

# HIGHLANDS POST



Mount Zaagkam International School - TPRA

Friday 17 February 2012

## Welcome to MZIS

Dear Community,

It has been another eventful week at MZIS TPRA! We were all excited with the arrival of Mr. Ryan and Ms. Debora on Monday. Ryan has already settled into his role as our Grade 1 teacher and Debora has begun her work as our Learning Support Teacher. Not only did we receive new staff this week, but Friday was the first day for our new Grade 2 student, Danilo! ISA testing was completed on Tuesday and Wednesday and we should have the results late in the school year. Thanks again for everyone who is helping out with swimming! I have seen lots of improvement from all our children. -Mark

## Welcome/Bienvenidos Danilo!



## IMPORTANT

Monday 20 February—Middle School Trip

Monday 27 February—Awards Assembly

Thinker

Thursday 15 March—After School

Activities finish

Friday 16 March—K-3 swimming finish

Saturday 17 March—Soccer finish BBQ

Saturday 24 March—Student-led

Conferences

Monday 26 March—Awards Assembly

Balanced

Friday 30 March—Performance Assembly

11:00am in the Library

Thursday 5 April—LAST DAY (full day)

Hi everyone! My name is Ryan and I am very happy to be the new Grade 1 teacher at MZIS. Previous to taking up this position I worked as a Grade 3/4 teacher the Australian International School in Jakarta. I was also the swim co-ordinator and head coach of the school swim team and I look forward to being involved in the swimming program at MZIS. I recently married my wife, Debora and we are both looking forward to our new life together here in Tembagapura. I think living and working in this unique environment will be a challenging, yet rewarding experience. I am particularly enjoying the fresh air and small population of the town after being smothered by the polluting and millions of people in Jakarta. In my spare time I enjoy surfing, swimming, running, travelling and spending time with my family and friends. I look forward to meeting many of you in the near future.



Hi, my name is Debora. I work as a learning support here in MZIS. I completed my Bachelor of Psychology in 2006 and a Master of Education (special education) in 2008 from University of Sydney. After completing my studies, I started to teach as an English as Second Language teacher in Malaysia and also became the program coordinator of the reading program there. Two years working in Malaysia was a great starting point for my career. Subsequently, I moved back to Indonesia. In Jakarta, I worked as an ESL teacher for primary and secondary students in an International school for another two years, met my husband and decided to move to Australia. As we were planning to move back to Australia, a great opportunity arose for us to both teach at MZIS. It has only been a few days since I started working here. However, everything has been wonderful. So far the job has been challenging, everyone here is very helpful and friendly and the town itself is much nicer than I expected. I hope that I will have a wonderful time here and a little less rain would be great. 😊



## Coordinator's Notes...

What is the PYP perspective on assessment? Part Two

The PYP approach to assessment recognizes the importance of assessing the process of inquiry as well as the product(s) of inquiry, and aims to integrate and support both. The teachers record the details of inquiries initiated by students in order to look for an increase in the substance and depth of the inquiry. The teacher considers:

- If the nature of the students' inquiry develops over time – if they are asking questions of more depth, that are likely to enhance their learning substantially
- If students are becoming aware that real problems require solutions based on the integration of knowledge that spans and connects many areas
- If students are demonstrating mastery of skills
- If students are accumulating a comprehensive knowledge base and can apply their understanding to further their inquiries successfully
- If students are demonstrating both independence and an ability to work collaboratively

The assessment component of our school's curriculum is subdivided into three closely related areas.

- Assessing – how we discover what the students know and have learned
- Recording – how we choose to collect and analyze data
- Reporting – how we choose to communicate information

Please look for more information about the assessing, recording and reporting components of our assessment in upcoming newsletters. If you have any further questions on assessment in the PYP, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Trish Phyll



## ARTISTS AT WORK

Grade 2 students, along with Grade 3, have created some wonderful art-works in the last few weeks.

They have been learning about painting, colour and composition, as well as viewing and discussing art-works by famous artists. You can admire their work on display along the corridor at school.

QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 25 Feb

Teams of Eight Tickets on sale

Contact - Bonnie Wilmot