



16th December, 2014

Happy Holidays from the Head of School

Dear Parents,

As the festive lights come on and provide some colour to the shorter and darker days, we know that the first school term is drawing to a close. We have had many highlights this term and feel a very good atmosphere in the School. Our recent St Lucia celebrations generated much warmth and Christmas spirit!

We also reflect with gratitude on the great success of this year's PTA events, including the International Welcome BBQ, the brilliant Winter Bazaar, and the convenient Clothing Swap as well as many other social activities. We continue to be grateful for the many ways the PTA contributes to building our School community.

This term has also seen further investigations into developing our facilities and exploring new premises. We established the prioritized features of any new development or new premises, including the need to be able to respond to growing demand and offer modern pedagogical facilities. One option investigated was the possibility of a new campus on a site at Mölndal, which is currently the high school there, Fässbergsgymnasiet. Following a thorough process including Board meetings, ongoing meetings with politicians and local government representatives, it was determined not to be a feasible option at this time. We continue to explore other options including other centrally located sites as well as the development of our existing Campuses.

We continued our new standardized testing this term, using the 'International Schools' Assessment' (ISA) from the 'Australian Council for Education Research' (ACER). The ISA is especially relevant for us as it is based on results from sample international schools all over the world. ISA test results for PYP 3, 4 and 5 will go out on the last day of term. MYP results will go out in January. Overall, the results show that we are in good standing compared to similar schools. If you are a little surprised by your child's results, remember that these tests were taken at the beginning of the term and are not a reflection of their progress throughout the term.

Our students have performed very well, but together with their teachers, are certainly looking forward to a well-deserved break. We say good-bye and best wishes to some families who are leaving us and welcome to the new families arriving for the Spring term. In total, we will see a small increase in student numbers for the new term.

Thank you again for all the excellent contributions to the School community this term. I hope everyone has a happy festive season and we look forward to a prosperous New Year, with students returning on Thursday, 8th January, 2015!

Yours faithfully,

Head of School

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