



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ DA NANG

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022

Coming events

- ECAs Beginning – 07/11/22
- Teacher's Day - 20/11

Message from Principal

I hope our students and parents had a relaxing term break and are excited for Term 2. Our iGCSE1 and 2 students attended Outward Bound Programme from the 24 - 28th of October. Students and teachers had an excellent trip and students were able to develop lifelong skills such as team building, confidence, perseverance and self-discipline. I look forward to more of our Secondary and High School students attending this exciting learning opportunity.

Term 2 will see our students have more of an opportunity to learn and develop our 5 Schoolwide Learning Goals.

1. Active and Responsible Citizens
2. Academic Achievers
3. Confident Communicators
4. Critical Thinkers
5. Technology Literate Students

Teachers provide a variety of ways for our students to grow in these 5 key areas, and we look forward to providing feedback to parents through report cards.





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Lastly, I would like to wish Madam Lan, our Head of Vietnamese, all the best in her retirement. Madam Lan has been a dedicated member of our learning community at SIS and she will be missed by students, parents and staff. I would like to congratulate her on her fantastic career.

Thank you,

Kind regards,

Bradman McCarthy

Principal



Message from SVIS Deputy Principals

Dear Parents,

I hope all students had a relaxing and enjoyable term break. Besides special events, primary students had an opportunity to show their creativity in two STEAM projects.

- Project 1: A cute friend
- Project 2: Self-watering plant pots

Students applied their knowledge and creativity to create useful products which promote campaign LIVING GREEN, LIVING HEALTHY, contributing to minimizing the adverse effects on the environment.

In the middle of October, Integrated students have completed mid-semester I tests. Percentage of excellent and good results are pretty high. Mid-semester I reports will be sent to parents in early November.

The last day of term 1 was also the last working day of Madam Lan – SVIS principal. All of our staff and students will remember her as an experienced, visionary and dedicated leader, an educator who is always trusted by all levels of management, respected by colleagues, loved by parents and students. I hope that she will always follow us and keep her beautiful memories of our school during her retirement.

Thanks and best regards,

Ho Thi Thuy Van/Huynh Pham Diem Hang

SVIS Deputy Principals



Message from Deputy Principal (Secondary)

The whole school celebrated our Spooktacular Halloween Festivities on Friday, October 28th in a big way. Students started the day with a Whole School Assembly where our contest winners were announced and students played a fun game. The teachers even surprised everyone with a great Halloween dance and encouraged the students to dance along.

The morning of the festivities, Primary students traveled around Trick-or-Treating and playing games in our Secondary classrooms. Secondary students had worked so hard decorating their classrooms and preparing their games so that the Primary students had a spooktacular time. SVIS and SIS teachers worked easily together to make sure the classrooms were well prepared and the games were brilliantly organized. In the afternoon students enjoyed a Student Council sponsored spooky Mad Scientist colored flame and colored liquid demonstrations in the Science Lab.





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Students, teachers, and staff all had a great experience celebrating the international holiday of Halloween. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and dedication to our students. It is experiences like this that ensure our students have a well-rounded and fun learning environment.

Lower Primary Contest Winners	Upper Primary Contest Winners	Secondary Contest Winners
<u>Lower Primary Writing</u> 1 st – Rick Y1A 2 nd – Jerry Y2A 3 rd – Nhu My Y2A	<u>Upper Primary Writing</u> 1 st – Anh Tho (Tiffany) Y5B 2 nd – Vanessa Y4 3 rd – Audrey Y5L	<u>Secondary Writing</u> 1 st – Le An Thu Y7L 2 nd – Ah Rin Hong Y7L 3 rd – Kathy Y6A
<u>Hand-Drawn Poster</u> 1 st – Mario Y2A 2 nd – Chip Y1A 3 rd – Roy Y2A	<u>Hand-Drawn Poster</u> 1 st – Vo Ngoc Tuong Han Y5A 2 nd – Le Gia Binh Y5A 3 rd – Hoang Ha Y5A	<u>Best Hand Drawn Poster</u> 1 st – David Bota Y7L 2 nd – Tran Huu Tien Quoc Y8L 3 rd – Deniz Cetinkaplan Y8L
<u>Most Colorful Poster</u> 1 st – Linh Y2A 2 nd – Nice Y2A	<u>Most Colorful Poster</u> 1 st – Boi Linh (Lina) Y5B 2 nd – Funny Y4L 3 rd – Minji Y3L	<u>Most Colorful Poster</u> 1 st Place – Ah Rin Hong Y7L 2 nd Place – Tien Quoc Y8L
<u>Whole School Costume Contest</u> Rohee – Y2L Thao My – Y3B Carly – Y4A Kat – Y5B Andrea – iGCSE1	<u>Best Digital Poster</u> 1 st – Henry Y4A 2 nd Minh Riyu Y5L 3 rd – Carly Y4A	<u>Best Digital Poster</u> 1 st – Suri Y8A
	<u>Exceptional Creativity</u> Uy Phong Y4A Linh Chi Y5B	<u>Most Informative Poster</u> 1 st – Ben & King Y8L 2 nd – Ngoc & Trang Y8L

Stephanie Shepperd

Deputy Principal



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Message from Deputy Principal (Primary)

Year 7 students have participated in iPSLE in October (International Primary School Leaving Examinations). These examinations test our students on speaking, listening, writing, mathematics and science and are used to compare our learning progress with primary schools in Singapore. These examinations do not count towards our students grades here at school, but it provides us with information regarding your child's current ability and allows us to continue improving our teaching and learning here at SIS Danang.

Thanks.

Niall Elliot Reed (Mr)

Deputy Principal



Message from Head of Studies for high school

Dear parents,

We have completed an outstanding first term and many of our high school students did very well. We will send out our progress reports on Friday the 6th of November. In the progress report, you will see your child's progress, effort, behavior, and grade. Besides this, the subject teachers have written a small comment that reflects the subject's progress.

