



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ VUNG TAU NEWSLETTER

September 2026

Principal Letter

Hello SIS @ Vung Tau Community! Time flies, doesn't it? By the time you are reading this, students will have already sat their Term 1 Progress Checkpoints.

In this first term, I've gotten the privilege to see our students engaged in a variety of different interesting lessons planned by our very own SIS @ Vung Tau Faculty. Some highlights for me was seeing IGCSE students present business plans that required them to apply everything they have learned so far, the 4G students practicing a mid-autumn themed song in their music class, and 6G and 6L students work progressively to master the skills needed to increase their sprinting speed.

That being said, I found the most joy taking part in the Mid-Autumn Festival! The student performances were full of spirit, the lion masks made by the different classes put the talent of our students on full display, and the lion dance performance was one of the best I've seen in my time in Vietnam!

Most of all, I liked seeing so many of our local and international students and teachers sharing in the cultural celebration. One primary student actually seemed a bit embarrassed that she was the only one in her class to come to school in an áo dài. Far from feeling embarrassed, I think everyone who showed up in traditional dress should feel a sense of pride. We live in an increasingly globalized world, which has brought with it countless conveniences and innovations. But! globalization also comes with a few key down sides. Chief among them is the tragic loss of cultural identity and distinctiveness.

Singapore International School's tagline is "Eastern Values, Global Education". One key eastern value is a love and respect for one's roots. I'll be shamelessly blasting classic Christmas music and wearing a santa hat when Christmas is approaching to celebrate my own culture and I would be happy to see many more of our students in áo dài for Tết!

Timothy Scott Dalzell
Principal



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September in KIK

The Pre-Nursery and Nursery G learners had fun learning about patterns together. They matched different colours and shapes and made their own patterns using colourful circles. They also practised sharing and taking turns with their friends.



The Nursery and K1L learners had so much fun exploring the Letterland sounds of "s", "a" and "t". They made their very own shakers and enjoyed singing along to songs while trying to keep the rhythm. It was a fun, musical way to practise our letter sounds.





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K1G learners were happy, active, and enthusiastic, as they participated in an engaging classroom activity. Through hands-on learning experiences, the students developed their confidence in a positive learning environment. Their excitement was an enjoyable and rewarding experience.



K2G students really enjoy their morning circle time together. They sit in a circle, greet their friends, and get ready for the day. They talk about the date and day of the week, count numbers, and practice simple counting skills. The children also discuss the weather and share how they feel. They have lots of fun singing the ABC song, joining in with actions, and responding to simple questions. It is a happy and engaging way to start our school day!





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Ready, set, fly! The little Prep G aviators had so much fun folding and creating their very own paper airplanes! They carefully followed each step, proudly decorated their planes, and couldn't wait to see them take off. The classroom was filled with excitement and laughter as the children launched their airplanes and cheered to see whose plane could fly the farthest! This hands-on activity was not only lots of fun but also helped develop their fine motor skills, concentration, creativity, and hand-eye coordination. It was a fantastic flying adventure!





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K2 and Prep L explored positional language through an engaging hands-on learning activity using descriptive name cards and picture prompts. Students identified and discussed the positions of various objects, developing their understanding of spatial concepts and vocabulary. They especially enjoyed placing themselves in different positions and proudly demonstrating concepts such as in front, behind, under, and between. This interactive activity encouraged active participation, strengthened language skills, and made learning both meaningful and fun.





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Off to a Great Start

Year 1 has had a wonderful start to the school year! The children are settling into their new routines, making friends, and becoming more independent. They have enjoyed attending whole-school assemblies and are learning to listen and participate respectfully. Mealtime has also been an exciting step as they practise eating independently in the canteen. In English, the children are developing their confidence in speaking, phonics, reading, and writing through fun and engaging activities. We are very proud of their positive attitudes, growing independence, and enthusiasm for learning! Hooray, Year 1G!



