

DISCOVERY BAY  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
愉景灣國際學校

Discovery Bay  
International School



# Welcome to Year 1

## August 2024

# EYFS and Primary Leadership Team



**Mrs Hannah Tait**

Head of EYFS & Primary  
Designated Safeguarding Lead  
(Whole School)



**Mrs Anna Christiansen**

Deputy Head of  
EYFS & Primary  
Designated Safeguarding Lead  
EYFS & Primary



**Mrs Ruth Brislen-Patel**

Assistant Head of  
EYFS & Primary  
Deputy Child Protection  
Officer EYFS & Primary



**Mr Lewis Peck**

Assistant Head of  
EYFS & Primary  
Deputy Child Protection  
Officer EYFS & Primary

# Meet Our New Teachers!



**Ms Francesca Lane**  
Year 1 Class Teacher

[Video](#)



**Ms Louisa Azzopardi**  
Year 2 Class Teacher

[Video](#)



**Ms Kelsey Brown**  
Head of Year 4  
Year 4 Class Teacher  
[Video](#)



**Ms Ciara Dunne**  
Year 5 Class Teacher

[Slides](#)

# Meet Our New Teachers!



**Mr Mike Peacock**  
Head of Year 6  
Year 6 Class Teacher



**Ms Rachel Ashcroft**  
Year 6 Class Teacher



**Mr Sean Kinder**  
Year 6 Class Teacher



**Ms Evelyn Chia**  
Deputy Head of Mandarin  
Mandarin Teacher

[SLIDES](#)

