



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ GAMUDA GARDENS

NEWSLETTER

Term I - SY 2022 - 2023

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

Dear Parents,

In October we will have our first groups of students participate in the Outward Bound Vietnam (OBV) program. Our students will travel to Ha Long and enjoy the adventure based activities to support our students in developing teambuilding, soft-skills and instill confidence. We are happy to welcome back OBV and are looking forward to hearing of the adventures and growth of students experience.

We have been having a number of issues with younger students bringing money to school. This can be lost or become a source of arguments. We would encourage that only small amounts of money with no more than 50,000K be given to our primary students. Thank you for your support with this issue.

Coming soon our students will participate in the International Schools Assessment (ISA). This will be for grades 4, 6 & 8 in October. In addition grades 3, 5, & 7 will participate in February. This is an external based assessment that we use the measure our students progress and the quality of our academic programs.

We have some new members to the school Leadership team we would like to welcome Ms Chantel Lourens Head of Studies Primary, Mr Michael Christensen Head of Studies Secondary, Ms Jodie Smith Head of Studies High School, Mr Barry Devine Head of Studies High School. We look forward to their contributions to the school this year and beyond.

Student behaviour is a very important issue to our school. I would like to say that the majority of our students are well mannered and well behaved. We will set high standards at this school and work to help all students understand and meet our expectations.





New Heads of Study



*Phone
Free
Friday*



An area we would like to see some improvement in is to do with the use of mobile phones in the secondary and high school. While mobile phones and certain technologies have become a part of our student's lives, we need to ensure that the use of phones is balanced in the school setting. To create a more balanced use of mobile phones, we are planning to implement the following rules at SIS@Gamuda Gardens:

1. Students are not to use phones between classes.

The reason for this is that we have a very limited time for students to pack up, get to and prepare for their next classes. Also we want students to be focused on their learning and not be distracted by messages.

2. The use of Phones will be restricted in the canteen area.

The reason for this is so that students practice their verbal communication skills. This is important for their social development and will further assist their ability to develop confidence with their English speaking skills.

3. The use of mobile phones will be restricted to designated areas in the school.

The reason for this is so that our secondary students will have some supervision while online. This will include stairs at the front of B Block, the library and the area outside of the library. These areas will be supervised by a teacher.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or recommendations on

christopher.bradley@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Christopher Bradley
School Principal



OBV



Message from High School Deputy Principal

High School subject changes

With term 1 coming to an end soon, all High School students should be spending their time productively by making sure they are not making any more changes to their subject(s) by either quitting or changing to another subject(s). After spending much time and effort on the subject(s), it would be a pity for them to drop and quit it(them) now or later. This is especially true for the IG 2 and A-Level students who have spent more than a year of their time to study for the Cambridge subject(s). Quitting the subject(s) now is not an ideal way of getting good returns from their invested time and effort spent on attending classes. High School students should stay committed to the subjects they have chosen and stay the course without wavering. They should steer clear from peer influence and occasional setbacks to focus on improving their understanding on the subject(s). Quitting the subject(s) now will not gain more time when time is already lost the moment they quit on the subject(s). Quitting now or later only means more time will be lost because they only have the remaining part of the school year to stay focus on their choices. Likewise, it would be going against the course design and recommendation if any student decides to change to another subject now or later. It is not possible for the school to re-do the chapters covered in term 1 or the year before again given the course design stipulated by Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE). The school would like to take this opportunity to remind all High School students that the deadline for quitting and/or changing subject(s) is already closed. They should not be quitting and/or changing their subject(s) now or later. If they encounter difficulties with their subject(s), our teachers will be there to help them revise.



