

Spotte Spition #07 Jan - Mar 2021 bisvietnam.com









Global Campus

This year we have seen an incredible number of activities and initiatives appear on Global Campus, designed to engage our students in collaborative and competitive activities. The Global Campus is an online platform that connects our students to those from the 68 other Nord Anglia Education schools around the world, meaning that they have the opportunity to take part in the same events and work on the same projects, sharing their progress along the way. In Term 1, all students and parents had the opportunity to learn about the available resources through the Global Campus assemblies and a webinar led by our UNICEF, Juilliard, and MIT collaboration leads.

In particular, our students have been taking part in competitions linked to our collaboration with UNICEF and our commitment to Social Impact. These competitions challenge students to use a range of media to share their thoughts and ideas related to different aspects of the Global Goals, and this year our big focus has been on the Goals relating

Writing competition, students wrote a biography for a climate activist of their choice exploring the themes of what it means to be a climate rebel and what a climate rebel looks like, alongside a Warrior', and Gina Lopez who worked in the Philippines. A special mention goes to Addison Nguyen from Year 3 Campus judges! For the Comic Book Competition, we were asked to create a short comic strip depicting an inventor some aspect of the climate. Again, our primary children rose to the challenge and created comics around recycling issues and reducing forest fires. In the 8s category by illustrating a group of rubbish mountain - a great example of teamwork!

BIS students have also shown their talents in the performing arts through the Young Musician of the Year. Over 1300 students from 61 schools entered the competition which featured a huge range of talented performers. Well done to all of our performers who received Special Mentions in their categories: Seo Hyun Park, Dong Gue Jang, Kyubo Kim, and Robbie Lin. Also, huge congratulations to Kunho Jang as Runner Up in the 10-14 Piano, and YiHyeon Shin who won the 10-14 Bowed Strings category. And over in the sports arena, BIS gained second place in the Global Sports Competition across running, swimming, and tri-field events.

We're so proud of all of the students who have represented BIS across these competitions and look forward to the upcoming Visual Arts Competition and ongoing Voices of Youth Challenges. Find out more about these on Global Campus.

Lauren Binnington Deputy Head Teacher Enrichment Regional NAE-UNICEF Lead for South East Asia and the Middle East

Read more about *Global Campus*







Virtual Learning

In our Stay Play and Learn All Together (SPLAT) sessions, parents and carers for our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) are invited into school to spend some time in their child's classroom to experience the morning routines such as busy fingers, hello time and the choices the children get when allowed to explore our learning spaces. When the recent Virtual School took place our EYFS teachers created SPLAT @ Home boxes, allowing learning to take place at home with parents.

Each box contained 5 activity cards in English and Vietnamese explaining the resources and learning for the activities. Adults at home were encouraged to work with their children and send pictures back to their teachers showing what they had done. Teachers and teaching assistants posted daily messages talking about the activities that had been set.

came to collect their boxes, with over 75% of families (over 230) signing up and collecting their boxes from various locations.

Sarah Curran Deputy Head of the Early Years and Infant Campus

As our Junior students moved into Virtual Learning for a second time, we changed things a little based on feedback from students, parents and teachers. With more face to face learning, including live sessions with specialists, our students (and parents) were better equipped to access their virtual classroom. Wearing a school uniform and with a designated learning spot at home, attendance during virtual lessons was excellent and we were delighted with the engagement of all students and their learning of course!









Working in groups, students were given less than two hours to complete their mind altering project and bring their ideas to fruition. The last day saw a number of well considered inventions and excellent videos, posters and presentations with fun and creative ways to recycle, reuse and even to regrow. As the 8B team stated in their presentation, "Innovation and Collaboration are the key to success", and to see the whole of Year 7, 8 and 9 engaged in tackling the global issues of our time was genuinely inspirational.

When we are talking about STEAM we need to remember that it is much more than the 5 subject areas that make up its name. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics are extremely important in any STEAM project, but the soft skills that are

developed throughout the process are the true champion of the experience. Student agency, collaboration, time management, creativity and challenge are just a part of a long list of skills that are built upon when students have the opportunity to partake in a challenge like this.

The range of projects that students created was phenomenal and far beyond all expectations. They accepted the challenge of trying to change the way people recycle, have access to clean water, dispose of waste, manage power consumption and all had a twist that would extrinsically motivate people to change their attitudes towards

sustainability. One project that stood out to me as a way to dispose of waste in a creative and innovative way was Plant Bud - take a box of tissues and embed seeds within the tissue paper, so everytime that you use a tissue and dispose of it you are actually planting seeds and thus fighting deforestation and trying to combat air quality issues at the same time.

