

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

- 01-02 September – National Day holidays.
- 9th September – Moon/Lantern Festival.
- 3rd – 7th October – Parent surveys due.
- 14th October – Classroom Assessments finalised for Term 1.
- 17th October – Term 1 Progress Reports issued.
- 18th – 23rd October – Term 1 holiday.
- 24th October – Term 2 starts.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear SIS Parents, Caregivers, Family and Friends

I would like to welcome everyone back for the start of our new school year 2022-2023. It is wonderful to be able to start the year with all students physically back at school compared to the difficult start we had last year with Online learning. Students are all motivated and eager to learn, and we wish them all a successful and happy school year.

I would like to formally welcome all our new students and parents to our family at SIS@BDNC - we hope that you enjoy the programmes that we offer and I look forward to watching these student's progress. It is pleasing to note that we have increased our student enrolments to over 400 students, a growth of over 20% over the past year, and we continue to thank our parents for their loyal support.

There continue to be a number of key areas that we will focus on this year but underpinning this will be a focus on quality teacher instruction. We will continue to focus on the teaching of Reading and literacy, phonics, Mathematics and Science, as well as further develop other initiatives started last year. We will continue to grow our STEM, and the DynEd English programme to ensure mastery of as many of our students as possible in the English language.

We ran an effective practice Fire Drill on 31 August 2023 and it was pleasing to see all the students and staff understand the importance of evacuating quickly and calmly. Soon we will invite the local Fire Department to assist us in tightening up our processes even further where needed.

This year we welcomed some new teachers as well as some returning teachers – an update on this can be found later in the newsletter. I know they are all keen and ready to make an impact and develop our students in all spheres of school life, particularly in respect of our School Wide Learner Goals.

I look forward to a very rewarding, successful and enjoyable school year ahead and extend best wishes all our students and parents.

Mark Watling
Principal

PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

Dear parents,

A warm word of welcome to all at the start of our new school year, 2022 – 2023. A special word of welcome to every new student and parent. Congratulations on your decision to choose our school. I would also like to welcome the following staff members: Ms. Elbe Venter (Y1LA) and Mr. David Northall (Y5LA). We are privileged to have you as part of our team. We thank you for what you have done already in a short while and we hope that you are happy in our school.

At SIS BDNC we lay the foundation for our students to be future leaders. We nurture our School Wide Learner Goals which develop our students to be critical thinkers, technology literate students, confident communicators, academic achievers and active and responsible citizens. We would really want to achieve this in a disciplined, safe, school environment.

In the first few weeks, the teachers established the classroom routines. Students also learned more about the school- and classroom rules. Most classes have Class Dojo's and our students are expected to be busy with RazKids. We are very excited about the new KinderWorld App. I am sure that it will add value and that communication between teachers and parents and vice versa will be much easier.

We are all looking forward to all the activities the school will offer during the next few weeks. For the Lantern Festival our students will mainly use recyclable materials and show their creativity.

Mr. Philip van der Walt
Head of Studies - Primary School

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

It is difficult to believe that we have already completed more than a month of school! As we strive to return to pre-CoVid times as closely as possible while still being mindful of the ongoing precautions, a number of regular school practices and activities are being revived.

After school activities are in full swing, although it would be great to see greater participation from senior pupils. One realises that there are study commitments, but a healthy balance between academics and relaxing, fun sports and activities can only be beneficial.

We have also revived and revamped the Student Council. Eight students in Year 8 to A-levels have been elected to serve on this council and these names were announced at a special assembly today. Soon these students will have their first meeting where they will, in turn, elect a president and vice-president. Then the REAL work and service will start.

While we continue to wait for a full staff complement, school life has been busy and complicated at times. As always, the students have proved to be resilient and accommodating. However, we hope to achieve "normality" as soon as possible. I am sure that everyone – students, staff and parents – is looking forward to a relaxing long weekend. I wish all safe travels and a good rest.

Ms. Lizelle MacLachan
Head of Studies - Secondary

INTEGRATED SCHOOL REPORT

Autumn – the opening of a new school year. The new school year 2022 - 2023 has arrived. Every year, students will have more challenges but we hope that students are ready for their new journey. We wish all the teachers and students a school year filled with great memories.

During this month, our students have started their learning routine after summer holiday. Especially with Year 1 students, this year is their first year to learn many subjects and meet many teachers. They will have some difficult times to adapt with new changes, and we hope parents understand and support our students and also the teachers for them to succeed with their learning.

We would like to thank all parents for your encouragement to your children and the school during the year.