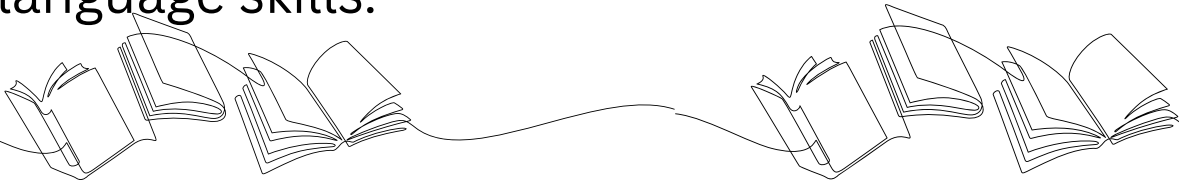


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Extensive Reading

In today's digital world, students are spending less time reading for pleasure. Yet research shows that reading extensively, which means choosing enjoyable books at the right reading level, is one of the most effective ways to build language skills.



Year 7 English class started a project grounded in the principles of extensive reading. Unlike intensive reading, where the whole class studies a single passage for vocabulary and grammar, extensive reading allows each student to choose books at their own ability level and read at their own pace. This approach has proven benefits. It builds vocabulary by exposing learners to thousands of words not found in textbooks. It deepens grammar understanding through meaningful context. It develops reading speed and fluency. Most importantly, its objective is reading for pleasure, which builds confidence and motivation, making students more effective language users.



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To support this, every month the teacher holds individual book talk chats with each student. These informal conversations give them a chance to share their thoughts on characters, plot, and how the story makes them feel. The goal is simply to help them enjoy reading and develop a lasting habit.



Parents can support extensive reading at home. Please help your children find books in English that interest them and are not too difficult. Ask them about their stories and let them read at their own pace. When reading feels like a pleasure rather than a task, children read more, learn more, and develop a lifelong love for books.





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Getting Down To Business



IGCSE 2 students recently demonstrated their entrepreneurial skills by completing and presenting their own business plans. Working collaboratively, students developed innovative business ideas and applied key concepts such as market research, target markets, marketing strategies, operations, costs, revenue, and finance. Their presentations clearly showed how classroom learning can be used to develop realistic and well-structured business proposals.





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The presentations also gave students an opportunity to strengthen their communication, teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving skills.

They responded thoughtfully to questions and confidently explained the reasoning behind their business decisions. Congratulations to all the students for their preparation, enthusiasm, and professional approach throughout this valuable learning experience.





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Celebrating Mid-Autumn Festival Through Creativity

To celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, Grade 2 Integrated students took part in a fun and meaningful hands-on activity: creating lion dance heads from recycled cardboard boxes.

Working in small groups, students used their creativity and imagination to transform simple cardboard boxes into colourful and unique lion heads. They planned their designs, carefully cut and assembled the materials, and added their own decorative details to bring their creations to life.





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Throughout the activity, students had opportunities to develop important skills such as collaboration, creativity, communication, fine motor skills, and problem-solving. They also learned more about the cultural significance of the lion dance and the traditional celebrations of the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Beyond creating a craft, this activity encouraged students to learn through doing, sharing ideas with their classmates, and celebrating an important cultural tradition together. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork throughout the experience.





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Happy Mid Autumn Festival

At SIS Vung Tau, the atmosphere was fun and joyful as we celebrated mid autumn dressed in a variety of beautiful bright Ao Dais and traditional dress, with an assembly that showcased all the entries of the dragon head decorating competition, and announced the winners.





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The assembly also included performances from KIK and early primary and few rounds of mid autumn trivia that got everyone excited. The dragon heads were colourful and creative and the dances happy and playful. A wonderful assembly to start the day!





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After the assembly the school congregated in the courtyard for a vibrant, energetic and eye catching dragon dance. It was loud and entertaining and a great addition to the festivities. There was also a feast sharing ceremony in the lobby with 5G class and the Senior Leadership Team.





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Through out the day, families, children, classes and staff had opportunities to take pictures in their outfits with the mid autumn backdrop. Fitting tributes to a fabulous Mid Autumn day event.

