



FEBRUARY 2020



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

24thFEB- 6thMAR: Mock Examinations:
IGCSE, AS, A levels, IB

29th: Open Morning: Pre-Nursery

MARCH

2nd: Information Session on NYU Abu Dhabi

7th: Open Morning: Year 7 and up

11th: National Day Celebration

12th: Public Holiday: National Day

13th: School Closed for Staff Inset

20th: Year 5 School Play

21st: Open Morning: Year 5 and 6

24th: Year 6 School Play

25th: Public Holiday: Ougadi

26th: Parents Meeting: Year 11-13

28th: Football and Netball Festival

31st: Athletics Championships

APRIL

1st: Parents' Consultation Day: Year 5&6

2nd: Athletics Championships: Sprints and
Relays

3rd - 11th: Around the Island Swim

3rd: Last Day of Term 2

4th-20th: Easter Holidays

Term 2 has started with a 'bang' in more ways than one! We all have appreciated learning about and celebrating the many holidays and events that we share in Mauritius at this time of year, from Chinese New Year to Cavadee to Maha Shivaratree, as well as our own Prom and Valentine's Day celebrations. Our students, staff and parents always make such positive contributions in the preparation and celebration of these events, which makes them meaningful and enjoyable for all.

Throughout this time, our more senior students have also been gearing up for important decisions in their upcoming academic programmes with their IGCSE and Sixth Form subject choices, and focusing on success in their mock examinations. I must thank our Heads of School and teachers for their immense support of all of our students in both of these endeavors.

I am also very pleased with the ongoing professional development our staff have been engaging in this term. Our Sixth Form team have attended local and international workshops for training in careers and further education guidance. Our Mathematics faculty have also gained valuable insight into various aspects of pedagogy in the subject through a recent workshop held by the MES. These workshops, in addition to our regular in-house staff training sessions ensure our staff are up to date on the latest trends in education and are always sharing best practice.

As we enter the second half of term, we have much to look forward to in continuing our efforts to educate our students and community on the importance of caring for our environment. As Northfields celebrates the outstanding progress we have made in achieving the Eco Schools Silver award, we will maintain our efforts to attain highest level - Green Flag accreditation. We are also very excited to be carrying on in our tradition of healthy sport and community engagement through our upcoming Around the Island Swim – much more to come on that in the coming months!

I encourage you to reflect on the many outstanding achievements of our school community and to congratulate our students for their enthusiasm and engagement as we all aim for excellence together!

Phyllis Philogène
Principal



Our students, staff and parents always make such positive contributions.

ROALD DAHL DAY

On the 13th September we took one of Roald Dahl's book "Esio Trot" and brought it down to the level of understanding that our children could identify and engage with. It was here that we learnt about the tortoise.

Our children were fascinated by the picture book that was created and the model of the tortoise that was used in class.

We encourage our families to arrange a family trip to the La Vanille Nature Park to explore these animals in real life.



INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATIONS

"DIWALI, CHILDREN'S DAY AND CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD"



Celebrations that we celebrated during the first term were "Diwali, International Children's day and Christmas from Around the World.



In our diverse world that we all reside in, we learn through experiences. During the year we celebrate traditions from around the world. This gives our children the opportunity to incarnate that they form part of a big world.

The experience that we provide our children are treasured as they embrace the feeling of belonging and learning from those around them.

PEACE DAY



Wearing colours blue and green our children got involved in activities learning about their planet "Earth" and the importance of looking after our world.

As we guided our little ones to keep their world clean, they all got involved in picking up pieces of paper and leaves in their playground.

It starts at the very beginning in learning about our world and taking responsibility for it.

We only have one "Earth".

MUSIC DAY "EUMOUSIA"



cabulary, meter, and rhyme. Cultural lessons are enriched with songs about continents, planets, respect for Earth, and much more.

Music is a universal language, loved by children and adults in cultures throughout the world. We look forward to starting a music programme at the Pre-Nursery in the future. ved in activities learning about their planet "Earth" and the importance of looking after our world.

During the first term we were honoured to have Despina Skandalaki come through and introduce the world of music to our students.

As we guided our little ones to keep their world clean, they all got involved in picking up pieces of paper and leaves in their playground.

They were captivated by the variety of toddler instruments that they could explore with and enjoyed moving their little bodies to a variety of tempo's. As we look at music development, it goes far deeper than just playing and making a tune.

It starts at the very beginning in learning about our world and taking responsibility for it.

