



SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL  
Since 1986

# NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 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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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday 1 to Friday 18 December – Christmas Charity Drive
- Wednesday 9 – Tuesday 15 December – Semester 1 Exams
- Monday 14 – Friday 18 December – Integrated Semestral exams
- Friday 18 December – Christmas Fair
- Wednesday 23 December to Monday 4 January – Winter vacation

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear SIS Parents, Caregivers, Family and Friends

November proved to be another very busy month. We celebrated big events of Halloween and Teacher's Day, and have started wrapping up our curriculum goals in preparation for some revision in our final countdown to our Semester 1 exams.

Special thanks needs to given to our teachers who organized our Halloween and Teacher's Day celebrations in ensuring that students and staff had fun days. Special thanks also to students who volunteered to become teachers for a day and allow of teachers to take a little 'rest', while still ensuring learning took place. I would also like to thank the school community for the flowers and chocolates etc. that were given to our teachers and staff. I regularly see our teachers go beyond the call of duty because they care about our students and your recognition helps to validate the good work they do.

During the last week of November we held a Literacy Week, where students got to complete some challenges and activities around reading. It was a successful and enjoyable week, culminating in a Book Fair hosted by Fahasa where students got the opportunity to buy some books at reduced prices.

Even though we have had a number of events unfolding around us with some more to come in December, we continually ensure that the focus of our school is directed on learning and preparing our students for their upcoming exams.

Coming up we have our Christmas Fair on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. Whilst students and teachers look forward to celebrating this, I remind parents that unfortunately, due to CoVid restrictions, we are unable to allow parents to join us in the activities planned.

Thank you!

Mark Watling  
Principal

### PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

Last week was book week at SIS Binh Duong and the students and teachers had a great time celebrating their love of reading. The students took part in three fantastic activities all aimed at promoting reading in the school.

Firstly, the students participated in a 'buddy reading' lesson. Students from the upper classes grouped up with a buddy from the lower classes and read to them. It was amazing to see our older students encouraging the younger students to read and get enjoyment out of books.

Secondly, students in each class were encouraged to do a presentation based on their favourite book. They used their speaking skills to give a short talk about why they loved their particular book. This was designed to teach each of the students about different kinds of books that they may have not read before.

Finally, students did a short, collaborative writing piece. This encouraged students to work together to produce a story that they could share with others. The range of different stories and the hard work that the students put in was truly inspiring.

A big thank you to our Reading and Literacy collaborative team for organising this event. It was enjoyed by all students throughout the school.

Until next time, stay safe and healthy,

Mr. Tom Dowden  
Head of Studies-Primary School

### HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

November started with belated Halloween celebrations and creative classroom decorations. A highlight was the costume parade in the Multi Purpose hall with some very creative and imaginative results!

This month also saw Teacher's Day celebrations and it was heartening to see how many parents and students showed that they valued and cared about their teachers through words, cards flowers and gifts. Thank you from the teaching staff.

Book Week saw some of the high school students reading to those in the Primary school – a special event.

Our students have been loving the new soccer field with many students (both primary and secondary) taking advantage of the slightly cooler weather to play. It has been a very welcome addition to the school.

Next week will Semester Exams happening for all of our high school International students in English, Science and Maths and for our Yr 6, 7, 8 & 9 Integrated students in English. They have been busily studying in tutorials and class time this week. We wish them all the best.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate all of the students who have been working hard in the DynEd program this month. Students should be working towards a study score of more than + 2. Parents, please continue to support the program at home. Students should be completing a minimum of 4 x 20/30 minute sessions at home as well as their classes at school each week.

Ms. Caroline Mead  
Deputy Principal

## INTEGRATED SCHOOL REPORT

All integrated students are trying their best to learn and do the school work in this special month. This month had the special day that all students show their love and thank you to all teachers. Each student participated in the beautiful handwriting contest and the writing - poetry contest about their teachers. Students wished teachers good health and happiness. Students love their teachers and they want their teacher to see the best results that they get in their exams in December. We hope that our students will have their best results in the final semester 1 exam.



