



**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**



Decoration welcoming Teacher's Day

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,

Welcome to Term 2! This term will be very busy for our students as they prepare for their end of Semester 1 examinations. Semester 1 examinations will start on the 12 January, 2015. To support students and parents with the preparation of these examinations, the school recently sent home the following document:

Table of Specifications for Year 1 to Year 9. This document relates to the core Singapore curriculum. The 'Table of Specifications' includes information to help you and your child prepare for exams with the following information:

- a. Exam dates for Semester 1 and Semester 2.
- b. Helpful tips for you and your child on how to have the best chance of success at semester examination time.
- c. The structure of the semester exams including the length of exams and types of questions.
- d. The units covered in the examinations.

During this term we will be celebrating our annual 'Christmas Charity Fair' which will be held on Friday 19 December. This year, once again the school will be supporting the charity 'Operation Smile – Vietnam'. Operation Smile Vietnam is dedicated to transforming the lives of children born with cleft lip, cleft palate and other facial deformities. Approximately one in every 500 babies in Vietnam is born with a cleft lip and/or cleft palate, approximately 3,000 new cases each year. All money raised will be donated to 'Operation Smile' and in as little as 45 minutes, and for approximately \$250 - \$350 USD, a single surgery can change a child's life forever. So please come and support this wonderful cause by coming to our Christmas Fair. The Fair will start at 1:30 pm and finish at 3:30 pm.



Christmas 2013 - 2014



Christmas Fair 2013 - 2014



Teachers, Staff and Students running in the
Charity Event Run for hearts

On Thursday, 20 November our school celebrated Teacher's day and I would like to thank all the families that took the time to visit our teachers and to thank them for the great work that they do for your children. This acknowledgement is greatly appreciated and wonderful to see.

Recently, many of our staff, students and parents participated in the annual charity event 'Run for the Hearts' which is organized by Celadon City. This event was held on the November with over 6000 people participating. The charity run raised over VND 1.2 billion which will be donated to Heartbeat Vietnam to provide underprivileged children with life-saving heart surgery. Thank you to those who participated in this very meaningful event.

Revised School Calendar For Current School Year 2014 - 2015

We would like to inform you that advice has been received from Cambridge International Examinations on 27 October 2014 indicates that the examination dates for the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) will commence on Tuesday, 5 May 2015.

As this is the last day of Term 3 vacation in our current school calendar, the School Calendar will be adjusted so that our students and teachers return to school on Monday, 4 May 2015.

As a result of this change, the school vacation period for the Term 3 break will commence two days earlier on 23 April 2015.

The changes to note in the attached amended School Calendar 2014 - 2015 are as follows:

- Term 3 ends on Wednesday 22 April 2015 (2 days earlier)
- Term 3 vacation period commences on Thursday 23 April 2015 (2 days earlier)
- Term 4 commences on Monday 4 May 2015 (2 days earlier)

Please note that there is no overall change to the number of school days for the school year.

The above changes provide a better arrangement for our students and I trust that this early notice minimizes any possible inconvenience.

Shane Blood - Principal



Dear Parents and Students,

Term 2 has begun! Term 2 Extra-curricular activities will start on November 24.

Reminder: New Clubs: Kung Fu, Dance, Cricket; Book Club

Other clubs that will continue: 'Learn to Swim', Chess, Vietnamese Language, Chinese, Homework, American Football, and many others. Make sure to sign up.

'Save the Rhino' competition was launched on 15 October. Our students are very busy drawing pictures, writing poems and writing essays. The due date for the main competition is the 5 December. We wish all the students entering the competition, the very best of luck!

Jilda Manson – Deputy Principal



Dear Parents and Students,

Career Day success!

On Wednesday 19 November, 150 students participated in the first-ever Career Day held at our school. We also welcomed students and staff from the Singapore International School campuses of Binh Duong and Vung Tau. Eleven (11) organizations were set up in the hall, and students and parents were able to meet with the representatives to learn about the services that each provide. All participants are now able to make individual appointments with the respective staff to ask more questions about the specific country and university where they wish to study.

We welcomed Mr Chris Jeffery, the Dean of British University Vietnam (Hanoi campus) and students were able to listen to a 'real' university lecturer. For students intending to study at RMIT, graduating students had the opportunity to know exactly what paperwork is required for their university application.

This day was extremely important for our Year 7, 8 and 9 students to learn about the pathway at our school. After completing Cambridge IGCSE, the students can either complete the one year (1) Global Assessment Certificate or the two (2) year Cambridge AS/A level program. After this, the students then apply to study at universities all over the world. The students and parents had opportunities to hear about what it is really like studying overseas and to clear up any misconceptions or ideas they may have. We want our students to be prepared and able to cope with the many challenges when studying overseas.

Thank you to staff, students and parents for assisting to make this event such a success.



Career Day on 19 November 2014



For parents who were unable to make this day, and have any questions about our programs, please contact the Front Office for an appointment.

