



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 24th: Prep School Coffee Morning
- 24th: Start of Interhouse Tennis
- 25th: Meraki Entrepreneur Programme Presentation
- 26th: Senior School Coffee Morning
- 26th: U17 football matches vs Lighthouse (at Northfields)
- 31st: Halloween Bake Sale & Civvies
- 31st-1st Nov: Year 6 Camp

NOVEMBER

- 2nd: Public Holiday: Arrival of Indentured Labourers
- 5th: Parents Evening Year 8
- 6th: Divali Celebration
- 7th: Public Holiday: Divali
- 9th: Interhouse Football (girls) & Basketball (boys)
- 9th: Interschool Cross Country (at Light house School)
- 13th: Parents Evening Year 9
- 14th-16th: Year 9 Camp
- 19th: Start of the Interhouse Table Tennis
- 21st: Parents Evening Year 11: Progress and advice about Mocks
- 22nd: Campus Abroad University Fair
- 23rd: Middle School Coffee Morning
- 28th: Parents' Consultation Day Year 5 & 6
- 30th: Mr & Miss Northfields

DECEMBER

- 3rd-5th: Year 12 Camp
- 3rd-7th: Interhouse Public Speaking
- 5th: Christmas Box Delivery
- 6th: Christmas Carols
- 7th: Last day of Term 1



Northfields has made a great start this year and we have much to be proud of as a school. Our academic, sporting and cultural programmes of learning continue to grow, and we are very pleased to see our boarding programme expand as we welcome our first two international boarders to Northfields this year.

In line with our vision of excellence as an international school, we have embarked full speed with our IB MYP implementation as a candidate school and are carrying out our self-evaluation as part of our CIS membership application as well. This year we also have set in place measures to better guide our students in their learning and in setting positive goals for themselves through our CAT4 testing and Vision Board sessions. We anticipate that both of these activities will provide our students and staff with vital information and tools for successful learning.

Northfields has started the year with our usual gusto in other areas too, enjoying several sporting events, school trips and camps, and putting together a beach and forest cleanup as well as two very worthwhile fundraising events. We have been very fortunate this year to welcome three exchange students from Crawford College in South Africa and we look forward to extending this reciprocal programme long into the future.

Our recent Founders Day was an opportunity to recognise and thank our students and staff who have contributed positively to the school over the past year. It was a real pleasure to welcome our Guest of Honour, Mr Keith Allan, and so many other parents and guests on the day. Celebrating our achievements with you all has been a wonderful way to end the half term and has inspired many to aim for excellence again this year.

I am extremely proud of our students, staff and parents for their positive attitude, high expectations, hard work, and community spirit

It has been wonderful to see so many exciting and worthy events taking place and our students engaging in their lessons and activities with such enthusiasm. I am extremely proud of our students, staff and parents for their positive attitude, high expectations, hard work, and community spirit and I look forward to a great year ahead together.

Phyllis Philogène
Principal



YEAR 8H & 8V

The classes of Year 8H and 8V enthusiastically and optimistically set off for camp, which was on the 6th and 7th of September 2018. The camp, which was in the middle of the La Grave Valley, turned out to be quite a challenge - as the entire trip took place in absolute cold and non-stop rain!

Nevertheless, the Year 8's showed great fortitude and perseverance, and it was amazing to see them step up to the challenge. Despite the cold and dreary weather - and it is the second time that their camp has coincided with heavy rain - they remained cheerful and enthusiastic. They definitely made the most out of their time away from school!

Seeing them work and compete in groups both for the indoor and outdoor activities, looking out for each other, ensuring that each group member can give the best of himself/herself has been the most enjoyable part for us all.



The highlight for us all remains how a young man of Year 8 encouraged his friend within a game with the following: "Don't stress, mate! It's fine. Take a deep breath. Count to 10. Relax and then, we can continue." And it was an absolute delight to see the same being echoed in most groups. Unfortunately, there could only be one winning team; and we would like to congratulate the PINK team for their group effort, dynamics and eventual success.

Nevertheless, the entire group had impressed all who were present at the camp with their fantastic efforts, teamwork and willingness towards working together and helping one another.

This was truly another successful camp, and the Year 8's can take great pride in themselves.



YEAR 5



On the 11th October the Year 5 students went on Camp to Dornaine de Lagrave.

Twenty two very excited children climbed enthusiastically onto the bus and the adventure began.

