



**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 Lunar New Year
Tet 2015

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,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and happy Lunar New Year. I know this is a time for families to celebrate the New Year and I wish you all happiness, good health and prosperity for the New Year.

On Friday the 19 December, the school held our annual Christmas Charity Fair to raise money for the charity 'Operation Smile'. I am very proud to say, that thanks to the very generous support of our students, parents and staff we were able to raise a total profit of 50,621,488 VND! This is a wonderful effort and I am extremely proud of our students for the work they did to raise this money. When I went around and visited the stores, I could not only see how much fun our students were having, but also how many young entrepreneurs we have in our school.

It's a busy time of the year and our upper level students should be thinking about university plans and looking into application deadlines. This can seem overwhelming but there are many great resources available to help students and their parents make decisions about the best university for each student.

A great resource that students and parents can use is the ACT (American College Test) website at www.actstudent.org. This website has lots of useful information to help students plan for their future. The website is a must-see for those students interested in studying in the U.S.A. The ACT test is accepted in most universities and colleges in the U.S. which is beneficial for our GAC students who will all take the ACT exam.

Another great website with information about international students studying abroad in the U.S. is <http://www.usnews.com/education>. This website offers advice about scholarships and financial aid for international students as well as a plethora of other college related information.

Date Claimer

Parent teacher interviews will be conducted on the 10/03/2015 and 11/03/2015.

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Christmas Fair 19 December 2014



Christmas Fair 19 December 2014



High School Students participating in
SIS@SS Marketing Competition

Semester 1 reports will also be available for collection during these evenings. More information regarding parent teacher interviews will be sent home to parents after the Tet holiday.

Shane Blood - Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

Term 2 Extra-curricular activities will finish on Friday, January 30, 2015.

SIS has 84 students who entered the 'Save the Rhino' competition. Thank you to those students who entered and the staff who showed such concern for this worthy cause. We are eagerly awaiting the results.

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure. *"You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing there will be no result."* ~ Mahatma Gandhi

End of Semester 1 exams (SA1) took place from the 12 to the 21 January. Students and staff have put in a lot of time and effort and tried their best. I'm sure this will translate into some excellent results which parents can discuss with teachers at the next Parent/Teacher interviews in March.

There are 6 important attributes of success:

- Diligence
- Persistence
- Taking the Initiative
- Facing Challenges
- Living A Fruitful Life

Jilda Manson – Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

I recently met with IDP Education regarding a partnership to assist our students to study overseas. IDP help students find the best course for their needs, they will submit the university application, guide students through the visa requirements, book the IELTS test and help prepare the student for life in a new country. IDP followed up with a visit to our school on 26 January and this will be one of many visits to meet with students about their university plans.

Our students also recently enjoyed the visits from Kirkwood Community College and The University of Iowa representatives.

Students and parents should take advantage of the many Education Fairs that will be held in Ho Chi Minh City over the next couple of months.

Janelle Baker – Deputy Principal



High School Students receiving trophy and certificates for the winner of SIS Business competition



International Year 5's excursion to Saigon Zoo



Integrated Year 7's excursion to Binh Duong Tree Farm

Dear Parents and Students,

Happy New Year and we at Saigon South wish you all a happy and prosperous 2015. Our students had a busy time. The IGCSE 1 students had their first really challenge since entering the high school, with the end of Semester 1 exams. We aim to make these exams authentic and in line with the real Cambridge exams that they will be taking the following year as it's never too early to start preparing for these important exams. IGCSE 2 held their Cambridge MOCK exams from 26 January while the A and AS Level students are studying hard for their Cambridge MOCK exams after TET holiday. Meanwhile our GAC students are now at the halfway mark of their program with university choices and their future after high school very much in their mind. We wish all our high school students the best in their studies during this important time. Our dedicated teachers are here to support and assist them all along the way.

Robert Gayst – Head of Studies (Senior High School)

Dear Parents and Students,

Year 5 – Visit to the Zoo

On a very hot Friday, the students were extremely excited to spend the day walking around and looking at the animals. For some students it was a chance to see some of their favorite animals at the zoo and for others it was their first time to see some of the animals.

Some highlights were the tigers, orangutans, elephants and crocodiles. They were allowed to feed the elephants. They managed to fit in a visit to a museum and during the visit they saw a real mummy!

