

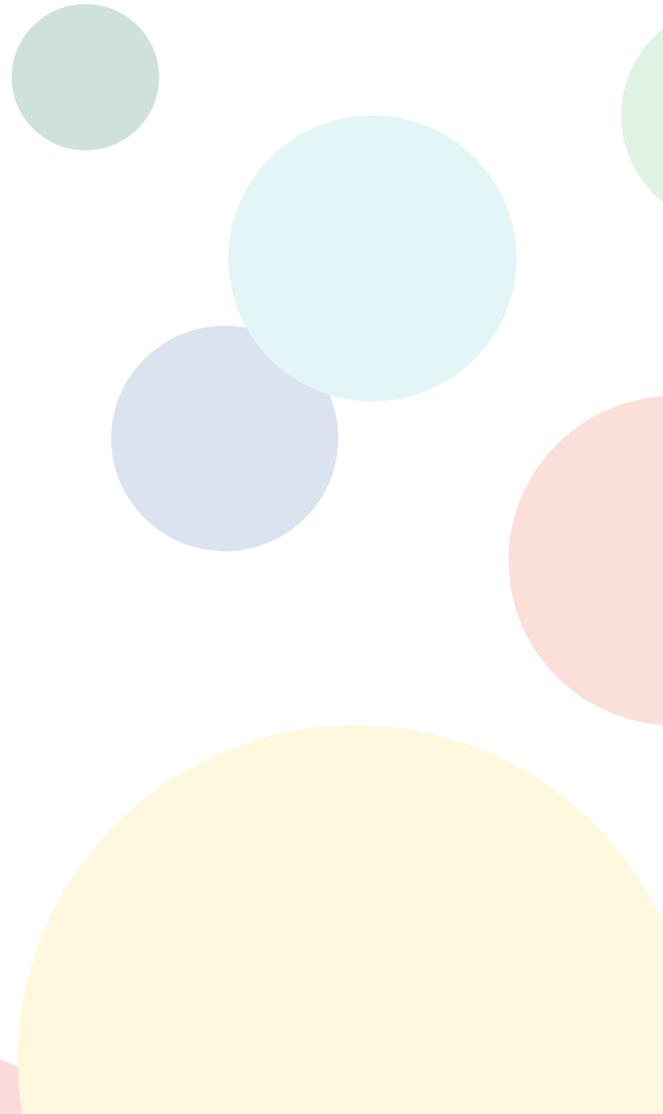


iSP
International
Schools
Partnership

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER

6 September 2024





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.



NEWSLETTER

Dear Secondary Parents,

As promised last week, secondary curriculum overviews can now be found [here](#). I am incredibly proud of how effectively our very talented secondary teachers have put these documents together so swiftly, concisely and comprehensively, and I hope that parents will also find them to be the informative tools that they are designed to be. We will publish updated documents at the beginning of each half-term so that all members of our SIS community – parents, students and teachers of all subjects – can remain fully-informed at all times about the academic content which underpins learning in our secondary classrooms.

So that we can ensure that our secondary curriculum overviews are thoroughly understood, we will be holding a Q&A session with parents next week on Friday September 13th at 09.30, immediately after our first STEPS meeting of the new academic year. If any parents would like to attend, then all that you need to do is to turn up!

It is also important that I take this opportunity to follow-up on a key item from this morning's CP letter. We take safeguarding very seriously indeed in our school, so we need to also be certain which adults are on site each day and that we know why they are here. Although I am keen to continue to encourage the culture of parents having access to our school and to teachers, this must work alongside our clear need to also guarantee the safety of the young people in our care. To this end, parent ID cards and lanyards are a must and it is essential that we move very quickly towards a system where it is normal to only allow adults who are clearly displaying ID cards to be present in our school. As stated in the CP letter, ID cards and lanyards will be available to collect from school next week (wb Monday September 9th) and it will become mandatory for all visiting adults on site to wear ID cards and lanyards from the following week (Monday September 16th).



NEWSLETTER

Now that I have been a proud member of the SIS community for around four weeks, I feel that it is necessary that I commend our secondary students for the standards which they have set during this time. Student behaviours and attitudes in our school are very impressive, as too are the ambitious mindsets I see in lessons. Our students clearly want to excel in their studies and our teachers are fully engaged in supporting them with this. In addition, uniforms are worn well each day and students take punctuality and home learning tasks seriously. All of this augers well for the academic year ahead and – from my experience – suggests strongly that success will follow. These foundational elements, of course, have a great deal to do with how parents prepare their children for school, and this positive partnership between school and home is something which is very clearly a strength of SIS. In simple terms, thank you parents for the role you have played so far in helping steer our young people towards successful outcomes – it is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

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

Steven Miles.