Janelle Baker – Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

Term 2 is now in full swing and teachers and students in the high school are back working and studying hard. GAC has finished its first of three levels which means the time is getting that bit closer to when these students need to start thinking and making decisions about their studies after high school. The IGCSE 2 students will also have things on their mind, especially the official IGCSE Cambridge exams coming up next year. To help to prepare them in the best possible way, we will be having Mock exams in January. The IGCSE 2 students visited Hwa Chong Institution in Singapore in October with Mr Andrew. This is what one of our students had to say. "In the end, we accomplished a lot by learning new things such as Singapore's culture and the ways of a student's life in a different country. I think everyone had a fantastic time". Thank you to Hwa Chong institution for hosting our students and we look forward to seeing you at Saigon South one fine day in the future.

Robert Gayst - Head of Studies (Senior High School)

Dear Parents and Students,

Singapore International School has an examination period of approximately two weeks at the end of Semester 1 (Mon., Jan 12th – Wed., Jan 21st, 2015). During this period, examinations will be held in English, Mathematics, Science, Chinese and Vietnamese. The English examination will consist of four parts covering writing, vocabulary/grammar/comprehension, speaking and listening. Teachers will be doing in class revision with students leading up to exam time. Students should not wait until the last week to study. Take some time throughout the semester to review all of your notes and re-read important passages in your text book and from your notes. It might seem tiresome, but it'll really keep all those facts fresh in your brain on test day!

Sharla Scott - Head of Studies (Year 5 – Year 9)

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to Term 2. This term students will have the Christmas Fair to look forward to which will be held on Friday 19 December.



High School students at Hwa Chong Institution



Star Students:

Preechasupanya Bao Chi (K2 int'd), Nguyen Gia Khang (K2 int'l), Nguyen Huu Minh (K1 int'd)



Painting portrait of teachers, writing poetry to celebrate Teacher's Day

This is an event to raise funds for Operation Smile Charity and as always a fun day for all. All our students get involved in preparing stalls for selling either food, crafts or playing fun games.

After the Christmas break students in Year 1 and up will be sitting the Semester 1 examinations. Integrated classes will be sitting 4 papers of English (speaking, listening, writing and language and comprehension). International classes will be sitting Science, Mathematics and 4 papers of English. It is important for students to revise what they have learnt in Term 1 and beginning of Term 2 to be prepared for their exams.

Every week Kindergarten has a weekly assembly to sing together and celebrate students of the week from K1 to K2 classes. The student of the week is someone who has been seen working well with others, having great behavior and having success in their learning.

Kaye Tamarua - Head of Studies (K – Year 4)

Dear Parents and Students,

Every year, when Teachers' Day comes, the students and teachers' hearts are filled with joy and excitement. All of us are busy with the activities welcoming the day for all the teachers. This year, there were many activities that were held to celebrate Teachers' Day.

Before 20 November

There were competitions held for students from Year 1 - Year 9:

- Painting a portrait of the teacher who you love the most
- Writing an essay or poetry on the theme "your school – your teachers – your friends"

Primary students participated in the handwriting competition where they practiced their handwriting skill with the poetry which praised teachers and the endless effort they have made.

Students who had excellent handwriting, poetry or portrait were awarded a certificate.

On 20 November

From the early morning, parents and students brought many beautiful bunches of flowers to give to their teachers to show their appreciation. The tradition of being reverent to the teacher and respecting morals is the beautiful part of Vietnamese culture which always reminds teachers of teaching well, and students of learning well. I hope that in the upcoming semester examinations, all of our students will try their best to achieve good results.



SIS@SS Volleyball team practicing before the match at CIS



SIS@SS Basketball Team playing against RISS Team

Excellent results will be the most beautiful present to show students' gratitude to their teachers.

Phung Thi Tuyet Minh – Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and Students,

Another month has gone by and the student council has once again been busy. Many events have taken place and not only that, but many more are in progress!

The Haunted Race was a heart-racing but thrilling event for students while they had to run from ghosts, solve puzzles and save their friends. In the end, everyone enjoyed the fun and some even got prizes for either being in first, second or third place!

Some students and parents went to the Run for the Hearts and it was an enjoyable one. Everyone had a healthy run early in the morning while being able to help out others by donating money.

Last of all, our school will be having our annual Christmas Fair on the 19 December.

Sabrina - Vice President Student Council

Volleyball

The U19 Volleyball Boys and Girls always knew the Championships would be a tough encounter. The tournament consisted of 5 games each. Both teams showed great energy on the court. By the end of the day, the boys placed 3rd and the girls 5th place. I would like to give a special mention to Hoang Dinh Quoc Viet (IGCSE2) and Phan Ngoc Linh Chi (Year 8) our Most Valued Players of the day.

Badminton

Our U11 Badminton team played in their first big Championship this month; playing singles and doubles throughout the day. They showed good serving and attacking skills, and enjoyed themselves immensely. Two players that stood out for their effort and enthusiasm were Hoang To Nguyen (year 6) and Nguyen Vo Anh Tu (Year 5).

Basketball

The U11 basketball boys and girls are also developing good skills on the court. With friendly matches and training, we look forward to seeing their talent and skills shine on Championship day at the end of the month. Best of luck to all the year 5 and 6 students involved.

Siobhan Synnott – PE Teacher/ Athletic Coordinator