



HEAD'S NEWSLETTER

HEAD'S NEW YEAR NEWSLETTER – 2014

January 2014

2013 was a significant one for CLIP in a variety of ways. We started off with the accreditation visit in January which we passed with flying colours and through the intensive process we became a more united team, in the true sense of 'We Are One'.

There were so many highlights and successes, that it is difficult to mention them all but I would like to make a reference to the newly formulated Celebration Day held on Saturday 14th December, in favour of solidarity. Once again the organizational prowess of Mrs Morgado pulled this complex puzzle together, ably assisted by her happy, efficient band of Interact students and Mr. Meireles who gave up hours of their time sorting, wrapping and labelling the very generous donations made by so many people. Everything ran smoothly throughout the day with just the right mix of academics, music, art & dance and a well- balanced selection of goods to buy. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community (we have raised more than 3.000 Euros) in regards to support for our various charities, the results of which were divulged by e-mail before the holidays.

The Lower School Christmas productions which demonstrated the full range of talent from Pre Kinder to Form 4 managed to raise 800€ for IPO which will be greatly appreciated and once we know what is needed we will purchase it and inform parents about it. The Salvation Army was extremely appreciative of the food collected for Harvest as they are servicing an ever increasing number of needy families. We thank families for this support.

CONCEPT BASED CURRICULUM FORMS 5-9

Parents who attended the presentations made by the winning teams could not help but be impressed by the quality of the content, skills and confidence in public speaking exhibited by the students. It was a pleasure to enter rooms in which students were working independently; researching and assessing the data gathered; negotiating and applying theory to real life projects. The model outside the pavilion (West wing) evidence of planning, problem solving and application of scale and the students involved are proud of what they have achieved.



The results on the individual tests given at the end of term clearly indicated long term learning had taken place in most cases, which is the purpose of all teaching. More CBC projects will be done in the LTRD to consolidate the skills and habits of mind required to succeed both in school & in the workplace.

THE CAROL SERVICE 17TH DECEMBER

All who attended the Festival of Readings & Carols last term felt a spirit of unity as they listened to beautiful singing and listened to a story fluently read, leaving the church feeling uplifted. It was therefore most disappointing to note the higher than normal absenteeism of students, given that attendance is compulsory. Form Teachers will be following up on this but it is hoped that students will attend with pleasure in future and not under duress.

Parents are reminded that it is compulsory to attend school and all unjustified absenteeism will be followed up on and parents are asked not to be lenient on this issue. Forum students are reminded that absenteeism could prevent their graduating from CLIP and that they need to comply with the closed campus policy.

STAFFING

As Mrs. Gaspar will unexpectedly have to go on 'baixa' due to her pregnancy we are very fortunate to have been able to contract an experienced British teacher Mr. Yusuf Albasri who has taught across the middle school age group through to A Level. He is also an experienced physics teacher and musician and will undoubtedly contribute a great deal, not only to the Mathematics department but to CLIP in general.

Mrs. Gaspar has been working with Mr. Albasri and is still present at the moment to ensure a smooth transition.

LEARNING STYLES

After half-term every student from Form 3-11 will complete the Stephen Barkley online learning profile test to be more informed about their personal learning style so as to use this



knowledge to increase their learning. Teachers will have training on how to apply this information in lessons and parents will be guided on how to use it to help children at home.

SPORTS

This weekend, CLIP hosted the "Final 6" Under 14 Girls Basketball Championship (Form 7 and 8).

After a very positive league, which exceeded expectations, the Under 14 Girls team, after a qualifying pool with two victories against Desportivo de Leça on 14 and 15 December, qualified in 1st place in the series it played. This gave the team access to a qualification pool for the most important competition at district level, the "Final 6", which determines the district champion.

This important competition took place on 3rd, 4th and 5th January in the Pavilion at CLIP, with a fantastic atmosphere in the stands that were always full of supporters of the various teams demonstrating a spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

As we finished in 5th place in this competition and as there were 6 vacancies for the district of Porto, CLIP also won the right to participate in the most important competition at national level, the Under 14 Girls National Championship, which ultimately determines the National Champion in this category. No other CLIP team has ever participated in this competition... until now.

In the Varsity Tournament that took place on 5th, 6th and 7th December at CAISL in Lisbon, we finished in 3rd place.

URGENT REMINDER

All students should have booked their lunch options before the start of term. It is essential this be done as soon as possible.

There will be ZERO TOLERANCE for students who leave their student cards at home.



LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is managed by the CLIP.PA in the room next to Rita Barros/Bina Rego. Much of the clothing, including winter coats, is unmarked making it impossible items to rightful owners.

OPENING HOURS: 8.30-11.00h on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Lydia Silva MA (Ed)

Head