

SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ VUNG TAU

NEWSLETTER

October 2021

End of Term 1 / 2020-2021

We have made it to the end of Term 1! We would like to thank all the staff students and parents for all of their support during this challenging time. Although it is a great relief to see that students and the wider community can now move around more freely, we still miss seeing the students and teaching in class. The students have continued put in great effort into their studies. We hope it will not be long now until we are all back on campus. Please, stay safe and we hope we will be seeing the students and parents again sooner rather than later.

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A little reminder of our pre-COVID celebrations on campus

It has been another challenging period with online teaching for staff and online learning for students. Much more effort is needed in preparation for lessons for teachers, all the administrative work associated with online teaching and for students to be sitting and focusing for lengthy period of time daily. However, the dedication and commitment from all have resulted in us having achieved good results for Term1.

We are also extremely proud of the achievements of one of our own former students, Minh Anh whom we fondly called Annie. Her dedication and commitment, love for learning and her positive demeanor, all contributed to her success. Well done Annie.

Bernoulli's Principle – Year 2 International


Know - Want to know - Learned

K-W-L About: Wind

I Know:	I Want to know:	I Learned:
1. we need wind to fly a kite 2. the wind feels fresh when it blows 3. wind can blow and move things 4. can make people feel cool	1. how wind is made 2. how wind moves things 3. how air comes to us	1. that air can move and we cannot see it 2. that the wind makes us feel fresh when it blows 3. that we need air to stay alive 4. that air can be used to hunt with a blow pipe 5. the wind turns the wind turbine and makes kites fly 6. campfires need air to burn

Bernoulli's Principle

- How do air and wind work?
- How does a kite fly?
- What can moving air do to different objects, like a playing card or a ball?



Scientific Method

- Ask a Question**
- Gather Information**
Observe – read, listen, taste, touch, smell
Read, Ask an Expert
- Form a Hypothesis**
Guess the answer
- Test the Hypothesis**
Do an experiment to see if you're right
- Share the Results**
Tell other people what you learned

In our Y2L science lessons, we were learning about air, wind and pollution. We had a good grasp on what these three things were, their causes, uses and dangers.

"I've learned that air can move things and we cannot see it!" said David.

"I've learned that we need air to stay alive because of oxygen!" Angele commented.

"I've learned that wind turns the wind turbine and makes kites fly!" replied Mon.

Suddenly, we became curious about how wind moves things in a certain way, so we let curiosity be our guide.

We turned to the Scientific Method and started asking questions:

"How do wind and air work?

How does a kite fly?

What can moving air do to different objects, like a playing card or a ball?"

We gathered our information and brainstormed our ideas.

"If I hold this ping pong ball above this bendy straw and blow air from my lungs, what will happen? How high will it go?"

Time to form a hypothesis.

"I think it will fly above your head!" said Jessica.

"Maybe it won't go above your head!" thought Henry.

"This is funny!" Isla's expressions revealed.

"I did this experiment already!" exclaimed Lina.

"Ok, students. Let's test our hypothesis. No experiment until all of you say:

1 - 2 - 3 I love science!

No experiment until all of you say:

1 - 2 - 3 Let's conduct and experiment!"

Students were surprised to discover that the ping pong ball floated in place above the straw. (Sophia found a straw and a ball and started experimenting on her own)

"How about we try the same experiment with a hair dryer and balls of different sizes and weights?"

Y2L: "OK!"

The results were the same. Balls floated in the column of air coming from the hair dryer.

"Why does this happen? Let's share our results..."

Faster moving air has less pressure than the air around the ball that is not moving, while gravity is pulling the ball down. Air around the ball has higher pressure and pushes inward towards the ball. This keeps the ball in place, floating.

"Think about that next time you are in an airplane, kids."

This airplane is so heavy - How are we able to fly?

We'll study that next year...

