



**SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**  
*Since 1986*

### VISION

To be an educational institution of excellence from Kindergarten to University Foundation level combining Eastern Values with an International education to produce global citizens.

### MISSION

To provide quality educational programmes in a creative and challenging learning environment, embracing innovative teaching pedagogies to empower every student to become a life-long learner.

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Student of the Week

### Dear Parents,

We thank you for your attendance at the Parent Information Morning which was held on 19 September. This was the first year we held a combined SIS and SVIS briefing session and we are happy the class information meetings went smoothly. It is important that our school community is aware of our Mission, Vision, Schoolwide Learner Goals and our Virtues programme, all of which reflect our school's purpose.

For those of you who missed the information morning, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's teacher for an update on the curriculum.

### Swimming classes

The swimming lessons, which commenced on 7 September, have been going well. It has been impressive to see how much the students have improved their water skills since commencing the lessons. The younger students are learning to follow pool safety rules and the teachers are helping them develop their water confidence. The younger children stay in the shallow end of the pool during swimming classes. The older students have been learning stroke correction and their lessons finish with water sports such as Water Polo.

Our Interns from Denmark have been enthusiastically assisting the swimming coaches with the classes. The interns and coaches are experienced swimming instructors.

### Fire Drill

This month we had our first fire drill practice for the year. Students were informed on the purpose of the drill and the importance of moving quickly and calmly to a designated area. The students are exposed to four planned fire evacuation drills a year.

The students demonstrated very responsible citizenship during the practice evacuation.

The school was evacuated within 3 minutes 55 seconds.



Swimming class



Fire Drill



Kindergarten Reading Time

### Monthly Progress Reports

At the end of each month teachers of the international and integrated programmes from Year 1 to Year 9 will be sending home a monthly checklist on your child's progress in working towards achieving the Schoolwide Learner Goals for the relevant year level. If you have any queries about the monthly checklist, please make an appointment with your child's teachers for further clarification.

### Academic Awards Policy

The Academic Awards policy has been reviewed to provide clearer guidelines for students, parents and teachers.

For the International Programme, the award is called 'Academic Champion Award' and is awarded for the highest overall academic result for the school year in English, Maths and Science for each international class in Years 1 – 8. The overall result must be 85% or above.

For the Integrated Programme, the award is called 'Academic Champion Award – English' and is awarded to the highest overall academic result for the school year in English for each integrated class in Years 1 – 5 and English and EPP for each integrated class in Years 6 – 9. The overall result must be 85% or above.

### Term 1 Excursions

As part of our commitment to providing a learning environment in which students can develop their individual talents, the KinderWorld schools provide a curriculum which aims, not only to develop academic achievement, but also encompasses all our Schoolwide Learner Goals. The school's Excursion Policy helps students achieve the goals. Excursions are a valuable teaching and learning vehicle and are often integral to quality curriculum delivery.

This month, several of our classes have enjoyed their first excursions of the year.

Year 1-2 International, Year 5 Integrated and Year 5-6 International visited An Bang Beach for a Reading/Science experience while studying Sea Animals/Biomes. Our senior students have been studying climate change and erosion in their Social Studies/Global Perspectives programme. Students discussed how this erosion can be linked to climate change. They also took water temperature samples and compared the temperatures to past years' temperatures. This excursion also finished with a beach clean-up.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Walker

## Message from the Deputy Principal

### Curriculum News

The new school year has started very well with all students returning to school bright and ready for a year of studying hard. This year we have new text books in English and Mathematics for students in Years 1-6. The Scholastic 'Active English' books and Scholastic 'Prime Mathematics' books have provided our teachers with the opportunity to delve deeper into the topics being taught to the students.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

Our Extra-curricular activities (ECA) have started for Term 1 and have been very popular. We are thrilled to provide our students with these extra experiences to ensure they receive a well-rounded education.