Congratulations once again to all our participants and winners.

Luke Dyer STEAM Coordinatoi

Week Without Walls

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"I think the Week Without Walls was a good experience and a great opportunity to do a wide range of things."

Key Stage 3 Student

In what should have been our Residential Expeditions week, our Year 7, 8 and 9 students instead ALL still experienced a week developing their learning skills outside of the traditional walls of the curriculum and classroom. From the 11th to 15th January the youngest members of our secondary campus took part in a range of different activities designed by their teachers to challenge them as leaders and learners. The activities ranged in theme from STEAM MIT projects, to Juilliard collaborations, to a focus on Sustainable Development, to Wellbeing, with a lot of fun being had across the week. The atmosphere throughout the week was fantastic, with huge smiles being seen across the campus.

This year our Week Without Walls was even bigger than usual, partly due to there being three year groups involved, but also because of the 36 different activities that were available. These were delivered by our teachers and teaching assistants working in cross-department teams, as well as

some external providers who would normally be running our residentials at this time.

Students learned about taking care of themselves with healthy cooking and healthy eating, making their own lunches with our external cooking team, and created their own soap, candles, and bath bombs with Asia Motions in the DIY Care Products workshop.

Critical thinking skills were put to the test in a variety of ways, as students solved problems in the Virtual Escape Room, travelling around the school to work out who stole the prestigious House Trophy. They took on their peers at some alternative board games (who was the 'King of Tokyo'?!), and worked together to build the fastest Grand Prix car. Some of our students also worked with Outward Bound Vietnam who organised our Year 10 Expedition to Quy Nhon, developing their leadership and interpersonal skills. All of these required independence, teamwork, and a lot of perseverance.

There were a number of physically active sessions throughout the week, with students developing good team work skills as well as some hand-eye coordination practice through archery tag, scuba diving, screen golf and darts, and testing their skills on the climbing wall. They also worked together in more

creative ways to bake the best biscuits, perform poetry and percussion, and blend together music and drama in a Juilliard inspired workshop.

Whether they were working with humans or canines, our students demonstrated care for others, and grew their understanding of the wonderful country that we live in. Our Primary children were incredibly excited to spend time with our students, who had a lot of fun in the Early Years and Infants campus.

With our school-wide focus on the Global Goals linked to Climate Action, many of the activities had an environmental or sustainability aspect to them in order to further student understanding and awareness of issues in this area. Students were challenged with creating new products from plastic waste by creating EcoBricks to go towards the building of a new school, and turning old plastic into new items. A huge thank you to everyone who made the organisation of the week possible, and to our students for throwing themselves enthusiastically into all of the challenges.

Lauren Binnington Deputy Head Teacher Enrichment





Performing Arts

Juilliard Collaboration

We are so proud of our links with the Juilliard school and the enrichment that they add to our own curriculum. This term we have explored cinematic music during our Week Without Walls activities in Secondary, and developed some of the Juilliard at home activities for the EYFS campus. Our amazing Primary Music team have also been exploring core works in lessons from exploring Cello sounds with Year 1 to a new unit looking at the music of ET with Year 6. We have also been able to introduce some Juilliard Drama curriculum to students from Years 1-6, including some creative sock puppet work with Year 1. In Secondary our Year 12 students received online performance workshop from one of the Juilliard teachers, an opportunity that just doesn't happen in most schools.

It's not just the students who have been benefiting though. There has been teacher training in Music and Drama from our fabulous Juilliard mentors as well as continuous support in the development of our programme here at BIS and the wonderful opportunities that we can offer our students.

Winter Concerts

Our Winter festivities began with a musical journey 'Into the Unknown'. The theme of the evening was marking the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, and the classical performances by our 228 students across Secondary were breathtaking. We were taken on a journey through genres and eras showcasing not only their talent, but also their enjoyment of making music together.

Leading up to the Christmas 2020 break we had several festive concerts, where every campus got a chance to perform and spread some holiday cheer.

At our Early Years campus we were treated to the Year 1 production of 'Penguin Pete', the story of a penguin in the South Pole taking the long journey up to the North Pole to find Santa. Our F2 & F3 Sing-a-long was also a huge success, with students rehearsing the songs in music lessons as well as designing spectacular Christmas hats, whilst our teachers and teaching assistants helped to choreograph actions.

Our Primary students produced 'Our Christmas Carol', which was filled with fabulous performances from our Infant and Junior instrumental ensembles and choirs. All 262 performers left us in awe as they performed on the bigger Secondary Auditorium stage.

