



**BRITISH
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**

HANOI

**ESPRIT TERM 1
2014/2015**

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NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION DAY





moon festival

The Annual Moon Festival celebrations were upon us much earlier than in previous years. This is a festival that is enjoyed by us all as it is vibrant and colourful with a story the children know.

We celebrated the Moon Festival at school on September 5th and it was wonderful to see so many of our students dressed up in the traditional Ao Dai. In our whole school assembly, we were treated to some delightful Vietnamese cultural presentations performed by our students. Our Vietnamese teachers worked very hard to prepare the children in such a short amount of time. The children took the opportunity of teaching their new expat teachers about the meaning, customs and traditions of Moon Festival and shared some traditional dances and songs, before watching a lively Dragon Dance! Even though we are now BIS Hanoi, we will still continue to celebrate the important cultural events of our host country.





HOUSE ALLOCATION DAY





House Allocation has become a wonderful tradition at BIS Hanoi which we celebrated again on September 12th 2014. We have many House competitions planned for this year and it is clear that our students take great pride in 'their' particular House. By using the famous 'BIS Sorting Hat' all new students and staff were allocated to their Houses. Houses give everyone an opportunity to be part of a far wider community than just their class or year group. They help develop bonds of loyalty and allegiance. They also add a friendly competitive edge to certain school events such as sports competitions. It was wonderful to see existing members of Houses warmly welcoming their new friends and teachers into their group, and to see the excitement on each child's face as their House was announced.





22nd - 26th September was our "Book Week" and what a week it was with wonderful book-related activities taking place throughout the school. Children listened to, read, drew, wrote and painted stories. We bought books and made books. The "Design a Book cover" competition was run by both Primary and Secondary with the Secondary prize being the opportunity to be the theme decoration in the English and EAL corridor. Adam Bushnell from the UK was our visiting author and he spent two exhilarating days with us. There is no doubt that he was a real inspiration to the students. "Book Week" culminated on Friday with a whole school dress up day which raised funds for the charities that we support.