It is important to remember that as these ECAs are very popular, we strongly advise you return your child's preferences as soon as possible to avoid disappointment if the class is full. This term we had many forms returned late and as such we had to increase the size of the classes, which is not ideal for the students or the teachers. In future we will not be able to accommodate extra numbers in activities capped at a maximum number. This will ensure the students get the best possible ECA experience. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### Behaviour Education Policy

This year we made some changes to our behaviour education policy which our students have embraced. The school rules all relate to our school's overarching theme of 'respect' which we believe is central to all students being able to achieve the best possible results in the safest environment. Thus far, we have only had a few very minor incidents resulting in infractions and silent lunch for misdemeanors such as incomplete homework, chewing gum at school, wearing the incorrect uniform and using technology without permission. We believe our new policy encourages students to take more responsibility for their learning and their behaviour, in turn meeting the schoolwide learning goal of being active and responsible citizens.

### After school pick up routine

As I am on duty most afternoons at pick up time, I would like to thank those parents and drivers who continue to follow our pick up rules. The idea is that the cars move to the furthest position available at the edge of the pickup area and pick up your child / children as quickly as possible. This is not a stopping zone. The car should be as far to the right as possible which allows cars wanting to park in the parking spots enough room to drive past.



ICT Time



Year 1 International working collaboratively



Ms Tiffany's Extra-curricular Activity



Kindergarten children having fun with play dough



Happy Moon Festival



I have given most parents / drivers a card on which to place the name of the child / children you are picking up. Some families have provided their own cards, which is great.

The card is placed at the front windscreen of the car, which allows me to see the name of the student and call them so they are ready for you to collect quickly. Your support in following our pickup rules and routine is greatly appreciated and ensures everyone is safe during this busy time of the day.

Yours sincerely,

Cate Foot

### **Message for the Head of Studies**

Welcome to the new school year. It is hard to believe that we are already half way through Term 1. My name is Kelsey McDonald and I am the new Head of Studies this year. The year has started off smoothly for all students and staff. We are proud that every year we continue to improve as we grow. We had a successful parent teacher information meeting this past weekend with many parents in attendance. Thank-you for coming.

### **University Visits**

This year, I will be in charge of exam coordination for the IGCSE programmes, setting and vetting of semester exams and University preparation for our high school students. We have already had two university visits from Australia National University and Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. They were very different schools from two different parts of the world. Both were very informative and good for the students to hear about.

### **Semester Examinations**

The setting and vetting process has begun for the first semester exams and we are off to a respectable start to ensure that the students are assessed fairly and consistently.

The IGCSE students are working hard, especially the IGCSE 2 students, who are preparing for the exams that they will sit in May and June.

Students from Year 1 to Year 9 have been issued with the Table of Specification to take home (ToS). The ToS explains what the students are expected to know and what they will be examined on for each semester. It also informs of the actual examination dates for each paper.

If you have any queries about the ToS please make an appointment with your child's teacher for further clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Kelsey McDonald

**Message from the Head of Vietnamese**

Dear Parents,

In the celebratory atmosphere of the new school year 2015-2016, we welcomed the students' return to school after their summer holidays and are very glad to welcome 23 new students in Year 1 and 38 new students (From Year 2 to Year 9) from the schools in Danang, Hoi An, and Hanoi. We appreciate parents and students who have put their faith in SIS.

We are very happy to inform the parents that the number of integrated students is 164 in school year 2015-2016, an increase of 34 students. After completing the fifth week of the new academic year, I am pleased to report the students have settled happily into their class routines. Students have revealed their own talent and performance abilities expressed through their singing and dancing at the opening ceremony of the new school year. Leaders of Ngu Hanh Son District and DOET attended the opening ceremony of school and highly appreciate the confidence and performance skills of our students.

We want to express our thank you for your supportive comments to school operations during the Parent Meeting on 19 September 2015. We thank you for your suggestions and we will certainly consider all your ideas.

Primary students will soon have the beginning of the year Maths test in the middle of October and Secondary students will have a one-period-test in all subjects. Student Progress Reports will be sent home every month and in the middle of semester one.

Best regards,

VŨ THỊ LAN (SVIS Principal)

**The Month Ahead**

30 October- Halloween Party

30 October - End of Term 1

9 November- Term 2 commences

12 December- Christmas Charity Fair



Kindergarten HPE lesson



Senior Boys Soccer



Kindergarten children are proud of their Moon Festival lanterns