



OCTOBER 2019



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 23rd-25th: Camp Year 9
- 24th: Parents' Meeting Year 11
6th Form Bake Sale
- 25th: Divali Celebration
- 28th: Peace Run
- 30th-31st: Camp Year 6
- 30th: Parents Meeting Year 12&13
- 31st: Halloween Bake Sale and Civvies

NOVEMBER

- 1st: Public Holiday: All Saints Day
- 4th-6th: Camp Year 10
- 7th-8th: School Closed for Elections
- 14th-15th: Camp Year 8
- 20th: Interhouse Boys Football & Girls Netball
- 21st: Campus Abroad University Fair
- 27th: Parents' Consultation Day Year 5&6

DECEMBER

- 2nd: Start of Interhouse Table Tennis
- 4th: Parents Meeting Year 9
- 6th: StarZ of Northfields
- 12th: Christmas Carols
- 13th: Last Day of Term 1 (Midday Closure)

Our students have begun the year in great form, academically and with their sports, cultural and service activities. Mid-term attainment and effort levels look very promising, and I am very pleased to see evidence of such progress so far this term. The Year 7-9 students are enjoying their MYP lessons and embracing the ethos of the programme together with their teachers, and our older students have settled in well with their IGCSE, A Level and IB Diploma Programme courses.

It has been such a pleasure to see the students and staff come together in great spirit.

Also, with the introduction of our Bring Your Own Device scheme and the further development of our Moodle pages this year, all of our students are able to make wider use of the outstanding electronic tools and resources available online at school and at home.

We also have begun the term in full swing with numerous activities and events already occurring in the first half-term. It has been such a pleasure to see the students and staff come together in great spirit for our camps, interhouse events, and our social and environmental campaigns, many of which are highlighted in this issue of our Newsletter.

It was particularly nice to end the first half-term with our annual Founders Day ceremony, which proved to be an excellent opportunity to share and celebrate the talents and successes of our students.

Our parents have been very active in supporting the school with our improvement initiatives this year. The Parent Committee have already helped to ensure that

our ongoing Caritas donations continue to be a success and that with new water fountains installed, our plastic reduction project gets off to a great start.

They also have been busy planning for several key events which they have committed to supporting this year, including our upcoming Halloween civvies day and bake sale, as well as our Christmas box project later this term.

Please do continue to support these and other initiatives, which have been designed to build school spirit while also benefiting our students and the wider community.

Thanks to our students, staff and parents, Northfields clearly shines as an outstanding place to learn, and I look forward to many great achievements to come over the remainder of the year.

Phyllis Philogène
Principal



ROALD DAHL DAY



Roald Dahl Day 2019 has been a day to remember. The Prep School students have had a "phizz-whizzing", "jumpsquiffling", frothbungling", "splotch-winkling" and "scrumdiddlyumptious" day. Early on the 13th September, a whole bunch of Willy Wonkas, Fantastic Mr. Foxes, Matildas, witches and other characters walked through the gates. In assembly, Miss Ingamells spoke about Roald Dahl's life and played a lovely video which included audio clips of an interview with Roald Dahl. The students got to listen to his thoughts and learned a lot about how he wrote these wonderful children's books.

During lunch time, an exciting adventure began. Students were given the opportunity to go on a school-wide Roald Dahl Treasure Hunt, organised by Miss Green. If they were able to answer all 10 questions correctly, they would win a chocolate! They had immense amount of fun and were hopefully inspired to get stuck into a Roald Dahl novel.

Thank you, Roald Dahl for your amazing stories! "If you don't believe in magic, you'll never find it." – Roald Dahl

TALK ON GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

On the 7th October, we were very fortunate in welcoming Mrs Angélique Desvaux de Marigny, Barrister-at Law who gave a talk on the topic Law and Criminality to our Year 10 students of Global Perspectives.

The students engaged very well and had so many questions to ask. All too soon the time was over, but all students had gained a considerable amount of knowledge on the topic. Our heartiest thanks goes to Mrs Desvaux de Marigny.



