

# NEWSLETTER

December 2019

## Principal's message: 2019 – It will be a good year.

Dear parents,

Happy New Year to you and your families. All of us at SIS hope that you had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holidays. Indeed we had a great Christmas Charity Event to end the year. As we are about to begin soon the second half of the school year, we have much to look forward to as we reflect how wonderful 2018 was.

The staff and I are very pleased how the opening of Can Tho campus began with approximately 49 students coming to campus with their eyes wide open with curiosity or concern what school would be like. By the end of December, nearly 70 students were dashing to school with big smiles while giving “high fives” to teachers, staff, and principal. Not only did we, the teachers and staff of SIS, welcome students to school but the students cordially welcomed us as well each weekday.

This positive energy and enthusiasm demonstrates a wonderful sign of a happy community. A few months ago, KinderWorld's Education Director Peter Baker, visited our campus. He asked about the community support of Can Tho campus. I smiled and graciously suggested he step out from the office around 4:30 PM. He did and he understood. He observed students playing with others on the playground or on the football field at the end of school. Parents chatted socially among each other and with teachers. The school grounds appeared like a community park: there was a feeling of friendship and acceptance. At other schools I worked at, students were all too apathetic about school or too eager to leave. Parents merely picked them up and left immediately. That did not happen at this school. Today, that ambiance remains.

This New Year is going to begin as another good year with new activities. As the weather warms up, students will be participating in swimming activities. The water rocket competition is about to blast off. More excursions and holiday events are being planned.

Welcome to 2019. Education is going to be fun -- again.

Sincerely yours,  
**Larry Synclair**  
Principal



# THE GIFT OF GIVING BACK

Operation Smile



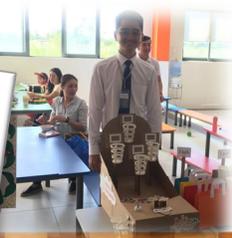
Singapore International School's Can Tho Campus launched its first annual Christmas Charity Fair on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds of the events went to Operation Smile.

Children, parents, family and friends were welcomed to school and participated in a wide variety of games and activities. Even Santa Claus visited school to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

SIS donated proceeds to Operation Smile, an international medical charity that has provided hundreds of thousands of free surgeries for children and young adults in developing countries who are born with cleft lip, cleft palate or other dental and facial conditions. It is one of the oldest and largest volunteer-based organizations dedicated to improving the health and lives of children worldwide through access to surgical care. The US-based Operation Smile has extended its global reach to more than 60 countries through its network of credentialed surgeons, pediatricians, doctors, nurses, and student volunteers.



## Ms. Ngan & Ms. Tu's Nursery:



Students enjoy when Ms. Ngan reads a story. They gather around the table and listen patiently. Their facial expressions change every time Ms. Ngan change her



intonation. After their morning snack is English Circle time. Recently, they learned about transportation. To help them get familiar to the new words, Ms. Ngan usually created some fun activities such as games like "Drum Chairs". Students would listen to Ms. Ngan and tap on a chair with the correct flashcard. Sometimes the kids played with colorful toys to recall colors in Arts and Crafts. Once or twice a week, the kids would walk around the campus and have some outdoor activities in the school yard. They would enjoy the fresh air as well as the ideal morning sunshine which is very good for their health.



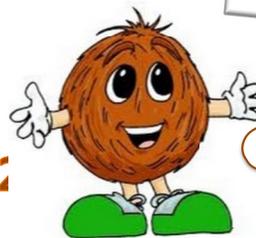
## Ms. Hanh & Ms. Trinh's K1: Lovely Strawberries

In Circle time, to see Mr. wanted to sing which they were around. Students lessons. Ms. to count and In Science, "Walking Water" and then observed



students were so excited Nicholas because they *The Rainbow Song*, in able to dance and move focused on their Chinese Shinmay taught them how recognize numbers 1 to 5. students watched the video

several containers traveling up paper towels. This is *capillary action*, which is the ability of a liquid to flow upward, against gravity, in narrow spaces. This is like water climbing from a plant's roots to the leaves. In Math, students learned numbers and shapes by games: spin wheel and go fishing. Their teacher taught them how to create Christmas cards by hand painting.



