



**SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**  
Since 1986

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#### At Singapore International School we seek to nurture students who are:

- Confident and creative individuals
- Creative and technical problem solvers
- Effective communicators
- Culturally literate individuals
- Active and informed citizens



Mathematics Cambridge Workshop held at SIS on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014

#### 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.

Dear Parents,

Our students have had a very busy start to the month as they commenced the examination period. IGCSE and AS Level students will spend this month and next completing their final examinations. At this time, they need substantial support from their families. It is especially important that they are encouraged to develop a good study routine and that they are provided with a quiet place for studying.

Cambridge results will be released online in mid-August, 2014. A hard-copy will be issued, in late August 2014. Students will be notified when the hard copy of results arrive for collection from the school.

**Vietnamese and International Examination.** Students have just completed their DOET examinations and are preparing for their international subject examinations. These will be held in June. All students will sit for the international English papers and the international students will sit examinations for Science and Mathematics. The dates are as follows:

**English Paper 1 (Writing): Friday 6 June**

**English Paper 2 (Language & Comprehension): Monday 9 June**

**English Paper 3 (Listening): Monday 2 June**

**English Paper 4 (Speaking): 2 - 6 June**

**Mathematics Papers 1 and 2: Tuesday 10 June (International Students Only)**

**Science: Wednesday 11 June (International Students Only)**

**End of Year Concert** Our students are already working hard to prepare their acts for our End of Year Concert. This year the theme is 'Broadway'. Rehearsals are well underway and the show is shaping up to be amazing!



Students in the swimming lesson



SIS Swimming Team



Byun Yoo Jin (IGCSE 2A) is receiving the Award for Winner of Yearbook Cover Competition.

The concert will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of July at the Opera House for both the Junior Primary Concert and Senior Concert. More details regarding the actual times of the concerts will be sent home shortly by letter to parents.

### **Swimming Carnival**

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of June and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of June Singapore International School @ Saigon South will have a School Swim Carnival. The 19<sup>th</sup> of June will be for students from Years Prep to Year 4 and the 20<sup>th</sup> of June will be for students from Year 5 – IGCSE 2.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in the following swim events:

- Freestyle
- Novelty events
- Breaststroke
- Freestyle relay
- Backstroke

The Swim Carnival is compulsory for all students even if they are not competing in any swim events. Students who plan to swim will need to bring with them proper swim wear and a towel. This will be a **FUN** day for all students and parents are encouraged to support this extra-curricular event and join as spectators if they choose.

A letter will be sent home to parents shortly to explain the times that each year level will participate in the various swim events.

### **Confirmation of Enrolments for 2014 – 2015**

Thank you very much to the parents that have already confirmed their child's enrolment for next year. Our classes are filling up fast which is great to see. Just a quick reminder to parents that have not yet confirmed enrolment for next year to do so as early as possible to secure a place in your child's class for the next academic year.

**Shane Blood**

Principal

### **Year Book Cover Competition**

We were very impressed by the artistic and creative talents displayed by our students throughout the school who entered the YB cover Art competition. It was difficult to choose a winner as there were so many excellent pieces of work.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**BYUN YOO JIN (IGCSE 2A)  
WINNER OF THE YB COVER COMPETITION**

On Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, an information briefing was held for SIS@SS Prep parents from 3:30pm.





Some English and Vietnamese Writing pieces were displayed for parents at the Briefing Session



Mr. Shane Blood – Principal at the Briefing session



SIS Students at RMIT Program Workshop

The current Year 1 International and Year 1 Integrated classes put on amazing performances to show how they have grown and progressed over the past nine months since they entered 'big' school. Their English clarity of speech was amazing. They presented with confidence. Some of their English and Vietnamese writing was displayed for parents to see how their writing skills have developed. Thanks to all the students in Year 1 and the teachers involved: Ms. Keren, Ms. Vy, Ms. Tram and Mr. Dale.

The management team gave parents all the information regarding the long term future and study pathways offered at our school; the transition between Prep and Year 1 and what they can expect in Year 1 and beyond. Parents were given an opportunity to ask questions. A successful event!