ACADEMIC

FOUNDERS' DAY

As per Northfields tradition, Founder's Day was held on Friday 11th October 2019 as one of the most important celebrations of the school calendar. This ceremony is an occasion where we celebrate the progress of the school and the academic and sporting achievements of all students. We were privileged to have the presence of Mrs Niamh Allen, Country Director Mauritius of the British Council as our guest of honour. We were equally fortunate to have with us Mrs Paula Atchia, Founding Head of School as well as other distinguished guests and members of the Board.

Our Principal, Mrs Phyllis Philogene, gave an excellent speech on the various accomplishments of our school over the past year as well as a vision for all our future endeavours. Mrs Allen's speech was truly inspirational and highlighted the importance of being a risk taker and an inquisitive learner as students face the challenges of the 21st century. She emphasised the fact that being inquisitive is part of the IB Learner profile and helps students nurture a desire to become curious.

Mr Murray Botha, our Master of Ceremony, did an excellent job announcing the academic and sporting awards

where our students proudly made their way on stage for the collection of their prizes. The climactic moment of the ceremony was the announcement of the Special Awards as well as the overall House Cup winner.

We were very proud to have on show different musical items for the occasion, with students performing string ensemble, piano medley and vocal pieces. Longstanding members of staff were also recognised for their dedication over the past 10 years at the school. The Head Prefects closed the ceremony with an address and a vote of thanks on behalf of the students.

It was truly a day of celebration and a sincere recognition of all our pupil achievement. There was no doubt that this was a very proud moment for the Principal, all teachers and parents of the Northfields community.



PEACE ONE DAY



our winners of the poem competition, Lorna (8V), India (8V), William (7V) and Nikil (9), Victoria and Catherine (11H and V), who shared their beautiful poems with all. All poems were in the following different languages: Creole, French and English.

Students celebrated this event by placing their peace message on the tree made by the Year 12 Art students, Alix P. and Oliver A.

Finally the Year 5 & 6 sang beautifully their version of Heal the World, by Michael Jackson. It was a great assembly, and we would like to thank the students' Peace Committee and the prefect body for making this day so special.



We celebrated Peace One Day on Friday 20th September. The assembly was conducted by CJ and Caroline of Year 12. The theme was Climate in Action where the students of the UNESCO Club, namely William (7V) and Zainab (7I) spoke about the importance of climate change and peace. Then came

PREP SCHOOL HUMANITIES EXHIBITION

Year 5 Humanities Exhibition:
Ancient Greece



The Year Fives have been working in groups over the past few weeks to create an awesome Ancient Greece Exhibition. Parents were invited to attend and had a great time studying their children's beautiful posters, playing Greek-themed games and sampling traditional foods. These young Greeks sure know how to 'Plato' their food... you had to get in quickly to make sure you didn't miss out! 'Feta' late than never!

Our four main topics were: Daily Life in Ancient Greece, Greek Warfare, Greek Mythology and Greece Today.

The students came up with creative and interesting ways to interact with their guests. While festive Greek music floated around the room, the classroom was buzzing with chatter, laughter, action and fun.

Mrs. du Preez is very proud of the Year Fives and would like to thank the parents for assisting their children with the preparation leading up to the big day.

Greece, we are going to 'myth' you, but we will definitely be 'baklava'!

Year 6 Humanities Exhibition:
The Shang Dynasty



What a wonderful morning, enjoyed by both parents and children, as the Year 6 pupils got to showcase all their hard work. Over the past few weeks, the Year 6s have been working on a collaborative project about the Shang Dynasty.

Their project posters were displayed and each group got to work together to present a decorated table, with Traditional Chinese Foods, pictures, artefacts and an interactive game, linked to the theme. The main themes were: Government, Art, Writing, Food and Religion.

Well done to all the students for producing such wonderful work and for making the morning so enjoyable for everyone!

A very big thank you to the parents, who joined in whole-heartedly, moving from table to table, participating in the different games and activities. Also for all the support that you show your children, which makes it possible for us to share in these special days at Northfields.

Fantastic work and effort, Year 6s!!

IB MYP

At Northfields we are committed to delivering an innovative, relevant and world recognised curriculum and the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) is a critical component of that.

