



## 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.

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**At Singapore International School we seek to nurture students who are:**

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



Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

### Principal News

Dear Parents and Students,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and happy Lunar New Year. I know this is a time for families to celebrate the New Year and I wish you all happiness, good health and prosperity for the New Year.



On Friday 16 December, the school held our annual Christmas Charity Fair to raise money for the charity 'Operation Smile'. I am very proud to say that thanks to the very generous support of our students, parents and staff we were able to raise a total profit of 50,303,000 VND! This is a wonderful effort and I am extremely proud of our students for the work they did to raise this money. When I went around and visited the stalls, I could not only see how much fun our students were having but also how many young entrepreneurs that we have in our school.

It's a busy time of the year and our upper level students should be thinking about university plans and looking into application deadlines. This can seem overwhelming but there are many great resources available to help students and their parents make decisions about the best university for each student.

A great resource that students and parents can use is the ACT (American College Test) website at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). This website has lots of useful information to help students plan for their future. The website is a must-see for those students interested in studying in the U.S.A. The ACT test is accepted in most universities and colleges in the U.S. which is beneficial for our GAC students who will all take the ACT exam.

Another great website with information for international students studying abroad in the US-UK Fulbright Commission's website ([www.fulbright.org.uk](http://www.fulbright.org.uk)) which provides useful hints on how to complete university applications using the Common Application ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)).



Senior Boys Football Team



End of Semester 1 Ceremony



SVIS Semester 1 'Top Students'

For students wishing to find out which universities accept Cambridge qualifications around the world, you can visit the Cambridge recognition database at [www.cie.org.uk/recognitionsearch](http://www.cie.org.uk/recognitionsearch).

**Date Claimer**

Parent teacher interviews will be conducted on 14/02/2017 and 15/02/2017. Semester 1 reports will also be available for collection during these evenings. Information regarding Parent Teacher Interviews has already been sent home to parents. If you did not receive the information regarding Parent Teacher Interviews, please contact the school.

Regards  
**Shane Blood**  
Principal

**Message from Head of Vietnamese**

Dear Parents and Students,

Semester 1 of the academic year 2016-2017 has quickly passed. With the excitement of the new year of Rooster, I would like to share with you the Academic and Conduct Rankings for Semester 1 as follows:



**Primary:**

TOTAL	ACADEMIC						CONDUCT					
	Excellent		Good		Satisfactory		Good		Satisfactory		Need Improvement	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
72	28	39%	44	61%	0	0	57	79%	15	31%	0	0

**Secondary:**

TOTAL	CONDUCT				ACADEMIC											
	Excellent		Good		Satisfactory		Need Improvement		Excellent		Good		Satisfactory		Need Improvement	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
187	16	8.4	23	12.3	0	0	0	0	77	41.2	78	42.2	32	17.0	1	0.5



Year 4 students performing at the End of Semester 1 Ceremony



Primary students receiving awards on assembly



Year 3 International students at the Christmas Fair

For secondary, there are 21 students that rank at excellent level with an outstanding GPA of 9.0 and up. A special mention to Hoang Anh Chi 7A who achieved a GPA of 9.6 which is the highest in the school.

These excellent results were achieved thanks to the hard work and effort of all SVIS teachers, students in being active and eager to study and all parents in supporting the school and making sure students follow our school rules.

More importantly, we have to say thanks for the guidance and care from the Board of Directors of KinderWorld Education Group and Hoang Mai Office of Education and Training towards SVIS students and teachers.

On the occasion of the year of Rooster and on behalf of SVIS management, I wish you all a new year with good health, happiness and great success!

Regards,

**Duong Thanh Nghi**  
*Head of Vietnamese*

### Message from Head of Studies – Primary

Dear Parents and Students,

After our Christmas holiday break, it was great to see so many children happy to be back at school. They had many interesting stories to tell about their holidays and it was a wonderful start to the 2017 year.



Following the Christmas break, the end-of-semester Singapore exams were the first items on the Primary School agenda and students seemed well prepared and organized for the big event. Teachers had done a good job in preparing students and most children entered the exams confidently. Thank you to all parents who also contributed by helping children revise schoolwork at home in the time leading up to exams. We will soon see the results of everyone's hard work when Reports come out after the Tet holiday. We also will be looking forward to speaking with parents at the Parent-Teacher Interviews (PTIs) in mid-February. Please make an effort to visit your teachers at the PTIs and discuss each child's overall growth, development and learning. The better the partnership and communication between parents and teachers, the better each student's potential for success. We value parents' participation and support through PTIs.