At our Secondary campus we enjoyed an eclectic range of Christmas Carols and Readings together in the Auditorium, as the tale of 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas!' was read between performances, making us feel like we were by a warm fireplace on Christmas Eve.

A huge thank you to our wonderful music department, everyone else involved in the production of the concerts and of course to our amazingly talented student performers.





1000 students, 8 competitions, 4 Houses, 1 day. This year's sports day was certainly different, but even a global pandemic and numerous stadium cancellations couldn't stop BIS HCMC.

After our usual stadium venue was closed for refurbishment, numerous alternatives were searched and reviewed but sadly a replacement could not be found. When this happened we adopted the 2020 motto of 'adapt and overcome', and decided to change the format to host the day using our own facilities and those in the Thao Dien area. The plan was ambitious but thanks to our amazing students and staff, the day was a roaring success.

The traditional Athletics day remained, hosted on our school field, but alongside this we also held simultaneous Basketball, Teeball, Volleyball, Swimming and Table Tennis competitions, creating our own 'BIS Mini Olympics.'

Students were asked to sign up to their preferred activity, in order to compete and win points for their house. Nearly 900 competitors threw, jumped, ran, swam, dribbled, shot, blocked, hit home runs, and dig-set-spiked all morning to try and bring home the trophy for their House. They were all fantastically

supported by our Sixth Form helpers and brilliant staff body.

The action didn't stop there; after a lunch break our ever popular relay and tug of war competitions rounded off a superb day.

New School Records were set by Daniel Juelsbak (Year 12, Saigon Wolves) for Shot Put (13.4m), High Jump (1.70m) and Long Jump (6.18m), and James Kim (Year 9, Hue Cheetahs) for Long Jump (5.36m).

Our overall winners for the day were the Saigon Wolves, followed by Hue Cheetahs in second place, Dalat Dragons in third and Hanoi Rhinos in 4th. A huge thanks and massive congratulations to all students and staff who contributed.

Alastair Thom Assistant Head of Secondary PE



Primary International Week



Another year over, and another 52 countries ticked off in our passports! Our promise is to always deliver an International Week that is bigger and better than the previous, and this year we delivered in spades across our Junior and Early Years Campuses.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to each member of our community; from the students, teachers and teaching assistants here on both campuses, to the wonderful array of communities who staffed and stocked the incredible Global Cafe and to our PTG. Twenty six wonderful nations took part in the latest version, and we thank all of them for their enthusiasm.

Our Junior Campus kicked the week off with an incredible opening ceremony, with four parent groups offering their support by providing our students with amazing performances. From a colourful dance representing fresh rain in the plains of India, to Latin America and a wonderful Salsa experience, to East Asia and the Province of Sichuan in China with a face-changing opera performer, and finally an incredible contemporary dance from Korea. Each performance had the crowd wishing for more!

Our Global Cafe gets bigger and better each year, and 2021 was no different. Without doubt, Global Cafe is a real highlight for everyone and we thank from the bottom of our stomachs our parent community for all their time and efforts.

The learning focus for International Week, driven through our International Primary Curriculum (IPC) unit, is always a fabulous opportunity for our students to research different countries and cultures. From Jamaica and Tanzania up in Year 6, down to Ireland and Greece in some of our Year 3 classes; as well as another 28 nations in between! The students spend the week prior to the event researching the peoples, cultures and traditions of some of the most colourful nations around the globe!

At the EY&I Campus, staff had prepared different activities that involved games and crafts, with parents also supporting the children making instruments and throwing wellies and flip-flops. It was also great to be able to share this with our Fundinotots families.

Another thank you to the parents who went into classes to read stories in their home language. We greatly value home languages and promote the use of mother tongue and not only English.

The 'Parade of Nations' allows us a moment in the sun, where we can be proud of who we are and where we come from! We are all Global Citizens, but across the week we got to celebrate our individual nationalities across Primary! This year we had eight dance groups, and welcomed for the first time Canada and Malaysia to the stage.



Rooftop at EY&I

BIS HCMC has been chosen to become an 'early adopter' school to ensure that we are the most up to date, and in fact leading, in the educational provision that we offer to our youngest learners.

The early adopter version of the framework for Early Years places great value on Physical Development. 'Physical Development is vital in children's all-round development enabling them to pursue happy, healthy, and active lives.' We place equal value on development in all areas, but in the F3 rooftop garden Physical Development has been celebrated by the additions we have made to this space.

