



# NEWSLETTER

March 2021

## Principal's Message: Don't fall behind, be on time

Dear parents,

Every weekday morning, the KIK staff, Mr. Tam and I greet students with high-fives and a big smiles at the front gates. We enjoy seeing the day begin on a positive note with children literally running to school and saying "good morning" to us. By 8:30 AM, school starts and students are in class. Unfortunately, some students arrive late. This is where SIS may need your help.

Tardiness is defined as missing time over a course of a school day. For those who come to school late almost every day, researcher consider it as a chronic problem. Some students who turn up late every other day show signs of lethargy and disengagement from school. Researchers also say that students have problems with lateness for many reasons including distractions, cultural differences, skill deficiencies and poor motivation. A student may be also late because he or she lacks adult help to wake up and prepare for school each day.



Several studies have shown that school tardiness has a negative impact on learning outcomes. Some of the researches mention that students who are tardy tend to achieve lower grades compared to others and sleeping late is the main reason. By the mere nature of arriving late and missing school hours, students receive fewer hours of instruction than students who are in class when the bell sounds. But not only does a student who is consistently arriving late to school establish bad punctuality habits, their tardiness also disrupts the learning of other students in their classes.

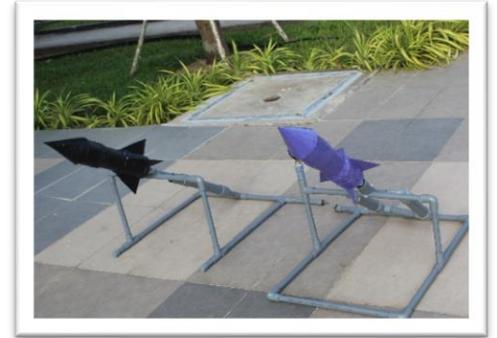
While many students will be tardy at some point during the year, chronic tardiness can become a real problem. An excused tardy could be used for medical appointments that run longer or an accident that could not have been avoided. The unexcused tardy may occur when a student overslept or, very simply, time is not considered an important issue.

Our weekday school hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Students should be arriving to school during the first 30 minutes of school (8:00-8:30 AM).

We understand that parents have busy schedules, but chronic tardiness generates academic problems for the late student. Please make sure your child arrives on time because punctuality is an important social skill for all children to know. Moreover, arriving on time demonstrates responsibility to your children.

Sincerely yours,

**Larry Synclair**  
Principal



Although it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Water Bottle Rockets Challenge, SIS Can Tho introduced the first competition of the HOUSE system instead of classes.

Four houses – namely, Griffin, Kraken, Basilisk, and Phoenix – worked hard to transform recycled bottles into contestable rockets. Each house, dividing as primary and secondary teams designed two rockets to compete against the other houses on the pitch. SIS students experimented with their practical skills in the field by reusing the old materials and their imagination. Aside from the competitive spirit, the atmosphere of friendship, support, and motivation between the houses presented much fun.

Winners of this year's water rocket competition went to the House of Basilisk. Second place was tied between the House of Kraken and the House of Phoenix. Third place went to the House of Griffin.



## ***SIS places in Spoken English Competition***

This month, our teachers selected two students in each class from Year 3 to Year 5 to represent our school to attend an English Talent Competition of Ninh Kieu district. Our students competed wonderfully with all other representatives of primary schools in Ninh Kieu by demonstrating their fine English skills. They even debated by applying critical opinions. With tremendous honor, our representatives in Year 5, Doan Dong Nguyen and Nguyen Nhat Ngoc Minh overwhelmingly earned second and third place honors.





We will have a term break from April 5 to 9, 2021. School will be closed to students at that time. Please see that your children have collected their assignments for this time period. SIS wishes all of you a relaxing and enjoyable break.

## Floating Festivities

Primary students participated in a wonderful STEM contest on March 12: a water boat contest using recycled products. Students developed an understanding about the concepts of buoyancy and water displacement to design a watercraft that also incorporated the scientific principles of force and motion with engineering design and mathematics. Various applications of power ranged from rubber bands to balloons. This year's winner was the Year 5 class. Second place went to Year 4, and Year 1 took third place honors. Best design was awarded to Year 2. Congratulations to everyone.



# DynEd winners

Congratulations to our new group of winners who earned their DynEd English certificates. This year, SIS brought on board, DynEd, a blended language learning system combining the best features of traditional learning and contemporary multimedia technology. Our students benefit from teacher-led studies followed by self-study work – either online or offline – all designed to optimize the learning process.



Nguyen Huy



Nguyen Vinh Khang



Bui Trong Giang



Truong Doan Hai Nguyen



Doan Dong Nguyen  
Ha Huynh Bao Ngoc



Nguyen Phuoc Quang Nhan

Tran Thuc Quyen Phuc



Nguyen Manh Cuong



Tran Minh Khoi



Nguyen Nhat Nam Phuong

Nguyen Minh Dang



Tran Thanh Nghiep



Nguyen Nhat Ngoc

Nguyen Khac Thong

Le Kha Vy

Tran Thien Tu

Dang Ngoc Thien

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Phan Tran Dong Nghi



Ngo Hai Toan

Vu Que Hao



Not pictured: Doan Doing Thy

What does the DynEd certificate mean for SIS students? DynEd certification is a system for recognizing and confirming student proficiency levels in English. It is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), an internationally respected system for describing language levels developed by the Council of Europe. CEFR proficiency levels underlie many major tests, including the TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS and Cambridge exams, and are increasingly referenced by Ministries of Education around the world in setting the goals and standards of the national English language curriculums.



## Duong Ngoc Nha Dan

Nha Dan is a student from the Funny Monkey (Nursery) class. She enjoys interesting activities in class, especially, circle time. She always volunteers to join the activities with her classmates. Nha Dan is independent. She prefers to put on and take off her shoes, skirt, dress by herself. Additionally, she can also eat food nicely without her teacher's support. Nha Dan is so smart, she can remember both new and old vocabularies. She understands and follows in teacher's instructions quickly.



## Striving to be the best

In late March, our talented Year 11 student, Nguyen Khac Thong (Dan), participated in an English competition sponsored by the Department of Education & Training (DoET). With great effort, he competed with 128 high school students and was honored to win 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Can Tho city round. Congratulations, Dan!



## KIK keeping cool



Our KIK students love the water so SIS have opened up the small pool for fun water activities. This is another great way to improve their motor skills as well as reduce the fear of water.

## Much Ado About Shakespeare

Ms. Feyza and the Year 4 class is celebrating World Theatre Day by studying Shakesperean plays. William Shakespeare's writings are timeless and full of meaning. Students are able to learn so much from studying the works of this famous bard including understanding the history behind his writings and learning from the messages he wished to convey. It's not enough to speak, but to speak true.

