



**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**



Principal Award recipients

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 and Students,

With the end of the school year upon us, we are very busy with exams, assessments and preparations for summer and next year. Our IGCSE, AS and A Level students will spend this month and next completing their final exams. This is naturally a very stressful time for students, so it's important that while working hard and concentrating on academics, they are able to manage their stress. To reduce their stress they need to have in place a good study routine and a quiet place for studying. It is also important to ensure students get enough sleep, eat healthy food, have regular meals, and get some exercise.

Cambridge results will be released online in mid-August, 2015. A hard copy will be issued in late August 2015. Students will be notified when the hard copy of results arrive for collection from the school.

Vietnamese and International Examinations (Year 1 – 9)

Students have just completed their DOET examinations and are now 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 5 June**
- English Paper 2 (Language and Comprehension): **Monday 8 June**
- English Paper 3 (Listening): **Tuesday 2 June**
- English Paper 4 (Speaking): **2 – 5 June**
- Mathematics Papers 1 and 2: **Tuesday 9 June (International Students Only)**
- Science: **Wednesday 10 June (International Students Only)**

Parents are reminded to read over the Tables of Specifications

sent out earlier in the year. These tables contain the syllabus information and topics to be covered in the June, Singapore subject examinations. These documents also outline important study and homework tips.

Cultural Festival

On Friday, April 17, SIS @ Saigon South students enjoyed a cultural festival featuring food, music, games and displays from 16 countries to learn about the traditions and modern cultures of these places. The event was planned and organized by IGCSE 1A and 1B students and their teacher Ms. Diana in their Global Perspectives class for a unit on Tradition, Culture and Identity. The event was a huge success and I thank them greatly for running this event which also raised money for charity. More details regarding the event are enclosed in the newsletter.



Cultural Festival

SIS' Got Talent

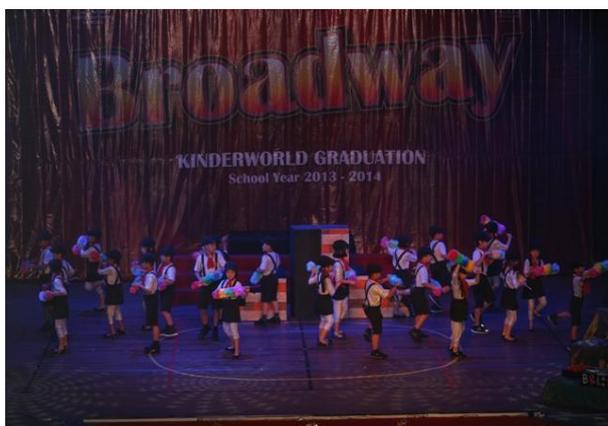
On Saturday 3 April we held a very successful 'SIS' Got Talent' show. The talents of our students never cease to amaze me. We have so many talented students in our school, who display such excellence in the areas of visual and performing arts. I want to extend my sincere thanks to our students who participated in the event, making it the huge success that it was. I would also like to thank Ms. Jilda, Ms. Sharla, Mr. Mark, Ms. Jessica, Mr. Donovan and Ms. Dung for organizing this wonderful event, which will hopefully continue to be an annual event for Saigon South.



Are you ready for the fashion show?

End of Year Concert

Preparations for the End of Year Concert are underway and this year the theme is "Decades". The concert will be held on Saturday 27 June at the Opera House for both the Junior Primary Concert and Senior Concert. The Junior Concert will be held from 1:30 – 4:00 pm, while the Senior Concert will be held from 5:30 – 9:00 pm. Rehearsal's for the End of Year Concert will be held on the 23 and 24 of June. More details regarding the concert and rehearsals will be sent home shortly by letter to parents.



