



RAWANG

iSP

International  
Schools  
Partnership

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER

17 January 2025

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## 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,

Thank you for another successful week!

Our Year 11s are in the final stages of their mock exams, and I know that the immense amount of work they have put in over the past few months (as well as the past 10 years) is about to pay off! We are excited to welcome them back to lessons and continue their preparations for their final exams. We know that this is an extremely important time for the students and their families, and therefore we will be inviting Year 11 parents to a parents' evening on the 10th of February to discuss their final steps here at Straits, and what we as teachers can do to support them. More information will be provided shortly.

This is a good time, not only to echo Steven's sentiments in the CP letter, but to emphasize that PTCs are not the only point of contact for our teachers. We encourage open communication and invite all parents to contact teachers when necessary to discuss any queries you may have regarding your child's learning. Teachers, likewise, will be in touch, either by email or phone, to discuss both the strengths and celebrations of your child as well as any necessary support we can provide. As always, teacher emails are available at the end of this newsletter, and we encourage you to make full use of them.

We have previously highlighted our motto change here at school to better reflect our growing community. We are also looking to define the attributes and competencies that guide our community here at Straits International School Rawang. In our assemblies and study skills, we are focusing on the following competencies: Thinkers, Leaders, Communicators, Digital and Global Citizens. Secondary students have been tasked with defining what these mean for our community as well as what attributes make up each. They have been hard at work creating statements and images for each and will continue to explore them in the coming weeks. We hope to begin using these student-led definitions in a meaningful way as we continue to build and redefine our amazing community.

As always, I invite all parents to reach out if they have anything they would like to discuss.

Yours truly,

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

**Simon Mitchell**

**Head of Secondary**

**[s.mitchell@rawangsisgroup.edu.my](mailto:s.mitchell@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**

Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce that our Year 8 students will be participating in an Enterprise Project as part of their curriculum. This project aims to foster creativity, teamwork, and entrepreneurial skills while supporting a meaningful cause.

On Thursday, 6th March 2025, our Year 8 students will host a Healthy Snacks Fundraising Sale in the school canteen. As part of this initiative, the students will design, prepare, and sell nut-free healthy snacks, ensuring inclusivity for all dietary needs.

Here's how the project works:

- Students will invest in the raw materials to create their snacks.
- They will reimburse their initial investment from the profits they generate.
- All remaining proceeds will be donated to a local animal shelter to support the welfare of animals in need.
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This initiative not only teaches students about financial management and social responsibility but also allows them to make a tangible impact on their community.

We warmly invite you to support this event by encouraging your child's participation. Thank you for your continued support in nurturing our students' learning and growth.

Regards,

**Ms Uma**



## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### ENGLISH

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	In First Language English, student have begun to respond academically to prose. They have formed first impressions of characters, and gather evidence to back up their opinions.
	In ESL, students compared famous cities in the world using comparative adjectives and adverbs.
Y8	In First Language English, students have begun exploring William Blakes poetry. They have compared and contrasted two poems and begun looking at English concepts such as Implicit and Explicit meaning.
	In ESL, students designed the layout of a supermarket with the labels of various aisles.
Y9	In First Language English, students have been exploring poetry analysis by reading and responding to 'Dulce Et Decorum Est' and 'Bayonet Charge'.
	In ESL, students discussed three reading articles related to a young inventor, extinction and ecosystem.
Y10	In First Language English, students read a passage about a character and completed directed writing in the form of a radio interview based on the passage. They also explored tenor and vehicle within metaphors.
	In Literature, students focused on Chapters 16 & 17 of 'Things Fall Apart', with focused questions to ensure their understanding of the events of these chapters.
	In ESL, students mastered the writing skills of a CV, and the positive things and ways to improve for interviews.
Y11	First Language/Literature: Students were in mock exams this week.
	In ESL, students were in mock exams this week.



## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### MATHEMATICS

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students learned to order fractions involving improper and mixed numbers.
Y8	Students learned to compare, order fractions and subtracting involving positive negative mixed numbers.
Y9	Students learned to find the arc length and area of sectors
Y10	Students learned to write equations involving straight line equations, $xy$ intercepts and coordinates.
Y11	The IGCSE Mock exams for 2025 are currently being administered.
Y10 Add Math	Students learned to solve equations involving complex quadratics equations.
Y11 Add Math	The IGCSE Mock exams for 2025 are currently being administered.

# PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

## SCIENCE

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students learned how to operate a microscope and conducted an experiment to observe plant and animal cells.
Y8	Students explored the concepts of reflection and refraction and carried out an experiment to observe these phenomena.
Y9	Students explored different forces acting on different objects and investigated electrostatic.
Y10	Combined Science - Students explored the electrolysis of brine and experimented electrolysis of copper sulfate.
	Physics - Students explored change in state of matter.
	Biology - Students learnt the structures and adaptation of leaves.
	Chemistry - Students investigated distillation & chromatography separating techniques.



## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### SCIENCE

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y11	Combined Science - IGCSE Mock Examination
	Physics - IGCSE Mock Examination
	Biology - The IGCSE Mock exams for 2025 are currently being administered.
	Chemistry - The IGCSE Mock exams for 2025 are currently being administered.



## **PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES**

### **HUMANITIES**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>What was covered this week in secondary lessons</b>
Y7	Enterprise - Students learnt about the enterprise process.
	History - Students learned about the Zhou and Qin dynasties, exploring their historical significance and key contributions.
Y8	Enterprise - Students learnt about legal controls to protect customers and workers.
	History - Students did a Witch Trial debate after learning about King James I and the Witch Hunt in 1604
Y9	Enterprise - Students learnt about the purpose and methods of market research.
	History - Students started learning about the Nazi German life and anti-semitism

# PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

## HUMANITIES



Y10	Travel and Tourism - Students learned about the factors affecting tourism development and management by researching and presenting specific case studies.
	Business - Students learnt about the external factors that affect businesses. (PEST Analysis)
	Economics - Students learnt about factors that affect productivity of land, labour and capital.
	History - Students continued learning about the Munich Agreement
	GP - Students are learning about the conflicts in the digital world and practiced debating on a controversial topic (i.e., AI-themed)
Y11	Travel and Tourism - Students have been in mock exams this week.
	Business - Students have been in mock exams this week.
	Economics - Students have been in mock exams this week.
	History - Students sat for their Mock Exam
	GP - Students sat for their Mock Exam

## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### ICT

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	In computing, students generated flowcharts from the scratch programming.
Y8	In computing, students learned the rules associated with pseudocode.
Y9	In computing, students learned correct errors in algorithms written in pseudocode.
Y10	In ICT, students completed revision questions on input and direct data entry devices.
Y11	In ICT, students completed their Mock Examination for Paper 1, Paper 2 and Paper 3.



## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### MUSIC

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	The Year 7 students learned about the music note family tree to understand the beat value of each note.
Y8	The Year 8 students studied the concept of variations in music by analyzing the piece Twelve Variations on "Ah! Vous dirai-je, Maman by Mozart.
Y9	The Year 9 students explored and researched the background of popular music.
Y10	The Year 10 students continued exploring the musical piece, focusing on the alignment of three instrumental parts.
Y11	-

## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### ART

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students explored cultural designs in art and created unique tile patterns, blending traditional inspirations with their own creative expressions.
Y8	Students explored cultural designs in art and created unique tile patterns, blending traditional inspirations with their own creative expressions.
Y9	Students explored cultural designs in art and created unique tile patterns, blending traditional inspirations with their own creative expressions.
Y10	Students were brainstorming ideas for their chosen topics for Component 1.
Y11	Students did their Component 1 final piece.

## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### MANDARIN

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>Intermediate: This week, the Year 7 Mandarin Intermediate class focused on reinforcing their understanding of the topic "Phone Call." They completed a spelling test to review vocabulary and practiced further through workbook exercises.</p>
	<p>Advanced: This week, students learned about the concept of faith, read the article 《国外的教会学校》 and then completed related exercises.</p>
Y8	<p>Intermediate: This week, students reviewed sickness vocabulary, practiced writing symptoms in sentences, and completed dialogue role-plays.</p>
	<p>Advanced: This week, the Year 8 Mandarin Advanced class began the new topic "Life," worked on comprehension exercises based on the text 《九寨沟地震经历》, and prepared for their upcoming speaking test.</p>
Y9	<p>Intermediate: This week, students expanded activity vocabulary, discussed hobbies, practiced sentence structures, and completed group presentations.</p>
	<p>Advanced: This week, the Grade 9 Advanced Mandarin class will begin the topic of "Lifestyle." The students read the article 《营养早餐指南》 and completed the exercises in the article.</p>

## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### MANDARIN

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y10	<p>Foreign Language: This week, students read articles about school life and then completed exercises.</p>
	<p>Second Language: This week, students read articles about Healthy Eating and then completed exercises.</p>
	<p>First Language: This week, the Year 10 Chinese First Language class studied the Classical Chinese text 《陶庵梦忆序》, focusing on vocabulary and grammar discussions, followed by comprehension exercises to deepen their understanding.</p>
Y11	<p>Foreign Language: Students have their IGCSE mock exam.</p>
	<p>Second Language: Students have their IGCSE mock exam.</p>
	<p>First Language: The Year 11 First Language Chinese class have their IGCSE mock exam.</p>



## PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

### BAHASA

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	This week, students further explored the vocabulary of Unit 4: Rutin Sekolah through group activities. They created posters to illustrate and describe specific vocabulary.
Y8	This week, students continued with Unit 10: Membeli-belah, where they worked in groups to consolidate their understanding of informal letter writing.
Y9	This week, students continued with Unit 15: Panduan Arah, expanding their vocabulary related to directions by creating their own maps to identify routes to the school.
Y10	This week, students continued with Unit 22: Cuaca Dunia, expanding their vocabulary related to the world's weather by working in groups to identify different types of climates around the world.
Y11	This week, students did not have lessons due to the Mock exams.



## **PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>What was covered this week in secondary lessons</b>
Y7	7S began their volleyball unit with an introduction to digging and drills to enhance digging. 7R began their basketball with a recap on the basic skills of passing, dribbling and shooting.
Y8	8S began their volleyball unit with an introduction to digging and drills to enhance digging, as well as to play a small sided match. 8R began their basketball with a recap on the basic skills of passing, dribbling and pivoting
Y9	9S began their volleyball unit with a focus digging and drills to enhance digging, as well as to play a small sided match. 9R began their basketball with a recap on the basic skills of passing, dribbling and pivoting
Y10 & Y11	Y10 combined to do games targetted at improving fitness components an teamwork while Y11 completed their mock exam.



## **PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES**

### **EAL (ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE)**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>What was covered this week in secondary lessons</b>
Y7	Students completed a profile writing about an oldest family member by sharing information about them.
Y8	Students learnt about idioms. They used it in a sentence and had a quiz about it.
Y9	Students learnt about quantifiers and completed an exercise on it.
Y10	Students completed a presentation on simple present tense and present continuous tense.
Y11	Students are involved in the Mock examinations.

# SUBJECT STAR OF THE WEEK

## 17 JANUARY 2025

<b>English</b>	Michitaro Akimura (Year 10)
<b>Maths</b>	Giselle (Year 8)
<b>Science</b>	JOEY YOO RUE EE (Y10)
<b>Humanities</b>	Kavinaash (Year 9)
<b>ICT</b>	Jing Jing (Year 9)
<b>Music</b>	LEE, ZHI LYNN (EMMA) Y8
<b>Art</b>	Lee, Zhi Lynn (Emma) Y8
<b>Mandarin</b>	KIM HAN UL (Y7)
<b>Bahasa</b>	JASON BEE (Y8)
<b>Physical Education</b>	Law Jie Yin (Y8S)



# 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.





# EXAMS - IMPORTANT DATES 2024/2025

<b>Date</b>	<b>Events</b>
30th Sept - 4th Oct 2024	TERM 1 MINOR ASSESSMENTS
25th - 29th Nov 2024	END OF TERM 1 ASSESSMENTS
8th - 21st Jan 2025	IGCSE MOCK
3rd - 7th Feb 2025	TERM 2 MINOR ASSESSMENTS
24th - 28th Mar 2025	END OF TERM 2 ASSESSMENTS
13th - 19th May 2025	TERM 3 MINOR ASSESSMENTS
16th - 26th June 2025	END OF TERM 3 ASSESSMENTS

WE ARE A  
NUT FREE  
SCHOOL

Thank you for your  
cooperation in keeping  
all our students safe





## EMAILS

Teacher name	Email Address	Position
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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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## EMAILS

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Ms Crystal	sc.cheam@rawangsisgroup.edu.my	Mandarin Teacher



AMAZING  
LEARNING







THANK

YOU