Children have been developing their gross motor skills by climbing over barrels, spinning in large spinning tops and creating spectacular dens. They had a wonderful time challenging themselves on our outside climbing wall celebrating their successes together. We have also planted seeds and enjoyed seeing them grow into fruit and vegetables, with the children being fascinated by our passion fruit plants; observing them growing up the trellis.

Fine motor skills were developed too through mark making on chalk walls and cutting the grass with scissors.

The energy and enjoyment that all the children demonstrate exploring and learning in the roof garden brings joy to us all.

Rachel Stewart F3 Teacher



Fundinotots

We had the pleasure of welcoming Hanh, who left BIS HCMC in 2009, to Fundinotots with her son. Read below to find out what Hanh had been up to since leaving and how it feels to be back, but as a parent instead of a student.

When did you attend BIS HCMC and what are your memories from your time here? I attended sixth form at BIS and graduated in 2009. I have very fond memories of my time at BIS - we were a supportive, close-knit group right from our first class trip to Da Lat, all throughout the tough IB programme and I am still in touch with many of my former classmates today.

How do you feel that the IB and your time at BIS HCMC prepared you for life at university and future life?

The more formal coursework required by the IB definitely eased the transition to university. Being part of such an international community where the default mindset is one of openness and understanding was such a privilege, and the experience is certainly something that has helped me adapt to many new, unfamiliar situations.

What have you done since you left BIS HCMC?

After leaving the school, I went to the University of Warwick to study Economics. I spent several years in the UK working in the finance and insurance industry before moving back to Vietnam.

How does it feel to be back at BIS HCMC as a parent with your child?

It was both surreal and a little bit emotional! The Early Years Campus is new to me so it was exciting to see the facilities and picture the kind of education that could be available to my child.





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our wonderful school.



the Mini-Council's were interested had an opportunity ideas of helping new students, the to volunteer. 8 students from Year 2 were selected due to their positive EAL Department launched a new buddy-system scheme in December 2020 characteristics which we look for in a to help new arrivals at the EY&I Campus. Young Interpreter. The 'Young Interpreters' scheme aims to teach existing students the tools and

Since its inception our Young Interpreters have already been hard at work and have made an incredibly positive impact on the BIS HCMC community.

Mr Luke Neville EAL Assistant Leader





This project will ensure that children's home languages and cultures are recognised, celebrated and utilised appropriately in our multicultural environment. The scheme was open to all students, regardless of nationality and languages spoken. Children who

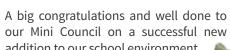
strategies needed to help new arrivals at

Mini Library

The Mini Council are our student representatives that meet every fortnight to discuss ideas and implement positive change within our school. They are our student voice and bring a pupil perspective of what BIS HCMC can be doing to improve our student's learning environment and wellbeing.

Giving more options during lunch play was an important goal the Mini Council set themselves from the start of the year. They wanted some soft seating and to find a way to give pupils a relaxing space. From this, the Mini Library was founded, and in March we had an official opening ceremony with Mr Anthony to introduce their new initiative to their peers. The Mini Library boasts a new bookcase, cushions and beanbags that will be available in the shaded area each day.

The response from the children has been fantastic and the playground has been buzzing with ever since. Chilling out in the beanbags and sharing stories with friends has been a popular choice for many students. We have even seen student 'teachers' reading to their friends in a classroom role play.









Parent Teacher Group Updates



Our Parent Teacher Group has been working as hard as ever across all our campuses, and as always are a true bastion of BIS HCMC Community.

Both our Primary and Secondary Campus PTG's put on a fantastic teachers' appreciation luncheon for Vietnamese Teachers' Day. It was great for the teachers and teaching assistants to come together and share a delicious meal that reflected our diverse community! It was yet another reminder of the strong community we are privileged to be a part of. Our teaching staff were truly spoiled with the array of delicious delicacies and treats, that had been cooked, baked and donated, by BIS HCMC families.

Although our Christmas BISzaar event was unfortunately cancelled due to Covid restrictions, that didn't deter our Secondary PTG from adapting and overcoming in true BIS HCMC fashion. Through their tireless efforts they organised and persevered with a fantastic raffle. There was a huge range of prizes up for grabs, from staycation getaways to complimentary dinners and

more, and we sincerely thank all our donors for their generous contributions and to the parents for their unwavering support. All in all the PTG raised 1,000,000,000 that will be donated to our community partners for great causes.