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

ENGLISH

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>English First Language - Students have examined the use of metaphors in poetry.</p> <p>English Second Language - Students explored a remarkable journey of their family history and describe where their ancestors are from.</p>
Y8	<p>English First Language - Students have examined the use of metaphors in poetry.</p> <p>English Second Language - Students acted out scenarios of non-verbal communication according to different cultures.</p>
Y9	<p>English First Language - Students read a text about indigenous culture and presented to the class about their own unique cultures.</p> <p>English Second Language - Students explained in words the eight tips of effective presentation skills.</p>
Y10	<p>English First Language - Students read some travel writing and compared older and more modern texts, discussing what they would expect to see in a piece of travel writing. This led to them writing their own piece of descriptive travel writing.</p> <p>English Second Language - Students practised multiple-matching and note-taking skills in reading articles on a topic of digital life.</p> <p>English Literature - Students read Chapter 2 of 'Things Fall Apart' and answered some questions about the text so far to ensure their understanding.</p>
Y11	<p>English First Language & Literature - Students read and explored Chapters 5, 6 and 7 of 'Things Fall Apart'. They particularly focused on the writer's use of language and the effects of this.</p> <p>English Second Language - Students presented a powerpoint presentation with effective speaking skills on a topic of endangered animals.</p>



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

MATHEMATICS

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students discovered the test of divisibility to find factors of large numbers, identified squares, cube and corresponding roots.
Y8	Students used the correct order of operations in algebraic expressions when constructing expressions and expanding brackets.
Y9	Students revised the basic order of operations in calculations, rounding significant numbers and estimating an approximate answer.
Y10	Students used the formulas to calculate the surface areas and volumes of 3D shapes.
Y11	Students solved quadratics equations by using completed squares or the quadratics formulas and simplify algebraic fractions.
Y10	Y10 Add Math - Students learned about modulus and inverse functions.
Y11	Y11 Add Math - Students learned proving trigonometry identities

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

SCIENCE

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>Students explored elements and compounds, focusing on the differences between them and how to name compounds accurately. They learned that compounds ending in “-ide” consist of only two elements, whereas those ending in “-ate” contain three or more elements, including oxygen.</p>
Y8	<p>Students explored the study of balanced and unbalanced forces, gaining an understanding of how these forces affect motion. They also learned about drag forces and examined the benefits of friction, highlighting its crucial role in providing grip, enabling movement, and preventing slipping in everyday activities.</p>
Y9	<p>Students completed Unit 2 of Biology by learning level of organisation in organisms, magnification formula and started off Unit 1 of Chemistry with basic introduction to solid, liquid and gas.</p>
Y10	<p>Combined Science - Students completed Unit 4 of Biology with continuation from food test and role of water in organisms. They have started of Unit 1 of Physics with techniques of measuring length and volume.</p> <p>Physics - Students have continued to explore on vectors, using speed-time graph & distance time graph, free fall, acceleration, mass and weight.</p> <p>Biology - Students explored the features of prokaryote & protocists and presented the outcome.</p> <p>Chemistry - Students described the structure of atoms, configured the electronic arrangements & discovered isotopes.</p>

Y11	<p>Combined Science - Students completed Unit 3 of Physics by learning properties & uses of radiation, speed of sound, pitch, loudness and echoes. They have moved on to Unit 10 of Biology with basic understanding on pathogen and its role in transmitting diseases.</p> <p>Physics - Students have continued to learn on electric current, direct current, alternating current, ammeter, electromotive force, potential difference and resistance.</p> <p>Biology - Students described and investigated the kidney function, osmoregulation & the mechanism to form urine.</p> <p>Chemistry - Students explored the properties of Group 1 & Group 7 elements in depth</p>
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PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

HUMANITIES

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>History - Students explored ancient Mesopotamian civilization, exploring the rich history of Sumer, including the impressive ziggurats and other significant architectural achievements.</p> <p>Enterprise - Students explored the 4 factors of production used to produce goods and services.</p>
Y8	<p>History - Students have examined chronology and how this relates to their own lives.</p> <p>Enterprise - Students made their group presentations of their cases studies on the external business opportunities & rewards.</p>
Y9	<p>History - Students have examined one of the long-term causes of World War I – Alliances.</p> <p>Enterprise - Students explored the SMART objectives and they were given a group case study to identify the aims & objectives of a local business or social enterprise.</p>