They spent two fun-filled days participating in many activities. Grass skiing, obstacle courses, team building skills,

archery and blind folded games were among the many activities in which the children participated.

The heavy rain did not dampen the children's spirits and the teachers were most impressed with the students' behaviour and attitude on camp.

Overall it was a great success!



YEAR 7



On the 3rd October, the Year 7s went on camp at Domaine de la Grave and had an awesome time!

They departed from school around 8.30 a.m. in the three buses after having loaded all their luggage therein. When they reached the Domaine, the

students were shown where they would be sleeping: the chalets for girls and tents for boys. They loved it!!

After that, they were separated into 6 different teams in which the students would be playing games throughout camp such as bows and foam arrows, "catch the ball" and "don't break your egg please" during the day. It was big fun! After supper, they had a Zumba session and played musical chairs with the teachers.

They also had a fantastic mud fight on the second day and this was memorable moment for them all.



YEAR 10

Year 10 students went on camp to Domaine de Lagrave on the 19th September. Spirits were high and some sang us all the way there with a Celine Dion and Ariana Grande medley. For some the first challenge was how to put up a tent. The teamwork skills kicked in early.



They spent three action packed days participating in many activities including very inventive team war cries, cooking lunch for the whole group, kite making, teambuilding games, ori-

entering, dancing, a campfire and a very challenging 20 km walk. They even participated in Peace One Day spelling out the word "PEACE" with their bodies. The weather was gorgeous and students made the most of this with epic football games that always ran to extra time and a lively disco in the evenings. The setting was ideal for a productive and fun camp where the students were able to connect with each other in a way that is not always possible in the regular school day.

A great experience for us all.



REEF CONSERVANCY TRIP

On Thursday 20th September, our Year 13 Geographers and Scientists visited the Anse La Raie Conservation Centre and listened to a fantastic talk about what was threatening Mauritian reefs and sustainable ways to protect them. They also went out to see the local mangroves and wetlands around the bay.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

On Tuesday 9th October, 45 heavily laden Year 11 students departed from Northfields on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition. Students had to carry everything they required for the 2 days journey including their own tent, clothes, food and water. The route on the first day took us through Cottage and Petit Raffray on the way to the Anse La Raie Youth Centre where we were to spend the night. The track on the first day was approximately 17kms and everyone was happy to arrive safely. The afternoon was spent setting up tents, swimming in the sea, playing a bit of basketball but most of all relaxing. Students were then expected to cook their own dinner using gas cookers or over the open fire. I would like to say that the students were exhausted and went to sleep early. This, however, was not the case. The howling wind and occasional shower also made things difficult throughout the night.



After breakfast the next morning, everyone set off in their groups and made their way to Bain Boeuf Public Beach, a distance of approximately 7kms. The rucksacks were slightly lighter at this stage but some still found it heavy going. A combination of sunburn and lack of sleep didn't help matters either. After arriving at the beach most students got straight into the water which seemed to revive flagging spirits. Buses were on hand to take us all back to school after what was a tough but enjoyable 2 days. Well done to everyone on successfully completing the Bronze adventurous journey.

TRIPS

YEAR 7 - L'AVENTURE DU SUCRE



Our Year 7 students enjoyed an interesting trip at L'Aventure du Sucre, Pamplemousses on Monday the 24th of September 2018 from 10.30 am to 12.45 pm. The visit included a talk about the history of the sugarcane in Mauritius. They also visited the former sugar factory to inspire them in their creation of a persuasive writing piece, which is part of the current unit of study. A free tasting of some products at le Village Boutik including some sugar cane and unrefined brown sugars were offered to the students. We all lunched on the green grass, enjoying the beautiful weather in the stunning setting of L'Aventure Du Sucre.



YEAR 13 - G4/CAS PROJECT TRIP



Our Year 13 IB students, Leah C, Katharina L, and Adam S, reached Reunion island on Saturday 13th to start their G4/CAS project.

Day 1-2 were both productive with them going to Pas de Bellecombe and Cite du Volcan to start with their G4 project. They have been studying various aspects of Piton de la Fournaise for their science research. Following this, they went to Salazie where the students started their CAS project helping the community.

This week they will be in Saint-Leu where they will work on the conservation of turtles. The students will be back on the 24th October.



PEACE DAY

Year 12 CAS students took the great initiative of organising a wonderful Peace Day assembly on the 23rd September. The Hall was sparkling as all our students dressed in white made their way to the special assembly. Emma and Zakiyya gave an inspiring presentation making reference to great world leaders such as Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Mother Theresa and Barack Obama who all advocated peace. Our Year 6 students joined together in singing "Give me Peace" and melted everyone's hearts with the touching lyrics.

