

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

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LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Navigating the University Admissions Process

Dear Parents,

In high school, we spend a lot of time preparing students for the road ahead, but perhaps we should also be looking at the quality of the maps they're using. For too long, the university admissions process has felt a bit like walking in a jungle maze with long, winding paths, full of confusing signposts and the occasional tiger ready to attack. But not anymore!

We're excited to announce the formation of our University Guidance Counseling Department (UGC), created to help our students navigate this journey with confidence and, hopefully, a bit of fun. To give our students the best global access, we've recently connected our school portal to UCAS, and are now building our account on the Common App. So, if your dream is to study overseas, we have the the road for you.

We have two important events coming up for our UGC department. On the morning of November 25th, we will host a small university fair for our students to meet admission officers from different universities. On the afternoon of December 13th, we'll be hosting a presentation for parents on Universities



abroad and how to successfully apply to the world's top universities. Topics include: a framework on how to prepare your child for their applications, what the top universities look for in transcripts and personal statements, the differences between universities in different countries, and how to support your child's academic success. Please join me in this conversation and I look forward to meeting all of you there.

We want to hear from you. We have already begun student surveys to find out what your goals, talents, and dream schools are. Then we will make an academic action plan that's right for you.

Best regards,
Memo Mata



Please don't be strangers—my door is open, and I look forward to meeting with you to discuss your futures. And remember that everything is INTERESTING!

October Highlights

and Underwriter and Joint Bookrunner



KIK NEWS

A Joyful October and an Exciting November Ahead!



On October 31st, the children joined the Mystical Halloween Festival, transforming into adorable and imaginative characters, and enjoying a variety of fun-filled games in the colorful atmosphere of the holiday.



This October, the most exciting and memorable event for our little ones was definitely the Mid-Autumn Festival. Although the celebration took place a bit later than usual, the children were all filled with joy and excitement as they joined the lantern parade, proudly wore their traditional costumes, and cheered along to the lively lion dance performance. The most special part was when the children made their own delicious mooncakes, a meaningful and hands-on experience that brought smiles to everyone's faces.



Another wonderful highlight of the month was our Halloween celebration and the field trip activities, which gave our students unforgettable memories. The children from Pre-Nursery to K2 enjoyed a joyful day at Funny Kids Times City, where they explored the world around them through fun games. Beyond the laughter, they also learned important moral lessons — how to play together, listen, and share with friends. Meanwhile, our Prep students had an exciting and educational trip to VinKE, where they participated in engaging activities, explored different careers, and nurtured their dreams for the future. October ended with smiles, laughter, and meaningful lessons — beautiful memories that will stay with the children as they continue to grow and learn. 🌈

Continuing the joy, in November, the school will held the Sports Day Festival – where our young learners will take part in exciting activities that help build strength, teamwork, and resilience in a lively and energetic setting.

Best regards,

Kim Horup - Vu Thi Thuy

KIK NEWS



Primary News

Champions of Fair Play: A Day to Remember!



Primary school sports day was a joyful celebration of teamwork and fair play. The children participated with enthusiasm, showing great respect for one another throughout the events. It was heartening to see them cheer for their classmates, regardless of who won or lost. Teachers encouraged a positive atmosphere, reminding everyone that effort and enjoyment mattered more than winning.

The day was filled with laughter, learning, and valuable lessons in humility and grace. Every child had a chance to shine, and the spirit of fair play was evident in every corner of the field. Sports day not only celebrated physical activity but also helped build character and community. It was a memorable event that left everyone feeling proud and inspired.



Creative Vietnamese Lesson Class 3A



October became even more vibrant with Class 3A's creative Vietnamese lesson — where vocabulary goes beyond the pages and comes alive through real-life experiences in the school library.

Under the theme "Expanding Vocabulary about the Library," the lesson was designed to combine learning, exploration, and hands-on practice. Students toured the library, discovered various book display areas, and engaged in activities such as reading, sharing about books, and searching for information.

PRIMARY NEWS

Through these experiences, they enriched their vocabulary related to the library and practised using new words in sentence writing.

Beyond vocabulary development, the lesson also inspired a love for reading, helping students realise that the library is a true treasure of knowledge waiting to be explored.

The highlight of the lesson was when Class 3A collaborated to create a delightful video showcasing their library activities and adorable moments. We warmly invite parents and teachers to scan the QR code below to watch their video.

The lesson concluded with a meaningful message: "Learn to love books, read to broaden your world!" Teachers firmly believe that every page students open today lays a strong foundation for tomorrow's journey, and that each meaningful learning experience nurtures a lifelong love for knowledge, self-learning, and curiosity.

