

### **NEWSLETTER**

**March 2019** 

#### From the Principal

#### Dear Parents.

Welcome to our March newsletter!

As we look back over this March it is lovely to note all the incredible after school activities that so many of our children are participating in. We hope to offer even more options next time around.

It have noted that our children are arriving at school in good time, however, I would once again like to seek your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school daily, dressed in the correct Singapore International School uniform. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

There were several excursions during March. Our Year 3 classes had a wonderful adventure visiting "Curious Kids" where they had the chance to participate in a range of science and art activities.

Our Yr. 5 classes had a delicious time at Pegasus, where they not only learned about proper cooking techniques; following a recipe, they prepared a 5 layered Milk Tea. Year 5 also took a trip to the "Moon and Sun Bear Sanctuary" where they were exposed to and learned about animal welfare and conservation topics. Year 1 International classes visited Bao San Paradise park and got to see land and marine animals they have been studying in their classes.

Our Student Council organized a "Free Dress Day", raising funds for the "Blue Dragon" charity organization that supports street kids, children with disabilities, children from rural families living in extreme poverty, and victims of human trafficking and slavery. They rescue kids from danger, reunite them with their families when possible, and provide all the services needed for recovery and growth. What a worthwhile cause for our children and school to be involved in!

Finally, our integrated classes celebrated International Women's Day during an assembly and the whole school acknowledged the achievements of students in our "Student if the Month" assembly linking these achievements to our School-Wide Learner Goals.





The Vietnamese Youth Pioneers Ceremony where our students from Year 3 Integrated received their red scarves.

We look forward to a warmer April.

Thank you for your support and encouragement this month.

Mr. Costas Gikas

Principal

#### Announcement- Study Tour 2019

We are pleased to inform you that Singapore International School (SIS) will be organising a Study Tour Programme to Malaysia and Singapore, tentatively from Sunday, June 30 to Saturday, July 6, 2019 for students from Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.

Further information on the program details and registration will be informed to students and parents in course. Please contact +84 24 6661 7722 (Ms. Nhung) to get further details

#### From the Deputy Principal

**Dear Parents** 

Welcome to the March edition of our newsletter

The past two months have been very fast-paced and exciting indeed, as we celebrated TET and the beginning of Term 3.

I would like to report that our grade 3 and Grade 5 students sat for the ISA test, which is an international benchmarking assessment used in International schools to compare our International and Integrated students' performance in English and Math Literacy with "like schools" and "regional schools" around the world. The test scripts are back to Australia for marking and soon, we will have data on student's performance. We will analyse this data and if necessary, put in intervention strategies in place to improve our performance at the next round of tests next year.

Our school played host to Thang Long Academy Kindergarten, welcoming some 50 students, teachers and parents to a mini Open House. The children had a chance to experience siting in the Year 1 International and Integrated classrooms, participate in Story Reading, Music and PE activities as well as having a snack in the canteen before making their way home. More open houses are planned for our sister Kindergartens at the Manor, Hanoi Towers



Our School Football teams did very well in the SIS Cup Soccer Tournament, against SIS Gamuda, SIS Van Phuc and TH School. The Senior Football Team were champions and the Junior Team emerged first runners up.





Children from Thang Long Kindergarten were treated to some sporting activities on our school soccer field. Here they are seen taking part in an obstacle race.

in April.

A Visiting Committee from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) will be returning to our campus to conduct their accreditation visit sometime in late April/early May. We have been busy preparing for this visit and hope that the visitors will be pleased with the way the school runs and the systems that we have in place for the students.

On behalf of all staff of the school. I would also like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all parents who shared International Women's day with our female teachers with many generous gifts of flowers to celebrate. Your flowers and gifts went a long way towards making the teachers feel valued and appreciated.

Our students in Grade 6 were off to experience the Outward Bound Vietnam Program for grade 6 students at Ha Long Bay. They were away for 5 days and experienced a number of team-building activities that challenge them to get out of their comfort zone. We hope to bring you news and photographs of this in the next edition of our newsletter.

Preparations for the year- end concert are underway. This year our concert theme is "Planet Earth" The concert will be on Sunday, 16 June at the National Convention Centre, and promises to be a spectacular celebration of song and dance. We hope to see you there on the day and we will update you with pertinent information closer to the event.

I would like to congratulate the following students for receiving the Student of the Month (February) Achievement Award, for exemplifying the school-wide learner goals in their class. Our Principal, Mr. Costas, presented them their certificates during assembly.

