



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ DA NANG

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024

Coming events

Tet Holidays - 3/2 to 18/2

ISA Exams for Years 3, 5 and 7 - 19/2 to 22/2

8A & 8L OBV @ Binh Dinh - 26/2 to 1/3

Message from Principal

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a relaxing Christmas holiday, and your children were excited to return to school in January. First, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined our annual Christmas Charity Fair. Your spirit of giving helped us raise over 65 million Vietnamese dong for Caritas Vietnam, supporting their vital work in fighting poverty and promoting justice. A big thank you to our school band, Babylon Jam, for their amazing performances that put everyone in the Christmas spirit, and to all of our students and teachers for a fun-filled day.

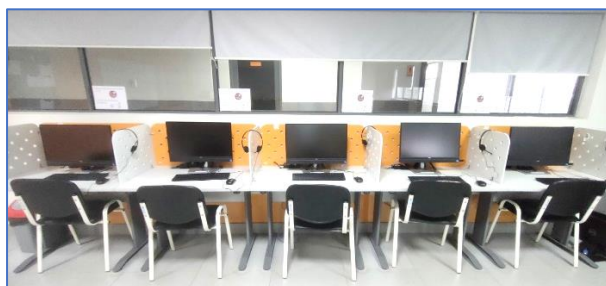
Over the Christmas break, our computer labs received a make-over with new computers being installed, providing our students with the latest technology to enhance their learning experience and our goal of ensuring all students are Technology Literate Citizens. Another exciting upgrade for our school is a brand-new playground that will be installed in the summer, complete with fun and challenging equipment for all ages. To prepare for this fantastic addition, we have already replaced the roof over the existing playground, ensuring a safe and comfortable space for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Kind regards,

Bradman McCarthy

Principal





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Message from SVIS Deputy Principals

Dear Parents,

On Saturday, January 13th 2024, successful Parent-Teacher conference was held at our school to conclude the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year. This is an annual event to ensure parents are updated with students' progress and achievements. It also promotes the close collaboration between parents and school in each student's education.

With the effort to bring effectiveness and innovation, school leadership team and teachers worked on details, designed meeting plans and attended a training before the day in the theme "Effective Collaboration".

The preparations for the meeting were carefully taken care of by the teachers, from decorations and collecting students' letters written for their parents with promises of determination for a new journey, as well as messages from teachers. All of this created a new look and meaningful parent-meeting.

At the start of the meetings, teachers informed of the current situation, activities and achievements of the school in the first semester. Those outstanding and proud achievements partly made the parents feel more confident in the education environment in which their children are learning and developing. The teachers reported class situations in the first semester and discussed strengths and weaknesses in the following aspects: academic performance, behaviour and student attributes. Upcoming plans and expectations of what students need to achieve in Semester 2 were also informed.

In addition, teachers updated parents on MOET instruction about how to evaluate students so that parents could have an appropriate approach and effective methods to encourage and support students, and to help them develop their own abilities, make progress, and get higher achievements in learning and training.

Parents were extremely pleased to see the dedication and great care from teachers and school leaders for each student.

On behalf of the school and management board, we sincerely thanks the parents for participating in the meeting and always accompanying the school in supporting children's improvement.

Ho Thi Thuy Van/ Le Thi Phuong Nhi
SVIS Deputy Principals





Message from Deputy Principal (Secondary)

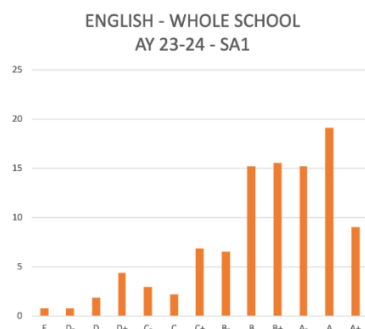
Our Semester 1 SIS English Exams have closed out a successful first half of the 2023-2024 school year. The exam data collected shows that most of our students are meeting and exceeding their academic achievement goals. Based on whole school data, an impressive 40% of students are performing at an A grade or higher and 90% of students achieved a C- grade or above, meeting our system-wide minimum expectation.

The exam data collected supports our teachers in designing instructional experiences that best meet student needs. To address the unique needs of all learners, teachers will be working with the support of leadership to positively impact student learning in Semester 2 in the following areas:

1. Implementation of interventions to support learning for students performing below the minimum expectation with a focus on reading comprehension, the largest area of deficit among learners.
2. Differentiated instruction for mid-range learners to extend learning opportunities and build deeper understanding of topics covered using research based instructional practices.

