



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

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,

Term 2 is well underway and we are delighted with the way in which the students have returned to school. They have shown great enthusiasm and an excellent attitude for learning and we are sure that they will have a fantastic term ahead.



SPORTS CARNIVAL

We ended Term 1 with sports carnivals; our students were excited, displayed great team spirit and participated eagerly in all the activities; student laughter and encouragement were heard from the field and in the multi-purpose hall. Thanks go to our very competent PE department, for arranging these events, our students from K to A-levels really enjoyed the activities, which are evident from the inserted photos.

The results of this wonderful carnival were as follows:

Red Dragons - 142 points
Yellow/Gold Aakor - 144 points
Black Phoenix - 160 points

We look forward to the continued competitive activities which will be held during the school year.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thank you very much for attending our parent-teacher conferences, during the last week of Term 1. We were very happy with the following high turnout:

95% of our Primary school parents,
75% of our International Secondary to High School parents, and
76% of our Integrated Year 6 - Year 9, met with their child's teachers.

We value the time and the effort you take to support your child and our school.

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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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The SIS community welcomed parents to attend parent—teacher conferences

NEW STAFF MEMBER:

We are excited and happy to welcome Ms Julie Schaefer, who is employed as our new K-Year 5 Deputy Principal. Ms Julie is from America and has many years of international teaching and coaching experience. We are sure she is going to love our SIS family.

Term two has started and is already jam-packed with activities. Clubs and activities started on Monday the 29th, so please support your child to ensure they maintain healthy bodies and healthy minds. Our Year 4 and Year 5 students will be the first group of students to start our Outward Bound program for the year. We will be holding an information sharing session for these parents very soon.

Students and staff are busily preparing for the Semester 1 examinations, so please support your child by continually asking them questions regarding the ToS's.

UNIFORM

During Term 2 we will see the weather change and students will start to wear the Winter Uniform which includes:

Male Students

- School long grey pants
- School pullover or jumper with logo
- School tracksuit pants (grey)
- School windbreaker jacket with logo

Female Students

- School grey skirts with grey tights
Or School long grey pants
- School pullover or jumper with logo
- School tracksuit pants (grey)
- School windbreaker jacket with logo

Please support us in getting your child dressed in the correct school uniform.

SPORTS

Our basketball teams played against ISV. Our boys' team played a hard, exciting match and managed to just beat their opponents. The girls' played equally hard and unfortunately were just defeated. However, it's not always about winning, it's about working as a team and enjoying the team spirit! I thank the coaches for the long hours they spent with our students, and you, parents, for your continued support.

HALLOWEEN

We ended October with the Halloween theme and many of our primary school students wore great, colourful, frightening, Halloween costumes. The KIK came trick or treating to my office which was more of a treat for me. Thank you parents, for helping your child be part of the fun activities offered at SIS @ Gamuda Gardens. We continue to value your input, so please feel free to drop me an email or stop by my office for a quick discussion, comment or suggestion.

Warm regards
Lorraine Els



Parents received student reports for Term 1



Teachers and parents communicated regarding student progress



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A meeting between Ms. Flavin and Parents



A meeting between Dr Noel Geoghegan and Parents



A meeting between Ms. Van and Parents

Message from Secondary Deputy Principal

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Some fabulous developments about to occur in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering Art & Mathematics) or STEM this term as we start to implement a programme for helping make kids far more environmentally aware especially around plastics and their impact on the environment.



Recently several of our staff including myself were given an opportunity to attend a professional development course with a well renowned STEM expert from the UK Mr Alan West MBE. This was a fabulous course to help us produce ideas and gain a deeper understanding of why Kinder- World has a major emphasis in STEM. ALL teachers will be implementing a STEM component in their lessons every term and will subsequently enthuse students towards this vital field of modern development.

In our case we are going to implement this schoolwide this term. That means every child will be exposed to this issue from kindergarten to senior levels about what plastics are and what their major impacts are on our environment. We will aim to educate students to REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE regarding environmental awareness and protection.

As well as this, the Student Council should lead the way with a plastics recycling campaign in our school and senior students may interact with local recycling groups in nearby villages as an act of community service.