Bernoulli's Principle

Former SIS Vung Tau student wins Australia's top medical scholarship

A former student of SIS Vung Tau has won a prestigious scholarship to study at Monash University in Sydney. Minh Anh, (Annie) is among 10 international students and only the second Vietnamese student in the more than 170-year history of the University of Sydney to be selected to study the guaranteed Medicine program.



Le Ho Minh Anh, who studied at SIS Vung Tau up to iGCSE level, won admission to five Australian universities, including Sydney, Melbourne, Queensland, Deakin and Monash. Normally, to get into a medical school in Australia, students need to go through an undergraduate program first, then take the exam and interview at the graduate level. However, Minh Anh was accepted into the guaranteed route right after completing high school and was trained in medical specialties without having to pass any exams or interviews. She was also invited to a talent class, received the "University of Sydney Principal Scholarship" and the Sydney Award with a total value of more than 2 billion VND.

The requirement to apply for this program is that candidates need to achieve the maximum score in high school (SAT 1600/1600 or A level 4 with A* or IB 45/45), then have to go through many rounds of interviews. Minh Anh beat thousands of other candidates with similar scores from many countries to become one of 10 international students of the guaranteed Medical route. The female student shared, to get this achievement, she received great encouragement from her family besides her own efforts.

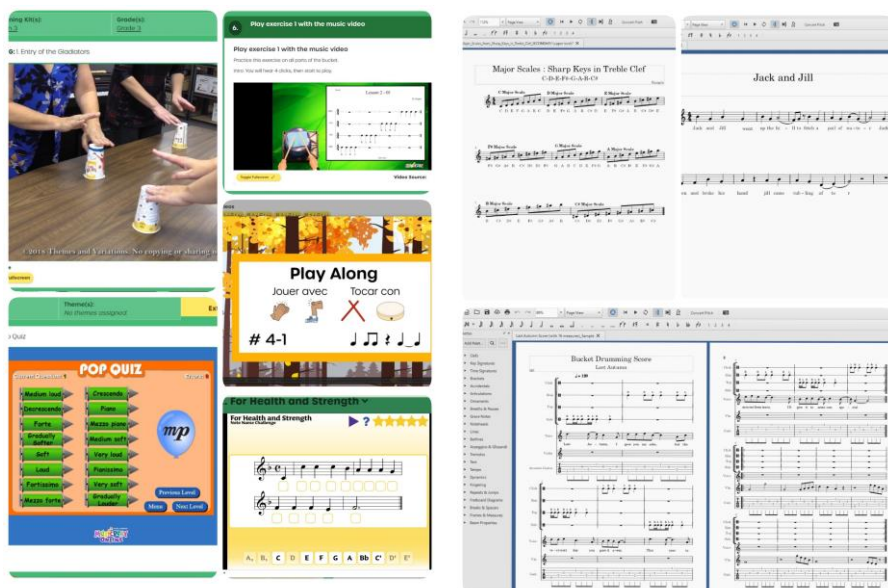
After studying at Singapore International School in Vung Tau, Minh Anh moved to Saigon to study the A level program at ABC International School. Determining that medical school was difficult to enter, Minh Anh worked hard to get As in all subjects right from the early years of high school.

"I spend a lot of time on my favorite Biology, Chemistry, and Psychology subjects and find a suitable and effective way to study", Minh Anh said. "I often write notes for the main ideas for the subjects." Minh Anh doesn't go to extra classes, mainly watching videos and websites to guide self-study when she doesn't understand a certain part of the subject.

"There was a period when I fell to a C in Biology, I had to review my study method, ask teachers to fill in the gap in my knowledge. In the end, my efforts paid off when I got 4 A **", Minh Anh said. Minh Anh started preparing the scholarship application from August 2020 and submitted it in March. According to Minh Anh, the most difficult part of the preparation process was the IELTS exam. "The A-level program is heavy, so I don't have much time to practice", she said. Almost a week after completing the exams at school, I just took the test and got 8.0 IELTS.

