



**SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**  
*Since 1986*

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## 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.

## From the Principal

Dear Parents,

It has been a great start for SIS Ciputra for this academic year 2017-2018. The children are smiling, working hard, and playing hard and happy. As an Educator it is a joy to see a child happy at school. Through my interactions with the students I found the student body here to be very polite, friendly and gregarious. As an administrator of ten years I can tell you that this is a mark of teacher and parents communicating effectively to educate the child both at home and at school.

In the hopes of helping you and your child continue to start off the school well here are some tips that always help.

## Attend Back-to-School Night and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Children do better in school when parents are involved in their academic lives. Attending back-to-school night at the start of the school year is a great way to get to know your child's teacher and his or her expectations. School administrators may discuss school-wide programs and policies as well.

Attending parent-teacher conferences is another way to stay informed. These are usually held once or twice a year at progress reporting periods. The conferences are a chance to start or continue conversations with your child's teacher, and discuss strategies to help your child do his or her best in class. Meeting with the teacher also lets your child know that what goes on in school will be shared at home. Keep in mind that parents or guardians can request meetings with teachers, principals, school counselors, or other school staff any time during the school year.



TIMOTHY BRYAN BIKOWSKI  
PRINCIPAL

**Address:** Block C3, Ciputra Hanoi International City, Phu Thuong Ward, Tay Ho District, Hanoi, Vietnam

**Tel:** (84-4) 3758 2664 – **Fax:** (84-4) 3758 2706  
**Email:** [enquiry@ciputra.sis.edu.vn](mailto:enquiry@ciputra.sis.edu.vn)

<http://ciputra.sis.edu.vn>

The screenshot shows the school's website with a banner at the top featuring two students in pink uniforms raising their hands. The banner text says "ENROL NOW!" and lists reasons for choosing the school, such as the Singapore Curriculum and international recognition. Below the banner, there are sections for "Welcome to Singapore International School (SIS) @ Ciputra" and "Why Choose Us?", which includes icons for accreditation and awards.

## Visit the School and Its Website

Knowing the physical layout of the school building and grounds can help you connect with your child when you talk about the school day. It's good to know the location of the main office, school nurse, cafeteria, gym, athletic fields, playgrounds, auditorium, and special classes. On the school website, you can find information about:

- the school calendar
- staff contact information
- upcoming events like class trips
- testing dates

## Support Homework Expectations

Homework in grade school reinforces and extends classroom learning and helps kids practice important study skills. It also helps them develop a sense of responsibility and a work ethic that will benefit them beyond the classroom. In addition to making sure your child knows that you see homework as a priority, you can help by creating an effective study environment. Any well-lit, comfortable, and quiet workspace with the necessary supplies will do.

**Avoiding distractions (like a TV in the background) and setting up a start and end time can also help.**

A good rule of thumb for an effective homework and/or study period is roughly 10 minutes per elementary grade level. Fourth-graders, for example, should expect to have about 40 minutes of homework or studying each school night. If you find that it's often taking significantly longer than this guideline, talk with your child's teacher.

While your child does homework, be available to interpret assignment instructions, offer guidance, answer questions, and review the completed work. But resist the urge to provide the correct answers or complete the assignments yourself. Learning from mistakes is part of the process and you don't want to take this away from your child.

## Send Your Child to School Ready to Learn

A nutritious breakfast fuels up kids and gets them ready for the day. In general, kids who eat breakfast have more energy and do better in school. Kids who eat breakfast also are less likely to be absent, and make fewer trips to the school nurse with stomach complaints related to hunger.



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You can help boost your child's attention span, concentration, and memory by providing breakfast foods that are rich in whole grains, fiber, and protein, as well as low in added sugar

Kids also need the right amount of sleep to be alert and ready to learn all day. Most school-age children need 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night. Bedtime difficulties can arise at this age for a variety of reasons. Homework, sports, after-school activities, TVs, computers, and video games, as well as hectic family schedules, can contribute to children not getting enough sleep.

Lack of sleep can cause irritable or hyper types of behavior and might make it difficult for children to pay attention in class. It's important to have a consistent bedtime routine, especially on school nights. Be sure to leave enough time before bed to allow your child to unwind before lights out and limit stimulating diversions like TV, video games, and Internet access.

I wish you all a great and exciting school year. If for any reason you should need to contact me, please feel free to call the school and set up an appointment. I will be more than glad to address your particular situation.

