



iSP
International
Schools
Partnership

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER

27 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,

This week's CP letter, which you will have received earlier today, mentions our Straits International School Rawang celebration board. The idea behind this is essentially as follows: we know that we have many talented students in our school who take part very successfully in clubs, competitions and activities outside of school, and we are keen to ensure that we are aware of all successes so that we can also celebrate them in school. If parents of secondary students could take the time to let us know (contact either me or other teachers directly) of any external success at all, then would be very much appreciated.

Parents may also be aware that we have sought to remodel and repurpose the parent café area in school. This, so that we are clear, is the area behind our main reception which – as I understand – may have previously been known simply as the 'lobby'. The aim here is to provide a welcoming place for parents to meet with each other or to meet with teachers and leaders at the beginning of and the end of each school day. This is also the place where parents will be asked to wait upon entering our school now that we have updated our safeguarding processes to include mandatory parent ID cards & lanyards. We will be installing a small coffee shop in our parent café towards the end of this term, but we need to think of a name for this establishment! This task I will very happily invite parents to contribute towards, and if any parents can think of an apt name for our coffee shop, then please do let me know!



NEWSLETTER

Next week will see the first of our newly refreshed secondary council meetings. Our secondary councilors have been selected after a round of applications last week and will be tasked with being the voices of the secondary students in our school. From this meeting we will also select four students to become school councilors – alongside four students from our primary phase – with the first school council meeting taking place next week. Similarly, this week we also trained our first cohort of Friendly Faces so that they can begin their peer support roles next week. Our Friendly Faces team is essentially students helping other students, and this week's assembly theme – which was all about how the best communities are those where people genuinely support one another – very much linked to the ethos which are striving to create in our school.

Finally, parents are reminded that next week is our first minor assessment week of the 24/25 academic year. Teachers will inform students – and parents – of what form assessments will take in advance and students should simply ensure that all necessary preparation is done prior to the assessment itself. Our Straits International School Rawang students are hard-working and ambitious, and I know that they will do everything in their power to achieve the best possible grades in all assessments at all times.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SM', written over a faint circular watermark.

Steven Miles.



NEWSLETTER

Dear Secondary Parents and Guardians,

It is a pleasure to introduce myself to you! I am Simon Mitchell, the incoming Head of Secondary at Straits Rawang. Some of you may recognize my name or have already met me as I've had the pleasure of visiting the amazing campus over the last few weeks to start to get to know the community of learners. I have been humbled by the welcome I still receive every time I walk through the doors! Although I am not yet a full-time member of the Straits Rawang, I am still enormously excited to get involved in your wonderful and vibrant community.

Originally, I am from South Africa, and I have been teaching and leading in international schools for the past 10 years and have been a member of the ISP family for the last few, so I am well-versed in the amazing learning journey the school has been on (although I am still in a good struggle with getting to know the building and where the printers are). Over the past few years, I have worked in numerous countries, but I have always returned to Malaysia and its wonderfully diverse culture.

I have the privilege, as well, of welcoming you to the Secondary Coffee Morning next week Friday so that I and the rest of the Secondary Leadership team can meet with the parent community and begin to help build upon the learning and passions of our students. I hope as well to join the community in a partnership to continue to grow Straits Rawang. I encourage open communication with all members of our vibrant school and hope that this will be the first of many fruitful and productive engagements.

I look forward to meeting with each one of you over the next year, as well as continuing to build upon the warm and amazing culture that is already deeply embedded within the school.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Mitchell



SECONDARY COFFEE MORNING

Friday, 4 October 2024

8.30am - 9.30am

Parent Café

Meet Mr Simon
New Head of Secondary



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

ENGLISH

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>English First Language, students have examined the metaphors in the poem Tyger, Tyger by William Blake</p> <p>English Second Language, students compared celebrations around the world and shared experiences about CNY, Deepavali, Maslenitsa and Raya.</p>
Y8	<p>English First Language, students have compared two openings of two different books by Arthur Conan Doyle.</p> <p>English Second Language, students explored classic designs and explained the versatility of Polo T-shirts, Volkswagen cars etc.</p>
Y9	<p>English First Language - In First Language English, students have been looking at how to spot fake news and have been learning how to consume news media responsibly.</p> <p>English Second Language - In ESL, students described moods and feelings and explored how to keep a cool head.</p>
Y10	<p>English First Language - In First Language English, students have been writing poetry and descriptions, as well as doing some assessment preparation on Paper 1, Question 1.</p> <p>English Second Language - In ESL, students wrote a review about a restaurant and TV-programme and explored all types of transportation.</p> <p>English Literature - In English Literature, students have focused on Chapter 5 of 'Things Fall Apart'.</p>
Y11	<p>English First Language & Literature - In First Language English/Literature, students have finished reading Part 1 of 'Things Fall Apart' and are moving on to Part 2. They have written mini essays in preparation for their assessments next week.</p> <p>English Second Language - In ESL, students did a research on food issues to resolve food wastage, food shortage, lab-grown meat and organic plantations.</p>

