



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

NEWSLETTER

October 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**

Principal's News

Welcome to Term 2, for the 2022-2023 academic school year.

In completing term 1, we had a busy last couple of weeks, which included OBV, sports days and Vietnamese Women's Day. We have started Term 2, with some momentum having Literacy Week, Halloween and also having started our inter school sports competition. We have also conducted the International Primary School Leaving Examination (iPSLE) exams for our Year 7 Students.



Thank you to the parents who participated in our parent teacher conferences. These partnerships help us to be all on the same page regarding student progress and improvement.

We recently had a Fire Drill with the local Fire Department. This is an excellent opportunity for to practice our evacuation procedures in a simulated environment with smoke, sirens and fire trucks. We would like to thank the Fire Department for this opportunity and for also helping to train our staff. There was also an opportunity for our younger students to see the Fire Trucks up close. This might be an appropriate time for families to discuss fire and safety plans at home with our younger students.

We have our WASC school accreditation coming up soon. This is an important school improvement process where we look to implement our new School Wide Action Plan for 2022-2025. We have looked at a range of academic data and have developed the below goals to support school-wide development.



We have selected Saturday, December 3, as the date for our Christmas Charity Fair. Please keep this morning free and we will provide further details shortly.

Thank you to all who recently participated in the parent surveys. This helps to give us important information and identify areas of improvement. All parents can schedule a time to meet with the principal if they want to share any concerns or ideas.

Take Care.

Christopher Bradley - School Principal



Books can make you smile!



DynEd Certificates



Ramses The Great!



You are a Wizard Harry



Fire Drill!

Message from High School Deputy Principal

Relocation of AS level classes:

The AS class A and B have shifted from the third floor to the second floor at the start of this term. Both teachers and students have accommodated to the shift albeit the inconvenience. The classrooms on the second floor look newer as they were hardly used by the school. With the shift to the second floor, students can have a more convenient access to the canteen by skipping one additional flight of stairs to climb up and down.

The third-floor classrooms will be used for conducting external examinations such as the upcoming International PSLE (Singapore) exams and the Cambridge International exams (IGCSE, AS and A-Level). With this new setting, students can have a dedicated floor to do their exams with no disturbance.

Chinese language streaming:

Learning a language often takes hard work and dedication. SIS Gamuda Gardens High School understands this very well and have offered our IGCSE students the choice to be streamed to their desired level of Chinese language they wish to learn. Starting this week in term 2, all IGCSE students who have chosen to take Chinese as one of the Cambridge subjects will learn at a pace suited to them. For those with a strong curiosity of the Chinese language and culture, they have joined the Mandarin Chinese class while those who wanted a more academically rigorous Chinese language programme have chosen the second language class.

Some of the IGCSE 2 students who have chosen to the Mandarin Chinese now felt more comfortable with the pace of the teaching and learning. The IGCSE 1 students who have chosen second language Chinese are now more motivated to learn with everyone in the class sharing the same passion and goal.

Ngo Thanh Hung from IGCSE 1A who have chosen to do Second Language Chinese said, " For me it is a big challenge. Chinese is a subject I want to improve, and I am willing to try my best"

Vu Thu An who has also chosen Second Language Chinese said, " I want to improve my Chinese because I would like to go to an international university."

Tran Quang Dung said," I would like to use my Chinese speaking skills in communication with other Chinese speakers. I feel that this class will help me do this."

With this new grouping, our students can focus more on what they would like to learn from the subject without having to worry about their ability to cope. As always, our Chinese language teachers stand ready to help and will make the lesson interesting for them. Ms. Laura Kong will be teaching the Second Language Chinese while Ms. Song Mei will teach Mandarin Chinese in IGCSE 1. Ms. Laura Kong said, "I am happy to teach IGCSE 1 students, and hope they like the subject too."

Both Mandarin Chinese and Second Language Chinese students in IGCSE 2 will be taught by Ms. Song Mei, and she said, " I am very happy with the outcome of the classes. I am able to support and guide all students to their abilities"

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in contact with me at the following email address:

amos.lee@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Regards,
Amos Lee



Message from Secondary Deputy Principal

Secondary Activities

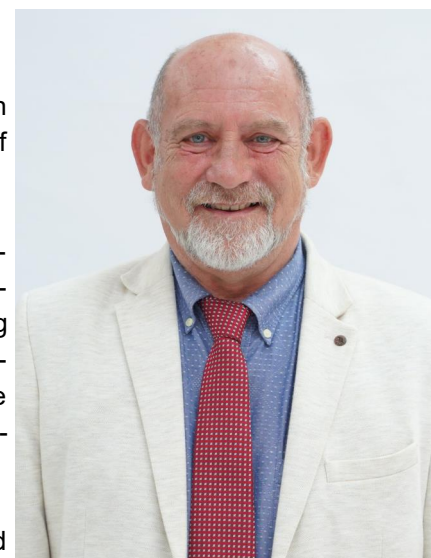
While the secondary students had a variety of exciting school wide events to participate in from Sports Day to clubs, Term 1 saw our Grade 6, 7 and 8 International students kick off adventures with Outward Bound Vietnam in the scenic and beautiful area of Ha Long Bay.

