



Issue: July 2022

TALKING

Straits

2021/22 YEAR 11



PHOTOS

FAREWELLS

FUN

PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDITION



Straits International
School

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PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDITION

A NOTE FROM MR. STEPHEN



Straits International
School



Part 1

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's pleasing to see the country moving to the endemic stage. The SOP's will support us in getting back to normal. Thank you and your family for your continued support and trust in our school. We have continued to provide amazing learning experiences to our community inside and outside the classroom. We have had much to celebrate, but none more important than joining the ISP network of schools and the fantastic opportunities it will bring to our staff and, more importantly, our students.

As a community, I am proud of our spirit and how we have united and supported each other. We behave in a way to ensure that our children remain at the centre of our efforts, and despite the disruptive cycles of school closures, learning didn't stop.

I want to mention all our passionate and dedicated teachers who remained hopeful, focused, and strong during these very trying times as they juggled face-to-face, online and hybrid learning.

Here are some highlights of the school year:

- We have had excellent IGCSE results over this Covid period due to high-quality teacher development and infrastructure investments. 54% of our students attained A* - A while 84% achieved A* - C in their IGCSE examinations which are well above the UK and World averages.
- We have continued to renovate and improve learning facilities such as:-
 - o Health and safety upgrades to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students and the wider community.
 - o Shading installation for our Futsal area.
 - o Installation of solar panels to reduce carbon footprint.
- We continue to make ourselves safer:
 - o We have provided face-to-face training to our schools from an expert ISP UK child protection team.
 - o We have updated our ISP online child protection from staff training to ensure staff and students remain safe and up to date with the latest processes.
 - o We have trained all staff on Cyber security processes to ensure they and students stay safe online.
 - o We have continued to respond to Covid SOP's to ensure our school remain safe.
-

PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDITION

A NOTE FROM MR. STEPHEN

Part 2

- We have continued to ensure we upgrade Information technology and infrastructure of this period, including:
 - o We have implemented secure firewalls to restrict access to harmful content, device software threats, and unmoderated social media usage.
 - o Staff training to ensure data is kept safe across all areas of the campus.
 - o Upgrades to school Wi-Fi and Broadband.
 - o Crowd strike application to protect students and teachers from threats.
 - o Introduction of Engage; our new Student Management System.

- We continue to push the boundaries in Learning Excellence:
 - o We have invested in a new Professional Development programme for Senior and Middle Leaders, so teachers and students get the best experience.
 - o We have invested in a rigorous IT self-evaluation process to ensure we make correct judgments and actions to improve the Amazing Learning journey.
 - o We have developed the online learning platform to ensure we are up to date with our approaches and have found industry experts to develop our teaching programmes.
- Future and current projects:
 - o Continue to develop Microsoft School Accreditation and technology support.
 - o International Learning Opportunity expansion into 2023 and the launch of many new exciting programmes.
 - o The school's football field construction will commence soon, with the expected completion date of December this year.
 - o We are redesigning our EYFS and KS1 playground with many new child-centred areas for learning. This will be ready for use in September.
 - o We are also looking at improving other learning spaces around the school and extending what we can offer in outdoor learning and sports activities.

Thank you for your support and patience, and I look forward to another year of Amazing Learning with you.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S Willoughby'.

Mr Stephen Willoughby



Straits International
School

Hari Raya

Ms. Emily
Events Co-ordinator

SIS celebrated Hari Raya by performing in the MPH. SOPs had relaxed by this time and parents were able to come to school and watch the students perform! First up we had the Nursery performing a dance with the song: Warna-warni di Aidilfitri. Year 1J performed a dance with the song: Seloka Hari Raya and Year 2 performed a traditional Malay dance called Joget using the song: Joget Berhibur.

The KS 2 students (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6) engaged in a range of performances. Year 3E sang and danced to the song: Selamat Hari Raya. Year 4L performed a traditional Zapin dance in traditional outfits. Year 5 got creative by reciting the Hari Raya Malay poems - which are called pantun. It took a long time and a lot of courage to perform this as a lot of them are learning the language. Year 6 performed a wonderful sketch titled Balik Kampung which showed how people celebrated Raya after the covid pandemic.