A performance from EOYC 2013-2014

Confirmation of Enrolments for 2015 – 2016

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

Dear Parents and Students,

On 18 May, we welcomed guest speaker Dr Glen Besterfield from the [University of South Florida](#). The topic was about what US Universities are looking for in Vietnamese students and how Vietnamese students can be best prepared for this big step'. Students from Year 7 to IGCSE1 attended the presentation which was followed by introductions by six US universities and the time for students and parents to ask specific questions to the university Counselors and Recruitment staff.

INTO brings international students and leading universities together. For further information about INTO and how this organization can assist you when planning to send your child overseas to universities in US, UK and China, go to <http://www.intohigher.com>.

Alumni update

Each year our graduating students are added to the Alumni and then all students receive Alumni emails and updates about what is happening at our school. It is always great to hear the success stories from our Alumni members as they continue with their study and working lives. **Nguyen Thai Bao** completed GAC last year, July 2014. He began his studies at Tokyo International University, Japan and has recently been awarded a 50% scholarship.

Congratulations to **Hur Tae Jun (Bill)**. After completing GAC in July 2009, Bill took up his studies at the University of Utah, USA. He has just graduated with his Degree in Engineering. Bill's time studying in America has been filled with adventure and excitement often including skydiving and skiing.

Nguyen Thien Vi completed GAC in July 2010. She graduated from RMIT Vietnam in 2013 with a Bachelor degree in Professional Communication (with Distinction). After working for 18 months in communication jobs in Vietnam she is now in Australia and studying her Masters degree in Business (Integrated Marketing Communication) at QUT, Brisbane.

Nguyen Mai Han completed GAC in July 2013 and is now in Semester 4 at RMIT Vietnam. Han is studying the Bachelor of Marketing program and so far has achieved many High Distinctions. She offers her thanks to the GAC program and SIS teachers who supported and educated her with the skills that have been essential for her higher education and her future life.



Hur Tae Jun, Bill



Nguyen Mai Han

Janelle Baker – Deputy Principal



Stars of the week!



We are so great.



So proud! We are in Mr. Shane's office.

Dear Parents and Students,

K1/K2 students are busy every day learning, developing skills and playing in a safe and happy environment. The teachers are very proud of their student's progress and the students are always happy to share their successes.

This is what some students from K1/K2 have to say about "What do you like or like to do at school?"

Tuan Hao – K1 Integrated - "I like to learn English and play with toys."

Anh Thu – K1 Integrated - "I like PE because it is fun."

Savini – K1 Integrated - "I like to play and swim."

Annie - K2 Integrated - "I like English because I like it."

Han - K2 Integrated - "I like to play with a doll and I have many teachers."

Bao Nghi – K2 Integrated - "I like swimming because it's fun."

Maria – K1K2 International - "I like eating. I like how they wash the floor because I like it clean."

Yumi – K1K2 Integrated - "I like to eat rice and do writing in my class."

Minh An – K1K2 International - "I like to paint and swim at school."

Every Monday afternoon there is a K1/K2 assembly. Every week a class will perform a small song and dance in front of their peers. In assembly we practice sitting quietly, listening and sometimes participating. Students from each of the K1/K2 classes are chosen by their teachers for a weekly certificate. A weekly certificate identifies these students as showing great progress in many areas. This is then followed by a special trip to the principal's office to show Mr. Shane their certificates and have a special photo taken with him.

Children enjoy getting certificates/awards and positive acknowledgements. It helps to build children's self-esteem, encourage additional effort and promote positive values and behavior.

Here are photos of K1/K2 students receiving special awards from Ms. Kaye and with Mr. Shane.

Kaye Tamarua – Head of Study – Kindergarten to Year 4



Khanh Phuong
2nd place



Tran Nam Anh
1st place



Thanh Luan -
2nd place



Jeremy Yip Han Wei
1st place



Kuchibhotla Siva
2nd place



Phung Anh Duy
1st place



Mr. Karras, the organizer of the SIS Spelling Bee



Anh Duy anxiously waited for his turn in Spelling Bee.

