

# NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

## 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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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021 – Year 6 OBV trip to Quy Nhon
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021 – Preschool Parent-Teacher meetings
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Year 8 OBV trip to Quy Nhon
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Primary school Parent-Teacher meetings (Year 1-6).
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Secondary and high school Parent-Teacher meetings
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February – ISA tests for Years 3, 5 and 7.
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February – TeT school assembly and celebrations.
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February – TeT holidays

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear SIS Parents, Caregivers, Family and Friends

Welcome back to the start of the second semester. It has been great to see all the children again. Many teachers have commented how our students seem to have renewed energy and enthusiasm and this is a very good sign.

Term 3 promises to be a very busy time yet again. Teachers are busy finalising the semester 1 exams marking as well as the report cards. We also have TeT fast approaching and students will be gearing up for some celebrations at school - a TeT assembly followed by some games and activities on Friday 5 February 2021. More details to follow soon. Unfortunately, with strict CoVid safety protocols still in place, parents again will not be allowed to attend the assembly, sorry.

I would like to remind parents about some important protocols to keep following:

1. Parents are to drop children off preferably at the gate but definitely not past the cordoned off area by the office steps.
2. No hot cooked fast food is allowed to be ordered or delivered for birthday celebrations – cakes and healthy snacks allowed.
3. Children must wear masks to and from school and hand sanitize at the gate every morning.
4. Parents and caregivers must also wear masks at all times when visiting the school.

Lastly, we have been given permission to hold parent-teacher meetings. Notices will go out from teachers regarding dates and times and procedures for booking meetings with teachers. During the parent-teacher meeting weeks we will strictly enforce CoVid protocols – parents to hand sanitize at the gate and wear masks during the meetings. Meetings will be held in teacher classrooms and once the meetings are finished, we request parents to leave the school as soon as possible.

Take care everyone.

Thank you!  
Mark Watling  
Principal

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT**

December was another busy month at SIS, Binh Duong. The culmination of our academic studies for the semester took place with the students participating in their end of semester exams. Students attended tutorials, revised in class and for homework and then gave their best effort in completing their work. It was relief for all when they were finished and time for a well-earned break.

After our exams, the students had a great time at the Christmas Fair. Many of the older pupils ran the games and food stalls and the younger children had fun visiting the attractions with their friends. We also had some wonderful Christmas performances from various classes throughout the school. It was a great way to end the year and some awesome school spirit was on display.

I hope everyone had a great holiday and I look forward to seeing you all over the coming semester.

Mr. Tom Dowden  
Head of Studies-Primary School

### **HIGH SCHOOL REPORT**

With the writing of exams, a Christmas fair and celebrations, students were well and truly ready for a Christmas holiday break! Congratulations to them for their hard work and study throughout Semester One. Particular congratulations to Aditya Kumar Shubham, Dang Hung Gia Bao, Do Tran Khang and Marcia Ancilla Junarta who are our first ever students to master a level in the DynEd program and who were presented with their certificates at our last school assembly. Their certificates are recognized worldwide as level of proficiency in English. They should be very proud of their achievement as they continue to work towards completing the next level. Parents of all students from Year 3 – IGCSE will receive a report this semester on their child's progress in DynEd. Please look at the report carefully and discuss it with your child. Also remind students from Year 6 – IGCSE, that as part of their English homework, they are required to complete a minimum of four DynEd sessions of 15 – 20 minutes each week.

We welcome students back for Semester 2 and all of the new challenges that it will bring.

Ms. Caroline Mead  
Deputy Principal

### **INTEGRATED SCHOOL REPORT**

All integrated students wrote their Vietnamese exams in December. The students all tried their best to do in the tests and I am very happy with all their work and so proud of them.

It seems that Christmas time is here once again, and it is time again to bring in the New Year. We wish the merriest of Christmas to you and your loved ones, and we wish you happiness and prosperity in the year ahead.

Ms. Kim Tri  
HoV

## WINTER FAIR 2020

The 6th annual SIS BDNC's Winter Fair was a rousing success this year. Our 2020 winter concert began the event and featured some serious talent beginning with a beautiful *Feliz Navidad* sung and performed by the Y8 Int'l, Y9 Int'g, and IGCSE 1 students. Preschool classes added to the day's merriment with dance performances to *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*, *Rocking Around the Christmas Tree* and *Jingle Bell Rock*. The 2020 Winter show ended with Year 7L's performance of *"Twas the Fright Before Christmas"* and the *La Lung* performed by the IGCSE students.

Students and their dynamic teachers came together to make 27 creative and festive carnival stalls which engaged our students whilst raising money for our charity, *Caritas Vietnam*. Even with Covid19 restrictions limiting our local and international families from attending, our well-behaved students safely bounced from stalls to snacks to castles and to crafts with giggles and laughter all afternoon. Stalls such as Ice Treasure Plunge, Miss Tam's Winter Ring Toss, Christmas Tree Ball Shooter and Merry Mini Golf were great fun and seriously entertaining. Science and technology united as one in Mr. Jonathan's Mind Cuber Robot. Christmas crafts and environmentalism joined together in Miss Ayn's recycled Christmas Jars and Miss Amy's recycled Christmas Cards.

Student-crafted foods also filled our senses with IGCSE creating Vietnamese Hot Pot, Mr. Chris serving fresh popcorn, Chinese classes making "Mandarin Sandwiches", Year 5 International's fruit salad, Integrated class 'Healthy Holiday Fresh Fruit Blends' and IGCSE 1's nutritious Yuletide Power Balls.

A fun-filled festival it was and a rejoicing way to celebrate the end of Semester 1 exams.

From our KinderWorld staff and educators to all of our international and Vietnamese families; we wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

Mr. Will Savidge



**STEM**

With the incorporation of Coding and Robotics into our STEM curriculum, the students at SIS Binh Duong New City have been having a great time learning all about the robots, mTiny and Codey Rocky.

**ROBOTICS CLUB**

The robotics club, run by Ms. Amy and Mr. Jonathan, was a great exercise at exploring the endless opportunities of the UB Tech Stem Kit. The club decided to build a boom gate and was challenged with creating a code which had to open and close the boom based on whether an object was in front of the gate. The students finally got to finish the build before the end of the term – see photos below. We look forward to more exciting stem tasks in the future during STEM club activities, which will hopefully include:

1. Robotics Club for secondary students
2. Mtiny and Codey Rocky club for Year 2-4 students
3. 3D Printing clubs for Year 3 upwards
4. Coding clubs for Year 1 upwards

**IGCSE 1 – STEM**

This semester the IGCSE1 students looked into the effects, implementation and other appropriate considerations of Smart streetlamps. They researched and evaluating the possible benefits and ethical issues that could arise from the use of these Smart streetlamps.

**Other News**

After school clubs and EFL classes for Term 3 will commence on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Staff update**

In December we said farewell to the following teachers:

- Ms. Chen Muhan – Chinese.
- Ms. Ngoc – Year 2 Assistant Teacher.
- Mr. David Phillips – PE teacher

In January we welcomed Ms. Denise Bosman as temporary PE teacher.

We are still trying extremely hard to find a new Chinese teacher but in the current climate it is very difficult to be able to employ native Chinese teachers. So we ask parents for patience please until we can find someone suitable to assume the classes left vacant by Ms. Chen's departure.