



Friday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2024,

Dear parents,

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend this morning's STEPS meeting. As always, your contributions to not only this particular session but also the journey that our school is undertaking are hugely appreciated. We have made a great deal of progress together as a community since August and I continue to be very excited about both the present and the future for Straits International School Rawang.

Much of the work that we have done so far this year has been to do with the culture of our school. To this end, we have made some much-needed changes with regards to safeguarding and all parents and visitors are now very much on board with our updated systems and the rationale behind them. In addition, our parent café area – where *The (Parenthesis) Café* coffee shop will soon open! – stands as a symbol of our commitment to ensuring that parents have a space in our school where they can either meet with each other or with teachers and leaders throughout the school day. As parents, our school needs to feel like its yours, and you need to sense that you belong here and that our community is one in which you feel comfortable and welcomed.

We have also sought to ensure that our communication is highly effective at all times. Each week, you receive newsletters from both our primary & secondary phases as well a letter from me as Campus Principal. Recently, in order to further improve our newsletters in terms of inclusivity and accessibility, we have added links to spoken overviews in Bahasa and Mandarin so that all members of our community can more readily understand the content. Our weekly communication also complements the daily updates via Dojo and our social media accounts, and sits alongside the larger termly curriculum updates which we now publish. Of course, the more old-fashioned means of verbal communication is still absolutely a priority for us, and this is why teachers and leaders will always be visible and available to parents each day, should the need arise.

The most important factor in a school's success over time, however, is the quality and learning and teaching. So far this term, we have made huge strides with our literacy strategies – including the introduction of reading lists, reading buddies and a focus on key vocabulary in all subjects and across all year groups. Alongside this, we have made some adjustments to our staffing model so that we have strategic leadership teams in place across both the primary and secondary phase. Leadership roles now align with our strategic plans and we have assistant head teachers who are focused on the key areas of academic outcomes, learning & teaching and student welfare and wellbeing.

All of the above may have happened in just a short period of time, but it shows how serious we are about ensuring that Straits International School Rawang offers the highest quality educational provision to its community. We have very strong foundations in place in our school – great students, great parents, great teachers, a great campus! – but it also matters how we utilise what we have at our disposal.

Finally this week, parents were sent a link to a survey recently and I would be very grateful indeed if as many parents as possible could complete this. The link, in case you missed it, is [here](#).

Yours sincerely,



Steven Miles.

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