<p>Y10</p>	<p>History - Students have examined the wants and needs of the 'Big 3' at Versailles and investigated the terms of the treaty.</p> <p>Travel and Tourism - Students continued their learning into sustainability, and were then introduced to the next topic - 'The Characteristics of Travel and Tourism'. Students explored some of these characteristics and began to develop their knowledge of these.</p> <p>Global Perspectives - The students are working on their selected topic of ecosystem loss by researching both global and local data to support their points of view.</p> <p>Business - Students learnt about why might objective change as businesses evolve. (Chapter 2)</p> <p>Economics - Students learnt about the factors that can cause shift in the demand curve.</p>
<p>Y11</p>	<p>History - Students examined what was agreed at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences and how there were disagreements. They also examine Soviet expansion after 1945.</p> <p>Global Perspectives - Students continued with their planning of team project which includes sketching of posters, selection of suitable date and time, finalising on the year group involved for the review of their project and writing down the flow of their event.</p> <p>Business - Students learnt about Economies of Scale (EOS) - financial, technical, purchasing, managerial and marketing EOS. (Chapter 16)</p> <p>Economics - Students learnt about Fiscal Policy - government spending and taxation. They attempted some past-year questions. (Chapter 26)</p> <p>Travel and Tourism - Students learned how different types of customer need to have customer service delivered in different ways, and applied their knowledge of this to writing a report and answering some case study questions.</p>

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

ICT

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	In computing, students learned how to set rules for conditional formatting using Excel.
Y8	In computing, students learned the difference of PAN network and LAN network
Y9	In computing, students have learned Ring topology and its advantages and disadvantages
Y10	In ICT, students learned how to create query using query wizard in Access
Y11	In ICT, students learned how to create table structure using the HTML Language



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

MUSIC

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	In music, the Year 7 students have explored diegetic and non-diegetic sound in film.
Y8	In music, the Year 8 students created posters and presented the information to the class after completing their research.
Y9	In music, the Year 9 students have explored the concepts of slogans and taglines, identifying the differences between them.
Y10	In music, the Year 10 students explored the technique of reading various notes by correctly performing the first 17 bars of a piece.
Y11	No lesson

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

ART

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students used the personal symbols they had created the previous week to make rubber stamps with materials available to them.
Y8	Students used the personal symbols they had created the previous week to make rubber stamps with materials available to them.
Y9	Students used the personal symbols they had created the previous week to make rubber stamps with materials available to them.
Y10	Students explored mixed media and techniques by using a single image as a foundation to develop their skills and understanding. Through this process, they learned how to combine different materials, textures, and methods, gaining insights into the possibilities of mixed media art and expanding their creative abilities.
Y11	Students preparing their preparatory work for Component 1, refining their skills, techniques, and ideas to ensure their coursework meets the assessment criteria and showcases their creative development.

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

MANDARIN

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>This week, the Year 7 Advanced Mandarin class studied the importance of exercise. The students read the article "Child, How Has Your Health Been Recently?" to understand the content and vocabulary used in the article. The Year 7 Beginner Mandarin explored the basics of wishing someone a happy birthday in Mandarin. Students learned the key phrases used for birthday greetings and practiced writing essential strokes and radicals, laying a strong foundation for understanding Chinese characters.</p>
Y8	<p>This week in Year 8 Mandarin Advanced Class, students engaged with the text "体验人生：我在英国做义工," enhancing their comprehension skills and sparking a thoughtful discussion on whether old people should be put into nursing homes. Additionally, they completed an essay reflecting on their experiences of living or growing up in Malaysia, in honor of Malaysia National Day. This week, Year 8 Mandarin Beginner Class students were introduced to the topic of hobbies, learning key vocabulary such as 打篮球 (play basketball), 看书 (reading) and 听音乐 (listening to music). The focus was on expressing personal interests and asking others about their hobbies using phrases like 你喜欢做什么? (what do you like to do?) Students practiced through dialogues and group activities, sharing their favourite pastimes.</p>
Y9	<p>This week, the Year 9 Advanced Mandarin class studied the importance of exercise. The students read the article "Reflections on Robots Replacing Humans" to understand the content and how vocabulary was used in the article. This week, Year 9 Mandarin Beginner Class students began the topic of Personality, learning key adjectives such as 外向 (outgoing), 内向 (introverted) and 友好 (friendly). They practiced describing themselves and others using sentences like 他很幽默 (He is very humorous) and 你性格怎么样? (What is your personality like?). Students engaged in pair work to describe friends and family members' personalities.</p>

