



# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

## ***From the Principal***

*Dear Parents,*

Welcome back for the start of another exciting and full of learning Term 2.

I would like to remind you of a few school procedures so that the term runs smoothly and our focus is on Teaching and Learning and on students' achievement.

### **Attendance**

Regular attendance and arriving to school on time is crucial to a child's success. Even a minimal number of absences or lateness can have a serious impact on a child's ability to achieve. This is disruptive for the child and to their class. Please ensure that your child is ready for and on time every day for school.

### **Security Management**

Last term you would have received a hard copy (in the Report envelope) as well as a soft copy (email) of the Security Management system implemented this term. Please read this information carefully and support us in ensuring the safety and care of all our children.

### **School Uniform.**

I noticed over the last few weeks of Term 1, a variety of interpretations of the school uniform. Our school uniform is a part of what we stand for at SIS. Our school uniform policy (please check the Student handbook), ensures that children come to school in appropriate clothing, avoiding distractions. When wearing the school uniform, students appear to be professional; it helps build school spirit and instills a feeling of belonging. We would appreciate if you could send your child/ren to school in the correct uniform.



**After School Activities (ASA)**

After School Activities will be running again this term. However, please note that while we will endeavor to place your child in their preferred activity this may not be possible due to limited numbers for an activity or cancellation of an activity for not reaching the minimum number required. Activities will run on the same days as last term, Tuesdays and Thursdays. If your child is doing EFL or Vietnamese after school these take priority over the ASA. Activities will start on the 6 November.

**Semester Examinations.**

After the Mid Term break in December, starting on the 2 January 2019, students will be sitting for their Semester 1 examinations. This is a very stressful time for them. I implore you to be supportive and guide them. Tell them that what matters is that they do their best. From the school's point, we will do whatever we can to help them achieve the best they can. Teachers will be sending study guides to assist them with their revision and they are always there for the students if they need guidance and support.

During Term 2, we will celebrate a number of events and we will inform you closer to the date.

We look forward in working closely with you again this term.

Costas Gikas

Principal



*Student of the Month Presentation Assembly.*



*Our promising English students from Grades 4-6 were treated to a writer's workshop by Dr. Sally Murphy, who read from one of her books as well as highlighting to the students the importance of reading and writing.*



*Our colourful Halloween Celebrations at SIS@Ciputra saw both students and teachers joining in the celebrations.*

## ***From the Deputy Principal***

Dear Parents,

We have had a great start to our second term this year. The students have shown progress in both behavior and attitude towards work, and I have been delighted with their holistic growth and positive thirst for learning. Our students continue to demonstrate global citizenship and many are embracing the virtues of Singapore International School slowly but surely.

### **Halloween Celebrations**

We celebrated Halloween in style again this year. Almost all the children had costumes. Students collaborated with their classmates to make the displays in and out of their classrooms spectacular. Our students participated in the Best Dressed Costume Competition and the Best Decorated Classroom Contest. Thank you to the parents that supported us with extra candy in the “trick or treat” segment of the day. The students were very happy during the celebrations and everyone had a truly fun-filled and memorable day here at school.

### **Afterschool Activities**

Last term we had great participation levels and the students were pleased with the options that they were allocated. This term we hope to surpass those expectations and encourage the participation of our all our students, even more with the introduction of Sudoku Club, and Mindful Coloring and Crafts Club, Guided Reading Club, Vietnamese Language Club and Choir as new options for the students. We have also continued to streamline the days for Afterschool clubs to only Tuesdays and Thursdays, to give children more time to focus on their academics and classwork, in the lead-up to the SA1 exams. Wednesdays have been set aside for the school team training so to free up places for other students, due to the overwhelming response for Football as an afterschool activity.

We are always looking out for new and innovative ways to increase both academic and extracurricular activities and we would welcome any assistance with suggestions for activities. We hope that Term 2 will be that much fun and exciting for all who participate as Term 1. We are very excited about our activities for Term 2 and look forward to receiving feedback on the success of some of our new programs.



*(Top and Bottom) Our students celebrated Halloween in style this year with many dressing up in spooky costumes. Here they are at the morning assembly.*





**Hanoi Women’s Club Annual Charity Bazaar**

This year we have been invited to participate in the 2018 Hanoi International Women’s Club (HIWC) Annual Charity Bazaar. The HIWC Bazaar will be held at Starlake, The Central Area of Tay Ho Tay New Town, Xuan Tao Ward, Tu Liem District, on Sunday the 18 of November from 10:00am – 4:00pm. If you are free on the day, come along and spend some fun time with your friends and family for a worthy cause.

**Christmas Charity Fair**

Soon we will be hosting our annual Christmas Charity fair. It will be held on Saturday, 8 December and promises to be a fabulous event to welcome in the festive season. Do come and celebrate in the festivities with us and bring along your family and friends. There will be many fun and exciting charity booths run by the students and teachers. We will be sending out more information about this even as the time nears.

**Colour Day**

The Students Council organized “Color Day” as part of their fund-raising activities for the year. It was well received by the SIS Ciputra community and it was a resounding success. The Student Council collected over 18 million VND, enabling them to support the annual education four underprivileged children. Well done and a big thank you to the community.

