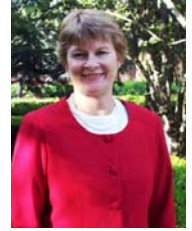




News from the Dragon's Den



From the Head of School – Mrs Anne Fowles

Dear SSIS Parents and Community,

Our secondary school production 'Up the Down Staircase' will be performed next week in the SSIS theatre from December 7-9. This once again will be a performance not to be missed with a wide range of secondary actors and musicians involved. If you have not yet purchased a ticket, they are on sale at the cashier and selling fast!

With the winter break and Christmas just around the corner, we have a number of concerts and events coming up that we hope our families can attend. The Elementary School winter concert will take place on Thursday, 15 December from 9.00 - 10.30 am. The Secondary School winter concert takes place on Friday, 16 December from 2.00 – 3.30 pm. Please save these dates.

Best wishes,
Mrs Anne Fowles
Head of School

Issue: 15

Date: 2 Dec 2011

Inside Newsletter

- Message from the Head of School
- Calendar Dates
- Elementary School News
- Secondary School News
- Activities
- School fee payment
- PVO

Calendar Dates:

3 December
SAT
SISAC Table Tennis @ SSIS Shanghai
CISSA Table Tennis

7-9 December
Senior Secondary Drama Production

9-10 December
ACAMIS Table Tennis @ UIS

10 December
MS Floor Hockey
CISSA Floor Hockey

16 December
Secondary School Winter Concert



BEL KAUFMAN'S
UP THE DOWN STAIRCASE
DRAMATIZED BY CHRISTOPHER SERGEL
WITH
ANGELA YEH / MARIAH MAXHEIMER
AARON CHIAM / TIMUR GUENER
RICHARD TANG
JESSICA SMITH / OLIVIA THIEL
ALEXIUS CHOI / OLIVIA CHAN
KRISTYNA FRANKOVA / JENNY YOON
THEOPHILE RABU
DIRECTED BY SANTINA GAMBRILL
PRODUCED BY LYNDALE STUDDERT
SET DESIGNED BY NADINE BASTOW
HEIDI MESSER
MUSIC DIRECTED BY BRETT NUGENT
THE SSIS THEATRE
DEC 7TH-9TH
7PM
ADULT 成人 50 RMB CHILD/STUDENT 孩子 25 RMB
TICKETS AVAILABLE 购票地址
SUZHOU SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
208 ZHONG NAN STREET SIP
苏州新加坡国际学校 钟南街208号 苏州工业园区



Suzhou Singapore International School

From the Elementary Principal – Mr Mark Treichel



Nursery students invited their parents and friends to school on Wednesday to share and celebrate what they have been learning at school over the past few weeks. As part of their current unit "Who we are" they have been discovering what makes each of them special, the part they play in their families, what country they come from and a little about their home countries. After a parade of nationalities students and parents participated in a number of different activities to learn more about some of their different home countries. The session finished with a small feast of foods from around the world. Thank you to the many mums and dads who came along and shared in this event. More photos will be posted on our web gallery soon.

Thank you to the many parents who attended Friday's Parent Morning Tea to learn more about how we teach and assess listening and speaking for ESL students at SSIS. I hope you now have a better understanding of our program. Please feel free to contact our ESL Coordinator, Lauren Spector or your child's ESL teacher if you would like more information.

Elementary Photo Gallery: <http://www.ssis-suzhou.net/ESPrincipal/Site/Gallery/Gallery.html>

Homeroom Sites and galleries: <http://es.ssis-suzhou.net:8088/esict/ES/Start.html>

Upcoming dates for December

- Dec 6 – Grade 2 Excursion to Shanghai Science and Technology Museum
- Dec 7-9 –Evening performances of Secondary Drama Performance
- Dec 9 – Grade 4 Excursion to Walking Street and In City
- Dec 9 – Assembly
- Dec 14 – Grade 5 How the World Works Summative Assessment
- Dec 15 – Elementary Festival Concert (9.00-10.30) in the theatre
- Dec 15 – Swim Team Pool Party
- Dec 21 – Semester 1 Report (school finishes @ 12)





Becki's Blog

Assessment

As a school we pride ourselves in teaching to our children's needs. We are able to do this through best practice assessment procedures. In every subject that your child is learning the teachers are assessing the students' prior knowledge and experience as well as monitoring their achievement during the teaching period. This enables teachers to plan and refine their teaching according to the students needs. This is done throughout the school and ensures that all teachers are consistent across a grade or subject.