# Meet Our New Teachers!



**Mr Rob Dilworth**  
PE Teacher



**Ms Natalie Fashade**  
PE Teacher (EYFS)



**Ms Lisa Matthews**  
Learning Enhancement  
Teacher (Year 2-4)



**Ms Melissa Moss**  
Learning Enhancement  
Teacher (Year 5-8)

# Year 1 Teaching Team



**Miss Isabella Grella**  
Year 1 Class Teacher  
Year 1 Head of Year



**Mrs Chloe Gerrard**  
Year 1 Class Teacher



**Miss Bronwen Baynes**  
Year 1 Class Teacher



**Ms Francesca Lane**  
Year 1 Class Teacher

# Year 1 Teaching Team



**Mrs Kingston**

Y1IG Educational Assistant



**Mrs Escueta**

Y1CG Educational Assistant



**Ms Fuchs**

Year 1 Educational Assistant



**Mrs Williams**

Y1BB Educational Assistant



**Mr Torak**

Y1BB Educational Assistant

# Music Teachers



**Nicole Lau**

EYFS and Primary Music Teacher



**Mark Thaxter**

Primary and KS3 Music Teacher



**Daniela Ciric**

Creative Arts & Peripatetic  
Music Coordinator



# Learning Technology Teachers



**Nicolas Ng**

Head of Learning Technology



**Bernard McNerney**

Learning Technology Teacher



**Pierre Costa**

Learning Technology EA

# Mandarin Teachers



**Myra Mi**  
Head of Mandarin  
Whole School



**Evelyn Chia**  
Deputy Head of Mandarin  
Whole School

# Mandarin Teachers



**Morna Shum**  
Mandarin Teacher



**Carol Li**  
Mandarin Teacher



**Cindy Xin**  
Mandarin Teacher



**Jenah Luo**  
Mandarin Teacher

# PE Teachers



**Emily Hull**  
PE Teacher and Second  
in Department



**Sally Cranston**  
PE Teacher



**Rob Dilworth**  
Primary PE Teacher



**Natalie Fashade**  
Early Years PE  
Teacher



**Paige Smal**  
PE Assistant

# Library Team



**Melanie Foti**

Whole School Librarian



**Lolita Tupas**

Primary Library EA



**Nilangi Thotawatte**

EYFS Library EA

# Wellbeing Team



**Jess Hickling**  
Head of Wellbeing



**Sarah Dunham**  
School Counsellor



**Bonnie**  
School Therapy Dog

# Learning Enhancement Team



**Serena Clark**  
Head of Learning Enhancement



**Kristine Wills**  
Link Teacher FS1-Y1



**Minoli Samarakkody**  
Link Teacher 9+

# Medical Team



**Tamara Quinn**  
EYFS Health & First Aid  
Coordinator

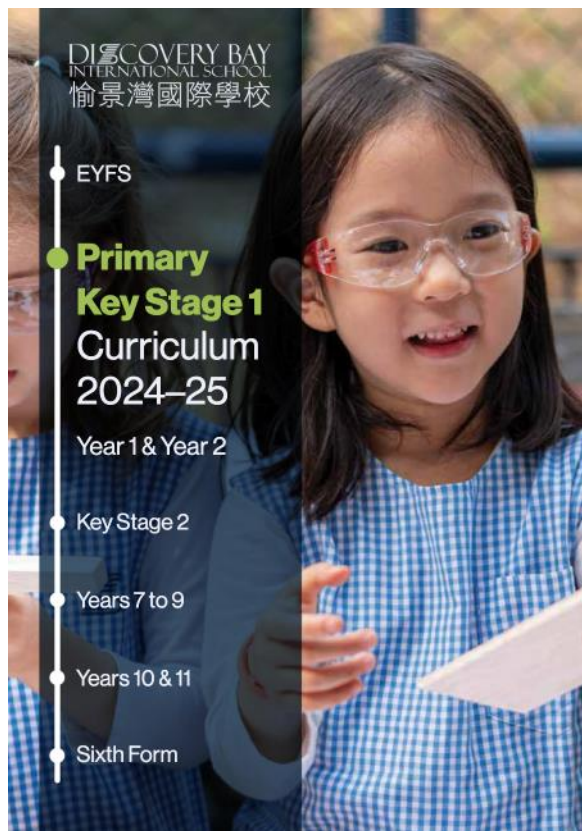


**Kate Yarnell**  
Primary Health & First Aid  
Coordinator



**Jess Peeters**  
Primary Health & First Aid  
Coordinator





# Welcome to Year 1

## Welcome to Year 1



## Primary (Years 1 - 6)

- School gates are open for children at 8:20am
- School starts at 8:25am
- Morning Break (*including snack*) at 10:00am - 10:25am
- Lessons resume at 10:25 am
- Lunch Break 12:10 pm (11:55am for Y1 & 2)  
*(Children eat their lunch in classrooms or in the school canteen for 15 minutes before going out to play)*
- Lessons Resume at 12:55 pm
- School finishes at 3:10 pm, with the playground vacated by **3:20 pm.**
- Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs) run between 3:20 - 4:00 pm.

# Primary Timetable

1IG Snow Leopards Timetable 2024 - 2025					
Term 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY
08:30-08:45	Linked Provision & Morning Meeting	Linked Provision & Morning Meeting	Linked Provision & Morning Meeting	Mandarin	Linked Provision & Morning Meeting
08:45-09:00					
09:00-09:15					
09:15-09:30	SPaG/Guided Reading	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics
09:30-09:45					
09:45-10:00					
10:00-10:25	BREAK				
10:25-10:45	LT	In class learning	Mandarin	In class learning	In class learning
10:45-11:00					
11:00-11:10					
11:10 - 11:25	In class learning	Library	PE	Year 1 free flow (Forest School and Woodwork)	In class learning
11:25 - 11:40					
11:40 - 11:55					
11:55-12:15	LUNCH				
12:15-12:30					
12:30-12:45					
12:45-13:00					
12:55 - 13:10	Mandarin	In class learning	In class learning	Music	In class learning
13:10 - 13:25					
13:25 - 13:40					
13:40 - 13:55	Woodwork/forest school	In class learning	In class learning	In class learning	Assembly
13:55 - 14:10					
14:10 - 14:25					
14:25 - 14:40	In class learning	PE	Story		
14:40 - 14:55					
14:55 - 15:10					
	Story		Story		Story
END OF SCHOOL DAY					

All timetables can be found in your child's Home Link Book

# Primary Snacks and Lunches

- Please ensure your child has a named water bottle
- Children will need a healthy snack for the first break time (*please note, sweets and lollies are not permitted in school*)
- We encourage children to bring healthy balanced lunches and use as little single use plastic as possible
- We are a **nut-free school**, so please ensure snacks and lunches are nut-free. A gentle reminder that items such a store bought pesto, some wafers and nutella, contain nuts. **We have a child in Year 1 with a severe nut allergy.**



# Birthdays and Cultural Celebrations

- We love to celebrate each child's special day at our school. When it's your child's birthday, the class will celebrate them with their own special traditions, such as singing birthday songs or letting them wear the class birthday crown or sash. To ensure all children can fully participate, we ask that you refrain from sending in any food items or party bags due to potential allergies and dietary restrictions. Our focus is on making every birthday celebration inclusive and enjoyable for the whole class.
- We would love to invite you in to share any cultural festivals or special days that you celebrate with your family. If you feel comfortable sharing, please let me know!



