



**iSP**  
International  
Schools  
Partnership

PRIMARY  
WEEKLY  
NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing 13th 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**



Dear Parents,

It has been a wonderfully busy first full week back with the students.

Earlier this morning I met with parents from Primary to share ideas about making our school even better. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet some of you and hear of your positive experiences. As I said this morning, we as a school and you, as parents, have the same aims of wanting the best for your child, and this has to be done by working together. I am excited about the journey we are on as we strive to create a nurturing and stimulating environment where every child can thrive.

This week we began our focused learning walks to see the learning taking place across the school. Our focus this week was 'Learning Out Loud', developing metacognition and encouraging students to explain how they have found the answer and why they know their answer is correct. This also linked nicely with our assembly topic 'What it means to be a good thinker?'. During the assembly we explored what critical thinking is and tried answering some challenging brain teasers as well as highlighting the importance of being curious and creative. We were inspired by famous thinkers from Albert Einstein to Steve Jobs and will continue to encourage the students to further develop their thinking skills. You can also support this at home by asking curious questions and finding out the answers together.



This also ties in with developing our identity as a school. As you will be aware, we are reviewing our school motto and there are some meetings taking place next week with Straits, Penang to move this forward. We are also looking to define the attributes and competencies that guide our community here at Straits, Rawang. Therefore, in the coming weeks in assemblies we will be exploring the following competencies: Thinkers, Leaders, Communicators, Digital and Global Citizens. Working collaboratively with Secondary, we intend to create student-led definitions and images that will help develop our learners to be successful now and beyond.

Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter to find out what else has been happening this week.

Kind regards,

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

**Katherine Mustoe**

**Head of Primary**

**[k.mustoe@rawangsisgroup.edu.my](mailto:k.mustoe@rawangsisgroup.edu.my)**

Dear Parents,

As we settle into Week 2, this is the perfect time to help your children establish a manageable routine that supports their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. A steady routine fosters focus, productivity, and a smoother transition into the school year. Here are some practical tips to help your child stay on track:

- **Get Enough Rest:** Encourage 7–8 hours of quality sleep each night to help them stay energized and focused.
- **Meet Basic Needs:** Remind them to eat balanced meals, stay hydrated, and rest when needed to keep their bodies and minds healthy.
- **Organize Their Space:** A tidy and organized workspace can improve concentration and reduce stress.
- **Set Weekly Goals:** Help them set 2–3 small, achievable goals each week to give them a sense of purpose and progress.
- **Take Short Breaks:** Encourage regular 5-minute breaks between study sessions to refresh and reset.
- **Reach Out for Support:** If your child feels overwhelmed, gently encourage open conversations or suggest they speak with a teacher, a trusted friend, or visit the Zen Den (Level 2 Wing A) for guidance and support from me.

By building positive habits early, we can empower our children to navigate their school days with confidence and resilience. Let's continue working together to create a supportive and enriching environment for every student.

Warmest Regards,

**Ms Tapisha**

Where **confidence** grows

# What have we been learning this week

## RECEPTION

### NURSERY

This week in our nursery classroom, children engaged in exciting outdoor challenges like obstacle courses, treasure hunts, and team-building games. They explored water play with channels, funnels, and pouring activities to observe movement and investigated how rain flows using models and different surfaces. In Math, they practiced showing numbers 1, 2, and 3 with their fingers, counted manipulatives, and identified numbers in pictures during storytime. For Literacy, students enjoyed singing rhymes, learning new words, matching sounds, and creating drawings inspired by rhymes. During Phonics, they learned new letter sounds and digraphs, practiced blending and segmenting simple words, and reinforced their learning through fun letter-matching and word-building activities.

This week, we continued with "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" 🐻, editing the story map 🌟, orally telling the story 🗣️, and creating a mini book 📖. In Literacy, we wrote exceptional words 📝 and composed simple phrases and sentences ✍️. In Maths, we built on '1 more' and '1 less' up to 5, including zero 0, explored number composition 1+4, and developed subitising skills 🧠. For IEYC, we explored birds' needs 🐦, observed plant changes 🌱, expanded vocabulary 📖, and wrote for various purposes ✍️.

It was a productive and engaging week! 🌟



### Year 1

This week in year 1 student's had a busy week of learning. In IPC students got the opportunity to make the front of their building using clay. Additionally, students discussed how buildings have changed with time.

In English, students have worked hard to consolidate and reinforce their knowledge of adjectives. Additionally, students have worked on expanding their vocabulary.

In math students have learnt to use different addition and subtraction strategies within 20. Mainly focusing on subtraction within 20 using strategies such as counting backwards and finding the difference in numbers.



