



**SINGAPORE
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**
Since 1986

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Welcome to the new school year 2018-2019**
- **Welcome to our new Deputy Principal**
- **Welcome to our new Head of Vietnamese Studies**
- **STEM Activities at School**
- **Discovery Classes**
- **After school activity program**
- **Helping students to prepare for school**
- **Parent Night**
- **Table of Specifications (ToS)**



Ms Monica Davis – Deputy Principal



Ms Huong Bui – Head of Vietnamese Studies

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.

Welcome To The New School Year 2018-2019

The whole staff are very excited to welcome all of our students and families to SIS@Van Phuc, and we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and working together.

There have been a few exciting changes around our school during the Summer break. In our library, the fiction section has been divided to show books at the appropriate Raz Kids level, while the non-fiction section remains using the international Dewey Decimal system with some additional labeling to help. Many thanks to Ms Monica and her team of teachers for this great new arrangement.

Welcome To Our New Deputy Principal

Ms. Monica has very capably stepped into the role of Deputy Principal.

She is a very experienced teacher and administrator and has a strong reputation in the Houston- New Orleans educational community.

At previous schools she has managed, guided and coached teachers and was recognized as a Master Teacher. She brings to Van Phuc leadership a wide experience in developing curriculum, and analyzing data to help students achieve more.

Welcome To Our New Head of Vietnamese Studies

My name is Bui Thi Huong and I am the Principal of Singapore Vietnam International School (SVIS) Van Phuc. Prior to becoming Principal at SVIS Van Phuc, I had a year working as a curriculum specialist for SVIS Halong and a year as Vice Principal in Ciputra and Van Phuc.

At this time, students have completed the first four weeks of the 2018-2019 school year. Grade 1 has gotten to know the new environment with the help of their teachers' engaging lessons as well as other school activities. Students in Grades 2,3,4, & 5 have quickly gotten accustomed to their new learning environments. Students have done well with implementing class and school rules and regulations.

On behalf of the School Board, I would like to send to parents the best wishes for health, happiness and success. I wish the students a good year full of joy and many achievements.



Discovery Class

STEM Activities at School

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math= STEM

There will be many activities that focus on Stem which will provide hands-on experience for students to develop and use their skills from the four disciplines. Children learn that there may be multiple right answers, and a failed experiment is an opportunity to explore why it didn't work.

Children will begin with smaller age-appropriate challenges and then discuss all the different ways students attempted to meet the challenge eg building a tower from limited materials (straws, balloons, string) or making a catapult. The discovery is in the making and the 'why' questions.

Discovery Classes Year 1-3 (Integrated)

Guided Discovery is a play-based learning class where students are given problem-based challenges which need to be solved by the end of the lesson. There are currently 6 stations in the Discovery Room including LEGO (which tests engineering and design skills), Art (which allows students to be creative), Playdough (which assists in the development of fine motor skills), Board Games (which stimulate logical thinking), Tablets (which allow our students to stay technologically relevant in an ever-changing world) and the STEM station (which focuses on science and technology). Each student has the chance to visit each station at least once during the period of a week. Once a student has completed a task at one station, they need to move on to another station to complete a different task.

In the Discovery Room there is a very heavy emphasis on STEM Education (which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Some of the activities that students learn at the STEM station include designing straw rockets, making lava lamps and operating balloon powered cars.

We also have a great collection of Samsung Tablets which have been filled with educational apps and games, challenging the students in Mathematics, English and Science.

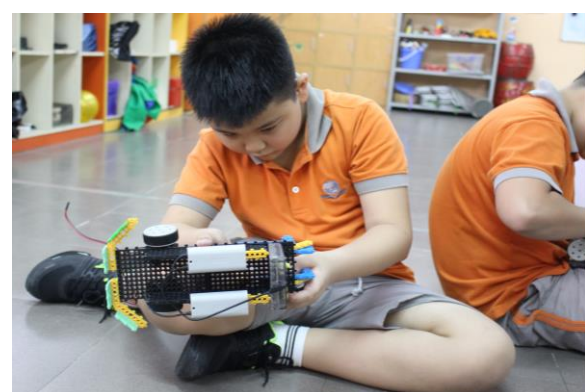
A play-based learning programme uses play as the context for learning. Children can explore, experiment, discover and solve problems in imaginative and playful ways. Using play as a form of learning has been proven to be highly effective not only when it comes to academic study but also social development.

After School Activity Program

Our After School Activity program has already begun with favorites like Cooking class, Badminton, Football and Chess. We also have our exciting Robot Huna club where students will learn to use logical thinking skills and assemble futuristic robots.



Excursion at Pegasus International UniCentre



Robot Huna Club



Grade 1

Helping Students to Prepare for School

Parents you can help your child develop the independence that they need for school with some small preparations at home.

Help them get their schoolbag and uniform prepared before they go to bed. Then they can easily get dressed and ready as soon as they wake.

Set an alarm with the child for when they need to leave for the bus or meet the driver.

Make sure they arrive at school in time to join their class. Being late makes them feel unprepared.

Limit students screen time on mobile phones, tables and computers.

Please make sure that they have plenty of sleep and go to bed by 9:00pm.

Our school days are quite long and the children need to be able to pay attention and stay awake. Younger students in particular feel the longer days with no afternoon sleep.

Parent Night

Many thanks to all the parents who came to school to talk with the teachers. We appreciate all of your feedback and many suggestions of what parents would like to see happening in our school. If you still have questions or suggestions we are happy to follow up. You may either speak to a teacher or email directly.

Table of Specifications (ToS)

Parents have recently received a soft copy of the Table of Specifications (ToS) emailed to them as well as a hard copy during Parent Night. This tells you all of the exam dates for the year, and the kinds of questions they will see on the exam papers.

Year 1 do NOT have an exam in Semester 1, however their results will be based on learning throughout the Semester eg review tests, knowledge of spelling, vocabulary, reading level, speaking and listening.

Please also use the exams dates on the ToS to plan your holidays so they do not clash with exams. The children will have exams as soon as they return from the Christmas vacation.



Assembly



Art and Craft lesson