**Jilda Manson**  
Deputy Principal

### **RMIT – Saigon South Campus**

On 8 May, the IGCSE1 and GAC students attended Program Workshops at RMIT. The students had the opportunity to tour the campus and also to participate in workshops in the fields of Fashion and Textiles, Professional Communication, Engineering and Business. The students were impressed with the facilities and student volunteers and were able to meet up with several of our ex-students now studying at RMIT.

Five of our GAC students have also registered to attend a University Transition Course on June 5 and June 6, 2014. This intensive two-day course is designed to assist future students to adapt and thrive when they begin their university education.

### **Singapore International School Alumni Association (SISAA)**

We are very proud of all our students and welcome news about their successes as they continue their study after they leave Singapore International School. The **SISAA** has been set up to keep 'in touch' with our students and we have invited our 61 past GAC students and our 12 current GAC students to be part of this group. Next year our A level students will also be invited to join the Alumni. At SIS@SS, Nguyen Tran Minh Long is the Alumni Secretary for this academic year. Minh Long is currently completing Level 3 of the GAC (Global Assessment Certificate) and will graduate in July. In December he applied for entry to the Oregon State University to complete a four year Bachelor of Business Administration.



Nguyen Tran Minh Long - the Alumni Secretary  
for the academic year 2013 - 2014

He was successful in receiving the maximum Merit-based Scholarship of US\$9,000. This will certainly reduce the US\$26,000 fee for an international student. The scholarship was based on Minh Long's excellent IGCSE results, Level 1 of the GAC program and his TOEFL score.

As a member of the Alumni, Minh Long will have the opportunity to mentor the graduating students of 2015. With this closer relationship and support, we believe our current students will be better prepared for university life overseas or here in Vietnam.

**Ms. Janelle Baker**  
Deputy Principal



Our AS students Nhat Duc, Kyeong Soo, Minh Quan

### **Our Cambridge AS Level pioneers**

Here at Saigon South we introduced the Cambridge AS Level program, a one year program that is taken before students undertake the A Level course. The A Levels is an internationally recognised program in which subjects taken are key to enrolment at many prestigious universities around the world. I had an interview with Nhat Duc who has been here at Saigon South since 2008.

### **Hello Nhat Duc, what AS subjects are you taking here at Saigon South?**

I'm taking 4 subjects which are Business, Maths, English Language and Biology.

### **What differences do you feel there are between IGCSE and AS levels?**

There are less subjects than IGCSE but AS level subjects are much more in depth and detailed.

### **What are the challenging things about AS levels?**

Maths would be the most challenging for me and my classmates. There's a big gap between IGCSE Maths and AS/A Level Maths. We do sometimes find it hard to keep up with the concepts of the subject.

### **How do you feel AS Levels have helped you with your academic goals?**

The AS subjects provide us with a strong foundation of knowledge for A Levels next year. It helps us to adapt to the curriculum and style of the exams which I find useful.



Teachers and Students of A/AS Level





High School Students discussing with the teacher

**Will you continue with the same subjects going into A Levels in the next academic year?**

I will continue with Business, Maths and English. I enjoyed Biology however I will switch to Economics since it will benefit me more in my future studies.

**Can you share a little bit about your future goals?**

I'm planning to study International Commerce in Australia.

**And just a little bit about yourself, what do you like to do in your free time?**

I enjoy playing guitar and photography.

**Robert Gayst**  
Head of Studies

**Principal awards**

Throughout the school-year all students at SIS@SS have been eligible to receive Principal Awards.

To qualify to receive one of these prestigious awards a student must collect 10 Academic Achievement or School Spirit Awards. These are given out by teachers to reward excellent academic work in class or as a reward for behaviour that shows school spirit and reflects the virtues that are taught in connection with our school-wide virtues program.

Mr. Shane Blood, our principal, presents the awards at assembly each week in front of the entire school. This helps students gain recognition from their peers for outstanding achievement and also helps encourage other students to strive harder to improve so as they may have the chance to achieve an award.

