



Weekly Newsletter Academic Year 23/24 Term 2 23rd February 2024

VICTUS INTERNATIONALS

6:

Singapore



Welcome from the Principal

I often reflect on my calendar and how fortunate I am to have a career as a Principal. Every moment is different and whilst it means my brain (and feet!) can be overactive, the switching of conversations and problem solving it brings is a very privileged aspect of my role. From speaking with individual parents regarding matters at morning drop off to discussing the merits of strawberry Pokkysticks over plain chocolate and why peanut butter sandwiches should remain at home during break times. I can be in a conversation about the plumbing to then be discussing budgets and school development policies and meet with our active Friends of Invictus Bukit Timah parent group only to complete the day with a bit of bowling alley maths. Amidst all of this during the week, I have enjoyed speaking with Ms Shaw about her plans for International Women's day which is building to a fervour in school. I had a great chat with her special guest ;the author Mrs Elly Both, earlier in the week which followed a call with the Australian High Commission regarding our building partnership with Larrakeyer Primary School and an exciting Bollywood dance project and friends across the globe. With many exciting projects and events on the horizon, I look forward to the coming months. Have a wonderful weekend .



Vision and Mission

Core Values



Respect Respect for all



Resilience Persevering and striving for progress



Care Caring for others in a safe, sustainable environment



Collaboration Developing the lifelong skills of working with others



Excellence Challenging ourselves to do our best



Joyous Lifelong Learning Taking pleasure in learning and growth

Invictus International School Bukit Timah



Mrs Burke Assistant Head - Pastoral Care



Ms Shaw Key Stage 1 Lead



Head of PE & Sport Mr Zulhilmi



Mr Belcher Principal



Mrs Lu Key Stage 2 Lead





Mr Morse Deputy Head - Academics



Dr King Key Stage 3 Lead & Head of Science



Ms Ngooi

Invictus International School Bukit Timah





Ms Lu Year 3.1 Form & Maths Lead



Ms Ferraz Year 5.1 Form & Humanities Teacher



Ms Stewart Year 7.1 Form & English Teacher





Ms Mishra Year 3.2 Form & English Teacher









Year 6.1 Form Year 5.2 Form & Humanities/GP Teacher



Mr Elisara

& Art Lead

Mr Burke Year 8 Form & Maths Lead





Ms Yu Year 4.2 Form & Chinese Teacher



Ms Ngooi Year 6.2 Form & Head of Music



Ms Wang Chinese Teacher

Invictus International School Bukit Timah Teaching Assistant and Learning Support team



Ms Yusop



Ms Sulaiman



Ms Kalaihselvan



Ms Kamarudin



Ms Makose





Ms Cai (Temp)

Uniform reminders

Uniform - All students should be wearing their Invictus uniform

Black shoes (Not Vans/Trainers etc)

Grey Invictus Skort/shorts

Blue Invictus Polo

White socks

PE days- House colour t-shirt, Invictus PE shorts and trainers are allowed.

Every day- Invictus cap or bucket style hat for outdoor play.

Please note that as per school tradition, students are invited to wear their house shirts on a Friday regardless of curriculum activity as we are encouraging Fridays as a day for house competitions in the near future.

School Uniform



PE Uniform



We are aware that some students prefer a cotton based shirt.

Please note that Lim's are in agreeance to accommodating this by manufacturing a cotton version in the same style .

They require a minimum order of 5 but can make for example

3 in one size and 2 in a larger size.

Please process directly with Lim's;

Lim's Uniform

Address: 211 Holland Avenue, Holland Rd, #02-18 Shopping Centre, 278967

Opening Hours: Mon - Sat 10.30am to 7.15pm

Sun 10.30am to 6.15pm

In Touch with Learning

The school strives to keep parents informed about their child's learning whilst balancing our teacher's priorities. A reminder that tutor and subject-teachers are always available, and aim to respond to parent emails within 48-hours, however the following are two ways you can immediately keep up-to-date with your child's learning.

Weekly Subject content

Reminding children of learning, and pre-teaching key terms or ideas, is shown to be beneficial, so we've put together a summary of upcoming content for each class here: <u>Parent-Shared</u>

Term 2B Curriculum Letter

Similarly your child's curriculum and supporting material for the following half-term will be permanently collated here: <u>Parent-Shared</u> T2B Curriculum Letters will be here from next Friday. I apologise for the lateness of these. The workload rebranding them and moving from Microsoft to Google has been extensive.

<u>Academic News</u>

The school is proud to emphasise academic rigour in KS1 through our continued relationship with Sounds Write. It's founder and director were with us again this week and our teachers were keen to take the opportunity to learn more and refresh our approach to this most vital of academic areas. John Walker noted our pupils were "ready to learn" and "familiar with appropriate strategies".



