



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGONSOUTH

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

Dear Parents,

As we come to the close of Term 1 please know that the children continue to be hard-working and happy, making progress with their studies while building skills and confidence.

We greatly appreciate those of you who were able to join us on campus for the Meet & Greet / Open House. We realize how difficult it can be to rearrange your schedule and hope you found the experience enjoyable as well as informative. No need to worry if you were unable to participate, as there will be many more opportunities throughout the year to visit campus.

Next month we will highlight the School-Wide Learner Goal of Confident Communication. This includes skills such as: demonstrating proficiency with reading, writing, speaking, and listening; using creative forms of expression; and working collaboratively with others. By improving in these areas students will make themselves even more prepared for continued and further success.

Should you have questions or concerns please contact your child's teacher or set an appointment through the Office.

Yours in Learning,

Robert Madden - Principal





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Dear Students and Parents,

As time flies, it has been 8 weeks since the beginning of school. After the first week of getting to know the new teachers and new friends, the students now are familiar with the classroom atmosphere as well as their teachers' lessons. The school has become their second beloved home as they are studying and playing happily together.

Along with the lessons learned in class, we are also keen on organizing special events to help students have fun and enjoy festivals imbued with the Vietnamese cultural identity.

Therefore, in September, we organized the Mid-Autumn Festival for the whole school. Students from K1 to Year 5 had the lantern parade, in which the colorful and wonderful lanterns were made by the students themselves under the teacher's instructions. The older students used their manual dexterity and creativity to make lanterns with many colorful shapes and displayed them in the lobby and along the school's hallways.

The atmosphere of the Mid-Autumn Festival became even more joyful and bustling when the drum sounded and the students of years 7, 8, and 9 integrated performed the lion dance for all the students. Finally, all the students of the school gathered to celebrate the Full Moon in August with the fresh fruit buffet.

How interesting it was!

Wishing all students a happy Mid-Autumn Festival!

Phung Thi Tuyet Minh – Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies



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Dear Parents,

September has been a busy month in kindergarten. New students have been adjusting to the English speaking environment, to the expectations of school and what they need to do to learn as best as they can. We have established a routine where students are expected to follow the rules, be kind to their friends and be responsible for their actions. You can also encourage them to become more independent and involved by giving them small tasks such as getting dressed by themselves, making their beds, setting the table etc.

Phonics and learning about letter sounds is an important daily lesson in kindergarten enabling our students with early reading skills. Point at signs and labels around you to help raise your child's interest in print and reading. Students are also learning to identify, print and write the letters of their names, becoming used to the correct way of holding pencils (tripod grip). Please reinforce the use of proper pencil grip at home.

The highlight of the month was the Mid-Autumn Festival celebrations with the lantern parade, Lion Dance, and fruit buffet.

Barbara Borbely – Head of Studies (KIK)

Dear Parents,

Saigon South has enjoyed a great start to our sports matches, as our teams tour the city playing against teams from other international schools. Our U11 Boys Football and U15 Girls basketball have seen some particular success, and we look forward to seeing them do well in the City Championships later this year.

Mr. Phu and his Y8 Integrated class have been practicing for weeks ahead of our Mid-Autumn Festival. All the hard work paid off as the class put on a great lion dance performance for the school. The primary students got to dress up in more traditional clothing for the event, and each class building and showing off their lanterns was great fun.

Our partnership with Outward Bound Vietnam kicks off shortly, with the first trips starting in October. Students and parents will receive notification of this in due course. We encourage all students to attend this fantastic alternate style of learning and skills acquisition.

Donovan Neethling – Deputy Principal





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Dear Parents,

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and high spirits. As the end of Term 1 approaches, we are all very grateful for our wonderful students and the progress they have made over the past two months. We're also looking forward to some exciting upcoming events such as the Mid-Autumn Festival, Space Week, and Halloween.

We are so happy to have been able to meet and spend time with those of you who were able to attend our annual Meet and Greet on 26 September. The relationship between school and parents is so valuable and we look forward to working together with all of our SIS families throughout the school year.

Lindsay Stanford – Head of Studies (Primary)



Dear Parents,

First, I would like to thank everyone who made it to our Meet-&-Greet; it was a huge success! If you were not able to make it this time, do not worry, as we will have many opportunities to join school gatherings throughout the year.

We are nearing the end of Term 1, and students have shown a strong willingness to meet the year's challenges so far. Upcoming events, such as excursions, Outward Bound Vietnam, and even the Cambridge exam series have all been mapped out, and we encourage you to sit with your children to discuss the importance of each within their holistic learning path.

One exciting development this year is the use of an online gradebook called EduPage. This will allow for direct and timely feedback for each of the core classes. Students have worked with teachers throughout this term on starting the program. In Term 2, we will work to provide access to parents as well. More information will be provided in October, and the only necessary step for parents is to ensure we have a valid email address on file. Don't hesitate to get in touch with the team here if you need to update that information.

Joshua Lowery – Head of Studies (Secondary)