



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER - JANUARY 2020/2021

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Term 2 and Semester 1 Singapore Exams are completed and Christmas holidays are over too. It was certainly an eventful year last year, and a year that will go down in history as one of the most dramatic global events ever. Despite the many challenges and disruptions created by COVID-19, teachers and students continued working very hard all year to keep up a solid pace and were well prepared for the Semester 1 Singapore Exams in December. It was wonderful to see that so many students did an outstanding job and achieved excellent results. Congratulations to all the students who showed their determination to succeed despite the distractions and trials of the world pandemic.

After-School-Activities (ASAs) last term were well-patronised with students choosing from a wide selection of activities. It was great to see families encouraging children to participate in ASAs. Our ASAs provide a great opportunity for value-adding to children's holistic education and personal growth with a wealth of social, health and intellectual benefits; attributes that are becoming more and more important in today's dynamic world of constant change. We look forward to another round of ASAs coming soon in Term 3.

Our DynEd programme is getting stronger and offering great opportunities for students to improve English language development. Parents are strongly urged to support DynEd at home by spending "special" dedicated time working with students on the computer to complete DynEd assignments set by the teacher. DynEd relies on constant computer practice, so please assist and encourage your child's participation with DynEd at home. SIS@Ciputra had our first ever DynEd Achievement Certificate awarded to Year 6L student, Choi ByeongJun for achieving the status of A2+. Well done Choi ByeongJun – a great effort.

Our Christmas Charity Fair was also a huge success and students joined in happily with all the activities while helping to raise funds for the CARITAS Vietnam organization; over 38,000,000VND was raised in coupon sales.



SIS@Ciputra Principal Dr. Noel Geoghegan



After my first half-year as principal at SIS@Ciputra I must say that I have enjoyed my time immensely. Much satisfaction has come from knowing how positive and supportive all the families and students are. Teachers and support staff also have shown a good-spirited commitment towards making SIS@Ciputra a very special place for learning. The job of principal can be extremely rewarding but is also very demanding, especially with a challenge such as COVID-19 continuing across the new year. Our school will remain vigilant by constantly monitoring the safety and good health of everyone on campus. Everyone's temperature will still be taken twice daily, students and staff will be required to wear face masks to and from school, sanitizing hands will be done morning and afternoon, social distancing will be practised around the school and an abundance of caution implemented to avoid any possibility of a COVID-19 outbreak.

We have been continuing to award "Student of the Month" Certificates and students are eager to participate. As a show of encouragement, the award helps to motivate students to strive to do their best. Monthly winners' photos and names are placed on the Roll of Honour Board in the school foyer. Class teachers are also rewarding students for excellent work and good behaviour every day. With so much praise and encouragement, SIS@Ciputra students are showing that they can be truly successful. Our Schoolwide Goals aim to develop successful students who are critical thinkers, technologically advanced learners, confident communicators, academic achievers and active and responsible global citizens.

I hope everyone has had a pleasant Christmas and holiday break. We are looking forward to another productive Term as we start 2021.

Sincere thanks for your continued support.

Dr Noel Geoghegan.



This Month's Feature Class:

Year 1L

Year 1L (Year 1 International) is one of the biggest classes at SIS@Ciputra. Their teacher, Ms. Mareli is from South Africa and has been teaching at SIS@Ciputra for three years. She provides a challenging and vibrant classroom for students who come from Angola, China, Hungary, India, Kazakhstan, Oman, Pakistan, South Korea, the UK, the USA, and Vietnam. Year 1L uses ClassDojo to communicate with families and create a progressive technology-driven learning community right from the beginning.

In Mathematics, Year 1L have been discussing different strategies to add and subtract numbers within 20. They have been learning to count on and count back and make 10 first. They have been focusing on making 10 buddies and subtracting within 20 by finding 10 first.

Ms. Mareli has been focusing a lot on friendships in the classroom and what it means to be a good friend. Students made their own Friends' Booklet, and gave each other a friend card (Excellent friend, Incredible friend, Fabulous friend) complimenting each other. Each student received a Super Friend Award for being kind, caring and helpful to others. Two books on friendship: Peanut Butter and Jellyous & Michael Makes Friends at School were read to and enjoyed by the class. Year 1L students worked hard on Christmas craft skills all December, making classroom decorations independently to make sure their classroom was ready to celebrate the festive season.

Keeping Year 1L motivated and making sure going to school is fun, Ms. Mareli uses one of her favorite classroom management strategies called, "3 of a Kind" (see below). Using "3 of a Kind," Year 1L have lots of fun-filled Fridays such as: pajama day, crazy hat day, shoes off, watching a movie, homework pass, sitting next to a friend, playing games and so forth.

What is "3 of a Kind?"

"3 of a Kind" works as a great game to build up positive behaviors in the classroom. Typically, a 4 x 6 grid of 24 cards is used and as the whole class earns recognition and/or follows appropriate and expected behaviors, one student chooses a card to flip over. As the class follows expectations, more and more cards are flipped over.

This will continue until 3 of the same card (e.g. three cards reading "pajama day") are face-up. Then the class earns that reward.

Thanks, Ms Mareli.

Well done, Year 1L.



TEACHERS DAY WAS A TREAT



OUR CHRISTMAS CHARITY FAIR WAS A GREAT WAY TO FINISH 2020