BOOK WEEK



THE BIG DRAW

CAMPAIGN FOR DRAWING

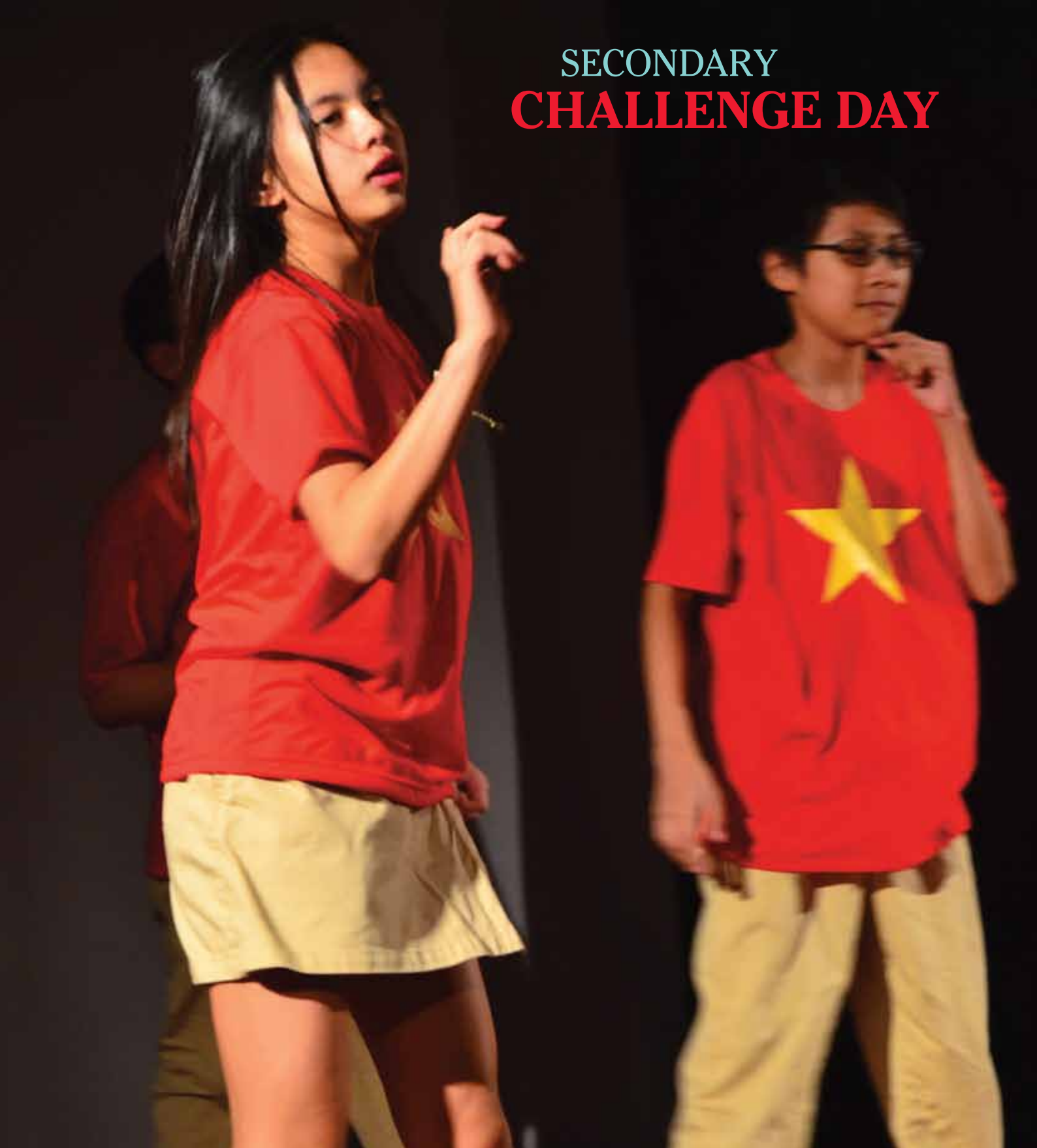


Another exciting focus area for the school in Term 1 was Art and, in particular, 'The Big Draw'. We were visited by Ms Susan Coles who is an Associate of The Big Draw and has worked as a facilitator with UK secondary teachers for the 'Campaign for Drawing'. Ms Coles worked with students and staff giving talks and training in relation to Art. She also visited Thinh Dai Pagoda with a group of our students. At the Pagoda, she and the students created some wonderful artwork with the children who live there. With initiatives such as this, we can certainly see the great development of our community programme.

BIS Hanoi students also worked in collaboration with a local artist Mr Pham Luc. Pham Luc is a member of the Vietnam Fine Arts Association. He is a former Major of the Vietnam People's Army, carrying a soldier's pack and artist's easel during times of conflict. With his support, the Year 11 and 12 students used the connection between cultures in conjunction with the Big Draw theme 'It's Our World', to generate initial concepts. They then produced an abundance of innovative ideas and these ideas were translated onto lacquer boards. Pham Luc was keen to promote an awareness of traditional skills and Vietnamese cultural heritage. The excellent work he produced with the students is now on display in the school and some will be available for auction at our Tet Fair. He said he enjoyed his visit to the school and wished he could return to his school days especially if he could attend a school like BIS Hanoi!



SECONDARY CHALLENGE DAY





We held our inaugural Challenge Day on 17th October. Students had the opportunity to experience three very different events starting with the Big Draw finale and finishing with a Vietnamese Story extravaganza. In between, they had the opportunity to try some new sports, Ultimate Frisbee and Cricket, organised by our EAL team. The next Challenge Day was the BIS version of The Apprentice which gave all our students, including the IGCSE and A Level Business Studies students, a chance to practise their business and leadership skills. Congratulations to the following teams for making the final four: Dalat 8, Hue 7, Hanoi 9, Saigon 4 and Dalat for being the eventual winner. Many thanks to our special guest judge: Ms Van Huong.



The Secondary “Spooktacular” Talent Show was a truly dazzling event with a stunning variety of impressive performances. We had four bands, a pianist, a dancer, two solo singers and one student playing the Dan Tranh.

Over thirty different acts auditioned with Ms Woolgar during the previous weeks with these nine successfully reaching the final. Congratulations to all the performers who entered the competition but particular congratulations to Kieu Linh who won the overall event and showed us what an amazing dancer she is! A special mention to Minh Phuong who won the KS3 Certificate by playing the traditional Dan Tranh to the background music of an Adele song – a real blend of traditional and modern music. Finally, the KS4 certificate went to a band called Polento who treated us to a great cover of ‘Walk like Rhianna.’