When reflecting on the SIS Virtue program, little did the students know that they were engaging in many of the virtues the school promotes with great success. Teamwork and cooperation, where predominate themes during the five-day, four-night excursion. From morning exercise, raft building, to cooking breakfast and the evening meal while camping, cooperation was central to all that the students engaged in. Perhaps the greatest virtues tested were self-reliance, perseverance, and the flexibility to overcome the fatigue from a full day's activities.

The true value of OBV is to kindle a spirit of perseverance to help students cope and manage the many challenges ahead on their learning journey. Thus, students were often pushed to their limit, but surprisingly their energy was never drained, and were optimistic and quick to bounce back, as a new challenge or activity kept them diligent during each activity. The food was good and plentiful and always welcome. It was great to see the students work together, sharing amongst themselves. It certainly took patience to prepare meals for the team giving an extra sense of community service. Pizza while camping, was particularly delicious. 'How did they do it?' Was a question asked back at SIS when the photographs came through. The response was, 'Go to OBV and find out!'

While students seemed a little shy at first with the with the OBV staff, barriers were soon broken down, and a sense of self confidence began to build with each team member. Such was the care and attention given to our students, it was difficult for students not to respect their instructors. OBV certainly captured our virtue program, and most certainly inspired to build young people of strong ethical character, who we hope will make positive contributions to the world in their future endeavors.

Mr Charles Howgill.



OBV Pizza in style



Message from Head of Studies - Cambridge

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to the IGCSE, AS, and A-Level students for receiving their Cambridge results in June 2022 exam series.

We are running the Cambridge exams this November 2022 series for 11 students who sit for various qualifications. The examinations start on Monday, 10 October, and end on Wednesday, 16 November. We wish them all the best!

Moreover, please be informed that registration for the June 2023 exam series will begin in December. Details will be available closer to the date.

For any queries relating to Cambridge exams, please feel free to contact me at maria.batac@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn.

Regards,

Maria Batac



Message from Head of Studies - English

Dear Parents!

It has been a busy and exciting start to Term 2.

First, our students had the opportunity to participate in Literacy Week from the 24th to 28th of October. Monday kicked off with a short story narrated over the course of the day by our teachers. This was followed by an extremely successful Book Fair on Tuesday and a Word Sports event on Wednesday. Thursday saw the students reciting poems from their pockets and we finally closed off with a quiz that tested the students' knowledge of various subject specific terminology. Students also did a fantastic job of participating in our writing competition.

The second event that was met with great enthusiasm was Halloween. Classes participated in a Window and Door Display competition. Classes went all out and created fantastically horrific and humorous scenes. Students also had the chance to show off their creative costumes in Spooky Parade during a special assembly.

I am amazed at the originality and creativity displayed by our students and look forward to seeing what else they conjure up this year.

Kind regards,

Ms. Lizl Beneke-Brent



Message from Head of Studies - Secondary

October has been a busy month for us with regard to our afternoon CCAs, which have continued in full swing, as we prepare our Badminton, Football, and Basketball teams to compete in the Hanoi Sports League in Term Two.

October has also been the month of our inter-house Sports Day activities for our KIK, Primary, Middle and High School students.

The KIK Sports Day was a day of playing fun, collaborative games, fast-paced eating competitions, and races. Our students, many of whom competed for the first time, loved the well-designed schedule that was planned for them by our very own Elfe Aguilar, the primary HPE teacher. I was very proud of our students, who behaved wonderfully, were eager, and full of energy. Thank you to Ms Elfe and the rest of the KIK staff for putting the event together.

The Primary Sports Day was another high energy affair, designed again, by Ms Elfe Aguilar. Students competed in balloon volleyball outside; a challenging game that required teamwork, communication and patience. Initially our students struggled, but with the help of their teachers, who were massively engaged and excited, they got the hang of it and competed brilliantly. Up in the MPH, students also competed in dodgeball events and fun was had by all. I am very grateful for the behaviour of our students, which was impressive, and the energy they had, ensuring the day went off without a hitch.

The Middle and High School Sports days were some of the last events of the term, and were very highly anticipated. Myself and the HPE staff, Mr Ben and Mr Hendrik, introduced some new games to the students, such as 'throwball' (a mixture of handball, basketball and netball), which were challenging and highly competitive. Students also competed in athletics activities such as the 100m dash, which, from a spectator's perspective, was a highlight.

