fierce competition. For this, she was also presented with South African national colours.

We are incredibly proud of Sona and look forward to sharing many more wonderful achievements with her in future.





## Service as Action



The service-learning program Service as Action, which has been in progress for two years, helps students acquire the characteristics that define a well-rounded personality that is sensitive to social issues. This term our students had the opportunity to raise their voice against a common problem occurring around the world which is bullying. The student life and wellbeing team together with IBMYP team have launched the I-DEA campaign this term. Our focus was to help the students understand the importance of Inclusion via Diversity/Equity /Anti-Racism/Anti-Bullying. The students have made posters and have participated in a walk for equality. Also, a community made up of students has been made to work on the upcoming activities related to this campaign.

Moreover, this term, some students have joined a variety of clubs such as Cinephile club where the students have been working on their critical analysis and thinking skills through movies and the Wellness club which is a fun and safe space for a variety of activities. Heart to heart conversations, collage, drawing, colouring, healthy eating tips. Well done to all the service as action students for their contributions and achievements this term.

SERVICE  
AS ACTION



## IB MYP Updates

It has been a busy and productive term for the MYP years. We finalised the IGCSE examination entries, consolidated our personal projects and launched our IB MYP Interdisciplinary activity for Christmas. We also appointed a new Service as action Coordinator, Miss Amber Korimdun.

### IGCSE STATEMENT OF ENTRIES

In November, we registered our students for their IGCSE subjects. The statements of entries were checked by the teachers, students, and parents before they were signed and returned to the IB MYP Coordinator. We wish them good luck as they prepare for the Mocks next term.

### PERSONAL PROJECT PROGRESS

Students have been working on their personal projects since the last academic year and we are very proud and happy to see their final projects. The show and tell sessions went very well. The students had an

opportunity to present their work in front of their peers. They will be working towards the Personal Project exhibition which will take place in March. They will also be finalising their reports and submit the full reports in January when we are back.

### IB MYP IDU

All the departments of school collaborated to implement our first interdisciplinary unit this term. Year 8 students created Christmas cards for all the Secondary School staff. The cards were created in different departments with the card being designed in the Maths department, decorated in the Arts and Humanities department and finally Poems written in the language classes.



## IB DP - University Fair

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, Campus Abroad organised a University Fair here in the Hall at Northfields. Students from Year 10-13 attended and consulted representatives from over 40 different universities around the world.



Many of the students came prepared with questions to ask. Their questions were related to subject combinations for particular courses, grade pre-requisites, scholarship applications and on-campus accommodation possibilities. The students' familiarity with this process is very helpful in

giving a clear focus to the students.

Our next University Fair will be organised by OVEC on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Parents and students are most welcome to attend.

If you cannot come to the Fair, you can make an individual appointment with Campus Abroad or OVEC.

Their contact details are below:

[OVEC – Overseas Education Centre](https://www.ovecedu.com/contact/)  
<https://www.ovecedu.com/contact/>





*Otentik*



As my final CAS project, me and my classmates have been staying at Otentic Eco-tent experience for three days. Our project was on the theme of Grand River East since that is the river that flows by Otentic. We did numerous different creativities, activities, and services over the span of three days and two nights. One of the activities included a hike by La Vallée de Ferney.

For service we did lots of environmental cleanups and for one of the creativity activities, we learnt how to weave. During our stay we did so much more. I was looking forward to achieving many goals like global engagement, commitment, and working on my overall skills.

We also did our group 4 project during our stay, therefore I think that collaborative skills was very important as well as initiative and planning since we needed to plan all of our equipment and other tools we might needed to bring to Otentic beforehand. I also believe that ethics of choices of actions was a great goal since we were going to a hotel-like place and there was also other people and tourists whom we had to consider.

From Jill H.



**LA REUNION**



**ACTIVITY: WALKING TO THE VOLCANO**

Even though the bus ride to the volcano was very long and lasted around 2 hours plus an extra 2 hours when collecting samples for the group 4 project, the view we has when we were nearing the top of the volcano made up for it. After this, we had got off the bus and started to walk toward the crater of the volcano. There was also a small group of us including me who walked all the way to the start of the fresh dried-up lava from the eruption in September. We even got to see some crazy and interesting things when we got to the part with the fresh dried-up lava such as some gold-looking string/filaments that was between many of the cracks on the floor.

