



News from the Dragon's Den



From the Head of School – Mrs Anne Fowles

Dear SSIS Parents and Community,

The Suzhou Singapore International School 15th Anniversary celebrations yesterday were spectacular from start to finish. We were honoured to host Honorable Standing Committee Member of CPC Suzhou Municipal Committee and Secretary of SIP CPC Working Committee, Mr. Ma Minglong, the Honorable Vice Secretary and Chairman of Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee, Mr Barry Yang and the Executive Director of EARCOS, Dr Krajczar along with other distinguished guests, parents, staff and students.

Vice President of CSSD and Board Chair of SSIS, Mr Goh Tien Jin congratulated the SSIS management, staff, parents and students for working together to ensure the success and many achievements of the school. He pointed out that over 10,000 students have attended SSIS since opening its doors in 2006, and 210 have graduated from the school gaining entry into the top universities world-wide. The success of SSIS and SIP has laid the foundation for collaboration and partnership with others including Nanchang, Changsha and Nantong. Mr Ma congratulated SSIS on its achievements and excellent standing in the international arena. He noted that as SIP has grown, the school has grown too. The park and SSIS together encourage foreign investment in Suzhou. He encouraged the school to continue to look forward with the possibility of future growth on the horizon.

In the afternoon, students and staff gathered on the field to make the figure 15 with the mass of SSIS people.

My thanks are extended to everyone who worked to make this such a successful day. We look forward to September 24th now, for our community Ball. Tickets are on sale at the school cashier.

Please enjoy the mid-autumn festival over the weekend.

Best wishes,
Mrs Anne Fowles
Head of School



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Calendar Dates:

12 September
Mid-Autumn
Holiday

13 September
CIS Fair

14 September
G10 Art trip to
Shanghai

17 September
Swim Time Trial

21 September
Linden Fair

21-23 September
G6-11 Camps



From the Elementary Principal – Mr Mark Treichel



Thank you to the large number of parents who attended our first Parent Morning Tea on Friday 2nd September. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces along with the many new families. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 14th October (10.45-11.45 am in the Elementary Library) and will focus on assisting parents with literacy and numeracy at home.

Becki Clentworth (Assistant Elementary Principal) will take her maternity leave for the arrival of their second child starting on Tuesday 20th September. We wish Becki, Todd and Anahera all the very best as they soon welcome a new member to their family. Mr Neil Marshall-Inns will take responsibility for many of Becki's roles during her absence.

Kindergarten-Grade 2 Swimming will commence Monday 26th September. Notices will have gone home with students today. Please return the permission slip by Thursday 15th September.

Our Pre-Nursery program (2-3 year olds) the “**Little Dragons**” will commence on Monday 19th September. For more information please contact Kim Jacobson (Director of Marketing and Admissions) on 0512 62588614 or via email kimjacobson@ssis-suzhou.net

Notices will have gone home to students today also regarding our fun cooperative learning day scheduled for **Friday 23rd September**. The day is designed to strengthen and develop friendships within the grades. Children will participate in a range of activities throughout the day including swimming, tabloid sports and in class activities. Please ensure your child brings a drink bottle, swimming costume, towel and suitable running shoes on this day.

DragonNet is a password protected school site that contains information about our school and activities. It can be accessed through our website by clicking on the link in the top right-hand corner of the menu bar at the top of the screen. School families need a username and password to access this site. Please email Geoff Derry geoffreyderry@ssis-suzhou.net to get a username and password. He will need the following details:

Name:

Child's Name:

Child's Homeroom:

From the PYP Coordinator – Mr Dom Thomas

IB PYP Workshops in Shanghai

On Friday 16th September 23 Elementary school teachers will travel to Shanghai to take part in Professional Development workshops organized by the IB. These workshops will last for 3 days.

Our teachers will work with other teachers from the Asia Pacific region as well as experienced IB workshop leaders. The workshops are in the areas of Inquiry through Language and Maths, Planning, Language and Teaching and Learning.

These workshops help our teachers to keep up with the latest research and developments in teaching. As well as developing their own classroom practice, the teachers who attend the workshops will also share their new knowledge and understanding with their colleagues at SSIS.





Becki's Blog

Raising the Bar

Every year the Elementary teachers set goals for the year. We also set goals as a school and are continually up skilling ourselves to ensure your child is receiving a quality education. This year we will focus on Numeracy and Literacy. We will be introducing a school wide maths fluency assessment which data will be collected and targets for each grade will be set. We will continue to use and refine the mathletics computer site and we will again use the professional development we received last year in maths to better plan investigative maths problems.