Ms. Kim Tri  
HoV

## HALLOWEEN 2020

This year, Halloween Activity 2020 for KIK teachers and students at SIS Binh Duong was held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November. To prepare for the celebration, all the classes were decorated with outstanding decorations. The Halloween celebrations at our wonderful campus, although a new and unfamiliar activity to our community, has over the years become one of the most popular activities for both parents and children alike.

On the day, all our precious students with their fancy costumes and face painting, excitedly came to school earlier than usual. Then all the Hogwart's students, Calaveras, fairies, witches, super heroes, ninjas and even a spaceman gathered in the Hall for their annual catwalks. Trick or treating was replaced with Halloween songs and student-led classroom activities. Elementary students were well greeted and entertained by their high school peers for an hour in the afternoon. They participated actively in games like *Bowling*, *Mystery Box* and *Toss the ring*. We, the teachers and staff are sure that all of our beloved students had a great time together.

Mr. Will Savidge





### TEACHERS DAY 20-11-2020

The annual Teachers' Day for 2020 was recently held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November at SIS Binh Duong. The Teachers' Day is a day that represents the awareness, understanding and appreciation displayed for the vital contributions that teachers make to education and development. The special celebration was run by our talented Student Teachers who took over and taught lessons to their classmates. The program was applied to classes from Year 1 to 9, both International and Integrated. Our aim for the Student Teaching idea was basically to inspire and help students gain more confidence, build their management skills and further develop their communication skills, as well as to encourage them to say 'thank you' to teachers in the school. They coped brilliantly with that challenge. Great joy could be seen on the faces of Student Teachers while participating in the teaching time, whilst all the teachers had a chance to relax even just for a day.

In the afternoon, everyone proceeded to the Multi-purpose Hall and our creative STUCO organized some performances and activities aimed to give honor to all teachers and staff. Following which our teachers and staff were welcomed with the lovely gifts prepared by the school office. All the teachers and staff members expressed their joy and gratitude for the special day.

Ms. Lilit Gevorkyan



**Other News**

**Christmas Fair** – our Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 18 December. Unfortunately, due to CoVid-19 restrictions, parents will not be allowed to participate this year. Nevertheless, we sincerely hope the children will all still be able to have a fun filled day of activities. Watch out for communication regarding the Fair.

**Chess competition** – during October and November, Mr. Chris ran a successful chess competition and we are pleased to congratulate our Gran Champion as being ?????, with ??? achieving runner-up position. Well done to all participants. Next up an online chess event, possibly involving students from neighboring schools.

**Staff update** – In December we will say farewell to the following teachers:

Ms. Chen Muhan – Chinese. Ms. Chen has been at BDNC just over 3 years and is returning to China.

Ms. Ngoc – Year 2 Assistant Teacher. Ms. Ngoc has been at BDNC for 4.5 years and has decided to stay at home and start a family.

**SA 1 EXAMS**

Below is the SA 1 exam schedule for December 2020. Please note that Year 1 will not do exams in semester 1 and that Integrated students do not do Math and Science exams. There will also be Chinese exams during this period. A full, detailed schedule has already been sent home via the student's handbooks.

<b>Semester 1 Exams December 2020</b>		
English Paper 1	Wed-Fri 9-11 December	unspecified
English Paper 2	Thursday 10 December	105 minutes
English Paper 3	Friday 11 December	120 minutes
Mathematics 1	Monday 14 December	60 minutes
Mathematics 2	Monday 14 December	75 minutes
Science	Tuesday 15 December	105 minutes
English Paper 4	Wednesday 9 December	35 minutes

**INTEGRATED CLASSES EXAMS SEMESTER 2**

The semester 1 exams for the Integrated program will take place between Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.