The MYP is highly regarded around world as it not only ensures a student's academic progress but also their personal development in an international context and has long enjoyed a reputation for innovation, inclusivity and its ability to prepare students to apply learning skills to complex situations.

For example, a study by the Australian Council for Educational Research found that MYP students use critical thinking and analytical skills more frequently than non-MYP students, and demonstrated strong writing and English language skills. Likewise, an examination of the teaching and learning benefits of the MYP in the UK found that the programme positively impacts school culture and classroom environments, promotes feedback and reflection, and is engaging and motivating for both students and teachers.

Today, the international profile of the MYP continues to grow, most recently with official recognition of England's Office of the MYP eAssessments by England's Qualifications and Examinations Regulation.

Northfields students and teachers have already seen the benefits of the programme as we have begun to implement MYP over the past year. Students have been guided in developing their approaches to learning in several key areas: thinking skills, communication skills, self-management skills, social skills and research skills.

Through inquiry based learning, assessments have been designed to create a performance of understanding, and our first set of reports for Years 7-9 this year reflect the subject specific, age appropriate assessment criteria established for the programme.

We are very pleased with the students' progress so far and are confident that they will continue to benefit from learning through the MYP.

For more information on the MYP at Northfields please contact our MYP Coordinator, Harry Allen, at:
harry.allen@northfieldsinternational.school

TEACHERS' DAY

The CAS students of Year 12 have taken on their first CAS project by celebrating Teacher's Day to show gratitude to their teachers on the 4th of October. They sold flowers to the students to surprise their teachers by gifting them a flower and a small card.

The teachers were very appreciative and grateful and we wish all the teachers a happy teachers day.



MERAKI ENTREPRENEUR WORKSHOP



On the 26th September 2019, the faculty of Humanities hosted the Meraki Entrepreneur Workshop which was aimed at the sixth form students. The workshop was run by two practising entrepreneurs namely: Mr. Evan Hurwitz and Mr. Jason Barr. This two hour taster programme gave the 25 participants an insight on how to channel their thought process if they wanted to start their own enterprise.

The details from the ideation to its conceptualisation were all laid out. Three case studies were also discussed and participants brainstormed in groups to evaluate the viability of those firms in the local market. Students found this session very engaging as they had access to a lot of new information.

We take this opportunity to thank the organisers and strongly believe that this kind of programme prepares the students to have a multitude of options to choose from or it could just be the start of, how to think differently.

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

We thoroughly enjoyed having exchange students Kevin and Hannah join us from Crawford College, La Lucia for 3 weeks in September.

They were hosted by the Chambers and Piat families and we would like to thank both Clemence and Tegan for looking after them and for showing them around our beautiful island.

We hope that they enjoyed their experience at Northfields.

EVENTS

ECO-SCHOOL

The eco-school initiative is off to a good start and we are right on track to progressing towards attaining the Silver Award.

Eco school work and projects inside and outside the school are ongoing.

The nomination of eco-leaders

Eco-leaders are fundamental drivers of the eco-school program. They meet bi-monthly to discuss the current situation and brainstorm on future ideas. Role of the eco-leaders include:

1. Delivering eco-messages during homeroom time.
2. Motivating their peers to participate in eco-initiatives.
3. Enforcing good environmental practices within the classroom and the school compound.
4. Generating and managing projects with the help of other eco-leaders.

The Daruty forest clean-up



The Daruty forest clean-up was one of our major community event. Northfields community gathered in full force to do its share for the World Cleanup Day on Saturday 21st September!

The event, which was held in collaboration with Let's Do It Mauritius and Endemika saw our community come together to keep our paradise country free of illegal garbage and littering.

Old, young and children, all dressed up with their thick shoes and gloves, cleaned up Daruty Forest. They combed all corners of the forest and filled their bin bags with all the waste found in the forest.

At the end of the day, 216 full bags of waste containing approximately 60% plastics was collected. Besides that, there were tyres, TV's, fans and other electronic items that were disposed of

illegally in the forest.



The forest certainly looks cleaner than ever before and we would like to thank all who were involved on that day for their contribution. We would also like thank Bonnie Bio Ltd for providing us with the biodegradable bin bags.

