



**SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**
Since 1986

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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**



Mr. Mark Priddis – Principal

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

A warm welcome to our new school year, and the first newsletter for the academic year. I would encourage all parents to read the newsletter carefully. It is be a great source of communication, between school and home.

As we begin our new school year, I feel it is important to take the time to reflect, and think about what our school, SIS@SS is all about, and what it means to be a part of such a great educational setting.

Our School Vision Statement, states that we are striving to be an educational institution of excellence, from kindergarten to University foundation level, combining eastern values, with western education to produce global citizens.

In doing so, our school mission, is to provide quality educational programs in a creative and challenging learning environment, embracing innovative teaching pedagogies to empower every student to become a life-long learner.

Although I have only been with you, for a short period of time, I believe we have much to be proud of at SIS@SS.

Let us all embrace our school vision and mission statements, as we move forward in our new school year, striving to be the best we can be, in our new learning journey.

I encourage all, no matter our age, to continually take the time, to reflect, plan, and improve.

Again, welcome everyone, best wishes for our new school year, with lots of positive learning experiences for all.

Academic Awards Policy

The Academic Awards policy has been reviewed to provide clearer guidelines for students, parents and teachers.

For the International Program, the award is called Academic Champion Award and is awarded for the highest overall academic result for the school year in English, Math and Science for each international class in Years 1 – 8. The overall result must be 85% or above.

For the Integrated Program, the award is called Academic Champion

Award – English and is awarded to the highest overall academic result for the school year in English for each integrated class in Years 1 – 5 and English and EPP for each integrated class in Years 6 – 9. The overall result must be 85% or above.

Yours in learning,

Mark Priddis – Principal.

From the Deputy Principal

Welcome to the start of an exciting new school year for SIS @ Saigon South. In the brief time that I have been here I can say with confidence that the students are as polite, happy, and energetic as any I have ever had the pleasure to work with. This is a reflection of the quality of their upbringing and education, of the character of their parents and teachers.

Please allow me to note a few items that will ensure the continued smooth functioning of our school:

Pick-up: Students are meant to be picked up from school at the conclusion of their academic day as staff supervision is not available late in the day. In the rare event that parents are not able to pick up their child promptly, they should contact the Office.

Parents on campus – parents are invaluable as co-educators, and we are most fortunate to have a dedicated, involved parent community. In the interest of creating a learning centred campus, however, it is important that parents are off premises during the academic day. Should a parent wish to visit classrooms or meet with staff an appointment is necessary.

Bus – for those utilizing our transportation service, it is important to keep in mind that the buses must accommodate many children each day. Therefore, students should be ready and waiting at the scheduled location on time. It is impractical for the bus to wait for an individual student, regardless of the length of time, as this would cause every succeeding student to be late for school. If the bus is running late due to traffic or weather, the Bus Monitor will inform parents as needed.

Thank you for your support, and please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Robert Madden - Deputy Principal.

From the Head of Studies (Years 5 -9)

This year at SIS we are in full swing of implementing 3 new curricula. The PE program, “*SPARK*”, is an American program that runs from Years K1/K2 – IGCSE. *SPARK* contains units of highly active,



Mr. Robert Madden – Deputy Principal



Stars of the week –
He Nan Jia Cheng (K2 Int’g)
Tan Jia Duong (K2 Int’l)
Hoang Vo Minh Thu (K1 Int’g)



Principal Award recipient -
Ma Tang Hieu Duong (Y2 Int'l)



Mid – Autumn Festival

curriculum. It encourages students to seek out and enjoy physical activity to develop and maintain acceptable levels of physical fitness, and to develop a variety of basic movement skills so they will experience success and feel comfortable during present and future physical activity pursuits.

The ICT curriculum, “*Switched On*”, is a UK program that runs from Years 1-6. This is a high-quality computing education that equips students to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world.

