



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

# NEWSLETTER

May / June 2020

## 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.

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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**

## Principal's News

Dear Parents,

The end of the year has finally arrived!

### COVID and ONLINE LEARNING

Upon reflecting on the past couple of months, students, teachers, parents and all stakeholders of our school were faced with tremendous anxiety and pressure. The authorities ruled that students were not permitted to attend classes. Every week, we were waiting in trepidation and anticipation hoping for our students to return to school, but we were disappointed, week after week.

We had to quickly devise a plan to teach our students and cover the content of the curriculum. Teaching and learning had to continue! Our staff and students hastily purchased, begged and borrowed iPads, laptops and PC's in order to connect online, and staff started with virtual learning by teaching online through Microsoft TEAMS.

I'm so proud of our students and staff. Online learning became a way of life for all, and staff recorded all of their lessons, so students could review if they were unable to attend. Assignments were uploaded and teaching and learning continued.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support and cooperation in supporting your children and the staff during this time.

We can proudly say, "We survived the COVID pandemic!"

### Return to school

There was a smooth transition back to school and I am proud of our students and staff. We continued to maintain high health and safety standards and followed the protocol to ensure that our students remained healthy. Every morning, our students sanitized their hands and had their temperatures taken. Students did not have to continue wearing their masks in class but were welcome



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*SVIS Awards Ceremony, Le Viet and Nguyen Ngoc Linh were the MC's for this event. They are well-spoken and did an excellent job! You make us so proud!*



*We are proud of our SVIS Secondary School high achievers. Well done students!*



*We are proud of our SVIS Primary school high achievers. Well done students!*

to if they chose to do so. Students were expected to wear their masks when they arrived and left the school. We are hoping by the time we start the next school year in August that this is no longer necessary.

### **SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

Students produced some excellent results in the Semester 2 examinations.

132 merit awards were issued, which proves that the high standard and expectations were met, despite the challenges we faced. I'm very proud of our students and staff. Well done to everyone.

### **CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATIONS**

As you know, CIE cancelled all Cambridge examinations due to the COVID-19. Our school sent the evidence and results to Cambridge, which they are moderating. The results for our IGCSE2, AS and A-level students will be published in August and the Cambridge certificates will be available mid-October.

### **REPORT CARDS AND YEARBOOKS**

Our students, from KIK to IGCSE1 received a copy of their report cards and all students received their yearbooks and their photographs, on the last day of school. Please make sure you ask your child for these.

### **GRADUATION FOR A-LEVEL, GAC AND PREP**

On Thursday the 25th we celebrated and acknowledged our graduates and academic achievers. The video will be sent to you as soon as we receive it. Congratulations go to the recipients of these awards. Parents both you and I are very proud of your children! Please find the attached the names of the award winners.

### **STAFFING**

As per every year, we have to say goodbye to some of our staff and wish them all the best wherever they are going.

A special thanks go to Madam Nghi, our Principal of SVIS. She has been with our school for many years and is now heading off for retirement. We wish her a wonderful retirement and hope she enjoys sleeping in, having time for her hobbies and enjoying her grandchildren. Thank you Madam Nghi for your service to our school, you will be missed.

I wish you all a wonderful relaxing holiday. Stay safe and we look forward to welcoming your children back to school on the 3rd of August.

Kind Regards,  
**Lorraine Els**



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*Our Year 9 students celebrated their last year of secondary school. Next year they go to IGCSE1 or rejoin a Vietnamese school. We wish them all the best.*



*Year 9 girls in their traditional Ao Dai.*



*Nothing like a STEM competition to end the school year. Students enjoyed this activity and were excited to see whose rocket could go the farthest.*

### Message from Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

It has been a very challenging past few months! We have been incredibly lucky with the way the health crisis was handled by the government and that life has returned to normal so quickly. With schools reopened and classes continuing it's been wonderful to see all the students back in the classroom and continuing with their education face-to-face. I believe that the time spent in lockdown has given us all a newfound appreciation for the social interaction we experience on a daily basis in our school.



With the school year drawing to a close and our awards distributed, I would like to say a big well done to all of our students for doing their best this school year! I am looking forward to seeing everyone in August after a much-needed break!

