



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of SIPG

### **International Dress Day – Friday 6**

Most children got into the spirit of things and belonged to our theme of celebrating international cultures through national costumes.

### **International Carnival Day**

An enormous thank you to all our community for attending our biggest carnival yet at over 110 stalls as well as special thanks to our students and parents for their more than 40 stalls. A huge thank you to our Parent Teachers Association and Operations team for planning the event. I will let you know how much money we raised once all the money is counted.

### **University/College Payment Scam**

Do be aware of a scam that is being used on some Malaysian Universities involving letters emailed to parents demanding immediate payment of outstanding fees. The contact email is very close to the genuine email that the university uses. Remember that SIPG invoices are always sent to you in the same way and that account details can be found in previous newsletters. XCL have very strict firewalls in place so this shouldn't happen to us. However, do be alert.

### **CNY Lunch and Assembly Performance – Friday 13 February**

I look forward to seeing many of you on Friday.

## CNY – Parent Teacher Association Bake Sale – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – Please do Support



## VEX IQ Malaysia Nationals Robotics Competition – Bold in Action @ Tenby School



One of our seven values at Sri KDU International School Penang is being Bold. We entered the VEX IQ Malaysia Nationals ready to take a risk. We had two choices — play it safe and possibly finish first in Penang, or aim higher and push for a chance to qualify for Worlds. We chose the bold path. While it did not bring the result we hoped for, it brought something far more valuable.

Our team of five did not leave upset, disappointed, or heart broken. Instead, they left inspired, motivated, and already excited for next year's competition.

Our bold approach earned us the Innovate Award, recognising a highly creative, unique, and well documented robot design that positively impacted game performance through strong engineering design thinking.

Robotics is not only about building and coding great robots. It is about developing collaboration, resilience, problem solving, communication, and the confidence to think on your feet — skills that will support our students far beyond the competition field.

Though we have not secured our place as best in Penang this time, we have two more school robotics competitions coming in Term 2 and Term 3. We look forward to showing everyone that we remain one of the strongest robotics programmes in Penang, and maybe one day, Malaysia. Congratulations to Mr Mac and the team.

## Response to Parent Survey Comments

Some parents mentioned that our teacher turnover is too high. All I can do to show you otherwise is to give you data and what we go through to recruit the best teachers we can find who we hope will stay for long periods. Our teacher turnover rate last year was 13% which is excellent. Our aim is always to stay below 20% which is standard for an international school. My job as Principal is rather like a football manager in the premier league, which is to improve the squad annually, which we have been pretty successful at over the past five years as all our Tracking the Learning and Parent NPS response data do indicate. Staff who we feel have not aligned with our school, or have taken many days off sick, do not get their contract renewed.

Expat teachers are harder to keep despite us having a very structured recruitment process. We have an honest pre interview chat about life in the school and in Penang. We talk about tax, places to live, how welcoming it is here, cost of living, etc etc . We send them this guide to life at SIPG - Click [here](#).

We interview them twice, take up references including a verbal reference, and conduct through background checks before we offer them a position. Once accepted, we find them their house/apartment they have chosen after seeing videos and photographs of several. They are met at the airport, taken to their house/apartment. It is furnished, with AC on, internet working, food and drink in the fridge, beds made etc where they are met by a member of the school leadership team. Touch and Go cards are given, SIM cards and a salary advance. They have a full orientation for 3-5 days of Penang before they come to school for 6 days of induction.

What we cannot do is force teachers to stay who are unhappy living in Penang, or don't like living on the mainland, or have been with us for four years already, or feel they have to leave for their own wellbeing, or are missing their family etc etc. Recruitment is probably the most important job I have – getting the best teachers to teach our children. We put a lot of effort into it to keep our turnover rate so low.

**SIPG Community Open Golf Tournament – Saturday 28 February Tee off 8am sharp. Cost 130RM**

This community event is open to students, parents, staff and friends of the school both male and female. Please enter with current honest handicap via this link [here](#). **SPACES ARE LIMITED so sign up soon.**

### Community Information

**Academic year Calendar 2026-27 – click [here](#)**

**Academic Calendar 2025-26 - Click [here](#)**

**Cafeteria Menu for Term 2 - Click [here](#)**

**SIPG Parent/Staff Privilege Programme - Just take along your ID card - Click [here](#)**

**Parent Handbook - Click [here](#)**

**School Policies – These can be found [here](#)**

**School Prospectus - Click [here](#)**

**School Improvement Plan - Click [here](#)**

**FOBISIA events 2025-26 - Click [here](#)**

**FOBISIA Sports Calendar 2025-26 – Click [here](#)**

### School Uniform

Any complaints or issues regarding uniform, contact our supplier K-Logistics [uniform@k-logistics.org](mailto:uniform@k-logistics.org).