Minh Anh confided that she had about two weeks to make a decision to study at the University of Sydney or wait for results from Monash University. If confirmed, Minh Anh will go to Australia around February next year to start the semester. (more on this: [Vietnamese female student wins Australia's top medical scholarship](#) – report in VNExpress)

Music



students have been learning notation. They were creating rhythmic pattern to create a melody and create lyrics for their rhythmic pattern they made.

Conducting lessons online can be challenging in all subject areas. Mr Zeus, our music teacher, has been teaching online using Kodaly and Musescore apps to teach online.

The primary students have been learning sight-read, dynamics and Kodaly using body percussion or handmade instruments, cup and a bucket through Musicplay Online. The secondary using Musescore app.

Grade 3 Integrated



Aimed at encouraging students to take an active role in their learning and take responsibility for their own learning, other types of assessments instead of tests are more beneficial to students. Self-assessment of their ability to learn using a variety of activities will help students discover what they did or did not understand during the learning process. Because of that, during class time, the 3rd grade Bilingual students were given a rubric by the teacher, who asked them to mark themselves stars. Then you can point out the things that you are still struggling with, the lessons you have learned during the week. The children participated enthusiastically in the self-assessment.

Happy Halloween from Year 4L!

With Halloween falling in the term break this year, the Year 4L's decided not to miss out on an opportunity for festivities and celebrated on the last day of term instead! In their Halloween costumes, they made Halloween crafts, and composed their very own Halloween-themed limericks. (A limerick is a 5-line humorous poem, with an AABBA rhyming scheme.) Here are some of their lovely creations:

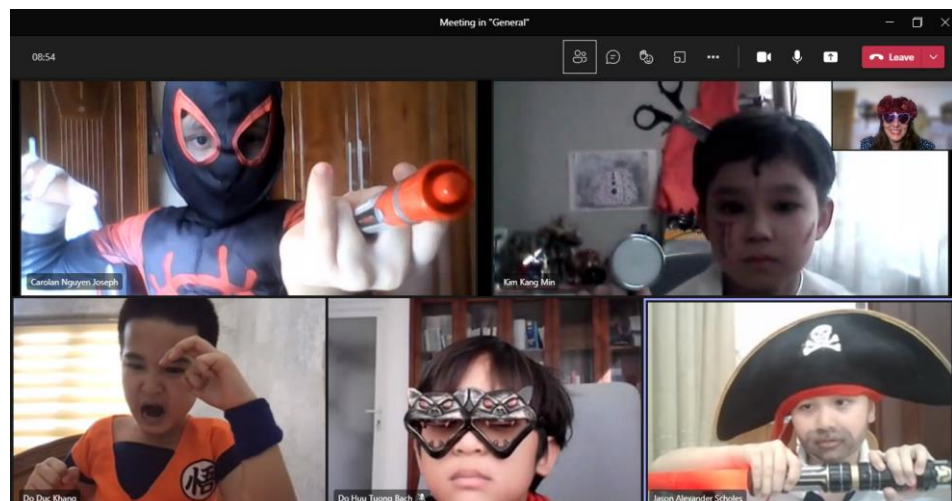
There once was a poor witch,
Who lived in a ditch?
She would cry
As people strolled by
And she would wish that she was rich
- Jason

There is a zombie in Hanoi.
That zombie looks like a boy.
It has six legs
And its name is Megs.
It likes to destroy.
- Tom

There was a family of mice
Who lived in boxes of ice?
An ogre named Shrek
Would break a shipwreck,
While the donkey would always be nice.
- Joseph

There were some mice,
That liked to be nice
But the mice were eaten by a fox
While sitting in a box
And quietly playing dice
- David

There was a vampire name Bert
Who really loved to eat dirt?
Once a kid walked for miles
And was full of smiles
But he got teased and so he was hurt.
- Rio



Campus photos from previous year – what are students and teachers missing the most ...



We wish our students, staff and parents a peaceful and relaxing holiday ahead.

School will reopen on Monday 1 November 2021 and we will continue with Online Teaching and Learning.