They had to stop for many water breaks due to the heat but everyone had a great day out. Thank you to Mr. Stephen and the parents and staff at SIS for making it possible!

Year 7 and 8 - Visit to Binh Duong Tree Farm

The day started when the students 'went fishing'. This consisted of jumping into flooded canals and attempting to catch fish by net or hand. There was a competition between the classes as to who could catch the most fish. Year 7 int'l won! It was great fun and they all got pretty muddy. We then made pancake batter from a rice press and made tapioca pancakes on a grill. After lunch we played games and sang songs in a communal area organized by the local staff.



“Star Students”



Junior Students singing in the weekly assembly



Junior Students with Principal's Award

After that (with help from the local staff) we created our own individual hanging herb garden to take home with us as a souvenir.

A great day was had by all!

Sharla Scott – Head of Studies (Y5 – Y9)

Dear Parents and Students,

Students love music. Through music students learn new vocabulary, how to pronounce new words, sing and play new songs. Students also get to play interesting instruments. They love to play the drums, bongos, tambourines and the triangle to make their own music.

The students are fortunate to be able to develop their singing by joining the Choir with Ms Jessica, every Thursday afterschool. They performed beautifully at the Christmas Fair, at The Manor and at our school assemblies. We are very lucky to have a great choir at Saigon South.

The Year 4 students are enjoying the opportunity to learn how to play the recorder during their music lessons and are building a collection of music with Mr Mark. On the days they have music you can hear some of the students practicing during their breaks.

K1 & K2 are working very well in their classes and are showing great improvements in their learning and how they can cooperate with each other.

Up and coming events to look forward to is the TET Holiday, Sports Carnival and Book Week in March.

Kaye Tamarua – Head of Studies (K – Y4)

Dear Parents and Students,

The students have now finished their Semester 1 curriculum and exams and will soon receive their Report Cards showing a positive result. During Semester 1, the students were very busy participating in events such as the Sport Carnival. Besides these events, they showed their true compassion and kindness by supporting the Annual Charity Fair which was held on 19 December 2014. All monies raised were donated to Operation Smile. Participation in such activities shapes the students into active and responsible citizens.

Spring is here and we are all enjoying this season. Everyone is preparing for the TET holiday and the students will age one more year.

SIS' GOT TALENT

Upcoming event: SIS's got Talent



Some pictures of sport fixtures in January 2015

I wish you and your families a happy new year filled with security, prosperity and happiness. I hope the students will try their best in the next semester and achieve more and more good results.

Phung Thi Tuyet Minh – Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and Students,

The Christmas holiday is over and we headed into the gruesome exam period. We hoped you studied and received marks that reflect the best of your ability. This coming semester, we have 2 big events that we think students will enjoy. The 1st event is International Day, which will be held on 6 March. The 2nd event is the SIS's Got Talent competition. This new event will incorporate the previous version, Night of the Arts, and expand it to include many other talents, not just musical. More details will be forthcoming. Students who have signed up will have auditions which will be held from the 4 to the 6 of March.

We would like to wish you the best of luck with your exams and enjoy the rest of the term.

Tu Minh Tri – Student Council President

Dear Parents and Students,

Table tennis

SIS hosted their first Inter-schools Championship of the year; U14 Table Tennis. The competition comprised of 5 schools from around HCMC. The display of skillful serves and spins on the ball from our Year 5-8 students was outstanding, and SIS were named Champions of the tournament. Here is a special mention to the two best players on the day; Sam (7 int'l) and Seung Ho (6 int'l).

Basketball

Our youngest basketball team in the school took part in their first big competition, before the Christmas break. Mr. William accompanied the boys and girls from Year 5 to the City Championships. After a great deal of running, passing and shooting, the girls finished 3rd and the boys 4th. We'll get to the final next year! Our top athletes of the day proved to be Elin and Aily (5 int'l) and Willy (5 int'd).

The U19 basketball teams have been putting in long and hard training sessions throughout Term 2. We wish them all the luck in their remaining matches and on Championship day in late January.



Students in a swimming competition

Swimming

December saw the end to the Senior Swim Team season, and the New Year has brought SIS a new Swim Team, consisting of the junior students. Athletes from year 3, 4 and 5 have started training in the pool in preparation for the forthcoming swim events in February.

Siobhan Synnott – PE Teacher