### Refer-a-Family Programme

There is a cash incentive, for every successful referral who sign up to the school, you will be rewarded with a 3000RM fee discount.

Contact [+60122944056](tel:+60122944056)

### The Week Ahead

Feb	Event	Time	Venue
Mon 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secondary School - YR 11, 12 &amp; 13 Parents Evening</li> <li>Global Futures Evening - VI Form Open Evening &amp; Further Education Pathways Fair</li> </ul>	15:30 17:30	PS Hall
Tue 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U9 swim meet</li> <li>MABECS visit</li> <li>Secondary School - The King of Mask Singer</li> </ul>	13:00 13:20 13:20	Stonyhurst VI Form Black Box
Wed 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SS Parent Session - Careers &amp; Uni Application Support</li> <li>PTA CNY Sale</li> <li>U13 &amp; U15 Swimming Mini Meet @ Uplands</li> </ul>	08:15 11:30	PD Room Lobby Uplands
Thu 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTA CNY Sale</li> <li>SS Eco team bake sale</li> </ul>	11:30 13:20	Lobby SS Lobby
Fri 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTA CNY Sale</li> <li>CNY Community Lunch</li> <li>Whole School CNY Assembly [YR2, 6 &amp; 10]</li> </ul>	09:00 12:00 13:20	Lobby Cafeteria MPH

**Contact Us Directly**

We are Here to Help Fix any Issues you may Have

Your first contact is your child's homeroom/subject teacher if it is an academic or pastoral issue.

Whole School	Duncan Grice	<a href="mailto:duncan.grice@srikdu.edu.my">duncan.grice@srikdu.edu.my</a>
Secondary School	Glyn Martin	<a href="mailto:glyn.martin@srikdu.edu.my">glyn.martin@srikdu.edu.my</a>
Primary School	Ian Hopkins	<a href="mailto:ian.hopkins@srikdu.edu.my">ian.hopkins@srikdu.edu.my</a>
Senior Parent Relation Executive	Joyce Leong	<a href="mailto:joyce.leong@srikdu.edu.my">joyce.leong@srikdu.edu.my</a> <b>+60122568504</b>

**Social Media**

Follow us on: [Instagram](#) ; [Facebook](#) ; [Twitter](#) (@SIPGPenang)

**SriKDU - Building Future Leaders Since 2003**

Duncan Grice  
Campus Principal

# SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

**World Cancer Day Awareness Assembly – 4 February**

We would like to extend our sincere thank you to the parents who attended the recent safeguarding talk led by Dr Rao, alongside Dr Choy's highly engaging and informative session on cancer awareness. We were also delighted to welcome the Pink Ladies as they accepted a generous donation. Your continued support helps us build a caring, informed, and resilient school community.



Melanie Martin  
Whole School Assistant Head  
Designated Safeguard Lead

# PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

Dear Parents,

We ended last week on an exceptionally high note with an amazing Friday that truly reflected the spirit and diversity of our school community. It was an absolute joy to see so many of our students proudly dressed in their national clothing or adorned in the colours of their heritage. The vibrancy across the Primary campus was wonderful — a living celebration of cultures, traditions, and identities that make our school such a rich and inclusive place to learn and grow. Moments like these remind us how fortunate we are to belong to a community where differences are embraced, stories are shared, and every child feels seen and valued.

We then rounded off the school day with yet another fantastic class assembly, this time led by Mrs McElhone's Class 3I. The confidence, collaboration, and pride shown by the students were evident throughout. Their assembly not only showcased their learning but also reflected the values of teamwork, respect, and belonging that sit at the heart of our Primary school.

And the celebrations did not stop there. On Saturday, we came together once again for our wonderful Carnival Day — a highlight in the school calendar. The atmosphere was filled with excitement, laughter, and community spirit. The stalls were, as always, creative and engaging, offering something for everyone, and it was clear that a tremendous amount of effort had gone into making the day such a success.

