



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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Circular to Parents 09/10S032

8 February 2010

Dear Parents

We have just started Semester Two, and are about to celebrate the lunar new year. This is a good time to give you updates on the secondary school.

IB 'Candidate School' status

Firstly, I am pleased to announce that the school has been conferred 'Candidate School' status by the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organisation. This means that we are halfway through our journey towards authorisation as an IB World School. We are on track to being authorised to run the Diploma Programme in August 2011, when we move back to our newly developed secondary school campus in Aberdeen.

New secondary school building

The development of the new secondary school is proceeding as scheduled, and we are confident that the campus will be ready by August 2011. As you are aware, we have just launched a fundraising effort for the development and renovation of both the secondary and primary school campuses. We very much look forward to your active support.

Community Involvement Programme (CIP)

This is a mainstay of education at SIS. For our whole-school CIP, we have chosen to work with children as part of our Christmas celebration, and the elderly for Chinese New Year. On 18 December 2009 we invited 50 students from a local special education school, Tsui Tsin Tong School, to the Wanchai campus. The students put on a concert, and organised games and activities for the guests. There was lots of food, and a good time was had by all. For our Chinese New Year celebration the different classes will visit old folks' homes, and share the festive joy with the elderly. One Secondary 3 class will return to the Nam Long Shan campus to assist in hosting a lunch for some old folks from the David Trench Home.

New student leadership framework

This year the school's focus is on developing the leadership abilities of all our students. As a result there will be more opportunities for students to take on responsibilities, communicate clearly with others and coordinate activities. Service learning is also a key component of this framework. Do encourage and support your child if he or she is invited to take on a position of responsibility. The learning gained will be immense.

Staff-Student Games

On 6 January two games were organised: basketball for the men and netball for the ladies. The students got to see their teachers in a different light, dribbling, running, jumping, scoring (the staff won both games). The whole campus came to life that afternoon, resounding with cheers as both sides played their hearts out. It was fun, and we really came together as a community that day.

Last day of school in AY 2009/10

The last day of school for all PY, primary and secondary students this academic year is 25 June 2010. Only students involved in the annual Prize Presentation need report to the Nam Long Shan campus on 30 June for the joint ceremony. Please note that PTC 2 will be held on 28 June.

Multiple CCA days in AY 2010/11

It is very likely, given the increased student cohort and space constraints, that there will be more than 2 CCA days in the new academic year. CCAs next year are likely to be held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are particularly concerned with dismissal, as Kwoon Chung has indicated that it will be difficult to pick up students at two different times (3.30 pm when school ends and 4.30 pm when CCA ends) on CCA days. It is best if you could encourage your child to use public transport after school, as a first step towards independence.

Thank you

You have been most supportive of the school, both directly and indirectly. Your continued support will be vital to the school's growth, and the development of your children. School for us is not just about getting good grades; it is about developing the whole person. Hence our emphasis on values, community service, physical development and social responsibility. So do encourage your child to go on the WoW! trip, take active part in CIP and CCA, be a student leader, play sports, and take up a challenge or two (or three!). We strongly believe in education opening minds and hearts, and in partnership with you we will achieve this lofty vision.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to take this opportunity to wish every one of you a happy and prosperous Year of the Tiger. See you on 26 February at PTC 1!

Caroline Yeow (Ms)
Vice Principal, Secondary Section

Through

Mak Lai Ying (Mdm)
Principal