Dear Parents and Students,

The 2015 Spelling Bee was recently held at Singapore International School @ Saigon South. This was the third annual competition and was by far the best 'Bee' yet! The competition at all three competition levels was amazing. The winners of the Year 1-3 competition were Nam Anh in 1st place from Year 3 Int'g and Khanh Phuong from Year 3 Int'l in 2nd place. The winning word for that age level was 'various'. For the Year levels 4-6, the winning word was 'phenomenon', with first place going to Jeremy Yip Han Wei from Year 5 Int'l, and second to Nguyen Thanh Luan from Year 6 Int'g.

In our big event for Seniors, Year 7-IGCSE 1, the Bee went into overdrive. The final round saw competitors facing words that had been winning words from the Scripps National Spelling Bee in America. These words included the likes of; gladiolus, torsion, asceticism, and interlocutory! The hard fought winner was Anh Duy from Year 8 Int'g, and the runner up was Siva from Year 7 Int'l. The winning word was 'canonical'. Mr. Karras, the organizer of the SIS Spelling Bee, would like to thank all of the hard work from students. Their efforts made this event very exciting and competitive. We look forward to seeing all of you again at next year's Bee! Thank you – also, to Mr. Karras for all your efforts in creating such a great event for our students!

Sharla Scott – Head of Study –Year 4 to Year 9

Dear Parents and Students,

As you read this article, the IGCSE 2 and A/AS students will be nearing the end of their Official Cambridge exams. For the IGCSE 2 and A level students it's been two years of study and we hope they will have some great results to show for their hard work. The AS students have worked hard too and their results will go a long way in determining where they will begin their tertiary studies.

The GAC students are getting close to the end of their time at SIS @ Saigon South as we are now well into Level 3. In March, the GAC students, Ms Diana and Mr Robert took a two day trip to Vung Tau where we visited an orphanage and some popular sites around the town. It was a very happy experience and a good reward for their hard work throughout the year. The Graduation Dinner will be held at the Lotte Legend Hotel in District 1 on Wednesday 8 July. It will be a lovely evening and we look forward to seeing the family and friends of the graduating students celebrate their success.

Robert Gayst - Head of Study – Senior High School

Dear Parents and Students,

The curriculum of integrated classes will end on May 15, 2015. From May 18, 2015 to the last day of this school year, students will have consolidation and enhancing exercises of Literature, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry.

Together with improving academic knowledge, students will have some periods doing projects as follows:

- Protection of our green and clean environment;
- Why should we save electricity and water?
- Understanding about natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and their consequences to human lives;
- How to improve yourself and aim forward?

Through these projects, students will be better equipped with life skills for themselves to adapt to friends, families and society. Students will also participate in "Buddy classes" to create lovely objects with kindergarten children.

Students will also prepare and practice their end-of-year concert performance with the guidance of form teachers. Our school concert will be very exciting with the presence of many distinguished guests as well as parents. Therefore, I hope all students will do their best to practice their performances as it is one way to show their gratitude towards parents and teachers.

Phung Thi Tuyet Minh - Head of Vietnamese program

Culture Festival

On April 17, 2015 IGCSE 1A and 1B hosted a successful Culturefest featuring food, games, clothing and other activities of 16 cultures connected to the students and staff at our school. Students, their families and teachers worked hard to organize the displays and activities.

Special thanks to the families who prepared delicacies to represent their cultures, attended the event, bought tickets and supported their children in many ways. Dao Thi Van Anh from IGCSE 1B did an amazing job as student director and gave countless hours to make sure this was a memorable event. Thanks also to staff who donated food and decorations or participated in the cultural fashion show. Everyone had fun and learned something about the diversity of our school's population and about cultures of the world.



Protection of our green and clean environment



Vietnamese SAP dance -
Culture Festival



Indian stall – Culture Festival

This was a project in IGCSE 1's Global Perspectives (GP) class. One of the skills developed in GP is group work, so teams of two or three students represented one country's traditions, culture and identity through this festival. These students learned a lot about collaboration and shone with talents like decorating, leadership and organization.