As well as grade wide assessment we also use school wide assessment to help us develop our programmes and teaching practices. This enables consistency across the school and gives us the ability to refine our teaching practices. School wide assessment occurs in Maths, reading, spelling and writing. Your child's teacher will use all the assessments carried out during the year to write your child's report. You will also see some of this assessment in your child's portfolio. If you wish to find out more about our assessment practices please email your child's teacher or beckiclentworth@sis-suzhou.net

From the PYP Coordinator – Mr Dom Thomas

Working in partnership with parents

There have been many events this semester where our parents have been involved. Whether this has been through sharing in performances, helping reading, taking part in tuning in activities, going on excursions or sharing in their child's learning it has been great to see our parents so engaged with what we do at SSIS. Through these partnerships our students can achieve so much. Thank you to all our parents!





ESL Corner



What do SSIS teachers do in class to help beginner and intermediate English language speakers understand instructions?

- We ensure that we have all of the students' attention before we start to give the instructions.
- We give short instructions.
- We speak clearly.
- We speak with expression, rather than use a monotone.
- We use picture cues and gestures whenever possible.
- We try to use consistent language as much as possible, until we are sure that the students understand what we are saying.
- We give instructions in a logical order.
- We demonstrate what they should be doing when possible.
- We check that students understand the instructions before letting them begin work.

苏州新加坡国际学校的老师在课堂上是如何帮助英语初级、中级水平的人理解教学的?

- 我们确保在给出指令前所有的孩子已经集中注意力。
- 我们给出简短的指令。
- 我们讲得很清晰。
- 我们讲课有激情，而不平淡。
- 我们在有可能的情况下，使用图片提示和手势。
- 我们尝试尽可能多地使用一致的语言，直到我们确定学生们理解了我们所说的。
- 我们按逻辑顺序给出指令。
- 我们在有可能的情况下，示范他们应该怎么做。
- 在让学生开始动作前，我们检查他们是否理解指令。

SSIS 선생님들은 영어 초급, 중급자인 학생들이 수업 중 선생님의 지시를 이해할 수 있도록 어떤 도움을 주나요?

- 지시를 주기 전에 모든 학생들이 주목하고 있다는 것을 확실하게 합니다.
- 짧은 지시를 내립니다.
- 정확하게 말합니다.
- 단조롭게 말하기 보다는 감정을 넣어서 이야기합니다.
- 가능한 곳에 단서가 될만한 그림과 몸짓을 사용합니다.
- 학생들이 이해하고 있다는 것이 확실해 질 때까지 최대한 일관된 언어를 사용하려고 노력합니다.
- 논리적인 순서로 지시를 내립니다.
- 가능할 때에는 학생들이 무엇을 하고 있어야 하는지를 분명히 합니다.
- 학생들이 활동을 시작하기 전에 제대로 지시를 이해했는지 확인합니다.

German Department

Liebe Eltern

Am Donnerstag, den 15. Dezember, von 9.00-10.30 Uhr findet im Theater das „Festival –Concert“ der Grundschule statt.

Unsere legendäre **GD – Weihnachtsfeier** steigt am Dienstag, den 20. Dezember, ab 13.30 Uhr in Mr Menges Raum DS 306 ab 13.30 Uhr ... Alle GD- Eltern sind herzlich eingeladen!

Letzter Schultag vor den Ferien ist am 21. Dezember; die Halbjahreszeugnisse werden ausgegeben und die Schule endet um 12.00 Uhr.



Plätzchenbacken Kl.5



Unser „Auftritt“ in der Nursery



From the Secondary Principal – Mr Nicholas Little



I hope many of you were able to come into the Book Fair this week. It is difficult to get access to a wide range of Foreign Language texts in Suzhou and shipping costs for online purchases can double the price. It was good to see a Korean book store join us this year.