The KS3 and 4 performances were spectacular as well. The Year 7 pupils did some storytelling that explained what Raya is and how is it celebrated all around the world. Year 9 and Year 10 did a traditional Malay musical form called the Dikir Barat. Lastly, we had the music band perform an acoustic version of the Raya Song: Seloka Hari Raya.

We were delighted that parents of performing pupils were able to join us for this celebration and we hope you enjoyed watching the show as much as the pupils enjoyed performing it.



House Competition Primary

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In Term Three, the main House competition was during our whole school Hari Raya celebration. This was organised by Ms. Zati and Ms. Kanaga, for Primary and Secondary, respectively.

For EYFS and KS1, students were split into Houses and completed two well-known traditional games: Ketingting and Bola tin. In KS2, two further games were added: Batu Seremban and Capteh. Students had a lot of fun and demonstrated great teamwork throughout the station games. It was great to see some physical-based challenges after such a long time and students certainly appreciated the change. House Points were scored at each station and the overall results for Primary were as follows:



- 1 st - Rusa
- 2 nd - Naga
- 3 rd - BK
- 4 th - Harimau



Secondary

House Competition



For Secondary, students were split into Houses and their creative skills were tested by having to make some amazing traditional Malay kites, also known as Wau. They were given a range of materials and equipment in order to produce their very own versions and scores were based on creativity and aesthetics. House Points were scored for each year group and combined to give the overall results:



- 1 st - BK
- 2 nd - Naga
- 3 rd - Harimau
- 4 th - Rusa



*Mr. Kam
Head of Houses*

Book Week

25/04/22 - 29/04/22

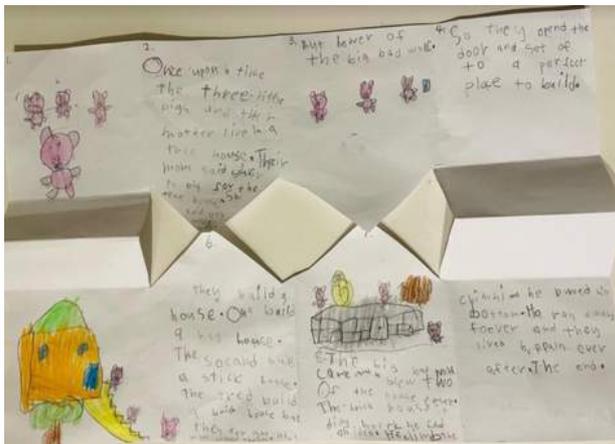


MS. JADE
KSI CO-ORDINATOR
PRIMARY LITERACY CO-ORDINATOR

On Monday 25th April, Straits International School began our annual Book Week event.

It was a fantastic week for staff and students alike. From competitions to scavenger hunts, from buddy reading to dress up days, both Primary and Secondary students had the opportunity to flex their reading muscles and engage in a variety of activities which we hope will encourage a lifelong love of learning!

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Writing Competition



Book Week

25/04/22 - 29/04/22

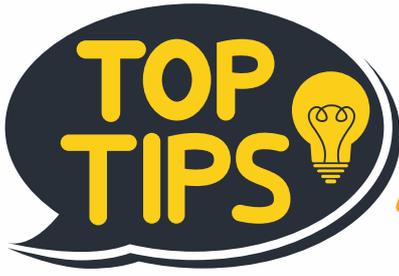
Secondary



In the secondary school, students were offered a variety of Book Week activities to take part in during the week. This included entering creative writing competitions, designing book covers, making arts and crafts, writing poems and six word stories, and more! The students and teachers 'dropped everything and read' every day after lunch; it was lovely to see the children and adults alike enjoying some quiet reading time daily. The week culminated in a dress up day, and some of the costumes were fantastic and very well thought out! The most popular event of the week by far was the Buddy Reading, in which secondary students paired up with primary students, and they read together and shared their books. It was wonderful to see the different age groups interacting, and they all seemed to enjoy it immensely. Book Week 2022 was a lot of fun, and we are looking forward to it being even bigger and better next year!



MS. STEPH
HEAD OF ENGLISH & HUMANITIES FACULTIES



for Reluctant Readers



If your child has enjoyed Book Week, but is still a little hesitant about reading at home, or if your child enjoys reading and you want to encourage them even more, then the British Council has these great tips for supporting reading at home. Perfect timing for the summer holidays!

