

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ CIPUTRA
NEWSLETTER

September 2018

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

We have had another very successful learning period at SIS@Ciputra. During the month of September, we had our first STEM focused week, culminating with the walking class journeys and project displays. I am sure that the parents who attended would be quite impressed with what our students, their children, are capable of. We also celebrated Mid-Autumn Festival and I am very proud of our children and their commitment in appreciating and embracing their own culture or understanding a different one.

Thank you to all staff for their efforts and professionalism. I salute your loyalty and dedication to helping our students on their learning journey and in identifying and nurturing their gifts



Student Council

Congratulations to our 2018-19 student council members. Being a student council representative is an important and rewarding aspect of school life. Every student in the school has the opportunity to present ideas to the Student Council, who will then work together as the student voice. As members, students develop skills in working cooperatively to achieve results. The Student Council meets to discuss creative ideas and initiatives. Members learn how to consider other people's opinions and work together to ensure the best outcome. All of these skills are lifelong ones that should be beneficial for careers later in life.



Mr. Costas, Ms. Aoife (teacher in charge) and the elected members of the Student's Council receiving their certificates at a Special Assembly

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Student Council will also continue fundraising ideas for charity

Take a look at our Student Council Board on display in the foyer. We look forward to a productive year with a great team!

Gentle Reminder – Students attendance

Recent research has found that regular attendance and arriving to school on time is crucial to a child's success, and that even a minimal number of

absences or lateness during the school year can have a serious impact on a child's ability to achieve. Please ensure that your child is ready for and on time every day for school.

Not so long ago I came across this story that I would like to share.

Boxes of Promise

A parent who was concerned about her child's progress at school decided to visit a school which had the reputation of being the best school in the district.

"What can your school offer my child?" she asked the Principal

The Principal replied, "Whatever you and your child want."

"What do you mean?" she asked.

The Principal pointed to a number of boxes on a set of shelves at one side of the room.

"Have a look", he said. "There you will see some of the things we offer."

The woman got up and walked over to examine the boxes which were in assorted colors and shapes. Seeing one box labeled Self-esteem, she took it from the shelf and said." I certainly want self-esteem for my child."



Mr. Costas, our Principal, and the Lower Primary awardees for Student of the Month (August)



This year's Moon Festival Celebrations saw students from Upper Primary performing the Lion Dance.

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Searching along the shelves, she seized on other items. “Self-confidence” she said.” I want that too. And Academic Success, A Sense of Responsibility, Compassion, A Willingness to Serve, Values...”

Eventually she was standing triumphantly with her arms almost full of boxes before an empty set of shelves.

“These are the things I want for my child,” she beamed. “And you can guarantee that, if he comes to this school, they will be his?”

“Not necessarily,” the Principal replied.

“What do you mean?” Her smile had given way to a frown. “You said that you can offer my child anything he and I wanted; and you invited me to choose. So, I did. Now you say you can’t necessarily guarantee that he’ll achieve these things. You’ve lost me.”

The Principal smiled and said, “I am sorry I did not make myself clear. If you look inside the boxes you hold you will find they do not contain finished products – only individual blocks.

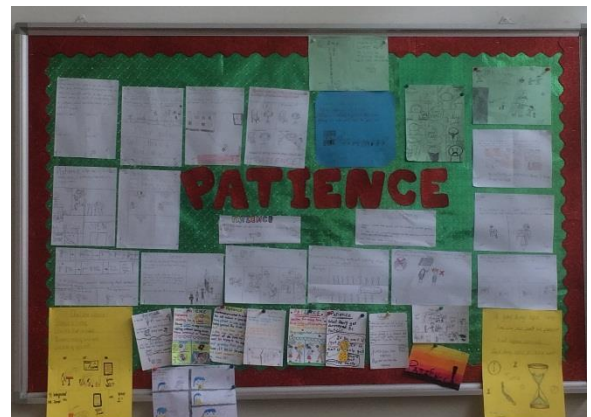
The path to success is not an easy one. It takes the combined efforts of everyone - parents, relatives, friends, teachers and the community that will mould the child to be a well-rounded person. Each and every one of us enriches a child’s development adding one building block at a time.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller

Mr. C. Gikas
Principal



SIS@Ciputra and KIK teachers attending a workshop in the Multi-Purpose Hall on Explicit Instruction conducted by Mr. Peter Baker, Education Director.