It was particularly lovely to see so many parents and families joining us, strengthening the partnership between home and school that means so much to our children's experience. Your presence, enthusiasm, and continued support help create the warm, connected environment we are so proud of.

Once again, thank you for being such an important part of our school community and for celebrating alongside us.

## 5S

This week, in science, we have been learning about a variety of forces, including air resistance. After learning about the effect it has on objects, 5S took on an exciting engineering challenge: designing and creating parachutes using a variety of materials to investigate air resistance. Before testing, each group made predictions about how each parachute would perform and which materials would create the slowest, most controlled fall.

We then tested the designs by dropping the parachutes from a great height and timing each descent. The children compared the results to their predictions, reflected on what they discovered, and discussed what changes they might make next time to improve their parachutes. Our results were surprising and not what many of us predicted!

The teamwork, creativity, and scientific thinking shown by every group were fantastic—well done, Year 5!



Ian Hopkins  
Head of Primary

# SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE

Dear Parents,

As we rapidly approach the CNY holiday we still have so much going on in school, last week was again no different. On Wednesday for World Cancer Awareness Day the Pink Ladies charity organisation joined us to receive their donation from term one's pink dress up day. This was followed by an engaging information presentation with Dr Rao and Dr Raymond who dispelled misconceptions and helped us all better understand the impact of cancer on individuals', families and communities.

As we moved to Friday, international dress up day saw many students demonstrate their national pride by wearing the clothes synonymous with their home nation. It was a shame that a number of students missed an opportunity to join in this activity, sharing their pride of their cultures and heritage with some students opting to remain in uniform or just coming in their own clothes. Despite this, it was great to see the different cultures which all contribute to our secondary community on show across the school.

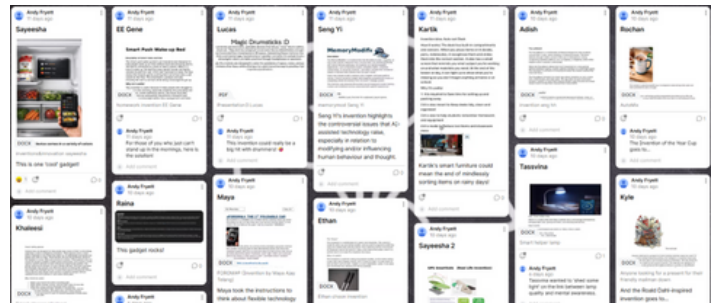
Finally on Saturday, a hugely successful Carnival Day with food, games and performances galore. Many of our students have been preparing their stalls and activities for a number of weeks and together raised money for this years school charity. It continues to be one of the best school days of the year when staff, students and parents all come together for a fun filled day. Thank you to everyone who made it a success.

Looking forwards, this week we have our Year 11-13 parent teacher consultation evening followed by the highly anticipated Global Futures Evening. We have a number of CNY activities taking place including PTA sales in the main lobby, before the assembly and performances on Friday. There will also be a student led eco Bake sale on Thursday, just to top things off.

## Amazing Learning

### Year 8 - 21<sup>st</sup> century English

Using technology for home learning is nothing new but does give us the opportunity to see 21<sup>st</sup> English blogging in action with our year 8 students. Students were tasked with using key language skills to sell and promote their inventions. The use of witty, creative wordplay and often humorous use of language that exploits multiple meanings is all on show, from flexible cars to in ear translation technology.



## Excellence Awards

### Computer Science

<p><b>Year 7</b> <b>Deephisha</b></p>	<p>She has demonstrated outstanding aptitude in Computer Science this year. She approaches her programming tasks with keen reasoning and unwavering dedication, consistently producing high-quality code. Her helpful nature and commitment make her a truly deserving recipient of this award.</p>
<p><b>Year 8</b> <b>Lydia Khor</b></p>	<p>She has shown remarkable commitment to Computer Science. She consistently strives for excellence in her coding projects and algorithmic challenges, demonstrating a friendly and welcoming demeanour that fosters positive collaboration. Her dedication and progress are truly commendable.</p>
<p><b>Year 9</b> <b>Arrjun</b></p>	<p>He has consistently showcased remarkable intellectual capability and engagement in Computer Science this year. He approaches his studies with a keen intellect and maintains high academic standards in both coding and theoretical understanding, making him a shining example of excellence.</p>

