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## Happy Dashain & Tihar to our Nepali Community

Our Hornbill Community consists of 340 children of which 75% are from Nepali families. Therefore it is important to us to ensure that key Nepali festivals and events are marked on our calendar. Each year we look forward to sharing two large celebrations with our community: Dashain and Tihar.

Without our Nepali Specialist Teachers we have worked hard to ensure that these celebrations have stayed as a focus for our school. On behalf of the children and staff we would like to say a huge thank you to **you** as members of the community for helping us ensure that these two festivals have gone so smoothly this year.

On Friday 1st November the school was buzzing with laughter and joy as families shared picnics in our school grounds as part of our annual Tihar event. The act of 'breaking bread' or sharing food is a time honoured tradition that

permeates all cultures across the globe. It was wonderful to see families sharing food and enjoying the company of other members of the community.

Thank you also to those members of the community who supported the cultural programme. We know a lot of time and effort goes into preparing and rehearsing. It was very much appreciated.

As we leave the festivals of Dashain and Tihar behind we focus now on Christmas and the New Year. Please see our special Christmas pages for information about school performances, nativities and Christmas parties.







## Dashain & Tihar

Throughout October we have been celebrating a variety of festivals and events as part of both our whole school Pathway - **Who We Are & Where We Are**, and as part of our commitment to the largest group of our community - our Nepali children and staff.

Our celebrations have included all children visiting the Garrison Temple and learning about the celebrations of Dashain and Tihar.



Children learning about Dashain in our Temple



Picnickers



Dancers



Flying kites







We hope you enjoy reading our new monthly articles focussing on the Early Years and how to maximise your child's learning time through play and adventure.

## Focus on: **Going Out to Learn & Play** Taken from the Learning Together Series by Marjorie Ouvry.

### Big movers

Have you ever been in an open space with young children? The first thing they want to do is to break away from your hand and run! They are born with the desire to move, and open space is exciting.

Learning to move is not just about making muscles strong, it is also vital for children's growth and development. It helps them learn about the world and their place in it. So movement is important and it requires lots of room. The space outdoors provides children with so much of what they need to stimulate their minds and bodies.



### Risk and challenge

Young children need to learn how to use their bodies. They need to find out how strong they are, how fast they can run, how loud they can shout and how high they feel safe to climb. They test themselves as part of growing up and become good at working out what their body can and can't do.

This involves **a degree of risk** – for them and for us. It sometimes means that we have to be brave about letting children try out their growing strength. We have to learn which of our fears about safety are important and which we can let the children work out for themselves. So while you might insist that children hold your hand and walk steadily near roads, you may let them run faster than usual down a hill in the park. **Falling down is part of growing up.** When children are able to try out new things with their body, they develop the confidence to use it well and to believe in their own decisions.

### Pretending

One of the joys of a good outdoor area where children can play is that nature provides the toys. A leaf becomes a plate and twigs are used as knives and forks. When children pretend in this way something amazing is happening in their minds. They are thinking in symbols – making one thing 'become' another.



Thinking in symbols like this is very important in helping children to become good readers, writers, counters and problem-solvers. This is because writing and numbers are also symbols. They stand for the words that we speak and the amounts that we count. They are not the real things. Children are sometimes hurried through their early learning and are made to sit down with paper and pencil tasks. But they need to learn their 'pretend' skills first.

### Children need to be outside

Children learn best by being very active physically. This is especially true of boys, who can sometimes find it almost painful to sit down for a long time – they need to move. Young children who are like this will always feel the need to move about if expected to sit still for too long. These children often find themselves in trouble because they can't keep quiet. This can have a terrible effect on their self-respect and their confidence as learners, which can continue into school.

Going outdoors solves the problem for children who need to move as it gives them plenty of opportunities to learn while their bodies are active and busy.