Students wrote a paragraph about what the week’s virtue meant to them. Some even contributed poems, cartoon strips to the Virtues Board.



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From the Deputy Principal

Welcome to our September edition of our newsletter.

After School Activities (ASA)

Our After School Activities and Clubs have taken off and many more students have registered for Afterschool activities this Term. This year we have a total of 18 slots of activities which are conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our variety of afterschool clubs ranges from sporting activities like Tae Kwon Do, football and basketball to curriculum inferred activities like STEM Club and Art Club. We are encouraged by the strong parent response in encouraging your children to take part in these activities ensuring a balanced education for your child.”



Stem Week

Our STEM Week was held from the 17th to the 21st of September, culminating in a STEM Parent Morning on the Friday of the week. On this day SIS@Ciputra was in “Exhibition Mode” and all students from Grades 1-6 took part. Parents and guests were invited into the school to see the STEM projects that students have been working on for the week. Students presented to their parents and guests and explained their finished projects and how they went about completing them. They also shared their difficulties and setbacks in the design process, and how they manage to overcome these setbacks before the final project was ready.



STEM Week was organized on the 17-21st of September and students and parents got a chance to view their STEM projects that they had been working on for the week.

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Student Council

Our Student Council Representatives from Grade 4-6 have been elected and recognized at our School Assembly. Photographs of our elected members are on display on the Student Council Notice Board in the Foyer. The members of the Student Council have conducted a few lunchtime meetings since the elections, with their teacher advisor, Ms. Aoife Downes. One of their new initiatives is a “Suggestion Box” attached to the notice board for the students to write their ideas or suggestions to possibly improve the school. The members will collate these and discuss them with their teacher advisor and our Principal, Mr. Costas, to see which ideas or suggestions can possibly be implemented.

Congratulations to the elected members of the Student council for 2018-19:

- Azzura Liu My Tue (5 NTGD)
- Dina Bae Yeon Oh (5 INTL)
- Bae Young Jun (5 INTL)
- Eashaan Yadav (5 INTL)
- Lee Cha Hee (5 INTL)
- Ngo Chau Anh (5 INTGD)
- Nguyen Duc Binh (4 INTGD)
- Nguyen Edmond (4 INTL)
- Nguyen Ha Bao Khanh (6 INTL)
- Nguyen Hoang Minh Phuc (4 NTGD)
- Paula Pantoja Gonzales (4 INTL)
- Pedro Fialho (6 INTL)
- Sofia Fialho (6 INTL)
- Tran Nam Anh (5 INTGD)
- Vu Huu Sang (5 INTGD)



Impressed Parents were invited into their children’s classrooms on STEM Day, where they got a chance to view their children’s projects.

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Virtues

We have our Virtues notice boards also at the central staircase of the Foyer. This month we have discussed the virtues of Integrity and Patience. Students have come up with a paragraph showing what these values mean to them. Some students submitted interesting contributions like poems, comic strips and cartoons. I am sure you will be pleased reading their understanding and the virtues which they are learning in School. We hope that as parents you can reinforce these virtues so that our children become active and responsible Global Citizens.

Mid-Autumn Festival

The teachers and students celebrated Mid-Autumn festival. This year the committee chose to focus their activities and celebrations around student effort. With the help of our HPE Teacher, Mr. William, our Upper Primary students rehearsed some of the steps of the traditional Lion Dance for their performance on the 24th Of September. There was a lot of traditional food, some traditional games and students had a small class party to celebrate this event. Some of our teachers even demonstrated how mooncakes are made in class. Our KIK students also joined in the celebrations to witness the Lion Dances and made mooncakes in their classrooms.

