



**SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**
Since 1986

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.

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Dear Parents and community,

Welcome to the November edition of the Singapore International at Ciputra school newsletter. This month has been very busy with many events. Term 2 began on 9 November and with the start of a new term teachers are monitoring the learning of each student. As academic studies increase, students are being prepared for the Semester 1 exams which will take place in January.

On 20 November we celebrated "Teachers' Day". It was so nice to see each of you as we celebrated our teachers who daily teach the students and keep their focus on making sure each student achieves their full learning goals. Teachers are a significant part of everyone's life. They show us the right path and groom us to become a better citizen and a better person. They teach us to face the most difficult challenges of life and get through them, easily. Teachers' Day is celebrated with great enthusiasm in many parts of the world. The day is dedicated to teachers, who play a prominent role in the life of their students. Thank you for helping us celebrate the teachers of SIS @ Ciputra this past month.

I encourage each parent to help set aside time at home for your child to read. Research has shown that students whose parents encourage them to read as well as read with them do better in school and make better grades. A good practice is for parents to read with your children each night. Have them read to you a couple of pages then stop and have a conversation with them about what they just read. Make sure they understand the story and can re-tell what they have learned. This will not only help your child but will give you precious time with your child and memoirs that will last forever.



The performance of Year 1 and Year 2 Int'd on Teachers' Day

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We celebrated the Teachers' Day



Mr. Mustafa Fazal, Deputy Principal

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. You will see in the following pages information concerning the student council and curriculum. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your teacher or myself.

Thank you for your support and being part of this amazing school.

Truly,
Mr. Dwayne Lehman, Principal

From Deputy Principal

I am happy to be here at Singapore International School, Ciputra, Hanoi. My name is Mr. Mustafa Fazal and I come from Singapore.

I believe that "*Teaching is a vocation*" - one is born to teach, one doesn't become a teacher: first of all I am teacher and will remain so forever, although I occupy a management/ school administrative position now. My pride I believe has always been to work within the Singapore Curriculum as teacher in my early years, and now a school administrator, in Singapore's top local schools and Singapore International Schools.

I have 16 years of experience as an English and Humanities Teacher both in Singapore and overseas at the Primary, Secondary and Junior College Levels. I come now to Hanoi after being away for several years teaching in Singapore International Schools in Indonesia and Cambodia, with the last 5 years taking on roles of a Vice-Principal and Principal.

I am formally trained with qualifications from Singapore's prestigious National Institute of Education (NIE), and the Ministry of Education, Singapore. I am also a strong believer of "visual teaching" and "teaching beyond the textbook". In my 16 years in teaching, I have successfully inspired and motivated many students to be passionate about what they have been learning, and to be lifelong learners in education, especially in English and the Humanities.

I am also a skillful classroom teacher. As far as classroom teaching is concerned, whenever possible, I have placed the highest emphasis on effective lesson delivery. To achieve this, I have used experiential learning techniques and strategies, instruction through multiple disciplines, for example, in the use of role play, Information technology and drama, in the classroom. I am also an excellent motivator, with good communication and presentation skills. My methods are visual and have a positive impact on students' learning styles and interest and motivation levels.

My visual teaching style, witty and humorous methods of lesson delivery, and ability to produce results make me an excellent classroom activity. I take great pleasure in entertaining my students; to look at them learn, and to see them enjoy what they

are learning, at the same time.

I am here in fascinating Hanoi, and hope to immerse myself in the rich culture and history that this amazing city has to offer. I enjoy working with a team of very highly talented, professional and dedicated teachers here at the school, and hope to be able to share Singapore's best practices and standards of academic success, and to continue delivering quality education within and beyond the classroom.

Mr. Mustafa Fazal, Deputy Principal

Student Council at SIS Ciputra

Student Council Bake Sale: Operation Smile.

After our visit to the hospital, which was a rewarding experience in every sense of the word, we had our first bake sale. The funds raised go toward our contribution for Operation Smile to help less fortunate children who were born with a cleft lip to undergo reconstructive surgery. We would like to put a beautiful smile on their faces!

We were overwhelmed by your generous contributions toward the bake sale. It was a whopping success and everybody had a good time. The Student Council members did an excellent job being salesladies and salesmen for the day. The grand total of 14 000 000 VND was collected.

