

# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021

## 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

- Wednesday 3 March 2021 – Photoshoot for TeT costumes
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – ISA tests for Years 3, 5 and 7
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 – World Water Day
- April school holidays – 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear SIS Parents, Caregivers, Family and Friends

After 2 weeks of online learning, it has been great to welcome all our students back to continue our learning at school. They all seemed to have returned with renewed enthusiasm and everyone has truly eased back to normal school routine effortlessly. I must say, I did sincerely miss the sounds of laughter and joy of our children during the days of online learning, as well as seeing the smiles on their faces.

I would like to congratulate the Health Authorities all over Vietnam for the way in which they quickly suppress the spread of CoVid-19 and for always ensuring the safety of all people in Vietnam. I would also like to inform parents that we at SIS always have the health and safety of our students uppermost in our mind and take all necessary precautions to ensure that all of us are able to learn and play in a healthy, clean environment.

On the topic of CoVid-19, I would like to remind parents to strictly follow the guidelines as set out in the various directives issued by the health authorities, with special reference to the following:

1. Students to wear mask at all times – please ensure that you pack at least 2-3 masks for your children every day.
2. Parents to wear masks when dropping off and picking up children.
3. Parents are only allowed beyond the main gate if they need to visit the office or have a meeting with a teacher. In these instances, please report to security for a visitor's badge as well as to hand sanitize.

Our TeT celebrations unfortunately had to be cancelled, but this did not stop our eager students from completing their TeT Fashion Costumes out of recycled items. This week we held a photoshoot so students could display their fantastic, creative costumes. Please see later in the newsletter for some photo's. I am always astounded by the creativity of our students and congratulate them on some truly wonderful costumes.

Until next month, take care everyone.

Thank you!  
Mark Watling  
Principal

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT**

February was another challenging month due to Co-Vid 19. Our students and teachers were once again faced with adapting to online learning and staying at home. I would like to say how proud I am of all the teachers and students in the primary school who took on the challenge with enthusiasm and much gusto. It was fantastic to see the teachers producing meaningful online experiences for our students. Students were all very engaged with the online program as well and they too rose to the occasion. Our older students, who had online learning last year, were able to switch between classroom and online with relative ease. Keep up the great work, everyone.

Mr. Tom Dowden  
Head of Studies-Primary School

### **HIGH SCHOOL REPORT**

Well it was a short Month this month with unexpected online learning taking place in the last week of term for our High School students and then the two week TeT break. Students decorated classrooms for TeT celebrations and prepared their costumes for the fashion parade. Unfortunately, because of lockdown this did not take place. Students were given the opportunity to take part in a fashion shoot upon our return to regular classes, which they did with enthusiasm, as you can see by the photos below.

I have to congratulate both students and staff for their hard work and commitment during our week of online learning. Students and staff were both prepared for having to return to online learning and it clearly showed. The level of attendance in classes and the work completions rate was excellent. It is good to know that quality learning can still take place in emergency situations, but it is also better to see our students back and working in the classroom!

Another reminder about DynEd. Your child should be completing DynEd 3 – 4 times a week for 15 – 20 minutes as part of their English homework. They will need the program installed using the Asia server, and a microphone / headset. Please contact the school if you are having difficulty accessing the program at home.

Ms. Caroline Mead  
Deputy Principal

### **INTEGRATED SCHOOL REPORT**

This month was the difficult time for students because the Covid outbreak again so that students had to stay at home to do online learning. Students did the work so well and they showed that our students can adapt to any new things.