And thirdly, our new music program, “*Music Play*”, is for Years K-9. Important concepts are taught through play in the younger years. Songs and games are chosen to teach musical concepts, to teach children about cultures around the world, and to provide songs for special days and performances throughout the school year. Music Play covers the following Musical elements: Creativity, Form, Movement, Rhythm/Beat, Melody/Harmony, Instruments, Listening/Analyzing, Expression, Multicultural and Music Theory.

Sharla Scott - Head of Studies (Y5 – Y9).

From the Head of Studies (High School)

Welcome to the 2015-2016 academic year. We hope that your child will have a great time learning and growing into future adults and model citizens along with their dear friends here at SIS – Saigon South. We are delighted to announce that we have welcomed three new students into our high school, two into IGCSE 1 and one into GAC. We hope more and more students will join us as the years go along and further enrich the great learning environment here. Our A & AS program continues with our subject offerings of English Literature, Math, Business, Economic & Biology. We welcome to our high school Ms. Annette Bycroft from Australia, from our Cau Giay campus in Hanoi and Mr. Addison Yanito from the United States. On July 8th we bid farewell to our 2014-2015 A Level & GAC students at our graduation ceremony at the Lotte Legends Hotel. It was a lovely evening attended by parents and even some of our ex students who are now studying abroad but were in Ho Chi Minh for their holidays. We look forward to a fantastic year!

Feel free to contact me with any questions about the high school

Robert Gayst - Head of Studies (SHS).

MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Dear Parents,

The students have been at school for 6 weeks now. It is a busy time! After the first week, getting to know new teachers and new friends, the students are now familiar with the classrooms, teachers' voices as well as teachers' lessons. The children learn, play with

and are having fun. School is like a second home.

We hold extra activities besides the lessons, teach children more about the Vietnamese traditional festivals.

Welcome to the Mid – Autumn Festival, it helps the students understand the meaning of the full moon.

The form teachers guide students to make homemade lanterns using their small ingenious hands. Then, they will be paraded at assembly. The most beautiful lantern of each class will receive a gift from the school. Much fun!

Y5 – GAC students will display fruit and cakes under teachers' instructions. The most beautiful one, will be given a school gift. This will be a great learning experience for all.

Wishing you best wishes for Mid–Autumn Festival!

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



U14 girls basketball

From Head of Chinese

We are going to have a new section in the Chinese corner: “Comic Chinese.”

In this section, there will be some printed papers. On one side of a paper, there will be a short comic strip and on the other side, there will be a matching short story. Students and teachers can take them for free. There will be 3 kinds of Comic Chinese, each type has a different difficulty level. The details of the different levels are as followed: 上 is for level of HSK 1~2, 中 is for level of HSK 3~4, 下 is for level of HSK 5~6.

The Comic will be updated on Wednesdays. We hope that students can improve their Chinese reading and writing skills through the Comic Chinese.

Phillip Lin - Head of Studies (Chinese).

From the Athletics Coordinator

I would like to welcome back all SIS athletes. We are getting ready for another great year of training, having fun, and competing at a high level. Some of our volleyball, basketball, badminton, and table tennis teams have already started practicing and preparing for their matches.

Sports at SIS are divided into three age groups: Under 11, Under 14, and Under 19. The age cut-off date is August 1 2015, so your age on that date determines which age group you will be playing



President of Student Council



Vice-President of Student Council

with for the 2015-2016 season.

Important information about practices and games will be given at the weekly assemblies, along with MVP's from the previous week's matches. Training and match schedules will be posted on the bulletin boards outside of the hall.

Feel free to speak to me or your coaches if you have any questions or concerns.

Daniel Mitchell - Athletic Coordinator.

Student Council

Student Council has begun to meet for the academic year 2015-2016. Elections for student council president and vice president were held on September 1, 2015. Hoang Minh Thu has earned the title of president and Sabrina Yee is vice president of student council. Congratulations girls! They chaired the first meeting on Wednesday, 9 September. A team of keen Year 5-A level students have begun planning how to make the 2015-2016 academic year memorable for staff and students here at Singapore International School at Saigon South. Please look for updates on our notice board between the hall and canteen.

Diana Sorobey - High school Teacher.