Thank you again for your support during Term 1. We are planning another bake sale the last week of school to raise funds for the Year 5 Graduation and the Student Council. I also have to commend Ms Huyen for her support and organization skills before, during and after our bake sale.

Best wishes

Ms Petro
Student Council Liaison

Literacy Week Report

Literacy Week was held from the 23 – 27 of November and what a fantastic week it was!

We started the week with an art project in which the children created their own book cover for a story based on a short animation. Students had the experience of becoming creative thinkers and illustrators and really impressed us with their ideas and ingenuity.

As the week progressed, all of the students enjoyed sharing their favorite books and stories with buddy readers from a different class or classroom guests who came to read to them. There was



Our visit to the hospital



Bake Sale to raise funds for Operation Smiles

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Students were eager to choose the books



Art project in which the children created their own book cover for a story based on a short animation.



Our Year 4 and Year 5 football team

much discussion about the books that were shared and many children felt inspired to visit the library to find new books to take home and read with their families. The dioramas that students made were impressive in their creativity and led to many students asking where they could find copies of the books depicted.

On Thursday many students came to school dressed as their favorite book character. It is always fun to dress up and this day was no exception! The children looked fantastic. As an added bonus children could be heard discussing the reasons why they had chosen their character and could be seen re-enacting scenes from the books they had chosen in imaginative play during lunch time. What a great way to engage with books and make them come alive!

The highlight of the week was, of course the book fair. There was an excellent range of books on offer to families and it was a good opportunity to update the home library.

Engaging in reading is a way to ignite the imagination, escape into other worlds, learn from the experiences of others and discover possibilities you didn't know were there. A love of reading is the best gift any person can receive and I am sure that the fun and engaging activities of Literacy Week have provided many students with a renewed passion for books and reading.

Kelly Baxter
Teacher Year 2 International

Football Festival – Hanoi Activities Conference (HAC)

On 19th November, The Hanoi Activities Conference (HAC) organized the football festival for the Year 4 and Year 5 students and was hosted by UNIS. There were five (5) international schools that graced the events - BIS, BVIS, SIS, UNIS & HIS. There were eight competing teams in the said tournament. The game started at 2:00pm and lasted until 5:00pm.

Our students had a great time playing with the other students from different schools. It was also a learning experience for the team since we landed on 3rd and 4th place respectively.

We still have a lot of tournaments for this year like basketball, volleyball, tennis and touch rugby and friendly fixtures with other schools in the days to come.

Mr. Reywel
PE teacher

From Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents,

In recent weeks, we continued observing lessons and I was pleased to see the teaching activities matched the age of the students. With the use of different teaching methods, students had chances to experience many activities and improve creative and critical thinking. They have used their prior knowledge to find new knowledge and develop lesson content. Students also had the opportunity to self-assess and evaluate each other through comments and assessments of their classmates and teachers. I believe the promotion of professional activities gives every teacher an opportunity to learn and improve vocational skills, thereby ensuring a high quality of education.

As directed by the Tay Ho Office of Education and Training, the school held the Olympic English on the Internet for students in Year 3, 4 and 5. The teachers helped students register and guided them how to login and practice. Students need to practice through the 15th round to participate in school-level contest in early December. This contest is a great opportunity for students to express their English ability, as well as to exchange and learn with the peers in other primary schools. We look forward to receiving the support and facilitation by parents when students practice at home.

Our Year 3 had a morning to be little chef on 17 December. The students learned how to make pasta dishes under the guidance of teachers at Pegasus. They actually had a practical lesson and fun experiences.

In November, all students participated in many activities to celebrate Teachers' Day. They made cards and paper flowers to congratulate their teachers. Students in Year 4 and 5 "published" their newspapers with articles, poems, pictures. They also practiced enthusiastically to perform in the assembly to celebrate Teachers' Day. Those were the priceless gifts that students dedicated to teachers to thank for their daily caring and teaching.

Thanks for the efforts of all the teachers and students, especially the attention and support of parents so that every school day is a day full of joy and meaning for all of us.

Sincerely,

Vu Thi Bich Lien
Head of Vietnamese Studies

Important dates:

05 Dec: Christmas Charity Fair at SIS@Gamuda
21 Dec 2015 – 01 Jan 2016 Christmas/New Year Break
04- Jan 2016 School resumes



Students participated in a SOSE lesson in Year 3



Group work in a Math lesson



Year 5 Newspaper for Teachers' Day