

# NEWSLETTER

February 2022

## 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.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL
- PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT
- INTEGRATED REPORT
- STEM UPDATE
- STAFF UPDATE



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 14-16 March 2022 - mid semester 2 exams Y6-9 Integrated classes
- 21-25 March 2022 - Anti-Bullying/ Empathy Week
- 22 March 2022 - World Water Day
- 04-08 April 2022 - Student Protection Week.
- 8 April 2022 - Term 3 ends.
- 9 - 17 April 2022 - April holidays.
- 18 April 2022 - Term 4 starts.
- 25-29 April 2022 - final exams for Integrated class Y9.
- 9-14 May 2022 - final exams Integrated classes Y6-8
- 25 May - 3 June 2022 - SA2 exams

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear SIS Parents, Caregivers, Family and Friends

It was with great joy that we were able to welcome all our KIK and Y1-6 students back to school on 14 February 2022. The students were all so happy and overjoyed to be back and see all their friends and teachers again. Likewise, it was awesome to hear the chatter and noise of our younger students as they quickly adapted back into the routine of school life. It has also been great to see so many parents again after a long time and to see that on the whole all our families are well.

Unfortunately, we have seen an increase of CoVid positive cases in the community and this has included many students, parents and teachers. This has resulted in some students having to resort back to online learning, with so far 7 classes, over the past 2 weeks, having to resume full online learning. We are hopeful that case numbers will start dropping soon and that direct learning will be able to take place with little or no interruptions.

The reports for Semester 1 have all been sent home and teachers have been busy with parent meetings to discuss their children's progress. With semester 1 having largely been restricted to online learning, with which many challenges were faced but overcome, I am extremely proud of the results that our students have achieved. Well done to one and all. I would also like to say a big thank you to all our parents for the dedication they showed towards their children's learning during a very tough climate since July 2021.

At this stage, we are unfortunately not able to offer our usual after school clubs, but confirm that the after school EFL program and Vietnamese Studies program has started again.

Till next month, stay safe and take care everyone.

**Mark Watling**  
Principal

## PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

**Dear Parents,**

February has been a challenging month which began with optimism that we could move forward together at school. It is wonderful to see our students enjoying their lessons face to face. However, our present situation requires that some stay home to recover from CoVid, while others quarantine. Once again, our community was well able to adapt to the challenges and quickly moved to a model which caters for those at school and those at home.

Today I retired from teaching after a career of forty-seven years. During that time, I have been privileged to work with many wonderful teachers and students and am happy to have ended my career in Vietnam, with our amazing community. Thank you for your support!

Best wishes for the future,

**Ms. Kathleen Boyle**  
**Head of Studies - Primary School**

## HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

We have welcomed back all of our students but unfortunately it has not been as smooth as we would like! CoVid continues to mean that we are doing a mix of online and classroom learning. Our students have adapted well but please be mindful that if anyone in your household tests positive for CoVid, you should keep your child at home until that person tests negative, and your child does too.

On a positive note, students in the secondary school participated in a recent "Hackathon" event, which for many was their first opportunity to stand up on stage and present to an audience. Despite their nerves, they did themselves proud. You will find a more detailed report and photos elsewhere in this newsletter.

A reminder to all parents that your child should be studying Dyned at least 4 times per week at home for 30 minutes. For International classes, it makes up a great deal of their English homework. Understandably this fell off during online learning, but I encourage all students to begin to apply themselves to Dyned again, as it can make a significant contribution to their English listening and speaking skills.

**Ms. Caroline Mead**  
**Deputy Principal**

## INTEGRATED SCHOOL REPORT

The school is very happy to welcome all our students back to school after the long time students cannot go to school. Beside that happiness, we also need to face with the CoVid case. The students and the teachers work together every day to get over this difficult time.

Next month, integrated classes will have the middle semester exam. We wish our kids will have the good result.

**Ms. Kim Tri**  
**Head of Vietnamese**

## STEM UPDATE

February sparked the beginning of our return to school which includes our STEM projects and assignments. This included the planning and final stage of our regional Hackathon competition. Many hours were spent by teachers and students in preparation for the final presentations! And it is with great pride that I congratulate both students and STEM teachers. Many of our groups stepped up on the day to deliver excellent speeches. This event is a major success given that it is our first in-person event for the year and all the of COVID related challenges that go with it. Well done to every team and a big thank you to Mr. Stefan, Mr. Milton and Mr. Jolin for your effort. We look forward to holding more competitions in the coming semester!

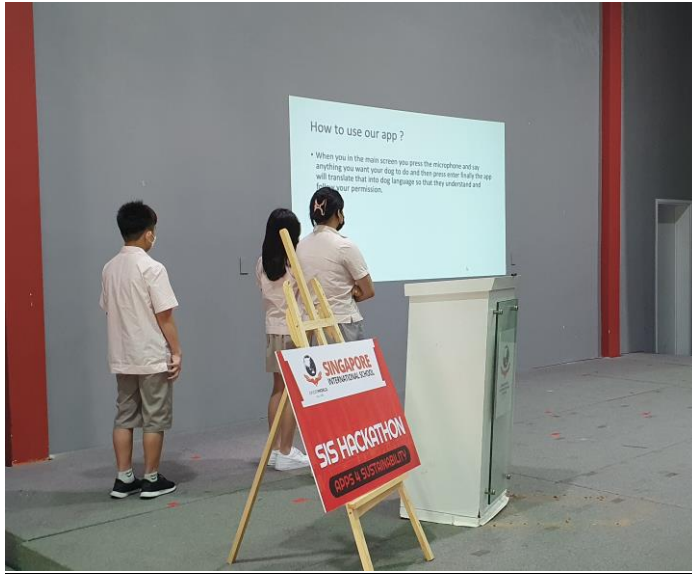
**Mr. Jonathan Bosman**  
**Head of Studies Secondary School/STEM Coordinator**

## STAFF UPDATE

Please take note of the following updates regarding our staff at BDNC:

1. Ms. Jola Sagang left on 12 February 2022 to stay at home with her family.
2. Ms. Kathleen Boyle retired from teaching and left SIS on 28 February 2022 to return home to the UK. We wish her all the best on her retirement.
3. Mr. Jason Themistocleous joined us on 7 March 2022 and will teach Y5A English as well as some PE.
4. We still await the arrival of Ms. Lorraine Samuel as our new K1 International class teacher, and we are hopeful that she will arrive in Vietnam fairly soon.
5. Mr. Deepak Maharaj has been appointed as an English teacher in secondary/high school and we are hoping he will arrive in Vietnam before the end of March 2022.

## STEM Hackathon



Year 7A presentation



IGCSE 1 presentation



Our senior students watching the Hackathon presentations with interest