**SIS Soccer Friendly Tournament**

Our Grade 1-3 students in the Junior Football After School Activities Club took part in a mini-tournament at the end of the month. The two teams sent competed against other SIS teams from Van Phuc and Gamuda Gardens. I am pleased to report that we won 4 games, tied one and lost one game. Good Job, soccer players.

*Mr. Mustafa Fazal*  
*Deputy Principal*



*Our promising English students from Grades 4-6 were treated to a writer’s workshop by Dr. Sally Murphy, who read from one of her books as well as highlighting to the students*



*Our students from STEM CLUB posing with their STEM Challenge project to design a tower made from 40 straws which can support the weight of a ping pong ball.*



*Participants of the SIS soccer friendly tournament posing for a group photo.*

**From The Head of Vietnamese**

Dear SIS Parents,

Over the last 10 weeks, we organized professional development sessions, to observe all classes in the Vietnamese Programme. We had 7 periods, where we applied innovative teaching methodologies during the lessons. All teachers developed well-prepared lesson plans for the class. In each lesson, their passion for teaching inspired their students. It also helped teachers broaden their mind, relate and practice these methodologies, linking them to real-life situations.

These Innovative teaching methodologies were introduced to teachers through many training workshops. The purpose was to get students to focus more effectively in the classroom. There was much groundwork done for the conference in order to assist students to understand content and complete exercises independently, namely Ms. Ha's Mathematics lesson of Year 4 and Ms. An's Mathematics lesson of Year 2B.

As management, we checked on all classes in their mid-term test and were impressed by the progress in the students' learning. Thank you to all the teachers who have tried to create the most enjoyable and effective learning experiences for our students. Not all student learn the same way. The teacher's role is to understand the way his or her students learn before applying a specific teaching method such as co-operative learning. Students can self-reflect on the areas where they need to improve. Such assessments can also help teachers understand were their student need assistance.

During the first week of October, we also had an assembly. The ceremony was solemn as we celebrated a special time in the history of Hanoi: Capital Liberation 64 years ago. Our army and people made the resounding victory at Dien Bien and defeated France to gain independence from French oppression. Our capital gained independence and freedom, ending a long history full of hardships and sacrifice. During our assembly, students reviewed Vietnamese independence history, which arouse strong feelings of pride for their country.



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



*Our Integrated students celebrating Halloween with their teachers Ms. Hoa and Mr. John. Here they are with their Jack-o-lanterns.*



*Students streaming into the hall for the start of the Vietnamese assembly and the singing of the National Anthem, guided by their teachers and Mdm. Lien.*



*(Top and Bottom) Our Integrated students at the special assembly celebrating the 64<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the liberation of Hanoi, from the French.*

We will continue striving to raise the quality of teaching and with the strong support from parents; I believe we will have a wonderful school year.

Best regards,

Vu Thi Bich Lien

Head of Vietnamese



# Classroom Matters

By Grade 5 International

## Author Visit

Dr. Sally Murphy, a well-known Australian children's book author, visited our school this month. She gave a reading from one of her books as well as a presentation on the importance of reading and writing that really inspired our students. Some of the students were selected to participate in a Writer's workshop with her. We were impressed by how well the students responded and connected with Dr. Sally and how her presentation inspired them to create their own stories.

## Colour Day

The students participated in a fundraiser organized by the student council. The theme of the fundraiser was "Color" day. The proceeds of the fundraiser went towards providing an annual educational scholarship to four (4) underprivileged students. We were overwhelmed and amazed with the generosity of the SIS



*Dr. Sally Murphy, came down for the Author Visit, and gave a reading from one of her books as well as a presentation on the importance of reading and writing that really inspired our students.*



Ciputra community. The Student Council managed to raise over 18 million VND.

**Show and Tell**

The students in Year 5, had the opportunity to bring something interesting from home to share and talk about in the class. The students really enjoyed this activity and we all learned many interesting and cool things about each other. Some of the interesting things that students brought to school included; Daruma dolls, Manchester United memorabilia, books, artwork and even a sneaker collection.



*Show and Tell Time in class with Nguyen Tran Bao Tran (Kitty) presenting her collection to the class.*



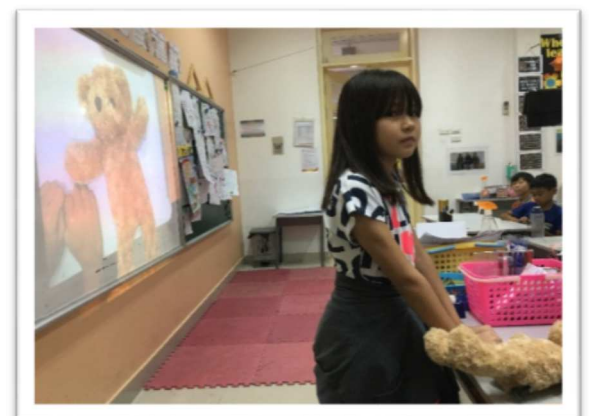
*Halloween Celebrations in our classroom were so much fun!*



*Our Year 5 students posing for a photograph on Colour Day.*



*Our classmates came in spooky costumes and we had lots of candy and healthy snacks too. Aniq and Marcelo won the spookiest costume award for Grade 5.*



*Show and Tell Time in class with Alua Rahman presenting her collection of teddy bears to the class.*