Thank you to our Phonics Lead, Miss Joachim, for organising this PD for Year 1 to 3 teachers.





Mr Morse Deputy Head - Academics

At the other end of the school, our Year pupils have been going through their mocks this week and will continue to fine-tune and revise key areas based or the assessment opportunity provided by their 'first-go' at their Cambridge Checkpoints. Year 6 parents will find feedback on their child's Google Classroom.



Pastoral News



Mrs Burke Assistant Head - Pastoral Care

Over the last few weeks Year 6 girls, Jhanvi, Tara, Daphne, Ava and Gauri have been working really hard on our new schools peer mentoring scheme. They have taken part in multiple sessions to help make them ready to be our schools, 'friendship champions.'

This includes:

- How to actively listen,
- Gaining mentee trust,
- Appropriate advice,
- Role modelling

The pupils are very excited to start mentoring some younger children and we hope that their support can make a big difference around school.



International Women's Day -Friday 8th March

As we approach International Women's Day, we would like to extend a warm invitation to all women in our community to join us for a morning tea at Invictus International School, Bukit Timah.

It's an opportunity for us to come together, share stories, and appreciate the contributions of women over time, and the changes we still want to see. We encourage you to bring a small plate of your favorite treats to share, representing your cultural background or personal preferences.

We will be joined by keynote speaker Elly Both.

Elly is an author, ADHD advocate, and sustainability & social impact entrepreneur. Elly lives in Singapore and has recently released her first book 'A Kids Book about ADHD'.

Date: Friday 8th March Time: 8am-9:30am Please RSVP by Tuesday 5th March via <u>https://forms.gle/woHU3mjDgxs9xmjs8</u> (this link and more information can also be found in today's parents communication)









Well-done Otters, this weeks winners, taking the lead from Civets.

Art and Design in Primary

This term, the year one students are are examining the works of Austrian painter and architect Friedensreich Hundertwasser. They learned about his preference for organic shapes, bold colours and patterns, and how he incorporated nature into his works. As they reflected on this knowledge, the students were directed towards a class project where they would work in groups to contribute to their common goal of making a Hundertwasser inspired Dreamscape, featuring his signature style using various elements of art. This being their first art collaboration, the students were very excited and happy to get straight to work!







<u>Art and Design in Secondary</u>

The whole school is preparing art work for our upcoming art festival 'Art Connects' which is based on 'the spark of inspiration when an idea arrives'! Our year 8's are creating illuminating graffiti art by developing pseudonyms, stylising their names and creating stencils to apply spray paint with. Pupils designed unique fonts using cursive blocked letters and fluro colours to capture their personality and express individual flair.





<u>Science News!</u>

Math and Science week just got MUCH bigger! We had so much fun last year, we feel EVERYONE in our school should celebrate all that is great in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math in one exciting and educational week! In March, we will share our own passions with themed lessons across the key stages and the curricula with STEAM homework, workshops and competitions! The theme and timing will still tie in with British Science week - this year it is **TIME** to commemorate this year being the 30th British Science Week!

We will invite artists, scientists and engineers from all over the world to share their ideas and passion with our students too!

Do you work in STEAM? Could you record a short clip of you at work or explaining your job and sharing your STEAM experiences with our students! Would you like to visit us? If so please contact Dr King immediately (dee.king@invictus.edu.sg) so we can weave your contribution into our week!

We already have a 'meet the engineer' session planned, can I hear a 'meet the doctor?' or 'meet the scientist?' offer? This could be online or in person, maximum 30 minutes to quickly explain your job/area of expertise and answer some questions for our students!



Primary



Secondary







Students in year 3 are finishing their animals topic by learning a little about the internal organs of our bodies. They learned about different organs and then displayed their understanding with chalk diagrams on the floor! Excellent work year 3! Year 7 have been comparing metals and non-metals as part of their ongoing focus on elements and reactions. They have been thinking about the properties metals have and why they might be used in different ways. What makes them valuable to humans in terms of their use?





Year 8 started their new Earth Science topic with a dive into weather and climate data! Has the climate on Earth always been the same or does it change? Should we be worried about climate change or is it a 'normal' occurrence? How do we know this? Have humans changed the natural cycles? This all feeds in well to the BIG challenge question of 'how do we know what we know?'

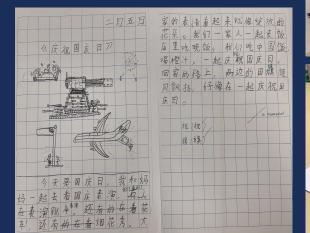
Chinese Language in Primary

The foreign language learners played games that required them to speak and listen, allowing them to hone their speaking abilities and build confidence. They also combined radicals to create unique characters.

