



# NEWSLETTER

March 2021

## **From the Principal**

Dear Parents,

Already Term 3 has rushed past and Term 4 means it will be count down to Semester 2 Singapore Exams at the end of May. The year 2021 has had an eventful start with continuing challenges and disruptions created by COVID-19. Nonetheless, our teachers and students have continued working very hard to maintain the highest quality of teaching and learning possible. It is always wonderful to see our students striving for excellence despite the distractions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Teachers are confident that SIS@Ciputra students will once again do an outstanding job and achieve excellent results in the final exams in May.

Unfortuntaely, due to the uncertianties of school closures because of COVID-19, After-School-Activities (ASAs) in Term 3 had to be cancelled and despite all the arduous preparation in planning ASAs, a tough decision had to be made to cancel them. However, another great selection of activities is planned for Term 4 and all students are encouraged to participate in the fun. ASAs provide opportunities 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 in Term 4.

As an internationally acclaimed English language learning programme, DynEd is used on all SIS campuses. DynEd improves English language development dramatically. Parents are strongly urged to support DynEd at home by spending 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.



*SIS@Ciputra Principal Dr. Noel Geoghegan*

Our school remains vigilant by constantly monitoring the good health of everyone on campus. Temperatures are taken twice daily; students and staff are required to wear face masks to, from and around school; sanitize hands morning and afternoon, and practice social distancing with an abundance of caution to avoid any possibility of another COVID-19 outbreak.

While the school is still unable to conduct school assemblies, we have been continuing with the “Student of the Month” awards by streaming award ceremonies live to classrooms. The Student of the Month award is highly regarded by students and teachers and helps motivate students to strive to do their best. The award winners photos and names are placed on the School Roll of Honour Board in the school foyer. With so much praise and encouragement, SIS@Ciputra students are showing that they can be truly successful.

Now that summer time is here, students need to be wearing the standard school uniform. If you are not sure what the “standard” uniform is, please refer to the Student Handbook where examples of acceptable school attire are showcased under School Uniform Policy. Please ensure your child/ren are dressed properly when they come to school as the image of the school depends upon a united effort to abide by the Uniform Policy.

My interactions with our SIS@Ciputra children are some of the best times of the day. It is abundantly clear that SIS@Ciputra mums and dads love and care for their children; the children are undoubtedly developing as courteous, respectful, creative, enthusiastic, well-mannered and hard working individuals. Thank you to all the parents for doing your part in making SIS@Ciputra a special place for learning and growing; you are a big part of helping our students become world-class, well-informed and well-equipped global citizens.

Our Schoolwide Goals also aim to develop successful students who are critical thinkers, technologically advanced learners, confident communicators, academic achievers and active and responsible global citizens. Together, we have a lot to offer our children.

Sincere thanks for your continued support.

**Dr Noel Geoghegan – Principal**

## **This Month's Feature Class:**

### **Year 6L**

Year 6 International is a diverse group of students and unique in their own way. They are currently preparing themselves to be fully equipped not just with skills and knowledge but also the virtues that they need to carry with them through their secondary school journey. The class teacher, Ms. Melody from the Philippines, provides students with a conducive learning environment where diversity, self-esteem and respect are honored. Ms. Melody sets goals which encourage students to take an active role in their learning experiences. She encourages students to develop personal goal-setting and flexible thinking that will be valuable skills throughout their lives. Year 6L students come from Vietnam, Singapore, Taiwan and Korea and one student has been joining the class from California USA online. Despite the time zone differences and challenges of online learning the student in California (Le Anh Minh) was Year 6L's Student of the Month in February. Bullying, teasing and other put-down behavior are never tolerated in Year 6L as Ms Melody allows time for students to learn about each other and gain an appreciation and respect for the diversity they bring to each other's lives and the classroom.

Experimenting and exploring together, especially in Science class, is a feature of Year 6L's classroom. Students enjoy individual and group projects, e.g. experimenting with electric circuits, techniques in separating substances, and STEM projects where they invented their own hand washing device with the goal of finding a way to help people be safe from Corona Virus infection. Students also get involved in making PowerPoint presentations even doing presentations about grammar rules for English! Year 6L is an active class and enjoy having a voice and an audience; it's part of transitioning from Primary School to Middle (Secondary) School. They produced an excellent debate on Blood Donation raising ethical and moral issues that revealed a truly altruistic and worldly view of current affairs. In Math, Year 6L work with Mr Paul as their teacher who acts as a specialist teacher and provides the class with a taste of Middle (Secondary) school where they will have different teachers for all of their subjects. Mr Paul has been focusing on learning unique ways on how to do problem solving. Learning the Singapore method for solving problems is quite challenging and students feel extremely happy when they solve problems on their own. As a rehearsal for Middle (Secondary) school, Year 6L have adapted very well to multiple teachers but have retained the personal level of focused care and attention in having a dedicated homeroom teacher in Ms Melody.



Ms Melody says, "Talking to my students and playing with them during break time has a big impact on their overall development and learning process as young adults. The students should feel that they are loved and respected and be confident to speak up in class."

It was Year 6L's turn to participate in OBV (Outward Bound Vietnam) which was held at our school campus due to COVID-19 disruptions. That was so much fun with sleeping overnight and all the outdoor adventures; Ms Melody was there too and was careful to keep everyone in check.

It has been a tough year for 6L with so many disruptions and challenges thrown at them by COVID-19. Yet, their journey with Ms. Melody, Mr Paul and Ms Hong (TA) has been blissful, and their teachers are all very proud of the way they have matured, grown and positioned themselves as global citizens and academic



achievers of the future.

*Ms Melody says, "To all the challenges that you may face in this remaining Year 6 journey, always remember that we are companions and that we can get through it all as ONE!"*

***Thanks, Ms Melody, Mr Paul and Ms Hong.***

**Well done, Year 6L.**

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARDS



# YEAR 5 INTEGRATED SHOWED THE REST OF THE SCHOOL HOW VOLCANOES ERUPT – KABOOM!