### Things to do in the garden

- Together with the children, make a lawn mower out of cardboard boxes and tubes.
- If you have access to a tap, allow the children to fill buckets and use brushes to 'paint' using just water, or to water the plants and make mud pies. (If you don't have a tap or a barrel, find a large old container which can be filled with water and used outside whenever the children want it.)
- Mud is also lovely stuff for painting with – either on to paper or, if you can bear it, on to outside walls. It washes off beautifully.
- Enjoy with them the thrill (or horror) at finding snails, slugs and worms, and talk about how some creatures help the garden grow and how others don't.
- Children love to be out in different kinds of weather. Windy days make them excited, so fix a plastic shopping bag on to a stick so that children can feel the strength of the wind.





# Christmas Update

Foundation  
Stage 2

**Christmas Party**

**Thursday 12th  
December**

Year 1

**Christmas Party**

**Wednesday 11th  
December**

Year 2

**Christmas Party**

**Wednesday 11th  
December**

Year 3

**Christmas Party**

**Friday 13th  
December**

Year 5

**Christmas Party**

**Friday 13th  
December**

Year 4

**Christmas Party**

**Friday 13th  
December**

Year 6

**Christmas Party**

**Friday 13th  
December**

**Christmas Preparation** - As part of our Christmas celebrations, on **Monday 9th December** we will be holding a special Christmas preparation day.

To help get us into the festive mood (and to help support school funds), for the small price of \$1 children can come to school wearing Christmas clothes, festive jumpers or come in Christmas colours (Red, Green, Silver, Gold etc.) for the day.

We will also be holding a special Christmas lunchbox competition throughout the week. The child (or children) with the most Christmassy lunch box each day will win a special prize.





Foundation  
Stage 1  
**Christmas Toll  
Booth**

Thursday 5th  
December  
1030hrs

Year 2  
**Prickly Hay**  
Tuesday 10th  
December  
1240hrs

Foundation  
Stage 2  
**Everyone Loves  
a Baby**

Friday 6th  
December  
1200hrs

Years 3,4, 5  
& 6  
**Home for Christmas**

Thursday 12th  
December  
1000hrs & 1700hrs

Year 1  
**Humph the  
Camel**

Monday 9th  
December  
1240hrs

As part of International Day Celebrations at Jerudong International School (JIS), our Nepali Dance Team were invited to perform a traditional Nepali dance to help celebrate the culture of Nepal.

The dance was a huge success. Well done to all who took part.

### Nepali Dance Team



The Nepali Dance Team pictured above with former Hornbill pupils (Nepali) and the Principal of JIS



# Jolly Holly Christmas Fayre

Come and  
see Father  
Christmas in  
his Grotto

**Monday**  
**2nd December**  
between  
**1630hrs**  
&  
**1830hrs**

All classes  
will be selling  
Christmas  
Crafts

Entrance fee  
**\$2** (children free)  
including a  
free raffle  
ticket

Over 30  
stall holders  
selling  
Christmas  
Gifts



Hornbill School will close for the Christmas holidays on  
**Friday 13th December** at 1200hrs (FS2 to Year 6).  
FS1 will close at 1045hrs

We will reopen for Term 2 on **Monday 6th January 2019**  
at the normal times.

**The staff of Hornbill School wish all of our children and  
parents a very Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year.**





**Various  
food stalls  
including the  
NAAFI**

**Christmas  
Hamper  
Raffle**

**Christmas  
Music &  
Entertainment**



Father Christmas will be dropping into Hornbill School on

**11th December**

Time and date to be confirmed at going to press.

Father Christmas would not be possible without the help of:  
**7 Flight** (who take the place of the sleigh)

**The Jungle Warfare Division** (who support the abseiling  
elves), and **Hornbill Helping Hands** (who help wrap a gift  
for every child from Father Christmas).



### **Christmas Post Box**

We have a special Christmas post box for children to use  
to send Christmas cards to their friends at school.

Using the post box is easy.  
Just write your cards and put them in an  
envelope. Address the envelope with your  
friend's name and add their class.  
The elves will then deliver  
your cards for you.