In literacy we will be having a school wide focus on the teaching and learning of reading. This will include looking at our programmes and ensuring the children are receiving a balanced reading programme. We will continue to collect data and set targets for each grade level.

We will be moderating a writing sample as a whole school to ensure we have consistent teaching and assessment practices across the school. The soundwaves spelling programme will continue and teachers will have the opportunity to develop their practice in spelling.

提高标准

每年小学的老师都会为这一年制定目标。作为一个学校，我们同样制定目标，并且不断地提升我们的技能，确保您的孩子受到高质量的教育。今年我们将致力于算术能力和读写能力的培养。我们将介绍学校范围的数学评估系统，我们会收集数据，给每个年级设置目标。我们将继续使用和完善数学网站，利用我们去年在数学专业方面的发展，更好地计划数学问题的研究活动。

在读写方面，我们全校将致力于阅读的教与学。包括审视我们的教学，并确保孩子们接受平衡的阅读课程。我们将继续收集数据并为每个年级设置目标。

我们将在全校范围内制定出一个写作样稿，确保我们教学与评估相互连贯。有声拼读活动将持续进行，老师们将有机会多加练习。

향상 시키기

매년 학기초에 초등학교 교사들은 일년의 목표를 설정합니다. 학교 관리자들도 또한 학생들에게 효과적으로 학습 환경을 제공하기 위해 목표를 설정합니다. 올해는 학생들의 산수능력과 읽고 쓰기 능력 향상을 목표로 설정하였습니다.

학생들을 대상으로 수학능력을 평가해서 그 평가한 결과를 토대로 각 학년에 맞는 목표를 설정하도록 하겠습니다. 지속적으로 산수와 관련된 사이트를 이용하고 사이트를 개선해 나아갈 것입니다. 작년 학생들의 학습 결과들을 토대로 더욱 향상된 교육과정이 될 수 있도록 노력하겠습니다.

읽기 능력을 향상시키기 위해서 효과적인 지도와 학습 방법 개선에 최선을 다할 것입니다. 즉 전체적인 프로그램 개선과 각각의 학생들이 균형잡힌 읽기 교육을 받고 있는지 확인하겠습니다. 다양한 자료를 수집해서 각 학년에 알맞은 목표를 설정하겠습니다. 학생들의 쓰기 능력 향상을 위해서 학생들의 작문한 내용을 규칙적으로 검사할 것입니다. Soundwaves 맞춤법 프로그램을 계속 사용할 것이고 또 올바른 맞춤법 사용 능력을 향상시킬 수 있는 좋은 기회가 될 것입니다.



Elementary Library

Welcome to the Elementary Library!

Borrowing for parents

Parents can also borrow books from both the Elementary and Secondary Libraries. Simply pay the 500RMB deposit in the Finance Office, and bring the receipt to one of the libraries. We will create an account in your own name.

From the Elementary Library, parents can borrow up to 9 books for a two-week period. We have few choices for books in English in Suzhou, so be sure to encourage your child to make regular trips to the library for new books. You can be an excellent role model by borrowing from the library also!



Looking forward to seeing you in the library,

Ms. Eileen
Elementary Teacher-Librarian

ESL Corner



How can I help my ESL student at home?

Here are three tips to help develop your child’s English skills:

1. Encourage your child to share new words, rhymes, and/or songs learned at school.
2. Share English books with your child. Talk about the illustrations and the story in your home language.
3. Encourage your child to make up stories from pictures.

Bonnie Campbell Hill
Language Education Specialist

如何在家帮助英语非母语的学生?

以下罗列了三个要点来提高学生的英语能力:

鼓励学生分享在学校里的学习的新单词，韵律诗和歌曲。
和学生一起看英语书，用母语谈论书中的图片和故事。
鼓励孩子利用故事中的图片组织成故事。

Bonnie Campbell Hill
语言教育专家

어떻게 집에서 내 ESL 학생을 도울 수 있을까요?

자녀의 영어 실력을 올릴 수 있는 세 가지 팁을 조언해드립니다.

- 자녀가 학교에서 배운 새로운 단어, 운문, 그리고 노래들을 함께 나눌 수 있도록 격려해주세요.
- 자녀와 함께 영어 서적들을 읽어보세요. 그림과 이야기를 모국어로 이야기해보세요.
- 그림을 사용하여 자녀가 이야기를 창작할 수 있도록 격려해주세요.