1. Make a dedicated reading space

Make it comfortable with cushions, good lighting, and make sure it is a quiet space where they can relax and focus on their book.



2. Read funny things!

Everyone likes to laugh so find funny books and be prepared for them to lol!



3. Read anything anywhere

Encourage your children to read food menus, road signs, instructions... Things to read are everywhere and children will start to see how useful being able to read is in all these real-life situations.

4. Talk to your children about what they have read

Ask children about the book they are reading. Who's their favourite character and why? Do the characters or situations remind them of anyone they know? Showing you are interested in what they have read will motivate them to keep reading.



5. Follow their interests

If your child likes football, they will enjoy a book about football. Obsessed with animals? Let them read some animal facts. Loves cooking? Encourage them to read recipes they want to try. Children will be keener to read about a topic they are already interested in and curious about.



6. Read regularly

Establish a daily routine of bedtime reading. Reading aloud to children not only fosters the bond between parent and child and relaxes children before sleep, it is also known to aid the brain in mastery of a language by developing a faster processing of sound and word relationships.



7. Read for pleasure

To develop a reading habit, it must be enjoyable. Don't question your child on the grammar or the meanings of words. Let them enjoy it for its own sake. You can help by making suitable reading material easily accessible to them and ensuring it's not too difficult for them.



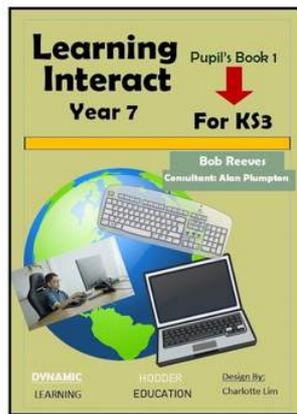
8. Variety is the spice of life!

Variety of material is also important when it comes to wanting to read. There are joke books, picture books, comic books, history books, science books, even audio books! Make sure children know they don't just have to read stories. There are many books out there so take your pick!

ict competition

SECONDARY

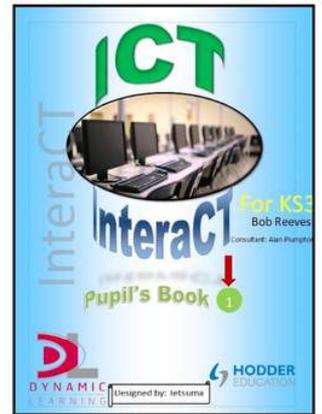
The Faculty of Math, Science, and ICT organizes an ICT Skills Competition every year to encourage students' healthy ICT talent development and to support the integration of education in the classroom. This year, in Year 7, the Magazine Cover Design competition was held in week 2 and week 3 of Term 2 with all the Year 7 students participating in the competition. This competition allows students' ideas to be freely expressed through a rich mixture of graphics and texts, giving them the instantaneous power to move the viewers' hearts and create visual communications that go beyond nations and regions using Microsoft Publisher. Three magazine designs were selected as informative and creative covers and they are from Charlotte and Tetsuma (7M) and Ji Erne (7S).



Charlotte 7M



Ji Erne 7S



Tetsuma 7M



In Year 9 this year, there were two competitions held- a Podcasting competition in Term 2 and a Graphic competition in Term 3. Both are part of a series of exciting competitions created to provide students with a platform to compete and acquire certification in order to enhance their communication skills, ICT knowledge, practical/ application skills, and raise their innovation awareness. Congratulations to Bhavisyha for winning the individual Podcasting category with the title "Dont' Underestimate the Life Beyond Us". Meanwhile, for the group podcasting, two groups had been announced as the winners- Michael and Daniel (Title:" What's in the Woods") and Hariz and Guru (Title: "9/11 Attack"). The most recent competition- The graphic and Logo competition has succeeded in producing many creative students at designing their own idea for a new school logo. Aidan Laang has won the most creative logo followed by Gan Wei Thong, Khalil Ghibran, Lim Qing Zheng, and Ling Hooi.

MS. AMAL
ICT TEACHER

**MS. KALPANA
HEAD OF MATHS, SCIENCE & ICT
FACULTIES**

ISP Virtual Buddy Exchange



The fact the world has various travel restrictions in place doesn't stop our students meeting other students from other countries! The ISP Virtual Buddy Exchange Programme (VBEP) gave two of our year 10 students, Lee Ain and Gladys Tan En Chai the opportunity to have a round-the-world online journey, reach out beyond the school community and meet other ISP students from all over the world virtually. Through supervised weekly video calls of 45 minutes for six weeks and another week for their learning reflection task, the participants practice their language, presentation and personal skills in English.