Students who have received a Principal Award this year should be very proud of their achievements.

I congratulate all recipients up until now and I encourage all students to continue to try their best in their studies and behaviour so that they may be awarded a certificate in the future.

**Mr. Simon Gibson**  
Head of Studies (Y5-Y9)

K1 & K2 students are busy learning every day, developing skills and playing in a safe and happy environment. Every Friday afternoon we recognize students in K1 & K2 for work well done or progress made within the classroom, as well singing and dancing in front of their peers.



Students receiving Principal's Award  
at assembly on every Wednesday



Students with their Principal's Awards



Star students with their awards  
with Mr. Shane - Principal

Children enjoy getting certificates/awards. It helps to build children's self-esteem, encourage additional effort and promote positive values and behavior. Children are selected from each class for a weekly award. This is then followed by a special trip to visit the Principal, Mr Shane, to show him their awards and have a photo taken.

**Kaye Tamarua**

Head of Studies (K-4)

Dear all students,

All the Vietnamese subjects of the Integrated Program will finish on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014. From 19<sup>th</sup> May until the Graduation Ceremony, students will have time to revise all basic knowledge and solve advanced extra exercises in Vietnamese Literature, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry.

In addition to improving academic knowledge, they can spend some periods on doing projects, for example:

- Protecting the environment
- Why do we have to save electricity and water?
- Overcoming all challenges to be successful in the future.

Doing projects will help students gain life skills for themselves to behave well with their friends, family and in social situations.

Another activity is The Buddy Class Program in which they can join and help their "little friends" in kindergarten with crafts and make lovely handmade products.

They are also working hard with teachers on practicing their performances for the Graduation Ceremony.

The ceremony will be very formal because there will be many parents and guests coming to join us. Therefore I hope all the students will keep putting their best efforts into practice so that their performances in the upcoming event will be excellent and show their gratitude to teachers and parents.

**Phung Thi Tuyet Minh**

Head of Vietnamese



Year 1 – Integrated Class



Buddy Class at SIS

### **Student Council May 2014**

This is the most important month of the school year, if you are an IGCSE 2 or AS/A level student, as the final Cambridge exams are well underway. Good results in these exams will earn our students acceptance into a local or an international university of their choosing.





SIS students helping children with disabilities  
at Operation Smile Charity Event

As such, SC has been very quiet to avoid too many disruptions to high school studies. One event that will be running this month is the free dress day. This time SC has decided to spice things up! Students will be allowed to come in free dress, however the colour they wear will be determined by the mood they are feeling! SC will give the students more details. A gentle reminder that the money collected from these free dress days has already enabled 6 Vietnamese children to grow up healthy and normal. We hope we can continue to provide the means for many more to receive this life changing surgery through the charity SMILE, that SIS Saigon South supports.

**Donovan Neethling**  
Head of Student Council

### **Athletic Department Update**

#### **Football**

Term 3 ended on a high. The U19 boys travelled to their football championship tournament and showed their expertise on the pitch. The boys had an outstanding performance on the day and dominated all of their matches. Winning all their games brought them to the final event. They had a narrow defeat, which saw them crowned them as the U19 Runners up for this year. Congratulations on a hard fought battle and for bringing home another trophy!

The U11 footballers are on the run up to their big day. Training hard and having lots of fun out on the pitch, we are positive both boys and girls will accomplish high results in their upcoming matches.

#### **Volleyball**

The U14 girls Volleyball team started their season this month, playing their first 3 matches. The girls fought hard and brought home one win out of three. Our SIS team consists of girls from year 4 to year 7. Mr. James is keeping them on their toes with high-quality training sessions bi-weekly. Good luck in the coming weeks, girls!

#### **Other**

There are many other sports clubs happening weekly in the school; basketball, badminton, table tennis and swimming. Well done to all the students who put so much effort and enthusiasm into their activity every week.

**. Siobhan Synnott**

PE teacher & Athletic Coordinator



SIS@SS Football Team in a match



SIS Table Tennis Team in a competition  
with ABC Table Tennis Team