



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 2019

- 15th-25th: CAIE Practical Examinations
- 23rd: MYP Staff Workshop
- 24th: First Day of Term 3
- 25th: World Book Day Celebration
- 26th: Athletics Throwing Events
- 29th-30th: CIS School Visit

MAY 2019

- 1st: Public Holiday: Labour Day
- 2nd: CAIE Examinations Begin
- 3rd: Athletics Track Events
- 7th-24th: IB Examinations
- 10th: Senior School Coffee Morning
- 15th: Prep School Coffee Morning
- 16th-17th: MYP School Visit
- 17th-28th MUNOL
- 22nd-23rd: Interhouse Rugby
- 31st: Middle School Coffee Morning

JUNE 2019

- 1st: Interschool Athletics Meeting
- 3rd-14th: End of Year Examinations Year 10 & 12
- 5th: Public Holiday: Eid Ul-Fitr (TBC)
- 7th-8th Prep School Play (TBC)
- 10th-12th: End of Year Examinations Year 9
- 14th: CAIE Examinations End
Graduation
- 19th-20th: Yr 10 Service Trip to Rangers Foundation
- 22nd: International Sports Festival & Fun Day
- 24th: Interhouse Debating (Yr 7-12)
- 25th: Student Presentations Year 5&6
- 27th: Interhouse Rounders
- 28th: Last day of School

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019



In reflecting back on the past two terms, we really must appreciate the hard work of our staff, students and parents on all fronts. Staff have been collaborating within and across subject areas to ensure that lessons are meaningful, inspiring and challenging, and our students have continued to show significant academic progress overall as evidenced in their recent term reports. This half term has also been full of exciting activities, trips and other opportunities outside the classroom for our students to learn and grow and have allowed for remarkable fundraising efforts and charity contributions as well. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the amazing experiences and accomplishments in this issue of our Newsletter.

I would like to take a moment to make special mention of our Year 11 and 13 students, as well as some Year 12 students, who have been gearing up this term for their IGCSE, AS/A Level and IB Diploma examinations. They have been working hard to consolidate their learning together with their teachers, and our recent Elevate study skills sessions have helped them focus their efforts on the challenges ahead. We wish them all the best for success in these important examinations as they draw together all they have learned in their courses over the past two years.

During the upcoming term, we look forward to continuing our learning and development across the school. Just prior to the start of term, we will be welcoming two members of the IBO team to conduct a full-day MYP workshop for our teachers. This workshop will allow us to examine past and current experience and share best practice in approaches to teaching and learning, planning and

assessment. The following week we will also be welcoming a member of the CIS team to our school to conduct a three-day school visit, where she will attend lessons and meet with many members of our community as part of our CIS membership evaluation. Later in the term we will host a second team from the IBO for a similar school visit as part of our MYP candidacy. These three visits will be wonderful opportunities for us all to engage with outside experts as we further develop our school in offering the most up-to-date learning experiences for our students.

As we guide and support our students in completing this year's academic programmes and preparing for end of year examinations, we will also be hosting several special activities, trips and events throughout the third term. We hope that you will join us for our upcoming parent coffees, interhouse events, plays, award ceremonies and of course, our spectacular Sports Festival and Fun Day. In the meantime, I wish you and your families a very enjoyable holiday and look forward welcoming our students back for a busy and productive term ahead.

Phyllis Philogène
Principal



We really must appreciate the hard work of our staff, students and parents on all fronts

PI DAY



Each year on March 14th (in other words, 3/14!), students at Northfields celebrate Pi Day. It is a fun day for students to learn about circles in a way that's different from their daily routine.

Our Years 7-9 students were excited to enjoy this day in a big way with plenty of activities. In class, several lessons were devoted to activities leading up to Pi Day. In English students wrote their own poems and raps, in Maths they investigated the relationship between the circumference and diameter of a circle. We also had contestants in the Pi Day competition who embraced the challenge of memorising as many digits of Pi as possible.



EDUCATION USA

On Wednesday 3rd April, Northfields welcomed Dr Iqbal Maherally, Education USA adviser from the US Embassy. Dr Maherally delivered an information session on higher education in the United States of America. This session covered a wide variety of details from costs, to scholarships and also preparation for SATs.

It was a very informative session for parents, students and teachers.



OUTDOOR ADVENTURES - KENYA

On Saturday morning the 30th March a group of 28 excited Prep School students boarded flight MK 534 to Nairobi, Kenya for a week of fun-filled adventure. We were met at the airport by our hosts Riff Valley Adventures and after a 6-hour bus trip we arrived at our first camp in the majestic Ol Pejeta Conservancy. The next 7 days were packed with experiences we will never forget.