Information on what are radicals: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tx HS3S8II4

Students who are in the Standard Chinese course continue to advance in their speaking and writing

skills. While Year 3 students are still focusing on summarising their experiences and correctly organising words, Year 4 students started writing a brief paragraph on what they saw and experienced during a National Day event.





Chinese Language in Secondary

This week, our Y8 foreign language learners had some fun in class, where they were tasked to create and act out scenarios where the phrases '我帮你, 好吗?' (Can I help you?) and '我能自己.....' (I can do by myself) can be naturally used. This activity allowed students to gain an understanding of how these expressions function in real-life scenarios, reinforcing the relevance and utility of the phrases they are acquiring.

Year 7 students explored different school areas and practised saying "我在…"(I am doing something) in Mandarin to express "I am doing something somewhere". They made use of pictures to enhance comprehension and facilitate discussions on a range of sentences.



Students are understanding the text for《我闯祸 了》through comprehension tasks and discovering the psychological changes of the protagonist through role playing. They are learning the nuances of expressing remorse and seeking help in Mandarin.



Music in Primary



This week the Year 1 and 2 students explored CDEFG notes position on the keyboard and xylophone and had fun playing Mary had a little lamb and Twinkle twinkle. They had some creative fun combining different music notes and keyboard sounds to form different short melodies and proudly presented them to their partners. Well done students.

Ms. Sara

Music in Secondary



This week the Year 7 and Year 8 students worked on their ear training and music theory skills through the Theta Music Trainer program which focuses on music components such as sound, pitch, rhythm, tonality, intervals, melody, harmony and chord progressions. Well done Year 7 and 8 for taking up the challenge!















Instrumental Music Programme

Our in-house Instrumental Music Programme registration is still open. If you would like to enroll your child to learn to play a musical instrument at school please complete the registration form by following this link:

www.mckeemusic.com.sg

The IMP runs weekly during school hours and lessons are 30 minutes one-to-one on piano, violin, guitar, ukulele, drums, and singing. You can also request other instruments and the McKee Music team will be happy to help arrange them, depending on the teacher's availability. Lessons are \$55 per 30 minutes, billed termly.

You can also email our IMP coordinator, Duncan McKee, directly at <u>duncan@mckeemusic.com.sg</u> and he will be happy to help answer any of your questions.





Solo Trinity College London Performance Arts Grade Qualification Programme

Every child possesses unique talents waiting to be discovered. Whether your child craves the spot-light or is shy with a hidden talent, our Performance Arts Programme will help them grow into expressive and self-assured individuals, ready to conquer any stage life brings their way. 3rd year running at the campus, we pride ourselves in nurturing confidence and bringing out the best in every student. Singing, dancing, juggling, or simply expressing themselves, we'll help every child illuminate the stage as we celebrate their unique gift.

Our 30 minute lessons will be rotated weekly and carefully scheduled during class time rotate lesson times so the same classroom lessons are not missed consecutively. Fees range from \$50 for lower grades (Initial, Grade 1 & 2) and \$55 and above for higher grades (Grade 3 upwards). Graduating with flying colours, your child will earn a level appropriate Trinity College London Grade Certificate, a badge of their achievement with our tried and tested programme! Our 2022/23 cohort achieved a 100% Distinction rate. We create Exposure & Experience for our students as they develop Expression & Creativity while building Confidence & Resilience and their Portfolio. GROWTH *To register your interest click https://forms.gle/FzcVDtN6jsm6ozM36 *To make an enquiry email us on hello@playhouseworkshop.com *Or to find out more visit www.playhouseworkshop.com *Get to know the specialist teacher – Jayanthi Lecolley



Physical Education in Primary



We are thrilled to introduce our newest addition to the team, Miss Cheryl, as our PE Specialist.

Having taught multi-sport enrichment classes for preschool and lower primary school students, Miss Cheryl's enthusiasm and expertise are sure to inspire a love for physical activity in our students.

Looking forward to embark on this journey with Miss Cheryl, fostering teamwork, skill development, and most importantly fun!

Physical Education in Secondary

PE lessons took a serene turn as students delved into the world of yoga! Instead of the hustle and bustle, our class found tranquility through various yoga poses and techniques. From Mountain to Warrior Pose, students discovered the benefits of mindfulness and body awareness. With each stretch and breath, they honed their balance, flexibility, and inner peace. Guided by yoga videos, our class followed along, syncing their movements with soothing instructions. A refreshing departure, offering a holistic approach to physical education that fostering balance of body and mind.











