PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

IGCSE 1 - Business Studies

In project-based learning, students must solve situations and challenges or answer questions through their knowledge, resources, research, reflection, and active cooperation. It is not a new methodology, but it has undoubtedly flourished among other educational trends, being extremely effective in developing critical thinking skills in social science subjects such as Business Studies.

The teacher acts as a facilitator in the groups' creation and organization, assigning different roles to the students. The heterogeneity of the group members' abilities is essential to foster effective humanistic learning while contributing to improving students' social skills by learning to work enjoyably with all their classmates.

A View Through the Keyhole

Students in art class are learning about Surrealism. Surrealism is a movement in art history which entails fantasy. The concept also involves anything that is dream-like, and they have learned about the artist Salvidor Dali. For their projects, students are working with the theme of a keyhole, and are rendering the shape as a format to draw their Surrealistic scene. Students are considering the movie Alice in Wonderland in which she looks through the keyhole and discovers another universe. Student Marissa Ruixin Hong from 7L has drawn and painted the scene below. Inside the keyhole appears an ocean and mountain scape set under a night sky with shooting stars. Particularly, the design of the keyhole is ornate, and the drawing of its frame conveys a three-dimensional feeling. The viewer is swept right into the fantastic world created by the artist.

Marissa Ruixin Hong, 7L

Year 5 Integrated Stem Project

Our Year 5 students have been exploring the fascinating world of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) through the CREST AWARDS and Food Science. One of the projects they have been working on is testing different brands of tomato sauce to understand how they differ in viscosity and ingredients. Viscosity is a measure of how thick or thin a liquid is, and how easily it flows. Tomato sauce is a very special liquid, because it can act like a solid or a liquid depending on how much force being applied to it.

The students have been experimenting with different ways of measuring the viscosity of tomato sauce, such as dripping, pouring and spreading it, and observing how it reacts to different temperatures and liquids. They have also learned about the composition and characteristics of tomato sauce, and how they are affected by the processing conditions. The students had a lot of fun and learned a lot from this project, as well as collected data and specific results of each brand.

City Island-Puppet Show on Different Points of View

Year 2 International has recently completed a unit on *Perspectives* in their SOSE class. We began with the following question:
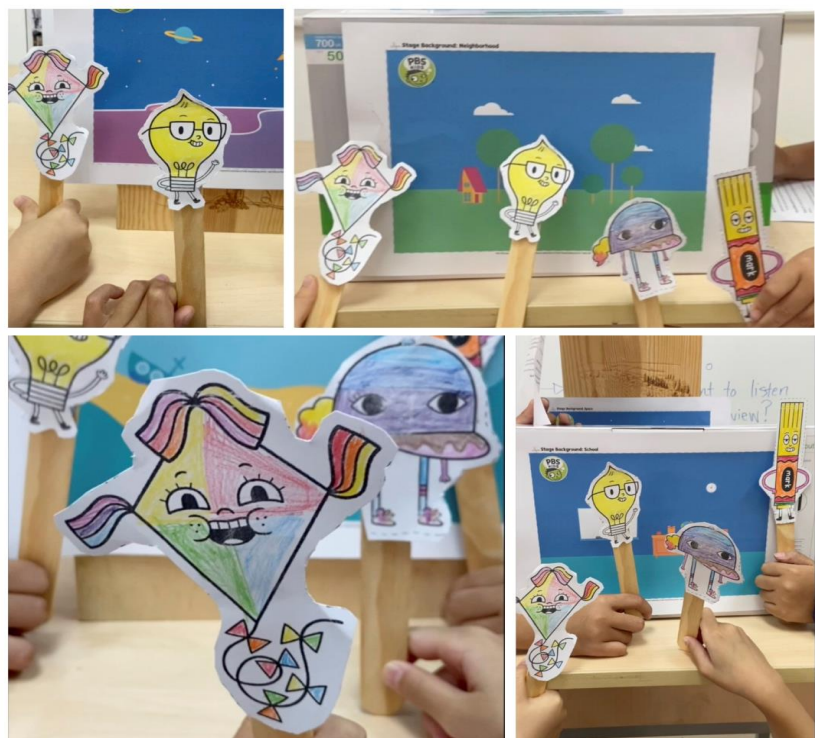
Is it important to listen to everyone's point of view? If so, why?