I would encourage all parents to support us in this by leading your child with why they should not waste and encourage them to help the local programmes for recycling in Hanoi as much as possible.

Kind regards,
John Roydon Barratt



Captain the Flag during Sport Festival



The Egg and Spoon Race during Sport Festival



Sack Race during Sport Festival

Message from Primary Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Students,



I would like to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Julie Schaefer and I am excited to be at SIS as the new Deputy Principal of Primary. I come from Phoenix, Arizona, USA. Arizona is the state best known for the natural wonder, the Grand Canyon. I am married and have two grown sons who both live in the USA.

My experience in education spans almost twenty-five years. I have worked in the USA as well as Germany, Hungary and Albania. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, and a Master of Arts degree in English. I have taught at primary and secondary levels and have worked extensively with teachers on improving classroom instructional practice through observation, coaching and professional development.

I am excited to share my experience with the SIS faculty and students, as well as getting to know the school community.

Regards,
Julie Schaefer

Message from Guidance Officer

Dear Parents and Students,



Much occurred over the course of Term one. Senior students from Singapore International School attended the first Viet Sing Swing university fair in Hanoi. Ms Roetker and I held a life skills class for the senior students and we had a very successful sports carnival to celebrate the end of term one.

In term two we will be continuing with our Coffee with the Counselor sessions. The first one will be held in the upcoming weeks and will focus on a brief introduction about my role here at SIS Gamuda Gardens and we will also take a look at employability after university.

I hope to see you all there!

Regards,
Michael Ogden



Message from SVIS Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and Students,

Term one of the 2018-2019 school year finished successfully. We highly appreciate the effort and achievements made by our teachers and students during the first term. The teachers have been encouraging their students to perform to high standards and they were involved in many activities such as; the Opening Ceremony, the Monthly Project, the Mid-Autumn Festival, the Sports Day and Parent Teacher Interviews. On top of this, they still had to complete their normal teaching, study projects and curricular activities in the first ten weeks of this school year.



Term 2 has started and is already in full swing. During the month of November and December, we will be placing a lot of emphasis on teaching, learning and revising for the first semester exam

To help students get the best result in the first semester exam, we encourage parents not to plan any holidays till **after** the students have finished their semester examinations. Parents please remind your children to finish their homework, review their work from the day past and prepare for their lessons ahead of time. However, to maintain a good balance in life, please set aside time for relaxing at home and make sure your children go to sleep early so they establish good habits in order to promote healthy students, ready to learn and able to perform to the best of their ability in their semester exam.

Schedule for Semester exam at SVIS as per below:

- Primary school (Grade 1 – 5): from 3rd to 12th December 2018
- Secondary school (Grade 6 – 9): from 26th November to 7th December 2018

Please feel free to email me anytime as I look forward to hearing from parents with any suggestions or issues they may face or need clarification on at: nghi.duongthanh@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn .

Regards,
Duong Thanh Nghi



Students and teachers before the shift competition



Our students enjoy the football match during Sport Festival



Obstacle Race Sport Festival



Message from KIK Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and Students,

Time is flying fast, and we didn't even realize that Term One is over. Teachers and students created many wonderful memories during Term One. Our students are growing day by day, whilst interacting and getting along with their friends and teachers.

In October, our students had the opportunity to participate in the Sport carnivals at school. All students from Nursery to Prep were excited and participated eagerly in many activities. They enjoyed various activities such as the sack race, running, the egg and spoon race, and many more fabulous events.

During Term One, SIS @ Gamuda Gardens organized many other interesting activities for students, the most favorite excursions were: The Nursery – Nemo class who went to Playtime at Vincom Center, while the K1 – Dolphin class spent time at TiniWorld at Aeon mall Long Bien.

Our little students started exploring the world around them as they took part in the activities, during the excursion. They are gradually understanding the lessons around our term theme on virtue on how to play together in a nice way, and listening and sharing.