MS. KALPANA

HEAD OF MATHS, SCIENCE & ICT FACULTIES

Kangaroo Math Competition is currently the world's largest math competition with more than 6 million participants from 93 countries in 2021.

In Kangaroo 2021, there were more than 44,000 participants representing over 1,800 schools from all over Malaysia.

This year's Kangaroo Math Competition was held online on the

18th of June. There were 27

participants from Straits International School, Rawang. They were exposed to math problems designed by

internationally renowned math

educators. All participants will be

getting certificates and recognition

from an internationally prominent

education body.



SPORTS DAY

Primary



For the first time in 2 years we were able to host our Annual Sports Days here in person at Straits International School. In Early Years and Key Stage 1, the event was a mixture of Mini Athletics and Multi Skills whilst in KS2 the children have been working on Basketball individual skills that involve dribbling, throwing and kicking skills while in Athletics the children have been working hard on developing running, jumping and throwing technique. Their days were held either on the roof for Mini Athletics or in the MPH where they did a variety of Basketball / Multi Skills activities.

Ms. Paula - Ms. Sufiah - Mr. Hazdrin



This competition which involved every student in secondary school took place on the rooftop basketball court on 6th and 7th July. This is the first time we have done this and the event was enjoyed by all!

INTERHOUSE BASKETBALL Secondary

For the Key Stage 3 event, the winning houses were;



Boys: Harimau



Girls: BK

For the Key Stage 4 event the winning houses were;



Boys: Rusa



Girls: Naga

C-o-urricula Activities

This term, we were fortunate enough to recommence the CCA programme after two long years. The programme is designed to allow students a varied experience, where they can try out new clubs, utilise a range of skills and gain new or consolidate previous knowledge in the process. Most club were led by our very own staff and they were able to provide a wonderful variety of clubs to choose from once again. This is also a time for staff to get away from their everyday subjects/areas and share their passion for things that they love doing, for example, Sewing, Dance, Musical Theatre, Superhero Fitness, Board games, Geoguessr, Community Service, Buddy Reading, Debate, etc.

Although most of our previous external vendors were able to return, some were not so lucky as their businesses were negatively impacted by Covid 19. Successful and popular clubs this term included Badminton, Tae Kwon-Do, Robotics, Chess, Minecraft Education, Basketball, Swimming, Gymnastics, Critical Thinking (Maths) and Public Speaking.

Participation across the school was amazing, with most students able to take part in the CCA programme. We were even able to make them optional for our Early Years students, something that was not available in the past. Looking forward to the future, I am excited to see the CCA programme up and running again and am sure that it will go from strength to strength as we continue to move forward through this difficult time.



MR. KAM
HEAD OF CCAS



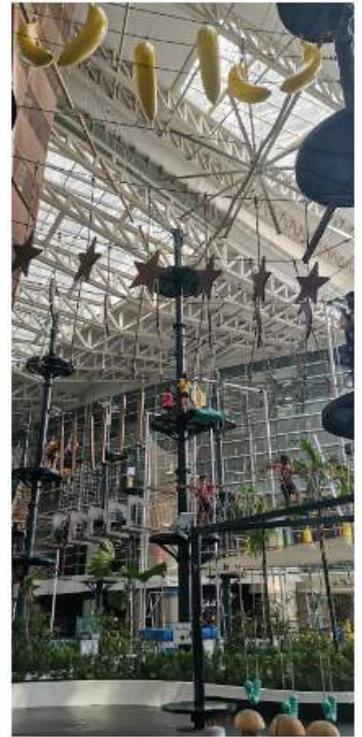
Journalism Club

PIC COLLAGE

Trip to ESCAPE

Trip led by Ms. Evelyn, article written by Lamia Yr9

On June 2, 2022, 75 students and 8 teachers from Straits International School went on a school outing to ESCAPE Park PJ at Paradigm Mall. This outing is to get the students' and teachers' minds off of school work and pressure. The aim is for the students to participate in outdoor pursuits and experience the activities with the use of English interactively. This is a great opportunity for the students to improve their English and help them bond with their classmates and teachers. It also allows them to take a break from daily school life and do something different.