Our Primary PTG kindly welcomed a lot of our new families this term with their 'PTG Bus Tour & Lunch'. The event was open to all new BIS HCMC parents across Primary & Secondary Campus, which helped 28 new parents familiarize themselves with 'hot spots' of this colourful and vibrant city, specifically Thao Dien and District 1, including a stop off at Landmark 81! Every attendee was provided a PTG created brochure with some useful recommendations and addresses for all those necessary needs! Then after the tour, the families had a wonderful opportunity to join for a lunch at QUÁN BUI KITCHEN, Estella place, and spend time connecting with other BIS parents.

As always these events wouldn't be possible without parent volunteers and support from school staff. So we would like to thank all our wonderful PTG members, as well as Ms Katie, Secondary Receptionist and Ms Tran, the school Bus manager for all their support in coordinating and organising the bus.

Our PTG look forward to putting on more events in the coming term!





Community Service

We are a diverse community at BIS HCMC and so it was rewarding to witness the unifying acts of care displayed by all as we entered the Year of the Buffalo! More than 1,389 Tet Gift boxes were individually decorated and filled with gift items by our students who had raised VND 202,621,000 for this service action. In addition, beautiful handmade cards and personalised letters were written for each of our community children and these, together with the gift boxes, were delivered to our partners as a token of our appreciation and to show the value we place on our relationship with them. We also believe in giving our students opportunities to engage in meaningful real-life experiences which help them to develop the attributes that support a culture of international mindedness and to become more empathetic to the needs of others. Across the three campuses our students participate in more than 22 different community service and sustainability focused Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) each week.

Primary Campuses (F1 - Year 6)

- Community Football Clubs
- Community Chess Club
- Friendship Club
- Thien Phuoc Helping Hands
- Community Swimming Club

Secondary Campus (Year 7-Year 13)

- ACT (Act to Change Together)
- ARC Animal Rescue
- Binh An Club

- Community Swimming Club
- CLEANUPD2
- Club CURE
- Computing Skills for Community
- Children Equality/Safe Space
- GIN Council
- GreenR Minds
- Project Impact
- Thao Dien Disabled School Visit
- Teaching English at Huynh Van Ngoi primary school
- Thien Phuoc Helping Hands
- Uniform Upcycling
- Global Goals Project

In Term 2 we look forward to again being able to actively engage with our community partners through the CCA programme and to collaborate with them on the following projects planned for the students on the Early Years and Infant Campus:

- F1 + F2 ARC Visits
- F3 Ky Quang Pagoda Orphanage Visits
- Year 1 Thien Phuoc Foster Home for Children with Disabilities Playdates

We are also hopeful that we will be able to host the last of this year's annual community service events later in the year:

- PTG Coffee and Cake Morning (Thuy's Dream Foundation)
- BIS Community Football Tournament

These service activities and events embody the attributes of the BIS aide memoire and define us as the caring and respectful community that we are, as we purposefully work towards engaging and positively impacting both local and global communities, finding ways to contribute to social responsibility.

Tracey Brownrigg Whole School Co-Curricular Coordinator and Community Service Project Manager



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Bit Schick International School - His CM Minh City (Official) added 45 new photos to the about Primary International Week 2021 Published y John Nad G - 10 (Hobbury - 0) Balling some wompful memorals from Primary International Week 2021.

Relive some wonderful memories from Primary International Week 2021



#BISHCMC
Where you can find us



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66 Great message of positivity Principal R! It'll be so good to have everyone back in school next week \bigcirc **99**

Karen Hanratty

66 It was indeed a great workshop. Great tips shared on effective revision & retention. Very useful.

Neelam Patnaik



66 The first picture made my day, best friends forever **99**

Ikyzekova



Admissions Team

We are here to help







Our dedicated team are here to support your family.

Contact us to set up an appointment to visit us and discover more about our school. We look forward to welcoming you at BIS HCMC.

66 BIS HCMC Admissions team have been very supportive right from the beginning, when we first contacted them from Doha. We felt very welcomed and cared for. Visiting the school and meeting with teachers reassured us that BIS HCMC is the school for us, and the admissions team's support definitely contributed on our decision.

Andrew, Parent of F2 & Y2 children

Today was our daughters' orientation day and everything was perfect. We visited all the main sites, both in primary and secondary campus, and felt that it was such a great experience. Our daughters' had a very positive first day at BIS HCMC, having met with their teachers and having a campus tour with current students. Thanks to this great experience and the support from the Admissions team, they were confident in starting at their new school. We deeply appreciate the support of the school, particularly the Admissions team, who have been so kind and thoughtful.

Kim Family



Primary Admissions: **090 381 9448** Secondary Admissions: **090 334 0448**



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