



SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
Since 1986

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

NEWSLETTER

January 2022

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**
- **Active and Responsible citizens**



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Principal's News

Dear Parents

It's hard to believe that half the school year has officially ended. The last Semester has been challenging for all our students, parents, and staff, but we have survived! I'd like to thank you for supporting your children and our teachers to ensure that your child can continue with their education.



So many countries are now realising the gap in their children's education as they did not follow our model. We know learning online all day is not ideal, but for now, we need to ensure that our children do not fall behind. Our children have followed the exact timetable they would have if they were in the school building. Yes, we agree, this is not ideal, and we wish and hope for Vietnam to open the schools soon. Our students need to engage in social activities and participate in sporting events.

STAFFING

I'd like to welcome Mr. Charles Howgill to our SIS family. Mr. Howgill, our new deputy, replaces Mr. Roy Donnan in the Primary School.

I'm sure he will love Vietnam and SIS as much as all of us do.

CAMBRIDGE AWARDS

Despite the online challenges, our students achieved fantastic results in the June 2021 examinations series,

I'm incredibly proud to announce the following outstanding awards were issued by Cambridge to three AS-level students who sat their examinations in June 2021.

Best Across: This award is given to the student who achieved the highest cumulative total standard marks in the country over a range of 4 subjects



Lee Da Hyeon

Lee Dahyeon

First Place: **Best across 4 subjects**

Top in Country – awarded to the learners who have achieved the highest standard mark in the country in an individual subject:

The following two students received these awards:



Nguyen Ngoc Minh Anh

Nguyen Ngoc Minh Anh - Top in Vietnam:
Business Studies



Kim Ji Woo

Kim Jiwoo - Top in Vietnam:
Mathematics

Congratulations to these students, their parents, and the teachers. Well done!

CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATIONS

Students have already registered for the Cambridge examinations, which will take place between 25 April and 10 June.

For any concerns or questions you may have please contact our deputy principal, Mr. Ogden at

michael.ogden@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

REPORTS and ASSESSMENTS

Please note for Semester 1, our Summative and Spot testing will finish on 11 February. The classroom-based assessments will be averaged to calculate the Semester 1 scores recorded in the Semester 1 report cards. The report cards for Semester 1 will be available from the 22nd of February 2022.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

We will hold our parent-teacher conferences on the 23rd and 24th of February, online.

Details will follow, and sign-up sheets will be sent to you in the first week of Term 3, after TET.

I would like to encourage you to meet with all the teachers to discuss your child’s progress. Your child’s academic success is of high importance to us as well.

TEXTBOOKS

If you have NOT received Book B of the My Pals books yet, please inform your child’s form teacher immediately. We will arrange for you to collect them from the school or send them to you via Grab.

DYNED

27 students have completed their certification level this term! Well done to our students. Seyuni Adhya is the first Year 3 student to complete the DynEd Kids program. Well done Adhya!

Please encourage your children to spend additional time working through the DynEd program; this program allows students to work at their own pace to improve their English skills.

DEBATE:

We wish the below mentioned students who were selected for the Science Debate all the best in the upcoming event. They will be competing in the Hanoi Science Debate hosted by UNIS on the 22nd of January.

Team 1	Team 2
Ji Seo Hyun	Yoon HyoJung
Lee DaHyeon	Prithviraj Omkar Patil
Nguyen Phan Ha Anh	Johannes Nguyen Romauch
Kim JiWoo	Matthew Myburgh
Nguyen Nghia Hiep	Nguyen Thuy Linh

The annual science debate took place on the 24 of January. Two teams from SIS competed against teams from Unis, Concordia, St. Pauls, and Hanoi International school. The event was hosted online and our teams debated on the topics of physics, chemistry, and biology.

Our SIS 1 team did really well, only to miss a spot in the final by one point. SIS 2 performed well on the topic of chemistry. Overall, the event was a success and we hope that our teams will be in the final next year.



The topics for debate are:

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Physics: Is geological deposition an effective method for the disposal of nuclear waste?

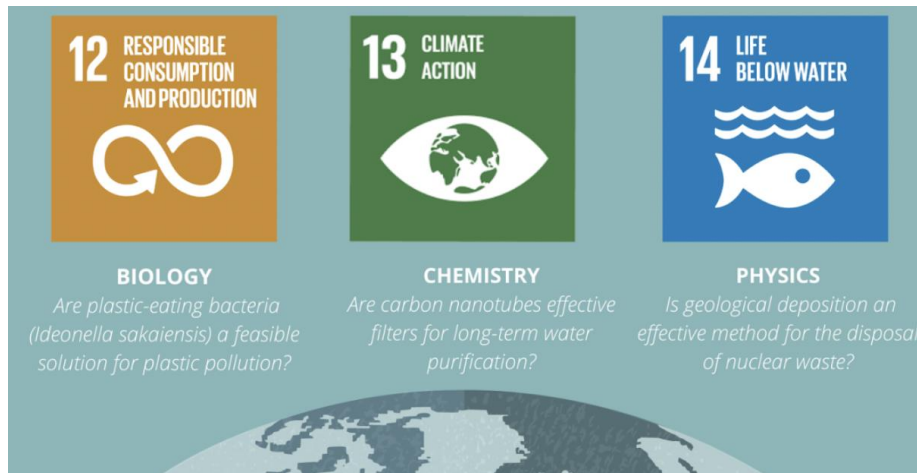
SDG 13: Climate Action

Biology: Are plastic-eating bacteria (*Ideonella Sakaiensis*) a feasible solution for plastic pollution?

