



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ BINH DUONG NEW CITY

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 21st-30th-May SA2 Exams
- June 1st – Children's Day
- June 11-15th- Reports & Parent Teacher Conferences
- June 18th-2018- IGCSE Parent Briefing
- June 19-20th- High School Reports & Conferences,
- 22nd June-End of Year Concert
- 29th June-Term 4 ends

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WASC Visit

This May, The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) visited our SIS schools in Vietnam. They specifically looked at our Schoolwide Action Plan (SWAP) and our

follow-up actions since their last visit. Mr. Regan, the teachers and

I energetically devoted ourselves to all areas of school-improvement so that our accreditation visit would be a success. *Thank you to our wonderful teachers and staff for your excellent work!*

Why is accreditation important?

- ✓ A guarantee to the public that the school is a trustworthy place of learning.
- ✓ It validates the integrity of the school's program and transcripts.
- ✓ It affirms that the school meets standards of quality established by the international school community.
- ✓ It fosters the ongoing improvement of the school's programs and operations to support student learning.
- ✓ Ultimately we want to foster a culture of *on-going reflection and improvement.*

Wet Weather

It is important that drivers are very careful, and on time, when they pick-up and drop-off students. They need to pay special attention during the rainy season and hold the hands of small children, as they have a tendency to run suddenly. Small steps to protect their safety can **prevent a tragedy**. If you hire drivers to escort your children, please inform them of our strict safety rules. We also ask kindly for all drivers to listen to the guards and staff, and to drive slowly (without driving backward, if possible). Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

One of our many projects this year has been to improve our library

We are very pleased to announce the arrival of the first half of a shipment of new library books! All year long our *Primary Reading Team*, with the support of our library Ms. Tu, work hard to inventory, reorganize, and order new books that would complement our curriculum. They put in many extra hours to do this. We are very grateful to Ms. Alex, Ms. Kim, Ms. Tu and Ms. Marion!



Principal

MaryKay Gudkova



The WASC Team

SUGAR AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

A group of senior students and teachers have compiled a collection of tasty, sugar-free recipes. Please find the sugar-free recipes attached.

END OF YEAR CONCERT

This year the End of Year Concert will be held on Friday 22 June. Once again it will be held at the Binh Duong New City Convention Centre. The start time is yet to be confirmed but it will likely be 6pm again. This year the theme is **Lights, Camera, Action!** so performances will relate to movies and theatre.

STAFF UPDATE

As our school grows, there is a need to increase our staffing. It is with pleasure that we announce the return of Angus Crisp to our staff next year.

I am a teacher from Tasmania (Australia) with a background in Physical & Outdoor Education. I have a big interest in the wilderness; I enjoy bush-walking with my friends, going Skiing or Snowboarding up in the Mountains, and taking a pleasurable Sunday to enjoy a book (or two). I also have a strong science background which I studied at University, with a fascination with the natural world and an interest in the rules of the universe. I've been lucky to travel some of the world, and after teaching Health & Physical Education in Vietnam & Germany, and now I'm returning to SIS BDNC.



Angus Crisp

We are also delighted to introduce Catherine Eastham who will be joining us next year.

Originally from Garstang, a small town about 100 km from Manchester, I completed my teaching certificate in East London; a very multicultural part of England. After two very happy years in London I relocated to the North of England where I spent the next nine years working as a primary teacher. In 2012 I decided to enter the world of international teaching. I have just spent three successful years in Cairo, and before that three happy years in Abu Dhabi. In Cairo I was on the Staff Well Being Committee at school, organizing many excursions around Cairo and into the amazing desert. I also love to travel. I'm very excited about being part of your community.



Catherine Eastham

STEM

Recently, you received a letter explaining that STEM will be added to the curriculum at SIS next year. STEM stands for **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**athematics. Teachers will provide STEM activities that are multidisciplinary and designed to promote critical thinking and build problem solving skills. At SIS@BDNC we will introduce STEM Corners and STEM linked themes in kindergarten classrooms. At primary and secondary level, STEM lessons and challenges will be introduced as well as holding special STEM events during the school year. This short video shows what STEM can look like in classrooms https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YB_QhFFpLs