Kind Regards,  
**Michael Ogden**

### Message from KIK Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

This last year has seen KIK and the Primary School grow in both numbers and stature. The new enrolments for the school are showing strong growth and we are proud that so many new families are joining the SIS@Gamuda Gardens community. We also are proud of our teachers who have done an excellent job this year developing the young minds and hearts of our students. During the COVID-19 school closure when online teaching was necessary, KIK and Primary School teachers applied themselves diligently and showed remarkable resilience and tenacity to ensure no student would be disadvantaged. The priority was always to keep our children learning. Now, everyone is looking forward to a relaxing holiday break, and deservedly so. I also am pleased to be able to announce my new appointment as Primary School Principal at SIS@Ciputra. After five years at SIS@Gamuda Gardens, I am moving across town. I will miss my many Gamuda Gardens student friends and teaching colleagues. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday and as always, thank you for your continued support.



Kind regards,  
**Dr. Noel**



## Message from SVIS Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and our beloved students,

The 2019-2020 school year has passed quickly! Thanks to the dedication of both international and Vietnamese teachers, for their hard work - SVIS primary and secondary students have achieved wonderful results. On behalf of the SVIS Primary and Secondary School Board, I am glad to report on the Study Results of students as follows:



### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND BEHAVIORS

- ◇ Primary School: (172 students):
  - ⇒ 100% students achieved Pass and High Achievement in all categories of Academic Achievement, Capability and Behavior.
  - ⇒ 20 students achieved outstanding results.
- ◇ Secondary School: (162 Students):
  - ⇒ Academic Achievement: 52.5.1% of Excellent; 38.2% of Good and 9.3% of Average
  - ⇒ 19 students achieved outstanding results. They achieved a GPA of 9.3 or higher.

Below is the list of students who achieved outstanding in end of year results

No.	PRIMARY		SECONDARY		
	Student's Full name	Year		Student's full name	Year
1	Nguyễn Trường Minh	1A	21	Lê Khánh Chi	7B
2	Lê Mỹ Anh	1A	22	Phạm Thái Trà My	
3	Lê Thị Ngọc Sam	1B	23	Đặng Minh Châu	6B
4	Nguyễn Thúy Vi	1B	24	Phạm Thái Mỹ Linh	8A
5	Nguyễn Vân Hà	2A	25	Phan Thu Ngân	8B
6	Ngô Trung Lam	2A	26	Nguyễn Thị Yến Ngọc	7B
7	Vũ Nguyên Khôi	2B	27	Ngô Linh Trang	8B
8	Nguyễn Minh Anh		28	Nguyễn Minh Như Phương	7B
9	Trương Quang Minh		29	Đào Nhật Quang	7A
10	Nguyễn Linh Chi	3A	30	Nguyễn Ngọc Linh	9A
11	Hoàng Cẩm Vân Hà	3A	31	Hoàng Ngọc Thiên Phúc	8A
12	Đình Bảo Châu	3B	32	Nguyễn Duy Bảo Phúc	8A
13	Phạm Nguyễn Gia Linh	3B	33	Nguyễn Vân Trang	6A
14	Đoàn Khánh Hà	4A	34	Ninh Phan Hiền	9A
15	Nguyễn Hồ Quỳnh Trâm	4A	35	Trương Hà Anh	6B
16	Vũ Thành An	4A	36	Nguyễn Hoàng Khôi Nguyên	8A
17	Chu Công Bách	5A	37	Lê Việt	8A
18	Đỗ Việt Anh	5A	38	Nguyễn Hoàng Việt Anh	6C
19	Trương Ngọc Mai	5B	39	Lê Hưng Thịnh	7A
20	Lê Trần Phúc	5B			



*Our Scientist are hard at work and having fun in doing so!*



*Our students are enjoying their Art lesson, creativity is encouraged in our school. We have many talented students.*



*We ended our school year with a swimming gala. Our students enjoyed being in the water and showing off their talents.*

During term 3, teachers and students strictly followed preventative measures which were instructed by the Government as well as from the Ministry of Education and Training: we reduced face-to-face interaction with others and implemented social distancing which contributed to the success of Vietnam's fight against COVID-19.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all parents, who always support and cooperated with the school to support us in making sure our students are happy and always strive to continue their studies, by practicing and expanding their knowledge, understanding, sense of responsibility and sympathy for family and community!

Wishing you and all of our students a healthy and rewarding Summer vacation which is filled with joy and happiness!

Regards,  
Duong Thanh Nghi

### **Message from Student counsellor**

Hi Parents and Students,

Singapore International School of Gamuda Gardens is pleased to announce the introduction of the NCC International Foundation Diploma Program in the fall term of 2020. This highly-prized certificate will help students who wish to go on to higher education to study right here at our school The International Foundation Diploma, which will allow students to bridge the gap to universities around the world upon successful completion of this certificate. With a strong focus on academics and language development, students can continue at any number of university settings to complete a college degree. The NCC level program IFD will replace the GAC option we once offered on our campus. If you have any questions about whether this might be a possible choice for your student, please come and speak with me, Mr. Michael H Hayes, the school counsellor, for further information.