Bonnie Campbell Hill
언어 교육 전문가



German Department



Liebe Eltern

Die Wahl der **Elternvertreter** ergab fuer:

Klasse 1/2 Frau Elsaesser and
Frau Spitz

Klasse 3/4 Frau Rost and
Frau Griffiths

In diesem Schuljahr bietet das German Department fuer deutsche Schueler folgende „**lunchclubs**“ an:

Montags 12.55 – 13.25 Uhr **Lesen**
(Frau Kullas, DS 307)

Donnerstags 12.55 – 13.25 Uhr **Spiele**
(Frau Heim, DS 308)

Ab dem 1. September wird Frau Linda Oldenburg im GD ein sechswoechiges **Praktikum** mit Schwerpunkt Englisch absolvieren.



(unsere Praktikantin Frau Lina Oldenburg)

Herzliche Gruesse, Ihr Kollegium

Dear parents

The **parent representatives** for:

Grade 1/2 Mrs Elsaesser and
Mrs Spitz

Grade 3/4 Mrs Rost and
Mrs Griffiths

The German Department offers this year the following “**lunchclubs**” for German students:

Mondays 12.55 – 1.25 pm **Reading**
(Mrs Kullas, DS 307)

Thursdays 12.55 – 1.25 pm **Games**
(Mrs Heim, DS 308)

On 1st September Mrs Linda Oldenburg starts a six week **internship** in our German Department, mainly in English with Mr Menge.



(lunch club games)

Warmest regards, the teachers



From the Secondary Principal – Mr Nicholas Little



It was great to see so many of you at the 15th Anniversary celebrations on Thursday. We have really come a long way since opening in a couple of rooms in Singa Plaza in 1996 with fewer than 20 students. We have moved not once, but twice: first to the pleasant two hectare site on Xing Hai Street then in 2005 to our present well- equipped location. We have opened a secondary section, started MYP, then Diploma, then PYP. Grown to a student population of 1200.

We have accumulated a lot of statistics in our 15 years, but the one that made me pause was that 10 000 students have been educated here since opening. Their time with us may have ranged from a few months to twelve years, but all have become part of a special community, all living far from home. Above all, it is that sense of community - drawn from so many different nations - that holds us together. One of things I love about the school is how many students stay in contact after they leave, and how many teachers too – and how many are happy to return.

Have a great holiday weekend!

From the IB Diploma Coordinator - Mr Matthew Marshall

The G12 IBDP students will have many assignments to complete this year in order to meet the requirements of the IB Diploma. Among these assignments is the extended essay.

The extended essay is an independent, self-directed piece of research, culminating in a 4,000 (maximum)-word paper. As a required component, it provides:

- practical preparation for the kinds of undergraduate research required at tertiary level
- an opportunity for students to engage in an in-depth study of a topic of interest within a chosen subject.

Emphasis is placed on the research process:

- formulating an appropriate research question
- engaging in a personal exploration of the topic
- communicating ideas
- developing an argument.

Participation in this process develops the capacity to:

- analyse
- synthesize, and
- evaluate knowledge.

Students are supported throughout the process with advice and guidance from a supervisor. Supervisors, who are SSIS teachers, will be given extended essay supervisory roles.

The G12 IBDP students began working on the extended essay at the start of Semester 2 in G11. There have been several Extended Essay Deadlines that they are responsible for and there are more deadlines in the future. The next Extended Essay Deadline is from September 13-16. This deadline requires students to meet with their supervisor to see how much progress they made on the extended essay during the summer. The final deadline for the G12 extended essay is February 6, 2012.

The Extended Essay Deadlines can be found in the *Downloads* section on the left side of the *High School* page on the SSIS website.

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



Tech Tips and Tools

Online safety, cyber bullying and appropriate use of the Internet are huge issues that affect all kids these days.

In my experience there are lots of simple things parents can do to make sure their kids are safe online. One of the most important is keeping the lines of communication open and ensuring you know what the kids are up to on their computers. Children also benefit from having someone safe to talk to if they have concerns about other people's online behaviour.

Responsible online behaviour - Part 1

The following general internet safety tips will help to guide older children in their development of safe and responsible online behaviour.

- If your child uses social networking websites help them sign up safely and use privacy settings to restrict their information to 'friends'. Help them decide who to agree to have as a 'friend'.
- Set rules - make sure your child knows what information they can share or post online and which websites they can visit. Telling a trusted adult before posting any personal information online, including for competition entry is a useful rule. They should also report to you before uploading images or video of themselves or others.

From

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>

Geoff Derry

Learning Technology Teacher - Middle school

geoffreyderry@sis-suzhou.net



Activities

The Saturday morning program begins on September the 5th 2011. Transport will run from Singa Plaza at 8.45am for the SSIS Campus, departing from the campus at 10.40am to return to Singa Plaza. Sing-health are contracted to have a nurse on duty at this time and Edu-café is open in the front foyer.



