

## Coming events

**13/10** - School cross-country / fun run

**13/10** – Last Day of Term 1

**23/10** – First Day of Term 2

**23/10 to 27/10** – Outward Bound 9A, 10A and IGCSE2

**27/10** – School Halloween Celebrations

**30/10 to 3/11** – Outward Bound IGCSE1

## Message from Principal

September has been an exciting month for SIS@DaNang.

Our students were very excited preparing for our Mid-Autumn Festival, and we had lots of events for our students and students. It was a truly wonderful cultural experience for our Vietnamese and foreign students, and I would like to thank our teachers and parents for their support.

During September our students and teachers elected our first ever School Captains.

Congratulations to Bao Han (12A), Bach (11A), Andrea (IGCSE2) and Hyuk (12A) for being selected. Our School Captains are student representatives that work with our teachers to make our school a better place. They are responsible for running our student council, helping plan school events, presenting awards and announcements at assemblies, greeting special guests and meeting with all students to gain their feedback on our school. I look forward to working with our School Captains this year.

**Bradman McCarthy**

Principal





SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ DA NANG

# NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

## Message from SVIS Deputy Principals

“Tùng đình đình các tùng đình đình...!”

Mid-Autumn Festival arrived with the sounds of lion dance drums all around the corners. This year, SIS students enjoyed a meaningful Mid-Autumn Festival together with many exciting and traditional activities. This is an opportunity for children to unite, share emotions, and help them understand more about traditional holiday customs.

Mid-Autumn Festival is extremely special for Vietnamese children. On the annual full moon festival, the children are eager to carry lanterns, have a feast, and hear the legend of the Moon Fairy (chi Hang) and the Man in the Moon (Chu Cuoi). In order for the students to understand and feel the beauty of traditional culture, the school organised a number of activities as following:

- **Lantern making contest.** Students from all classes were so creative in making colourful lanterns in many different shapes from recycled materials. These products are decorated in the classroom, not only creating a festival environment but also reminding students the practical value of using recycled materials, which is a way to protect the surrounding environment. .

- **Making moon cake.** This activity took place on September 28 and brought a lot of emotions to the students at our school. Students learnt about the ingredients and how to make moon cakes. They had a chance to shape the dough, wrap and mold the cake. Despite some uncertainty at the first, all of the students were so excited to see the finished products in their hands, which were cakes shaped like flowers and cute animals. It all created a warm and joyful atmosphere.

- **The event “Beloved Mid-Autumn Festival”** was full of fun laughter and took place at the multi-purpose hall on September 29. The scene "The Legend of Cuoi and Ms. Hang", the performances from all classes, along with the nice lion dance helped students understand more about Vietnamese culture and the meaning of the traditional Mid-Autumn Festival.

On this occasion, Board of Management would like to wish parents and students good health, happiness and full of energy!

## Ho Thi Thuy Van/Le Thi Phuong Nhi

SVIS Deputy Principals







SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ DA NANG

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## Message from Deputy Principal (Secondary)

It is the time of year when teachers begin sending home progress reports and comments to inform parents of success their children are having in the classroom. These unit tests, projects/presentations, quizzes and other assignments can be considered and referred to by teachers as Classroom Based Assessments. This can sometimes leave parents to ask the questions - What are CBAs? Why are CBAs important? How do CBAs impact my child's scores?

Classroom Based Assessment is an important part of the teaching and grading cycle here at SIS DaNang. CBAs are formative assessments that are used to check student understanding of the content and concepts taught so that teachers can provide timely and precise instructional feedback to students. These types of assessments help to monitor student progress and understanding of the concepts and content being taught. These assessments also provide teachers and leadership with insight on the effectiveness of classroom instructional practices.

Classroom Based Assessments contribute 50% of the summative marks that a student receives in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science each semester, and contribute 100% of the summative marks in the non-core subjects of Social Studies/Global Perspectives, ICT, Chinese, Art, Music and HPE. These assessment scores help to determine the annual academic champion award winners, and as a result teachers must be able to prove that the assessments used are valid and defensible as a true indication of student progress and subject mastery.

Using Classroom Based Assessments as a large indicator of student success helps to monitor students as they are learning rather than evaluate all they have learned based on one overall exam that happens twice per year. This does not remove the importance of high-stakes exams at the end of each semester, it just serves to balance the summative learning evaluated by semester exams with the formative learning that happens in the classroom daily.

As always, it is our goal to make parents aware of our work here at school and to provide any understanding or clarifications needed. Please reach out to your child's teacher or our school office with any questions you may have about assessments, exams or teaching. We are here to help!

**Stephanie Shepperd**  
Deputy Principal





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## Message from Deputy Principal (Primary)

Singapore International School Da Nang's approach to teaching and learning is centred around the Four Pillars of Learning: Attention, Engagement, Error Feedback, and Consolidation. These pillars are based on the research of cognitive neuroscientist Stanislas Dehaene, who is highly regarded in Europe for his work on mathematical abilities, as well as his studies on reading, language, bilingualism, and consciousness. The concept of these pillars is applied consistently across all grade levels, and they serve as the foundation for lesson planning, monitoring, and reward systems.

### Niall Elliot Reed (Mr)

Deputy Principal



## Message from Head of Integrated Kindergarten

KIK had an amazing Mid-Autumn festival celebration in September. The students and teachers worked hard leading up to the event with exciting activities. Everybody enjoyed being outdoors while having fun making beautiful lanterns and crafts for their class decorations. Another highlight of the event was the Fruit Tray Art Competition between classes. We would like to take this chance to express our deep gratitude to our wonderful parents for donating the fruits and more importantly, for supporting us with the fantastic creations.

Our Mid-Autumn festival assembly was enjoyed by all. The students showed their confidence on the stage when beautifully performing their singing and dancing. Thanks again for joining us in celebrating the festival.

Halloween is coming soon. We will have more updates in the weekly class reports regarding dates and planned activities for the event.

### Vo Thi Thuy Ngan (Ms)

Head of Integrated Kindergarten



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