# SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGON SOUTH

March 2017



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

- Academic Achievers
- Confident communicators
- Critical Thinkers
- Technologically literate students
- Active and Responsible citizens



"Rhino Ranger" visit at SIS

Address: No. 29, Road No. 3, Trung Son Residential Area, Hamlet 4, Binh Hung Ward, Binh Chanh District, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

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Minh City, Vietnam (84-8)5431 7477 Fax: (84-8)5431 7471 enquiry@saigonsouth.sis.edu.vn **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,

I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully remind you of the important role you play as "co - educators" with our teaching staff, in the education of all students SIS@SS.

The role of parents is fundamental to the success of your child as a student. I would like to mention the following areas and request your continued support and cooperation in the ongoing development of all our students learning at SIS@SS.

A reminder also to always check your child's handbook for communication from the class teacher.

This is a great way of "keeping up" with all the learning experiences in the classroom.

Please Let the office know if there are any changes in relation to your child's information details as this should always be updated in case we need to make contact in case of an emergency

Your continued assistance and support in these important areas of school life is always much appreciated.

Parents and teachers working in partnership, striving to provide excellence in education for all students at SIS@SS.

In April our school will have a visit from the WASC committee, as we did last academic year.

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges will continue to work with us to follow up our continuous improvement plan for our learning future.

Our school improvement plan has 4 main goals:

- 1. To promote and reinforce the school wide learning goals.
- 2. To strive to promote high-quality, well-rounded educational experiences for all students that are rigorous, culturally relevant and engaging.



Students at Business Competition



**PCCC** Demonstration



Firefighter team at the demonstration

- 3. Revisit and review school processes, policies, and programs to improve student wellbeing both personally and academically.
- 4. Continue to monitor and analyze the utilization of resources to enhance the learning of all at SIS@SS.

SIS@SS school wide learning goals are included in this newsletter.

Yours in learning.

Mark Priddis - Principal

Dear Parents,

As we come to the second half of Term3 you may notice your children becoming a bit tired or perhaps easily irritated. This is not unusual when going through a fairly long period of study without a break. To help ease the stress please make sure your child has a healthy diet, engages in regular physical activity, and gets plenty of rest. This will help them to be happy and balanced, as well as more resilient.

On a different topic, please be reminded that campus hours are 8:00-5:00, which means that supervision of children is not available prior to 8:00 or after 5:00. Therefore, it is important that children not be dropped early or picked up late.

Also related to campus hours, company policy asks that parents depart prior to 8:30 so as to allow teachers to properly begin their instructional day. When parents remain on campus it can add difficulty for a child to focus on his or her teacher. In addition, during meal times it is expected that only students and staff are in the Canteen.

Parents and caregivers are welcome to drop off food if they wish, but an important part of the development process is for students to practice greater independence (under the nurturing supervision of their teachers, of course).

If you have questions about policy or practice, or are curious about other aspects of the school, feel free to make an appointment to come in for a chat.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Robert Madden – Deputy Principal

Address:



Reading Week Activities



Students at Reading Week Parade



Students in their favorite costumes

Dear Parents,

Grade 6 International has been having a very busy semester 2 in Science class. We are delving deep into the discovery process, with some pretty exciting in and out of class physics experiments which help the students understand the forces at work all around them. I was particularly proud of their assembly presentation which highlighted their understanding of the food webs and chains in an ecosystem. They then did a case study on the Vietnamese Sarus crane and applied those concepts to this majestic and endangered bird's situation in Tram Chim. Presently, they are learning all about geology and diligently preparing for their Semester 2 exam and their IPSLE exam.

Jacob Karras - Year 6 Int'l Teacher

Dear Parents,

Reading Week Fun!

Students are having lots of fun as we continue on with Reading Month at school. Lots of students dressed up as their favorite characters. In English class – students are eagerly completing the scavenger hunt around the school made by each form class. And, students are still filling out their reading slips and entering their names into the bins at school. We will be drawing names for some prizes in the last week of March. The more you read – the better your chance at winning is!

Sharla Scott - Head of Studies (Y5 – Y9)

Dear Parents.

This time of year is always busy for the High School. There are many exciting events such as the 'Culture-Fest' which the students are heavily involved with, as well as planning for graduation and their Prom Night. We look forward to greeting and sharing Culture-Fest with parents on 31 March.