Research shows that music is fundamental in early childhood education, helping children to develop in various ways, including problem-solving and logic skills.

Language acquisition is enhanced as children learn songs with varied vo-



DRAMA CLASSES LA COMEDIE MAURICIENNE

We are pleased to announce that all our Nursery and Primary Students will be working with Raj Gokhool and the dynamic team from La Comedie Mauricienne theatre school.

The students will take part in weekly drama training – activities and games that develop self-confidence, imagination, expression, creativity, public speaking and much more.

We look forward to the students showing off their new skills and talents on stage for our End of Year Show on Wednesday 17th June.

For more information about La Comedie Mauricienne, check out their Facebook page.



Thaipooosam Cavadee is a festival celebrated by the Tamil community in Mauritius and around the world to pay tribute to the god Muruga, the Hindu god of war.

As part of our Cultural Curriculum, the Lower Primary students learnt about the significance of this festival, its history and the popular traditions and practices of this day.

In line with Northfields' Vision Statement, through multi-cultural activities such as these, we assist our students to develop an appreciation for cultural diversity.

READ ALOUD DAY



The Children's House children were captivated by these older students.

It was such a proud moment for the Year 4's. This international annual advocacy day is presented by global literacy nonprofit LitWorld and sponsored by Scholastic.

The idea is to unite people around the world by highlighting the importance of reading aloud to children.



On the 5th February, the Year 4 students informally celebrated World Read Aloud Day by going to the Children's House and reading aloud a story book of their choice to the 'little ones'.

The Year 4 students took great pleasure in finding a quiet spot in the garden or class to read a story to one or two children.



MISS ECO INTERNATIONAL 2019

Miss Eco International 2019 Suheyn Cipriani visited our school on Monday 3rd February. She travelled all the way from Peru to visit Mauritius and perform her duties which include tree planting activities and school visits among others to influence as many young people as possible to have a sustainable lifestyle.

She spoke to our students during the morning assembly about her environmental advocacy and the different ways in which her organisation in Peru brings people together to work towards a more sustainable future. After assembly, she planted a mango tree in our school garden with our Principal Mrs. Phyllis Philogène.



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION

On Friday 14th February, we celebrated Valentine's Day. Our CAS students organised the distribution of flowers and cards to those who pre ordered.

There was also a Bake Sale held by our Parents Committee which saw wonderful treats on sale. Our students came dressed in the theme of red, pink and white to celebrate the event.

It was a day full of love and joy.



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



On Tuesday 28th January, Northfields ushered in the year of the rat with a special assembly. Our talented students put on a delightful show for all.

We had Tiffany in Year 6, kick-start the celebrations with a traditional Chinese New Year song 'Gong Xi Gong Xi' which translates to Good Wishes. The year 6 students then performed an Umbrella Dance.



This year we had representatives from the China Town Foundation of Mauritius who shared aspects of their heritage and culture with us. Members of the Foundation also played traditional songs on the Ehu (Chinese Violin).

Besides that we had a poem recital by Wenjen in Year 7, a beautiful dance from Victoria in Year 7 demonstrating the use of ribbon and fan in Chinese dance and a mandarin song sung by Max and Julie from Year 7 and 9 respectively.



The celebrations ended with one of the most important traditions during Chinese New Year, the Lion Dance, which is said to bring good fortune and chase away evil spirits. The lion dance never fails to create a festive atmosphere and bring happiness to all the Northfields community.

SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY



Thursday the 30th January saw the Inaugural production of the Northfields Theatre Society. They presented four short plays, covering everything from politics to relationships to social media.

It was a great evening, and the young cast deserved every word of praise that was heaped on them after their curtain call from staff and students alike.



This was a very important step for Theatre at Northfields and the first of many more productions to come.



If you made it to the show, thank you for your support, and if you couldn't this time around, we'll see you at the next one.

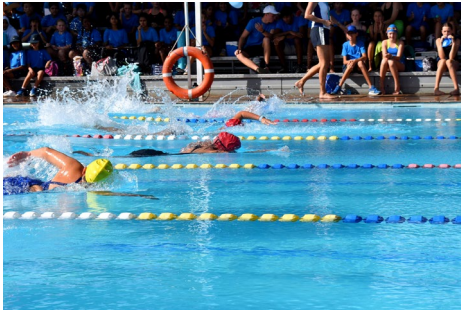


INTERHOUSE SWIMMING GALA

The Northfields Interhouse Swimming Gala took place on Friday 7th February amidst much excitement as all 3 houses kicked off the gala with their own war cries and parade around the pool.



