

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ VAN PHUC NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

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Upcoming Important Dates:

29 – 30 September – ISA testing for Y4 and Y6 students

1 October – Moon Festival

14 October – STEM Day

15 – 16 October – Term 1 holiday

21/22 October – KIK Parent Information Evening

27/28 October – SIS Parent-Teacher Conferences

31 October – Halloween



Mr. Benjamin Burns – Deputy Principal

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are fast approaching the end of Term one, which ends on Wednesday, October 14th, and I am happy to report about the exciting things that have been taking place around our school. The teachers have been working with their students on some great STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) based projects, in preparation for STEM day on October 14th. Students have been completing a number of class-based assessments, which will help inform the Term One Progress Reports that will be sent home to parents in Week 1 of Term 2 (the week of 19th of October). We will be conducting parent-teacher interviews in Week 2 of Term 2, so should you wish, you can come to school to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) to discuss their progress.

With Term Two approaching, we look forward to introducing some fun and exciting After School Activities for our students to enjoy, so look out for the notification in the next few weeks. In other news, we are very excited to welcome Mr. Benjamin Burns, our new Deputy Principal, who joined us on Monday, the 28th of September.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to you, parents, for your continued support during these past two months. I know the restrictions from the authorities have made things more challenging at school, especially during the drop-off and pick-up times, but we appreciate your patience as we navigate through the weeks and do all we can to ensure the health, safety and well-being of your child(ren) and our students. As always, should you have any questions, concerns or feedback, then please do not hesitate to contact myself or our wonderful office team, and we will be more than happy to answer these for you, or to meet with you and discuss these further.

Best wishes,
Mr. Paul

Message from the Deputy Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I received at SIS Van Phuc. Our students, teachers and staff have made me feel at right at home and I am looking forward to getting to know all of the members of our school community in the upcoming weeks and months.

I'm delighted to finally be here and to join you all as the newest member of the SIS family. I look forward to contributing positively to your children's education and to being a part of our school's continued growth.

Best regards,
Mr. Benjamin

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Fire Drill

This month we had our first practice Fire Drill in order to be prepared for a real emergency. Children used both internal and the fire escape stairs so we could exit the building quickly. We were able to evacuate all of the students and staff in record time. In the event of a real emergency, the students will be taken off of the property to assemble in Pho Van Phuc near the Japanese Embassy. Children will NOT need to cross any streets to safely assemble there.



Students participating in the Fire Drill

STEM Day

As part of the SIS curriculum, students study STEM once per week. On October 14th, we will have our first STEM day of the year, where students and classes can showcase the STEM projects that they have been busy working on this term. STEM projects are inquiry-based and incorporate the learning domains of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Many STEM lessons involve building models and simulating situations. Students are encouraged to ask questions about their projects that may change the outcome or results. A good STEM lesson ensures that students understand the concept and the connection to the real world. We look forward to seeing some excellent projects!



Class 1L demonstrating high and low notes with scarf movement set to *Carnival of the Animals: Aquarium*



Minh Khoi in 5L feeling proud of his model lung

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DynEd

The DynEd system of teaching is designed to increase English proficiency levels through mimicking the natural way of learning English – At first through listening, speaking and repetition, followed by reading and writing.

With the introduction of DynEd at school, our Year 3-6 students have been working twice weekly with the programme at school. To ensure that students get the full benefit of the programme and to help accelerate their English level, students are encouraged to spend 15 minutes each day at home on the programme.

We ask that you please support your children to take advantage of this excellent resource to build their English proficiency. Teachers have provided each student with their specific login details. If you do have any questions then please contact your teacher for assistance.



Y4L Students completing a Geography lesson in the Library. They are searching for specific countries on the continent of Asia

The KinderWorld Teaching Model in Action

The KinderWorld Teaching Model is a research based initiative that is designed to dramatically improve student achievement. In the photo below, the students are all answering the question on their whiteboards and holding it up for the teacher to see. Rather than asking individual students, by having students answer this way, the teacher can see who understands what is being taught and who needs further support.



Y3L Students studying the 5 types of vertebrates



Y4C Students Practicing for their Virtues Play

The month of September class 4C spent their time rehearsing a play about the virtue of the week; integrity. They loved practicing and playing the characters and we're really pleased with the end result. We also looked at buoyancy in STEM and made rafts using different materials. Some floated well, others, not so much....

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KIK

In September KIK students have been engaging in many different activities in each learning area such as: STEM, Maths, Language & Literacy, Art & Craft, Music, PE, Social Virtues and Vietnamese. The children had a lot of fun making Moon Cakes and celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival. Please check your child's ClassDojo page for photos of the students engaged in these activities. We are glad to see how much children enjoy school each day. October is coming and we are so excited and ready for our new theme & activities. Please check the Upcoming Important Dates for forthcoming events and important dates in October.



STEM K2 – Giraffe class

We had so much fun with our STEM lesson called "Sensory Walking Path" activity



Prep Bumblebee students doing the 'Stacking Challenge' for STEM – Students worked in small groups to make the tallest structure in 2 minutes. Students, by nature, are creative thinkers and the STEM challenges tap into this creative mind. This allows amazing things to happen!



Prep Cheetah – Mask painting is one of our interesting activities to celebrate Moon Festival.



Nursery - Lion class enjoyed making lantern to decorate our classroom for Moon festival.



K1 – Math lesson
Students learning about Day and Night



Pre Nursery – Parrot. Sensory play is very important for all children. We have learned how to make different kinds of sensory bottles and loved playing with them.