Ms. Kim Tri
Head of Vietnamese

STAFF UPDATE

I am happy to officially announce the promotion of Mr. Jonathan Bosman to Deputy Principal effective from 08 August 2022. We wish him loads of success and know that he has some wonderful contributions to make to the growth and development of our school.

We also officially announce 2 new Heads of Studies – Ms. Lizelle MacLachlan in Secondary and Mr. Philip van der Walt in primary.

We also have several new teachers that have started in August:

- Ms. Elbe Venter – Year 1 International
- Mr. David Northall – Year 5 International
- Ms. Duyen – Year 1 Integrated
- Mr. Chris Oldnall – Business Studies
- Ms. Odezza Pangilinan – ICT
- Ms. Erin Quizo – primary English and SoS teacher
- Ms. Ma Jia – Chinese teacher
- Mr. Mark Richardson – secondary English

We wish them all the best at SIS BDNC.

We also welcomed back:

- Ms. Lilit Gevorkyan – Music
- Ms. Kieu Anh – Year 4 Integrated

We also welcomed several new Assistant Teachers in primary:

- Ms. Nguyen Lan Phuong
- Ms. Pham Thi Loan Thanh

We are still awaiting the arrival of our new PE teacher, Ms. Sephora Paret, who will hopefully be here in the next few weeks.

We are still unfortunately in need of a specialist Science teacher as well as a specialist Mathematics teacher. Hopefully next month's newsletter will bring good news on this front.

GENERAL REMINDERS AND UPDATES

SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES

Please remember that during online learning we will follow the normal timetable schedule.

School start: 8.25am

School finish: 3.15pm for Year 1-4 International, 3.30pm for KIK, 4.00pm for all other classes.

LATE ARRIVALS TO SCHOOL

We continue to request parents to please ensure that their children are dropped off at school before 8.25 am. Unfortunately, we still have many students arriving in class after this time which is disruptive to our start to the school day.

AFTERNOON PICK UP

We continue to request parents to please ensure that their children are collected from school within 15 minutes of them finishing their daily school activities, and before 5.00pm at the absolute latest. Unfortunately, we still have many students staying at school until well after 5.00pm and this is really not fair on them.

HEALTHY FOOD POLICY

At SIS we teach children the importance of an active and healthy lifestyle. We ask all parents to assist children whilst at home to continue to follow good eating habits. Also, during online learning, please ensure that children take regular breaks as advised by teachers and use these times to get away from their desks, walk around and do some stretching exercises. Also, please ensure your children drink lots of water throughout the day.

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

- Singapore International School insists on students wearing the full school uniform.
- Students should not wear non-uniform clothes over the uniform.
- Students must wear covered shoes.

KINDERWORLD ACCESSORIES AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE POLICY

We would like to remind you of some policies regarding the appearance and dress of students at SIS. Please support us by ensuring your children follow these regulations.

- Jewelry is to be kept to a minimum - one watch, one set of small ear studs.
- Hair is to be kept neat and tidy. It should be of natural colour. Girls should preferably have their hair tied back. Boys' hair must be neat and tidy.
- Tattoos and facial piercings are not allowed.
- Eye make-up and lipstick are not allowed. Lip gloss should be of natural colour.
- No smart watches are allowed to be worn at school.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are pleased to see After School clubs and activities for Term 1 in full swing with many students enrolling. We hope to initiate more clubs in Term 2, so please encourage your children to sign up for at least one club activity a week.

IGCE and CAREER PATH INFORMATION

Dr. Roy, our career guidance counsellor, visited our school for 2 days during August, meeting with all classes from Year 8 upwards to talk about current and future school paths. He reported that he had wonderful and enthusiastic meetings and responses from all classes. He also had some valuable meetings with some parents and I would like to thank those parents for taking the time to discuss with Dr. Roy and teachers the future academic career paths of their children. Dr. Roy will visit us again in September.

ONLINE LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMMES**DynEd ENGLISH**

We continue to encourage all students from year 3 upwards to use this program at home for at least 3 hours a week. This will help to accelerate their learning. We are already seeing the huge benefits of this program in those students using it regularly.

RAZ-KIDS ENGLISH

All students from Prep to Year 3 have been registered to our online reading program, Raz-Kids - Check it out at www.raz-kids.com.

McEduHub and KOOBITS

All International students from Year 1-6 have been registered on McEduhub for Math and Science. All International students from Year 3-6 have been registered on Koobits Math program.

All students have been provided with their new login details

We encourage students to use these programmes to supplement their learning in class – they are all linked to the Singapore curriculums and will add a lot of value to those that fully engage in them.

AUGUST PHOTOS – FIRE DRILL AND STUCO ANNOUNCEMENT ASSEMBLY

