



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL@ CAN THO NEWSLETTER

October 2018

Principal's Message

Dear parents and students,

It's hard to believe that Term 1 has ended and a new term begins. This will be a fun term as well. Be ready for some exciting projects in the new future.

Of the many schools I have worked at, SIS brings the biggest and the most smiles in the morning – but we need to bring those smiles to campus at a time when teachers and staff are present and before classes begins. We understand and sympathize about your conflicts regarding having to go to work at a certain time, struggle with traffic complications, and so on. However, we always remain concerned about the students. Teachers and staff arrive at SIS during the start of the business hours, 8:00 AM. Please make arrangements for your child to be transported to school after 8:00 AM and before classes begin at 8:30 AM. If there is no opportunity to have your child at school by 8:00 AM or must stay at school after 5:00 PM, please fill out a liability form. Most teachers leave after school business hours, 5:00 PM. Conversely, the upper floors and the classrooms will be closed until 8:00 AM for safety reasons. Students having to arrive earlier can play on the playground, football field, or front lobby. They can also be seated at the canteen. Students remaining after business hours will be transferred to the security guards.

STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) begins with a STEM club and with future competitions. Plans are being made for students to participate in model rocket and water rocket contests. We also preparing for the egg-drop competition in November. What kind of design can protect an egg when dropped from the roof of the school? Stay tuned for instructions.

Just as a reminder, SIS takes pride in being a smoke-free zone. Please help by not smoking anywhere on campus. We want our students to see that smoking is not good for their health.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Synclair

Principal



A piece of California during P.E.

Inspired by Mr. Larry's childhood in California, the students learned the fundamentals of using a Frisbee for sport during P.E. It appears easy to play. However, the art of Frisbee throwing requires much practice and Year 4 and Year 6 practiced a lot. The students developed their skills at throwing and catching, as well as skipping a Frisbee. Afterwards, they began to sharpen their Frisbee skills by playing Frisbee Golf and Frisbee Football. Frisbee has been popular on the beaches of California (and at many other states) for years. At some California universities, Frisbee is taught as a P.E. course.



The Joys of Gardening

Mr. German's gardening projects have become a big hit with his classes. The students at Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 have been engaged in agricultural practices on a small scale, learning about the duties and impacts of land cultivation. The end result -- they develop a greater understanding of the natural world. At SIS, we see a school garden as a wonderful environmental education tool. Through gardening, students learn to become responsible caretakers. Why? Because gardening offers students ample opportunities to walk, lift, carry, dig, plant, and rake, as well as practice balance and dexterity, all while participating in an enjoyable and engaging activity.



Classroom News

In Ms. Ngan and Ms An's Strawberry Class (N/K1), students are enriching their English vocabulary by learning words like doctor, farmer, firefighter, and police officer. In Social Studies, they gain greater understanding about professions such as learning what a doctor does every day. Learning words through visual identification is always important. Students have been gaining greater understanding about shapes and colors such as a square and identifying green and yellow.



Ms. Thuy and Ms. Dong's Coconut Class (K1/K2) have been practicing their social skills – in particular, how to greet others and show responsibilities. For example, students say goodbye their dad, mom or nanny and then place their shoes, bags and bottles of water into the right places. In Science, they have been learning about mung bean. In this case, the teachers brought some green beans and cotton wool and instructed students how to grow mung bean. Of course, they also prepared for Halloween. In Arts and Crafts, they learned how to construct a ghost using paper and cotton wool.

In Ms. Linh's Happy Oranges Class (Prep), Halloween preparations also took over their Arts & Crafts class. Students learned how to make scary paper bats. In Math, students continue to learn how to count in English, forwards and backwards, as well as understand math symbols (+, =). They have been reviewing measurements: long/short; big/small; heavy/light; more/less. Now they're being taught a new concept: tall/short.



In Ms. Quy's Year 1 class, Mr. German has been teaching about the use of articles in a sentence and when to use them. They have also been learning *to be* verbs in simple present tense. While practicing their reading skills, they've been studying about identifying the sequence of a story.



Students from Mr. Phuoc's Year 4 class have been learning about similes and metaphors. Mr. Nick has used videos and written work so that the students will be able to identify the difference between similes and metaphors. In Social Studies, the students have been learning about food and health-eating habits. This includes having to maintain a food diary and helping parents make a meal and then write down the recipe. In literature, they learn about "The Magical Foot": A story about the spirit and vigor of a disable man who could write with his foot because he couldn't use his hands. Of course, Arts & Crafts is always a pleasure. This time, Year 4 have been learning how to paint on canvas.



Ms. Kim Anh's Year 6 class has been learning about pollution and environmental awareness. It has been an eye-opening experience to learn about the staggering amount of various pollution and the importance to go green. In English, they have been learning direct and indirect speech, understanding adverbs of frequency, identifying prepositions and prepositional phrases, and gaining better comprehension about the constructs of poetry with rhyme and alliteration.



In Mr. Thanh's Year 2 class, students have been sharpening their artistic talents by learning how to draw, and color landscape. They have also been learning about social



skill in a library, which is a good chance for students to gain helpful knowledge about life around them through book and then they are able to apply what they have learned for their lessons. While reading, many students are able to discuss their opinions about what they read with the teacher. We always welcome critical thinking skills. Of course, they have been studying words and sentence structures to enhance their Vietnamese skills. After school, students can practice using what they've learn to express their opinions and feelings.



Junior Farmers at Work

At a local farm in Can Tho, students, attending as part of the STEM program, learned how to cultivate such as preparing soil. Student will apply those



technique learned from the farm to grow plants and vegetables at school. Student from Year 1 and above will have their own land and seed and will be in charge to take care for the plants.

In the future, they will be able to sell back their products to the farm and earn money. Farming is educational, and teaching our students where exactly their food comes from is a lesson itself. On this day, they learned about the hard work and effort that goes into planning, growing and harvesting crops. Understanding the farming process can help children to be grateful for their food.



Student of the Month

Le Trung Tin (Eric) – Year 6

Eric is a positive role model for all students to follow. He is very attentive to his studies, always makes effort to contribute to class discussions, and has a sense of humor. Eric participates in all classroom activities and offers to assist his peers who may struggle with a lesson. His ambition, coupled with his athletic abilities, display characteristics of a true SIS student.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