- Cu Bao Ngan- Year 1A Integrated
- Vu Ngoc Diep

   Year 1B Integrated
- Phan Ngoc Bao Tram

   Year 1A International
- Nguyen Minh Ngoc Ruby- Year 1B International
- Young Gun– Year 2 International
- Nguyen Thuy Chi

   Year 2B Integrated
- Ngo Thu Ngan

   Year 2A Integrated
- Jun Hyeong Kim (Stuart) Year 3 International
- Nguyen Ngoc Bao Anh– Year 3 Integrated
- Shotaro Matsuzaki- Year 4 International
- Tanishka Sanjay Kumar Pangoankar– Year 5 International
- Le Ngoc Anh- Year 4 Integrated
- Vu Huu Manh

   Year 5 Integrated
- Pedro Fialho

   Year 6 International

I hope that you will enjoy browsing through the stories and looking at the pictures in our gallery in this month's newsletter.

Mr. Mustafa Fazal

**Deputy Principal** 



Our coach, Mr. William, warming ups the Junior footballers before the start of the SIS Cup tournament.. The team did well, winning all their games, and just losing out by one goal in the final.



Students of the Month (Feb) receiving their certificates from the Principal in the Multi-Purpose Hall at the Awards Assembly



Year 1 students and teachers posing for a photograph during their field trip to Bao Son Paradise.

#### From the Head of Vietnamese

Dear Parents,

March was the month that we experienced numerous teaching and learning activities for teachers and students in the Integrated Program. Our teachers, Ms. Nong Thi Hong An in Y2B Integrated and Ms. Nguyen Phuong Anh in Y1B Integrated, put much effort and quality into their teaching, developing quality lessons and using innovative teaching methods to provide better quality lessons for their students.

I was very impressed to see clear progress across all students in their attainment and application of knowledge. This was especially so in the case of the 5th graders who participated in the English Olympics at the Tay Ho District level, achieving excellent English results. Six of our children went on to the City-level exam. Our students performed well and exceeded our expectations:

- Nguyen Nguyen Anh was awarded 1st Prize
- We received 3 Second prizes: Yim Xin Yee, Cung Xuan Khanh, Azzura Liu My Tue
- We received 2 Third prizes: Tran Nam Anh and Bui Chi Kien
- Three consolation prizes.

Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 students have shown good progress in learning and applying their newly acquired knowledge. This was the result of their teachers' efforts and students' hard work and the great support from parents. For Year 3 students, the school organized the ceremony to admit the 14 members from this class into the Vietnamese Youth Union. This is an opportunity for our students to become more mature and responsible for and of their learning.

In celebrating International Women's Day, our integrated students also had the opportunity to demonstrate their affection and gratitude to their beloved teachers. Through many activities such as performing songs and reading poems, they expressed their appreciation and feelings for the teachers who love and care for them every day. Students also made paper flowers and wrote postcards to all the school's female staff. Small but meaningful acts like this, is what actually touches the soul of all staff at school.

Thanks to the efforts of the teachers and students as well as the support of parents, it has been a successful and joyful month.

Vu Thi Bich Lien Head of Vietnamese





Our students receiving their red scarves from The head of Vietnamese Studies, Madam Lien.



Madam Lien delivering her speech at the Youth Pioneers Ceremony

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On March 8th, the Year 5 Integrated and International classes took a trip to the beautiful area of Tam Dao to visit the Moon and Sun Bear Sanctuary. The trip was filled with positive energy, as the students were poised to learn about animal welfare and conservation topics while making a generous donation to the foundation.

Once there, the classes proceeded to engage in an information session and topical discussion with a veteran bear conservationist who was able to clarify some common misconceptions and provide the children with valuable instructions as to how to care for the bears and spread the news about their endangered status in Vietnam.

The Sanctuary compound was a sprawling operation, filled with various animal habitats, a bear canteen, bear play area, a herb garden, and a bear hospital, all surrounded by the breathtaking hilltop scenery of Tam Dao. The students made their way through the entire facility while being guided by a knowledgeable tour guide who was quick to answer their questions and fed into their enthusiasm for the experience.

The weather cooperated well, and the sun came out to bring light into the learners' hearts and minds. In the end, all who participated walked away better educated and bedazzled by the experience.

Khoi said, "I felt excited about learning how to save the bears!" Trang mentioned that, "The beautiful landscape made the experience spectacular!" Sang said that he "Felt proud of himself and his classmates for being able to donate some money to the sanctuary".



Students at an information session and topical discussion with a veteran bear conservationist who was able to clarify some common misconceptions and provide the children with valuable instructions as to how to care for the bears



The Sanctuary compound was filled with various animal habitats, a bear canteen, bear play area, a herb garden, and a bear hospital, all surrounded by the breathtaking hilltop scenery of Tam Dao.



At the end, students from both classes posing for a picture before setting off to school



















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