SECONDARY ★ TALENT SHOW



HALLOWEEN



HALLOWEEN MUFTI DAY

Although originally a traditional Celtic Christian festival, the march of globalisation means that we 'celebrated' Halloween today with our Mufti Day. It did give our Charity and Community Society a chance to raise some funds for the two long term projects we are supporting. There were some interesting interpretations of Halloween but students enjoyed the day and learning in and out of classrooms continued with the usual efficiency.





OPEN DAY

On our annual Open Day, over 100 parents spent time in classrooms experiencing how the school operates on a day to day basis and observing how their children learn. So many parents commented on how refreshing it was for them that the school was willing to 'open' itself for their benefit.







Winter CONCERT



On December 10th 2014, we hosted a wonderful "Winter Concert" in the school auditorium with over a hundred of our students performing. It was an outstanding event showcasing the developing musical talent of our students.





Our Foundation and KS1 students participated in the “To the Crystal Caves” production on December 12th 2014. They were charming and all performed with such confidence and enthusiasm. The acting, singing and dancing were lively and colorful, and enthralled everybody who attended. Congratulations and thanks go to the entire EYC team who had put so much effort into preparing the show, but even more so to our children who were such shining stars on the stage!



“TO THE CRYSTAL CAVES!”



It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents to school for the Term 1 Parent Teacher Consultations. These meetings are a vital part of our reporting and communication procedures, giving both teachers and parents an opportunity to discuss ways in which we can work together to support children's learning and development. After all, when it comes to children's education we are all on the same side, working to secure the best possible learning outcomes for each and every child.

We particularly pleased that so many parents were able to attend the meetings this term as there has been a good deal of research over several years which shows that parental involvement—checking homework, attending school meetings and events, discussing school activities at home—has one of the most powerful influences on students' academic performance.



PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS





ECAS

The ECAs programme at BIS Hanoi is varied, challenging and exciting. We strongly encourage our students to participate in this programme as it offers a great opportunity for them to meet new friends, be a risk-taker and share new experiences whilst having fun! Joining these activities after school also allows the students to experience the thrill of challenge and competition, the spirit of teamwork and a sense of accomplishment.





BEN HEASON ROCK CLIMBER VISITS BIS



We enjoyed the visit of Ben Heason, world renowned rock climber. He mesmerised children with his account of his adventures climbing in seemingly impossible situations and locations. He led the first expedition to climb the Angel Falls. Year 4 were particularly enthralled and later in the term put into practice some of the things they learnt as they closed their topic on 'Adventurers and Explorers' with a visit to a climbing wall.



