



SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
Since 1986

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

NEWSLETTER

February 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

The term has had a very chilly start to it! However, despite the cold chill and freezing air, our secondary students who returned to school couldn't wait to get back on the football field, they were playing with their masks on, early in the morning and during their short break!

It is lovely to welcome back our students; there is nothing like the laughter and excited chatter of students around the school.

We hope the Primary school students will return soon; we were so excited and ready for their return on the 18th, but alas, the authorities postponed their return due to the increased COVID cases.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thank you, parents, for taking the time to meet with your child's teachers during our parent-teacher conferences on the 23rd and 24th of February.

If you could not meet with your child's teachers, please arrange to meet with them when convenient. Your child's academic success is of high importance to us.

CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATIONS

Cambridge examinations take place between 26 April and 10 June.

Mock examinations will start on March 21 to 1 April, these results will give you a good indication as to how ready your child is for the Cambridge examinations. The Mock examinations contribute mostly to predicted grades which we send to Cambridge.

For any concerns or questions you may have, please contact our deputy principal, Mr Ogden, at michael.ogden@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn



DYNED

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.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE RESOURCES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Primary school students are encouraged to continue reading to improve their reading fluency; Raz Kids is an excellent tool for the independent practice of reading to improve comprehension skills, such as vocabulary and inference. Students practice how to use the language learnt in context.

Other excellent tools are McHub and KooBits. We purchased these programs to support the Singapore curriculum and improve student understanding of the learning materials. If your child isn't using these online platforms, please speak to your child's teacher.

SCIENCE DEBATE:

We would like to congratulate the following students who participated in the Hanoi Science Debate, hosted by UNIS in 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 top students in Hanoi compete in this debate. They compete in areas such as content knowledge, quality research and public speaking skills. Our senior team obtained 3rd place, missing the chance to go to the finals by just one point. Our junior team also enjoyed some success.

Well done to our students!

STUDENT AWARDS

As the High School returned to school, we took the opportunity to congratulate some of our AS and A-level students on their outstanding work last year. Unfortunately, this is the first time we were able to meet our students after 9 months of them working online. Well done to the following students:





PHAM THAO HIEN - AS A



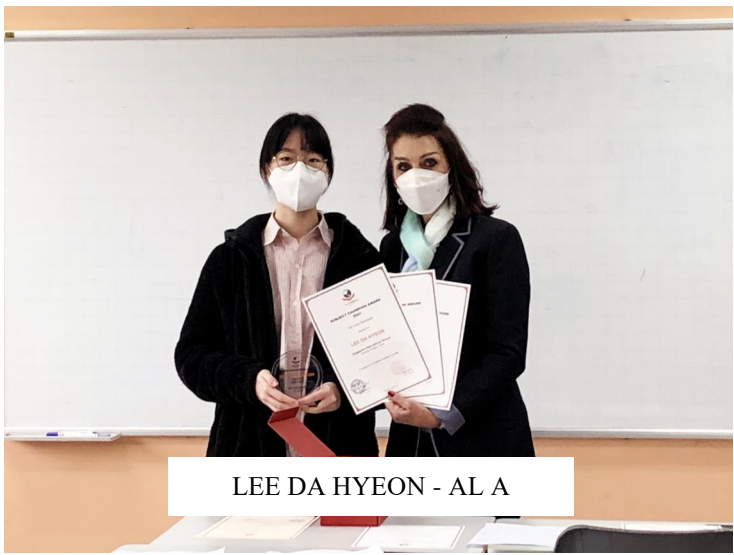
HSUEH ZHI-TING (CLAUDIA) - AL B



NGUYEN VIET HUY - AL A



HOANG LAN HUONG - AL B



LEE DA HYEON - AL A



DINH PHAN QUYNH CHI - AL B





NGUYEN NGOC MINH ANH - AL A



NGUYEN MINH ANH - AS B



NGUYEN DIEU ANH - AS A



LE THI KIEU TRANG - AL B

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.

Warm Regards!

