August 2016



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At Singapore International School we seek to nurtue students who are:

- Academic Achievers
- Confident Communicators
- Critical Thinkers
- Technologically literate students
- Active and Responsible citizens



Upgraded Football Pitch

Gamuda Gardens 2 Road, Gamuda Gardens, Km 4.4 Phap Van, Hoang Mai District, Hanoi City *Tel: (84-4) 66661818 Fax: (84-4) 62620639*

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.

Principal News

Dear Parents and Students,

I would like to warmly welcome you all back to the 2016 – 2017 school year. I hope new and existing SIS families are settling into the daily school routines and focused on a positive beginning to the term. Recently, if you have visited our school, you would have noticed an



upgrade to the football pitch. The football pitch now has artificial turf which means it can be used all year round. The football pitch was officially opened for use on Monday 16/08 and is used extensively by the students which is great to see.

Recently, we received our Cambridge IGCSE results and I am very pleased to say that some of our students performed very well. I would like to give my congratulations to the following students for achieving A* - B across five (5) or more subjects:

- Duong Thu Anh
- Heo Yu Jeong
- Hoang Ha My
- Lee Ji Eun
- Van Tra My
- Do Ha Trang
- Nguyen Minh Thao
- Nguyen Thao Linh
- Nguyen Tuan Viet Anh
- Syeda Meharbash Kashif
- Lam Quang Minh
- Nguyen Tien Thanh
- Nguyen Xuan Minh

In addition I would like to make mention of two students in particular who performed exceptionally well. Nguyen Minh Thao of IGCSE achieved the highest result of A* in all six of her subjects and Nguyen Le Hoai Thuong for achieving all A's in the Cambridge AS Level Examinations. Well done and congratulations to Hoai Thuong and Minh Thao, we are very proud of your achievements.

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Students using football pitch during break



Principal introducing new teachers to students



Students on their first day of school

Our examination results allow our student's access to the very best universities worldwide and we are very proud of our students' academic results. Congratulations to our students and teachers whose hard work and determination has been rewarded with great success.

There are a number of reasons why SIS is a good choice of school, one of which is our diverse curriculum pathway. We use International curricular as reference points from Singapore and Australia which are noted for rigor and focus on developing creative, independent thinkers. We offer internationally recognized and respected qualifications in the Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge A Levels and GAC certificates, not to mention iPSLE exam which students take in Year 6. We also offer the full DOET Vietnamese curriculum for Vietnamese students up to Year 9.

In particular, what makes our pathway uniquely advantageous to students is that we offer them a choice of programs when they reach their senior years of school. Students can take the GAC, a one year program specifically designed for ESL students. The GAC has a strong focus on academic English and soft skills such as organization and time management in order to prepare students effectively for university. Alternatively, students can choose to do A Levels; a two year course administered by Cambridge University as widely recognized as challenging, rigorous and providing deep knowledge of specific subject areas. Students can also take the one year AS Level course in Year 11 followed by GAC in Year 12 – the options are numerous and flexible in order to provide each individual student the best possible pathway for them.

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities commenced the week beginning August 29 (week 4) and run every Monday and Thursday. A detailed list of activities and timetable was sent home to parents. This year we are continuing to provide buses to three (3) different locations from Gamuda Gardens at 5:00 pm:

- SIS @ Van Phuc
- SIS @ Ciputra
- KIK @ Manor

Parents/guardians are reminded that it is your responsibility to pick up your child at one of the above locations if using the 5:00 pm bus service.

Subject Table of Specification – Year 1 – 9

The 'Table of Specifications' for your child's class has been sent home for students who study Singapore curriculum subjects of English, Mathematics and Science.

A 'Table of Specification' includes the following information to help you and your child prepare for exams:

- Exam dates for Semester Assessment SA1 and SA 2.
- Helpful tips for you and your child on how to have the best chance of success at SA time.

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Principal welcoming students on assembly



Madame Nghi welcoming back students



Students playing sports in the MPH

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- The structure of SA exams including the length of exams and types of questions.
- The units covered from the text books.

We have provided the document for you to keep at home so you and your child can plan necessary study before semester examinations.

If you did not receive your child's Table of Specifications please contact the school.

Communication with your child's teacher

Please find attached at end of this newsletter a list of all staff and their email addresses. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. Our teachers will be more than happy to speak with you.

Please also take time to view the school website each month for any updates and other information that you may require at <u>www.gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn</u>.

Regards, Shane Blood

Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to Singapore Vietnam International School for the new school year 2016-2017!