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

MATHEMATICS

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students learned on rounding numbers to a given number of decimal places.
Y8	Students learned on rounding numbers to a given number of significant figures.
Y9	Students learned to use formulas to calculate the missing angles in a regular and irregular polygons.
Y10	Students learned to find the n th term in linear, quadratic and cubic sequences.
Y11	Students learned on finding the exact trigonometric ratios using pythagoras and basic trigonometry.
Y10	Students learned to write quadratics expressions using completed form and sketching graphs with labelling the turning point from completed form.
Y11	Students learned to use Pascal's triangle and binomial theorem for expansion $(a + b)^n$



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

SCIENCE

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students explored about gravitational potential energy and kinetic energy, gaining an understanding of the formulas and calculations involved.
Y8	Students have explored pressure in gases and fluids, discussing the factors that influence gas pressure. They are also learned how fluids apply pressure in all directions and how to calculate fluid pressure.
Y9	Students explored on difference between covalent and ionic bonding and they were introduced to basic idea of naming chemical compounds.
Y10	<p>Biology - Students explored, described and investigated diffusion, osmosis & active transport.</p> <p>Chemistry - Students described the giant covalent structures of diamonds, graphite & silica as well as explored the metallic bonding that exists within metals.</p> <p>Physics - Studnets continued practising on principle of moments and then were introduced to momentum.</p> <p>Combined Science - Students investigated on different sources of energy and energy transfer methods.</p>



Y11	<p>Biology - Students researched the differences between nervous system vs the endocrine system as well as described the vital functions of the endocrine glands.</p> <p>Chemistry - Students described and explored the reactivity series, displacement reactions & the rusting of iron.</p> <p>Physics - Students explored electromotive force induction, dc motors, factors affecting direct current motor and introduction to alternating current motor.</p> <p>Combined Science - Students learned on formulas related to power, voltage, current and energy, choosing of fuse and factors affecting chemical changes.</p>
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PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

HUMANITIES

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	<p>History - Students have explored how Mesopotamia was conquered by the Babylonians and Assyrians, and they have also studied the Code of Hammurabi.</p> <p>Enterprise - Enterprise - students explored the Enterprise Capabilities. They did group discussions and answered some questions.</p>
Y8	<p>History - Students have examined Henry's actions after his first marriage and the Dissolution of the Monasteries</p> <p>Enterprise - students learnt about different types of risks an enterprise may encounter and how to manage the risks through risk assessment.</p>
Y9	<p>History - History - Students have explored whether Germany wanted a war in 1914 and the short-term causes of World War I.</p> <p>Enterprise - Enterprise - students learnt about Action Plan. They learnt the stages of Action Plan and did a group activity on this.</p>



Y10	<p>History - Students have examined the successes and failures of the League of Nations in the 1920s.</p> <p>Travel and Tourism - Travel & Tourism - This week, students completed a case study focused on different types of tourist, and were introduced to the next topic, types of destinations.</p> <p>Business - students learnt how to answer a 12-mark IGCSE question by watching a video and answered an exam question. They also learnt about Multinational Companies.</p> <p>Economics - students learnt about Price Elasticity of Demand and practiced exam-style questions.</p> <p>Global Perspectives - This week, students continued working on their research reports regarding ecosystem loss.</p>
Y11	<p>History - Students have examined sources about the Korean War and begun to examine the Cuban Revolution.</p> <p>Global Perspectives - In Global Perspectives, students continued their writing of Individual Reports to 500 words, out of 2000 words.</p> <p>Business - students learnt about Quality Control & Quality Assurance. They also did group presentations on Location Decisions.</p> <p>Economics - students learnt about Economics Growth and Unemployment. They completed some past-year questions and a worksheet.</p> <p>Travel and Tourism - In Travel & Tourism - Students learned about the elements of marketing in travel and tourism, and completed some exam-style questions on a case study.</p>



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

ICT

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	In computing, students learned the use of COUNT, COUNTA and COUNTIF in excel.
Y8	In computing, students learned Echo check which is a method of error detection method in data transmission.
Y9	In computing students learned the conversion of decimal to binary.
Y10	In ICT students learned how to produce labels using the query.
Y11	In ICT students learned how to create cascading stylesheets using web expression.



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

MUSIC

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	This week, students presented their storyboards during the lesson.
Y8	This week, students continued exploring the concepts of riffs and syncopated rhythms in reggae.
Y9	This week, students presented their Jingle compositions during the lesson.
Y10	This week, students continued working on the music piece from bars 27 to 70.
Y11	-

