



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGONSOUTH

# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

**Dear Parents,**

Many thanks to those of you who took time to respond to the annual survey. Sharing your experiences and suggestions is a most important part of the ongoing school improvement process. One of our primary goals is to increase family engagement and the survey is one instrument which will help us to do to more effectively. After the results have been analyzed we will share the key findings, as well as planned steps to address any areas for improvement.

Recently we have been focusing on the School-Wide Learner Goal of “Active and Responsible Citizenship”. This has been accomplished in several ways. For example, students in Years 1-5 participated in the Star Donation Challenge from RAZ-Kids. This involved them reading books and completing activities. They were then able to donate their stars towards healthy meals, clean drinking water or schools supplies for less fortunate children. Through events such as this we hope students come to understand and embrace the importance of helping others.

Our Outward Bound Vietnam excursions have also begun. During these students learn and practice a variety of skills, whether as part of the on-campus program for Years 4 and 5, the program at Quy Nhon for students in Years 6, 8, and IGCSE2, or that of Halong for students in Years 7, 9/IGCSE1 and AS & A Levels. Though there has already been a briefing for all students and parents information will continue to be sent home.

Throughout the year if you have any questions to concerns please feel free to contact the school Office to set an appointment.

Yours in Learning,

**Robert Madden**  
**Principal**





# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

## Dear Parents,

In the final week of term 1, the integrated classes had a mid-semester 1 exam: Vietnamese and Maths for Years 4 and 5; a 1-period exam of all subjects for Secondary students.

The results of students' mid-semester tests will help teachers assess student acquisition of knowledge. Using this information, teachers can adjust teaching methodologies to suit individual student needs. In addition, achieving good results on these tests can be the most beautiful gift for your mother on Vietnamese Women's Day, 20 October 2022.

On October 31, 2023, all students participated in the Halloween festival. To make Halloween exciting, the students decorated the classroom board in a horror, scary way but also appealing. At the same time, everyone would participate in the colorful costume parade around the schoolyard!

## Phung Thi Tuyet Minh - Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies







**Dear Parents,**

KIK students were discovering more about themselves in October by exploring feelings, how we grow and change in the different stages of life and how we can stay healthy. We enjoyed taking part in sport activities during First Friday on the football field and had a lot of fun participating in the astronaut training by Mr. Seth on a special STEM Space Day.

We explored our 5 senses tasting food, going on listening walks discovering loud and soft sounds around us and experimenting with different textures –popping bubble wraps, creating letters and shapes from playdough. We started Term 2 with Halloween preparations and loved trick-or-treating around school dressed up in costumes on the last day of October filled with lots of excitement and treats.

The beginning of the new Term gives us an opportunity to reflect on the development of our students and we are looking forward to discuss this with you during Parent-Teacher Conferences.

**Barbara Borberly – Head of Studies (KIK)**

**Dear Parents,**

Students are well into their preparation for the Semester 1 Exams, which are to be held in December. I encourage students to try their best, and revise well the lessons they have learnt in class. OBV field trips have also begun in October, with the IGCSE 1 and Year 9 Integrated classes going to Ha Long Bay OBV for the first time.

To end off the month, we had our annual Halloween festival and costume parade. All students received some candy, and got to ‘trick or treat!’ the teachers. Students had an opportunity to make amazing memories in our Halloween themed photo booth. Class photos in Halloween costumes were also taken and will be shared by the form teachers in due course. Our next major event will be around Christmas time, when we will run two special events, including our famous annual Christmas Charity Fair!

**Donovan Neethling – Deputy Principal**







SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGONSOUTH

# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023



**Dear Parents,**

As we settle into the Term 2, I would like to highlight an exciting event happening this month - the RAZ Kids Star Donation event. This event runs from 9<sup>th</sup> October through 3<sup>rd</sup> November and provides an opportunity for our students to embody the SIS School Wide Learner Goal of being Active and Responsible Citizens while also fostering a love for reading.

Throughout the event, students are encouraged to read as many books as possible using the RAZ Kids platform. Each time they complete a book, they earn stars. These stars can then be donated towards the RAZ Kids Star Donation event. The more stars our students earn, the

greater impact we can make in the lives of disadvantaged children.

By participating in the RAZ Kids Star Donation event, our students will learn the value of giving back to society. Through their donations, our students will help provide clean drinking water, nutritious meals, and essential school supplies to children who lack these basic necessities.

We are incredibly proud of our students for their enthusiasm and dedication to making a difference. Together, we can create a brighter future for children in need.

**Lindsay Stanford – Head of Studies (Primary)**

---

**Dear Parents,**

Welcome to Term 2! We're filled with anticipation and excitement for the enriching experiences on the horizon. Some of our classes have already had the transformative experience at Outward Bound Vietnam (OBV), and more will follow suit before our December break. This program is pivotal in shaping our students into the future's problem-solvers and leaders.

Our campus will be buzzing with events each month of the term, not only to commemorate special occasions but to strengthen our bond as a learning community. We warmly encourage parents to join us and be part of these moments.

In the coming weeks, you'll receive an email regarding the EduPage gradebook access. This platform is designed to keep you updated on your child's progress as we move toward semester reports. Do remember, the semester report cards integrate both the examination results and the daily assessments. Together, let's support and inspire our students to excel at both!



**Joshua Lowery – Head of Studies (High school)**