Activities were designed to challenge the students and draw them out of their comfort zones such as vertical rock climbing with harnesses, canyoning in wetsuits, extreme mountain biking and camping in the wild. On the environmental and conservation side, students learnt first-hand about the risks our beautiful animals are facing. We were incredibly fortunate to be surrounded every day by huge herds of antelope, zebra, buffalo, giraffe as well as regular sightings of elephant.

The highlight for many of us was the vis-

it to the chimp sanctuary as well as the opportunity to meet (and even touch) the last 2 Northern White Rhino on the planet. This was an emotional moment for everyone and something which each of us will remember forever.



We also learnt about Kenyan culture and spent a memorable day at a Maasai village, run by the woman while the men were away for weeks on end. Students were taught about the Maasai way of life, including the day to day chores, singing and dancing and survival techniques employed by these amazing people.

All too soon it was time to return home. This was a once in a lifetime experience for all of us and the memories we brought back will be treasured forever.



CAS TRIP - RODRIGUES

An exciting trip was organized for Year 9 students to go to Rodrigues with the intention of creating a bonding session with this age group before they embarked on their IGCSE programme the following year. The purpose of the programme was aimed at fostering team spirit, leadership and to a certain degree, resilience. This had been achieved by creating a safe experiential learning atmosphere where participants were challenged in a fun and highly involving way. The idea was to include some Creativity, Activity and Service.



We departed Mauritius on Tuesday 2nd April 2019. The views were breathtaking and it was so green and beautiful. The food was excellent and we were well fed on all 4 days. We had the choice of traditional food such as octopus and crab

soup but for the less daring there were dishes such as chicken and pasta. We had lots of lovely entertainment with a DJ on the first day and typical Rodrigues style sega. The highlight of the trip was the visit to the school in Rodrigues, Le Chou College, which was very successful. We were welcomed by an accordion player and students recited a poem and performed a slam. Sia and Wyatt were very brave and made speeches on behalf of Year 9 Northfields students. The donation of gifts was the moment of climax and the students were very grateful with some having tears in their eyes. It was a very successful project.

Students appreciated the trip to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and had plenty of questions to ask. The hiking to Trou D'Argent was tough but all managed to finish with a wonderful finale of swimming in the warm sea. Visits to Cavernes Patates and the market all went very well. The trip was over all too soon and we arrived safely back to Mauritius on Friday 5th April ready to start our Easter Holidays.

RIMUN

In March, 15 Year 12 students accompanied by Mrs Swaney and Mr Mohammed attended the Rome International Model United Nations at the Liceo Farnesina Scientifico in Rome, Italy. Preparation for the trip started way back in September with many students getting to grips with the concept of Model United Nations.



In early February Northfields received our delegations and were handed the rather challenging card of representing the DPRK as well as Afghanistan, Slovakia and New Zealand. It was from this point that the real hard work began, with 2-3 hour sessions on Wednesdays to assist students in researching and writing their position papers for each of their three topics. Once the position papers were submitted the students started working on resolutions which they could take to the conference for the process of lobbying. With the trip only days away, the excitement started to build, with a last minute fundraiser in the form of a Mauritian food sale supported by the Parents Committee.

The group took off for Rome with a great sense of anticipation. They hit the ground running, starting off with the opening ceremony where Daniyal and Aditi delivered ambassador speeches, before the conference began in earnest. Then began 5 days of intense lobbying, debate, speech writing, amendments and collaboration. With over 20 different schools from all over the world taking part in the conference, our students had the opportunity to make new friendships and engage with discussion on global problems gaining perspectives from many different social and cultural backgrounds.

Following the conference the group took part in a cultural trip of Rome including the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, Colosseum, St Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. They also travelled further afield along the coast to Pompeii.

We wish to thank all students, parents and teachers for their support in ensuring this learning experience could take place. We look forward to RIMUN 2020!



BIOMES



As part of their summative assessment in Geography, the Year 7 students created a 3D model on the topic, Biomes. It was a great learning experience and students participated in the presentation with enthusiasm.

The students worked on the inquiry questions and presented their findings in the form of a model. They reflected on the key concept learned, which is systems, and also the related concept, sustainability. They were assessed on their knowledge and understanding, investigation skills and critical thinking.

We would like to congratulate them for their fantastic efforts!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREFECTS 2019-2020

We are very pleased to announce our 16 newly elected incoming Prefects from Year 12 who were chosen following voting by students and staff. We wish them all the best in this position as a school leader and role model to our student body.

Britt H., Emma R., Aislin C.,
Alexandra V., Aurelie T., Haashim D.,
Daniyal B., Noah G., Sheetal M., Leo E.,
Aashika C., Kayla B., Zakiyyah N.,
Yousouf B., Stephane D. & Janine J.



ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Jenna R. for being nominated as the Milo Young Athlete of the Month!