We also got to see rocks that still reflected how the lava flowed and there were many rocks of different colors. We saw rocks with silver, gold, purple, and blue colors on them which were really interesting.

**SERVICE: EXPLORING THE SOUTH**

We went down to the south to explore the different areas and known places of Reunion Island. After lunch, we went to the other side of the volcano where only a couple of us started walking up but then many more joined us and tagged along. Overall this day was very fun and what made it even better on our way back to the school, we were all singing and vibing on the bus.

**CREATIVITY: VISIT OF THE KELONIA AQUARIUM**

We went to visit the Kelonia aquarium where we saw different types of turtles and learned all about their body. In addition to learning about the turtles, we learned about the different kinds of plastics turtles ingest and how they can cause harm to the turtles. We also had a

workshop on how female turtles are able to return to the beach they were born on to lay eggs; they can do so by smelling the plants that existed on the beach when they were born and thanks to this they can find their way back to that same beach. The part I enjoyed the most during this excursion was releasing a turtle back into the sea.

**CREATIVITY: LEARNING ABOUT THE DIFFERENT ENDEMIC PLANTS AND INVASIVE SPECIES IN A FOREST.**

We went to walk in a forest, this forest is one of the forests protected by IRI, a group that protects and restores endemic forests. On this walk, we learned about the different types of endemic species and invasive species. We learned all about the endemic species and how many of them are left on Reunion island, for example, the Ochrosia borbonica is a native plant that produces flowers and fruits which contain seeds. The IRI collects these fruits and then replants them in a new area of the forest with the hopes that it germinates and grows again.

**SERVICE: REMOVING INVASIVE SPECIES FROM THE FOREST**

The IRI group partners up with the landowners and make an agreement to protect and restore the forests by removing invasive species and conserving endemic plants such as Ochrosia borbonica. We got our hands dirty by plucking saplings of invasive species and we also used garden shears to cut down bigger invasive trees at its base. We worked in groups to cut down the invasive trees to their base only as it will be more beneficial than uprooting the tree as without any roots in the ground, even more, invasive species will grow.

They are planning to use approved chemicals to then kill the roots of the plant and replant other native species of the island in its place. This was quite a challenging and tiring activity but it helped a lot with stress relief as it was very soothing to see the before and after of the area we worked on.

From Cedrick L.





## Stratsraad Lehmkuhl Ship

Mr. Jessen, our school eco-coordinator, has had the opportunity to go onboard the study ship, Stratsraad Lehmkuhl, this Saturday. This visit was rich in learning experiences as he got the opportunity to learn more about the biggest tall ship in the world which weighs an impressive 1516 tonnes.



Mr. Jessen was also able to discuss with some of the researchers on board and learn about the importance of their work and strategies to become more ecologically sustainable. These insights will be put to good use on our NIHS campus where we have initiated action plans to minimise our carbon footprint which is in line with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

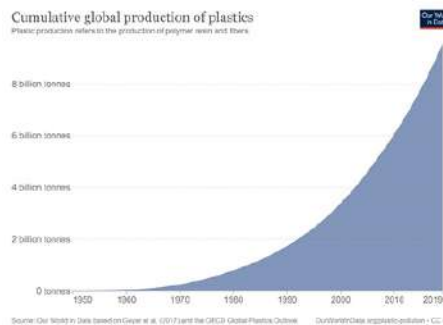
## Reef Conservation

On the 28<sup>th</sup> November we received the visit of the Reef Conservation via Mr Ramjuman and Ms Lalljee for the preparation of the Green Flag. We had a very good exchange of ideas and we are now excited to start work with our projects and implementation of Eco-School ideas within our curriculum.