A student representative from each form read their class messages on the meaning of Peace whilst our Principal, Mrs Phyllis Philogene read messages from our staff. The assembly ended with a moment of mindfulness. We continued the celebrations with a bake sale at lunch time organised by our Parent Committee. All funds raised on the day were donated to the Mauritius Wildlife Foundation.



DONATIONS

Northfields would like to thank everyone who has contributed towards our monthly collection of clothes, books and other useful items for donation to Caritas to help those in need.

The next collection will be on Friday 26th October 2018.



EVENTS

ACTION AND IMPACT DAY

Northfields organised an Action and Impact Day on Saturday 22nd September, at Bras D'eau National Park.

The event was an action-filled half day whereby members of the school community came together to actively participate in the protection of our local environment. The community showed real motivation and determination on a Saturday morning. Children were enthusiastic about the event and were the main driving force in the success of this endeavour.



The result from this event was simply astounding:

1. 32 trash bags of litter collected on the beach and the surrounding coastal region.
2. The trash consisted mainly of plastic bottles, bags, syringes, wrappers, glass and cigarette butts.
3. The total waste collected amounted to around 50 kg.
4. We were able to weed a significant area of the forest for future planting.
5. We planted around 60 endemic plants in the National park.



Students, staff and parents of Northfields, IPS and Martin Ecole came together - united to clean the beach of Bras D'eau and to plant endemic trees in the forest of Bras D'eau National Park. Participants were divided into two functional groups; the "weeding and planting group" and "the beach clean-up group". Two nature related workshops were also organised:

1. A plant preservation workshop – Mr Stephane Philizot gave a brief demonstration on different techniques used to preserve plant species for future scientific studies. He explained enthusiastically on the need of students to develop a passion for scientific research.

2. A craft workshop organised by Northfields teachers. Miss Green and Miss Ash used natural materials available on site to create beautiful hand-made crafts. Our younger students were pleased to let their creativity loose. They created objects that were both beautiful and full of positive messages.



We do hope that through our campaigns we would be able to sensitise a greater number of people living on the island of the need to protect the natural capital of our island. As we say, children are the future of a country, so let us give them the right information for them to become more responsible citizens.

We would like to thank everyone who made this day a success. A special mention to the staff of the Bras Deau National Park who were ever helpful in providing information and support so the project could be realised.



ROALD DAHL DAY- YEAR 5 & 6

Roald Dahl Day was well-supported and attended by the excited Years 5 and 6 learners in their creative costumes on the 13th September.

Teachers ensured that the activities were based on ideas inspired by Roald Dahl's literature, for example, Mr Gooljar experimented with chocolate in Science, Miss Parsan in the Library prepared a special display of Roald Dahl literature, and the PE teachers asked learners to be aware of their surroundings as they ran cross-country as apparently Roald Dahl spent much time in nature using it as a source of inspiration.

There was a character parade and a photo was taken of each group of characters. Each learner had to complete four Roald Dahl activities to receive a Wonkalicious chocolate.

Thanks for all your support in reading, leading and succeeding.



STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

It was with a heavy heart that we said goodbye to our three exchange students from Crawford College, South Africa. Kaylyn, Jamie and Arya had become like family and we will certainly miss them.

Thank you to the Ismael, Breeze and Cridlan families for opening their homes and hearts and showing our guests the best which Mauritius has to offer.

The girls had an amazing time and were humbled by the hospitality and we hope to see them back one day.



FOUNDERS' DAY



String Ensemble, with Perkin, Flavia, Tatum, and lead by Gerard Telot, captivated us with a melodious performance - Minuet in G by Christian Petzold. The formal proceedings then continued with the presentation of Academic, Sports and Cultural Awards. For the second interlude, we enjoyed a recitation by Zakkiya of the poem Northfields, written by our Head of Middle School and one of our founding teachers, Mrs Tamiyendi Rungasamy.

The ceremony ended with the presentation of the Northfields Special Awards and an address and vote of thanks by our Head Prefects. We also took a moment to recognise 10 years of outstanding service of several members of our staff – Mr Appadoo, Miss Sullivan, Mr Ramgolam and our Vice Principal, Miss Ingamells.