Another unit in Global Perspectives studied in Term 3 was "Poverty and Inequality" in which students learned about the root causes of poverty and researched solutions to help citizens out of poverty. We were thrilled when we calculated that after our Culturefest expenses, we raised over 17,000,000 VND to donate to an anti-poverty cause. Students researched some charity organizations in the local community which fund medical treatment, education and skills development for orphans, disabled people and others at risk of living an impoverished life. The profits from Culturefest will be donated to Hoa Nhip Trai Tim, an orphanage in Ba Ria where approximately 130 young orphans live and receive care. They are sent to school and provided for by donations like ours and the Buddhist monks who run this charity.

Diana Sorobey - High School Teacher

Student Council Updates

It's the fourth term and we're nearing the end of the school year. The year has passed so quickly yet we were able to have the opportunity to plan various events for our school community.

A few recent events the Student Council helped with and planned were the SIS's Got Talent, Spring Dance and Culture Fest. All three events were a huge success and the school community got to have a great time as well as learn new things.

Before the school year comes to a complete stop, Student Council will have a spirit week, where for a whole week we have many group activities planned for students. It will be a fun experience for students and can help them understand the true values of our virtues, such as team work and patience.

On behalf of the student council, we wish you all good luck on your exams and hope you've had a great school year not only with your friends but also your teachers. Our student council would like to thank you for supporting our events and we hope you've had an enjoyable time.

Sabrina - Student Council Vice President



Student Council, school year 2014-2015



Toh Wei Kiat, iGCSE1B



Football Championship April 2015



Dance group performance

Dear Parents and Students,

The First attempt in SIS history

As you know, HSK 6 is the highest level in HSK Test (International Chinese Proficiency Test). In SIS's history no one has ever taken and passed HSK 6. However, on March 28, one SIS student took this exam and achieved a very high score – 256/300 (Listening: 98/100, Reading: 80/100, Writing: 78/100). We would like to congratulate Toh Wei Kiat, from IGCSE 1.

We would like to encourage more students to give HSK 6 an attempt. HSK is a globally recognized exam, it has now become popular. Through the HSK test, Chinese language learners can fully discover their Chinese proficiency and ability.

In Ho Chi Minh City, the HSK test is held and can be taken four times per year. For more information please contact your Chinese teacher or contact Mr. Phillip at lin.yujie@saigonsouth.sis.edu.vn.

Phillip Lin Yujie – Head of study – Chinese language

Sport update

Football The last few weeks have been hectic in the world of sport and exercise at SIS. The U19 boys and girls played in the SISAC Football Championships in April; the boys placing 5th and the girls 3rd. Both teams went into the tournament determined and played every minute of every game with passion. Two players who played their hearts out on the day were Sabrina (Year 8) and Viet Hoa (IGCSE 1B). Well done. The U11 boys will be competing in the Championship tournament in week 3 so good luck to Mr. Colum, Mr. Quinn and the students in Year 5.

Badminton SIS played out of their skins last week when they travelled to compete against 9 other schools in their biggest tournament of the Badminton year. Mr. Geoff accompanied a team of 16 boys and girls from Year 6 – Year 8 and did the school proud by playing challenging matches. I need to give an extra special mention to Sami (Year 6) who came 2nd overall in the girls singles competition, Sam (Year 8) who got 3rd in the boys singles and Sabrina & Sophie in Year 8 who came 3rd in the doubles competition. Congratulations.

Dance SIS has surprised us with even more talent this month, on the stage this time. Anusha and Yi Fen (Year 7) and Cindy and Kitty (Year 6) displayed great confidence by performing in a Dance Concert. They showed huge improvement from last year and enjoyed themselves even more! Great work girls.

Siobhan Synnott – Sport Coordinator