The students arrived at school at the usual time with a bag containing spare clothes and a water bottle. After the registration, at 8 a.m., we went down to the cafeteria to have breakfast before getting on the bus. At 8:30 a.m., we settled down in the specific buses that our teacher had assigned for us. There was a tour guide who guided us throughout the trip and explained to us in detail about the theme park and the activities that we could be involved in. We arrived at our destination at 10:15 a.m. and were ready to have some fun. There were a lot of fun activities for us, such as: Monkey Business, Gecko Tower, Banana Flip, Slingshot, and many more. By 11:30 a.m., we went to eat at a restaurant called Nando's. For the meal, we had drinks, french fries, chicken, and fried rice, which were all delicious. At 12:15 p.m., we went back to try out some more activities. We had loads of adventure and fun while doing them. There are some activities, such as Monkey Business, which help improve our whole-body coordination skills. After hours of fun, it was finally time for us to head for our school by bus. .

During the bus ride back to Straits, our tour guide asked if we all had fun and said that we could come to this theme park again with our family. We arrived at our school at around 3 p.m. We were all very tired, so we rested inside our homeroom before going for CCAs at 3:15 p.m. It can be concluded that the outing was a success and we all had a great time altogether

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Trip to ESCAPE

Darshiny, Yr 8



Our school organized a school trip to the Escape park in Petaling Jaya on the 2nd of June which was on a Thursday. The school had chartered two buses for the teachers and students. Bus A was fully packed with year 7's and year 8's, but four students from year 8 had to follow bus B which had the year 9's and year 10's. Eight teachers accompanied the students for the trip. The students and teachers were extremely excited and did not know what to expect when we reached the destination.



When we arrived at the Escape park, the teachers gave a bag and asked the students to put all their valuables and belongings into the bag. This was done to avoid any unforeseen mishap such as misplacement or losing their belongings. As soon as they had finished collecting the valuables, the students were able to get off the bus. Then we all went to the park but before entering the area we had to do a face scan because that's the latest technology for entering any theme parks, escape parks, etc... . In this way, it can detect our face, and check our details if we have paid the ticket. As we entered the park the first thing we were able to see was the "human slingshot", which the attendants will help you to get in the slingshot carefully and correctly. As the attendants buckle you up, you would have an anxious feeling as they pull the rope slightly above the ground in order to be able to prepare you to fly into the sky. The Next activity was a "banana flip" which gives you a feeling that you are just floating in thin-air, but still we all still love going on the banana flip. The next activity was "jumping jacks", the attendants will buckle you up, the same way as how they buckled you for the slingshot but for the jumping jacks they wouldn't lift you up because as soon as they buckle you up, you would be able to do whatever you wanted to do as if you were flying so you could do backflips or frontflips. After all the activities we played, we had Nando's as our lunch, the Nando's set included fried rice, roasted chicken, french fries and sprite or coca cola, the drinks was our choice. After eating lunch we were able to continue playing in the Escape park.



The most attractive or popular activity of the Escape park was the Banana flip. It was such a fun activity, we had never seen anything like it before. All around it were entertaining activities such as "human slingshot", "jumping jacks", "monkey business" ETC. After playing all the fun games in the Escape park, the teachers allowed us to have a rest while waiting for the bus. Meanwhile certain students got drenching wet so they had to change clothes. Finally it was time, we were all so tired, after all that fun, and eventually everyone fell asleep as soon as we went into the bus.

The school buses started their homeward journey at about 2:15pm. At about 3:10pm the buses entered the school campus, and we could see the parents at the lobby waiting for us. Everyone had a big smile on their faces indicating that they had a memorable time at the Escape park. Ohhh, what a fun day it was! It was such a memorable day and we are really looking forward to going on another school trip.

Trip to ESCAPE





Week



Our first residential trip at SIS Rawang was a success! We went to Tadam Hills and had a taste of the Malaysian outdoors, racing bamboo rafts across the lake, zip lining over it, team building activities, great food and even better company. For some of our students, this was their first time away from home but you wouldn't know it at the way they got stuck in with all the fun. Our Year 10 students took on the roles of Big Buddies and supported the younger ones, encouraging and supporting them - and also keeping them in line at bed time! The students were absolutely fantastic and a credit to the school!