Following the ceremony, the Guest of Honour participated in the planting of an endemic ebony tree to round out this day celebrated with enthusiasm and pride for Northfields.

On Friday, 12 October Northfields celebrated its Founders' Day, traditionally a very important day in the school calendar when members of the Northfields community – students, board members, staff and parents – meet to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students for excellence in different facets of the school. It is also a day where we commemorate those who founded the school and who have participated in its growth and development.

The ceremony began with a welcome address from our Principal, Mrs Phyllis Philogene, followed by the keynote address by our Guest of Honour, Mr Keith Allan, British High Commissioner to Mauritius. During the first interlude, the Northfields



TOGETHER FOR INDONESIA

Northfields has been raising money and awareness for the Indonesian earthquake with a range of different activities from the 8th till the 11th October, including assembly and form time activities.

During that week, at every lunch time, prefects, Year 12 and Year 8 students have been selling bookmarks made by Year 8 and 9 students. Special mention to Kushi in Year 8 who crocheted many beautiful bookmarks in her own time for this worthy cause.

Finally the school held a civvies day with a red and white theme to honour the Indonesian flag.



BASKETBALL FESTIVAL



On Friday 7th September, our Senior basketball team participated in a basketball festival hosted by Le Bocage International School. The participating schools were: Northfields, Le Bocage, St Esprit and Lycée Des Mascareignes. We lost our first match narrowly against Le Bocage and were soundly beaten by St Esprit in the second match. We showed true fighting spirit by convincingly winning our third game against Lycée Des Mascareignes. This was the first time our boys had played together as a team and the improvement by the end of the festival was clear to see. Congratulations to all the players involved.

INTER-SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY



On Saturday 22nd September the Northfields cross country team travelled to West Coast International School to participate in the inaugural primary schools cross country event. Our runners performed brilliantly and can feel proud of the determination they displayed. There were 8 schools participating on the day: Alexander House, Northfields, Clavis, IPS, WIPS, Lighthouse, Telfair and Paul & Virginie.

Congratulations to Northfields for coming first and receiving the first inter-schools cross country cup. Well done to all the athletes who participated as well as to those who received medals in their categories.

- Perkin S. - 1st place U11
- Emma P. - 1st place U11
- Victoria L. - 1st place U13
- Lucien P. - 2nd place U11
- Samuel S. - 2nd place U13



INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Interhouse Cross Country 2018 took place on the 18th September. It was a loud and raucous affair with a record number of participants completing the course. The spirit on the day was outstanding with each house trying to outdo the others in both the singing and dancing departments. The spirit cup has become a much sought after trophy and each house pulled out all the stops to try and be the 2018 champions. Congratulations to all the participants as well as the 18 teachers who completed the course.



The final results were incredibly close and the house positions were as follows:

HOUSE CUP

- 1. Dolphins
- 2. Phoenix
- 3. Eagles

SPIRIT TROPHY

Phoenix

MEDAL WINNERS

YEAR 5/6 GIRLS

- 1. Scarlett A.
- 2. Martha A.
- 3. Shreya J.

BOYS

- 1. Stanislas L.
- 2. Perkin S.
- 3. Thomas G.

BENJAMIN GIRLS

- 1. Emma P.
- 2. Abigail F.
- 3. Isabella C.

BOYS

- 1. Samuel S.
- 2. Lucien P.
- 3. Doruk K.

MINIM GIRLS

- 1. Victoria L.
- 2. Calypso J.
- 3. Capucine P.

BOYS

- 1. William L.
- 2. Ano M.
- 3. Lucas L.

CADET GIRLS

- 1. Arissa D.
- 2. Emma R.
- 3. Uliana D.

BOYS

- 1. Dillon S.
- 2. Marius L.
- 3. Kurtik A.

JUNIOR GIRLS

- 1. Aurelie T.
- 2. Hanna H.
- 3. Kayla M.

BOYS

- 1. Alix P.
- 2. Romeo P.
- 3. Stephane D.



TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Over the last few weeks of October, the School Tennis Championships took place. The competition consisted of four singles categories: junior boy and girl and senior boy and girl.

There was a great turn out. The players showed huge determination throughout and it was also pleasing to see the support from their friends and teachers.



SENIOR GIRL

Runner-up: Aashika C.
Winner: Alexandra V.

SENIOR BOY

Runner-up: Lucas L.
Winner: Alexis H.

Well done to all the players!



The results of the competition are as follows:

JUNIOR GIRL

Runner-up: Calypso J.
Winner: Taylor A.