English – Summary

Key Findings



Key Findings – 277 students	
A grade or Higher	40% of all students working at a minimum of 85%
C grade or higher	90% of all students working at a minimum of 50%
Below a C-	10% of students working below 50%



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SIS Exams are an essential tool in determining student achievement, ensuring effective teaching and successful learning, and directing targeted instruction based on data findings. Our campus would like to thank parents for their strong support of our SIS Exams and their encouragement of student success.

On Wednesday, January 17th and Thursday, January 18th, parents and teachers met to discuss student success at our Semester 1 SIS Parent Meetings. Teachers hold these meetings once a semester to share SIS Exam results, offer targeted strategies for improvement, and encourage positive collaboration between home and school. Thank you to parents for joining us for these meetings. Student success is a joint effort between parents and teachers, and we appreciate your continued involvement in this effort.

Parents unable to attend parent meetings or those who have further questions are encouraged to contact teachers directly via Class Dojo or to our front office to schedule an appointment. Please continue to follow and interact with your Class Dojo for the latest updates on what is happening in classes and around campus.

Stephanie Shepperd (Ms)

Deputy Principal





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Message from Deputy Principal (Primary)

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who participated in our recent Fun Run event. The day was filled with energy, excitement, and a great sense of community. The students competed for their school houses, which included Team Red, Team Yellow, and Team Green. It was a very close competition, and we are pleased to announce the official race results.

The first place was secured by Team Red, followed by Team Green in second place, and Team Yellow in third place. In addition, students who came first, second, and third in their age group were awarded a gold, silver, and bronze medal, respectively.

Congratulations to our top runners who finished in the top three of their age group. You should be proud of your achievement.

It was wonderful to see so many students come together for a fun and healthy activity and we look forward to future events that promote healthy habits for our students.

Niall Elliot Reed
Deputy Principal





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Message from Head of Integrated Kindergarten

December was a month full of fun-filled Christmas activities! The Kindergarten students took part in lots of exciting Christmas crafts, activities, and treats. They especially worked hard on their big Christmas Musical, "The Grinchmas!" This was a musical based around the book and movie, "The Grinch" written by Dr Seuss. In the story of the Grinch, he learns that Christmas is more than just presents and decorations. It is a great message for the students to learn and to pass on to others through the performance. In the concert, not only was there dancing and singing, but some of the students even got a chance to do some acting. Some students had lines that they had to memorize, and others played roles as a 'Who' and 'Max' the dog. The students' costumes all looked amazing, as well as the decorations that were put around the stage made by them. They all worked very hard on the production and performed very well. Thank you to all the parents and students for supporting their hard work in their final performance.

Vo Thi Thuy Ngan

Head of Integrated Kindergarten





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Message from Guidance Officer

It has been a busy month for high school students learning about different pathways after graduation. Two prestigious universities visited our campus in January. The first was a personalized presentation from Swinburne University whose main campus is in Australia. This event was unique because Swinburne also has a campus right here in Da Nang! Students who attend there for a three-year bachelor's degree can leave with an internationally recognized diploma without leaving the comfort of home. <https://swinburne-vn.edu.vn/en/about-swinburne-vietnam/>



The University of Melbourne was the second presentation high school students participated in and had the chance to meet with faculty from the Colleges of Arts, Business, Design, Engineering, IT and Law. It was great to hear all the thoughtful questions students had about planning for their futures.

<https://study.unimelb.edu.au/connect-with-us/international/vietnam>



It is never too early to start future planning and students entering the two-year iGCSE program have one more way to start doing so. Current Year 8 International and Year 9 Integrated students can continue to or move to the internationally recognized Cambridge iGCSE program for high school. In order to finalize subject choices and options, we would like to know which subject is preferred in the iGCSE programme: iGCSE Computer Science or iGCSE Art and Design. We would appreciate your response to this survey:





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Additionally, students completing the second year of the iGCSE program continue with the two-year Cambridge AS/A Level programme to finish their high school career. At this stage, students become more specialized with their subjects as they get closer to choosing a career path. Students must choose a minimum of four subjects and a maximum of 5 subjects:

- AS Level Mathematics
- AS Level Business Studies
- AS Level Economics
- AS Level English Language
- AS Level Art and Design
- AS Level Sociology
- AS Level Chemistry
- AS Level Biology
- AS Level Physics
- AS Level Computer Science

To finalize subject choices and options, we are identifying which subjects are preferred, and your participation in the survey below is appreciated. You can find further information and course descriptions in the SIS AS/A Level Information Booklet [here](#).



Please contact me via email or MS Teams if you would like to discuss different pathways opportunities and how to help your child choose the one most suitable. Christina.williams@danang.sis.edu.vn

Ms. Christina Williams

Guidance Officer and Teacher