<p><b>Year 10</b> You Zhe</p>	<p>He consistently achieves high academic standards in Computer Science, demonstrating sharp reasoning, independent thinking, and an unshakeable determination and commitment to every project. His proactive approach to problem-solving and dedication to his work are an inspiration to his peers.</p>
<p><b>Year 11</b> Eason Yang</p>	<p>He has displayed exceptional determination, passion, and commitment to Computer Science. His consistently high-quality output in programming, coupled with his respectful and engaged presence in lessons, makes him an outstanding student. We recognise his significant contributions and achievements this year.</p>
<p><b>Year 12</b> Irfan Sun</p>	<p>He has proven to be a self-regulated and highly proactive learner in Computer Science. His meticulous attention to detail and consistent pursuit of challenging tasks in programming and systems design make him a standout student, always ready to embrace new challenges and exemplifying true excellence.</p>

**FIBISIA** ESTABLISHED IN 1988

**BSJ** British School Jakarta

# Online Chess Tournament

**Saturday**  
28th February  
2026

**TEAMS OF SIX STUDENTS**  
AGES 11-18

For further details and registration, contact  
jon\_onelli@bsj.sch.id

**Music**

<p><b>Year 7</b> Moganesh</p>	<p>A great start to music. His dedication and knowledge in lesson is amazing. Great start, well done!</p>
<p><b>Year 8</b> Jaden Ng</p>	<p>Jaden is an attentive student during music class. He demonstrates strong knowledge of music topics, particularly music technology, rhythm, and music theory. He is able to play percussion instruments very well.</p>
<p><b>Year 9</b> Hanson Ang</p>	<p>Constantly showing dedication in not only his music lessons, but in his musical work outside of the classroom.</p>
<p><b>Year 10</b> Constance</p>	<p>For amazing composition development, as well as a huge improvement on her performance coursework. Well done!</p>

Glyn Martin  
Head of Secondary

**AIMS Language COMPETITION 2026**

**Challenge your language ability!**

**How to Register?**

**YEAR GROUPS 5-10**

**Bahasa Malaysia and Mandarin**

**Categories:**  
First & Foreign Language

Scan the QR code above or register with Ms. Reenu (for Bahasa Malaysia) or Ms. Chong (for Mandarin) if you are interested

**Register before 27th Feb (Fri)!**

<https://tinyurl.com/3cxf9kr>

# SPORTS UPDATE



## POWIS U11 Sports Exchange Event

Congratulations to all our students who took part in this event last week.

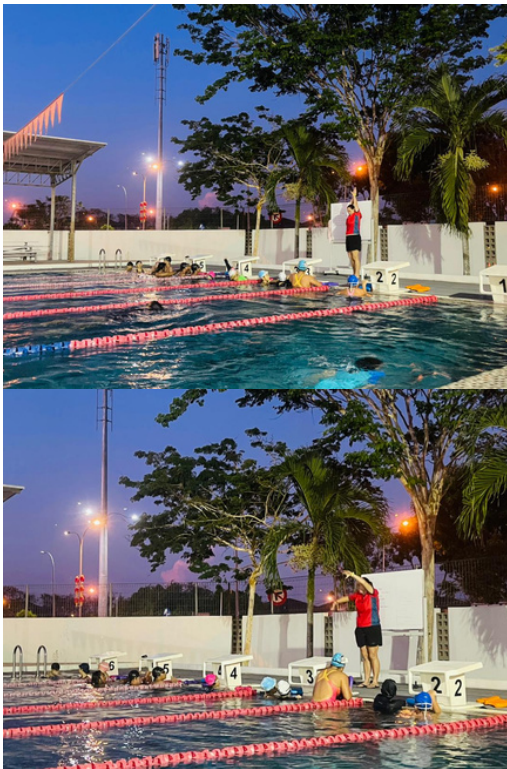


## Upcoming Events

### Swimming Fixtures

Tuesday: Our **U9 swim team** will be competing at Stonyhurst International School.