World's Scholar Cup

Nguyen Phuc Linh of IG 1 A won the Championship achieving 1st place in the Super Junior category at the World's Scholar Cup 2022 global round in Bangkok from September 1 to 6. The award ceremony was a spectacular event with many students, teachers, and parents from schools around the world to witness the occasion. Singapore International School, Gamuda Gardens was prominently featured at the ceremony when the host announced the team 386 which Phuc Linh belonged to as the Champion. It was a joyous moment for everyone who was present in the award ceremony. Our school shares the same joy with her and proudly recognized her achievements with students and teachers in the morning assembly. Besides the Championship award, Phuc Linh was also awarded the second place in an individual event in the final writing test. She has certainly done herself, her family, her friends, and her school proud by outdoing all other teams to win these two prestigious international awards. Excellent work, Phuc Linh!

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



Student Nguyen Phuc Linh—IGCSE 1A



Message from Secondary Deputy Principal

Term 1 has been exciting at SIS Gamuda Gardens. Football has been an ever-increasing activity amongst the students. First, was Footy Colors Day where students and staff all appeared in their teams' favorite colors. The football pitch came alive with a myriad of designs and emblems, although the Sky Blues of Manchester City and Red Devils of Manchester United seem to win the popularity contest. Second came the interhouse football competition at lunch time, which was full of energy. During afternoon soccer clubs, the football field appears like a professional training ground with staff, teaching students' tactics and strategies along with fitness. Thus, the football field has now become more disciplined sports facility, allowing the younger years their own space during lunch and break times for safety, with an ever-watchful staff member on duty. Next up the World Cup, which I am sure will generate a lot of interest and some interesting activities.



At SIS, we pride ourselves on dress code for the staff and students. It is understandable that as young people grow up, they become more fashion conscious and like to experiment with hair colors, make up and polished fingers for the girls. However, we have a dress code for all students, for footwear, hair makeup and jewelry. Please ensure that your son and daughter wear the correct uniform to school and for the girls they minimize make up and hair colorings. We don't like to see our students upset when we must address dress code, as such it is better, they understand the school's code of conduct to prevent misunderstandings. There will be lots of opportunities for students to be in colorful costumes, with house colors day coming up and, of course, Halloween, which is always a big favorite throughout the school.

Kind regards,

Charles Howgill



Assembly for Secondary and High school students

Message from Head of Studies—Primary & KIK

Dear Parents,

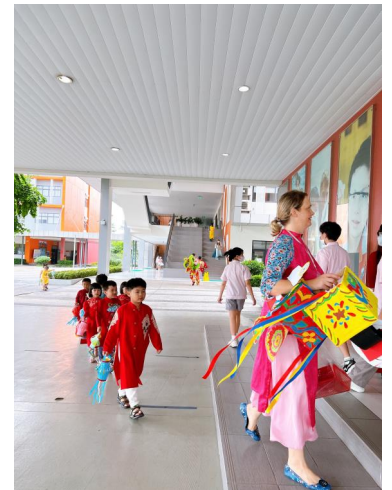
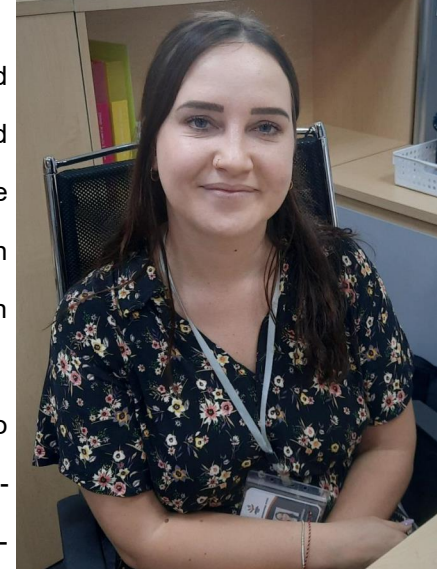
It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself to you as the Head of Studies for KIK and Primary School. I am Chantel Lourens and I come from South Africa. I am a qualified teacher with a Bachelor's in Education. I have been living and teaching in Vietnam for one and a half years now and I love the community we have here at SIS. I have also been fortunate to have taught across several grade levels and already know many students in the primary school.

