

iSP
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Schools
Partnership

PRIMARY
WEEKLY
NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing 6th January 2025

Where **confidence** **grows**



Our Vision

To be recognised as a leading provider of education that balances academics with holistic human development, rooted in a caring and community-centric environment.

Our Mission

To balance the individual and the collective in everything we do - providing personalised education suited to the needs of each student while emphasising the importance of collaboration and shared growth.

In doing so, to nurture compassionate, well-balanced young adults with the hard and soft skills necessary to succeed wherever life takes them.

Where **confidence** **grows**



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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 2 and welcome to those of you have recently joined our Straits community. It is my pleasure to begin serving as Head of Primary at SIS, having taught in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two since joining Straits in August 2023, I know how committed our staff are in organising engaging learning opportunities for your wonderful children. I look forward to supporting your children to succeed and working together to ensure that we build on our successes and get even better.

Next Friday, 17th January, at 8am, I warmly invite you to join me for a 'Coffee and Conversations with the Head of Primary' event at The (Parenthesis) Café. This will be a wonderful opportunity to connect, share updates, and engage in meaningful conversations.

It has been an exciting start to the year as we opened another Nursery Class, Nursery R, taught by Ms. Ruba and have also welcomed our new school counsellor, Ms. Tapisha, who is based in the Zen Den on level 2, and has written an introductory article within this newsletter. Having a counselor with such vast experience and knowledge is a tremendous asset, and we're excited about the positive impact she will have on our school community.

Where **grows**
confidence



As you may already know, we are currently revising our school motto to better represent our evolving identity. In the coming weeks, our School Council will collaborate with representatives from the School Council at Straits, Penang. Additionally, parents from both schools will join an online session to exchange ideas and contribute to this exciting initiative.

Also, earlier this week you will have received the Curriculum Overviews for this term, please do download and read these so you are familiar with the expectations of the curriculum coverage for your child's year group. Please also remember to review the reading lists that were sent out last term as reading is an important part of the children's academic growth and an enjoyable activity!

With that in mind, please enjoy reading this newsletter to find out more about what's been happening this week.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Mustoe'.

Katherine Mustoe

Head of Primary

k.mustoe@rawangsisgroup.edu.my



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Hello!

My name is Tapisha, and I'm the new school counsellor and designated Deputy Safeguarding Lead here at Straits International School. I am a licensed and registered counsellor with the Board of Counsellors Malaysia (Lembaga Kaunselor Malaysia [LKM]).



I hold a Master's degree in Counselling from Monash University Malaysia and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from HELP University. My experience includes working with individuals with special needs, conducting individual therapy sessions, and delivering workshops, podcasts, and articles for diverse audiences.

At SIS, my role involves conducting talks for students, parents, and teachers, providing individual sessions for students who need extra support, supporting the safeguarding team, leading the Friendly Faces initiative and co-leading the Future Pathways programme. Each week on the newsletter, I'll be sharing tips, updates, and resources to support your mental health, emotional well-being, and personal growth.

Students can find me at the 'Zen Den' in Level 2, Wing A. Parents are welcome to reach out to me via email at t.hardarshan@rawangsisgroup.edu.my with any questions or concerns.

I'm excited to connect with students and families as we work together to create a supportive and enriching experience at SIS!

Warmest Regards,

Tapisha Kaur.

Where **confidence** grows

What have we been learning this week

NURSERY

The first week of Term 2.1 was a fantastic start for our nursery students! They enjoyed settling in with exciting activities like a nature hunt, where they explored leaves and twigs, fun hands-on number games to strengthen their numeracy skills, and outdoor group play that encouraged teamwork and physical development. The children also expressed their creativity through art using natural materials and participated enthusiastically in storytime, boosting their imagination and language skills. It was a joyful and engaging week, setting the tone for a term full of exploration and learning!

RECEPTION

Welcome to Term 2, Reception! Although it was just the first week, lots of learning took place. It was a productive and exciting start.

Students were introduced to We're Going on a Bear Hunt. They sequenced the story using beginning, middle, and end, recorded stories through drawing, and practiced new vocabulary in discussions and role-play. Students explored numbers 0-5, learned perceptual subitizing, and represented numbers in different ways.