# Year 4 Residential to Ulu Temburong National Park

The following two pages are a photomash of the amazing adventure Year 4 had whilst they were in Temburong.







As you can see, Year 4 had an amazing time in Temburong.

Thank you to all the adults who helped make this residential not only a huge success but also a life long memorable occasion.





## Welcome to Jon Kille

In October we were very excited to welcome a special guest into school: Mr Jon Kille from the Cyprus Music Centre.

Mr Kille, worked closely with Mrs Bonner, who is the schools music leader, to deliver music lessons and support future musical adventures at Hornbill School.

Although we are quite a distance from Cyprus, Mr Kille is very keen to continue teaching lessons via Skype (which was also part of our music programme last academic year).

We hope to see Mr Kille back in school in the very near future.



## The Royal British Legions Military Kids Club Heroes - update.

Our partnership with MKCH has now begun in earnest. All new children who arrive at Hornbill School automatically become members and work with the Childrens Wellbeing Officer on a number of projects as a way of helping to mitigate the effects of mobility and settle quickly into life here at Hornbill School.

Our first major project is now underway and we were sent 30 wooden poppies for children to create remembrance messages for those who have lost their lives in the promotion of peace.

The crosses have been sent to MKCH headquarters in the UK where they were planted in the MKCH national plot at the Field of Remembrance, Lydiard Park, near Royal Wooten Bassett on 1st November. Planting these poppy crosses creates a poignant reminder of the sacrifice made by so many on our behalf and brings home to all of us why Remembrance continues to be such an important and personal event. Thank you to those children who worked on this first project - and welcome to Hornbill School.



We will share future projects with MKC in our next edition of the Gazette.





**Please ensure that your child is always safe on line by knowing what apps they are accessing.**

In this article we highlight two apps that children in the UK are accessing which we feel you should be aware of.



Kik is a controversial messaging app popular with children and young people. When **h2bsaferonline** carried out their routine review, product and online testing, they found that it appears to be an app which **encourages inappropriate behaviour**.

Under their Terms of Service, Kik state that users must be **13+**. But ...there are no privacy controls, in fact anyone can search for a username and send them a message.

**Ensure your child stays safe if you allow them to use Kik by using the instructions on restricting new users, blocking & reporting below:**



**Restrict users from contacting your child;**

Select on the new user

Tap 'Ignore'

You then have the option to delete the user, block or report them.



**Block a user using these simple instructions;**

Tap the user's name or profile picture you want to block Tap their name at the top of the conversation and then Tap on 'Block User' and then 'Block'.



**Report a user using these simple instructions;**

Tap the user's name or profile picture you want to block.

Tap their name at the top of the conversation and then Tap on 'Report User' and then select why.



Likee is a short video creation platform where users can be creative, share videos, add music, and use filters. Users can search different hashtags and explore content posted by others worldwide, with the option to filter by location.

You don't need an account to watch the most popular videos, but users do need to be logged in to access video content posted by nearby users.

### **What are the risks?**

- There are **no** age restrictions when signing up to the app.
- The app can feature inappropriate content, including suggestive language & violence.
- You **CANNOT** make an account private.
- In the safety settings 'Hide Location' & 'Hide my Videos Nearby' are automatically set to public by default.
- There's scope for grooming, coercion and abuse through its gifting feature.

### **What should you do?**

- Talk to your child about not sharing personal information online.
- Turn off your location settings, and configure safety settings on the Apps that your child uses.
- Check that your child only engages with other people they know online.
- Check that your child understands what they should do if they see something online that upsets or worries them.