However, before the excitement of Prom Night arrives, students have much important studying to do! The GAC has finished 2 of their 3 levels and started Level 3 this week.

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# SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGON SOUTH

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Student Briefing on Elmhurst University's programme



Year 1 Integrated Class donation

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IGCSE 2 and AS/A Levels begin their final exams as early as 4 April, with early exams such as the ICT practical and also English and Chinese speaking tests. The main body of exams begins 2 May and will finish on 6 June. Please remind your sons and daughters that hard work will pay off, and 2 more months of studying will see them well rewarded.

## **Donovan Neethling – Cambridge Coordinator**

Dear students.

On March, besides all the sports events between SIS and other international schools in Ho Chi Minh City, our school also had a lot of interesting activities. Year 3 International will organize a charity trip to Tu Hanh Pagoda and all the class's teachers and students was raising funds in both monetary and non-monetary to help orphanage children at the pagoda. I do hope that this charity event will spread out the positive vibe to all the students.

The most special and expected event comes at the end of March – Culture Festival. With the registration from 13 different nations all over the world, we are in the sprint time for preparation on cultural uniform and great dishes which are from Vietnam, Japan, Korea, Thailand, China, Singapore, England, USA, France, Mexico, India, Italia and Canada.

My best wishes to the incoming festival and I hope that would be an unforgettable memory for all of us.

# Mme. Phung Thi Tuyet Minh Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents.

For the third consecutive year the U14 boys finished runners up at the Pool B football tournament. The boys went into the tournament feeling confident after and almost flawless season of friendly matches. The boys won all 3 of their group games comfortably; Ivan and Kai were strong and reliable at the back giving the attacking flair players Tom and Willy the confidence to go forward. The entire squad of 14 had a huge part to play in getting to the final, lots of substitutions and changes were made due to the hot conditions and high intensity matches.



SIS@SS Girl Basketball



SIS@SS Football Team's Coach (left)



SIS@SS Football Team

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after the boys played their first match. Both teams were exhausted and RISS took an early lead, SIS gave everything they had, in the second half even Ivan the goalkeeper played outfield but they could not get the breakthrough they deserved and the game finished 0-1. Hopefully next year will be fourth time lucky!

The final was against RISS and kicked off at 5:30pm, 5 hours

#### Daniel Mitchell - Athletic Coordinator

Dear Parents,

It has been a hectic month for teachers and students, spending their free time to prepare for the upcoming event.

Culture fest is one of the biggest events of the Student Council celebrated annually thanks to the great support and cooperation of parents, teachers and students. 13 countries will be represented this year, portraying the authenticity and beauty of different cultures around the world. Everyone attending will be able take part to different activities graciously organised by our volunteers. The programme sets up a series of traditional games, selling of handicrafts and souvenirs, cultural exhibitions, international food, music and performances. Climax of the event will be the Traditional Costumes Fashion Show, an opportunity for everyone to experience the aesthetic and cultural values of each represented country.

The Culture Fest will be an opportunity for teachers, parents, friends and students to witness, share and learn about how important it is nowadays to respect and celebrate the cultural diversity.

The Student Council is looking forward to see everybody's enthusiastic spirit join together as one.

A big thank you goes to all volunteers who have been supporting us with dedication and time.

See you all very soon!

Angela Giudici - High school Teacher

Address:



# SCHOOLWIDE LEARNER GOALS

# **Our Schools Seek To Nurture:**

# **CRITICAL THINKERS who:**

Apply rational, higher order thinking skills

# **TECHNOLOGICALLY LITERATE STUDENTS who:**

- Effectively use technology to access, organise, evaluate, create and communicate information
- Understand responsible use of social media, communication and networking tools

## **CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS who:**

- Demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Work collaboratively with others
- Use creative forms of expression

# **ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS who:**

- Meet or exceed year level expectations
- Demonstrate academic growth
- Strive for continuous improvement

# **ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS who:**

- Understand and respect other cultures
- Demonstrate good citizenship and social responsibility through serving others
- Understand the importance of an active and healthy lifestyle
- · Understand and demonstrate universal virtues

Eastern Values, Western Education, Global Citizens

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