Community members and students must be enrolled in one of the programs to have access to the school grounds. Tae-Kwondo enrollment is through contacting Mr. Bruce Beaumont at ssis-taekwondo@hotmail.com. Gymnastics is available through Sports for life contact zech-ing@sportforlife.com.cn. For all other programs, enrollment with payment can be made at the SSIS Finance office. Office hours for this program are 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30 – 4pm on Friday. Participants will be issued a 'Saturday morning' card and must be prepared to present ID.

Football for fun and skills for juniors will be advertised at a later date.

Further information is available on the school website, visit www.ssis-suzhou.net/sl-extra.htm or contact Mr. Peter Fowles the Activities Director on peterfowles@ssis-suzhou.net or 6289 3179 or call in to BN 116 the Athletics and Activities office.

Ballet

Instructor: Brenda Schaefer
Time: Monday 3.45-4.45 pm and Saturday 09.30 - 10.30 am
Cost: 1105rmb

Gyrokinesis

Instructor: Brenda Schaefer
Time: Wednesday 3.45-4.45 pm and Thursday 3.45-4.45pm
Costs: 600rmb for 10 sessions

Swimming lessons

Instructor: Kenneth Tay
Time: Saturday mornings
09.30 - 10.30 am – Advanced 8 maximum
10.30 - 11.30 am – Intermediate 6 maximum (no vacancies)
11.30 - 12.30 am – Beginners 6 maximum
Cost: 800 rmb per student per session

Badminton

Time: Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17.
Cost: 50 rmb per person for the 4 sessions

Dance

Instructor: Stephanie Low
* *Mothers (Broadway)* 10 sessions
Every Friday, 28th Sept to 9th Dec, Time 2.15pm to 3.15pm
* *Girls for elementary* 10 sessions
Every Tuesday, 27th Sept to 12 Dec Time 3.40pm to 4.40pm
* *Boys for elementary* 10 sessions
Every Thursday, 28th Sept to 9th Dec, Time 3.40pm to 4.40pm
Cost: 500 rmb per person per course



PVO



Suzhou Singapore International School



Suzhou Singapore International School

SSIS 15th Anniversary Ball

Celebrating 15 years - leading the future in international education

Date: September 24th Saturday

Venue: Inter-Continental Hotel Grand Ballroom

Time: 6-12pm (cocktail, light meal, dance party)

Dress Code: Formal or Cocktail Attire

Ticket Price: Rmb250

Cocktail party with light meal

Free flow of Imported red and white wines, champagne and beer

lucky draw

15th Anniversary door gift

Table prize

Live Band

Stage performances

Games

Photo session

Dance party with DJ

Limited tickets available in SSIS school Finance



Suzhou Singapore International School



Join the SSIS Little Dragons



Pre-Nursery (2-3 year old) class to commence at SSIS

In our Pre-Nursery Program children are encouraged to express themselves through all their “natural languages” including words, singing, movement, drawing, painting, building and design, collage, dramatic play, music and more.

Discover the difference:

- An environment where children develop confidence and independence with encouragement from parents, carers, teachers and community members.
- A stimulating setting where young children and their teachers explore, question, and discover.
- A natural atmosphere that engages the young child’s five senses, provoking wonder, curiosity and intellectual engagement that will lay the foundations for future learning.
- An emphasis of our program is to develop social skills and create situations with children can socialize with other children, while doing activities that interest them.
- A place where parents and care-givers come together and are welcome to be part of the educational experience.
- An excellent preparation for entering the prestigious IB (International Baccalaureate) program that begins with the PYP (Primary Years Program).

Young children learn best through playing and choosing their own activities. Children are allowed to choose activities that interest them, which will motivate them to try new things, learn new activities, build confidence and use their own creativity to learn new skills.

SSIS Little Dragons

- Age range 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009.
- Class size limited to 12*.
- Led by a qualified teacher.
- Specially designed classroom located in SSIS Elementary School.
- Classes held from 9.00 – 11.30 am Monday to Friday.
- Class commences Monday, 19 September.
- Annual tuition 27500 RMB including meals and Little Dragons t-shirts.
- Shuttle bus provided (free of charge).
- Caregivers are expected to accompany the child on the bus and are also welcome to attend the class.

* Preference given to members of the SSIS community (current families and staff).

For more information please contact the Admissions Office on 512 6258 8614 or email kimjacobson@ssis-suzhou.net OR

Complete an SSIS Application Form <http://www.ssis-suzhou.net/au-admissions.htm>

