

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021

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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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 5th February – Special TeT assembly and activities – cancelled.
- Monday 8th to Friday 19th February 2021 – TeT holidays
- Tuesday 23rd to Wednesday 24th February – ISA tests for Years 3, 5 and 7
- Monday 22nd March 2021 – World Water Day

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear SIS Parents, Caregivers, Family and Friends

Regrettably, there have been fresh outbreaks of locally transmitted CoVid-19 infections in Vietnam. Due to some cases in Binh Duong, we were forced to close the school for the week 1-5 February and commence with online learning. We remain extremely hopeful that the Health authorities will be able to contain these new infections and the spread of the virus as quickly as possible, just like they did in July/August 2020 with the Da Nang outbreak.

We hope that schools can reopen on Monday 22 February after the Lunar Year holidays and I would just like to remind parents and students of strict protocols to follow:

1. Students and parents to wear masks every day. Students will be allowed to take off masks during class time.
2. Students and parents to practice good hygiene both at home and at school, including regular hand sanitizing throughout the day.
3. The school will disinfect and clean classrooms and canteens daily as well as playground areas on a regular basis.
4. Parents are not allowed to venture into school grounds past the area cordoned off by the red retractable control barriers.
5. If parents need to visit the office, they need to collect a visitor's badge from security as well as complete some details in a book regarding their need to visit the office.

On a positive note, teachers in Kindergarten and primary school managed to complete nearly all parent-teacher meetings. We at SIS are extremely proud of the overall results achieved by our students, the reward for some hard work during semester 1.

In closing, may I take this opportunity to wish the entire SIS @BDNC community a warm, blessed Lunar New Year. May the year ahead be filled with great things and happy memories.

Chúc mừng năm mới 2021!

Thank you!
Mark Watling
Principal

PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

We have had a great start to Term 3 with our students hard at work across all their subject areas. Students have particularly enjoyed using the STEM room to explore programming and robotics. It's been great to see the joy on their faces as they discover the wonders of modern technology. The teachers have been amazing at implementing exciting lessons that have taught the students so many new ideas and skills.

The primary school is looking fantastic in preparation for Tet. Students have decorated classrooms and display boards in such a beautiful way and it is a pleasure to walk around the school and view their great work.

Please ensure your children are logging into DYNED each night to improve their English. Students from EFL and Years 1–3 can also access Raz-Kids reading from home.

Mr. Tom Dowden
Head of Studies-Primary School

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

What a wonderful start to the new term! Students are working hard and are settling into the new year and the new semester. Parent /teacher interviews have taken place and it was good to see the many parents who attended. Please collect your child's report from the front office if you have not already done so. Make an appointment to see your child's form teacher if necessary.

Our Year 6 and Year 8 students have had wonderful OBV experiences, which you will see more of in this newsletter. In the meantime, some beautiful TeT creations and decorations can be seen in the classrooms and on the fashion catwalk.

Parents will have received a DynEd report. Please look at it and the covering letter to discuss with your child. Regular use of DynEd will improve your child's success in English. If you have not already done so, please download the program (Asia server) and ensure your child practices at least 4 times a week for 15 – 20 minutes. Please provide them with a good headset and microphone so that they can record and practice their voice at home.

Ms. Caroline Mead
Deputy Principal

INTEGRATED SCHOOL REPORT

After returning to school after Christmas break, our students immediately started studying the second semester program. They seemed to have renewed energy for studying. Along with studying, the Lunar New Year was approaching and in order to prepare for the performances in the New Year Festival, the children made great efforts to create beautiful outfits for the fashion show. The students were so excited about this and are disappointed that school closed in the last week before the holidays and they were unable to show off their amazing costumes.

On the occasion of the Lunar New Year 2021, we wish you a full year of health and prosperity.