EASTER EGG HUNT

On Thursday 4th April the Year 12 CAS students helped to organise a great 'Easter Egg Hunt' for our Year 7 pupils.

The students had to find clues, which were very well hidden around the school grounds. The clues would eventually lead them to the final golden egg. Everyone had fun!

We would like to extend our thanks to the Year 12 CAS students for all their hard work.



SUSTAINABLE CITY MODELS



We are very proud of the sustainable city models that our Year 8 pupils have created over the last midterm. They have shown well researched and innovative ways to reduce waste, lower transport levels, reduce food miles, modify energy usage and increase nature in their models. It was great to be able to showcase the wonderful models with prospective parents during the various open mornings.

Well done to all the Year 8 students for their hard work!



PLASTIC DRIVE

The Interhouse Plastic Drive was organised by the Student Representative Committee (SRC). We collected 43 bags of plastic bottles from the whole community. The winner for this plastic drive was Eagles followed closely by Phoenix. All bottles collected were sent to an approved recycler.

I would like to thank Janine J. for the idea and the whole SRC team for their motivation and enthusiasm. The aim now is to set up a recycling policy at school and we look forward to the same community involvement and support.

Mr Ashley Gooljar
Eco School Coordinator



EVENTS

GOLF DAY

Thank you very much for the incredible support shown to us for our Golf Day, the sponsors, prize donations and, of course, the players.



It was greatly appreciated and went a long way in helping us to achieve our goal. We have raised Rs 300,000.00 through the Golf Day and raffle, and will be able to achieve our three objectives namely:

1. We will be installing a water filtration system throughout the school which will make clean, cold water freely available to all the students. This project will allow us to remove all plastic bottles

from the canteen.

2. Together with All Life Matters Animal Sanctuary, we will sponsor a number of sterilization days.

3. We can offer funding to Caritas Solitude for their meal program at least until the end of the calendar year.

Thank you so very much once again for your invaluable support. We hope to see more parents playing in this now annual event next year.

Madeleine Axten
President of the Parent Committee



INTERHOUSE SPELLING BEE

We were delighted to host our annual Northfields Interhouse Spelling Bee last week.

Students were in high spirits as they battled with challenging words in view of earning house points and qualifying for the ESU national competition in May.

Well done to everyone for taking part and displaying such great team spirit.

Winners:

Y7 winner - Aaryan J.

Y8 winner - Som N.

Y9 winner - Sia H.

Y10 winner - Lucas L.



AROJ TOURNAMENT

After intense physical training sessions, a group of excited and very proud young boys left on Tuesday 26th February for Madagascar for the AROI (Association Rugby de l'Océan Indien) Youth Seven games. The group representing the Rugby Union of Mauritius consisted of 24 players, aged 15-18.

Although filled with excitement, one could feel the slight anxiety and nervousness among the players. The next 2 days, again, were intense training sessions, strategy planning, tips on how to trick the opposition, and great team building. Getting used to the change in altitude was a bit of a challenge as well.

The tournament was played on Friday

and Saturday, and a total of 6 matches were played by both the U16 and the U18 teams. Other teams included Madagascar, Reunion and Mayotte. Overall both the Mauritius teams came third, with a marginal miss for second spot in the U16 category.

We thoroughly enjoyed the tournament, team building and sportsmanship among the players, but mostly felt proud to represent our beautiful island.

Matthew, Christian and I, the three Northfields players would like to extend a huge thank you to Northfields for the tremendous support that you have shown during this time. Thank you.

C.J. W. (Year 11)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD CEREMONY



months of commitment and sacrifice and we are extremely proud of all our students.

We hope that many of them will go on to the silver and gold awards in the near future.

Congratulations to all our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver Award winners who received their pins and certificates in a ceremony at school on Tuesday 26th March.

This was the culmination of many



MATCHES AGAINST LIGHTHOUSE

On Friday 15th March the Year 5 and 6 football and netball teams played matches against Lighthouse School. The netball girls were involved in an exciting match and had the opportunity to use the skills they have been taught in practice. They displayed perseverance and determination to eventually win the game 9 - 8. The boys also played extremely well and comfortably won their match 7 - 0. Congratulations to all the players involved!

MATCHES AGAINST LE BOCAGE

On Friday 29th March some of our basketball and football teams participated in the Le Bocage International Sports Festival and acquitted themselves extremely well. Our U18 boys basketball team won the event, beating Le Bocage and the American International School (Madagascar) in the process. Our Boys U18 football team came tie first but lost out on goal difference having won 2 matches and drawing one. Our girls' football team who are relatively inexperienced at this level played their hearts out and came 4th out of 5 teams. Well done to all our students on a fantastic day of competition!