Water fountains and plastic bottle ban

The Parent Committee have been great supporters of our eco-school program. They have generously donated 6 potable water fountains (3 ambient and 3 chilled), which have been installed around the campus.

The aim of this project is to eliminate the sale of bottled water in our canteen. Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles from home and to refill their bottles at the various fountains across the school.

We can proudly say that the school can now consider eliminating single-use plastic bottles and we hope that this will eliminate significantly the plastic consumption at school.



YEAR 12 CAMP



This year the Year 12 students enjoyed their eco tent experience at Otentic. From the 28th to the 30th of August we camped together, relishing the marvels of nature that were on offer. Since the trip took place at the beginning of the academic year, it enabled new students to form bonds and memories and helped the year group grow closer as a whole.

The trip began with a challenging climb up Le Pouce. Despite the spontaneous showers of rain, the mossy trees and rocks, steep slopes as well as the slippery surfaces, everyone managed to accomplish this feat. Nonetheless, the end result was very rewarding as we gazed upon the northern coastline.

Back at Otentic, we were offered with many activities which were sure to drain us of our energy. We set out to kayak, boat ride or paddle board, whilst others preferred to play volleyball.

The next day we were up early. After we

had breakfast we headed to a nearby island. The wonderful weather made our day at the beach even more pleasurable. Each of us entertained ourselves in our own way, from playing football and volleyball to tanning and reading. Once we were well rested and recovered from our daytrip, we all took part in some student-led activities. We played games and had a water balloon fight, which ended up with everyone drenched and in the pool.

Sadly, our camp had to come to an end. We woke up the next day and enjoyed one last kayaking experience, it was very fun, and the waterfall was extremely captivating; the daring few amongst us braved the waters and swam, whilst the rest of us settled for paddle boarding or kayaking. After that we had to head back to school on a long bus ride.

Our camping trip was filled with laughter, fun and relaxation along with the occasional burst of adrenaline. It offered an opportunity to push ourselves out of our comfort zones, bringing us closer together as a year group and allowed us to create memories to treasure for many years to come, serving as a solid foundation for our last two academic years at Northfields.

Girisha J. (Year 12)

YEAR 7V/H CAMP

On the day that we were to leave for camp, everyone was full of excitement and energy. Upon arrival, we had some snacks and drinks – and then the activities began. We made war cries, as well as participated in numerous team building activities that challenged us in many ways – such as how to communicate, take leadership, and to work as part of a team.

After a delicious lunch, we went on a nature walk where we had to collect things from the walk such as rocks, sticks, leaves and flowers (without picking!) to use in an activity later on.

During the evening, we had free time and had an evening activity that linked with our Science syllabus. We had to use the things that we collected earlier on our nature walk to make a beautiful art work that included concepts from Science (such as cells or the water cycle). The following morning, we had breakfast,

and had a MASSIVE mud-fight! Everyone was drenched and absolutely covered in mud!

Following the mud-fight, we went back to clean up, and had a lunch of burgers and chips. The announcement was made that the **YELLOW TEAM WON!!!** Such excitement has surely never before been felt!

The camp was an amazing opportunity for us to bond as classmates, and the ending was not truly an end – but rather a start to an amazing year.



YEAR 7 I/R CAMP

During camp we loved the exciting activities and the delicious food that was there. After a lot of fun in the sun we were all glad to go back to the lodges and gossip while still having a blast. Unfortunately, good times came to an end, and we were shortly back on the bus, on our way home. But still it was nice to review our trip in the bus (for some people meant snoozing after a tiring adventure). After a great time in the forest it was time to say goodbye to good old Richie and the others.

Paloma (form captain)
and Tiffany (vice form captain)

WHAT WAS BEST ABOUT CAMP?

"Camp was fun and cool. Especially the activities like bamboo rafting and the food was delicious."

Maelynn 7R

"The activity that I most enjoyed was to find some branches or leaves and then stick them on the canvas. The other thing that I enjoyed was the extremely delicious food and the mud fight!"