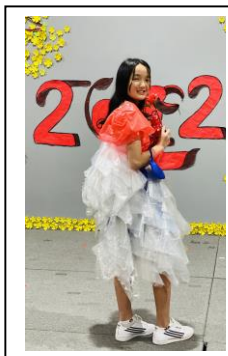
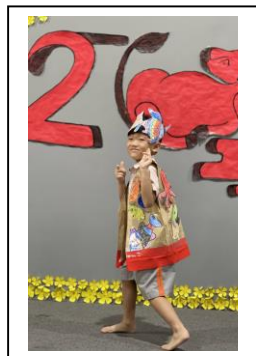
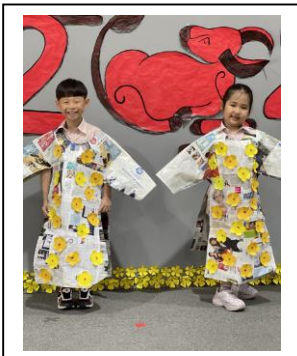
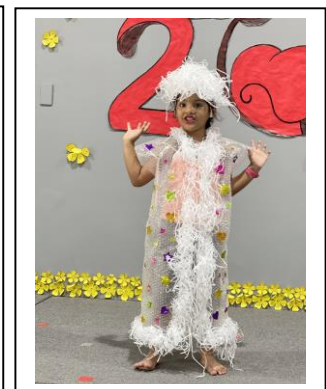
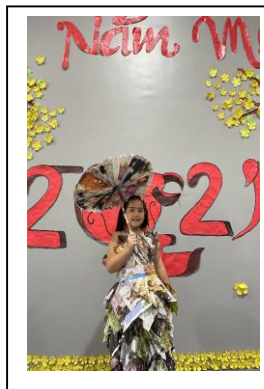
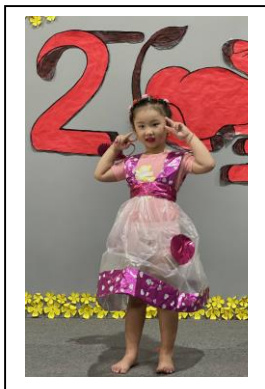
Our TeT fashion show could not take place on schedule before the TeT holidays, but students were very happy to know that they were still able to wear these costumes and take photos when they came back to school.

Ms. Kim Tri  
HoV

**FASHION COSTUME DESIGN –  
LUNAR NEW YEAR 2021**

Our Lunar New Year celebrations had to be cancelled this year. But fortunately students were able to return to school this week to finish off their wonderfully creative TeT Fashion Costumes out of recycled items. This is clearly evident in the assortment of photos that can be seen.

A big thankyou also to our teachers and staff for the constant encouragement and help they give our students in times like these.





## **OTHER NEWS**

### **CELL PHONE POLICY**

SIS@BDNC has a no cell phone policy for our students. We believe it is important for students to learn to communicate and play with each other during their break times. As such, children are allowed to bring cell phones to school and, in the case of high school, even use them as a learning tool but they are not permitted to play games, visit social media websites, call or send messages during school hours. Parents can support us by reminding children of the policy and by not calling your child before 4.30pm.

### **SCHOOL WIDE LEARNER GOALS**

The SCHOOL WIDE LEARNER GOALS, or SLG's for short, help teachers and students explicitly know what they are aiming for throughout the year. Here is a list of what we work towards at SIS@BDNC:

#### **Singapore International Schools seek to nurture:**

- 1. Academic Achievers** who:
  - a. Meet or exceed year level expectations
  - b. Demonstrate academic growth
  - c. Strive for continuous improvement
  
- 2. Confident communicators** who:
  - a. Demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening
  - b. Work collaboratively with others
  - c. Use creative forms of expression
  
- 3. Critical Thinkers** who:
  - a. Apply rational, higher order thinking skills
  
- 4. Technologically literate students** who:
  - a. Effectively use technology to access, organize, evaluate, create and communicate information
  - b. Understand responsible use of social media, communication and networking tools
  
- 5. Active and Responsible citizens** who:
  - a. Understand and respect their own and other cultures
  - b. Demonstrate good citizenship and social responsibility through serving others
  - c. Understand the importance of an active and healthy lifestyle
  - d. Understand and demonstrates a set of universal virtues

### **PICK UP OF CHILDREN AT 5PM**

We wish to remind parents that children must be picked up by no later than 5pm. All school staff finish work at 5pm and children still at school have to be supervised by the security staff. They are not trained to supervise small children and nor is it part of their official job description. It is also not fair on children to have to wait so long to be picked up. KinderWorld policy also has a clause stating that parents who are late in picking up their children *pay a late fee*. We do not unnecessarily wish to implement this penalty, but may be forced to do so considering the number of students who regularly get picked up late every day. Please support us in picking up your children before 5pm.

Pre-school children are encouraged to go home immediately after their last class or their club. This prevents them from becoming over-tired and helps them to study throughout the week. Again, it is highly unfair to expect small children to need to wait patiently for any extended period of time before being picked up.