

# SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ DANANG NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2021

## Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2. This will be a very busy term with a number of major events and importantly exams and reporting to be completed. We are looking forward to returning to on-campus learning and there are some positive signs this could occur soon.

Some of our older students have commenced getting the COVID vaccine. This has occurred with our students born in 2006 or older (yr 10 and above). Thank you to the parents and our school staff for helping to facilitate this.

Also, our teachers and school staff are now in the process of getting the second dose of the vaccine and we hope this will be carried out in the very near future. We are doing what we can to ensure we are ready to reopen the school safely, when we are allowed, to do so.

We are in the final stages of completing a school wide literacy program to assist with the teaching of reading and writing. This ties in with our school wide action plan. Reading and writing are fundamental skills that are imperative to a students educational development.

There are 5 key skills to the teaching of reading. These are phonemic awareness (how to produce sounds and pronounce words), phonic and decoding (letter sound relationships), vocabulary (sight words), fluency (the ability to read fluently and with expression and obeying punctuation rules), and comprehension (the ability to understand what you are reading).

Reading and writing are closely linked together. Both depend on a fluent understanding and use of language at many levels. Each enhances the other. We will be working on developing and strengthening 8 writing traits, these include purpose, ideas, organisation, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions (punctuation) and presentation. Effective writing incorporates these traits.

It is unfortunate when staff leave mid-year, however, this happens in all schools not just international schools and sadly we would like to farewell Ms Hannah and Ms Cecilia and wish them well with their careers. We have a new teacher starting this term, Ms Jade Reidy. Ms Jade, is a South African teacher, who has been working in Vietnam and is now joining us at SIS Danang. Ms Jade will take on the Prep International class, when we return from on-line learning. In the meantime she will support with some relief teaching and supporting students while we are online. In addition, there will be some other new staff joining us soon. We will introduce when they arrive.

Regards Christopher Bradley Principal



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#### Message from SVIS Principal

#### Dear Parent,

In the last Term 1, although our school had to online learning and teachers and students could not meet face-to-face, but only interact with each other through the screen. But almost students have studied and practiced effectively. It is great to see the progress of each student compared to the beginning of the school year.

#### During the month of October, our student had the following activities:

- Completed the learning program Week 11
- Organized the middle test in Math and Vietnamese for students of year 4 and 5 and all subjects for students of year 6,7,8,9.
- The teacher is conducting a preliminary review and assessment of the learning and training results in the middle of term 1.

# Main tasks in November:

- Teaching program from week 12 to week 16.
- Teachers will send reports to parents about student's learning results in term 1.
- Organize activities to celebrate Vietnamese Teachers' Day on the twentieth of November.
- Organize extra courses for all sports gifted students before competing at the district level.

Hope the students will be back to school soon and the parents are always happy to welcome their children's growth day by day.

#### Regards, Vu Thi Lan Principal of SVIS



# Message from Deputy Principal (Secondary) Dear Parents,

#### Welcome to Term 2!

I would like to thank you for all your support during Term 1. It has been great to see the progress all our students have been making with their learning. The learning that has been happening this year will be tested during our SIS semester exams are due to be held from January 6th to January 14th, 2022.

This term we are excited to introduce our first annual Student Protection Week. This week will provide all our students with excellent learning opportunities. Students will learn about wellbeing concepts such as respect, safety, confidence, empathy and feeling comfortable. I look forward to sharing more information with you in the coming weeks.

Best wishes, Brad McCarthy Deputy Principal (Secondary)

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Message from Deputy Principal (Primary) Dear Parents,

Our Halloween festivities were great fun for students and teachers alike. Students did a great



job of participating in our writing contests and poster contests. There are fun prizes awaiting the winners when we return to school. A special shout out to Ms. Caroline's 2L class and Mr. Kane's 5L class for their whole class participation in both contests!

Recently some of our primary students have been referencing the popular television show 'Squid Game' in their class conversations, drawing and lessons. Netflix rates this show as inappropriate for children under 17 years of age. Please make sure that you support your children to make positive and age-appropriate choices regarding the shows they watch and the games they play. We hope that with the support students have the privilege of remaining innocent and optimistic as long as possible.

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Regards, Stephanie Nicole Shepperd Deputy Principal (Primary)

# Message from Head of Studies (Secondary)

#### Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a restful term break.

Certificates have successfully arrived on campus for our students who took IGCSE and NCC exams in June 2021. Please arrange time to collect and sign for the documents at the school office.

Our High School parents will have recently received Term 1 progress reports. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any of the results or comments.

I am looking forward to a positive Term 2!

Regards, Harriet Casswell Head of Studies (Secondary)



# Message from Head of Studies (Primary) Dear Parents,

A big well done to all students for the work they did in Term 1, keep up the excellent work! SIS Da Nang has been working with Hoa Mai orphanage to help support them with events and donations. Teachers from our school hosted a Halloween party at the orphanage, great fun was had by all.

It's been great to see the progress primary students have been making on RazKids. If you have any questions or queries about RazKids, give me a message niall.reed@danang.sis.edu.vn.

# Regards, Niall Elliot Reed Primary Head of Studies (Primary)