# Primary Library Arrangements

- The DBIS Library provides a collection of books and online resources to support the curriculum and, importantly, reading for pleasure.
- Y1 - 6 classes are timetabled to visit the library once a week.
- Students are required to have **one** labelled A3 zippered waterproof plastic pouch to protect resources from damage.
- We appreciate your support of your child's borrowing by ensuring library book/s and folders come to school on the day that the Library is timetabled. The lending period is 1 week and children have begun borrowing 1 book which can increase later on in the term.
- Parents are welcome to visit the library before and after school with their child. Please check parent opening times on the library website: [library.dbis.edu.hk](http://library.dbis.edu.hk)

# Year 1 Home Learning Information

- There are some aspects of the curriculum that children need additional time to rehearse and practice in order for learning to be embedded.
- Homework in Year 1 will focus on developing a love of reading; therefore, the children will bring home reading books on a regular basis that are pitched at a level at which they are demonstrating confidence so they can share and celebrate their reading skills. We also encourage you as parents to read often to your child to ensure they are exposed to a wide repertoire of vocabulary and literature as this will support their overall development in reading and writing.
- 
- We encourage you to read with your child in your home language if this is different to English as this supports children in reading for pleasure and listening to stories in a language in which they are confident. Your child will have a home-school link book where you can record the reading completed at home. Children are expected to read a minimum of three times a week and record this in their Home-School Link Book.
- In addition, the children will be encouraged to practise spelling high-frequency words, common exception words and Year 1 and Year 2 spelling patterns. Once your child has settled into Year 1, these will come home on a regular basis in a quantity suited to your child. The words may be repeated throughout the year in order to ensure learning is embedded. Activities that will help engage your children with spelling will be suggested.



**DBIS has a compulsory school uniform. Information regarding uniform can be found on the school's website. Some key points to remember:**

- School shoes: all children must wear plain black school shoes, smart trainers (free from any additional markings or colours) or navy sandals
- All students must have a hat for outdoor PE and playtime. We have a 'no hat, no play' policy
- Jewellery: watches and small stud earrings are permitted (but must be covered or removed for PE), no other jewellery is permitted to be worn to school
- Make-up, nail varnish and temporary tattoos are not permitted to be worn to school. Hair dye is only permitted if of a natural colour
- Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back
- During colder months please ensure you purchase a school uniform jumper for your child to wear
- Children can wear their PE kit all day on PE days



# Supervision outside of school hours

- Students should be accompanied to and from school by an adult wherever possible. If you need your child to walk home unaccompanied from Year 3 onwards, we please ask that you sign the permission register linked [HERE](#) (or scan the QR code below).
- For Y1 and Y2, you will have provided key people for collection during the PTCs. Photo ID is requested at pick up for at least the first few weeks until we are familiar with the trusted adults. Please notify us in advance if there is someone different picking up your child.
- Y1 children will be walked to their ECAs by an adult after school, but must be collected by an adult at the end of the ECA.
- All families to have vacated the campus by 3:20 pm unless they have an ECA.
- Please note, medical provision runs from 8:00 am - 3:30 pm.  
When ECAs begin, the nurses will be on hand between 7:30 am - 4:30 pm.



# Primary Assessment and Reporting 2024-25

## Term 1

- Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th August - Parent-Teacher Conferences - see information on The Hub.
- Friday 6th December - End of Term 1 Report shared with parents

## Term 2

- Week Beginning 24th March - Parent Teacher Conferences

## Term 3

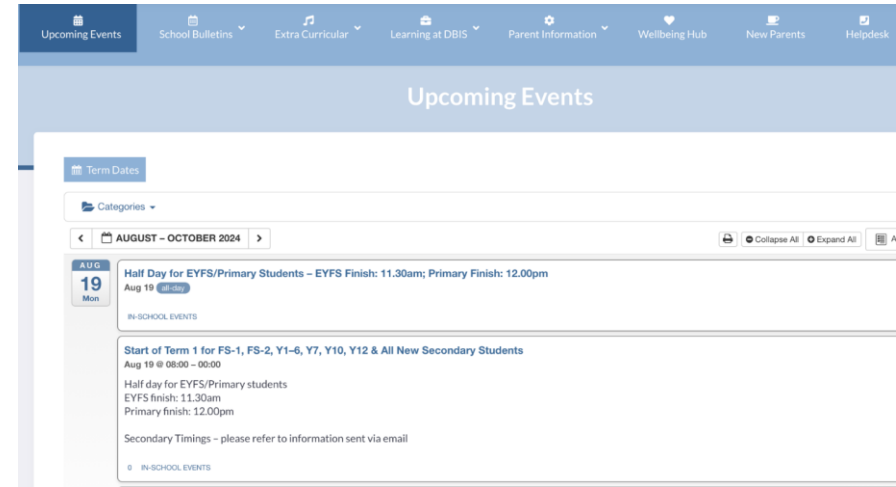
- Friday 20th June - End of Year Report shared with parents
- Week beginning 23rd June - Optional Parent Teacher Conferences

Our school approach to Character and Culture is based on inclusivity, clear expectations and a partnership approach to celebrating success and managing interventions if necessary.