We like to encourage students to read as much as possible. At the beginning of last year we instigated Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) – fifteen minutes at the end of lunch each day for students to settle down with a enjoyable book before afternoon school. Uninterrupted reading time is becoming rarer and rarer as students are used to flipping between screens. Technology is a great boon, but we hope that by the way we adopt it we don't also lose what was good before.

From the IB Diploma Coordinator - Mr Matthew Marshall

Our G10 students should start thinking about what academic programme and courses they will take in G11 next academic year. These choices are important because they could influence university applications and future career choices.

To help the G10 students prepare to make these important decisions the following will take place:

- **December 2nd**, the High School counselor will speak with Grade 10s about making the best choices for their future.
- **December 16th**, the IBDP coordinator will explain the Academic Programmes and course offerings for G11 for the 2012-2013 academic year and also discuss how G10s will choose their programme and courses using DragonNet, the *G10 Options Fair* and the *SSIS 2012-2013 Handbook of Studies*.
- **December 19th**, The *G10 Options Fair* will take at SSIS from 5:00 - 7:00pm. DP and HSD teachers will be available to answer questions and give information about DP and HSD courses.
- **December 20th - January 27th**, Students and parents should use the and information from the *G10 Options Fair* to complete the *Course Choices for G11 Survey* over the Winter Holiday (Dec. 22 - Jan. 27th).

Next week I will email the *SSIS 2012-2013 Handbook of Studies* to the G10 parents and give more detailed information regarding the *G10 Options Fair*.

Upcoming G12 IBDP Academic Deadlines in December are:

- December 12 – History Internal Assessment
- December 16 – Math SL Task #4
- December 19 – Chinese A2 – Written Tasks
- December 19 – English A2 – Written Tasks
- December 19 – Japanese A1 – World Literature Essays 1 + 2
- December 19 – German A1 – World Literature Essays 1 + 2

If there are any questions regarding the IBDP or HSD at SSIS please email me at matthewmarshall@sis-suzhou.net.



Tech Tips and Tools

Last week I shared a list of the top five ways that teens get in trouble together with some tips to keep them on the straight and narrow: Number two on the list was:

2. Chatting with strangers online

Teens have always been social creatures, and the internet simply provides them with additional ways to keep in touch with their buddies ... and sometimes with complete strangers too. The risks are obvious and the consequences can be scary.

Tips from CyberDefender:

- Total strangers cannot be trusted. Make sure your teen understands that it's important to know them IRL (in real life) before accepting a chat or friend request
- Here's a basic rule: Tell your teens they shouldn't say – or do – anything in a chat that they wouldn't do in front of you
- Help them keep their personal information on a “need to know” basis. Teens should never be giving out any personal information to anyone unless they know them personally. Caution can protect teens and their family from possible harm

Next week tips on how to deal with other ways to get in trouble.

Geoff Derry

Learning Technology Teacher - Middle school

geoffreyderry@sis-suzhou.net

Suzhou Singapore International School



Activities

Saturday morning program

Football for fun—This Saturday, 3 December is the last day of the first session. The second session will commence late March or April depending upon the weather.

Swimming, Pacific dance, Ballet and Italian classes continue until Saturday, 17 December.

Scheduled times for Tae-kwondo with Bruce Beaumont contact:

ssis-taekwondo@hotmail.com.cn and gymnastics with Sports for Life contact: Miss Oh ZeChing: zeching@sportsforlife.com.cn need to be confirmed with these outside providers.

After school and lunchtime activities

Unless otherwise notified by a supervisor activities run until the end of the semester.

Second semester sessions

All interested members of the community, parents teachers and outside providers are now being asked to submit their proposals for the second session beginning in February. Please contact the Activities office if you would like to support, volunteer or teach an activity.

Contact: Mr. Peter Fowles

Phone: 625893179

E-mail: peterfowles@ssis-suzhou.net

Office at school: BN116 (opposite the downstairs cafeteria)

Swim Team News

The swim team traveled to Rego this past Tuesday for a dual meet, their last for the season. It was a successful event, our team proved to be strong and won the meet with a lead of five events over Rego. Congratulations SSIS swimmers and coaches to a successful meet, and a great season!





PVO



IT'S TIME TO GO
HOME AND BRING A
LITTLE BIT OF IT BACK
FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL FAMILY
DAY BASKETS.



We look forward to your continued support in 2012.