### Year 2

This week was full of exciting learning! In English, the children dived into non-chronological reports, discovering their cool features and how to use contents pages and indexes to uncover information. In Math, we had fun exploring money—making amounts, comparing values, and even figuring out change like little shopkeepers! For IPC, the highlight was building our very own circuits, where we learned just how amazing (and important!) electricity is, while also understanding how to stay safe. The children wrapped up the week with creative posters and leaflets to share their safety tips—what a brilliant week!



### Year 3

We have been growing beyond in Year 3 this week with all kinds of Amazing Learning happening.

In English, we read 'All About Bees' as a reader and as a writer. We also learnt how to write in third person and ended the week by researching about butterflies (the topic for our upcoming reports).

In Maths, we enjoyed a good struggle with multiplying and dividing by partitioning. We had to use related facts and fact families to help us achieve this.

Lastly, in IPC, it has been very exciting as we test different variables on green bean seeds. These variables included: amount of water, air, light and temperature. Through these experiments, we are engaging in lots of discussion about fair tests, predictions and what a seed needs to grow!



### Year 4

We continued our work on length and perimeter in maths with a focus on rectilinear shapes. The children started to find the missing lengths of sides and the perimeter of polygons too.

In English, our fun work on playscripts continued with a few performances, planning using storyboards and a hilarious shared write of 'Hansel and Gretel'.

Our IPC work on inventions progressed with the children exploring individual inventions and starting to plot a timeline for developments in the invention such as different telephones across history.

# What have we been learning this week



## Year 5

Year 5 had a productive week where their curiosity and creative thinking came together beautifully. In Maths, we continued our Multiplication and Division unit, tackling larger digit problems. Students faced a good challenge solving related word problems, enhancing their perseverance and problem-solving skills.

In English, we explored the key features of narrative poetry and focused on learning how to perform poems with intonation and expression. Students worked in groups to perform the poem "Willow Pattern". The best-performing group showcased their poetry recital skills during the Primary Assembly, impressing the audience with their creativity and teamwork. In IPC, Year 5 students embraced their role as explorers by identifying different biomes of the world and locating the latitude and longitude of various places. This activity deepened their understanding of geography and global diversity.



## Year 6

This week Y6 started their IPC Science Experiments building series and parallel circuits using batteries, wires and bulbs. They also learn the big question in this topic of FULL POWER!

For English, they started learning the features of poems such as personification, alliteration, rhymes, onomatopoeia, as well as analyzing a narrative poems.

For Math, we started a new topic, Ratio. They learn the ratio language and the connection with fraction.

For Reading, we continued with spelling words/sentences and chapter 3 reading.



## 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) Introduce others with 她/他  
(Adv) Zoo

Year 4: (Beg) Fruits and Vegetables  
(Adv) Time

Year 5: (Beg) Clothes  
(Adv) This is a swimming pool

Year 6: (Beg) Food & Beverage, Grammar: 过  
(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 had fun clapping rhythms based on fruits, practicing up to semiquavers at a very slow tempo. KS1 explored high and low pitches using animal sounds and solfege to develop their musical ear. Meanwhile, KS2 focused on creating short melodies using Do, Re, and Mi, and worked in groups to explore triplets and quavers through engaging body percussion activities.



## PE

This week in EY, students focused on two-foot jumping and overarm push-throwing skills to develop their athleticism. In KS1, students practiced basic shapes and balance positions as part of the IPC Gymnastics unit. They also explored different types of jumps in gymnastics. In KS2, students focused on improving their running techniques in the Athletics unit and enhanced their dribbling skills in the Basketball unit.

# 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



# HOUSE POINTS



**798**



**684**



**738**



**770**

**This week's  
winner: BK**

Where **grows**  
confidence

Birthd<sup>ay</sup> Week

HAPPY  
*Birthd<sup>ay</sup>*

T Z E Y U N  
Z A C H  
E T H A N



# SCHOOL COUNSELLING REFERRAL FORM



**Asking for Help is a Sign of Strength.  
Everyone needs support sometimes—scan the QR  
code to access caring, non-judgmental support  
from our school counsellor.**

**We are here for you.**

# **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.**





Next week, on Friday 24th January, we will be hosting a free trial for students from years 5 – 9 with professional coaches from Southampton Football Club Academy Malaysia. The session will take place from 14.45 – 16.15 and will be limited to 30 participants, with students being selected on a first-come-first-served basis. If you would like your child to sign up for this session, please do so via QR code below.

This session is a prelude to a longer-term partnership between Straits International School Rawang and Southampton Football Club Academy Malaysia, with the aim being to provide the young people in our care with high-quality football coaching from an English Premier League football club. Southampton FC have produced a number of very well-known professional football players over the years through their academy programme – including Gareth Bale, Ben White, Alan Shearer & Luke Shaw, to name but some – so our Straits students will be in very good hands here.





AMAZING  
LEARNING







THANK

YOU