



# NEWSLETTER

January-February 2019

## ***From the Principal***

***Dear Parents,***

***Chúc Mừng Năm Mới***

I do hope you all had a marvelous TET holiday.

Welcome back to our third term. We are now entering the 2nd Semester of our school year. It is hard to believe we are now well into February; time has certainly flown by. February may be a short month but it is certainly an active one. Our children have resettled into their school routines and are gaining ground day by day.

Since our last newsletter, students have completed their Semester 1 examinations. There have been some tremendous results and we are proud of your children, our teachers and staff who make SIS @ Ciputra a great school to attend. Education is a partnership and as a team, we continue to support the improved learning outcomes for your children.

In the last week of semester 1, students and staff prepared and celebrated TET. The teachers and learning assistants decorated the noticeboards, and on Friday 25 January, we celebrated with an Assembly, highlighting our many talented students and then a morning of Vietnamese traditional games. TET is a time for families and friends to come together to enjoy traditional Vietnamese dishes and share the happiness of the New Year with one another.

On our return for the start of Term 3, parents had a chance to meet their child's teacher and discuss strengths and weaknesses and how we can build further on this learning partnership. Thank you for your participation with Parent-Teacher conferences. We were very happy to see so many of you at school.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all of the importance of having our children in school on time. Classes begin at 8:15 am every day. Students who come late not only miss important information for the day but also may disrupt the flow of a lesson in progress. Please try to have your child in school prior to 8:15 am. Children should arrive in prop-



*Students in the Multi-Purpose Hall chanting the final "Tet" song during the Tet morning assembly. Many of the students and staff came dressed in traditional clothes to celebrate the occasion.*

er school uniform.

We are looking forward, once again, to offering a wide variety of afterschool activities this term. After School Activities (ASA) began on Monday, 26 February and will run for 6 weeks.

As always, our children’s, safety, health, happiness and academic growth are what we concentrate on each day and we appreciate all the support you as parents provide us.

We have enjoyed working with all of you in Semester 1 and look forward to continuing our partnership for the remainder of the year.

Mr. Costas Gikas  
Principal

***From the Deputy Principal***

Welcome to our January- February newsletter.

Our children have now completed their Semester 1 exams and we are very happy with the results that our students have achieved. Many of our students have done well in the SA1 exams, demonstrating their ability as Academic Achievers, in line with our school-wide learner goals.

Over the past couple of weeks our faculty and staff prepared the school for TET Celebrations, as we ushered in the Year of the Pig. Our Classrooms were marvelously decorated, the hallways and notice boards were also beautifully embellished with student’s work for this fantastic cultural event. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of January, staff and students came to school dressed in their traditional clothes and had many opportunities to participate in the traditional Vietnamese Games before going on for their Tet break. They also had a class party sampling traditional Vietnamese cakes and sweetmeats, and also took home traditional Banh Cakes, to share with their family and friends.

The after school activities program has started again in Term 3 and preparations for the school Yearbook and Year End Concert are in full swing. We have offered a wider variety in the possible choices of the afterschool activities in this Term to complement classroom learning to cater to the holistic development of your child.

Also in mid-February, our Grade 3 and 5 students sat for the International ISA test, which is designed specifically for students in international schools and schools with an international focus. By analysing our students’ performance during these tests, it helps us in evaluating instructional programs against



*Our Children were treated to an array of traditional games, such as breaking the pot (above), the tug-of-war, and the sack race (below), to celebrate the coming of the New Year*



objective evidence of student performance, to diagnose gaps in learning, and to measure growth in learning between grade levels and from year to year within one grade level.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and community for their great support to the school, and to wish everyone a great Year ahead. May the year ahead bring a wealth of opportunities as well as health and prosperity to us all.

Mr. Mustafa Fazal  
Deputy Principal



*Many students especially loved the game called "balancing on the bamboo bridge, which was a test of both balance and dexterity.*

### **From the Head of Vietnamese**

Dear Parents,

In the first semester of the academic year 2018-2019, we all focused on our academic studies. Our students and staff experienced many memorable life-lessons, made pleasant memories and achieved commendable results.

One such experience was the lesson of practicing word order and order of sentences This lesson was taught by Ms Nong Thi Hong An in the year 2B Integrated class. The lesson was observed by other teachers from our KinderWorld schools' system. Our students actively participated in school tasks under their teacher's guidance experiencing first-hand what good team work is when dealing with problem - solving in seminars and participating in learning games. They acquired new knowledge and information on their own; The teacher flexibly applied innovative teaching-oriented methods like promoting students' positive behaviour and work ethic, grabbing their attention, which helped students understand the lesson's content quickly.

In January, our students took the SA1 exam with amazing results: The results of all subjects and educational activities are all above average.

- In Mathematics, the "Excellent" grade was achieved by 45% of the cohort;
- In Vietnamese, the "Excellent" grade was achieved by 35% of the cohort
- In Competence and Virtues, the "good accomplishment" and "accomplishment" grade was achieved by 100% of the cohort

To welcome the Year of the Pig, 2019, the students and teachers decorated the school and classrooms spectacularly. The school celebrated TET with



**VU THI BICH LIEN  
HEAD OF VIETNAMESE STUDIES**



*Madam Lien posing for picture with some members of the Vietnamese staff in their traditional Ao Dai's, during the traditional games and activities on the field.*

many activities such as singing, dancing, games of tug-of-war, walking on the Bamboo Bridge, pināta and the bamboo dance, to name a few. The students were entertained in the style of traditional Vietnamese New Year.

The second semester is one with much instruction and learning activities. Teachers and students will continue to work together to improve the quality of teaching and learning and complete the 2018-2019 school year plan in achieving excellent results.

With the combined cooperation and strong support of parents, the school, teachers and students we will have an enjoyable and successful second semester.



Staff helped with the bamboo poles as the children made their way through the gauntlet to complete the bamboo dance.

Ms. Vu Thi Bich Lien  
Vietnamese Principal



Our talented students from Year 1 integrated dressed in traditional clothes seen here performing a song and dance at the TET assembly.

# Classroom Matters

Last month the Year 3's had a short but busy time back at school before they went on holiday for the Lunar New Year. In this time the learners wrote their Semester 1 exams as well as celebrated 100 days of school and another successful STEM week.

We celebrated 100 days of school on the first day of our STEM week. Learners were grouped together in three smaller groups and presented with different challenges involving 100 paper cups. The first challenge required the learners to build the tallest self-standing tower. Learners had to use communication skills and work together to successfully complete the challenge. The second challenge required learners to use the same 100 cups to build a structure that would hold the most weight. Learners had a great time testing how many textbooks their structures could hold.

We continued with STEM week by presenting the learners with the challenge of making a cardboard hand that could carry an object from one place to another. After brainstorming and testing some ideas together as a class we settled on a final design and learners set to work constructing



Our grade 3 Integrated students busy with STEM challenge 1: building the tallest tower with only 100 paper cups.

their mechanical hands. At the end of the week learners had a cardboard hand they could control on their own, and enjoyed seeing what they could carry with their 'extra hand.'

Right: Our grade 3 Integrated students busy with STEM challenge 1: building the tallest tower with only 100 paper cups.



Left: Once they had completed the first challenge, Our grade 3 students worked on STEM challenge 2: building the strongest structure with only 100 paper cups .

Below: Our grade 3 Integrated students testing what their hands are able to do at the end of STEM week.



# GALLERY

