



# SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @CANTHO NEWSLETTER

January 2022

## Principal's Message: Welcome back and be safe

Dear parents,

We are pleased with the good news that your children will be back in school after the Tet holidays. Teachers are eagerly prepping their classrooms for their students' arrival. Due to the pandemic, some of our routines and procedures may be modified during the remaining part of this school year. As guidelines change, we will be flexible in adapting them and proactive in communicating this information to you. For now, we ask you and our dear students to comply with the following:



It will be mandatory for students to attend school. Some parents may have concerns about their children coming to campus, fearing they could get Covid-19. However, authorities have made it clear that students must be present in school and SIS must comply with government directives. Please note that SIS has conducted many steps to reduce the possible spread of the virus such as classroom fumigation and vaccination compliance for students, teachers and staff as ordered by the government.

A Covid-19 steering committee has been organized to assess and implement school safety procedures – in particular, issues pertaining to the spread of the virus. Various local and foreign teachers, including the school nurse, focus on developing plans that ensure the welfare of everyone.

Masks/face coverings are now required on campus at all times. This will include wearing masks/coverings in all classes, even if the rooms are setup for social distancing and masking was not previously required. The only exception to the universal campus masking is if you are actively eating/drinking.

To prevent everyone from gathering in one location during lunch, selected classes will be assigned to have lunches eaten from inside their rooms and not in the canteen. As we are aware, the virus spreads in gathering situations and eating with your classmates/peers is equivalent to a gathering.

An isolation room has been arranged. If a teacher or staff member sees someone demonstrating symptoms of the virus, that person will be asked to wait in the designated room until transportation to a medical center is provided.

As a parent and grandparent, it is my sincerest interest to see that many safety precautions are taken as if my children and grandchildren were present at this school. By maintaining consistent safety watch, we aim to make sure this new year will be a Happy New Year for everyone at SIS. Chuc mung nam moi.

Sincerely yours,

**Larry Synclair**  
Principal

## Consul General of Singapore Visits SIS

On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the honorable Consulate-General of Singapore (from Ho Chi Minh), Mr. Roy Kho, visited Singapore International School. Principal Larry Synclair and staff gave a tour of the educational establishment, which is the first international school in the Mekong Delta. Mr. Kho's visit was part of a tour of Can Tho, relating to potential Singapore business ventures. According to media reports, city leaders and the Consul General discussed about areas suitable for investments: education, health care, climate change adaptation, semiconductor manufacturing industry development and project construction planning. The Consul General affirmed that Can Tho could be a "bridge" in introducing and promoting investment and cooperation activities with Singapore.



## Six Steps to Smarter Studying

By KidsHealth.com



How did you learn how to ride your bike? Someone probably gave you a few lessons and then you practiced a lot. You can learn how to study in much the same way. No one is born knowing how to study. You need to learn a few study skills and then practice them.

Why work on your study skills? It will make it easier for you to learn and do well in class, especially as you move up to middle school and high school.

Here are six steps to smarter studying:

1. Pay attention in class.
2. Take good notes.
3. Plan ahead for tests and projects.
4. Break it down. (If you have a bunch of stuff to learn, break it into smaller chunks.)
5. Ask for help if you get stuck.
6. Get a good night's sleep!

### 1. Pay Attention: Good Studying Starts in Class

Here's a riddle for you: Did you know that before you even begin studying, you've already started? Huh? Here's what we mean. When you pay attention in class and take good notes, you are starting the process of learning and studying.

Do you have trouble paying attention in class? Are you sitting next to a loud person? Is it hard to see the board? Make sure you're sitting in a good seat that lets you pay attention. Tell your teacher or parents about any problems that are preventing you from paying attention and taking good notes.

### 2. Good Notes = Easier Studying

Not sure how to take notes? Start by writing down facts that your teacher mentions or writes on the board during class. Try your best to use good handwriting so you can read your notes later. It's also a good idea to keep your notes, quizzes, and papers organized by subject.

### 3. *Plan Ahead and You'll Be Glad You Did*

Waiting until Thursday night to study for Friday's [test](#) will make for a homework night that's no fun! It also makes it hard to do your best. We're all guilty of putting things off sometimes. One of the best ways to make sure that doesn't happen is to plan ahead.

Ask for a cool calendar (something you like and can keep by your desk or study area) and write down your test and assignment due dates. You can then plan how much to do after school each day, and how much time to spend on each topic. Are lessons or extracurricular activities making it hard to find time to study? Ask your mom or dad how to make a schedule of what to do when.

### 4. *Break It Up!*

When there's a lot to study, it can help to break things into chunks. Let's say you have a test on 20 spelling words. Instead of thinking about all of the words at once, try breaking them down into five-word chunks and working on one or two different chunks each night.

Don't worry if you can't remember something on the first try. That's where practice comes in. The more days you spend reviewing something, the more likely it is to stick in your brain. There are also tricks called mnemonic (say: new-MON-ik) devices that can help you remember stuff. When you're trying to memorize a list of things, make up a phrase that uses the first letter of each. For example, are you trying to learn the eight planets and their order from the sun?

Think: **My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nachos** to remember Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Your teacher can give you ideas, too.

Another way to break it up is to study regularly instead of just the night before. You can always review your notes and read over the chapters you're working on. Or, if you're studying math or science, do some practice problems. How much studying should you do each night? Your teacher can help you figure it out. Most [brains](#) can only pay attention for about 45 minutes. So if you've been working for a while and find it hard to pay attention, try taking a break for some water or a walk around the house. Just fight the temptation to turn on the TV or stop working!

### 5. *Lose the Confusion — Ask for Help*

You can't study effectively if you don't understand the material. Be sure to ask your teacher for help if you're confused about something. You can check yourself by reading through your notes. Does it all make sense? If not, ask your teacher to go over it with you. If you're at home when the confusion occurs, your mom or dad might be able to help.

### 6. *Sleep Tight!*

So the test is tomorrow and you've followed your study plan — but suddenly you can't remember anything, not even 2+2! Don't panic. Your brain needs time to digest all the information you've given it. Try to get a good night's sleep and you'll be surprised by what comes back to you in the morning.

## Student of the Month Returns Soon

We are excited to be restart our “Student of the Month” Award at the end of this month. A Student of the Month Award is presented to one student each month. To be fair to all grades, the award is equally issued between students of SIS and KIK. “Student of the Month” motivates students to strive to do their best with many opportunities to be successful. The award acknowledges and respects all areas of success especially relating to our Schoolwide Learner Goals: 1) Being a Confident Communicator; 2) Being an Academic Achiever 3) Being a Critical Thinker 4) Being Technologically Literate 5) Being an Active and Responsible Citizen.