Best regards,
Chantel Laurens - Vincent Flynn
Tran Thi Thuy Van



PRIMARY NEWS



Secondary News

A Season of Festivities



October was filled with vibrant and joyful activities! After the Term 1 break, our students returned to school with renewed energy and enthusiasm, ready to take on the challenges and opportunities of the next learning phase. The month was highlighted by several exciting events:

Spotlight:

- **Mid-Autumn Festival:**

The official celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival was affected by the aftermath of Typhoon Matmo, as continuous heavy rains caused localized flooding across Hanoi and temporarily disrupted school activities.

However, once the storm had passed, we decided to proceed with the celebration as a small yet meaningful gift to our beloved students. Through the festival's activities, the students learned more about the joy of family reunion during this special "Festival of Togetherness." They joined the lantern parade with Kindergarten students, watched and participated in the lively lion dance, dressed in traditional costumes, took beautiful photos, and joined the "Best Traditional Costume" contest. The bright smiles of our students truly lit up the festive atmosphere.



The Annual Parent-Teacher Conference

- **Halloween Festival:**

With the main activities of classroom decoration and dressing up as famous characters, the event showcased the creativity and strong team spirit of all classes. Teachers were impressed by the students' artistic sense, resourcefulness, and strong collaboration in creating such imaginative decorations.



- **Annual Parent-Teacher Conference:**

During this conference, teachers provided parents with a clear overview of each student's learning progress. Teachers also discussed areas for improvement, as well as expectations and goals for students in the current academic year. We look forward to witnessing each child's growth and positive transformation following this meeting.

- **Open Lessons and Thematic Teaching Sessions:**

Throughout October, teachers continued with professional teaching demonstrations and themed lessons. During these sessions, students worked hard to earn "good marks" as meaningful gifts for their grandmothers, mothers, and teachers in celebration of Vietnamese Women's Day (20 October).

Upcoming Items:

- Teaching and Learning Emulation Week – Celebrating Vietnamese Teachers' Day (20 November)

 17 Duration: First two weeks of November.

Semester 1 Revision and Assessment Period

 17 Duration: 17–28 November 2025

 Venue: Classrooms / Functional Rooms

 Participants: All students

 Requirements: Students are expected to complete all revision outlines and worksheets on time, take full notes of review content, and proactively ask questions about areas they are uncertain of.

Reminders:

- Form teachers will continue to update class and school activity plans every two weeks to help parents easily stay informed.

Best regards,

Nguyen Thi Huyen Anh

High School News



After the Storm: Rising Strong and Ready for Exams

Dear Parents,

What a wild few weeks it's been! Between heavy rains, power outages, and unexpected storm days, we've all had a bit of a shake-up in our routines. We hope you and your families stayed safe and dry during the weather chaos!

Because of the missed days, our school calendar has been adjusted — make-up classes will take place on select Saturdays (Saturday 25 October 2025, Saturday 8 November 2025 & Saturday 13 December 2025). We know weekends are precious, but think of these extra days as a chance to catch up, connect with teachers, and strengthen your understanding before exams. A little extra effort now can make a big difference later!

With exam season just around the corner, here are a few quick tips to help you stay focused and confident:

1. Plan Ahead: Use a study schedule; even 30 minutes a day per subject can help reduce stress when exam week hits.

2. Review, Don't Cram: Go over past notes, highlight key ideas, and quiz yourself. Short, regular reviews beat all-night study marathons!

3. Take Care of You: Sleep well, eat right, and take short breaks during study sessions. A healthy brain works better than an exhausted one.

4. Ask for Help: Saturday make-up days are a great time to check in with teachers or form small study groups. Don't hesitate to reach out!

5. Stay Positive: You've already shown resilience by bouncing back after the storms; now bring that same determination to your studies. Every small step you take counts toward your success.

Let's finish this term strong, support one another, and make these extra Saturdays count! Remember, after every storm comes a rainbow; and yours might just be those excellent exam results!

Stay motivated, stay kind, and keep pushing forward!

Best regards,
Jodie Smith

HIGHLIGHTS





Thank you for your continuous support, and we look forward to sharing the joy, smiles and captured moments from our SSC events.

Dear Parents,

As October draws to a close, the Senior Student Council is pleased to provide updates on several important events and key dates for the student body. Throughout October, the SSC successfully conducted Sport Day Sales and we were gratified by the exceptional support from our fellow students.

Our Prom Committee has successfully concluded their Mini Macarons and Women's Day Sales initiatives.

Sincerely,
Nguyen Phuc Linh
Student Council President

Student Council



The SSC has also led the Halloween event on October 31st, with numerous exciting activities for our entire school community, like a costume contest, and many Halloween-themed games and activities.



Clubs and ECAs

A Fresh Start, A Chance to Shine!



We're thrilled to announce that Term 2 Clubs and ECAs will begin on Monday, 27 October 2025. This term brings an exciting variety of clubs for students to explore, ranging from creative arts and academic enrichment to sports and leadership opportunities.