The K2 – Starfish class was excited when they went to Canh Buom Xanh Park, where they had fun on the grass slide, played with water balls, visited the dinosaur park and walked around the grass maze, whilst the Prep – Shark class participated in the PE training session at The Little Gym, in Times City. There they exercised to increase their durability and flexibility and also concentrated on the ability to maintain their balance. These simple excursion trips helped build unforgettable memories for our students.

At this time, Halloween ambience has been around the school, and all teachers and students prepared well and had an amazing fun time as they went trick and treating around the school..

NEW CLASS

I am also glad to inform you that from Term Two, we started another K2 class—Jellyfish, therefore we would like to welcome the class teachers – Ms. Nguyen Lan Anh and Ms. Vu Mai Phuong. We wish the teachers and students in Jellyfish class a successful term ahead. We would also like to welcome Ms. Julie Schaefer, the new Deputy Principal of Kindergarten and Primary School.

We look forward to your continued support in Term 2.

For any comments, discussions or suggestion, please feel free to contact me via email on thuy.vuthi@gamudagardens.kinderworld.edu.vn.

Regards,
Vu Thi Thuy



Our football team



Our students are working towards being professional players



Our football teams with their coaches





Assembly during Halloween Day



One of the wonderfully decorated doors in Halloween Day



"Trick or Trear" - a traditional game played during Halloween

Message from Head of Studies (Primary)

Dear Primary School Parents and Students,

Feedback from our October PTCs indicated that our Primary School is doing well providing productive classroom learning experiences and teaching programmes. As we are always looking to improve school practice, please talk further with your teachers and discuss what you would like to see in the Primary School programmes. We certainly appreciate your feedback.



Term 2 is under way and we now look towards semester 1 Singapore exams at the end of term. Exams begin straight after the Christmas holiday break in the first week of January 2019 so now is a good time to start planning revision at home. Exams will assess all the work from term 1 and term 2. Exam revision should be organized at home as holiday and weekend activities especially as we get closer to the Christmas break. Please refer to the document, "Table of Specifications" that was sent home earlier for exam details. If you need more information, please don't hesitate to contact me or your class teacher.

Regards,
Dr. Noel Geoghegan

Message from Head of Studies (International Secondary)

Dear Parents and Students,

We are back at school for Term two after a refreshing break that enabled both teachers and students to reflect on what was a successful Term One at SIS Gamuda.

As we look forward to this term, students should be in the correct frame of mind and fully integrated into their new levels. We have an eight week stint, followed by the two week Christmas and New Year holiday and then, once we get back, Semester 1 exams will take place from 2nd – 11th January.



It is vital that students stay focused in class during this important time to ensure the best chance of success. Homework should be done on time and classwork should be completed diligently.

Extra-curricular clubs will once again be up and running in the second week of term and I am looking forward to seeing even more students taking part in the various activities that we offer.

Kind Regards
Sean Stokes





Our KIK students engaged in a Halloween activities



Scary but cute

Message from Head of Studies (Integrated Secondary)

Dear Parents and Students,

We had a very successful parent/teacher conference and it was a pleasure getting the opportunity to meet so many of you. It's great to see so many parents taking an interest in their child's education and wanting to know what they can do to support them.



This kind of dedication from home shows me that the parents understand the importance of a good education and that learning does not begin and end at the school. Home life plays a very important part in a student being successful.

Please remember to actively encourage your child on a daily basis. It's also wonderful to encourage your child to read at home. Reading not only strengthens English skills, but it also strengthens imagination and creativity.

Reading allows a child to imagine everything that is happening and gets them thinking about what may happen next and what kind of twists and turns the plot may have. Reading unlocks a part of a child's soul that is truly beneficial to learning.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and is ready for a great Term Two

Sincerely,
Paul McKenney

Message from Head of Studies (High School)

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to term two! This is a crucial term for your child's education as we have semester 1 exams at the end of this term. I would like to acknowledge all of the hard work I have seen around campus from both students and teachers alike in term one.



Additionally, there was a lot of positive feedback from the parent-teacher conferences that were held two weeks ago. Thank you to all of the parents and family who came out to meet with us. We appreciate your dedication to your child's education.

Regards,
Erin Roetker



Students receiving their class monitor badges