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y10	<p>This week, the Year 10 Mandarin as a Foreign Language students studied an article about family and pets. This week, the Year 10 Second Language Mandarin class studied the importance of exercise. The students read the article "Who Decides the Admission Decision" to understand its content and the use of vocabulary. Year 10 Chinese First Language, students delved into the Classical Chinese text "沈梅冈." They focused on mastering the vocabulary and grammar specific to Classical Chinese. Additionally, they explored various writing expressions and applied their knowledge by composing an essay reflecting what they learned.</p>
Y11	<p>This week, the Year 11 First Language Chinese students delved into the Classical Chinese text "核舟记", where they focused on comprehending the intricate meanings and grammatical structures within the text. Through guided discussions and comprehension exercises, students developed a deeper understanding of the historical and cultural context of the piece. In addition to this, they engaged in a lively discussion on the topic "对手机学习程序的看法", exploring both the advantages and disadvantages of using mobile apps for educational purposes. Finally, they consolidated their learning by writing an essay that critically evaluated the role of mobile learning in modern education. This week, Year 11 Chinese Foreign Language students started the topic of Technology and Social Media, focusing on key vocabulary such as 智能手机 (smartphone), 社交媒体 (social media) and 应用程序 (apps). Students learned how to discuss the role of technology in everyday life using phrases like 你每天使用手机多长时间? (How long do you use your phone everyday?). Class activities included debates about the advantages and disadvantages of technology in modern society. Students discussed how social media affects relationships, privacy, and communication, developing their ability to express opinions and justify their points of view. This week, Year 11 Chinese Second Language students continued exploring Chinese festivals and celebrations. They learned key vocabulary related to traditional holidays, such as 春节 (Spring Festival), 元宵节 (Lantern Festival), and 中秋节 (Mid-Autumn Festival). Students practiced discussing how these festivals are celebrated, focusing on customs, foods, and activities. Class activities included group discussions comparing Chinese Festivals with those from other cultures.</p>



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

BAHASA

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	The Year 7 students continued with Unit 1: Pengenalan Diri dan Ucapan. They wrote a short essay about themselves in Bahasa Melayu and focused on recognizing numbers 1-100 in Malay.
Y8	The Year 8 students continued with Unit 7: Minuman dan Makan di Luar. They began the reading section, practiced answering comprehension questions, and engaged in extension activities related to the topic through online platforms.
Y9	The Year 9 students continued their exploration of Unit 13: Perayaan dan Majlis Istimewa, with a focus on grammar, specifically kata bilangan, and its correct usage in sentences. They also applied this grammar knowledge in their essay writing.
Y10	The Year 10 students continued their exploration of Unit 19: Alam Semula Jadi, focusing on grammar, specifically kata penguat, and its application in sentences and essay writing.
Y11	The Year 11 students studied penanda wacana to enhance their writing skills. Additionally, they practiced listening exercises to get accustomed to the pace of conversations and improve their content comprehension.



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	This week, 7S worked on improving their drop and lift shots in badminton. 7R practiced long jump in their athletics unit.
Y8	This week, 8S worked on improving their net, drop and lift shots in badminton. 8R practiced long jump in their athletics unit.
Y9	This week, 9S worked on improving their net, drop and lift shots in badminton. 9R practiced long jump in their athletics unit.
Y10 & Y11	Students had their second lesson in their chosen PE pathway. Students who chose team sports focused on catching and blocking in dodgeball and played a match. Students who chose individual sports focused on long jump. Healthy living students planned their fun activities and executed it.



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

EAL (ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE)

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students learnt about daily routines and the usage of present simple tense.
Y8	Students learnt about friendship and friends and the usage of present simple and present continuous tense.
Y9	Students learnt about the various ways for communication and did a review on past tense.
Y10	Students learnt about coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, verbs and clauses.
Y11	Students learnt the techniques of skimming and scanning a reading comprehension and spotted key details from the paragraph.



SUBJECTS STAR OF THE WEEK

6 SEPTEMBER 2024

English	Daniel Lee Year 8
Maths	Lithraashree - Year 8
Science	Gan Wei Ray - Year 8
Humanities	Chow Yu Chen -Year 11
ICT	Jaelyn Sim - Year 8
Music	Bennet - Year 7
Art	Sophie Chan YiLin - Year 9
Mandarin	Li Zhuo Xiu (Hewzen) - Year 9
Bahasa	Kumar Year - Year 10
Physical Education	Yuta Onishi - Year 8

WE ARE A
NUT FREE
SCHOOL

Thank you for your
cooperation in keeping
all our students safe





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Ms Sutha	s.sankaran@rawangsisgroup.edu.my	Head of EAL
Ms Gayathri Subramany	g.subramany@rawangsisgroup.edu.my	Secondary Maths & Additional Maths Teacher
Ms Uma Rani	s.subramaniam@rawangsisgroup.edu.my	Head of English & Humanities
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THANK

YOU!