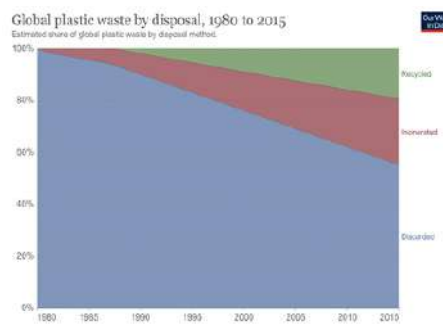


## TAKING A FIRM STAND FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

30°C! That is the temperature difference recorded between March 2021 and 2022 at Concordia Station in East Antarctica. Since the advent of meteorological observations in that region, it was the first time that such a heat spike had ever been recorded. This type of climatic phenomenon has become recurrent around the world and this has been clearly illustrated with recent heat waves throughout the European region where an all-time high of 40°C was recorded in London, UK during the extreme climatic phenomenon during July 2022. On the other hand, plastic pollution has not lost momentum and the numbers have reached a dizzying figure as clearly shown in the Figure 2 displayed below. On top of that, most of the single use plastic that is produced ends up discarded (55%) as recorded by Hannah Ritchie & Max Roser (2018).



Global production of plastics



Global figures on plastic disposal

People around the world can no longer turn a blind eye to the catastrophic consequences of climatic change and plastic pollution. Microplastics have been classified as a planetary boundary threat because they have been recognized as capable of destabilizing Earth's function at a global scale such as causing inflammatory and immune reactions, damage to DNA and reproductive disorders. At Northfields, we have reiterated our engagement to combat climatic changes and also fighting

littering both in our campus and our community. In that optic, our institution has decided to join the Eco-School program which is the largest sustainable school program and is operated by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). We currently hold the Silver Award and we are now aspiring to move to the next step which is the Green Flag certification; an internationally recognized award that certifies an institution's commitment to adopt measures for ecological sustainability. Our eco-leaders, together with our staff, have actively worked on the following projects during the first term:

- Forest Clean-Up event at Daruty Forest: where non-biodegradable waste was collected by our community.
- Switch off campaign: Lights and fans not in use are being switched off after classes to reduce our electrical consumption thereby decreasing our carbon footprint.
- Composting project: Our green waste from our garden and also kitchen will soon be composted and the bio-compost formed will be used at school for supplying our small school garden.
- Anti-littering patrol: Eco leaders will be in charge of doing anti-litter patrol to educate fellow peers about the dangers of littering.
- Use of solar panels to make use of the abundant resource in Mauritius
- Use of borehole water for irrigating the gardens
- School presentations on impacts of disposal of single-use plastics

These measures had a positive impact by reducing the carbon footprint of our school and also contributed to a change in mindset about the impacts of littering on both marine and terrestrial life. Thus, our school community will use the same momentum to build up the future projects for the next part of our academic year. At Northfields, we strongly believe in developing our students into active leaders of a more sustainable world.



Forest Clean up at Daruty



## Peer Mediation Programme

Northfields is very excited to be launching its first Peer Mediation Programme. This program aims to support our young learners as they embark on the challenging and often very uncomfortable journey of conflict management. Conflict is something we cannot escape or avoid, and how we face this inevitable conflict between peers, friends, and teachers is very important. Conflict does not have to ruin good friendships, lead to violence or take away from academic learning. A Peer Mediation programme allows students to be better equipped to manage these uncomfortable feelings at school and later on in life as part of their larger community.

A hand selected group of Year 12 and Year 13 students including our prefects will be trained and equipped to be our first Peer Mediators. Peer mediation helps students develop the conflict resolution skills of understanding conflict, confidentiality, effective communication, and intentional listening. The process invites practice in applying those skills in real life situations and helps them learn to settle potentially explosive situations in a positive and constructive manner.

At Northfields our Peer Mediation Programme aims to promote a safe and nurturing school. We strive to create an environment where mistakes are learning opportunities and where our students learn tolerance and forgiveness towards each other, allowing critical thinking and decision-making skills to be developed.



## The Story of the Lobster

Recently, I was reading something so interesting I thought I had to take the opportunity to share it. Mostly when I think of a lobster I think about an exotic seafood platter, however I have learnt that a lobster is in fact a very amazing creature and can teach us a few things about life.



From the outside the lobster has a very hard external shell which then protects the fleshy white meat underneath. However, as the lobster grows, this shell does not grow with it, and so it has to shed the shell in order for its body to grow and then a new shell forms. During this growing phase, the lobster goes to the bottom of the ocean to hide itself under a rock. It does this because at this specific time in its life it is extremely vulnerable. It knows that in order for it to grow, it must disappear and go away for a bit. In this season, which happens about 25 times in the first 7 years of its life, the lobster intentionally repositions itself so that the old shell can be shed. At exactly the right time, the old shell will drop, fall off and break away.

