

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ CIPUTRA
NEWSLETTER

April 2018

From the Principal

It has been a really busy month for us here at SIS. Our international day was a great day I believe all the kids had fun. We sent our 5th and 6th graders over to the Gamuda campus to take part in the Sports Carnival Day over there. A great time was had by all. Our young footballers competed in a tri-school SIS tournament with Van Phuc, Ciputra and Gamuda. Our teachers have been working hard on developing some great activities for the FUN FAIR to be held on the 5th of May 2018.

In addition to the above we have finished our WASC report and it has been sent off for review. We are confident that our work will result in another accreditation. In continuing our work of consistent reflection of best practice and school improvement all of the principals met with Peter Baker the Educational Director and Ms. Rosy Hoang Director of Operations for the term three meeting to discuss our progress with: "Explicit Teaching" the KinderWorld Teaching Model, Operational issues and building stronger levels of communication. We all attended a very informative workshop on "How to handle Difficult Conversations" with former KinderWorld supervisory principal Deborah Howard and we all discussed a plan to implement STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Math) into our curriculum starting next year. Since adding to the current rigorous academic curriculum has given SIS excellent results across all schools our plan for STEM Implementation is as follows

- 1. Senior Managers and key School Leaders attended the recent Google STEM conference in Singapore to learn about STEM implementation from successful schools in the region.*



TIMOTHY BRYAN BIKOWSKI
PRINCIPAL



Students marched round their school in their National contingents to celebrate International Day's Parade of Nations. (above and below)



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2. A range of STEM initiatives will be phased in to KIK and SIS over the coming academic year. These will include STEM Corners and STEM linked themes in kindergarten classrooms to guide learning activities. STEM clubs will be introduced at our schools as well as holding special STEM Days during the school year. Teachers will also provide STEM classroom learning activities that are multidisciplinary and designed to promote critical thinking and build problem solving skills.

3. KinderWorld is collaborating with our US partner, TinkRworks, to provide training for Expat and Vietnamese teachers.

We are truly excited about this new initiative and know that the results of adding STEM to our curriculum will only enrich our current curriculum. We are excited about the growth of explicit teaching in our school and the end result of the foundational knowledge being applied in the STEM based interdisciplinary and project based learning. IT is truly an exciting time for SIS Ciputra.

With Term four now upon us I would like to congratulate the following students for School wide Learning Goals Monthly Awards:

Johannes Romauch

Lee En Soo

Lee Truc Linh

Huu Sang

Madi Aibekuly Serikbai

Muhammad Aniq Mikail Bin Ahmad Syaaza

Pham Minh Hoang



A yoga demonstration, organized by the Indian Parents, amazed many members of the crowd



Our Korean parents helped to conduct the Korean Cultural Song "Arirang" at International Day



The students from Grade 4 International collaborated to perform a Mandarin song, "Molihua" as part of the lineup of performances.



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Quan Roy Mcfarlane

Trinh Thuy Chi

Bae Jong Oh

Pham Le Hong Binh

Nguyen Lam Anh

Muhammad Aryan Mikkail Bin Ahmad Syaaza

Congratulations to all of you for working hard in striving to do your very best. Term four is always a

difficult term. There are so many fun activities coming up and we still have the SA2 exams at the end of May. It is extremely important that all students stay focused on their academic responsibilities and are successful with their exams.

Sincerely,

Timothy Bryan Bikowski



Ms. Kelly and Mr. Tim presenting the March award for student of the Month to Huu Sang from 4 Integrated.

From the Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

This month has flown past with teachers and staff heavily involved in many activities. Soon our kids will sit for their SA2 Exams. With this in mind, I have prepared some tips for parents and kids to help with revising exams.

In preparing for the upcoming SA2 Exams, it's important that our students feel confident and prepared for the big day. Here are some handy tips and study habits to help guide you and your child towards success in the upcoming SA2 examinations.

1. Start Revising Early

There's no substitute for revising early. The sooner your child starts revising, the more material they'll be able to cover



Mr. Mustafa Fazal,
Deputy Principal

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before the exam, and the more comfortable they will be with retaining this information.

2. Create a Revision Timetable

When it comes to revising at primary school, having a structured plan in place can make all the difference. Try to agree a study timetable with your child, an hour every other night can be all it takes to improve your child's confidence. A revision timetable can be as simple as an Excel spreadsheet or a handwritten table displayed in your child's bedroom.