We have already had an exciting start to the new academic school year and I was so pleased to see students dress in their traditional wear as we celebrated Mid-Autumn Festival earlier this term. I am looking forward to all the events to come and to ensure our students have a pleasant time at our school, both academically as well as with events outside of the classroom. Students have already completed many assignments and tasks this term but I would like to encourage them to continuously give their best efforts as we approach the end of term.

I look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Kind regards,

Chantel Lourens



Mid-Autumn Festival Activities



Message from Head of Studies—High school

My name is Jodie Smith and I am from London, England. I hold a BA in Graphic Design and a PGCE in Education, I am also specialising in Education and Technology at UCL, UK. This is my first year of Head of Art, Music and Languages, alongside being the Pastoral Leader for AS and A-Level Students. I also teach art to students Year 8 and above. During my time at SIS I have had the pleasure to teach many amazing students and I look forward to another school year!



We are coming to the end of Term 1, and what a busy term it has been! As the students have been settling into the new school term and preparing for the year ahead, the school has also had many events that students and teachers both enjoyed.

On September 9th, the whole school participated in a Mid-Autumn Festival event. Students were able to experience traditional activities such as the Cheraw log dance and the dragon dance, along with student bonding activities like karaoke and games. It was a wonderful event for all.

High school art students had their first excursion of the year and visited the Hanoi Fine Art Museum on the 22nd September. Students used this time at the museum to research artists and gain direct sources for their art coursework. More excursions for all students will follow throughout the year.

Next month SIS will hold a University Fair for all high school students on the 6th October. This event will be very beneficial to the students as they will learn more information from Universities around the world and gain an insight into what their higher education may look like.

I would like to take this time to wish you all an amazing school year and I look forward to working with you closely. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at

jodie.smith@gamudagardens.sis.edu.vn

Kind regards

Jodie Smith



Excursion to the Hanoi Fine Art Museum

Message from Head of Vietnamese—Secondary

Dear Parents,

September has passed with many efforts of the entire teachers, staffs and students of Singapore International School. During this time, many learning and fun activities for students were held, notably the Mid-Autumn Festival taking place on September 9 with many booths organizing interesting and useful folk games and activities. Besides, the grade 6 students also got used to the atmosphere, spirit and way of learning at the new school level.



In October, we will also launch a competition event to celebrate Vietnamese Women's Day on October 20.

Teachers will guide students to create meaningful cards and wishes for their beloved women.

For the first two weeks of October, integrated students will take the Mid-term 1 assessment exam. Form teachers have collected, printed and handled the review outline system to students. The test schedule will be according to the schedule announced by the subject teacher; testing form: direct examination in class, some subjects will be tested by learning projects. Before the tests, subject teachers will organize review sessions to systematize all the knowledge they have learned and correct some basic exercises for all students. Parents, please take the time to urge your children to complete the outline revision to get the best learning results.

After the above period, students will have term break from October 17 to October 21. Students will return to school to start learning Term 2 from October 24.

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

Best regards!

Nguyen Thi Huyen Anh



Mid-Autumn Festival Activities



Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies—Primary

Dear Parents and Students!

September has marked exciting weeks of study with fun and useful collective activities for the students.

With the aim of preserving the traditional culture for the young generation, bringing back childhood memories for the students, in September, the school organized a series of Mid-Autumn Festival activities for all students which many interesting, engaging and meaningful activities. To welcome the Mid-Autumn Festival, with the guidance of the teacher, the students prepared and decorated their classrooms with lanterns and five-fruit tray. During the Mid-Autumn Festival, the children watched a lion dance, enjoyed a talented musical performance and participated in traditional games.

Going to school in traditional costumes, the children also have the opportunity to participate in the contest "The best traditional costume". The awards and certificates from the principal were presented to the winning students.