## **We do this by:**

- Using our learner attributes to underpin the desired culture of DBIS;
- Provide transparency of character and cultural expectation through Assemblies, Learning for Life lessons and Learning to Learn Discovery Units;
- Allowing all DBIS members to feel valued and heard through the use of restorative conversations;
- Accountability for our decisions and actions;
- Assisting all members of the DBIS community to strengthen their self-awareness, self management, social awareness and strong effective relationships
- At all times we will continue to work with each other and provide opportunities to strengthen and develop the character of your child and the culture of the school.

- Parent Hub ([hub.dbis.edu.hk](http://hub.dbis.edu.hk))
- Weekly Newsletter
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Classroom Boards
- Class Parents - **Please complete the Jotform on the Hub by tomorrow if you're interested. We will choose at random and share our Class Parents via the Hub on Friday.**
- Reports
- Face to face meetings
- Parent Workshops
- Home-School Link Books
- Office emails:
  - [dbiseyfs@dbis.edu.hk](mailto:dbiseyfs@dbis.edu.hk) (EYFS)
  - [dbis@dbis.edu.hk](mailto:dbis@dbis.edu.hk) (Primary)



The screenshot shows the 'Upcoming Events' section of the Parent Hub. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons and labels for 'Upcoming Events', 'School Bulletins', 'Extra Curricular', 'Learning at DBIS', 'Parent Information', 'Wellbeing Hub', 'New Parents', and 'Helpdesk'. Below this, the main heading is 'Upcoming Events'. A 'Term Dates' section is visible, showing 'AUGUST - OCTOBER 2024'. A calendar view for August 19th (Monday) is shown, with a highlighted event: 'Half Day for EYFS/Primary Students - EYFS Finish: 11.30am; Primary Finish: 12.00pm'. Below the calendar, there is a detailed event description: 'Start of Term 1 for FS-1, FS-2, Y1-6, Y7, Y10, Y12 & All New Secondary Students', 'Aug 19 @ 08:00 - 00:00', 'Half day for EYFS/Primary students', 'EYFS finish: 11.30am', 'Primary finish: 12.00pm', and 'Secondary Timings - please refer to information sent via email'.

- Children in are not permitted to wear Smartwatches. We encourage you to purchase an analogue watch which will support your child in learning to tell the time.
- Teachers will ask students to remove smart watches if they are brought into school and an adult will be asked to collect them at the end of the day from the school office.
- We do not permit our Primary students to use mobile phones at any time during the school day and would ask that they are not sent in to school with students. Our students' bags are kept on pegs or in lockers in the corridors, and we therefore cannot guarantee the safety of any mobile devices if left in students' bags.

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# The House System in Primary



# Four Houses, One Community.







Goldhorn, Goldhorn, fierce  
and true,  
With awesome power,  
we'll see it through!  
Strength and valor in  
every stride.  
United as one, we walk  
with pride.  
Go Goldhorn!

“Bold as gold”



Hear us roar, watch us soar,  
We are the dragons and we  
achieve more.

Fearless warriors, the brave  
and the best,

Rising high and leading the  
rest.

Go Dragons!

“Always curious, all powerful!”



Griffins, Griffins, we aim to  
succeed!

We try our best to take the  
lead.

Fear our talons when we take  
flight,

Ascending together, we shine  
so bright.

Go Griffins!

“Together we shine, that’s  
our game!”



“Working together, we are  
undefeatable!”

Phoenix, Phoenix, we are  
wise,

We are ready to win the  
prize.

With fearless wings, we  
won't go wrong!

Rising above,  
determined and strong.

Go Phoenix!

# How will House Points be rewarded?

Points can be awarded to any students if they:

- demonstrate the Learner Profile Attributes;
- produce great work;
- or contribute positively in lessons.

Goldhorn

Give feedback to Goldhorn Redeem points X

1 House Point 2 House Points 3 House Points Add skills

We are delighted to share the dates for a series of parent workshops for the coming term. These sessions will give parents a real insight into our teaching and learning across the EYFS and Primary School and will be in the Globe.

## Term 1.1

- Thursday 12th September - Primary Maths Parent Workshop at 8:45 am
- Thursday 26th September - Primary English Parent Workshop at 8:45 am
- Thursday 10th October - Whole School Wellbeing Primary Discovery Parent Workshop at 8:45 am

## Term 1.2

- Thursday 21st November - Primary Mandarin Parent Workshop at 8:45 am
- Thursday 29th November - Primary Discovery Parent Workshop at 8:45 am

# Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and Class Parents

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**Welcome to the DBIS Community!**

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Wishing you all a year full of learning,  
progress and new experiences.

Miss Grella

[igrella@dbis.edu.hk](mailto:igrella@dbis.edu.hk)