Ms. Kim Tri
HoV

HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR 2021

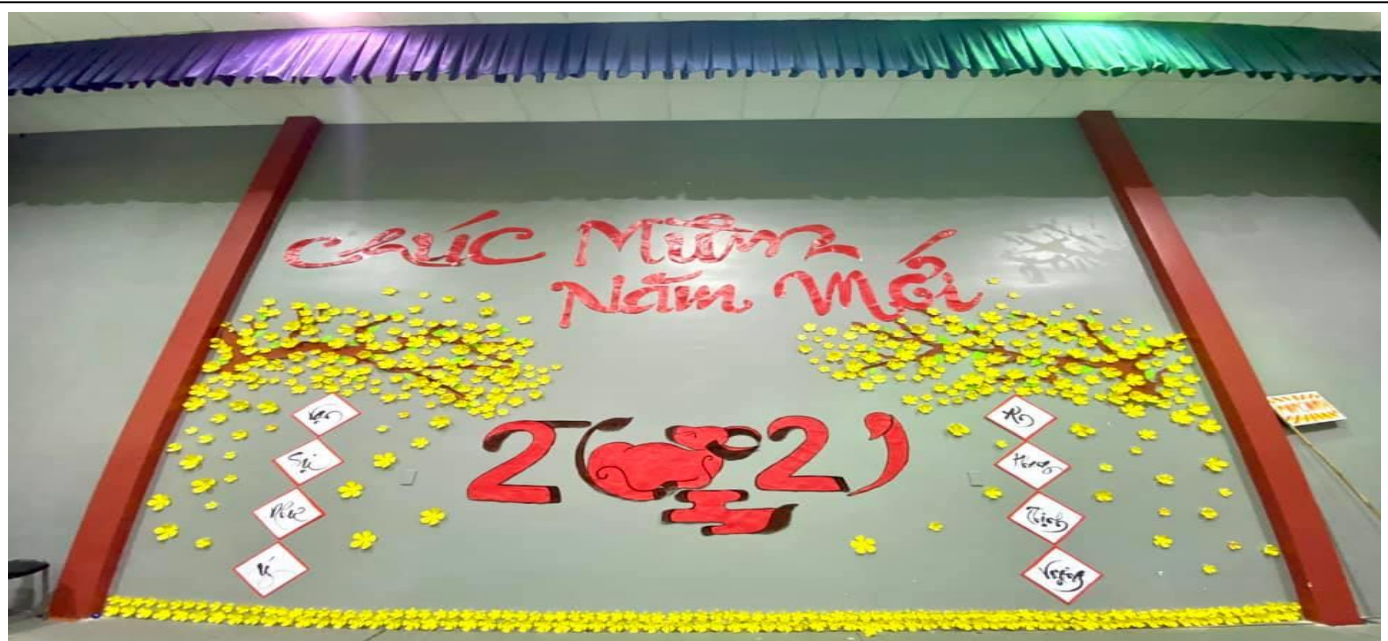
To celebrate this year's Lunar New Year, the school was beautifully decorated with yellow apricot flowers.

We were planning on celebrating this event on 5 February 2021 at the school, where students would have enjoyed some performances of KIK classes who were busy practicing for this event. Unfortunately, due to school closures, we are unable to hold these celebrations anymore, but hope to have them when school reopens.

The students from Year 1 up to IGCSE were also excited with designing their costumes from recycled materials. Each class had planned to have two or three costumes to show the talent and creativity of our lovely students. We had also intended that students would taste the Tet jam and play folk games such as the bamboo jacks, the gourd crab shrimp fish, the blind man's bluff, the skipping rope, the hopscotch, the mandarin square capturing. Hopefully these can be done once school reopens and we hope every student can still have a great day.

On this occasion, we respectfully wish your family a healthy and happy new year.

Ms. Kim Tri
HoV



DYNED

Parents of all students from Year 3 – IGCSE received a report at the end of January 2021, which clearly shows their child's progress in DynEd. Please take the time to look at the report carefully and discuss it with your child. For those students who have diligently and proactively embraced and used DynEd (both at school and at home), DynEd has already proved extremely successful in enhancing their understanding of the English language. Teachers have been amazed how much these student's work has improved over the past term. Please remind your children that DynEd must be part of their English homework, and that they are encouraged to complete a minimum of four DynEd sessions of 15 – 20 minutes each week.

OBV

During January 2021, our Year 6 and Year 8 students enjoyed their trip to Quy Nhon to experience OBV. On their trips, they participated in many different types of outdoor activities and events (including a mini Olympics), hiked through some small mountains and forests, camped overnight near the beach and Cooked their own meals. The Year 6 group also had a day of giving back to the community when they visited a disability care centre and helped them prepare food for the day as well as prepare the centre for TeT. They also got to experience the thrill of wall climbing, as well as learnt how to take care and clean outdoor equipment used during their stay at OBV. All in all, the children had a magic time and have returned with many fantastic memories and new knowledge of the outdoors.

**Staff update**

PE: Our temporary PE teacher, Ms. Denise Bosman, will leave at on the 5th February 2021. I have managed to find a replacement teacher (Mr. Rob Newson) who will join us in early March.

Chinese: Unfortunately, it has been very difficult to find Chinese teachers under the current CoVid-19 situation. Hopefully better news will follow after TeT holidays.