



**SINGAPORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**  
*Since 1986*

**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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**Above: Excitedly awaiting the first day of school to begin.  
Below: Mr. Paul and his young Soccer Club enjoying their first meeting for the year.**



Dear Parents

A very warm welcome back to everyone. To our newer students and parents as well as our new teachers, a special welcome and we trust your stay with us will be exciting, meaningful, fun and with the emphasis on teaching and learning.

As you may have noticed the work on our swimming pool has finally started after some delay which was sorted with the authorities. We sincerely hope that the pool will be ready for the start of term 2 and that the rainy season will be over by then.

As you also may have noticed, parking at school is becoming a little crowded. We are asking all parents to please exercise caution and consideration and to follow the instructions from the Security. Most parents are doing an excellent job. The idea is for parents to just drop your child off and go – parking in front of the Office or entry / exit gates are not allowed.

Students have received all their books and teachers have started the academic work. We are still awaiting a few pieces of furniture which should be arriving within the next few weeks.

We ask all parents to ensure that we have your latest correct email addresses for correspondence.

Parents (and students) have received access to Edupage. Students can access their homework assigned, see their grades for work completed and parents have constant access as to how their children are performing – available from Year 1 to IGCSE only. You can go straight to Edupage by clicking on this link: <http://sis.edupage.org/> and then fill in your username and password – this was sent to your email address by aSc - the company operating the system.

We know the year ahead will be a great one for all of us. We wish our students a very successful educational experience and thank our wonderful parents for their continued support.

Kind regards

Dudley Schroeder  
Principal



**Above: Mr Gregory Vanderford & Mr. Paul Starbuck**



**Above: Ms. Lily Pumar**



**Above: Ms. Caitlin Wheeler**

### **New Teachers**

A new school year always brings with it a flurry of new teachers and new students, and this year is no exception. We hope they all feel very welcome and have an excellent year. We are pleased to welcome the following new teachers:

#### Mr. Gregory

Hello, I am Mr. Gregory Vanderford, a secondary teacher from Idaho, USA. I have been teaching English, History and Social Studies for over ten years. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, a Secondary Education Teaching Certificate, a TEFL Certificate, and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction; all from the University of Idaho.

#### Mr. Paul

Hello everyone! My name is Paul Starbuck, and I'm very pleased to join the rest of the staff at SIS-Vung Tau. I have been teaching for the past 5 years in Seoul, South Korea and I am very excited to teach Social Studies, Global Perspectives, and English here in Vietnam. Outside of school I enjoy being out in nature as much as possible! I also really enjoy playing sports – soccer in particular – so I am sure I will be seeing some of you on the pitch for after school activities! Nice to meet all of you and I'm looking forward to a great school year!

#### Ms. Lily

My name is Ms. Lily Pumar, and I will be teaching Nursery and Kindergarten 1. I have been a teacher since 1988. I have taught in the USA, Canada, The Czech Republic, China and Thailand in that time. I have a Bachelor's of Science, Diploma in Early Childhood Education and a Master's in Education. I am registered as a Kindergarten teacher in Hong Kong, Thailand and in California in the USA.

#### Ms. Caitlin

Hello Parents, Students and Family of SIS! My name is Ms. Caitlin. I will be teaching Year 5 English, Maths, SOSE; Yr. 6 SOSE; and Yr. 7 Maths. I am from Cleveland, Ohio. Previously, I taught in South Africa, South Korea and Greece, and I am thrilled to be teaching at SIS this year. I am very passionate about education, and I can tell that this will be a spectacular year for everyone.

*Continued on next page.*



Above: Mr. Ray Jones & Ms. Michelle Wilber



Above: The Year 1 Integrated Class is ready to learn!



Above: A few Kindergarten students enjoying educational play

Mr. Ray

Hello, I am Mr. Ray Jones and I am the new ICT Teacher and Grade 3 Integrated English Teacher this year at our school. I have taught in Texas and Virginia, as well as international schools in Tunisia, Russia, Jordan and Qatar with a focus on IT, e-Learning and visual arts. My undergraduate degree is from UT-Austin, Texas and my Master's Degree is from The College of New Jersey. I have a graduate certificate in Educational Technology through Buffalo State-SUNY. I enjoy travel, the outdoors, history, art, and volunteering. I have a son and daughter who live and work in Virginia. I look forward to working with all the students and the SIS community this year!