## Ms. Thuy & Ms. Dong's K2

## Coconuts

In K2 class, the children have been learning how to plant a tree during Science. During their Circle time, they have been reviewing the English alphabet's uppercase and lowercase. Moreover, they also enjoyed passing the ball and asking some questions about their friends' name, age, opinions and the weather. In Math, students learned about building fifteen blocks while competing with their friends, as well as doing the book exercise "Choose an Odd One Out." The children have been enjoying coloring *the doctor* and making "cloudy weather"



by using colour paper in Art and Crafts. Finally, PE was really interesting with the “Gummy Bear dance” to warm-up. They also learned how to keep the ball on the back to get through the obstacles with the partner.



## Ms. Linh & Mr. German's Prep Happy Oranges



Students have been enjoying the practice of going shopping during social studies. They learned how to buy things they wanted and learned to politely queue up to wait for their turn at the counter. They really liked it. Geography has been a fascination. They have been learning about different cities in north, south, and central Vietnam. Additionally, kids learned how to pass the ball backward and work in teams in P.E. Moreover, they played different types of musical instruments with rhymes.



Y1 learned the importance of



students teamwork and

applying



ar 1



contest. By testing, and be ready for the contest. After the contest, 4 groups out of 6 groups in Year 1 succeeded to protect their eggs from being broken. In ICT, students learned math by using an online application named mathplayground.com. Students also learned to spell words in Vietnamese. Writing is an important lesson for them. They need to know how to write correctly on the line and present the paragraph rationally. In Vietnamese culture, hand writing is one of the most important criteria to judge someone characteristic. For that reason,

technology to create and complete a new idea in a given task. By using break time between periods, the teacher and students worked together to build devices that would protect eggs during The Great Egg Drop they were able to learn from experience, improve their product

students are learning to improve their handwriting. Their writing skills also encouraged them to stand up and speak out loud in front of the class to improve their reading skill. It is always important for students to know their mother tongue.

## Mr. Thank's Year 2

In Arts and Crafts, make Christmas cards. Making Christmas cards be creative which thoughts and make friends. They classroom.

in studying, too. They listen to in order to participated make school and nicer, understood school.

the student were able to cards by themselves. cards allowed students to they could design their wishes for family and also decorated the Painting presented efforts

learned how to descriptions from their teacher finish their tasks. Student in some school activities to and classroom's cleaner, greener After the lesson, students the responsibility to their beloved

## Mr. Phuoc's Year 4

As to be and

part of the Christmas spirit, Mr. German has been working diligently for the Y4 student to learn how play "Jingle Bells" on the ukelele. This includes knowing how to read music as well. In English, students are aware that the semester tests will held in January. Mr. Nick has been focusing on revisions: in particular, reviewing with

students about adverbs, prepositions, helping verbs.



## Ms. Kim An's Year 6

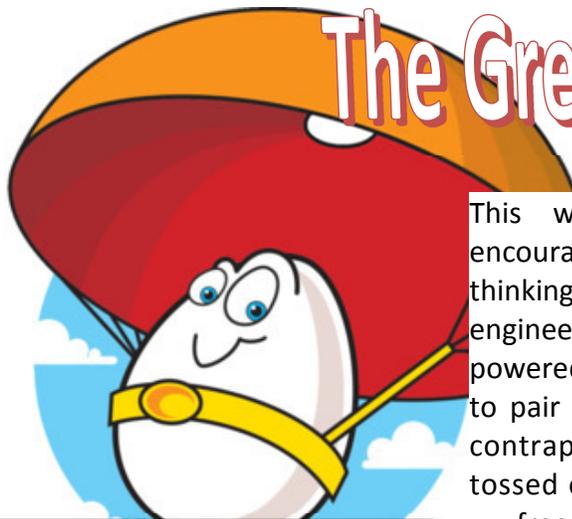
In English, they have been going through revisions in their tests in been learning proper



students have through many preparation for January. They've how to write paragraphs, use



similes, understand subject-verb agreement, and know when to use present or past tense. During P.E., they have been active outside playing basketball and soccer as well as other outdoor fun such as Jailball, Frisbee Football, and doing calisthenics. Social Studies has opened their eyes about the local, regional, and global effects of pollution and environmental awareness. These lessons strengthened their perceptions about the serious dangers of plastic that's harming wildlife and our lifestyle.