SDG 14: Life Below Water

Chemistry: Are carbon nanotubes effective filters in water purification?

We thank Mr. Nils Hartevelde and Mr. Westley Venter for organizing and participating as judges



TET

Our student enjoyed their online TET activities during our extended form class time.

I would like to wish you and your family good health, increased happiness as well as the energy and determination of the tiger.

TERM 3

Term 3 will start on Monday the 7th of February 2022.

Please keep an eye on your emails, for information, **SHOULD** we receive confirmation and instructions from the authorities of our students returning to school.

If you do not hear from me, online teaching and learning will continue.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at lorraine.els@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn to address your concerns or offer some positive comments and suggestions.

Happy TET!

Warm Regards

Lorraine Els



Message from Primary Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

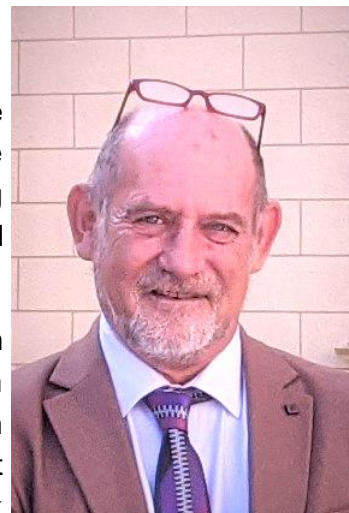
It has been a pleasure joining the SIS community at Gamuda Gardens. Arriving at the end of the semester, as I have walked around the empty corridors of the Primary, I have marveled at the dedication of our teachers, tirelessly working at their desks, delivering online lessons, and have noted how confident and competent your son's and daughters are in meeting the challenges of online learning.

I have spent 25 years in International Education, teaching and managing education programs from Africa, the Middle East to China. I have always had a fondness for Asian countries and cultures. From the moment of arrival in Vietnam and Hanoi, I have been greeted with warmth, smiles, and politeness. I sincerely hope that during my time at SIS, I can support the teachers to help take your students to greater heights and I look forward to many events that you are able to participate in and, the time when we can meet in person and celebrate the successes of our students.

Chúc mừng năm mới

Charles Howgill

Deputy Principal Primary.



Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies Primary

Dear Parents,

Coming back after the Christmas break, students seem to have recovered their study energy to continue participating in fun learning activities with their friends during online lessons.

To prepare for the welcome of the Lunar New Year - an important holiday of our nation, we have organized activities to learn together about the traditional Tet holiday. Besides playing games related to Tet, the students also tried their best to create beautiful products to present to their classmates such as musical performances, video designs, wish... which are sent to family, teachers, and friends.

The term 2 break and the Lunar New Year holiday will take place from Tuesday, January 25, 2022, and term 3 will start on Monday, February 7, 2022.

On the occasion of the Lunar New Year 2021, we would like to wish all parents and students a new year of prosperity good health, and good luck.

Best regards,

The Vietnamese Primary Student Leadership Team

Nguyen Thu Huong



Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies Secondary

Dear Parents,

After the Christmas and New Year holidays, the first weeks of school in 2022 have passed very quickly. The teachers announced the results of the final exams of the Integrated program along with encouragement, praise, as well as sharing, and suggestions to help students improve and enhance learning results in the next semester. The detailed reports will be sent to parents during the 2nd upcoming parent-teacher conference.

In the last days of Term 2, the children participated in meaningful activities to welcome the traditional Tet holiday. Then students could understand, appreciate and love the Vietnamese culture and the Tet holiday. At the same time, they showed their outstanding English ability as well as soft skills, applying information technology to complete the project "Tet Survival Guide" to share the special features of the Tet holiday and experiences to help foreigners celebrate Tet in Vietnam. All students who complete the project will receive a "Certificate of Accomplishment of Learning Objectives" from their form teachers.

The students will enjoy a vacation to finish term 2 and celebrate the Lunar New Year from January 25, 2022, and will return to school on February 7, 2022. Parents should note that during the holidays, if the family organizes children to go on a trip, hometown or visit relatives, attend a party, etc., please strictly follow the 5K message to ensure the health of yourselves and community.

Finally, on behalf of all Vietnamese teachers, I would like to wish all parents and families prosperity good health, and good luck!

If you have any questions or concerns to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me via email: anh.nguyenthihuyen@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Best regards!

Nguyen Thi Huyen Anh



Message from Head of Studies - English

Dear parents and carers,

The first semester has come and gone in a blink of an eye. It has been extremely challenging on many levels for most of us. Thank you for all your continued support and understanding during these past months of remote and flexible learning.

And in the last semester, we have seen students display immense perseverance and determination to continue achieving academic goals and improve in their studies. I hope to see this continue in the second semester, whether the learning takes place online or in person. And, if you find that your child has not performed to their best ability, now is the time to encourage them to approach the next semester with a renewed vigour and curiosity for learning. It is never too late to start.

I know there are some students, parents and whole families returning to either their home towns or provinces in Vietnam over the Tet holiday. Take care and be safe with your travels.

On behalf of all the HOS I wish you a happy Lunar New Year.

Lizl Brent