**If you are concerned about an app your child is using, download it and use it yourself- or use it together to get a feel for it.**





# Learning to Learn Building Learning Powers

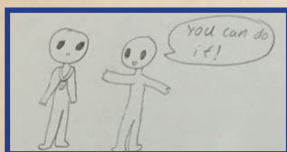
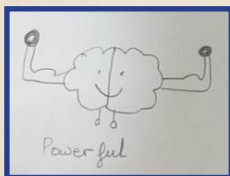
## Focus on: **Powerful Hornbillers**

This six-word statement is central to all teaching and learning at Hornbill School:

### **Powerful Hornbillers are positively engaged citizens**

Within this simple group of words is a great deal of important meaning for us all as we work to become the best versions of ourselves we can be.

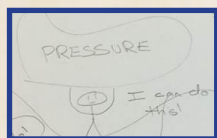
**Powerful:** This refers to our learning powers, behaviours that we put into practice as we learn: reflection, resilience, exploration, energy, courage, creativity, communication and curiosity.



We are also powerful when we become aware of ourselves as learners and actively think about our thinking. This is also known as 'metacognition'

and we will be exploring this as a community of learners, including children, staff and parents.

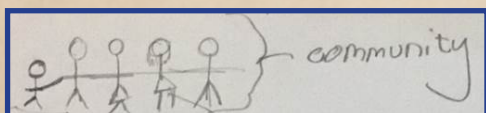
The positive attitude we can bring to our learning also makes us powerful. Positive growth mindset creates a 'can do' approach.



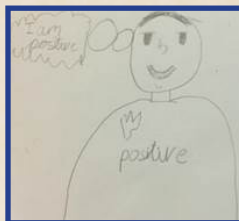
**Hornbillers:** As a school we are a community of Hornbillers. Working together as a community we are a stronger unit, supporting and inspiring each other.



We work to develop a keen sense of community that all learners at Hornbill School can transfer to the myriad of other communities they belong to and will belong to in the future. These communities range from small communities such as being a part of their classroom and Youth Club to the wider garrison community, the Brunei community and our global community.

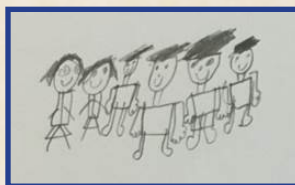


As our learners move on from Hornbill School, we seek for them to take a meaningful understanding of what it means to be a part of a community.



**Positively engaged:** Whilst learning at Hornbill School, we encourage our learners to be aware of the way in which they are approaching their learning. Through role modelling and dialogue

we support all learners in recognising the value of positive engagement - being focused, productive and completely on task to maximise every learning opportunity.



### **Citizens:**

As well as developing a sense of community, we want all learners at Hornbill School to understand their place within each community

they are a part of, as citizens. Our Hornbill School values are central to becoming great citizens of all communities. Our aspiration is for all Hornbillers to encompass these values at school and to take their citizenship out into their lives beyond our school environment.



N.B. All images in this article were created by children as part of a morning Community Learning Time where children worked together to draw images to represent the words at the start of this article.

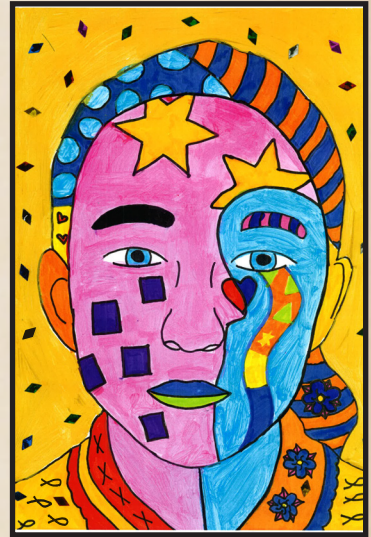
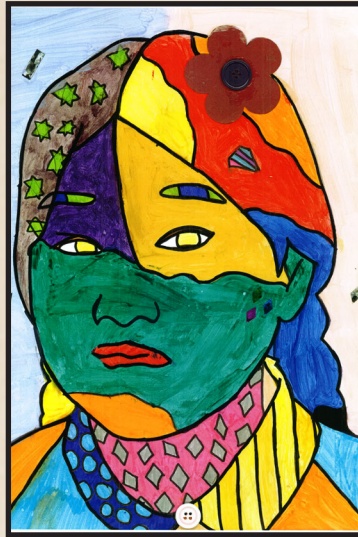
**Mrs Brown is the school Learning Leader. Throughout this year she will be working alongside children and teachers across the whole school to deepen aspects of being a powerful learner.**