Regards,  
**Michael H. Hayes**

**Message from Head of Studies (Primary)**

Dear Primary Parents,

The end of the school year is finally here! It's been a very interesting year with students having to become much more technically literate to be able to do online learning.

Since we returned to school the students have been really happy to be able to see their friends again and spend time in classes. The students worked very hard with additional lessons at the end of the day in addition to Saturday lessons that were very draining for everyone.

It's been my pleasure meeting so many wonderful families during my time here at SIS Gamuda Gardens but I will be working at Ciputra next year.

I wish you all the best.



Regards,  
Paul McKenney

**Message from Head of Studies (Year 6)**

Dear Parents,

I want to thank you for your support during the semester exams. The exams went well and the students did a good job. The students of year 6 have finished their first year of secondary school. In 6 weeks or so, they will be in year 7, and another year of discovery will begin. They will have new experiences and challenges. I encourage the students to embrace those challenges. As long as Covid is not a problem, we will be going on OBV for 1 week, going on excursions, forming and joining clubs, exploring STEM, playing sports, and participating in school activities. I look forward to students stepping out of their comfort zones and trying new things. Please help your students take the time this summer to rest, read, exercise, and play. This will help the students come back to school at the end of the break fully refreshed and energized for a new school year.

Best Regards,  
Anthony Gear

**Message from Head of Studies (Year 7)**

Dear Parents,

We finished our swimming program in PE for primary and middle school for term 4. The primary students swam once a week and had a swimming gala at the end of June. For middle school, it was gender-segregated. We were focusing on stroke correction and learning how to swim for the beginners. Swimming is a very important skill for every child to have and it is also an excellent way to improve fitness.

Concerning the art, high school students had a display of their work in the foyer. Thank you to Mr Roberts for his help.

Unfortunately, the new sports league (HSL) stops this year earlier than expected. The league will again in September next year. We promoted football and basketball. It was great to see our students playing competitive games.



Best Regards,  
Yoann Labrue

**Message from Head of Studies (Year 8 & 9 )**

Dear Parents,

It has been a pleasure seeing vibrant students returning to school and observing their positive attitudes towards learning. I would like to thank you for your help in achieving this. Students and teachers alike are getting back into the usual rhythm of things after facing many difficult challenges during these last few months. I would also like to make use of this opportunity to congratulate all staff/ students/parents on their attitudes and success towards overcoming these challenges.



As a science teacher, I am very excited and happy to share about our extremely high-tech, state-of-the-art robotics courses that will be offered soon at our school. These courses will be available across all year levels and will for sure give students who show interest in this field a huge upper hand in experience when choosing to pursue this field as a career choice. These courses and equipment are superior to what many other competing schools are using. Students who show a keen understanding and aptitude towards robotics will have the opportunity to showcase their skills and compete in a wide variety of national/international competitions. Outstanding learners will have an opportunity to receive international recognition for this work, which will be a great addition to university applications.

I would like to also encourage students to view the Crestwards.com website to see the wide variety of bronze, silver and gold projects available to choose from. These are all projects that we will be engaging with soon. Lastly, I would like to wish all staff/students/parents a pleasant and wonderful summer break.

Kind regards,  
**Westley Venter**

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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The teachers and students have successfully adjusted back to regular school after term 3 was delivered online. What an interesting challenge! I can promise that all teachers learned new, cool websites and tools to support online learning and many are continuing to use these educational websites now that we are back in school.

Cambridge teachers have organized predicted grades and have gathered data for the cancelled June 2020 exam session. Even though we cannot share this information with you, please know we have compiled it according to Cambridge regulations. Results will be released mid-August electronically.

The GAC students are always busy at the end of the year as they have exams and assessments up until the very last week of school. They will not be receiving a report from the school for Semester 2, but instead, get full transcripts and a certificate from the GAC company. This is due to arrive at our school by mail from Singapore in August. You will be emailed and asked to come in and collect it.



Finally, I will not be returning to SIS next year after seven years of service. I am grateful for the experience and opportunities that have been given to me. I wish every one of our student's success in the future and I hope all of the families enjoy their summer break.

Regards,  
**Erin Roetker**

We ended our school year with celebrations. Congratulations go to our award winners and graduates of 2020.





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