## The Great Egg Drop Contest

This was a fun, engaging activity that encouraged hands-on work and out-of-the-box thinking in the areas of science and engineering. Forbidding the use of any battery-powered devices, SIS students were instructed to pair off and collect materials to design a contraption to protect their raw egg when tossed off a roof. Students explored objects in free fall and learned to assess their egg drop contraption at impact. Approximately 30 students participated.

The results were outstanding.





During Round 1 of the contest, which the contraptions were tossed off the roof of the car park (approximately 3 meters high), nearly all of the eggs were well protected. Therefore, it was time for the “elimination round”: the surviving contraptions were to be thrown from the roof of the school – over four stories high.

Many of the students’ project were successful again, demonstrating understanding of physics, materials science, and fluid dynamics. The judges – consisting of the STEM committee – rated the contraptions not only on the success of the apparatuses

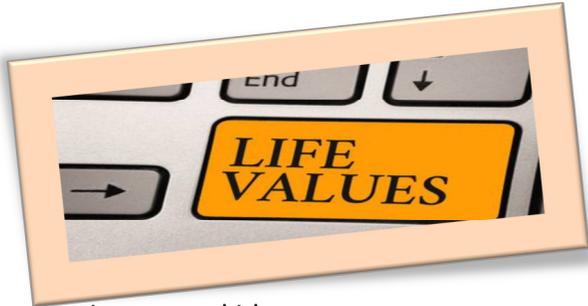
protecting the eggs, but on the students’ engineering designs and level of creativity. Third place went to Pichu and Hang (Year 4). Second place went to Alisha (Year 4). The champions of the first annual “Great Egg Drop Contest” went to Bill and Leo (Year 6).



On 23<sup>rd</sup> October, SIS@Can Tho arranged a field trip for Y4 and Y6 students to visit the Can Tho Green Farm. Students not only learned the process to cultivate vegetables but also to practice these methods. After receiving basic information about organic vegetables from 24/10/2018 to 9/11/2018, students obtained seeds for a plot of land on campus. The preparation of soil was the hardest step in the process: weeding, drying grass, digging soil, drying soil, dozing, scattering, and watering soil. All of these assignments were appropriately distributed by the teachers based on the age and physical ability of students. After soil preparation was completed, students in grades Y1, Y2, Y4, and Y6 began planting

seeds and started cultivation of morning glory. The results were spectacular. Students began harvesting on the afternoon of December 11th. They expressed much enjoyment seeing the outcome of their farming. Future experiential activities tasks in farming for SIS students are being considered in association with the STEM model.

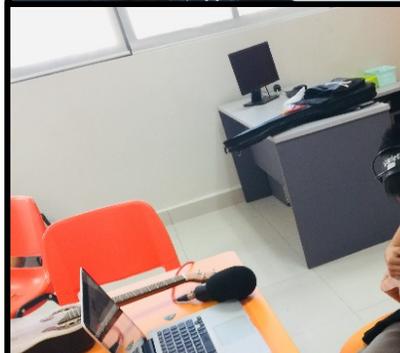




In science, kids were introduced to a new project to grasp the idea about living things and non-living things. Mr. German's new project showed students the importance on how to take care of something very special. This activity is the continuation of the gardening project. The goal was for students to share the real value on how to take care of living organisms such as plants, fish and how important these are in our daily life cycle. It implicates the school core values of being a responsible citizen. This will be the start of the AQUAPONIC design for next year's STEM ACTIVITY.



# Listen to the Music



As we continue to uncover our science lesson. I decided to make something special for the kids to grasp the whole concept of living things and non-living things. By this way, parents and other students could see the importance on how to take care that something very special to you. This activity is the continuation of the gardening project. My goal is that I want the kids to share the real value on how to take care of living organisms such as plants, fish and how important these are in our daily life cycle. It implicates the school core values of being a responsible citizen. This will be the start of the AQUAPONIC design for next year STEM ACTIVITY.



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OUTWARD BOUND  
VIETNAM

## Student sleepover:

The only time sleeping in class is allowed.