Joining a club isn't just about having fun (though there's plenty of that!) it's also a chance to discover hidden talents, develop new skills, and build friendships that last a lifetime. Whether your child loves teamwork, creativity, or competition, there's a club that's perfect for them.

Last term, some students missed out on these amazing experiences, so this term, we're encouraging everyone to get involved. Clubs are one of the best ways to make school life more exciting, memorable, and rewarding.

On the sports side, our Badminton League will soon be in full swing, and we can't wait to see our students perform as brilliantly as they did last year. We're also introducing a brand-new club: Touch Rugby. This fast, fun, and energetic sport promotes teamwork, fitness, and fair play and we're already exploring tournament opportunities for our players to shine.

Let's make Term 2 a term of energy, enthusiasm, and exploration. Join a club, take a chance, and make it count.

Best regards,

Hendrik Prinsloo, Head of Studies for Clubs/ECAs and HPE

✉ Hendrik.prinsloo@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Strong days start with strong habits! Here are some simple morning and bedtime routines you can do with your child to boost energy, focus, and positivity, while also helping them wind down calmly at night.



Nighttime Calm - End the Day Peacefully

Gentle Stretch - Light stretching to release tension before bed.

Reflect & Share - Talk about the best part of the day or something they learned.

Bedtime Breathing - Inhale for 4 seconds, exhale for 4 seconds — repeat 5 times.

Tomorrow's Intention

Encourage your child to think: "Tomorrow, I'll try my best and be kind."

Why It Matters

These mini routines teach children discipline, mindfulness, and emotional balance, helping them start each day with confidence and end it with calm. It's also a lovely way for parents and children to connect and share meaningful moments together.



Morning Boost - Start the Day Strong

Stretch & Reach - A quick full-body stretch to wake up muscles.

Move & Groove - 10 jumping jacks, 10 squats, 10 arm circles to energize the body.

Gratitude Game - Ask, "What's one thing you're excited for today?" to build optimism.

Breathe & Smile - Deep breaths in and out, then say, "Today's a new chance to do something great!"

Building Healthy Morning & Night Routines

Parenting Hacks

WELL - BEING

September: A Month of Kindness Comes to a Beautiful Close

As September draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt thanks to every teacher and student who took part in our Random Acts of Kindness Campaign.

Throughout the month, our campus bloomed with compassion, teamwork, and joy — showing that even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference.



We proudly celebrate our Kindness Ambassadors, the classes that shone with exceptional kindness and school spirit:

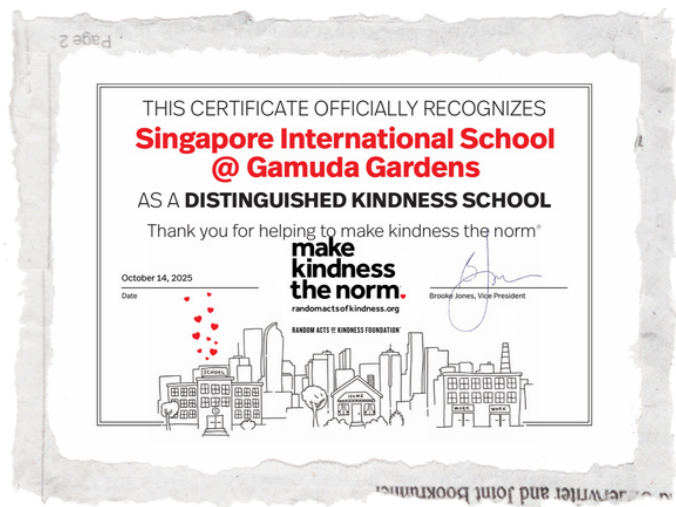
🌟 2L 3A 4L 5L 6A 6L

Your efforts truly reflect the heart of our Well-being Framework — one built on empathy, connection, and shared growth.

💛 Special Announcement!

We are thrilled to share that Singapore International School @ Gamuda Gardens has been officially recognized as a Distinguished Kindness School by the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation (RAK) — becoming the first school in Vietnam to receive this honor!

This recognition celebrates the compassion and positive energy that our community continues to nurture every day.



October & November: Engage & Elevate

As the new season begins, our school embraces a fresh Well-being Campaign — “Engage & Elevate” — a time to pause, create, and connect.

From Nature Color Parties in KIK to Mandala Art and Eco Engineering in Primary and Secondary, and Passion Zines in High School, every activity invites students to explore creativity, mindfulness, and purpose.

And for our teachers and staff — a special Recharge & Retreat moment to rest, reflect, and reconnect with joy.

Together, let's continue to Engage deeply, Elevate joyfully, and Celebrate kindness — the very essence of who we are as a community. 🌱🌟

Best regards,
Trinh Le Thuy Truc

HIGHLIGHTS

