

16 August 2012

Dear Parents,

The infant classes had their first Indonesian lesson today. Indonesian is a vital part of the curriculum at SCC, and is studied by every student at the school. Learning a second language is highly beneficial. *“Proficiency in a second language gives students access to a broader range of input, experiences and perspectives, and is believed to raise achievement in other subject areas, as well as giving the student the enjoyment of being able to communicate in a language other than his or her own mother tongue.”* (International Baccalaureate MYP, Language B guide) A group of students suggested the following reasons for learning a language:

- It’s exciting! You make friends by **talking** to people in your new language.
- It’s fun! You do lots of **activities**, even games, puzzles and singing.
- It’s interesting! You find out about **other ways** of living.
- It’s awesome! You get to **understand** Australians better.
- It’s great! You **learn** new things about people.
- It’s weird! You start to **think** in new ways.
- It’s excellent! You **learn** in new ways.
- It’s incredible! You **learn** skills which help you get **even more** out of reading in English.
- It’s amazing! It helps you **talk** about all languages including **English**.

Indonesian is easy to pronounce and is a phonetic language, which means that it is spelt just as it sounds. I intend to send home a list of the basic phrases, vocabulary and songs that your child has been learning each week so that you can support and encourage their learning, and hopefully learn together! You may like to keep their weekly practice sheet in a folder or exercise book for future reference.

If you have any queries about the programme, please contact me.

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Phrases/Vocab to practise:

Selamat pagi Bu Ambrose!	Good morning Mrs Ambrose!
Nama saya	My name is
Ini.....	This is
Ini orang Australia	This is an Australian. (Orang = Person)
Ini orang Indonesia	This is an Indonesian.
Duduklah	Please sit
Berdirilah	Please stand

We also started learning a song today, which your child may remember:

Halo, apa kabar teman?	Hello, how are you friend
Apakah baik baik saja?	Are you just fine?
Tepuk tangan (clap clap clap)	Clap your hands (X X X)
Hentak kaki (stamp stamp stamp)	Stamp your feet (X X X)
Putar badan (turn around)	Turn your body
Cari yang lain	Find another.