



SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL  
Since 1986

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

## 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.

## Principal's News

Dear Parents and Students,

## STAFFING

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Mr. Michael Ogden has been promoted to interim deputy principal till the end of the school year.

I would also like to welcome Dr Alexander McGregor to our SIS family. Dr. McGregor replaces Mr. Bruno Giegerich and teaches Global Perspectives and Social Studies.



## ORIGAMI COMPETITION

As mentioned in my previous newsletter we ended our term with a fun origami competition. Many creative, exciting origami shapes were entered into the competition.

The winners of this competition were as follows:

- ◆ Two third prizes went to Minh Anh of 2B and Trieu An of 6LB;
- ◆ Two second prizes went Thuy Anh and Trieu An from ASL and 6LB and Xuan Bach of 6A;
- ◆ Two first prizes went to Nguyen Dang Bao Hoang from 6B and Dae Hoon from 6LA.

Congratulations go to all our students who participated.

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thank you very much for attending our parent-teacher conferences on Wednesday the 20th and Thursday the 21st of February.

Please note the total attendance of Parents:

- ◆ Secondary and High School International classes: 67%
- ◆ Integrated Secondary classes: 64%
- ◆ Primary School International classes: 92%
- ◆ Primary School Integrated classes: 86%

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At Singapore International School we seek to nurture students who are:

- **Academic Achievers**
- **Confident Communicators**
- **Critical Thinkers**
- **Technologically literate**
- **Active and Responsible citizens**



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*Peer tutoring is good for both the student and the tutor!*



*A tutor and a student labeling a world map.*



*Even our high school students benefit from peer tutoring*

The report cards that were not collected by parents have now been given to the students for your convenience.

If you did not get time to meet with your child's teachers, please schedule a mutually convenient time with them to meet.

### **PEER TUTORING**

I'm happy to report that the Gamuda Gardens Peer Tutoring Program continues to meet twice a week.

Under the supervision of Mr Grant, student leaders chosen for their good personal qualities, academic achievement and desire to participate in the school community tutor younger students in a range of English-language subjects. The Peer Tutoring Program helps build bonds between students of different ages and classes and helps all students reach their full potential. For the tutors, participation allows them the chance to build important leadership skills that will help them throughout their lives.

Should your child need additional help, please ask them to contact Mr Brett Grant or speak to their form teachers about the very valuable program we offer.

### **MUN (Model United Nation)**

Our MUN delegates: Nghiem Minh Quang, Kim Sung Jun, Lee Da Hyeon, Lee Yeo Yeong, Kim Ji Woo, Nguyen Phan Ha Anh and Nguyen Minh Ngoc participated in the International School of Vietnam's first MUN conference this month.

Their ability to debate and use their critical thinking skills have proven that they are worthy delegates. They did us proud and we look forward to the MUN conference at UNIS on the 28th of February to the 2nd of March.

### **ISA Examinations**

The Year 3 and Year 5 students sat the ISA examinations in order to benchmark our standards against the world. We look forward to receiving these results in September.

### **MOCK Examinations**

Our IGCSE, AS and A-level students will start writing their MOCK examinations in March to prepare them for the upcoming Cambridge examinations. Please encourage your children to get enough rest, be well prepared and revise all the work they have not yet mastered.

### **SPELLING BEE COMPETITION**

I'm excited to announce that our student events committee is organizing a spelling bee competition this term and the finals will be held in the MPH on the following days:

Primary: 1st Period, Monday 11th March.

Secondary: 1st Period, Tuesday 12th March.

High School: 1st Period, Wednesday 13th March.

We look forward to announcing the winners in our next newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns or suggestions. I am available at [lorraine.els@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn](mailto:lorraine.els@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn)

**Kind Regards,**  
Lorraine Els



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Our SIS MUN team with Ms. Kim Scott

### Message from Acting Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

I am very grateful that I have been given the opportunity to work as the acting Deputy Principal here at SIS Gamuda Gardens. I will still be available as the counsellor so please feel free to contact me if there is any matter I can assist with.



In the upcoming term, we will be taking some time to talk to our high school students about subject selection and what career paths these subjects can lead to. If you would like to spend some time at home looking into career options with your child there are many interesting sites that can guide your decision making such as the Holland Interest Code and the Happenstance Learning Theory. A Google search will provide much information about these two topics on career choice. If you are unsure about what subjects to choose or would like to discuss the two mentioned career theories please feel free to contact me via email at: [Michael.ogden@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn](mailto:Michael.ogden@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn) or call the front office to set up a time to meet in person.

