



Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024,

Dear parents,

Welcome to the 2024/2025 academic year, and thank you also to all parents who have extended such a warm welcome to me during my first few days as principal of SIS Rawang. It is genuinely both a pleasure and a privilege to be able to use my experience in order to support the school's community and I hope that the hard work which we have already begun will make a positive difference to your experience of SIS.

One of the first things you may notice is that we are making some changes to how we communicate with you. Each week – on Friday – you will receive a letter from me which will keep you updated about important issues in our school. On the same day, you will also be sent either a primary or a secondary newsletter (or both, if you have children in both phases of the school!) which will inform you of what learning has taken place during the week and what is coming up over the rest of the term. Both the letter and the newsletters will accompany rather than replace other means of communication, such as Dojo – for instance, so that you can also remain up-to-date with what is happening in class on a daily basis. Communication, of course, is most effective when it works well in both directions, so we will welcome your comments and feedback at all times. In our secondary newsletter, for example, we will publish our secondary teachers' email addresses so that you can communicate directly with them via email as well as via Dojo, should this be something which works better for you.

Thank you also to all parents for ensuring that our students have arrived to school punctually during the first (shorter!) week of the new academic year. So that no learning time is missed, it will always be hugely important that lessons can begin promptly, and without any interruptions from latecomers, at all times.

I am also grateful that uniform standards are high at this stage. My message to students this week has been that wearing your complete and correct SIS uniform each day is a sign of respect for and of commitment to our school. Uniform is always an area where I will need to ask for your support as parents, and if there

any issues at all then please do reach out to your child's teacher or to me directly in order to discuss.

I also wish to update you with some staffing news. Over the summer, we have worked to fill vacancies for both academic and operational roles. To this end, I am delighted to announce that we have recruited a highly impressive Head of Secondary from within the wider ISP Malaysia group of schools. Mr. Simon Mitchell, who is currently based at Setia Eco Hill School, will be joining us during term one and I will ensure that he is introduced to parents more formally as soon as he arrives. Similarly, we have now also appointed a new whole-school secretary and a data-analyst as well as a new finance manager; all three roles will help us a great deal in terms of ensuring that our school runs efficiently and effectively at all times.

Next week, on Friday August 30<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Merdeka. Specially planned events will take place during the school day in order to commemorate this important event, and both teachers and students (from our primary and secondary phases) are invited to wear clothing which highlights the inclusivity and multicultural nature of Malaysian culture, if they wish. Parents should note, however, that this is not a non-uniform day and that any students who are not dressing in cultural clothing must wear their complete and correct SIS uniform instead. Jeans and a T-shirt, for example, does not necessarily reflect neither inclusivity nor multiculturalism and are therefore not allowed to be worn.

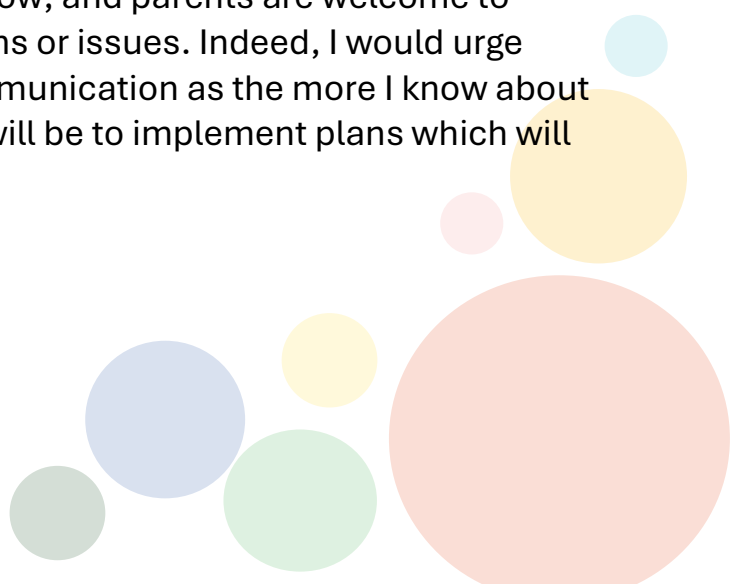
Finally, it is important as we begin the new academic year to acknowledge the successes of our recent Year 11 cohort. IGCSE examination results were released last week, and although I cannot state that I know any of the students personally I am nevertheless pleased that they were able to secure such strong outcomes. The A\* - C pass rate, for example, was 87%, which would be an impressive score for any school.

As promised, my own email address is below, and parents are welcome to contact me at any point about any concerns or issues. Indeed, I would urge parents to make use of this means of communication as the more I know about parents' perspectives the better placed I will be to implement plans which will help us to improve further as a school.

Yours sincerely,



Steven Miles.



Campus Principal – Straits International School Rawang

[s.miles@rawangsisgroup.edu.my](mailto:s.miles@rawangsisgroup.edu.my)

