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Above and below: Some of the Stars of the Week!



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### 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.

#### **Dear Parents**

It has been a Term with various activities and hard work. The biggest event for the students was celebrating Children's Day at school. They were treated to a movie (Year 1 upward) whilst the Kindergarten students watched an awesome live magic show at school. Then the afternoon came and the students received a gift each from the Board of Management at KinderWorld.

We are continuing with our Star of the Week programme for our Kindergarten students. As you will notice, they are very proud of this award.

Our written exam for all students in the International Programme starts next week. Students in the Integrated Programme will be sitting the English exam with the International students. It is important for all students to be revising their work, doing homework and to make time to go through all the work done in Term 3 and Term 4. Students who do not understand some of the work are encouraged to talk to their teachers who are all eager to further assist where they can.

Please note that our Graduation and Concert Performance this year will take at Maxim's – yes the venue has been changed as it is better equipped for our performances. Students are currently practicing for their onstage performances and more time will be made available to them after the exam.

We have arranged for a Parent Teacher meeting to take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014 starting at 5:00 pm. Teachers will discuss the exam results with parents at this meeting and student report cards may be handed to parents.

Thank you for your continued support of all our students.

**Dudley Schroeder** 

Princinal



Above: Some of our SIS students being briefed on how to handout the packages.



Above: Uyen (Y9) is helping with the delivery of the rice. The students really enjoyed serving the community.



Above: Hundreds of people appreciated the hard work and effort from our students.

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## Vesak

Several of our students did their part for the community and spent a few hours at Lam Son Stadium. Here is Betty (Y9) to explain the details:

"On 13/5/2014, the United Nation Day of Vesak (Buddha's birthday) was celebrated in Lam Son stadium in Vung Tau. There were a lot of meaningful social activities such as: commemoration of fallen soldiers, exhibition on Buddhist culture, vegetarian cuisine area and other charity events. In the morning, some of our students had attended the celebration, and participated in giving presents to the Agent Orange victims, disabled people and families who are suffering difficulties" - Thank you for that Betty.

### Minecraft Edu Club

Everyone has Minecraft fever at school! Don't worry, it's not harmful but it is very addictive. This term at SIS, we have started using the popular game, MineCraft. MineCraft is a 3D world-building game where students use a range of 3D blocks to build practically anything they can possibly imagine.

Minecraft can be used to teach any subject: Math, English, History and Science, and many schools around the world are introducing it into their curriculums.

The benefits of using MineCraft in schools are that students find it fun and engaging, and they can learn about exciting topics creatively and collaboratively in a world where anything is possible. Students can build scale models of famous places to explore in Geography, bring a world from their favourite book to life, or they could even build a model of an animal cell to explore in Science.

At SIS@Vung Tau, we have set up a number of after-school MineCraft clubs, and teachers are integrating it into their subject lessons. Binh from Integrated Grade 7 created the entire world from the book 'Holes' in his English class, and Ms Michelle's Grade 5 International class are building a scale map of Vung Tau!

Mia from Grade 4 International says, "MineCraft is awesome because I can learn while having fun at the same time. I can work with my friends learn about things like science and math in a creative way"

We will be displaying some of the students' work on Youtube and hope that parents will appreciate the work done. Hopefully this will be inspirational to all other students as well.

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Above: Hanh and a camera-shy Barbie (y4) are busy making their dice for the speaking game.



Above: Jaiden and Kim are presenting during their business studies lesson.



Above: Mia (y4) building her new world on Minecraft.

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# **Class Updates**

Most classes at the moment are revising hard for the exams. The teachers are giving the students past papers to practice with and this will help them to familiarize with the structure of each exam. Revision can come in all shapes and sizes. For example, the year 4 English class revised their speaking skills by playing a board game. To make it fun for them, they had to first make their own dice out of paper, then colour in the board game and add obstacles. Once complete, the students played the game and practiced speaking using the present continuous tense.

The IGCSE class has been learning about Operations Management and the different areas within that unit of study. This week they presented information on business location and the factors that influence decisions on where to set up your business. Presenting business information is an important skill to have and as such the IGCSE students do this on a regular basis in class.

Mr Zeus' P.E classes are focusing on basketball skills. The good thing about basketball is that you can play indoors and with the weather being so hot at the moment, the students were glad to have an air-conditioned hall! Along with basketball, they have also been playing badminton, table tennis and dodgeball.

## **Tumblebooks Update**

TumbleBooks is pleased to announce that AudioBookCloud has now been configured for iPhones and smart phones! While the audio books have long been compatible with iPads, tablets, and smart phones, they have now added a mobile-specific feature which will facilitate mobile access. So there is definitely no excuse for our students not to read the required minimum 20 minutes per night! Our students read a massive 328 books during the month of April but there is still definitely room for improvement.

### **Other News**

#### Graduation

This year the graduation will be held at Maxim's on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5pm until 7pm. Each student will receive 2 tickets for their parents to come and watch them perform on stage. Additional tickets can be purchased at the School Office – cost is 150,000 VND per ticket. You may remember that we were sold out last year so please get your additional tickets early please.

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Above: The year 5 and 6 girls are busy practicing their song and dance for the graduation performance.



Above: Mr. Le Kanh presenting at the Information Seminar morning at SIS@Vungtau.



Above: The possibilities are endless! An example of what can be built with minecraft. At the moment, some of our students are creating our very own Vung Tau using Minecraft.

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theme is "Broadway" so expect to see lots of singing and dancing!

Information Day

The students are practicing their dance moves for the performance and are busy learning their lines. This year the

On Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> May the school hosted an information seminar for new and current parents. We were delighted to have Mr. Peter Baker and Mr. Le Khanh presenting some invaluable information on international education and child psychology respectively. The seminar was intended for parents and aimed to help parents understand important concepts in child psychology and the skills and competencies that students need to be confident and capable of successfully integrating into an international world.

## Children's Day

Celebrated on an annual basis, Children's Day is the moment all kids have been waiting for! This year, because it fell on a Sunday, our school decided to take the students to the cinema on the Friday. They watched Disney's "Maleficient"; a story about a vindictive fairy who is driven to curse an infant princess only to realize the child may be the only one who can restore peace. Full of action, magic and mystery, the children thoroughly enjoyed the show.

## **Year 9 Immersion Programme**

There's no rest for the current Year 9 Integrated students as they will be attending an immersion programme as soon as the exams finish. The programme is for students who will be taking the IGCSE course next year and it is there to help boost their English skills. Mr. Reuben, Mr. Ben, Ms Michelle and Mr. Seamus will be teaching these extra lessons. Best of luck to next year's IGCSE 1 students!

### **Staff News**

It is with great sadness to see a much-loved teacher leave our school to go back to her home country. Ms.Xi was a favourite amongst the students but for family reasons, she has now gone back to China. We wish her the best of luck for the future.

Ms.Sharon will be returning from Thailand very soon. After a few complications with foot surgery, she is eventually on the mend and will be returning to school.

Also farewell and best wishes to Mr Hoc, Head of Vietnamese Study, who left our school to concentrate on his language centres.