

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Night Parents' Room – A gathering for parents, every Sunday 8:00pm – 9:45pm

Starting from November 2nd, 2008, parents of boarders are warmly invited to gather in room 405 on Sunday nights. Refreshments will be made available between 8:00pm – 9:45pm. The intention is to encourage socialization amongst parents and to foster stronger ties between parents and the boarding school. It also acts as a place where parents may meet their son within the dormitory building without compromising the privacy of other boys.

Recently, a number of parents have been found within the dormitory on Sunday nights. Parents are requested not to enter any areas of the dormitory apart from room 404 and 405. The reasons for this include:

- Respecting the privacy of other boarders
- Reinforcing independence in boarders and responsibility for their own rooms
- Security and avoidance of awkward situations

We look forward to meeting parents regularly on Sunday evenings in room 405.

Boarding Outing – Cinderella

A number of boarders will be going out to watch Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella on Tuesday, 25th November. DBS Boarding School organizes such outings from time to time. All boarders are encouraged to make use of these educational and social opportunities.

Garden Fete

The School Fete will be held on Sunday, November 9th 2008. The boarding school complex will be open to the public, with a number of stalls, cafes and also a boarding dormitory showroom. All are warmly welcome to come along to the boarding house on the day. To find out how you can provide more help with the event, you should talk to a boarding prefect. We look forward to seeing boarders, their families and their friends in the boarding house on November 9th.

USING PREP TIME WISELY

One big advantage of living at boarding school is the academic support that is on offer. At DBS, the "prep" sessions are daily organized study times with dedicated support. This session can be extremely beneficial, but the responsibility for making it beneficial lies largely with the student. Here are some tips for getting the most out of DBS Boarding School prep times:

- **Don't miss prep** – Arrange your other activities (sports, tutorials, etc) around the set prep times.
- **Come prepared** with your pencil case, paper, boarding calendar and enough work to do.
- **Prioritize your work**. Work on homework that is due earlier, or that you need help on. Set goals for each prep session and stick to those goals. Use your boarding calendar to organize and track work.
- **Ask for help** – staff are there to help you. If you are stuck, not sure about something or want to learn more, just raise your hand and ask.
- **Evaluate** how you are working. What would make your prep time more effective? Are there any distractions? Consider who you are sitting next to, whether your phone, iPod or laptop are really helping or distracting. Make necessary changes and re-evaluate.
- **Be honest about yourself** – set realistic targets, get help when needed, take a break when you need to. Each person has different ways of studying – find out what works best for you.

NEWSLETTER TEAM RECRUITMENT

Got ideas? Want to write an article? Photographer? Editor? Illustrator? Any boarders interested in helping to write articles or being a part of making this monthly newsletter should see Mr. Chiu. Creative and Service credits available of course!

PACES UPDATE

The first two rounds of PACES targets have now been completed. In PACES, boarders log down their activities to put towards a set of targets. These targets include Personal goals, Academics, Creative-cultural experience, Exercise and Service. Well done to boarders who achieved way above their goals in all areas. Some boarders were able to clock up a significant number of hours in sports, creative and service activities, both in the boarding house and at school.

Boarders who were not able to fulfill their targets must meet with their mentor and Mr. Chiu. In that session, a plan will be developed to help boarders achieve their targets.

Many worthwhile opportunities exist within the boarding school. Boarders seeking activity ideas should talk to their mentor or to boarding staff.

HALLOWE'EN IN THE DORMITORY

On Thursday night (30th October, 2008), boarders celebrated Halloween the traditional DBS way. The boarding Halloween events kicked off just after sunset with Halloween dinner (pumpkin soup, Western style chicken and squid-ink pasta). Nourished and ready for a night of excitement, we returned to our dormitories to morph into all kinds of creatures, beings and characters. Some notable costumes included Andrew Chow the wizard, Adrian Chow the rainbow haired clown and his rainbow-haired, skirted accomplice Errol, Taylor the damsel of destruction, Eugene Yeung and his black stockings, Clevis' blood stained hands (which left a trail everywhere he went), and many more creatively put-together outfits of the night.

Spooking everyone on campus, our mob of decorated boarders went terrorizing staff members in exchange for candy, finally returning to the dormitory for some snacks and to divide up the earnings.

In Bombardment, another traditional DBS activity at halloween, the seniors played the juniors. While the juniors took the lead winning the first match, the score after three matches ended at 2-1 to the seniors.

Just as we thought we might start settling down for the night, word of the pillow fight tournament circulated the dormitory. For those that decided to come down to the tournament, dressed mostly in pyjamas and armed with a pillow, the tournament was a fluff of laughter as each room took on another room balanced on benches. Small random pillow fights broke out all around the gym, usually lasting only a few minutes until we ran out of breath. The official matches led up to a thrilling final between some of the most skilled pillow fighters DBS has ever seen! A wonderful, breath-taking, feather-filled event it was.

Thanks go out to the prefects and boarding staff who helped to make this event a memorable one.

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