

**IN THIS ISSUE...**What Boarder's Say...October PACES targetsAnnouncementsBoarding Calendars**MESSAGE FROM THE WARDEN**

Welcome to the first edition of our monthly newsletter. We have made a good start to Boarding School at DBS. Although a lot of time has been spent sorting out the facilities of our new building, the staff have also been able to devote an enormous amount of their energy to ensure that our boys have a real sense of belonging here. Lots of new initiatives are planned for the months ahead to make the boarding experience memorable and enjoyable. Our emphasis continues to be on an all-round education but sharing our talents and our time in service to others. We are grateful to all our boarders for their contribution to the community spirit. – it augurs well for the future.

Rev'd Robertson  
Warden

**NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****Tutorial Classes**

In addition to the existing academic support offered during prep time, DBS Boarding School is now implementing a tutorial system. Maths, English and Chinese will be phased in during October with other subjects being added in the future. Boarders may sign-up to attend two types of tutorial classes:

1. Extra Help & Review Tutorials
2. Advanced Course Tutorials

Boarders who are identified as needing extra help will be given priority spots in extra help tutorials. Tutorials will be phased in from October 2008 onwards, taking place weekly during prep times. Boarders interested in signing-up should do so during prep time or speak to a member of staff.

**Illness**

Common colds and other illnesses may spread quickly in a place like a dormitory. Boarders need to take care and observe good personal hygiene – eg., wash hands regularly. If a student is feeling unwell, they should tell a member of staff or see the nursing assistant immediately. Parents should not send their child to school if he is unwell.

**Typhoon and Short Holiday Arrangements**

During short holidays where the dormitory is closed (as listed on the web site and calendar), all boarders are expected to leave for home between 4:00pm and 7:00pm on the day before the holiday. Only boarders who have exceptional reasons may approach the warden for permission to remain, and a waiver must be signed in advance by parents.

When the school is notified in advance of a typhoon signal number eight being hoisted, boarders will be asked to return home if it is safe to do so. The dormitory will remain open only for those who cannot travel home safely.

**Parents in the dormitory**

For security reasons and to avoid awkward situations, parents are requested not to enter the dormitory. Boys are welcome to meet parents at the 3/F (ground level) entrance to the boarding house or in other areas of the school. Should parents have a need to enter the dormitory area, they should check-in with the on-duty staff by calling 51386534 or by visiting the dormitory office in 404.

**BOARDING CALENDARS**

Each boarder has been issued with a Boarding Calendar – a white book that must be brought to school, prep and mentor meetings everyday. Apart from logging all homework and PACES activities, the calendar includes some useful boarding information, such as rules, timetable, contacts, etc. Parents should feel free to look at their child's Boarding Calendar to keep up with what is happening in school and boarding.

**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!

**WHAT THE BOARDERS SAY...**

A number of boarders were asked about various aspects of boarding school. Andrew Chow (G7), Theo Chan Ming Tai (G8), Andy Cheung (G8) and Jacky Chan (F5) tell us about their DBS boarding experience:

*What do you think about staying at boarding school?*

**Andrew Chow:**

"It's my first time staying alone for more than 5 nights."

**Theo Chan:**

"It saves my travelling time a lot...Therefore, I have more time for studying and also playing with my friends."

**Andy Cheung:**

"I learned to organize my time better and take good care of myself. I also learned when to play and when to study, and of course, "Work hard, Play hard."

**Jacky Chan:**

"It's not just a fun and joyful place to live in, but a place to earn a life-long friendship and experiences of different activities...a great atmosphere to train one's independence."

*What do you like most about boarding at DBS?*

**Theo Chan:**

"I can use the facilities of DBS when I am free, such as the new gym, swimming pool, field, basketball court and tennis court. I can also study quietly in prep time in the prep room."

**Andy Cheung:**

"During PAT times we can almost do anything we want, from reading a book to playing soccer. I love PAT times very much!"

**Jacky Chan:**

1. Enjoying sports facilities at night,
2. Getting to know more friends"

*What are some of the things you do during boarding school life?*

**Theo Chan:**

"I always play with my friends after studying. I have different kinds of training after school. It is very convenient that I can take a rest at once after training. I study for two hours every day so my result is improved."

**Jacky Chan:**

"Play badminton, go swimming, play volleyball, play basketball, revise, gather with friends"

*What advice do you have for other students who want to become boarders?*

**Andy Cheung:**

"You really have to know how to take care of yourself, although you can always seek help, you should learn to be independent. Also, you've got to manage your time well."

**Jacky Chan:**

"It's fun to be a boarder. Though the routine might not be a treat, if you make use of the set rules correctly, you will live a meaningful and wonderful life."

**Andrew Chow:**

"Don't worry about the workload – you have 2 hours [of prep] time!"

**Theo Chan:**

"There are many people, including friends and classmates, who asked me "Is boarding school good?" I will certainly answer them that boarding school is good because I can know a lot of friends. You should be a boarder wherever you live. It is a good experience and you will enjoy it"

### **PACES - 1<sup>ST</sup> SET OF TARGETS DUE OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

The DBS Boarding Programme features the PACES system – a well-rounded set of targets for boarders to achieve during their time in boarding. PACES stands for Personal goal, Academics, Creative-cultural experience, Exercise and Service. The first targets have been set for October 17<sup>th</sup>. Boarders will have to achieve **4 Creative-cultural credits** (~45 mins / credit), **4 Exercise credits** (~60 mins / credit) and **4 Service credits** (1 credit / duty ~ 15-30 mins). On top of this, boarders will be working towards **2 personal goals** before Christmas and to keep their academic work up to standard (by **not getting more than 3 black marks** from homework /prep). Check the PACES board (outside 404) or talk to your mentor for details.

### **CONTACT DBS BOARDING SCHOOL**

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