"It was a good experience to be a big buddy and support the younger kids" Yek Seng 10D

"An exciting way to top off the year" Michael 9K

"A great bonding experience" Daniel 9K



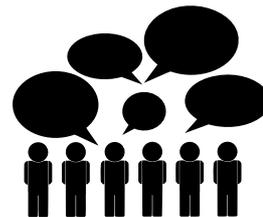
"Amazing and at the same time horrifying after seeing two cockroaches and I managed to survive that" Yu Chen 8K

"I enjoyed it" Safran 6K

"It was very interesting because I've never been to camp before. 10/10 would recommend to a friend" Lilli 6A

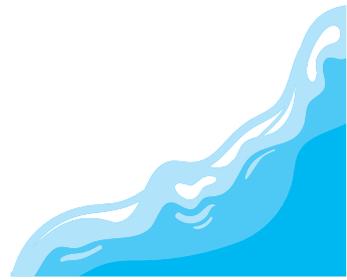
" " Cherish 5Z

"It was marvelous, the food was great" Cheryl 6A



"The trip was great but the flying fox was scary, but I did it and enjoyed it." Yong Heng 6A

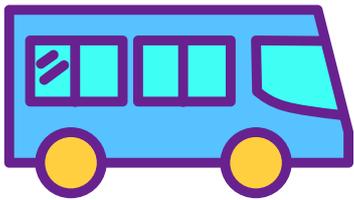
*Ms. Harriet
Head of Pastoral Care*







Challenge Week



Day Trips & Overnight stays



Early years and primary pupils up to Y4 had their own challenges to enjoy. Unfortunately for Y3 & 4 this challenge was to re-enter virtual learning and cope with their trip being cancelled, but they did this with great enthusiasm and were rewarded with their pizza and film party on the final day of term. Early Years met the animals at Zoo Negara and went to the cinema, while Year 1 & 2 had a fantastic time at Jump Street and then, for many, had their first ever night away from home in the school sleepover. These opportunities to take their learning outside the standard classroom setting are vital to foster key skills such as curiosity, communication and independence. We thank you for your support with these events. For those with pupils in Y3 & Y4, there will be plenty more opportunities such as these during their time with us at Straits.

Nursery & Reception



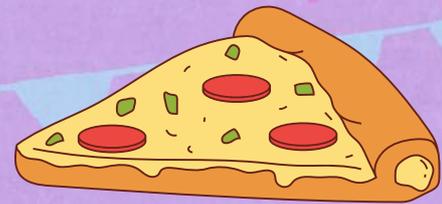
Jump Street



Years 1 & 2

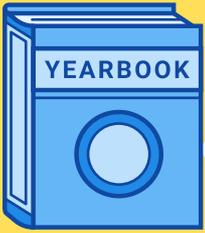


Sleepover



Years 3 & 4

Pizza & Film Party



YEARBOOK

What a great year!

Sometimes it's only when we take the time to reflect and look back that we realise how much we have accomplished and how far we have come in the last year. Not long ago we were wondering if VL and MCO would ever end, how things have changed! Luckily you don't need to think too hard to remember all the best bits of the last year at SIS because we have assembled the highlights of the calendar (not already included in this Newsletter) for you all in one place. We hope you enjoy the memories and look forward to making many more with you next year!



Deepavali



Straits Christmas

&

Angel Project





HOUSE COMPETITIONS



Spirit WEEK

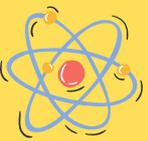


MEMORIES



KS4 INTERHOUSE BADMINTON COMPETITION

CHINESE NEW YEAR



Multilingualism day

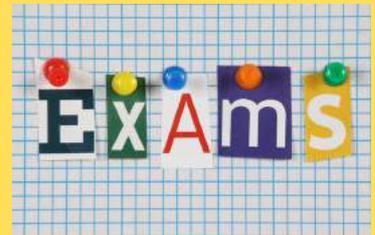
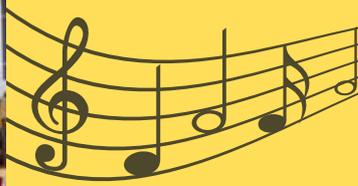
STEAM WEEK