Ms. Michelle

I come from Seattle, Washington, USA. I have been teaching English and Writing for 12 years. I have a 2-year-old son and a wonderful husband that have come with me on this grand adventure to Vietnam.

**Spotlight on Year 1 Integrated**

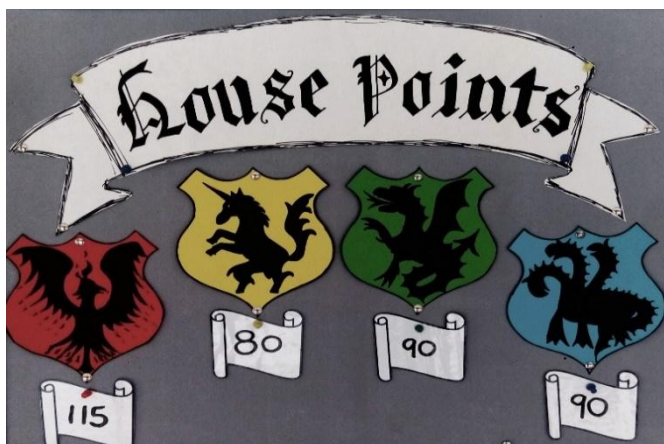
Hi Everyone!

We are Year 1 Integrated students. There are 11 members in our class: Vinh Phuc, Minh Thuy, Minh Quang, You Me, Lucy, Xuan An, Ngoc Lam, Hoang My, Hai Minh, Wesley, and Ai Vy. We are getting to know Vietnamese letters, new routines and having new, interesting experiences. We don't sleep and play as much as we did when we were little boys and girls last academic year. We understand that we are big boys and girls now, we must learn more skills in order to improve ourselves. We will learn and have fun together!

**Spotlight on Kindergarten**

Welcome to our Nursery and Kindergarten class at Singapore International School. We are looking forward for a fabulous year, with our students!

We really hope your child is excited about the beginning of the school year... all of the anxieties about the "newness" will soon disappear and we will all be having such a great time, as we start learning our routines and making friends to enjoy throughout the year.



Above: The house points will be updated on the notice board every Wednesday. Currently, Phoenix is leading by a narrow margin.



Above: After School Activities - A heated game of chess in Mr. Greg's Chess Club.



Above: An image from the Year 1&2 International Class's presentation about Caring.

## New Student House System

To kick off the house competition this year and make it even more challenging and exciting, a new house system was introduced by the new house coordinator Ms. Brigid. In an effort to keep up with technology, our house point system is now a website and app based system, where by teachers can give points to students anywhere at any time. We are excited to see what the competition looks like this year with last year's winners, Unicorn, seeking to hold onto their title. There is already stiff competition coming from Phoenix and don't count out Dragon or Hydra just yet. There are lots of new activities planned for House Challenge this year which should see the students learning a lot about teamwork, leadership and sportsmanship.

## After School Activities

The after school activities programme started on August the 16<sup>th</sup> with some new choices for the students. There is now a Speech and Debate club run by Mr. Paul, a Chess club run by Mr. Greg, Yoga by Ms. Anna and Frisbee run by Ms. Brigid. Of course there are still all the old favourites too: Arts and Crafts, Minecraft, Cricket, Soccer, Basketball, Homework club, Dance, Badminton, and Shadow Play, and many more. For any queries or more information please speak to Ms. Marianne, the After School Activity Coordinator.

## School Virtue Programme

Here at SIS we strive to develop the whole child, not focusing only on their academic education, but their social education too. Our virtue programme aims to raise awareness of the values that we need to develop to be positive members of our community.

During Assembly on Wednesdays, each year group is given the opportunity to present one of the school virtues. This week, the first of the year, Year 1 and 2 International presented the importance of caring. While many students choose to do a live performance, these students used their computer skills to create a presentation which they played on the projector.

They briefly explored the different ways we can care for each other: showing love and being kind; and the earth: don't litter, plant trees; as well as ways in which we can thank people for caring for us.