We began with students discussing times in their lives when they have had ideas and opinions about a particular thing that are different from the other people around them. We discussed whether it is OK to not see things the same way as another person and students all agreed that yes, people's perceptions can be different and that is just fine.

Having the ability to respect and listen to others' point of view allows us to see things from a perspective we may not have considered before. This can help us to build empathy, even as young learners, and is a very important skill in an increasingly global world in which different cultures interact on a daily basis.

In this unit, we used the video Point of View - City Island as a model from which we based our learning and discussions. Each of the characters in the story have a different point of view of exactly the same event. Only after thinking things through and discussing the individual points of view do the characters find that they were in fact all right about the event, each in his or her own way. As a culmination of our learning module, students made a puppet show to re-enact the events our characters experienced and the ultimate lessons they had learned in the end.

Primary ICT

This year, our Primary ICT classes will introduce students to various aspects of Microsoft 365, computer coding, keyboarding, and future-ready digital learning tools powered by Microsoft and Microsoft Education. Our students have also showcased their creativity and digital skills by making interactive PowerPoints for our Mid-Autumn Festival using the latest Microsoft multimedia and tools.

Our ICT curriculum at SIS Vung Tau aims to develop 21st century skills and digital literacy using Microsoft Education programs. Students also learn e-Safety and how to use the internet productively and responsibly.

Later this semester, our students will join the global Hour of Code event, where they will explore the basics of computer science. We look forward to a fun, productive, and technologically literate year for all our students at SIS.
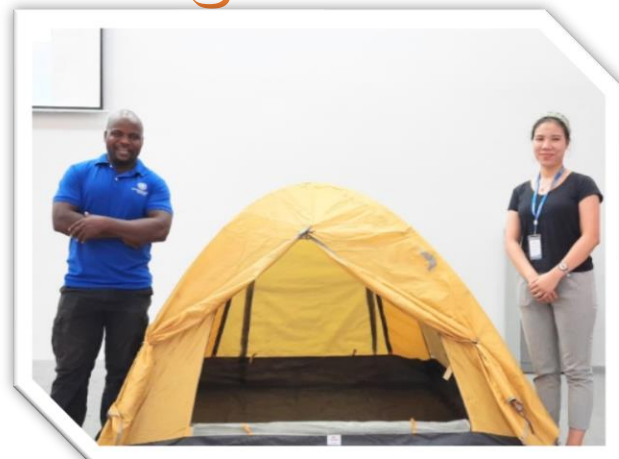

Outward Bound Vietnam Visits Singapore International School Vung Tau

September 21 saw the OBV team of Ms. Hung and Mr. Calvin come to visit SIS @ Vung Tau. Mr. Calvin and Ms. Hung met with the Year 6-iGCSE 2 students, the teachers who will attend OBV with our students and the parents of some of our older students.

Mr. Calvin talked to all stakeholders here at SIS @ Vung Tau about the philosophy of Outward Bound, what to expect when the students go to either Binh Dinh or the new Ha Long facility, and what the students' need when packing for Outward Bound Vietnam.

We look forward to the OBV team visiting us again next year to discuss what is new and improved with the Outward Bound Program.

Essential Life Skills

The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified 10 core life skills that are essential for individuals to adapt and deal effectively with the demands and challenges of life.

These life skills are:

- Self-awareness
- Empathy
- Critical thinking
- Creative thinking
- Decision making
- Problem solving
- Effective communication
- Interpersonal relationships
- Coping with stress
- Coping with emotions

Life skills education is important because it contributes to basic education, gender equality, democracy, good citizenship, childcare and protection, quality, and efficiency of the education system.

The goal of life skills education is to develop a mentally and physically moderate society with agreed and suitable lifestyle and behaviors.

For the coming months we, we will be sharing these important skills with our students during Assembly and in Form class. You may want to check some videos on Youtube especially using these links:

1. https://youtu.be/SccX6iIwOrM?si=ITLZVDI1Pa2RJhqq

2. https://youtu.be/tgIB_XTxPwQ?si=ldWKH21I-pNV96F0

3. https://youtu.be/U0SXyHbZ3E8?si=zlj-abvc9Pz_pOAu

4. https://youtu.be/GymZfNjT4hk?si=ZKqVm_B-p82FmtQA

5. https://youtu.be/ibod50EeinI?si=lUcnHTXKSfUgNzRc

There are of course many videos on the internet on the above topics for life skills – please check.