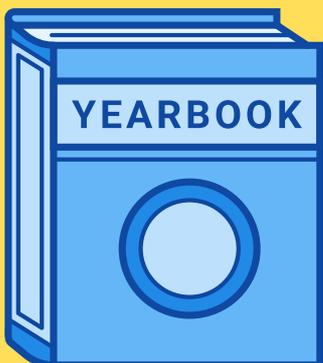
Highlights



MUSIC Showcase



LEARNING NEVER ENDS



GOODBYE

and thank you

As another academic year ends, a number of our teaching staff bring an end to their time in SIS. Each of these have contributed to the success of Straits during their time with us, and have made a positive impact in the learning journey of so many of our pupils. We would like to wish each of them the best of luck in their future endeavors, be it in teaching or beyond. Thank you for everything you have done for the school and the pupils.



Ms. Adri



Ms. Amal



Ms. Chang



Ms. Cheryl



Mr. Dave



Ms. Emily



Ms. Harriet



Ms. Jade



Ms. Kimberly



Ms. Reshna



Ms. Sheau



Mr. Syafiq



Ms. Zati

Looking forward & welcoming new staff

As sad as it is to say goodbye to staff members, it also gives us the opportunity to welcome new colleagues into the Straits community, bringing with them fresh ideas, motivation and energy to get the next academic year off to the best start possible. Please welcome...

MS NICOLENE - SECONDARY HUMANITIES



Ms Nicolene teaches Economics, Business Studies and Geography and inspires her students to become lifelong learners by developing education strategies that cater to their individual learning needs.

MS PRIA - SECONDARY SCIENCE



Ms Pria has been a Head of Department in a previous international school and has a track record of success. Ms Pria gets a great sense of achievement as she sees her students effectively apply their scientific knowledge in hands-on projects and activities.

MS CRYSTAL - MANDARIN



Ms Crystal is an experienced Mandarin teacher with great knowledge of the IGCSE curriculum. She is focused on building as much confidence with her students as possible and ensures that her students feel relaxed and comfortable speaking the language.

MS GENEVIEVE MUSIC AND MANDARIN



Ms Genevieve is a teacher who is passionate about learning new things and holds an endless curiosity towards life. She gets a great sense of achievement as she sees her students develop innovative ideas from the basics of their music knowledge

MS HAIFAA - YEAR 4



Ms. Haifaa joins us from an ISP sister school and comes highly recommended. She has a great deal of experience working with different age ranges and curriculum. She brings a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to her teaching and loves supporting the children to enjoy their learning journey.

MS HAYLEY - YEAR 2 & KSI CO-ORDINATOR



Ms. Hayley is moving to Malaysia from Dorset, in the UK. She specialises in English and is passionate about the teaching of reading. Ms. Hayley believes in promoting a love of learning for pupils by creating authentic and memorable learning opportunities for them.

MS LOGES - ICT



Ms Loges believes that getting children excited about learning is an achievement in itself and also believes that no significant learning can take place without significant relationships.





Summer FUN!



Salt dough Starfish

Salt dough is super easy to make with ingredients you probably already have in your cupboard, and the possibilities are endless! If you don't fancy starfish, try hand prints or ornaments, animals or shapes... All you need is:

- 2 cup of flour
- 2 cup of salt
- 1 cup of water



Step 1. Mix all the ingredients together in a bowl until thoroughly combined. Knead for a few minutes until the dough is soft.

Step 2. To create a starfish shape, start with a ball of dough. Gently pull out five "blobs" evenly spaced around the center to become the arms. Try to make them as equal as possible. You can always add more dough or take some off if a starfish arm is too small or too big.

Step 3. Now just gently pull on each arm and shape it to look like a starfish. I like to push on the sides and pull the arms out, then lightly press on the top and sides to make the basic starfish shape.

Step 4. Now comes the fun part! This is where you and the kids get to customize your starfish just how you like it. Use a pencil to make small holes, add extra salt dough for blobs...

Step 5. When all the starfish have been created, you can either let them air dry over a few days or bake them. Baking is perfect for those of us who are impatient! Place them in a 325 degree oven and cook until they are firm to the touch and baked thoroughly. This can take about an hour for a small starfish, and can take 2-3 hours for a bigger, thicker starfish. Once dried out, you can leave them as they are or paint them!