In September, in order to improve the quality of school education in the direction of forming, developing capacity and quality for learners, the school has implemented effective teaching topics in all grades. The lessons are carefully prepared, applying active teaching techniques, giving students a variety of learning experiences. The school administration is especially impressed with the "reversed" lessons, in which the teacher is only the guide and the students are the ones who confidently run and organize activities. These effective teaching topics will be maintained throughout the school year.

Towards the 92nd anniversary of the establishment of the Vietnam Women's Union October 20, 1930 - October 20, 2022, in order to improve students' understanding of the role of Vietnamese women in life, fostering love in family, in October, the school organized for students to participate in the project "Portrait of the woman I love". The project is implemented with a series of different activities, suitable for each grade. Students of grades 1, 2, and 3 will participate in a drawing and postcard-making contest themed "Portrait of the woman I love". Grade 4 and 5 students will participate in a presentation contest with the theme "Portrait of a typical Vietnamese woman". In order to help students in grades 4 and 5 have the most confident presentations, the teachers have built a system of lessons to guide students in developing presentations, and at the same time organized a visit to the Women's Museum Vietnam for students to collect materials. Through the contest products, the students will have the opportunity to assert themselves, and at the same time cultivate love for people.

October is also the time when teachers evaluate the efforts and progress of students in the middle of semester I. Grades 1, 2, and 3 will conduct the assessment according to Circular 27/2020/TT-BGDĐT. Grades 4 and 5 will conduct the assessment according to Circular 30/2014/TT-BGDĐT and 22/2016/TT-BGDĐT. Particularly for students in grades 4 and 5, there will be two more tests for Math and Vietnamese at the middle of the first semester. The teachers have sent the content of the review and the mid-semester test schedule for the first semester to Parents by email. In class, teachers will organize review for students. Parents are expected to accompany the teachers in encouraging and encouraging the students to study and complete the test well.



Best regards!

Tran Thi Thuy Van



Y4 students passionately prepare their reports



Y4 students confidently organize activities for classmates

Message from Head of Vietnamese Studies—KIK

Dear Parents and Students!

It is a pleasure to see you and your children again in this Newsletter.

September has passed; our students have bonded with the class, loved their teachers and shared more with friends. Seeing the children grow up every day, every hour, seeing their smile, all the teachers as well as the School Leader Team feel happy and much younger. Moreover, perhaps the happiest and funniest day of September is Mid-Autumn Festival, the day when the whole school is excited from the teachers to the stu-



dents in beautiful Ao Dai. Those unforgettable memories are the fun and bustling lion dance with endless laughter. In addition, the children also participated in the Mid-Autumn Festival with many interesting stalls, along with teachers displaying the traditional Mid-Autumn Festival tray. A very meaningful activity that we all recognize is sharing and love. Thank you to all Parents who prepared dishes for their children to have a memorable buffet.

An event where I myself, Principal Mr. Bradley as well as the entire staff of the school had the opportunity to meet, exchange and understand more about the thoughts and aspirations of the parents in the Parent Meeting at the beginning of the school year 2022-2023. On behalf of the Principal and The entire staff of the school, I would like to send our most sincere thanks to all Parents.

Dear Parents and Students!

Term 1 is a module with many useful and interesting activities, but the activity that the children love the most is the excursion. The children of K1 grade Peter Puppy spend time TiniWorld Time City. Children discover about the world around them through games and most importantly, they feel moral lessons such as how to play together, listen and share. K2 and Prep students were very excited to go to the Creative Carpentry Workshop. The children had the opportunity to try their hand at making carpentry, sawing, cutting, nailing, and sanding pieces of wood to create beautiful toys.

The trip left beautiful impressions and unforgettable memories in the hearts of the children.

September has ended, but it seems that its echoes will remain forever in my mind as well as the entire staff of KinderWorld International Kindergarten.

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

Best regards!

Vu Thi Thuy



Excursion Activities

Our KIK students thoroughly enjoy the collaboration and experience of swimming lessons, STEM and having fun.