Regards,  
**Michael Ogden**

### Message from Primary Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

After the two-week break, Primary staff and students came back rested and ready to begin Semester 2/Term 3. We welcome new teacher, Ms. Nicole Ware to Year 2 Integrated.



Students in Years 3 and 5 took the International Schools Assessment in math, reading and writing. Results are scored by the testing company, and this will take some months. Parent/Teacher Conferences were held 20 and 21 February; thank you for attending and your support of both your children and our school. If you did not have a chance to meet with your child's teacher(s), please feel free to set up an appointment at your convenience.

Many Primary classes visited Pegasus International College the end of January and in February to make doughnuts, dumplings and milk tea. The Primary Library book collection is growing! Please encourage your children to read for pleasure every evening in English and their mother tongue. Students can visit the library in the C Building before school, at morning break and during lunch, along with their weekly regularly scheduled library period with their English teachers.

Kind Regards,  
**Julie Schaefer**



Our students hard at work at the MUN



Lee Yeo Yeong and Kim Ji Woo giving the speech at the MUN conference at ISV



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### Message from SVIS Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and our beloved students,

We are delighted to welcome all the students who are returning to school after celebrating Tet Holiday with their family and relatives.

We are also happy to inform you that from the first school day after Tet holiday, students have put a lot of effort into learning, follow the school regulations and commitment from which they signed at the beginning of the school year before the Lunar New Year holiday. The agreement was that they need to keep the school safe and be an elegant civilized student.



In particular, the students from Primary and Secondary School have set aside a small amount of money to contribute to the Center for Disabled War Veteran in Ha Nam, where in June of every year, our teachers and students come together and bring the gifts to the wounded soldiers during the French and American War. Those are the people who have devoted their youth and blood for Independence, Freedom, and Peace of Vietnam.

Also in February, the SVIS teachers have held the Spring Teaching Carnival, in order to constantly improve the quality of our teaching methods, meeting the requirements of innovation, comprehensive and extensive integration of education.

The weather after the New Year changes erratically! We hope you pay attention to keep your child warm for cold weather days, ensure good health for them to study and play safely at school!

We sincerely thank you for doing full health check-up for children, supporting the school to ensure 100% of integrated students have a health examination, detect the disease and figure the appropriate treatment on time.

We are extremely grateful to you who have attended the Parent Teacher Conference, contributed and shared ideas to the school.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns or suggestions. Please email me on:

[nghi.duongthanh@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn](mailto:nghi.duongthanh@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn)

Regards,

**Duong Thanh Nghi**



*Student working on a Spring Teaching Carnival with Mr. Duy*



*Group work is a great way to learn.*



*Mrs. Tho giving our student a music lesson in the Spring Teaching carnival.*





*Our KIK students engaged in ART activities*



*KIK students learning how to improve their coordination skills*



*KIK students exploring in school grounds for their science projects*

### Message from KIK Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and our beloved students,

I hope that parents and our dear students have had a peaceful and happy Tet holiday with their beloved family.

A greeting for a new year is also a wish for HEALTH, LUCK and SUCCESS to all Parents and students in 2019



After a Tet holiday our students have returned to school with excitement for a new term. The children seem to have grown much bigger and listen well to their teachers. The children are excited to talk about the activities they did during the Tet holiday with their parents as they went out and received a lot of wishes from their grandparents and relatives

At school, the children also learn about the seasons in the year, being guided by teachers to discover green trees and flowers in their schools. Everyone is very excited and eager to be immersed in nature, to feel the atmosphere of Spring.

Time has passed quickly, the students have gone halfway through the journey as they already finished 2 terms and now they are excited to prepare for the next busy and interesting term at. Our teachers have reviewed all the lesson that their children were taught, and they have tests in areas such as English, Maths, Literature, Social skills and computer skills or their knowledge about Vietnamese programs. All of the results as well as the comment on your child's learning will be shown on the report cards, which will be given to you during Parent-Teacher Conference. The conference will be held from February 25 to March 1. We hope you will be pleased with the efforts and progress of both students and teacher from Kinderworld International Kindergarten.

Should you have any concerns, questions, or wish to make comments, discussions or suggestion, please feel free to contact me via my email:

thuy.vuthi@gamudagardens.kinderworld.edu.vn.

Regards,

**Vu Thi Thuy**



Year 4-6 basketball game vs SIS@Ciputra



Year 4-6 football game vs SIS@Ciputra



### Message from Head of Studies (Primary)

Dear Primary School Parents and Students,

Term 3 is off to a flying start and it is great to see so many excited young learners enjoying their time at school here at SIS@Gamuda Gardens.