Students began exploring nature and brought their favorite soft toys for the Entry Point. They enjoyed outdoor learning and made new friends!



Year 1

Welcome back!

It has been wonderful to have the students back in class and getting back into our classroom routines. We started our new IPC unit 'Buildings' as part of our entry point students had a challenging tasks for trying to build a structure using cards! It was great to see the perseverance the students had.

In English, students have started learning about traditional tales and features of traditional tales. It has been wonderful to see their creativity in English.

In Maths students have started to learn different strategies to add within in 20.



Year 2

This week, the children revisited the four sentence types from Term 1 and learned to differentiate between common and proper nouns.

They began exploring the term's reading text, Fred the Wizard in Training, and practiced using a dictionary. In Maths, the new unit on Money introduced Malaysian currency and British pounds and pence, with an emphasis on counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s to aid calculations. For IPC, the term's unit, It's Shocking!, kicked off with an engaging Entry Point activity to develop observational skills, followed by a Knowledge Harvest on electricity.



Year 3

Welcome to Term 2!

It has been wonderful seeing all the Year 3s back in school this week. They have settled back into the routines and expectations seamlessly.

This week has been full of new learning! In IPC, we started our new unit, 'Let's Plant It'. We enjoyed sharing the knowledge we already have about plants and taking a nature walk around school.

In English, we are learning about non-chronological reports. We created story maps about bees and answered questions to gain more understanding.

Finally, in Maths, we have been thinking about multiplication, related calculations and reasoning questions.



Year 4

We were delighted to welcome the children back to Year 4 this week. It seems like everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break.

In Maths, we have begun our unit on 'Length and Perimeter'. The children found equivalent measures of length by converting kilometres to metres and vice versa.

In English, the children read and performed a playscript for the well-known fairy tale 'Three Little Pigs'.

Our new IPC unit 'Inventions that changed the world' began with an entry point and knowledge harvest involving children suggesting usage of antique objects. They conducted a survey and graphed the results to see which was most important.

What have we been learning this week



Year 5

NEW YEAR, SAME ROUTINES!

Welcome back to Term 2, Year 5!

In Maths, students are working on the Multiplication and Division B unit, focusing on multiplying two-digit numbers using the area model and column method. These strategies help develop accuracy and problem-solving skills.

In Reading, we've introduced our new novel, *The Firework Maker's Daughter*. Students began by making predictions and exploring how different types of fireworks look, building excitement for the story ahead.

In English, we've been reviewing grammar through practice activities to strengthen foundational skills. We're also starting a narrative poetry unit, beginning with *The Willow Pattern*, a poem told through intricate designs on ceramic plates. Students are identifying the key features of the narrative poem. In IPC, our new unit, *What a Wonderful World*, kicked off with an exciting Entry Point. Students are designing 2025 calendars featuring stunning natural wonders, combining creativity and geography.

Here's to a term full of creativity and learning! ✨



Year 6

Year 6 kicked start their term 2.1 with their holiday postcard writing and presentation for English, followed by fiction writing where they have to complete the story given to them using their own ideas. They will also be introduced to poetry writing. For IPC, the topic is Full Power where the students will learn about harvesting different sources of power and focus on electricity. We started with Entry Point with static energy experiment and knowledge harvest on electrical appliances and it's usage. For Reading, we started a new book titled *The Day The Screens Went Blank*. This is a fun and easy read as they will enjoy the jokes and humor. For Maths, we continued from T1.2 chapter, *Converting Units* where they learned about miles and kilometers, followed by imperial measures and unit tests to finish off the topic.



