



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGON SOUTH

# NEWSLETTER

May 2021

## Dear Parents,

Covid-19 recent activity has and continues to be a challenging time for all in schools and life in Vietnam.

While some classes at SIS@SS continue to learn online at home, I would like to express my sincere thanks to each and every one in the SIS@SS school community for your ongoing cooperation and support during this difficult time.

Recently our Director of Education Mr. Peter Baker forwarded a letter via email to Parents, I would like to remind all in our school community the important information he shared:

1. Schools remain closed for KIK students and staff.
2. Years 1 to 8, both Integrated and International continue to do online learning from home.
3. All students from Year 9 to A Level will switch to online learning from Friday 28 May 2021. On the Cambridge exam dates, students will go to school for exam only, and leave school immediately after the exams finish.
4. All semester 2 examinations, 1 to 9 are cancelled. Class school based assessments will replace the examinations. These have been taking place all throughout Semester 2.
5. There will be no graduation, prize giving or concert celebrations.

As stated before I will continue to update Parents, staff and students if changes do take place.

Again, your continued understanding, support and cooperation is valued and greatly appreciated.

Stay safe, healthy and positive!

Yours in learning,

**Mark Priddis – Principal**

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**Dear Parents,**

What an interesting and challenging year we are experiencing! Thankfully the authorities have been quite proactive, allowing us to remain safe and healthy.

A few notes as we near the end of AY2020-21:

- Semester Exams – as you have already been informed, the SIS internal “SA2” exams in English, mathematics and science were cancelled. While missing the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of the subjects is certainly disappointing, students will show their proficiency through multiple classroom assessments.
- Grade Reports – the week of 28 June we will send home reports which provide results from the whole year, with additional reports for DynEd and School-Wide Learner Goals.
- Yearbooks – all students enrolled for AY2020-21 will be eligible to receive a yearbook, which will be distributed early in AY2021-22.

We realize that online learning comes with certain challenges, and are greatly appreciative of your efforts in supporting your child through this process. Please know that the teachers are committed to helping all students continue on their learning journey in a positive, constructive manner. Also, the knowledge and skills they are gaining through extended technology practice will serve them well in the future.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the school office.

Respectfully,

**Robert Madden - Deputy Principal (Pedagogy Coach).**



*Singapore International School @Saigon South*

**Dear Parents and Students,**

May has been quite a busy month in this academic school year. As COVID-19 made a resurgence across the country, we moved to online learning. I am very proud of the hard work and effort of our students and staff to make it a seamless and smooth transition. The students have continued to work tirelessly despite the challenges they have faced.

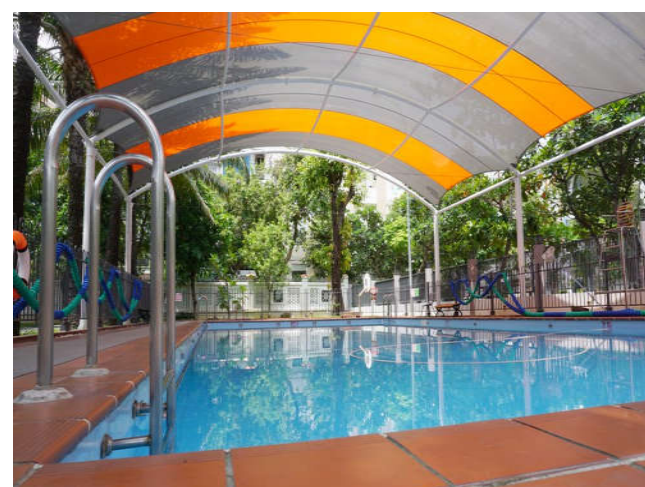
Our high school students have shown exemplary persistence on their Cambridge Exams. It is wonderful to see each student taking pride in their Academic Achievements.

I would like to say a special thank you to our Student Council Representatives that have stayed on campus to finish their exams. Despite the pressures of their studies, they have continued the Morning Announcements every day. The Morning Announcements are an important, regular part of our school day. It has helped create a sense of normalcy in the 'time of COVID' that is ever-changing.

I am continually impressed with the consistent growth and improvements our students are making in their Dyned scores. Our school-wide Weighted Study Score has steadily increased each month this year. Our students are continuing to put in great effort to improve their English Language proficiency using the Dyned programme.

As we approach the final month of this academic school year, I wish all the best to all SIS at Saigon South students on their last exams and throughout their continued online learning.

**Caroline Atkinson – Deputy Principal**



*School without students because of the Covid-19*

# CHUNG SỐNG AN TOÀN VỚI ĐẠI DỊCH COVID-19



## Dear Parents and Students,

The 2020-2021 school year is the second school year students in our country go to school with the anxiety because the COVID-19 pandemic is still spreading rapidly around the world.

All countries, from highly developed economies such as the United States, Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Germany, etc., to densely populated poor countries such as Brazil and India ... and neighboring Southeast Asian countries such as Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar are still on high-alert for the COVID-19 pandemic. ... Beginning in 2020 and ongoing to today, there are countries that still need to completely isolate their society to prevent the terrible spread of COVID -19.

Although Vietnam is a small country, it is very resilient against the pandemic. Most of the citizens strictly follow the instructions of the Government. The economy is still stable and students can continue to go to school to study.

However, the COVID-19 variant is increasingly dangerous and spreads widely. Currently, Vietnam is also fighting against the pandemic as it has re-emerged in some provinces in the North. Ho Chi Minh City has also had some positive COVID-19 cases. Therefore, schools in the city have to close and students have to apply online learning for the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

The good news is the Vietnamese program has finished SA2 exam before May 8, 2021. Parents have informed about the Academic results of their children. However, the International English Program will not be held because of the COVID-19 pandemic, International English scores will be calculated on regular tests during semester 2 and online learning from May 10, 2021 until the end of June 26, 2021. Therefore, I hope students continue to try their best while studying online to achieve good results.

Currently, all Vietnamese citizens expect all social activities to return to normal, employees can go to the office to work, students look forward to going to school to learn and have fun. To do so, **all Vietnamese people must seriously implement the 5K message (Mask - Disinfection - Distance - Do not gather - Medical declaration) to defeat the COVID-19 pandemic in the nearest time.**



School Music room

Mdm. Phung Thi Tuyet Minh  
Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies

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**Dear Parents,**

In spite of disruptions due to Covid-19, we have been able to ensure the Cambridge examinations have proceeded smoothly and on schedule. Once the examinations have finished learning will move to online, and we will continue to follow government regulations and best safety practices to ensure the continued learning and support of our students.

**Donovan Neethling - Head of Studies (High school)**



*School Laboratory room*

**Dear Parents,**

Online learning PE, is focusing on teaching our students fitness concepts, exposing students to a variety of sports, practicing healthy habits and understanding the basics of nutrition.

In an effort to keep our students more physically active (and spending less time on harmful computer screens) we encourage them to do 'Home Fitness Tests' at home during online class time. By doing 'Home Fitness Tests' we hope our students can stay motivated to be more active at home and eager to demonstrate their abilities when we all eventually return to school.

**Quinn Donovan – PE Teacher**