**Think about how lonely they must feel during this process.**

The lobster has no covering and is completely exposed at this time. It becomes very delicate and cannot be exposed while it's in the growing process. For its own safety it must be alone.

There will be seasons in your life when you feel like the lobster, like everyone has left you and you are all alone. Perhaps like no one understands you or what you are going through.

**But remember, growth is a choice.**

Whatever you may be facing today, it is only a moment of isolation. It is a time in your life where you can be intentional, to live on purpose and to consider all the things in your life. To desire a change in one or many areas of your life. The process doesn't happen overnight, but be reassured it also will not last your entire life either. It just means that a new normal is being created and a much needed growth is about to take place.

As this year comes to an end, embrace the change of routine, appreciate your loved ones and be encouraged that with a new year brings with it many, many new opportunities.

Mrs Melanie Sandiford

## Peer Ambassador Programme

Northfields takes pride in ensuring all of our students feel part of our community from their first day at school and throughout their time at school. In line with this aim, we have introduced a student-led programme to assist our new students as they settle in at Northfields.

The Northfields Peer Ambassador Programme has carefully selected Ambassadors after a voluntary application process has taken place.

The students selected to fulfil this role have taken on a role model position and will therefore be expected to

conduct themselves in a respectable and positive manner. Friendliness, care and clear communication are needed to fulfil the below expectations. We are a busy school, with many new students who come into our community, and we are very happy to support, guide and include these new students.

Our Ambassadors represent Northfields and all our values being visibly on display for our school community.

We congratulate all our chosen Ambassadors.



## Parents Committee

Firstly I'd like to thank you for your generous contributions towards the Old Age Home, Children's Homes and SOS Village.



From your kind donations we were able to provide 100 Grocery Bags, 42 Gifts for each of the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Old Age Home, 32 Gifts for Children's Home and 60 Presents for the SOS Foundation. We were also able to support the Christmas Box Project with a donation for their Grocery Bags. The entire Parents Committee are extremely appreciative of this outstanding, heart-warming generosity which has allowed us to make the lives of so many better during this Festive Season and we are all extremely grateful to everyone who has been able to support our efforts.



On the 21st November the Parents Committee donated Ice Lollies to the whole student body in celebration of World Children's Day. It was well-received by all the children. Halloween was an outstanding success at Northfields. We raised Rs 51,830. Thank you so much for your donations of treats and baked goods. The Committee will be meeting to confirm how these funds will be best used with future projects and will share this information with you all in the New Year. Thank you once again. Wishing you all a very happy Festive Season, safe travels.

Mandy Arazym  
Parents Committee

## Importance in Good Hygiene in Children

Educating children on good hygiene is the best way to avoid the spread of infection and disorders and not just for childhood complaints; teaching the principles of correct hygiene at an early age can help keep individuals healthy in later life and be taught to future generations. Principles of hygiene should be made part of everyday life and the best way for parents to teach their children about good hygiene is to lead by example. The incidence of illness relating to areas of personal hygiene is more apparent in children as they are learning to take care of themselves and are exposed to many germs whilst in the school environment or in a play area.

### IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

#### Oral Hygiene

It goes without saying that the teaching of good oral hygiene is essential for the young. Their milk teeth are likely to fall out and they must know how to prevent this happening to their adult teeth. Along with brushing technique, the importance of dietary influences should be explained and alternatives to sweets, biscuits and fizzy drinks should be made available.

#### Hand Washing

Handwashing is the single most important factor relating to the spread of infection, not just for children but for adults of all ages.

Children should be encouraged to wash their hands before eating, after using the toilet, after handling animals, if they are ill or if they are spending time with a new-born. Washing is essential to avoid developing threadworms which cause itching around the anus and genitals and are contracted from poor toilet hygiene or from animals.

#### Fungal Infections

Athlete's foot and ringworms are also less likely to spread if correct hand washing is achieved. After washing, drying hands properly is also important to prevent fungal infections from becoming worse.

#### Nails

Nail biting should be discouraged, particularly if the nails are being

swallowed. The nails and nail beds offer a perfect environment for germs to live and breed. Nail biting permits the transfer of these bugs to the mouth which can then lead to the digestive tract causing many problems. Even if correct hand washing takes place, there will continue to be some germs under and around the nail, if left they will not normally cause any harm, but transfer to the mouth can induce problems. Keeping nails short will help to reduce the amount of germs under the nail.