## Art in Focus - Year 6 Self Portrait

The Year 6 children created colourful, eye-catching self-portraits using a variety of mediums. Year 6 explored the remarkable life of contemporary artist Romero Britto. Using Britto's bold and colourful style for inspiration, the children created their own Romero Britto self-portrait.



Romero Britto is a Brazilian artist, painter and sculptor. He combines elements of cubism, pop art and graffiti in his work, using vibrant colours and bold patterns to show hope, dreams and happiness.

**Romero Britto**  
**Born: 1963**





Thank you to all the children, staff and parents who supported our Remembrance service on Monday 11th November.



Children in Years 5 & 6 led the school through a touching service which included singing, poetry and the laying of wreathes. A two minute silence was observed by the whole school community. The highlight of the service was the community art project resembling a WWII landing craft covered in poppies made with painted thumb prints.





Don't forget we close for the Christmas Break  
on:

**Friday 13th December**

See page 6 for more details

For all up-to-date calendar events please check our live calendar on the website:

[www.hornbillschool.com](http://www.hornbillschool.com)

**Friday 15th November**

SSAFA Big Brew  
at School

**Wednesday 27th  
November to  
Wednesday 4th  
December**

ACEO MOD Schools  
visiting

**Friday 29th November**

Movie under the stars

**Monday 2nd December**

Jolly Holly Fair  
1630hrs to 1830hrs

**Wednesday 13th  
November**

Year 5  
Water Village visit

**Thursday 28th  
November**

2RGR birthday Parade.  
Years 4, 5 & 6 will be  
in attendance

**Wednesday 27th  
November**

Rhythmic Arts Recital

1530hrs start time  
(letter to follow)

**Hornbill School**  
**meet & greet**

Everyone is  
**Welcome**

Meet the Leadership Team in the Dragonfly Parents Centre at Hornbill School

**Wednesday 20th November 0930hrs**

(The Learning Leader will be joining us)

Come and join us in a relaxed environment and discuss aspects of life at Hornbill School over a cup of coffee and some snacks

Please remember to contact the school if you change your address, contact details or if your child will be picked up by someone new.



# SPORTS STARS



## Lexi Tugaga

### What is your proudest moment in sport so far?

I had so much fun with my friends at JSL netball last year. We won first place as well which made me very proud and happy.

### Who is your sporting hero?

I really like Serena Williams because she's won loads of medals and trophies and is a famous tennis player.

### What are your favourite sports?

I love playing netball, football, swimming, cricket and Tee-ball.

### Tell us about your swimming...

I train at the garrison pool four times a week and I compete at many swimming galas around Brunei—mostly in Bandar. I've even been to Miri to race!



### What is your sporting ambition?

I would like to be a professional netball player and maybe one day play for New Zealand.

### Why is sport so important in your life?

I like to keep healthy and sport lets me be energetic, play in lots of competitions and make lots of new friends.



### Swimming - update

As you will have seen from recent letters going home, we are very pleased to see our swimming programme commence once again this year.



To ensure that children are not swimming at the hottest part of the day, we try and ensure all swimming is completed before 0930hrs. This means that not all classes can swim all year around.

This is the swimming plan until February 2020:

Tuesday: **Year 6**  
Wednesday: **Year 5**  
Thursday: **Year 4**  
Friday: **FS2**

Please follow the school dress code for swimming. This includes full piece swimming suits for girls with rash vests. For boys, tight fitting trunks and a rash vest or all in one suit. This helps us protect your child from the harmful rays of the bright sun.