



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ SAIGONSOUTH

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023

Dear parents,

Many thanks for taking time to respond to the recent annual survey. Your feedback is extremely helpful in guiding our efforts to continually improve the school.

The items you rated most highly include:

- Behavior of children & discipline management.
- Child safety & happiness.
- Quality & helpfulness of office staff.

Areas where you feel we can improve are:

- Facilities & meal service
- Healthy food options in the school Canteen.
- Support for emotional concerns.

To address your concerns we are taking the following steps:

- The Kitchen and Hall will both undergo renovations during our Christmas Break.
 - The kitchen will be expanded to provide more space for food preparation. This process should be completed before the students return on Tuesday 2 January so will not impact their mealtimes.
 - The food cart will be upgraded as well, with a wider selection of snacks available.
 - Two new air conditioning units have recently been added to the Canteen to make it more comfortable, especially during lunch times.
 - The Multi-Purpose Hall renovation will take longer as it is more comprehensive. We expect completion by the Tet holiday. The new design will provide storage space, improve the lighting, and make the stage more useful for performances.
- A Student Support Center has been designated.
 - The classroom next to the Health Office is being reserved two days per week during lunch breaks for students to drop in and speak with a staff member. Topics might include stress about exams, questions about friendships, or help with decisions about future education.

Please know that we are committed to making the school a better place for students and parents alike. Should you wish to discuss the improvements above or other suggestions contact the office to make an appointment.

Yours in Learning,

Robert Madden
Principal



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Dear Parents,

In November, the school became more vibrant and bustling when teachers and students enthusiastically participated in the activities to celebrate Vietnam Teachers' Day. There were a lot of learning and entertainment activities organised:

From 6th November to 15 November, students from year 1 to year 9 participated in the contest:

- Students in year 1 to year 5 integrated compete in the Handwriting contest. Each contestant expressed their gratitude to their dedicated teachers.
 - Students in year 6 to year 9 created poetry and poems with the theme: School, teachers, and friends.
 - Crafting cards for Vietnam Teachers' Day
 - Decorating paper flower vase with the theme: Gratitude to teachers (year 6 to A level)
- All the students' products were presented on the bulletin boards to show how grateful they are to their teachers.



Celebrating 20th November: on Thursday 16th November, in a cheerful atmosphere, students from grades 6 to 12 attentively arranged beautiful confetti baskets and presented them to their teachers to show their gratitude. The tradition of "Respect the teacher's morality" is a humanistic cultural beauty that reminds teachers to compete in teaching well.

After these activities, the students will be more unified with their teachers and friends, and I hope they will think "Every day going to school is a happiness."

Besides the mentioned activities, Le Thanh Ha in year 5 integrated has achieved 2 BRONZE MEDAL awards for swimming under the Phu Dong Health Association at the City level.

I am so proud of her achievement!

Phung Thi Tuyet Minh
Senior Head of Vietnamese Studies

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Dear Parents,

With Our Semester 1 Sporting activities rounding up to a close, we have had some great success in both Football and Basketball. Most notably, Our U11 Football team have won the City Football Championships! Well done to all the players and the coaches for such a confident display in the final match, and marvelous performance overall.

Semester 1 Exams are upon us, beginning in the first week of December and running until 14 December. I encourage students to approach their revision activities with all due diligence and attention to detail. Remember to ask your teachers for help, rather than ignore a question you do not yet understand.

Saigon South's Annual Christmas Charity Fair will be held on Saturday, 9 December. This year we have more stalls, more activities and more games than ever before, and even a dining venue with live music where you can eat and enjoy Christmas carols. Tickets are already on sale at the school every day.

Don't miss out on a wonderful morning of fun!

Donovan Neethling – Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

In November, KIK students were learning about families, different types of homes, the rooms of the house and things we can find in each room. Students were excited to discuss who the members of their family are and what furniture they have in their homes. Encourage your child to use the newly learnt vocabulary by asking them to name things around the house in English.

November was a special month as parents had the opportunity to meet teachers discussing their child's progress since the beginning of the year and celebrating Teacher's Day on 20 November. Students created flower baskets and paper crafts for their teachers and receiving messages of support and wonderful gifts from our parents also made us feel much appreciated and thankful.

Our Prep Integrated students went on a fun excursion to Tinker Play in District 7 spending a busy morning there filled with hands-on activities. We are now looking forward to the special holiday of Christmas.

Barbara Borbely - Head of Studies (KIK)





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Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of November, we have much to celebrate at SIS. On November 20th, we had the pleasure of honoring our dedicated educators on Teacher's Day. The entire school came together to express gratitude and appreciation for the hard work and commitment of our teachers. It was a heartwarming experience to witness the love and respect shown by our students towards their mentors.

In other exciting news, a big round of applause is in order for our Year 5 classes for their outstanding achievement in winning the Reading A-Z Star Donation Contest! Their passion for reading and their commitment to helping those in need truly shone through, and we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishment. This is a testament to the hard work of our students and the support they receive from their teachers and families.

We are looking forward to more exciting events and achievements in the coming months, and we are grateful for the continuous support of our school community.

Lindsay Stanford – Head of Studies (Primary)



Dear Parents,

We are thrilled to share the positive developments in our secondary school. The students have been exemplary in setting a standard for the entire school. Their weekly assembly presentations, focused on the Schoolwide Learner Goals and Virtues, have become increasingly impactful. The students are genuinely integrating these essential soft skills into their learning.

This month, our oldest students will embark on a journey to Outward Bound. These trips have already proven to be a unifying experience for the classes involved earlier this year. We are delighted to see the strong bonds and teamwork that these excursions foster.

In preparation for the upcoming Christmas Charity Fair, our students have demonstrated remarkable dedication to a noble cause. Their selfless efforts are crucial in building robust character traits and preparing them for life beyond secondary school.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing support and encouragement of your children in these endeavors.

Joshua Lowery – Head of Studies (Secondary)