



A CLASSICAL EDUCATION FOR THE MODERN WORLD
NOBLESSE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Day & Boarding School

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER, 2013



Noblesse is an **IB World School** &
candidate for accreditation

FROM THE HEADMASTER

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer vacation and looking forward to the start of the 2013-14 school year at Noblesse. It has been a busy summer of recruiting new teachers and improving our facilities ... and we will be ready for the first day of school on August 22. Many thanks to our School Board for their continued commitment and dedication to the school, particularly their financial investment over these summer months to improve our school facility. When our school opened in 2008 there was a clear vision for future success ... and we are now seeing the benefits of this vision. Let us all work together this year to ensure our school's continued growth and development in support of this *vision of excellence*.

J. Black, Headmaster
john.black@nis.com.ph

WELCOME NEW TEACHERS

Mr. Schultz (Kindergarten), Miss Curi (2nd grade), Mr. Harris (3rd grade), Mr. Kim (ESL and Korean translation), and Miss Young (Chinese/Business) will not be returning to Noblesse for the 2013-14 school year. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Please welcome our new teachers

Miss Keddy (Kindergarten teacher and Early Years Coordinator)

- Years of Experience in education: 20 years
- Locations taught: United States
- Highest degree: Bachelor's of Arts in Elementary Education

Miss Saydein (2nd grade teacher)

- Years of Experience in education: 7 years
- Locations taught: Middle East
- Highest degree: Bachelor's of Science in child Psychology

Mr. Zhe Yuan (Chinese teacher)

- Years of Experience in education: 3 years
- Locations taught: Mongolia
- Highest degree: Bachelor's degree in English Literature

Mr. Semakula (Business teacher and IB Coordinator)

- Years of Experience in education: 9 years
- Locations taught: East Africa
- Highest degree: Master's in Business Administration

Miss Cayanan (Science teacher and science lab technician)

- Years of Experience in education: 8 years
- Locations taught: Philippines
- Highest degree: Bachelors of Science

Miss Eun Bin Cho (EY classroom assistant & admissions assistant for Korean translation)

In addition ...

- Miss Pelletier will move from PK to **3rd grade**
- Our current Reading Specialist, Miss Anna Samson, will be our new **PK teacher**.
- Miss Ellen, our current EY assistant teacher, will be our **Language Support** teacher for Elementary and Early Years.
- Miss Muna will be the **Elementary Coordinator**, while continuing to teach 4th grade.

TEXTBOOK CHANGES FOR 2013-14

We expect to use the same textbook titles for the 2013-2014 school year, with the following exceptions:

- Chinese Program
- Grade 11 IB program (all subjects)
- Grade 6 math
- Grade 9 science (Chemistry)
- Grade 10 science (Biology and Physics)
- Grade 12 Social Studies

Textbooks will be available for purchase beginning August 12. **Rented books** will be distributed to students during the first week of school.

FEE CHANGES

The following changes have been made to our Tuition-Fee rates ...

- An **Early Bird Promo** is now available through August 20 for enrollment in our Early Years Program. Please contact the school for more details. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE QUOTED PRICE FOR THE EARLY BIRD PROMO IS INCLUSIVE OF ALL FURTHER DISCOUNTS.**
- Incoming grade 11 students will pay an additional fee of \$750 for the IB Programme.
- Dorm rates have increased. Please contact the school for details.
- Transportation fees are subject to change due to fuel costs
- Lunch fees are subject to change due to contractual agreement with the new catering company
- Textbook purchase/rental fees are subject to change due to increased textbook & shipping costs.

STUDENT POLICY REMINDERS

Students are required to follow the Uniform Policy, including ...

- No make-up of any kind (including nail polish)
- No jewelry (except stud earring for girls)
- **NO HAIR COLOR (without the prior approval of the Headmaster)**
- Tie for boys on formal days
- **All-black shoes (any style) on formal days**
- PE uniforms can only be worn during PE classes

Mobile phones can only be used during school hours for educational purposes (as defined by the classroom teacher)

No teasing or bullying of any kind will be tolerated (including cyber-bullying)

SUMMER CLASSES

Summer classes are currently in-session for Early Years, Elementary, and Middle-High school students. Subjects offered include: English grammar & reading, mathematics, Chemistry, and SAT preparation.

CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 22

Contact Information: www.nis.com.ph [Facebook.com/noblesseinternationalschool2007](https://www.facebook.com/noblesseinternationalschool2007) info@nis.com.ph
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7.30-4.45 (Saturdays (9am-12pm) 045 459 9000 John.black@nis.com.ph (Headmaster)

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAM @ NOBLESSE

Noblesse International School is an IB World School and will begin offering the Diploma Programme to grade 11 students in August 2013. The IB Diploma Programme is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students, aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The programme, has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities. The Diploma Programme prepares students for effective participation in a rapidly evolving and increasingly global society.

PROMOTION POLICY

Students who fail one or two subjects (end-of-year average) must sit for make-up exams in August ... OR attend a Summer School Program ... before being permitted to begin the next grade level. Proof of attendance at a non-NIS Summer Program must be provided.

Students who fail three or more subjects (end-of-year average) must repeat the grade level OR attend Summer School and pass make-up exams administered in the failing subjects in August.

NIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Application Forms are now available on our website and at Reception for our Scholarship Program for the 2013-14 school year. Three types of scholarships will be awarded (see below). Applications must include supporting evidence (report cards, certificates, etc), and will be reviewed by the School Board before August 1. Recipients will be notified in early August.

1. Academic (6-12th students with a high over-overall average)
 - a. 93-94% = 10% discount
 - b. 95-96% = 25% discount
 - c. 97-100% = 50% discount
2. Athletic (local, regional, national level)
3. Performing Arts (local, regional, national level)

SUMMER PROJECTS

The following projects are nearing completion ...

FACILITIES

- New roof on the main building
- Remodeled IT lab
- Remodeled Science Lab
- Changing Rooms (for PE) on the 3rd floor
- Shower facility on the 3rd floor
- Outdoor lighting
- Remodel ESL rooms to establish a Learning Center

ACADEMIC

- Updated course syllabi for all grade levels/subjects
Available soon on our website
- Curriculum Maps for all grade levels/subjects
- Final preparations to begin the IB Diploma Program for grade 11 students
- Establish a Learning Center to facilitate ESL, SAT, AP, and TOEFL instruction. **Mr. Sleight** will be the Learning Center Director (while continuing to teach grade 5).

GOALS FOR 2013-14

Goal 1: Provide every student with meaningful, differentiated opportunities to access and demonstrate proficiency in core competencies and skills for global citizenship.

Initiatives:

- a) Implement the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (grade 11)
- b) Continue to develop Curriculum Maps for all subject areas
- c) Align the Language Arts program with the Common Core Standards from the United States
- d) Provide opportunities for increased teacher collaboration
- e) Establish the new Learning Center (for ESL, TOEFL, SAT, AP)

Goal 2: Provide teachers, administrators, and staff opportunities for professional development to enhance instructional leadership, curricular practices, and professional skills to support 21st century teaching and learning.

Initiatives:

- a) Provide on-site training for IB teachers (with a focus on lesson planning and assessment)
- b) Provide on-site training for all teachers which provide methods of teaching students whose first language is not English.
- c) Provide opportunities for teachers to visit model classrooms at other International schools.

Goal 3: Collaborate with community, school, and parent stakeholders to create, design, and build exemplary learning environments ... with an immediate focus on the Early Years Program.

Initiatives:

- a) Establish the role of EY Coordinator
- b) Begin the development of an *NIS Early Years Curriculum*
- c) Increase available learning resources in Early Years
- d) Improve communication between EY, elementary, and MS-HS

Goal 4: Implement best practices in recruitment and evaluation to attract, support, and retain high quality staff

Initiatives:

- a) Implement the new Employment Policy which differentiates between "local" and "foreign" teachers
- b) Increase the number of Classroom Observations conducted by administration and provide meaningful feedback to teachers
- c) Review the benefits package currently offered to faculty and staff.

Goal 5: Continue to upgrade the school facility to provide for the safety and enrichment of the student population.

Initiatives:

- a) Complete roof repairs
- b) Install Outdoor lighting
- c) Establish a "changing room" and shower facility
- d) Begin plans to establish a Fitness Center behind the gym.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 9	Last day of Summer School
August 12	Books and uniforms available for purchase
August 15	Teacher In-services begin for new academic year
August 20	Parent Orientation 9am-12pm (meet the teachers)
August 22	Start date for 2013-14 school year 12pm dismissal on August 22, 23, 24 (no lunch served)
August 26	Lunch Service begins (tentative)

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

August: 7.45-4.45 M-F
All Saturdays: 9am – 12pm

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