Sincerely,

**Timothy Bryan Bikowski**  
*Principal*



## SCHOOLWIDE LEARNER GOALS

Our Schools Seek To Nurture:

### **CRITICAL THINKERS** who:

- Apply rational, higher order thinking skills

### **TECHNOLOGICALLY LITERATE STUDENTS** who:

- Effectively use technology to access, organise, evaluate, create and communicate information
- Understand responsible use of social media, communication and networking tools

### **CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS** who:

- Demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Work collaboratively with others
- Use creative forms of expression

### **ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS** who:

- Meet or exceed year level expectations
- Demonstrate academic growth
- Strive for continuous improvement

### **ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS** who:

- Understand and respect other cultures
- Demonstrate good citizenship and social responsibility through serving others
- Understand the importance of an active and healthy lifestyle
- Understand and demonstrate universal virtues

*Eastern Values, Western Education, Global Citizens*



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MUSTAFA FAZAN  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

***From the Deputy Principal***

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this months' issue of the Singapore International School newsletter. Each month we send important information to you in letters, emails and the monthly newsletter. I encourage you to read each letter or email to understand and to be updated on events and key elements that affect your child.

This year our International programme has expanded to cater for Year 6 International. The students in this class are taught by Ms. Aoife Downes from Ireland, and will sit for the Challenging iPSLE Exam, administered by Ministry of Education, Singapore, at the end of this academic year. We wish them well!

I would like to say thank you to all parents who attended our recent Parent's Meeting for Year 1's. Your presence at this important meeting has indirectly helped your child; when parents are actively involved partnering up with the school in their child's education, children produce better grades, enjoy school more, behavior problems decrease and the students feel self-worth.

I am pleased to report that our After School Clubs will start on the 4<sup>th</sup> Of September this year. We have tried to offer our students a variety of activities to cater for the different inclinations of each child. We hope that your child has signed up for at least one of these activities, to give him/her a balanced and holistic school experience.

Our year 6 students had a chance to experience OUTWARD BOUND VIETNAM, with a special 1 day induction programme conducted by Mr. Paul Batchelor and his OBV instructor's team. The Course serves as an eye opener to the type of outdoor programmes OBV has to offer and is a precursor to more challenging courses for our kids at the OBV campuses here in Vietnam , for the future.

To keep you updated about academics I would like to provide you with a few ways we work and asses your children's academic growth. We use a varied array of assessments at SIS@Ciputra. One of those assessments is formal assessments, like our SA1 and SA2 Exams. Formal assessments are typically used as a standardized measurement of student progress. Teachers use the end-of-unit tests after each class has finished a section in the textbook. Formal assessments are typically a balanced mix of multiple choice questions, some short answer questions and occasionally essays may be included in some instances.

We also have Summative Assessments where teachers keep portfolios or files on each student. Portfolios track a student's



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learning over time, often throughout the entire school year. Portfolio assessments focus on long-term learning gains and allow teachers to see how a child has made progress throughout the year. Portfolio assessments often include rough drafts and final work, graphic organizers, classroom assignments and student reflections. As of last year, Summative assessment count for 20% of your child's overall grade.

In closing, as you can see SIS@Ciputra is continuing to make our learning community a place where all children learn and enjoy their education. Come join us on this journey of improvement and support your children to be active lifelong learners and Global Citizens.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mustafa Fazal  
Deputy Principal

***From the Head of Vietnamese Studies***

Welcome to new school year 2017 - 2018. It was great to see all the teachers, parents, and students in the academic year 2017-2018 at Singapore Vietnam International School. We are very pleased and excited to work together with you in this school year. We wish our teachers and students a meaningful and successful school year with a lot of exciting activities and experiences.

Based on the achievements from the previous school years, the Vietnamese Program will continue to focus on improving the quality of teaching, learning and teachers 'quality for this school year. Since the beginning of the school year, in addition to stabilizing the classroom organization, we also have participated in professional development training courses delivered by Tay Ho OoET.

In last a few weeks, we have sent a lot of information about school, classes and learning programs to parents through the introduction letters from teachers, weekly email with learning plan for each week and the grade 1 conference morning between teachers and parents. This is a key to build a relationship between school and parents. We encourage parents to monitor and participate in our children's education through the ClassDojo which enforces school standards.

With the enthusiasm, passion and professionalism of the teachers combined with the regular and continuous support of parents and the active learning of students, I believe that all of us will have a wonderful year ahead.

Sincerely,  
Vu Thi Bich Lien



VU THI BICH LIEN  
HEAD OF VIETNAMESE STUDIES

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