



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGONSOUTH

NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Dear parents,

As Term 3 comes to a close we may find ourselves quite busy. For example, we had a successful Secondary Information Day on Saturday 25 March. Those who were able to attend learned more about the subjects of study for next year and the College & Career Education Program, as well as exploring the STEM Robotics and Coding Lab. Our thanks to the staff who worked so hard to make it happen. Similar events will be held for other year levels early in Term 4.

Several other important events you need to be aware of include:

- Term Break – school holiday will be observed from 10-14 April.
- Book Fair – from April 24 to 28 we will have two bookshop vendors on campus as part of our Literacy Week. The schedule will allow time for parents to browse and shop with their children.
- Public Holidays – school will be closed May 1, 2, and 3 in observance of Liberation Day, Reunification Day, and Labor Day. The exception is for those students sitting Cambridge exams on Tuesday & Wednesday.
- Semester 2 Exams – SA2 in Years 1 to 9 for the core subjects of English, mathematics, and science will take place from 22 May through 2 June. Results account for 50% of the Semester 2 mark, with the other 50% from Classroom-Based Assessments.
- End of Year Concert – the date has been set for Saturday 24 June at the Ho Chi Minh City Opera House. The school will be divided into two concerts, with K to Year 4 in the morning and Year 5 to A Level in the afternoon. Further details will be provided as the events nears.

Should you have any questions please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

Respectfully,

Robert Madden - Principal





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Dear Parents,

Under the warm Saigon sun, all teachers and students of the Integrated program caught up with teaching, learning, and participating in activities organized by the Binh Chanh Department of Education and the Ho Chi Minh City Department of Education.

On the first day of March 2023, the students of years 4 and 5 Integrated actively practiced participating in the English Musical Competition on Vietnamese history organized by the Binh Chanh Education Department. With the topic "Hero To Vinh Dien", Le Hieu Minh (Year 5 Integrated) won the individual second prize and the team won the participation prize at the district level. On March 14, 2023, two grade 9 students participated in the City-level English Competition. The students tried their best to complete the exams. All teachers and students congratulate them for their effort.

During March, teachers and students continued to make efforts to not only learn new knowledge but also prepare for the final exam of the second semester at the end of April 2023. I hope you all have good health, and study hard to achieve high results in the final exam!

Phung Thi Tuyet Minh
Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies



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Dear Parents,

Spring is in full swing as we are fast approaching the end of Term 3. KIK students have been learning about the world around us from plants to animals. We visited Happy Farm on a hot, fun-filled excursion planting rice, meeting ducks, catching fish, and cooling down while dancing around in a rain shower.

While expanding our knowledge of fruits and vegetables, we have spent much time encouraging our students to eat a healthy diet tasting new food regularly. However, we cannot achieve results without your help. Research has found that children need up to 15 exposures to a new food before they'll trust it and eat it. Perseverance is key, don't give up trying. Be a role model: by showing a good example eating well, your child will more likely to follow your lead. Allowing free access to junk food such as cookies, cake and chips is a practice that does not foster healthy eating. Sit together at mealtimes and praise your child for good food choices.

Barbara Borbely - Head of Studies (KIK)

Dear Parents,

The date has been set and practice is in full swing for our annual End of Year Concert. This event will be held on Saturday 24 June at the Ho Chi Minh City Opera House. The school will be divided into two concerts, with K to Year 4 in the morning, 9:30-11:30, and Year 5 to A Level in the afternoon, 1:00-3:00. Students are using their music lessons to rehearse their performances, and so far their practices look very exciting! Letters will be coming home to parents shortly about the concert and costumes designs. Further details will be provided as the events nears.

Letters have gone home detailing the procedures and information regarding next year's enrolment and re-enrolment. Please reponds at your earliest convenience.

Semester 2 Exams – SA2 in Years 1 to 9 for the core subjects of English, mathematics, and science will take place from 22 May through 2 June. Results account for 50% of the Semester 2 mark, with the other 50% form Classroom-Based Assessments. We also have the Cambridge final exams in high school fast approaching, the first exam is on 20 April, and the last being written on 8 June.

Donovan Neethling – Deputy Principal





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Dear Parents,

During the month of March, we celebrated Dr. Seuss week along with our KIK students. Our lower primary students had a wonderful time listening to the older students reading aloud to them, whilst our upper primary to secondary students got the opportunity to practice being confident communicators whilst reading aloud to others.

Who is Dr. Seuss and why are his books so popular? Dr. Seuss is one of the most famous children's authors of all time. His books are fun, filled with colorful, silly characters and made-up words. These books are not just for entertainment, they facilitate children's development. The use of repetition, rhythm, and rhyme play important roles in young children's development of speech and language. Books can help children cultivate a love of reading. Check out www.seussville.com to find all sorts of fun and educational literacy-themed ideas to try at home.



Many of our primary students went on their first excursion or will be going on an excursion as we near the end of Term 3. We trust it has been or will be a very enjoyable and educational experience. We look forward to a wonderful last term ahead as we continue with preparations for exams and the end of year concert.

Antinena Amon - Head of Studies (Primary)



Dear Parents,

As we near the end of Term 3, students and teachers are thinking more and more about the SA2 and Cambridge exams. This is a good time for students to take another look at the Table Of Specifications and syllabi for their exam subjects to make sure they are on track. Knowing what will be on the exams often helps students to connect classroom lessons and coursework to the skills and content that will be tested in the exams. Of course, there are also many other activities to look forward to and which offer useful study breaks.

Students are encouraged to get involved in the organization and running of events. Be sure to keep a lookout for notifications about upcoming events. We look forward to welcoming parents of secondary students at sports matches, cultural events, and the Information Day on the 25th of March.

Elri Nieuwenhuis - Head of Studies (Highschool)