#### Hair Care

A suitable hair length and style such as a bun, is a very easy way of minimising the risk of nits. These creatures are spread by contact so by reducing the amount of hair available to have contact with others will decrease the chance of transmission. Hair does not have to be washed daily as this can induce flaking of the scalp, itching and removal of the natural oils.

#### Food Hygiene

Children should be encouraged to wash their hands before meals and snacks and should be discouraged from eating off the floor; this is especially important if there are pets in the house.

Using cutlery allows the child to learn table manners and will lessen the chance of the transfer of germs from the hands to the mouth.

Teaching the correct principles of hygiene should begin at as early an age as possible. It will help to prevent the spread of infections and diseases that can damage the digestive tract, respiratory tract, and the external features of the body.

Maintaining correct hygiene will allow the child to be independent and will lessen the likelihood of bullying if they are kept clean and tidy and do not suffer from associated complaints.





I am delighted to inform you that we will be welcoming some new high school teachers to the Northfields community in January 2023. Please find information below pertaining to the new staff joining us in the Faculties of Mathematics, Sciences, Individual & Societies and Art & Design.

**MATHEMATICS**

Mrs Irma Nel will be joining the Mathematics department as of the 15th January 2023, teaching Year 8-10 classes, as well as offering support to some of our IBDP students. Mrs Nel is joining us from Colegio Anglo International school in Columbia, together with her husband who will be joining us in the Faculty of Science. Irma has extensive experience, particularly teaching MYP groups in various international schools. Mrs Nel is a very talented teacher with expertise in the Sciences and Mathematics alike, as well as being an online content creator for grade 10 Mathematics for a South Africa educational provider.

**SCIENCES**

Mrs Suvana Magan is joining us as our new Biology and MYP Science teacher. Mrs Magan is a well-experienced science teacher from one of the top private schools in South Africa. One of the classes she will be taking one is the Year 10 Biology class, previously taught by Mrs Daby who had volunteered to take on this extra class throughout the recruitment

process in Term 1. Mrs Daby she will now resume her original timetable but will continue to support the teaching of Y10 IGCSE Biology through collaboration time with the Year 10 Biology teachers.

We are also delighted to inform you that Mr Jacobus Nel will be joining us from Colegio Anglo International school in Columbia where he has been teaching IBDP Biology. He will be taking over the year 12 and 13 IBDP Biology classes previously taught by Mr Goojar and covered more recently by Mr Gungaram. Mr Nel has several years of experience teaching at international schools all over the world. He has extensive knowledge on genetics and biochemistry and has valuable experience in working in these fields. Mr Nel has run various extracurricular clubs such as mountain biking, photography and cross country. We are extremely excited to have his expertise in the Science faculty. He will be starting on the 15th of January 2023.

**INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETIES**

We welcome Mr Drewe Fisher to the Individuals and Societies faculty, who will be joining us from St. Martin's School in Johannesburg, South Africa. He will succeed Ms Deborah Parisien and Mrs Tammy Rungasamy in teaching Geography to students in Years 7 to 9 and Global Perspectives to students in Year 10. For the past 23 years, Mr Fisher has been coaching and teaching. In

addition to his classroom experience, he has extensive coaching experience in cricket, athletics, and cross-country, and he is a skilled cricket umpire. He enjoys running and is an accomplished runner with over 100,00km under his belt after 30 years of running. As a result, he has a particular fondness for cross-country running, road running, trail running, and all sports in general. I am confident that he will be an excellent addition to the school, both in and out of the classroom, to the benefit of all our students.

**ART AND DESIGN**

Mr Jean Daniel Chloe will be joining our Art & Design Department as an ICT and Computer Science, teaching IGCSE and IBDP classes. He has a degree in Business Information System and is currently completing his Master's degree in Computer Application. He is very passionate about teaching and the importance of the application of Computer Science in real world contexts.

If you have any queries with regards to our new teaching staff, please do not hesitate to contact me directly (sheena.ramyead@northfields.school).

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Mrs Sheena Ramyead  
Assistant Principal - Academics