SEASONS GREETINGS.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Thanks.

Piia Bergman piiabergman@hotmail.com

Nadia Zoromski m.zoromski@hotmail.com

The IFD baskets can showcase anything ranging from souvenirs, books, scarves, caps, t-shirts, food, wines, tea, coffee, chocolates.....anything that you feel is typical of your country or region.



Suzhou Singapore International School

PVO

SSIS students and parents perform at the EAS Christmas Bazaar

Come see the Expat Association of Suzhou Christmas Bazaar's entertainment featuring SSIS students and parents at the Kempinski Hotel on Saturday, December 3rd, from 11 am - 6 pm.

The SSIS performance will be from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm:

1. Ladies' Broadway Dance - Stephanie Low and her ladies' dance group
2. Backseat Connection - 9th Grade boys' band
3. Cheerleaders - Grade 1-3 girls
4. Backseat Connection - 9th Grade boys' band
5. Boys Christmas Jam - Grade 1-3 boys
6. Backseat Connection - 9th Grade boys' band
7. Hip hop girls - Grade 3-5 girls
8. Backseat Connection - 9th Grade boys' band
9. Santarina - Grade 1-3 girls

Finale with all dance groups and Backseat Connection. Please see below for more information about the event.

Expatriate Association Suzhou
&
Kempinski Hotel Suzhou
present

EAS Charity Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, 3rd December, 2011
11 am - 6 pm
at
Kempinski Hotel Suzhou

Get in the Christmas spirit at our annual Charity Christmas Bazaar. We will welcome over 70 vendors, so stop by for wonderful gift and decorating ideas, live holiday music and performances, delicious food and mulled wine. See the ginger bread houses and Suzhou's tallest Christmas tree. Also don't miss out on the raffle for great prizes, the bake sale, kids' games and the ever popular tombola.

All proceeds go to benefit the many charities supported by the EAS



Access to school premises

Out of hours access to school premises

Parents and students are asked to please take note of the following:

1. Usage of school premises out of school hours

Usage of the school premises out of school hours is allowed upon approved application to the school.

A confirmation letter and ID must be produced or access will be denied.

2. Usage of School's Swimming Pool

The pool is only available to Suzhou Singapore International School's staff, and their families.

Students are not allowed in the pool unless they have enrolled for Saturday morning swimming lessons.

Opening hours:

Saturdays and Sundays 9.30am to 4pm.

Not open on public and school holidays

All Saturday morning participants must produce the Saturday morning activity card with staff/student's school ID.

If you have any enquiries, please contact any of the following personnel:

Reception: 6258 8365, 6258 8849

Email: Athletics Director grahambonar@ssis-suzhou.net ; or

Activities Director peterfowles@ssis-suzhou.net ; or

One-Stop Service Manager christinateu@ssis-suzhou.net .



Suzhou Singapore International School

Suzhou Culture and Arts Center

Suzhou Culture and Arts Center SSCAC Ballet Theatre

人偶情缘



Coppelia

Coppelia is a sentimental comic ballet with original choreography by music by Léo Delibes. It was based upon two macabre stories by E. T. A. Hoffman. Although the story is performed by many ballet companies, SSCAC Ballet Theatre doesn't follow any traditional version. We have made a totally new choreography. The stage is full of a modern fairy tale atmosphere with the white settings of abstract geometric patterns. We also have made a big issue on props. The heart on puppet Coppelia's clothes is a symbol of Coppelius' expectation, which his puppet will have a real heart. Costume design is a new fashion. Bright colors, choreography settings and the new production will bring the audience a brand-new visual experience. It can be called the most innovative production of Coppelia.

Venue: Suzhou Culture and Arts Center

Time: 14:30pm, Sunday, 18 December

Features: Comic Ballet



Special SSIS ticket price:

Family Package A (2 person) RMB150.00/set

Family Package B (3 person) RMB220.00/set

Intention Form

Name: _____

Student Name: _____ Homeroom: _____

- Family Package A (2 person) RMB150.00/set
- Family Package B (3 person) RMB220.00/set

Please return to School Secretaries on Monday, 5 December 2011. Tickets will be available for payment and collection on Wednesday, 7 December 1.00 – 3.00 pm, SSIS Foyer.