Mandarin

Reception (EYFS): Food (Eat and drink)
Year 1: (Beg) Name, Age and Nationality
(Adv) Happy Birthday
Year 2: (Beg) I eat fruits everyday
(Adv) Food
Year 3: (Beg) Greetings
(Adv) Zoo
Year 4: (Beg) Fruits and Vegetables
(Adv) Time
Year 5: (Beg) Clothes
(Adv) This is a swimming pool
Year 6: (Beg) Food and Beverage
(Adv) Chinese food is delicious



Bahasa Melayu

Reception (EYFS): Hidupan laut
Year 1: Unit 4: Sayang Keluarga
Year 2: Unit 4: Tubuh badan saya
Year 3: Unit 4: Haiwan Kesayangan
Year 4: Unit 5: Di Bandar
Year 5: Unit 5: Kemudahan Awam
Year 6: Unit 5: Hidup Sihat



Music

This week, Early Years enjoyed their first day back with dancing, playing small percussion, and singing a welcome song. KS1 focused on exploring high and low pitches through animal voice activities, while KS2 worked on creating melodies using sol, mi, do and collaborated in groups to compose percussion rhythms.



PE

This week in Early Years, students have been introduced to the Mini Athletics unit for Term 2.1, focusing on running, jumping, and throwing. They enjoyed exercises and movement games to get ready for these activities. In KS1, students began the IPC Gymnastics unit for Term 2.1. They identified the definition of gymnastics and the skills they will practice in this unit. They also played movement games to prepare for the activities ahead.

Meanwhile, KS2 students participated in a variety of enjoyable warm-up games and activities during their welcome week, preparing them for the upcoming Athletics and Basketball units.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Nursery
N



Nursery
R



Reception
L



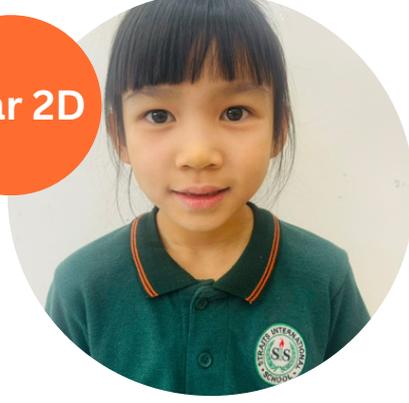
Reception
J



Year 1D



Year 2D



Year 2C



Year 3A



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

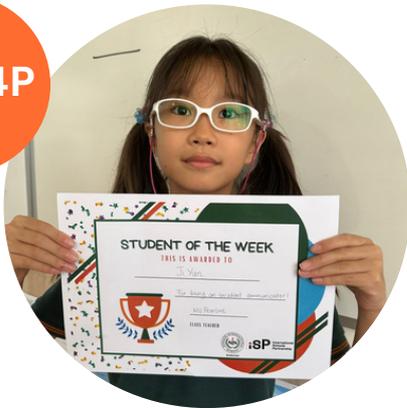
Year 3H



Year 4S



Year 4P



Year 5N



Year 5S



Year 6V



Year 6G



EAL STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

KS1



KS2



PRIMARY STUDENT LEADERS



**Our Primary Student Leaders with our
Head of Primary, Ms Katherine**

Year 6G

HOUSE POINTS



742



605



670



704

**This week's
winner: BK**

Where **grows**
confidence

Birthday Week

HAPPY
Birthday

R A A I N A





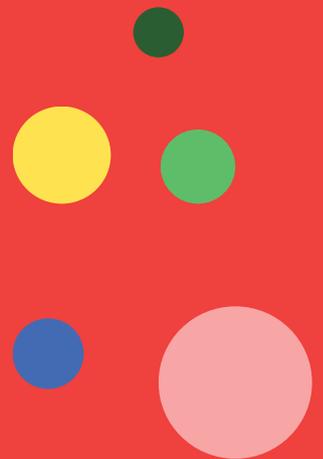
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Primary Parents Coffee Morning

with Ms Katherine

17 January 2025 @ 8am



NO MEDICINE WITH STUDENTS

**ALL MEDICINE IN SCHOOL - PRESCRIBED AND
NON-PRESCRIBED - MUST BE ADMINISTERED
BY OUR NURSE, AND NOT SELF-ADMINISTERED
BY STUDENTS.**

**PLEASE LIAISE DIRECTLY WITH NURSE YAU IF YOUR
CHILD NEEDS TO TAKE MEDICINE IN SCHOOL.**





AMAZING
LEARNING





THANK

YOU