On behalf of SVIS management, I wish you all good health, happiness and success!



Students reunited for the new school year on 8 August 2016. Year 1 and Year 6 students quickly mingled and got along with new friends, new teachers and a new curriculum.

A very big thanks for the warmth and friendliness from our local and expats teachers in assisting our new students to transition into the new school year. Also at the beginning of the school year, the school rules, regulations and expectations of students were explained to all students to ensure that they will perform well all year round, contributing to build a safe, civilized and disciplined school!

We are now preparing for two big events in September:

- Opening Ceremony for AY 2016-2017 on the morning of 5 September.
- Moon Festival on the afternoon of 15 September.

SVIS students and teachers are now eagerly making plans and programs for these events. We are very happy to welcome you on these days to share the joy with us.

I am always open to share and listen to you regarding your child and their study at <u>nghi.duongthanh@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn</u>

Regards, Dương Thanh Nghị

August 2016



Year 2A students



Year 2A classroom



Students reading during break

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Message from the Head of Studies (Primary)

Dear Parents and Students,

Our second school year at SIS@Gamuda Gardens has started and we are excited to welcome our new and continuing students and families in preparing for a great year ahead.

The Primary School students have quickly and enthusiastically settled in to their new routines and new classes. Mr. Will Par-



sons, from the USA, will be teaching Years 1A and 3A Integrated; Mr John Kane also from the USA will be teaching Years 4A and 5A Integrated; Ms Kim Scott is the Primary relief teacher, also from the USA; Mr. Michael Winkelmann (originally from Germany but now a resident in Hanoi) will be teaching Year 4L International, Ms Mareli Booysen from South Africa will be teaching Year 3L International; and I (originally from Australia but now a resident in Hanoi) will be teaching Year 2A Integrated. So we have a truly international array of teachers and talents for our Primary School program. Please come and meet the teachers and let them know that you are interested in our children's development and our various school activities.

We would like to ask parents and families to support our Primary School teachers by emphasizing to students that a good education is very important, and we are all taking the same valuable journey together at SIS @ Gamuda Gardens. Our Primary School teachers will engage children in a wide variety of interesting and productive learning experiences focusing on academic, social, physical and emotional development. An important part of the Primary School program is the **Home Reading Scheme** which involves parents and family members listening to children reading at home. Please participate enthusiastically to show your child that you value his/her reading development and also to spend time engaging with your child to talk about reading and what he/she is learning at school.

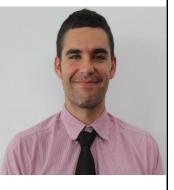
We hope you will encourage all students to do their best. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can help or assist in any way. We look forward to hearing from you and discussing your child's progress throughout the year.

Regards, Dr. Noel Geoghegan

Message from Head of Studies (Secondary)

Dear Parents and Students,

Greetings and welcome to the new school year! Over the last five years, I have worked as a teacher at SIS Van Phuc, Ciputra and Gamuda. Each of these years has been a fantastic experience for me as I have had the good fortune of working with great students, parents and teachers and making countless enduring relationships.



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8LB presenting on assembly



8LB presenting on assembly

This year, in addition to teaching I will be starting in a new role as the Head of Studies for Years 6-9 at Gamuda.

In this role, I will do my best to support our students and teachers in achieving a positive working environment in which students are given the best opportunity to work towards and achieve their academic goals.

Thank you for your time and please feel free to contact me any time. I look forward to working with all of you this school year in guiding our students as they continue to learn and grow on their educational journeys.

Regards, John Keith Shoulders

Message from Head of Studies (High School)

Dear Parents and Students,

Hello and welcome to all existing and new parents to the 2016-17 academic year. I am Louise Ellis, Head of Studies for the Cambridge and GAC programmes and have been teaching at this school for almost 5 years.



I'd like to welcome our new IGCSE 1 students to the Cambridge programme. The

start of the academic year is a special occasion for SIS @ Gamuda Gardens and your role as caring parents is invaluable as we work towards our common goal of assisting our students in reaching their full potential by offering a first class Western Education backed by strong Eastern Values.

I'd like to congratulate our Alumni who have now moved on from SIS to universities across the world, including the UK, Belgium and the US. We also have several students entering degree courses such as International Business in RMIT, Hanoi. We wish them good luck in their further studies and look forward to hearing from them when they return to visit us.

I look forward to working with you all. If you do have any further questions, please do not hesitate to email me at <u>louise.ellis@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn</u>.

Regards, Louise Ellis

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Teachers' Email Addresses

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