JUNIOR BOY

Runner-up: Neel A.
Winner: Finn M.



INTERHOUSE NETBALL & FOOTBALL

Interhouse Netball and Football took place in the last week of September with the Year 5/6 students participating on the Thursday and the rest of the school on the Friday.



The format was slightly different this year with the emphasis on participation as well as a social element with students and families invited to stay behind for a barbecue once the matches and prize giving had been completed.



The matches were competitive but played in an excellent spirit and after the dust had settled and all the scores had been tallied the final results were as follows:

NETBALL

1. Eagles
2. Phoenix
3. Dolphins



FOOTBALL

1. Eagles
2. Dolphins
3. Phoenix



Congratulations to Eagles on a successful afternoon of interhouse sport and to everyone else who contributed towards such an enjoyable day.

SRC PRESIDENTS

It is with great pride that Northfields can announce our two Student Representative Council Presidents, who have been elected in the first-ever school-wide election campaign.

Our Junior SRC President is Gregory T., and our Senior SRC President is Janine J.

We know that they will make every effort to ensure that the students' voice is heard, and take great strides towards impacting the school in a positive manner.

Well done to Greg and Janine!



JUNIOR LEADERS

All Middle School students were invited to send applications to become Junior Leader to Mrs Rungasamy, at the beginning of the academic year. Twenty seven applications were received in total, of which 13 were shortlisted. These students were then invited for an interview.

We are very pleased to announce that the following students were successful and have been confirmed as our Junior Leaders for the academic year 2018-2019:

YEAR 9:

Sarah B., Jayden R.

YEAR 10:

Jayendra M., Vanisha M.,
Kovishen P.

YEAR 11:

Tom B., Caroline L., Dillon S.

Our Junior Leaders will be working in close collaboration with our school Prefects for the remainder of the year.

Congratulations to these students who have now undertaken serious responsibility as leaders of the Northfields community.



CRICKET

Over half term a group of cricketers have been touring South Africa and playing a number of matches against South African opposition.

The team is made up of students from a number of schools across Mauritius and they have been practicing extremely hard every Saturday morning in preparation. The Northfields students involved in the tour are Dillon S., Finn M., Matthew P. and Benjamin H.

The team are playing matches in White River (including one in the Kruger National Park) as well as Johannesburg.

We would like to wish them the best of luck and look forward to hearing all about it when they return.



LIBRARY CORNER

I recently interviewed author Sara Secora as part of an article that I wrote for my blog, where I did a review of her novel *Throne of Lies*. Sara is also a voice actor and a casting director and *Throne of Lies* is her debut novel.

When I told Sara about our school, she very kindly decided to send us a copy of her book to add to our library collection. Sara also sent us a handwritten letter addressed to the students of Northfields, which you can read here.

If you are interested in reading the interview, please visit: quillsandstardust.com

Soudha Parsan
Library Resources Officer



SUMMARY OF THE BOOK

Throne of Lies follows the journey of Amethysta Serelle, a young princess torn between her role as the future ruler of her kingdom, and her own secret dreams of freedom and passion.

Living in a world where magic is forbidden, the young princess finds herself in a whirlwind of intrigue, mystery and danger when, one day, she begins to realize that she might have magical powers herself.

LETTER TO THE STUDENTS

Dear Inquisitive Minds,

When I was just 17 years old, I began the task of writing a story about a girl the same age. The tale was to be filled with oodles of magic, scars of war, complexities of love, and learning her true origins. No small task. It took 10 years to do. Scary thought, huh? I was not an author. I didn't have a degree in writing. I had no actual experience in the field. What did I have? An unrelenting determination to fulfil my DREAM.

As we grow up we are often told how we can be anything we want. But our teenage years are rough, and soon teach the harsh realities of life. That wishful thought gets swept away fast. The real truth is you can do a great many things – even some you might not believe you can.

If I know one thing it is doubt. I've doubted myself so many times; Even as I am writing my third publication, still I wonder and question it all. What I've learned is dreams require sacrifice, hard work, and courage. Don't be fooled by the highlight reel you see on Social Media. In the shadows is where the real sweat and tears pour, and the hard moments occur.

My advice is this: set a goal – chase it – be stubborn, be smart, be humble, be kind. The world is not black and white; it's millions of shades of grey. It's up to you to shape your future.

Chose to remain in one chapter or dare to turn the page!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sara Secora'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PS: I hope you enjoy my story!