We will continue to work hard toward our semester examinations in December. the details will be shared within the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, please contact me at nils.harteveld@danang.sis.edu.vn.

Regards,

Nils Harteveld

Head of Studies for high school



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Message from Head of Studies for Primary

The Letterland Phonics program is a multisensory phonics system in which all the letters come alive. Each letter has its own character, and these characters have explanations as to why blends sound different to each letter. With lots of interesting and exciting resources like songs, stories, art and craft activities, and flashcards, Letterland has proven to be a fantastic way to get our students excited about learning English. Our KIK and Year 1 teachers have gone through training to implement Letterland successfully in the classroom. At this time, the KIK classes focus on introducing individual letters and their sounds. In Year 1, students first review the individual sounds and then blend these sounds to form simple sight words. All lessons involve a story being read to the students, singing songs and dance movement and small group activities where students practice the phonic sounds in different ways. This ensures that learning is fun and meaningful. We are excited to be using this wonderful program and we look forward to the reading progress of our KIK and Year 1 students.

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Caroline Greatwood (Ms)
Primary Head of Studies



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Message from Head of Kindergarten

It has been an exciting month for our Kindergarten students, seeing the end of the first Term, a week's break, and kick-starting Term 2.

In Nursery and K1, we had multi-sensory activities for our younger students to develop and strengthen their fine and gross motor skills including play dough, water bubbles and sand play. Children enhance their gross motor skills, coordination and physical fitness through rolling, chopping, cutting, lifting, pouring, carrying, running and splashing, while actions such as squeezing help to develop the small muscles in a child's hands. K1 painted Nemo fish and made finger printing trees during Arts and Crafts lessons. We were happy to see the children's improvement in their handwriting skills. Most of them were able to hold the pencil in the correct grip to trace the letters and numbers properly.

Healthy food plays an important role in our lives. They not only impact our physical health but our mental health too. To help students understand this concept and had fun experiences, K2 set up a healthy shopping center. This activity gave students the opportunity to enjoy shopping from a fruit store, a yogurt store, an egg store, a juice store, and a candy/nut store while developing self-confidence and problem-solving skills. All of them loved the excitement of going shopping with their friends, and they had fun buying and selling things during the role-playing. They also learned how to ask, "How much is this?" and how to pay for the goods they bought.





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We have learned letters c, k, e, u, r and h in K2. All K1/2L students can confidently name Letterland characters and say their sounds. We have introduced new visual prompts and sound buttons that help bring Letterlanders to life in our lessons. Students can roleplay their favorite characters and learn sounds in a more interactive and engaging way. We are happy to see that some of the children are beginning to read decodable 3-letter words.

In the beginning of October, Prep students learned about their 5 senses. Prep A class explored their senses through many different fun, hands on activities such as campus tour for the sense of sight and hearing, blind folding to touch and feel soft, rough, bumpy and hard objects. We had fun smelling garlic, vinegar, cinnamon, vanilla, fish sauce and tasting bitter, sweet, sour, salty, and spicy. We talked about different foods that had

the same tastes, and they voted what kind they liked the most. surprisingly, salty won over sweet! Overall, the kids had a great week exploring their 5 senses

In STEM, Prep L got to make our own popsicle stick catapult, where the students had great fun launching pompoms into the air. The students got to use their basic engineering and creative skills to build a rocket from blocks. Through learning the science stages of growth, the students played a movement/ sound game around the different growth stages.

Halloween:

Everyone was excited for the end of month Halloween festival. We have learnt all about Halloween and its traditions, and have gotten creative in making our own decorations. The kindergarten had a Spooktacular Halloween celebration on Friday, October 28th. Classes rotated to participate in the exciting and aged- appropriate games. The children looked amazing in their spooky Halloween outfits and part took in a variety of activities organised by their teachers. We visited the Spider's house and the Haunted house where we saw lots of spooky creatures coming alive. We played bean bags toss, golf, bowling, pin the spider on the web and Halloween sensory tubs. We went trick-or-treating around the campus and enjoyed the treats. It was a fun filled day for all.

Thank you.

Vo Thi Thuy Ngan (Ms)

Head of Integrated Kindergarten



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Message from Guidance Officer

Student Wellbeing is a term to describe students' overall quality of life, including their emotional, social, physical and mental health. Assuring students are thriving in these areas is a high priority at SIS and we have a comprehensive wellbeing curriculum to support them. There are several ways we implement this support.

- Outward Bound Vietnam is available for all students to participate in and their core values are grit, wellness, compassion and purpose. The outcomes of the experience are to build perseverance, positive thinking, respect and self-reliance in students, and much more.
- Our Student Protection Program helps students know their rights, give them tools to build healthy relationships of all kinds, recognize abuse and strategies to stay safe, as well as learning Internet safety and appropriate use. Because student safety is our number one priority, we also have several weeks especially devoted to this school-wide each year.
- The SIS Virtues Program is implemented on a daily basis, with a different virtue focus every other week. The four pillars of the program are getting along, organization, persistence and confidence. Generally, students enjoy discussion and activities based on the weekly virtue each morning in Form, with a culture of school-wide practice every day.
- For Secondary students in Years 8 and above, we have the College and Career Education Program which helps students understand their strengths and interests and to develop an understanding of life after high school and the world of work. This supports students in making informed decisions about their future.

Additionally, my door is always open for students to chat about any wellbeing support they may need or to discuss their future plans. Please feel free to contact me at any time, as well, if you would like to meet. My email is christina.williams@danang.sis.edu.vn.

Kind regards,

Chris Williams (Ms.)
Guidance Officer and Teacher