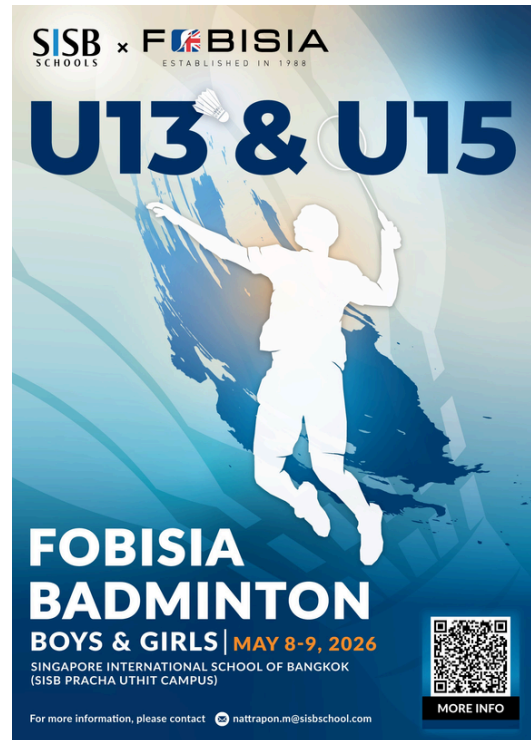
Wednesday: Our **U13 and U15 swim teams** will be competing at Uplands International School.



Good luck to all students involved – we wish them the very best in their competitions.

## FOBISIA Badminton

An upcoming communication will be sent out regarding FOBISIA Badminton. Please keep an eye on your inbox for further details, including sign-up information and timelines.



## Garden International School Kuala Lumpur Swimming Gala

We have also been invited to attend a swimming gala at Garden International School. Miss Hanlon will be taking the lead on this event, and parents should look out for communication from her with further details.

## BIS Phuket Sea Eagles Swimming

We will be attending the BISP Sea Eagles Swimming event, and additional information will be shared once finalised.

The Vircle platform will be set up this week for parents regarding BISP Sea Eagles. This will support communication and organisation around fixtures and sports opportunities moving forward. Further guidance will be shared once it is live.

# CREATIVE ART UPDATE

## Symphonies and Soundscapes: Music

Mastering the Score: In the Music department, our Key Stage 3 students have turned into film critics and composers! They've been "digging deeper" into the secrets of Film Music, analyzing how a simple melody can create tension, evoke joy, or signal a villain's entrance. They are now beginning to apply these techniques to their own cinematic compositions.

A huge congratulations to our Year 10 IGCSE students, who are currently close to the finish line for their Performance Coursework. The dedication shown during their practice sessions has been inspiring, and the final recordings showcase some truly amazing talent. We are incredibly proud of the professional standard they've achieved!

## Performing Arts Spotlight: Drama

From Slapstick to Olympus! It has been a high-energy term in the Drama studio! Our Year 7 and 8 students have been diving into the chaotic world of Commedia dell'arte. They've had a blast exploring traditional "stock characters"—from the bumbling Arlecchino to the boastful (but cowardly) Il Capitano. It's been wonderful to see their physical comedy skills grow as they create hilariously over-the-top, funny characters that have kept us all laughing.

Meanwhile, Year 9 has stepped back in time to the foundations of theatre. They are currently immersed in the epic world of Greek Mythology, learning how these ancient tales were told through the power of the Chorus and stylized movement. Watching them bring these legendary gods and monsters to life has been a true highlight!

## DT

Our Grade 11 and 13 Design & Technology students have been busy working hard on their coursework and have now begun the practical section of their projects. It has been exciting to see their ideas move from plans and drawings into physical products, with many creative and well-thought-out designs starting to take shape. We would like to remind students and parents that a DT drop-down day will take place on 27 February, which we hope will allow many students to make significant progress and, in some cases, complete their projects.

The final coursework submission deadline is 6 April, so there is one final big push left. Continued focus, good time management, and effective use of lesson time will be key to ensuring students submit work they can be proud of.

Photos and project updates will be shared in the coming weeks, showcasing the progress and final outcomes of the students' work.

## FOBISIA Photography Competition - Deadline: 13th Feb

Click [here](#) for information

ALTERED FACES  
CHANGING  
SPACES

3...2...1... | ...1...2...3

HOSTED BY GARDEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
JUDGED BY ZONTIGA, MALAYSIA

FOBISIA  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
COMPETITION

Contact: wray.s@gardenschool.edu.my

### Year 8 Printmaking

Year 8 students explored printmaking techniques, experimenting with carving, inking, and layered patterns. They developed confidence in using repetition and texture to create bold, expressive designs.

### Year 9 Fauvism

Inspired by Fauvist artists, year 9 students experimented with bold, non-realistic palettes to bring energy and personality into their artworks.



The CA Department

# SIPG CARNIVAL DAY