The singing and chanting never let up for a minute and the spirit from the stands was outstanding throughout the day. The swimmers seemed to respond to all the encouragement as the standard of swimming this year was exceptional. The final result was in doubt throughout the day as the lead see-sawed regularly which resulted in the relays being incredibly exciting.



Congratulations to all the swimmers as well as the supporters on the stands for a memorable day of swimming.

Category Winners

- Poussin Boys – Francois D.
- Poussin Girls – Chloe M.
- Benjamin Boys – Luca H.
- Benjamin Girls – Anshee K.
- Minim Boys – Chadd N.
- Minim Girls – Calypso J./Lily J.
- Cadet Boys – Sebastien W.
- Cadet Girls – Jade G.
- Junior Boys – Samuel S.
- Junior Girls – Aurelie T.

Victor and Victix

- Junior Boys – Luca H.
- Junior Girls – Anshee K.
- Senior Boys – Samuel S./Sebastien W.
- Senior Girls – Aurelie T.

Spirit Cup: Dolphins

Final Results

1. Phoenix
2. Dolphins
3. Eagles



AROUND THE ISLAND SWIM

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to participate in the "Around the Island Swim" which will take place from the 3rd – 10th April this year: CJ, Marius, Michael, Hassan, Lily, Matthew, Riley, Anshee, Francesco, Sam, Calypso and Rowan.

The team has been hard at work preparing for this epic 180km event. Swim and cycle training takes place on Tuesday morning before school and on a Wednesday afternoon. The big open water swimming, paddling and cycle training sessions take place on the weekends.



On Sunday 16th February, the team did a 3km training swim at Mont Choisy and soon they will be swimming 3.8km's from Pereybere to Grand Baie. Each team member is passionate about the environment and in particular the ocean and we are really proud of the way they are highlighting the challenges we are facing in Mauritius with regards to protecting our marine life and beaches. We are hoping to garner the support of the hotels we will be swimming past, various government ministries, tourism companies and marine conservation organisations.

You will be able to follow this amazing adventure on our pages and find updates on what is a very exciting but extremely challenging journey:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NIHSMauritius/
 Instagram: @northfields_school_mauritius

SPORTS FESTIVALS

NETBALL/FOOTBALL



The Northfields U13 football and netball and U15 netball teams were in action against Lighthouse on Friday 14th February. The matches were closely contested and played in outstanding spirit. The results were as follows:

- U13 Netball
- Northfields 12 – Lighthouse 1
- U15 Netball
- Northfields 9 – Lighthouse 9
- U13 Football
- Northfields 3 – Lighthouse 2

BASKETBALL

On Saturday 15th February, Northfields hosted an internal U15 basketball festival. 28 participants were divided into 4 teams: Bulls, Celtics, Thunder and Suns. The players thoroughly enjoyed the competitive basketball and the standard was extremely high. After the league matches the Celtics defeated the Suns for 3rd place whilst the Bulls and the Thunder contested the final which was won by the Bulls.

Congratulations to Perkin S. who was chosen as the player of the tournament.



AMPRAS AWARD

Northfields was humbled to receive the Achievers 2019 Award by ANPRAS and Let's Do It Mauritius this 6th February 2020 for our efforts during the World Clean Up Day 2019. The award ceremony was officiated by The Hon Mrs. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun, Vice-Prime Minister & Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Members of the National Assembly and other eminent personalities.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

In Middle School, there has been some challenging times for Year 9 and 11 students in particular. Year 9 students have had information sessions on IGCSE in preparation for their subject choices. Form Tutors and the HoS spoke to students to advise them on career paths and the best subjects for their future.

In Year 11, students were advised about A Levels and the International Baccalaureate (IB). They also had study skills sessions in preparation for the mock and final examinations. Both year groups were invited with their parents for information sessions in the evening.

The Middle School Coffee Morning went on smoothly on Valentine's Day. Parents were in for a surprise meditation session with Mr Geerish Ramgolam.

Parents were also given an opportunity to discuss the attributes of the IB learner profile in pairs and give feedback. Similar sessions will be taking place with Year 10 students this term. The coffee morning ended on a positive note with parents writing notes of positivity and love on the love wall.