3. Find a Stimulating Place to Revise

A quiet place to study helps your child concentrate

It's important that your child has a quiet place they can go to revise. Trying to get work done when surrounded by distractions of TV, the internet and other family members can be very challenging, especially for children of primary school age. Try to find a space at home where your child can revise uninterrupted, without any distractions, an hour so.

4. Revise in Little Chunks and Often

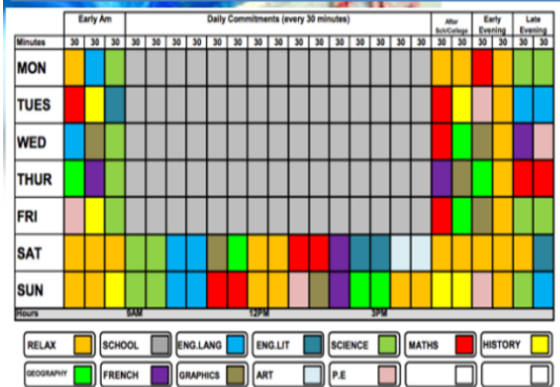
The average attention span of a 10-year-old is around 40-45 minutes, any longer and they start to get distracted and demotivated. When it comes to creating a revision timetable, make sure that you limit revision to half an hour to an hour at a time.

5. Record Revision Notes

A new, effective and fun way to revise is to have your child read their revision notes out loud into a voice recorder or mobile phone. Your child can then listen back to the recordings during revision time or in the lead up to the exam.

Have you tried..?

*Putting a revision timetable together – 5/6 weeks before your exams is the perfect time.
Remember to balance your subjects.*



REVISION TIP



**SPEND ENOUGH
QUALITY TIME ON
YOUR REVISION**

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6. Stay Positive

Revising at primary school can feel daunting. If there's a lot of material to cover, your child can sometimes feel overwhelmed at the amount of work they have to do. By breaking each task down into small, manageable chunks and staying positive, your child will learn the material more effectively and feel more resourceful leading up to the test.



7. Use Practice Exam Papers

Exam practice papers for primary school kids are a great way to prepare your child for an exam. Not only do practice papers help familiarise your child with the layout of the exam, but they can be a great way to improve your child's time management skills.

8. Stick Revision Notes around Your House

Visual aids are a great tool for revising. All you need is some post-it notes with buzz words or formulas written on them to help job your child's memory of their revision material. You can also test your child with revision notes by asking them to explain them verbally in more detail.



9. Do the Hard Stuff First

Children are at their most alert when they first start a revision session, so it makes sense to start revising the most difficult subjects first. Once the challenging parts are out of the way, your child will see the rest of their revision time as more enjoyable and will be more likely to retain the information they're studying.

It would be worthwhile to try some of these techniques to mix things up a bit in preparation for their exams. And best of luck for the big day.

Yours Sincerely,

Mustafa Fazal

Deputy Principal



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From the Vietnamese Department

Dear Parents,

This month, is the month with a lot of content to be taught in class in preparation for the final exams. Teachers have also been working on completing the curriculum to prepare students for their final exams for the second semester. I was also impressed by the noticeable improvement in all the students in their study areas.

Grade 4 and Grade 5 students have had an enjoyable experience taking part in field trips organized by the school. Along with the practical experience, the children also had a chance at making cakes at Pegasus as well as field trips to the aquarium at Times City.

In our effort to foster and nurture good pedagogical habits to teachers to increase the creativity and effectiveness of teaching methods, we have showcased the lesson for teachers teaching Mathematics in class 3, with new approaches and new teaching methods. In general, the teaching activities have been organized well and classrooms are vividly decorated, creating vibrant colors for the class, in tandem with the age groups of the students.

The first week of April sees us teaching with the theme of "Vietnam Heroic Country" Our students are celebrating the 42nd anniversary of the unification of the South and North. We are also celebrating International Labor Day on the first of May showcasing the heroic traditions and glory of the Vietnamese people's nationalism and national pride.

Lastly, I would like to thank the teachers for their hard work, as well as thanks for the loving and continued support of the parents, and for the efforts of the students. I hope that we will continue to improve the quality of teaching and learning activities to achieve good results in the 2018-19 year ahead.

Best regards,

Vu Thi Bich Lien

Principal of the Vietnam Program



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



Our Vietnamese Department also joined in the festivities by performing "Vietnam Oi."