With SA1 exams over and a new year of the Rooster beginning, we can all celebrate the Tet break with a sense of achievement while looking forward to a new and action-packed semester 2.

Please never hesitate to contact me if you need information or advice about your child's education or instructional programs at SIS. We are here to help in any way we can.



SIS v's Hanoi Academy



A level students at the Christmas Charity Fair



Parents enjoying the Christmas Charity Fair with their child

Have a happy and safe Tet holiday!

Regards,

**Dr. Noel Geoghegan**

*Head of Studies - Primary School*

**Message from Head of Studies – Secondary Integrated**

Dear Students and Parents,

Greetings and chúc mừng năm mới!

As the Lunar Year of Rooster comes to a close, our students have been hard at work on their SA1 Final Examinations in preparation for the end of the semester and reports. After having studied hard and done some great work in their classes, the students have a lot to be proud of academically and we as a school wish all of them and their families happiness and good fortune in the New Year!



In order to aid and ensure the continued growth and improvement for your children at school, it is crucial that parents take an active and positive role in their children's education. With Parent Teacher Interviews taking place on February 14 and February 15, an excellent first step in guiding your child on the pathway to success in the new year is taking the time to come to school and speak to their teachers in person about how your child is progressing at school and what areas they need to focus on over the second half of the school year.

With this in mind, we wish you all a wonderful holiday with your loved ones and hope to meet with you soon to discuss your child's education.

Regards,

**John Shoulders**

*Head of Studies – Secondary Integrated*

**Message from Head of Studies – Secondary International**

Dear Parents and Students,

Over the course of the year there has been some considerable time spent by our teaching staff to organize and engage in professional development in the areas of instruction and assessment. In short, this means that our teachers are working together to share information and strategies to help improve student learning. In order to do this successfully the administration developed a survey for the staff to see:



1.) What time and when during the week they would prefer to engage in Professional Develop,



Intra-school football competition winners



Christmas Charity Fair



Christmas Charity Fair

- 2.) What areas of interest they would find most interesting and
- 3.) Who among our many talented staff members could offer specialized workshops for teachers?

It was determined by the administration that we would have staff volunteer for a pilot professional reflection group called critical friends group. This is a program aimed at having groups of colleague's critique each other's work. The program was originally created at Brown University and implemented by the Coalition of Essential Schools for public and private schools across North America. It started out as a means for educators to reflect on what they were doing in the classroom, but has now crossed over into all professions from the medical field to music. It is truly a tool that promotes growth and professionalism in all professions.

In addition to this organization the January professional development workshop is focused on using positive feedback in the classroom and using formative assessments to help guide instruction. Over the course of the past ten years research has proven that positive corrective, specific and timely feedback has markedly increased learning gains in the classroom. Specific feedback targets problem areas and keeps them more focused on the learning objective to be mastered. Formative assessments are the tools used to provide the teacher with the information they need to guide their instruction during the lesson. This work shop provides teachers with strategies for both practices and numerous additional resources that they can adapt to suit their instruction.

If you have any questions about these topics or want to know more about them for research purposes, please feel free to contact me here at SIS. I would be more than glad to send you information about both. Have a great Holiday!

Regards,

**Timothy Bryan Bikowski**

*Head of Studies – Secondary International  
WASC Coordinator*

### **Message from Head of Studies – High School**

Dear Parents and Students,

I would like to wish you Happy New Year and hope you had a restful break. This is a busy time for our Cambridge students as many important deadlines and events approach.





Sumo wrestling at the Christmas Charity Fair



Parent enjoying the Christmas Charity Fair with their children



Christmas Charity Fair

February 15th	Final date for payment of Cambridge exam fees
March 20th	IGCSE English Oral Exams
April 4th and 6th	IGCSE ICT Practical Exams
April 10th	Final date for submission of coursework for IGCSE History and Global Perspectives, and
April 12 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	IGCSE Art Practical Exam
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Final date for submission of coursework IGCSE, AS Level and A Level Art and Design
May 2nd	Written exams begin (timetable attached)

If you have any concerns please attend the upcoming parent teacher interviews to meet with the subject teachers who are happy to assist you and your child in preparing for these exams. I am also available at [louise.ellis@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn](mailto:louise.ellis@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn) to address any general concerns you have.

Regards,

**Louise Ellis**  
*Head of Studies – High School*