On December 5, Mr. Phuoc's Year 4 students participated in an Outward Bound event: an overnight camping trip on campus. Just like a camping trip, the students learned how to determine

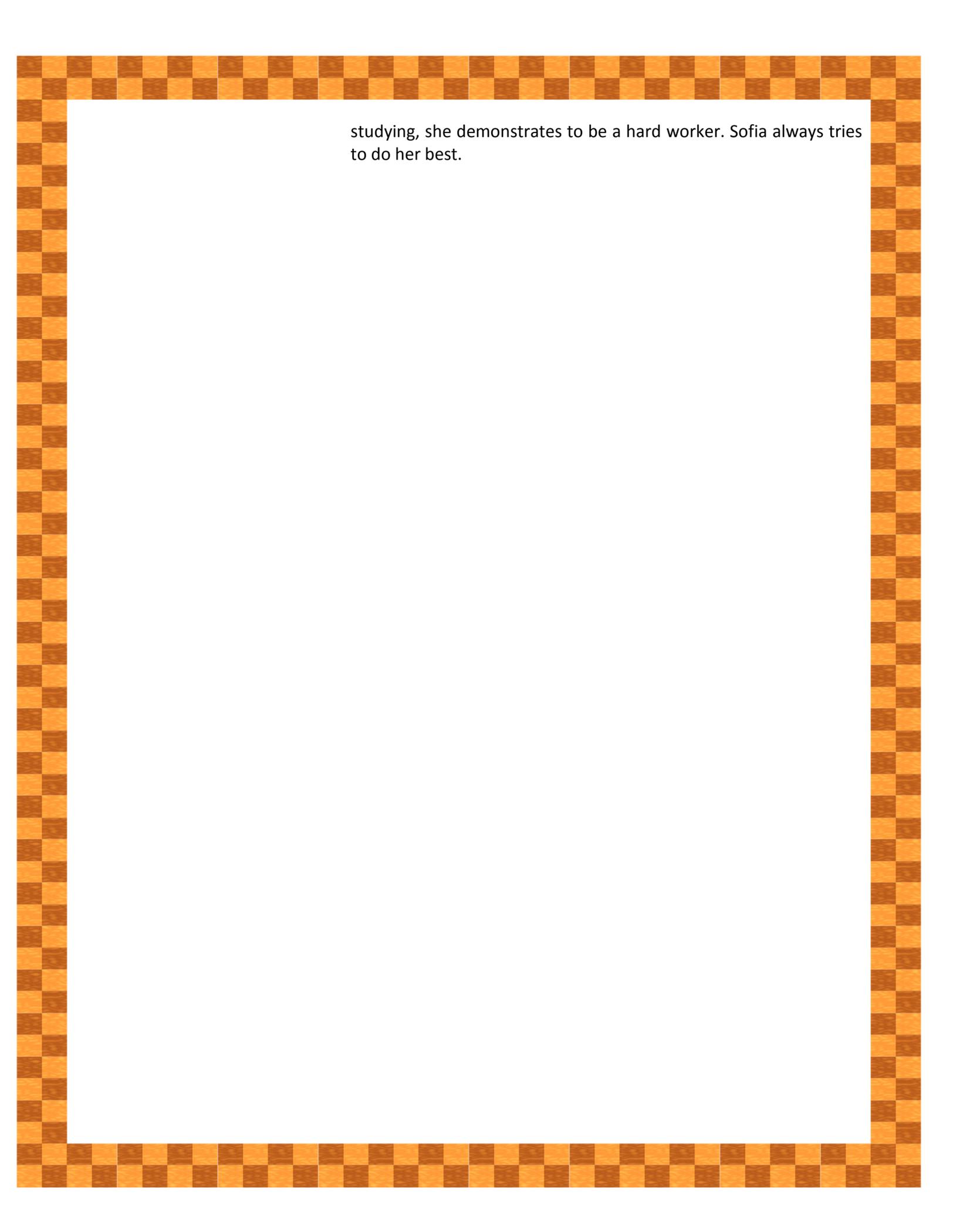


directions with the help of a compass. Students also partook in various games such as "Passing the River." At the end of the overnight event, the students received a certificate by Outward Bound Vietnam.



## Student of the Month Tran My Anh (Sofia)

Sofia (Year One) has been selected as Student of the Month. She comes to school every day with a big smile on her face and delightful "good morning" to teachers. Her positive personality and confidence shows good leadership. Sofia treats others very well and always contributes thoughtfully to discussions. While



studying, she demonstrates to be a hard worker. Sofia always tries to do her best.