Thank you to all parents who participated in the Parent Teacher Interviews (PTIs) recently. It is a good opportunity to meet with your child's teachers and to hear firsthand how your child is progressing at school. It is also an important time for your teachers to get to know and understand you better and work **with YOU**, your child's "first and most important teacher." PTIs send a positive message to your children that you are genuinely concerned about their progress, aspirations and opportunities for their future. Parents who are actively interested in and supportive of school programs such as PTIs make a valuable contribution to the life of our school and the future of all our children. School reports showed that we have some excellent students across our Primary School with many students working hard and producing quality results. Let's all strive to maintain the success we are seeing in our student results.

Always feel free to contact me if you need help.

Regards,  
**Dr. Noel Geoghegan**

### Message from Head of Studies (International Secondary)

Dear Parents and Students,

We are entering an important period in our school calendar. After the consecutive holidays of Christmas and Tet as well as examinations, we are now well and truly back into the school routine. It is good to see so many positive reports of things going on in school.



After school activities will start again soon and I would strongly encourage students to join a club that they think they will find interesting. Academics are important but here at SIS we really want our students to become well rounded, global citizens who take part in things such as sports, debating etc. We have had many excellent experiences in these areas such as football and basketball fixtures against other schools, as well as a debate competition held at Olympia School.

As we move forward in semester two, we realise that time really does go quickly and exams will be here before we know it. I challenge all of our students to stay focused and give themselves the best chance of performing well this semester.

Kind Regards  
**Sean Stokes**



**Message from Head of Studies (Integrated Secondary)**

Dear Parents and Students,

It was a pleasure getting to meet so many of you again during the Parent/Teacher conferences. It was great to see so many parents take a keen interest in your child's education. Please also remember that if you have any questions for you teachers to feel free to contact them at any time to arrange a meeting to discuss how your child can continue to do well or what can be done to improve lower than hoped for grades.

We will soon be starting our Outward Bound trips to Halong Bay. I'm sure all of the students will have a great time and I hope I get the opportunity to join them to see more of your beautiful country.

Please be aware that we will be starting our rehearsals for the end of year show. I'm really looking forward to seeing the show and seeing all of the children having an opportunity to express themselves through song and dance.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions or concerns about your son or daughter.

Sincerely,  
**Paul McKenney**

**Message from Head of Studies (High School)**

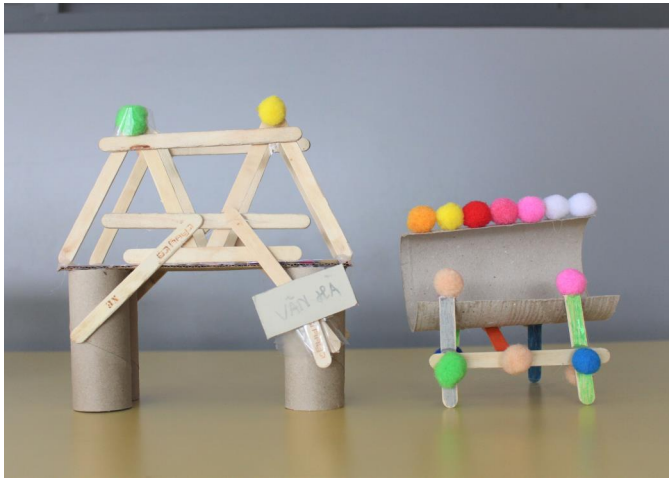
Dear Parents and Students,

This term is a milestone for many of our exam-year students as they have now almost completed their IGCSE and AS/A Level coursework. In order to prepare your son/daughter for their Cambridge exams, we will be hosting Mock Exams from March 4th - March 19th.

These exams are the same standard and given under the same conditions as the real exams. This is designed to offer the students a practice run of all the exam papers they will take in May/June. It gives the students the opportunity to see how they would currently score on the real exam and to help highlight any problem areas on which they should concentrate their study for the last remaining weeks before they sit the actual exams.

Please encourage your son/daughter to take these exams seriously and to study and get plenty of sleep before the tests. They should also make sure they eat breakfast in the morning so that they are energized and set-up for success. Good luck to all of our IGCSE 2, AS and A Level students!

Regards,  
**Erin Roetker**



*Year 8 International students working on a STEM project*



*Our first ever cheerleading team with our Principal*