All in all, the behaviour and participation of our students was fantastic, our staff assisted brilliantly, and together, we showed that Singapore International School has some tremendous spirit.

Finally, the term ended with our annual Staff vs Students Football game. In our 3-1 defeat, all of the staff were impressed (and humbled) by the terrific ability of our students, who showed great character, sportsmanship, and teamwork, to pull off their victory. Despite it being a close game that could have been won by either side, the students showed the courage required to grasp victory. A huge thank you to all the staff and students who participated, or supported the teams.

Term Two will require focus, both in the classroom and within our sports teams. I wish our athletes the very best, and look forward to seeing their results in the upcoming fixtures.

Michael Christensen



Primary Sports Day



A Battle of Strength!



The pressure builds in the field



The Teachers in Action vs Students



Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies Secondary

Dear Parents,

October has passed so quickly with many interesting and useful activities – especially the Mid-Term 1 exam. I am pleased to announce that with the support of parents - students of the Integrated programme has successfully completed the Mid-Term 1 exam. Parents will receive the results in week 2 of Term 2. Teachers will use these test scores to evaluate as well as implement supporting plans for better results.

Other extracurricular activities such as Sports Day, Literacy Week, and Halloween Festival are also professionally organized with useful activities to help develop soft skills, physical training as well as increase the interest in learning for students.

In November, there will also be many important events such as the 1st Annual Parent Teacher Conference, Math Week, Vietnamese Teachers' Day... Teachers will provide the detail information to Parents in the learning schedule twice a week. We look forward to seeing the progress and excitement of the students every day at school and hope to always receive the support and consensus from the parents.

If you have any issues to discuss, please contact me via email : anh.nguyenthihuyen@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Best regards!

Nguyen Thi Huyen Anh



Sports Day



So many books, so little time!

Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies Primary

Dear Parents and Students!

October has ended, but the echoes of joy and laughter, the enthusiasm and positivity of the students when participating in academic and extracurricular activities still remain.

The students of grade 4 and 5 had an excursion at the Vietnam Women's Museum. At the Museum, the students experienced three different themes, describing the important role of Vietnamese women from three sections: "Women in the family", "Women in history" and "Women's Fashion". Through the guide's speech, the students gained more historical knowledge and understood more about the role and value of Vietnamese women in the construction and defense for the nation. Thanks to that, the children formed and developed pride and gratitude towards Vietnamese women, and even more respected and loved the grandmothers and mothers who always accompanied and cared for them every day. This is also an abundant and valuable resource for students to build quality presentations for the presentation contest "The Portrait of Vietnamese Women".

Coming to the presentation contest, students in grade 4 and 5 demonstrated their excellent teamwork skills, confident and creative presentation skills. The judges have selected the best 5 teams to award the First, Second and Third prizes. The winning teams also had the honor of performing their excellent presentations for students of grade 1, 2, and 3 and the students of these ages loved the presentation so much. "I feel very happy and proud" – that is one of the children shared.

Besides, at the October project, we also received a lot of colorful pictures filled with love from students for their grandmothers and mothers. The organizers would like to invite Parents to admire some of their wonderful paintings.

Thank you very much for your companionship and support!

Tran Thi Thuy Van



"The Portrait of Vietnamese Women" Artworks



The Excursion to Vietnamese Women Museum of Students Y4,5



Students Y4,5 listen carefully the stories about Vietnamese Women



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Message from KIK

Dear Parents!

Dear Students!

Time flies so fast. It seems like the first day the School Leaders as well as the teachers were still surprised and anxious to welcome the children in the first days of class here, but Term 1 has passed and left beautiful emotions and strong impressions in our hearts. Our children seem to be older, more mature, and know how to love their friends and be closer to their teachers.

October is ending; our children are very excited to welcome Sports Day. From the youngest students in the Nursery class to the Prep class, everyone was very excited and enthusiastically participated in activities such as Cake eating contest, Bottled water contest, Sack jumping, Low crawling through the gate, Running Competition and especially the flash mod dance performance was very exciting. The children have been trained in toughness, dexterity and endurance through competitions, and then burst with happiness when they received gold, silver, and bronze medals as well as prizes for their efforts and best efforts. We are very proud of our children.

Fire safety is one of the important and useful lessons for young students. The children were so excited to meet real life firefighters and see how friendly and kind they are. The children cheered and enjoyed the water spray from the fire truck. It was a fun experience!

Let us welcome Term 2 with a lot of positive energy, bring warm love and happiness to our children, so that they can feel that every day at school is a happy day!

We are rushing to prepare for Halloween on October 31st. Please look forward to your children's exciting activities!

We are happy to listen and share with you via email: thuy.vuthi@gamudagardens.kinderworld.edu.vn.

Best regards,

Vu Thi Thuy,