I hope that you have enjoyed this month's newsletter of interesting news happening in the school. I also hope that you will continue playing an active role in partnering us in your child's learning journey here at SIS@Ciputra

*Mr. Mustafa Fazal
Deputy Principal*



Parents enjoyed themselves at the STEM Day, as they got a chance to see their children presenting their STEM Projects.

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From The Head of Vietnamese

Dear Parents

In the last few weeks, we continued to visit and observe all integrated classes. In general, I was pleased to see the many teaching activities, students understanding the knowledge and applying their skills to the required standards for their year level, i.e., Ms. Ha's Mathematics class.

I am impressed to see the progress in all classes following the second round of class observations. Many teachers have adjusted their teaching, renewed the methodology, organized teaching activities, as part of the teaching process, as well as supporting students' group discussion and self-evaluation.

In addition, the school also helped students to understand the traditional values and the beauty of the Vietnamese culture through the events like the Mid-Autumn Festival on Monday September 24th. Teachers and students watched the Lion Dance performance of grades 4, 5 and joined the whole school's lantern parade. To prepare for the festival, students made paper lanterns, participated in Lion dance practice, made moon cakes gaining insights into this traditional event. Congratulations to all students who have actively participated in the school's activities and events.

With the children's enthusiasm, passion and the efforts of innovative teaching methods of our teachers, the regular and continuous support of parents and the active learning of students, I believe that all of us will have a great year ahead with many exciting experiences.

Best regards,

Ms. Vu Thi Bich Lien
Head of Vietnamese



VU THI BICH LIEN
HEAD OF VIETNAMESE STUDIES



Students took part in the Lantern Parade and wore traditional costumes and masks



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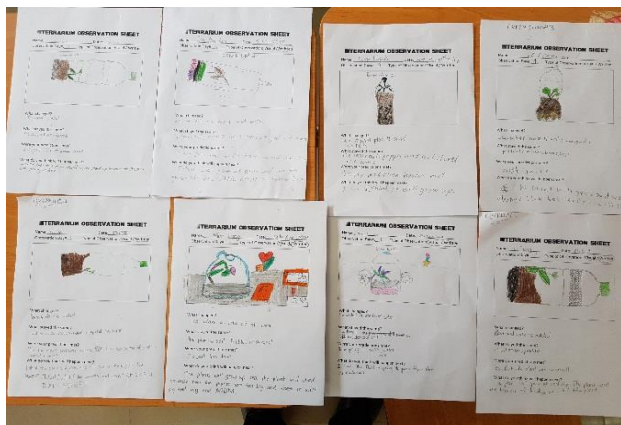
Classroom Matters

This month, we were completely captivated with our STEM Project: "Terrific Terrariums". Nguyen Anh pointed out that, "it was a new experience for us all".

We began by collecting pebbles from around the school and laying a solid foundation for the soil in which our plants would take root. We then added charcoal to filter the water and give the plants a better chance at survival.

We then added the soil and planted 5 plants we found in the SIS vicinity in 5 terrariums we had built using recycled materials. Sang echoed our thoughts when he said that, "we are all happy that the plants are growing well".

Along the way we learned about the water cycle, how plants grow, about the numerous ecosystems which exist on our diverse planet, and how to initiate and maintain an observation/analysis/reflection cycle. We also got to use microscopes to closely analyze the flora we had collected. As Tam Nguyen said,





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Classroom Matters

"it was fascinating!", Huy exclaimed "It was fun!", and Khoi added that, "it was quite awesome!"

According to Azzura, our STEM endeavor was, "cool and interesting".





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Classroom Matters

Year 1 Cooks

As part of our Health Education curriculum we encourage Healthy eating habits with our children.

In the last two weeks all Year 1 classes, International and Integrated took on the Master Chef challenge at the Pegasus International UniCentre, making Vietnamese Tapioca Dumplings. Children had great fun and were looking forward to asking their parents to taste their dish.