PROM



On the 16th March 2019, Year 12 Northfields students held a 'Masquerade and Under the Stars'-themed prom for Sixth Form at Aventure du Sucre. The preparation for the event commenced in December – committees were established, decorations were discussed and ideas circled the Year 12 prom committee. The money needed to finance the event was made through fundraising – a Valentine's day committee was elected to take orders and deliver roses on the 14th of February, and the profit generated went to decorating the venue as well as paying for a DJ and accommodating a photographer and chaperones. Cupids circled the school that afternoon, delivering flowers and Valentine notes. A bake sale was set up to further sweeten the day.

After Valentine's Day, several meetings were held to discuss ticket selling, financial situation and decorations. The theme was an interesting one to work around as we needed to incorporate and balance both 'Masquerade' and 'Under the Stars' in order to create an antiquated atmosphere. The decorations committee

arrived early on the 16th of March to set up for the evening. We needed to think strategically as to what we would place where and what would look best. We were required to manage our time efficiently and ensure that every member of the decorations committee was fulfilling a task. The prom event started at 19.00. The venue was lit up and music played in the background whilst the year 13s walked in. After dinner, votes came in and the results were announced for Best Dressed, Best Couple and Prom King and Queen.

Best Dressed Girl:

Jasmine H. (Year 13)

Best Dressed Boy:

Haashim D. (Year 12)

Best Couple:

Britt H. (Year 12) & Domenico S. (Year 13)

Prom King and Queen:

Adam S. and Sophia R. (Year 13)



Dancing then commenced as the DJ whipped a beat and the fog machine created a 'misty' look that lifted up into the air. The servers walked around, offering several snacks until the event was over at 23.30.

TERM 2 LAST ASSEMBLY



The last of the assembly of the term was poignant as it served as a farewell for the year to our Year 11 students who are about to embark on their final IGCSE examinations. Some of them will sadly not be returning to Northfields for various reasons and we wish the very best in their future endeavours. Although there is still our Graduation ceremony on Friday 14th June still to come, the assembly was also an opportunity for Year 13 to bid a fond farewell to the rest of the student body. As per tradition, Mrs Burtenshaw directed the annual Year 13 pantomime in the form of Peter Pan. With plenty of jokes, dancing and 'acting' skills on display, students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the performance. We wish all of our Year 11 and 13 students the best of luck for their final IGCSE, AS/A level and IB examinations. To our Year 13 students, we wish you all the best in your future endeavours.



Marius Jerling
Science Teacher

Mr Jerling is our new Science and Environmental Science Teacher as a member of the Science Faculty. Mr Jerling has more than 24 years of experience internationally. He holds a BA History and Urban Geography, BA (Hons) GIS Geographic Information Systems, Diploma in Sports Psychology, PGCE.



Reshma Ramloll
Childcare Practitioner

Ms Ramloll is a childcare Practitioner who is currently based at our PreNursery. She has more than 10 years of experience both at national and international level. She holds a BA in Early Childhood Education.



Nawsheen Somauroo
Health & Safety Officer

Ms Somauroo has joined Northfields as part-time Health and Safety Officer and is a member of the Human Resources Department. She has more than five years of experience in various employment sectors including Education. She holds a BSc (Hons) Occupational Safety and Health Management.



Mansha Sandhoo
Year 6 Teacher

Mrs Sandhoo is currently teaching English and Humanities for Year 6. She holds a Bachelor Honours in English from the Delhi University, India and a Maitrise Mondes Anglophone from Aix Marseille University, France. She has over 10 years of teaching experience both in Mauritius and France.



Emma Van Der Merwe
Year 5 Teacher

Ms Van Der Merwe has just completed her Bachelor of Education degree in Foundation phase teaching through the University of Pretoria, South Africa. She has completed a number of teaching practices in various primary schools as part of her degree. She is the English and Humanities teacher for Year 5 and is also their form tutor.



Ajay Gowry
Caretaker & Maintenance
Assistant

Mr Gowry is a member of the facilities team and will mainly be working at the gates and support the facilities team. Ajay has more than 20 years of local and international experience in various sectors.



Janine Jerling
SEN Coordinator

Mrs Jerling has joined us in the Teaching and Learning Department as our new Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO). She has had experience working in schools across numerous parts of the world, including the USA, UK and Thailand. She is highly qualified within the field of special educational needs (SEN) with over 15 years' experience teaching learners with SEN in special and mainstream schools. She holds Bachelor and Master's Degrees in Education, specialising in SEN and Psychology. She also has participated in many professional development sessions, which has included a remedial teaching course and behaviour in intervention course.

Amandine Marianne
French Teacher

Ms Marianne is our new French Teacher in the Modern Languages department. She studied in France and has 'licence de lettres moderne' and a 'master de lettres moderne' from the Aix Marseille University. She has taught in both France and Mauritius.