BIS HCMC Swimming Gala





KS1 House Sports





KS2 House Sports



SECONDARY HOUSE SPORTS









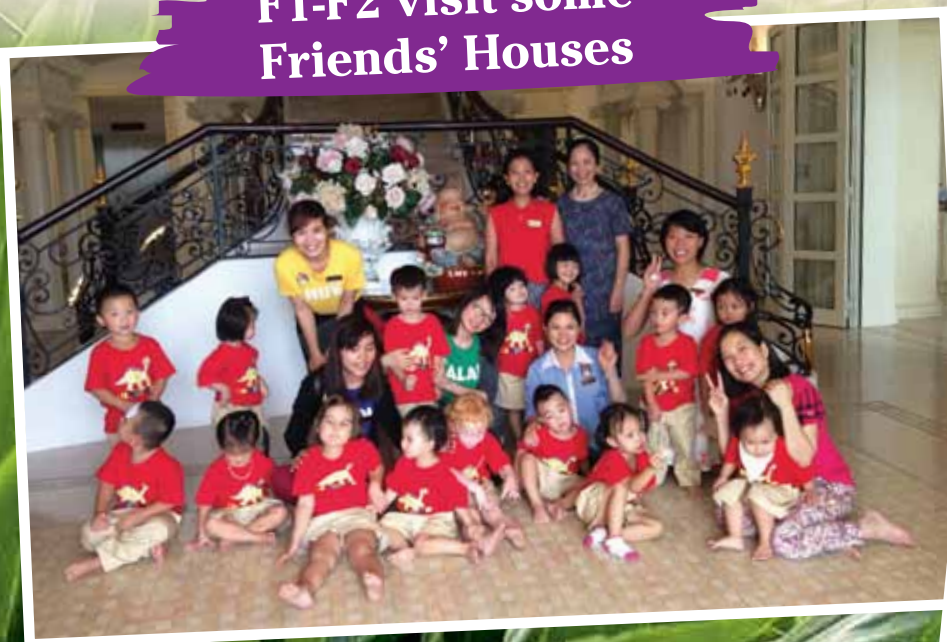
BIS SPORTS

F1-F2 Visit Erahouse Farm





F1-F2 visit some Friends' Houses





F3 Visits Kizciti

F3 visits The Museum of Ethnology



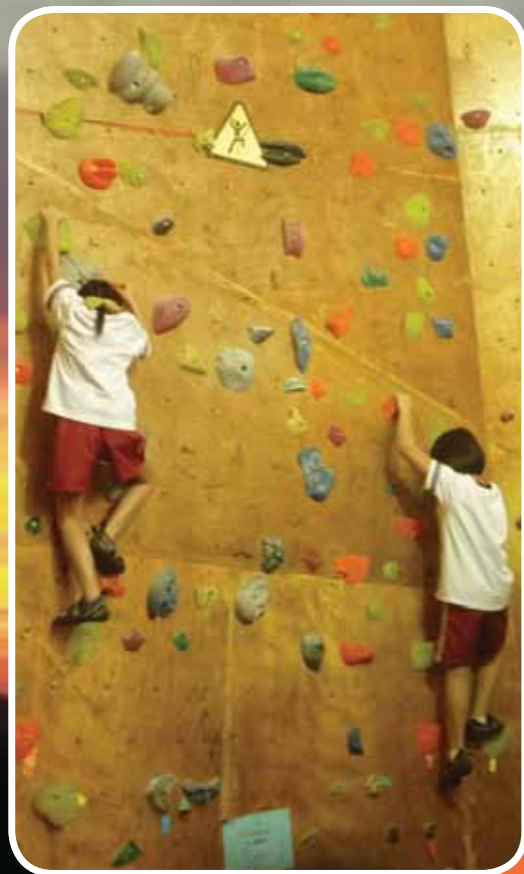


Year 2 visits Al Fresco Restaurant

Year 3 visits Ho Chi Minh Museum



Year 4 visits Vietclimb



Year 5 visits the Red River



YEAR 7 - BA VI EXPEDITION





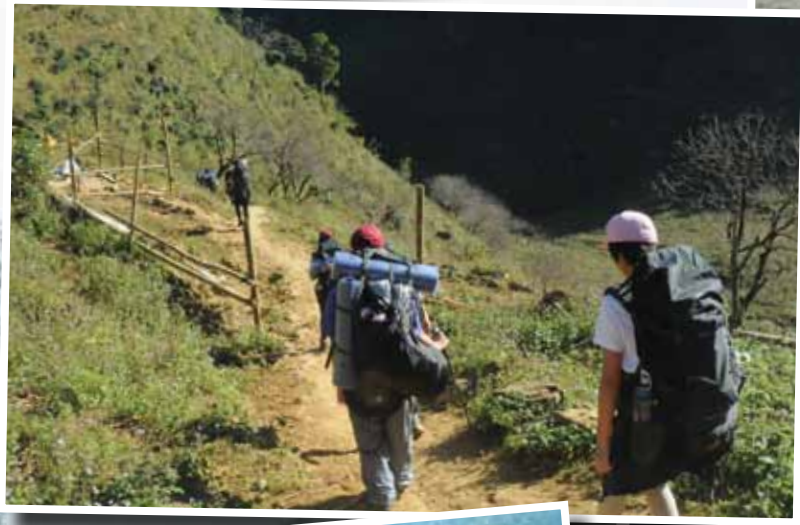
YEAR 9 SAPA EXPEDITION



YEAR 10 DALAT EXPEDITION







Proud to deliver

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
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Year 10 & 12 DoEIA

MAI CHAU EXPEDITION



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