MATHEMATICS WORKSHOP

Mr Ramgolam attended a Mathematics workshop at the MES on the 11th of February 2020. The workshop took place following recommendations by the Cambridge examiners who visited Mauritius last year. While the workshop was mainly about the new changes in the AS/A level curriculum, a significant number of hours were spent exploring examiner reports, pedagogy, the Singaporean learning system and the use of technology and apps in schools. It was an opportunity to assess our moderation and marking and how they are aligned with the way senior moderators and markers assess papers, and it was very pleasing to confirm that our level of teaching and marking Mathematics at Northfields is at a very good level. It is worth noting that the founder of the Geogebra mathematics application was also present to highlight the effective use of devices and Mathematical apps in schools. It was very pleasing to know that Northfields are already facilitating the use of devices and that our practices are fully aligned with the discussions which took place at the workshop.

NEWS

PROM

One of the highlights of the year for all of Sixth Form is our annual Senior Prom, which took place on Saturday 18th January at the InterContinental Resort, Balaclava.

The Prom Committee, headed by Kushy was assisted by Mrs Wessels (parent) in organizing the event from start to finish. It was undoubtedly an elegant evening, with good food in the company of friends which was enjoyed by all.

From the dancing, which the Year 12 boys collectively showed their talent in, to the beautiful Prom dresses, to the portrait photographs taken at sunset, I'm sure all will agree it was a night to remember.

The Prom awards were given as follows:

Prom King: Haarsh L.

Prom Queen: Aislin C.

Prom Prince: CJ W.

Prom Princess: Kenza P.

Best dressed: Adrian T. and Aditi N.



CAREERS AND UNIVERSITY GUIDANCE

As part of our ongoing support for students who are preparing to, or applying for university, members of the Sixth Form Team recently took part in professional development opportunities both here in Mauritius and overseas.

Mrs Burtenshaw and Mrs Abbott took part in the IC3 Regional Forum together with teachers from across Mauritius and were involved in workshops on careers counselling and admissions practices.

Mrs Daby was invited by New York University, Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) to visit their campus, learn about the programmes and facilities; engage in workshops with their global admissions teams on areas such as writing recommendation letters, assisting students in writing essays for application and Common App.

There will be an information session on Monday 4th March to share more details from this visit.

As part of our PSHE and pastoral programme, students in Year 10-13 are working with the BridgeU application to build their portfolio of experiences, find out more about particular subject areas and research higher education opportunities. In Year 12 and 13, students and teachers are both using the application for the more specific areas of writing references, personal statements and logging predicted grades.

So far we have seen that BridgeU has been an invaluable addition to supporting our students through the process of finding universities which offer suitable courses for their varied needs.

This year we have so far assisted many Year 13 students through the process of UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, UK), CommonApp (USA) and provided supporting documents to students applying to other countries such as The Netherlands.

DON'T MISS OUR OPEN MORNINGS

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR
AUGUST 2020 ONWARDS

Do not miss this opportunity to visit our world-class school in action. Experience a tour of our campus, see our children at work and meet our highly qualified and dedicated members of staff.

PROGRAMME

- 9.00 Registration & Light Refreshments
- 9.30 Welcome Address and Presentation
- 10.00 Tour of the School
- 10.30 Refreshments with Teachers



NORTHFIELDS
Virtus et Honor

– INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL –

OPEN MORNING

SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

PRE - NURSERY

(aged 18 months to 3 years)

9.00am - 11.00am

SEND US AN EMAIL OR CALL TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

LABOURDONNAIS VILLAGE, 31803 MAPOU, MAURITIUS | TEL: 266 9448/9

ADMISSIONS@NORTHFIELDSINTERNATIONAL.SCHOOL | WWW.NORTHFIELDSINTERNATIONAL.SCHOOL

MYP | IGCSE | International Baccalaureate | Day and Boarding School

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR
AUGUST 2020 ONWARDS

Do not miss this opportunity to visit our world-class school in action. Experience a tour of our campus and meet our highly qualified and dedicated members of staff, whilst your children enjoy various workshops.

PROGRAMME

- 9.00 Registration & Light Refreshments
- 9.30 Welcome Address by Principal
- 9.35 Overview of Northfields*
- 10.20 Tour of School*
- 10.50 Refreshments with Teachers

*Children will be grouped for various fun workshops whilst parents are attending the presentation and a tour of the school.



NORTHFIELDS
Virtus et Honor

– INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL –

OPEN MORNINGS

SATURDAY
7TH MARCH

for Year 7 to Year 12
(aged 11 to 17)

SATURDAY
21ST MARCH

for Year 5 and 6
(aged 9 to 11)

9.00am to 11.00am

SEND US AN EMAIL OR CALL TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

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