Lorraine Els



NGUYEN PHAN HA ANH - AL B

Message from High School Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

Recently we held our end of Semester Parent Teacher Conference online, as always this is a valuable opportunity for teachers to meet with parents and students. We understand that at times some parents are unable to make the arranged time to meet with their child's teachers. If you have missed the opportunity and would still like to arrange a meeting with our teachers we are always willing to accommodate! You can email the teacher you wish to meet with directly or you can send an email to your child's relevant head of studies and they can help organise the meeting. There is no better time than the present to make improvements and seek advice on how to support our children in achieving their best.



For our high school students who are still in the process of applying to colleges and universities please remember to speak with Mr. Ogden who can provide you with some guidance and advice on this matter.

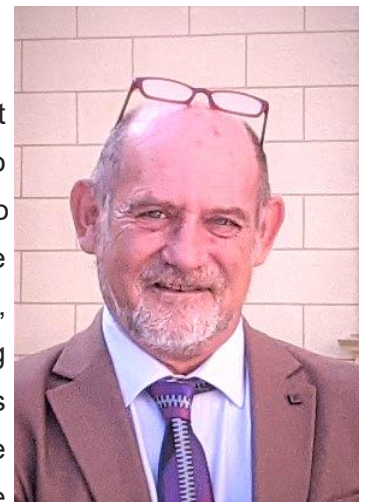
As always if there is anything that I can help with please feel free to email me at the following address:
michael.ogden@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Michael Ogden

Message from Primary Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your participation in the Parent Teacher Conferences. Any concerns that you may have had, please rest assured that the Primary Team will consistently strive to meet your son's or daughter's learning needs. I have now had the opportunity to observe many lessons in the Primary section, and it is always a pleasure to say we have excellent teachers. Now that the PTC's are over, testing and reports are finished, we can now endeavor to focus on the education of your children, and delivering exciting and engaging lessons. We all wish for your children to be back in the classroom, and as I walk around, I see new decorations going up and resources being prepared for the students return. Until that time, I am confident that teachers will continue provide excellent education while online.



Kind regards.

Charles Howgill

Deputy Principal Primary.



Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies Primary

Dear Parents,

After the traditional Tet holiday of Vietnam, on February 7th, students have come back to online learning classes with teachers and classmates. The main topic that the school especially focuses on in February is guiding students to implement the 5K regulation to avoid Covid 19 pandemic not only at school but also at home.

In February, the school's leaders also successfully organized the Parent-Teacher Conference on February 23 and 24 to discuss strengths and weaknesses of students to help them achieve higher results in the second Semester .

In March, our school will focus on continuing to guide students to well implement the 5K regulation and be prepared for when returning to school as soon as there is an official decision from the authorities. During this month, students in grades 4 and 5 will also take part in the mid-semester assessment exam. The review outline and test schedule will be sent to parents by the form teacher soon.

At the beginning of the new year of 2022, on behalf of the school's leaders, I would like to wish you and your family always full of joy and all the best.

Best regards,

Head of Vietnamese Studies (Primary)

Nguyen Thu Huong



Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies Secondary

After the traditional Vietnamese New Year holiday, on February 7th, we have warmly welcomed our secondary school students, who officially turned to school for half a day of direct learning after nearly 10 months of online learning. On the first day of class, the form teacher took the time to revise the safety regulations with the students.

The teachers have also made every effort to take advantage of the direct learning time to teach the basic core contents. And they also created a joyful and comfortable learning atmosphere for the children.

In February, we successfully organized a Parent-Teacher Conference to discuss students' study results, to encourage students to develop their strengths, and also to find solutions for their challenges. From this, students can set goals and find the appropriate learning methods in semester 2.

In March, the secondary school will enter the mid-semester examination of Integrated programme. The review outline and exam schedule will be sent by the form teacher to students and parents via Teams software and hard copy for classes that study directly at school.

We hope that parents will support the school and encourage your children to complete the outline and review carefully before the exam. In addition, please remind your children to bring their own masks, personal water bottles and strictly follow the 5K regulation to ensure the safety of themselves, their families, our school, and the whole society.

Regards!