Rayan 7I



YEAR 5 CAMP

The Year 5 Camp at Seven Cascades was one to remember! After our arrival and a quick snack, the students went down to the field, where they were placed into teams and had to make up a war-cry together and vote for a captain. After lots of fun teamwork games and races, they went for an adventurous walk. The groups were tasked with collecting an assortment of natural items for use in our after dinner activity. Following a delicious dinner the children began their creative arts teamwork activity. They had to use their 'forest-finds' to create a picture and used paint and felt-tip pens to help them.

On Friday morning, Ritchie, the camp leader, announced that the recipient of the award for best Year 5 Team 2019-2020 was the Blue Team. And, just like that, our long awaited and fun-filled camp had come to an end! It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to interact in a different environment and to learn many new skills.



IB DIPLOMA

Northfields International School has been offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme since 2008. We believe the IB Diploma Programme is ideal for university preparation. In the following list you will find some of the reasons why it has been recognised that the IB students are well prepared for university and beyond:

1. It increases academic opportunity
2. IB Students care about more than just results
3. It encourages IB students to become confident and independent learners
4. It is an international qualification
5. Graduates are globally minded
6. The IB encourages critical thinking
7. DP students have proven time management skills
8. It assesses more than examination techniques
9. Subjects are not taught in isolation
10. It encourages breadth and depth of learning



For more information please contact our IB Coordinator, Rosemary Abbott, at: rosemary.abbott@northfieldsinternational.school

NEW STAFF

Samiya Gafoor is our newly recruited temporary teacher who is currently replacing Ms Nathalie Weber in the faculty of Modern Languages. She has a B.Ed. in French.



Sandren Chocalingum has years of experience in landscaping and is joining us from the sports club to join the Facilities Team as our gardener.



SPORTS

INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY



The first interhouse event of the year, cross country, took place on Tuesday 17th September. If this was a sign of things to come, we can expect outstanding spirit and fierce rivalry at every event this year. The weather played its role and conditions were perfect throughout the day. The athletes ran their hearts out in the first few races and this set the tone for the rest of the day. The display of perseverance, commitment, determination and spirit by our students throughout the day was inspirational and they are all to be congratulated.

The final results were as follow:

Spirit Trophy
Dolphins

Cross Country Cup
1st: Eagles
2nd: Dolphins
3rd: Phoenix

Race winners
Yr 5-6

Boys
1st: Pierre L., 2nd Ladislas R.,
3rd: Timeo S.

Girls

1st: Jessica S., 2nd: Kayra T.,
3rd: Eloise C.

Benjamin

Boys

1st: Stanislas L., 2nd: Luc M., 3rd: Perkin S.

Girls

1st: Emma P.; 2nd: Lexi C.; 3rd: Briseis J.

Minim

Boys

1st: Remi D., 2nd: Enzo L., 3rd: Samuel S.

Girls

1st: Victoria L., 2nd: Ophelia M.,
3rd: Sofia P.

Cadet

Boys

1st: Dillon S., 2nd: Christian D.,
3rd: Samuel S.

Girls

1st: Jill H., 2nd: Jade G., 3rd: Morgane B.

Junior

Boys

1st: Romeo P., 2nd: Marius L., 3rd: Alix P.

Girls

1st: Aurelie T. & Kayla B., 2nd: Janine J.,
3rd: Emma R.



INTERHOUSE FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL



Interhouse football (girls) and basketball (boys) took place on Thursday 3rd October. The fields and courts were a flurry of activity between 1pm and 4pm as teams jockeyed for ascendancy and house glory. The matches were intense, competitive and exciting with outstanding examples of sportsmanship prevalent throughout the afternoon. After the last match the boys all joined the girls at the sports club for the presentation of awards and house cups. It was an excellent day for

Dolphins as they won both the girls football and boys basketball events. Certificates were also presented for the junior and senior players of the tournament. Congratulations to all the participants and thank you to the referees who helped officiate.

Junior football player: Tayla N.

Senior football player: Victoria L.

Junior basketball player: Remy S.

Senior basketball player: Irfan M.

Football winners: Dolphins
Basketball winners: Dolphins