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

ART

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	This week, students completed their artwork and prepared for their presentations, which will take place next week as part of their minor assessment.
Y8	This week, students completed their artwork and prepared for their presentations, which will take place next week as part of their minor assessment.
Y9	This week, students completed their artwork and prepared for their presentations, which will take place next week as part of their minor assessment.
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 Mandarin Beginner class built upon the knowledge gained over the past half-term by completing additional exercises focused on dates and time. These activities helped to reinforce their understanding in preparation for next week's minor assessment. This week, the Year 7 Advanced Mandarin class studied the topic of weight loss. The students learned about the importance and methods of body management in modern times through an article. They also reviewed previous topics to prepare for a test next week.</p>
Y8	<p>This week, the Year 8 Advanced Mandarin class made significant progress in our study of the text “国庆长假出国游”. In addition to analyzing the text, students participated in listening exercises that highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of traveling abroad. Year 8 Mandarin Beginner class this week, students expanded their knowledge of leisure activities by learning new vocabulary such as 旅游 (traveling), 打电玩 (playing video games), and 野餐 (picnicking). They practiced expressing their preferences using sentences like 我喜欢去公园野餐 (I like to have picnics in the park).</p>
Y9	<p>This week, the Year 9 Advanced Mandarin class studied the topic of volunteer work. Through the article, students learned about the impact and contributions of volunteering to society. Additionally, students wrote a diary entry about their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. This week, Year 9 Mandarin Beginner class students continued learning about sickness, focusing on more complex vocabulary such as 流感 (flu), 咳嗽 (cough), and 嗓子疼 (sore throat). They practiced describing symptoms in detail using phrases like 我发烧还有咳嗽 (I have a fever and a cough).</p>

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y10	<p>This week, the Year 10 Chinese First Language class studied the text “被放逐的皇后” and completed comprehension exercises. In addition, they explored the Classical Chinese text “猩猩嗜酒,” focusing on understanding the grammar and vocabulary used in Classical Chinese. This week, the Year 10 Mandarin as a Foreign Language class studied the topic of school life. The students learned content, vocabulary, and grammar through various articles. The Year 10 Second Language Mandarin class focused on planning after high school graduation, discussing whether to continue further education or enter the workforce.</p>
Y11	<p>This week, the Year 11 Chinese First Language class engaged in a discussion about the theme of "Loneliness" and wrote a directed writing piece on the topic. This week, Year 11 Chinese Foreign Language students deepened their understanding of Chinese festivals, focusing on the traditions and customs associated with major celebrations. They learned vocabulary related to specific festival activities, such as 燃放鞭炮 (setting off fireworks) for 春节 (Spring Festival), and 吃月饼 (eating mooncakes) for 中秋节 (Mid-Autumn Festival). This week, Year 11 Chinese Second Language students continued their study of Chinese customs and food culture, focusing on dining etiquette and traditional mealtime practices. They learned key phrases like 请慢用 (enjoy your meal) and 干杯 (cheers), along with the customs surrounding family-style meals and the use of chopsticks.</p>

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

BAHASA

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	The Year 7 students focused on their revision for minor assessments, mainly on writing and grammar within the context of Unit 2: Ungkapan Masa.
Y8	The Year 8 students focused on their revision for minor assessments, specifically on writing and grammar within the context of Unit 8: Makanan dan Minuman dari Serata Dunia.
Y9	The Year 9 students focused on their revision for minor assessments, specifically on writing and tatabahasa (grammar), within the context of Unit 13: Perayaan dan Majlis Istimewa.
Y10	The Year 10 students continued their final section of Unit 19: Alam Semula Jadi. Alongside this, they are preparing for their upcoming minor assessment based on the same unit, while also focusing on developing their writing skills centered around 'aktiviti perkelahan'.
Y11	The Year 11 students continued with Unit 27: Pendidikan dan Latihan Lepasan Sekolah, focusing on their minor assessment, which emphasizes surat kiriman tidak rasmi (informal letter writing) and comprehension questions.

PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	This week, 7R started their first badminton lesson which focused on serving and lobbing. 7S began their athletics unit with a lesson on short and long distance running.
Y8	This week, 8R started their first badminton lesson which focused on serving and lobbing. 8S began their athletics unit with a lesson on short and long distance running.
Y9	This week Y9 swapped units. Half of Y9 started their first badminton lesson which focused on serving and lobbing. The other half began their athletics unit with a lesson on short and long distance running.
Y10 & Y11	Students completed their assessments this week. Team sports students showed their teamwork and skills by playing dodgeball matches against different teams, Individual sports students displayed their running, jumping and throwing talents, and healthy living students showed their communication, spatial awareness and fitness components through mini games.



PARENTAL SUBJECT UPDATES

EAL (ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE)

Year Group	What was covered this week in secondary lessons
Y7	Students completed minor assessment revision pack .
Y8	Students completed minor assessment revision pack .
Y9	Students completed minor assessment revision pack .
Y10	Students completed minor assessment revision pack .
Y11	Students completed minor assessment revision pack .



EXAMS - IMPORTANT DATES 2024/2025

Date	Events
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

SUBJECTS STAR OF THE WEEK

27 SEPTEMBER 2024

Maths	YONG YU HENG (YEAR 8R)
Science	Polina Ishunina (Year 7R)
Humanities	Aqeel (Year 11)
ICT	Sonika (Year 9)
Music	LUCAS MANUEL SALGADO GOMEZ (YEAR 7)
Art	JEON YULE (YEAR 8R)
Mandarin	CHUA ZI XIN (YEAR 7S)
Bahasa	Giselle Jing Xian (Year 8R)
Physical Education	MAIA GITANJALI STANISLAUS - (YEAR 10R)



WE ARE A
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SCHOOL

Thank you for your
cooperation in keeping
all our students safe



EMAILS

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THANK

YOU!