



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGONSOUTH

# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

**Dear parents,**

We appreciate your feedback on the recent survey. Results indicate that our parent community is quite happy with the school, as over 85% reported they are likely to recommend SIS to others.

Looking more closely at the items, you gave the highest ratings to:

1. Safety of the children
2. Quality of educational program
3. Feeling welcome
4. Helpfulness of office staff
5. Reputation of the school
6. Quality of school operations

As for improvements, you feel the items most in need of attention are:

1. Access to support for emotional and social concerns
2. Improved meal service
3. Access to academic and career guidance
4. Quality of facilities
5. Involvement in school events and celebrations
6. Subject choice

To address these concerns the following actions have already been taken or are in process:

- Delivered Social-Emotional Learning lessons during Student Protection Awareness Week
- Addition of a stir fry cooking station in the Canteen
- Implementation of the KinderWorld College and Career Education Programme for Year 8 to A Level
- Creation of a Digital Literacy Center
- Planning events that include family participation, such as the Tet Festival.
- Polled students from IGCSE2 and AS Level on their preferences for next school year

Throughout the rest of the year, we will continue to seek input on how we can improve to better meet the needs of all students & parents.

Should you have any suggestions please feel free to share with your child's teacher or make an appointment through the Office.

**Respectfully Yours,**

**Robert Madden - Principal**





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**Dear Parents,**

After Tet Holiday, students are expecting an exciting term of learning and fun. During this time, ethical topics are given to students in the assembly. They are perseverance, dynamism & civic responsibility, and honesty.

In February 2023, along with ethical educational topics, integrated students have a chance to visit the historical monument of Nga Ba Giong, My Quynh eco-tourism area on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 24, 2023. Through this tour, they will understand more about the historical event during the anti-French period of Ho Chi Minh Citizens. At the same time, they will also learn about the living and development of some animals in My Quynh eco-tourism area.

At the end of February 2023, 10 students of Year 4 and 5 Integrated will participate in the Vietnam historical musical competition in English organized by the Education Department of Binh Chanh District. The content of the musical is a story about "To Vinh Dien using his body to block the cannon". I am sure that, with the content and the actively participating in the role of the students, they will evoke their pride in the patriotic tradition of our ancestors. That is part of the School-Wide learner goal in the school mission.

**Phung Thi Tuyet Minh**  
**Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies**







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**Dear Parents,**

After the long holiday season, we welcomed a few new students to KIK and had the opportunity of discussing students' progress during Parent-Teacher Conferences. We are thankful that many of you came to share your feedback and listen to our suggestions.

We explored the theme, Animals, a fascinating one both for our younger and older KIK students expanding their knowledge about insects, the ocean and endangered animals. With the help of songs, stories, and the wonderful books of authors such as Eric Carle, we discovered the life cycle of butterflies, frogs, and birds. On the last week of February, we celebrated the author, Dr. Seuss.

Reading to your children regularly has great benefits not only creating memories and a special time with your little ones but also improving literacy skills. Follow the text with your finger pointing out words and asking your child to help you to sound out simple words. Let's read more together making our children life-long readers!

**Barbara Borbely - Head of Studies (KIK)**

**Dear Parents,**

February was a relatively quiet month, after the busyness of the Christmas and TET seasons. This is a good time for students to focus their attention on their studies, and begin serious preparation for the end-of-year exams.

The End of Year Concert Theme has been selected, and this theme is 'Silver Screen Symphonies', where students will perform famous songs from movies. Classes have selected their songs, and have started practicing and choosing their costume ideas. The End Of Year Concert for our school will be held on 24 June, at the Saigon Opera House, with more details to be sent home to parents soon.

Year 6 has completed their OBV course, and has shown some remarkable teamwork and cooperation since returning. The teamwork and cooperation that is such an important lesson from the OBV, seems to have had a great effect on the Year 6 classes.

**Donovan Neethling – Deputy Principal**







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**Dear Readers,**

Term 3 has been off to a wonderful start. Semester 1 reports were sent home at the start of the term. All our students did very well in their first semester and should be praised for their positive achievements. Positive praise reinforces good behavior, enhances self-efficacy and motivates students to keep putting forth their best efforts.

Thank you to all our supportive parents who attended the recent parent-teacher conferences. With your support, we are able to work as a team to ensure your child achieves the best possible outcomes, both academically and as an active and responsible citizen of our community. If ever you have any

concerns or follow up questions, please reach out to your child's form teacher.

A reminder to please ensure your child continues to read on Raz kids and makes use of their Dyned accounts. These programs focus on key literacy skills such as listening, decoding, fluency and vocabulary. Improving these skills will ultimately improve your child's reasoning, critical thinking and comprehension ability.

We look forward to yet another successful term of learning and fun.

**Antinena Amon - Head of Studies (Primary)**

**Dear Parents,**

Term 3 is here and we are excited to see what challenges and opportunities it has in store for us. Our IG2, AS Level, and A Level students have been registered for the Cambridge examinations and they are hard at work preparing for that.

The Year 6 students returned from Outward Bound full of excitement and we hope that they learned many important life lessons. The Year 7 and Year 8 students are also looking forward to going to Quy Nhon for the OBV course.

Students are also taking an active role in concert preparations and learning valuable skills related to communication, creativity, and organization. Year 8 to A Level parents will be invited to a parent evening in the coming days. We are hoping to give parents more information on the Kinderworld College and Careers Education Programme, subject choices for the coming academic year, and other important talking points.



**Elri Nieuwenhuis - Head of Studies (Highschool)**