Head of Vietnamese Studies (Secondary)

Nguyen Thi Huyen Anh



Message from KIK & Primary Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to welcome students back after the Tet holidays and even though the primary school continues to study online, students were so happy to see the faces of their class mates and teachers; to share stories about their Tet celebrations and to wish each other “Chuc Mung Nam Moi!” The beginning of Term 3 got off to a busy start with student reports and parent teacher conferences. The teachers valued the chance to meet with parents and students to discuss growth, both academically and socially, and to find ways to support and improve students further. With the continuation of online learning the relationship between school and home is more important than ever. The continued support of parents at home is most appreciated!

Kind Regards

Sharon Beazley



Message from Head of Studies - Mathematics

Dear Parents,

We are happy that our students are learning face-to-face with their classmates and teachers. I could hear positive feedback from students now that they are back on campus. Though the Covid circumstances are inevitable at this stage, we have been doing our best to be resilient for the future of our children. Thank you for the utmost and continued support, especially to our IGCSE 2 students who are sitting for the Cambridge Mock Examination from 21st March to 1 April.

Should you have any concerns, please contact me at maria.batac@gamudagardnes.sis.edu.vn.

Maria Batac



Message from Head of Studies - English

Dear Year 6 Parents & Carers,

Term 3 is off to a promising start with high school students back on campus. While the Year 6 students have not been able to join just yet, I am sure they will be back soon.

At this time, reports have been sent out and you should have a clear idea of your child's academic strengths and weaknesses. It is important to encourage your child to seek help in the subjects they are struggling with and to motivate them to continue building on the foundations that they have set up in the first semester.

In order to prepare for offline learning, please make sure your child has all the necessary notebooks, textbooks and stationery needed for when they return to school. We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 6 students back as soon as possible.

Please do remember to contact myself or your child's teacher if you have any concerns. In the meantime, myself & the Year 6 teachers send their very best wishes to you and your families for a safe and happy term 3.

Lizl Brent



Message from Head of Studies - Specialist Subjects

Dear Parents,

It has been exciting having our students back on campus. I applaud students, teachers and parents for being adaptable to all the changes during the pandemic. The school will continue to remain transparent about any changes that occur, we continue to ask for your support and patience during this time.

Thank you to the parents that took the time to meet with teachers during the parent-teacher meetings. This is valuable time where students and teachers can communicate any shortcomings and ways to improve. I commend the students who performed well during Semester 1. I hope to see these positive results continue.

As we approach the back end of the school year, I would like to encourage students to remain consistent in their learning. Students should communicate with their teachers if they are struggling in areas that need improving. If students do not feel confident doing so, they are always welcome to communicate with me about any issues.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at

claudine.vanrensborg@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Claudine van Rensburg

Head of Specialists

Pastoral Leader for Year 8 & 9



Message from Head of Studies - Humanities

Dear Parents,

It has been an exciting time as we return to offline learning. Seeing the students back on campus has been a bright spot in a dreary winter. It has been wonderful to see them talking and playing together. The students are settling in well and have adjusted to the covid protocols for masking, despite some of the challenges these poses.

We are moving now into what is generally a 'quiet' Term, a chance to reflect on our Semester 1 learning and prepare for the challenges of Semester 2 exams. This is an excellent time for students to consolidate their learning from Semester 1 and to reflect on the grades they have received and their strengths and areas for improvement. Students now have the opportunity to speak in-person with their teachers and should approach them if they don't understand why they received the grades they have. As always, teachers are also available through Teams chat.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at brett.grant@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Brett Grant

Head of Humanities

Pastoral Care Leader for Grade 7



Message from Head of Studies - Science

Hello Parents,

It has been great to see our students back at school.

This coming month and the next are all about preparing our students for their examinations. Our mock exams for IGCSE 2 and AS-A level will start on the 21st of March until the 1st of April. The schedule will be posted in the form teams and will be send out to the parents.

If you have any questions about the upcoming exams, study methods, or exam content, please ask the subject teacher or send me an email:

nils.harteveld@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn.

Nils Harteveld

Pastoral leader for AS and A-level

Head of Studies for Science

