



Friday October 25th 2024,

Dear parents,

Welcome to term 1.2 of the 2024/2025 academic year. Term 1.1 served as an excellent start to a new era for Straits International School Rawang and I am confident that the strong progress we have made together since August will be further strengthened over the course of the next eight weeks.

Firstly this week, I would like to give an update on our parent café area. This space has very intentionally become a hub for parents to relax and socialise whilst they wait for appointments with teachers or during special events throughout the school year. Our next step will be to install an actual coffee shop in the café, and you may recall that I asked parents for suggestions for a name for the shop earlier in the term. I am delighted to announce that the coffee shop will be known as The (Parenthesis) Café, with the following outlining the decision: *the name suggests a place where parents can find a temporary escape from the demands of everyday life. The term "parenthesis" implies a brief interruption or break from the main flow of events. In the context of a coffee shop, this name suggests a place where parents can pause their busy schedules and enjoy a moment of relaxation and rejuvenation. It also hints at the idea of a supportive and inclusive community where parents can connect with one another and share experiences.* The (Parenthesis) Café will be open soon – at some point in November – during drop-off and pick-up times, or during special events. After an initial soft-launch, we will host a grand-opening event – with further details communicated in due course once plans are finalised. For parents to enter – either on day one or at any point thereafter, they must be wearing their orange Straits International School Rawang ID cards/lanyards and follow normal signing-in procedures. Hopefully, we will see many parents in our parent café over the course of this term and beyond!

Parents may also be interested to learn that our next STEPS meeting will take place on Friday November 15th from 08.45 – 09.45. Parents who attended our previous meeting as well as any who would like to attend for the first time this academic year are welcome.

I would also like to thank parents for their ongoing support with our drop-off and pick-off processes in both the morning and the afternoon. Our priority in these moments will always be the safety of the young people in our collective care, so it is essential that we all follow the clearly understood rules at all times – even if this means that we move a little more slowly and carefully on occasions. Our security guards, as well as the senior leaders on duty, are adept at informing drivers of where to stop (and where not to stop!), and parents are clearly very well trained in terms of timings and ways of doing things. In our context, I would remind parents only to stop in the drop-off/pick-up area and not in the other lane as this can add an element of risk to what should be a safety-only zone. Drop-offs and pick-ups are often notoriously difficult moments to get right in all schools, so my gratitude for the patience and attention to detail provided by parents is genuine.

Next week is a short week in school. Students will attend only on Monday & Tuesday before we break for Deepavali, with school resuming as normal on Monday November 4th. Our school calendar is [here](#). I wish all who celebrate this important event a restful and relaxing time with family & friends.

Finally this week, you will have received our latest set of [Curriculum Overviews](#) a few days ago. These documents will be incredibly important for you in terms of knowing the lesson content, sequencing and assessment information for your child over the course of this half-term, so please do seek to become familiar with them whenever you get an opportunity. The Curriculum Overviews, of course, follow on from the Reading Lists which you received at the end of term 1.1 and which form part of our literacy strategy in the school. A key part of making effective academic progress is being organised in terms of knowing what is coming up and how the different strands of learning complement each other. Hopefully, the information that we have given you will enable you to feel even more fully-informed about your child's education in Straits International School Rawang.

Yours sincerely,



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