Physical Education

PE -Field Schedule for Year 1 to 4 Term 2 2024				
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
9/1/2024	10/1/2024		11/1/2024	
PE -Swimming Schedule for Year 1 to 4 Term 2 2024				
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
16/1/2024	17/1/2024	15/1/2024	18/1/2024	
23/1/2024	24/1/2024	22/1/2024	25/1/2024	
30/1/2024	31/1/2024	29/1/2024	1/2/2024	
6/2/2024	7/2/2024	5/2/2024	8/2/2024	
20/2/2024	21/2/2024	19/2/2024	22/2/2024	
27/2/2024	28/2/2024	26/2/2024	29/2/2024	
5/3/2024	6/3/2024	4/3/2024	7/3/2024	
12/3/2024	13/3/2024	11/3/2024	14/3/2924	
19/3/2024	20/3/2024	18/3/2024	21/3/2024	
26/3/2024	27/3/2024	25/3/2024	28/3/2024	

PE -Field Schedule for Year 5 to 8 Term 2 2024				
Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	
15/1/2024	11/1/2024	12/1/2024	9/1/2024	
22/1/2024	18/1/2024	19/1/2024	16/1/2024	
29/1/2024	25/1/2024	26/1/2024	23/1/2024	
5/2/2024	1/2/2024	2/2/2024	30/1/2024	
19/2/2024	8/2/2024	9/2/2024	6/2/2024	
26/2/2024	22/2/2024	23/2/2024	20/2/2024	
4/3/2024	29/2/2024	30/2/2024	27/2/2024	
11/3/2024	7/3/2024	8/3/2024	5/3/2024	
18/3/2024	14/3/2924	15/3/2024	12/3/2024	
25/3/2024	21/3/2024	22/3/2024	19/3/2024	
	28/3/2024		26/3/2024	

Sport in the community

Workout for Spartan Race in SG 22nd of June!



Spartan Race is coming back with a new and improved course for kids! A few of the year 5-8 students are going to be signing up and wanted to see if there is more interest. ACE Certified Strength Trainer, Priscilla Seqwick @mana.within is going to run weekly sessions (cost TBD) on Tuesdays afterschool 3:45-4:45 after holiday April 16th-June 18. (10 sessions)

Please email <u>robin.ferraz@invictus.edu.sg</u> for interest/questions. Sign up for the race is here; <u>Singapore Spartan Race Overview</u>



AGES 10-14 3.2KM 15-20 OBSTACLES

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AGES 7-9 1.6KM 10-15 OBSTACLES

Key Stage 1-Years One and Two

This week during assembly, the Year 1/2/3 pupils unpacked one of the school's core values: Collaboration. Through the book "A little spot of teamwork" (click <u>here</u> to revisit the book), students learned about what collaboration is, how to be a good teammate and how to also resolve conflicts/disputes when they arrive.

In TEAMWORK, you COLLABORATE a lot! COLLABORATION is when you have a group of people with a lot of different talents and skills working together to create something amazing!

Technology like, phones, computers, and robots, require people to COLLABORATE every day as a TEAM to come up with the latest device!





At the end of assembly, we invited Mr Belcher and some teachers to model collaboration by playing the Human Knot game. Afterwards, the students returned to their respective classrooms to play the same game, practising "collaboration" with each other.



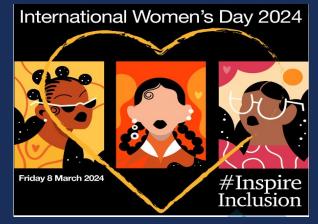


Key Stage 2 - Years Three, Four, Five and Six



visiting three different places. Firstly, they attended an amazing live theatre performance for "I Believe in Unicorns" that had both the students and teachers in awe. Afterwards, the students headed to the Keppel Centre for Art Education and explored different mediums of art. Examples include using light to paint, shapes and shadows, and using a 3D pen to create. Lastly, the students went to the Jubilee Children's Playground to enjoy some sunshine and outdoor play. It was definitely a fun-filled day! A huge thank you to our fantastic Year 3 parent volunteers Anca, Belinda, Lauren, Nisa, Rana and Tatum who sacrificed their time to take care of the

Key Stage 2 - Years Three, Four, Five and Six



Inspirational Women Portraits

Think of a female in your life that you think is inspirational and deserve a shout out.

You may draw a portrait do a write up or poem.

Be creative!

- A4 or A3
 Use fine line markers, water <u>colours</u>, pastels, pencils etc.
- Submit to form tutor by 4th March for 5 house points



International Women's Day is held annually on the 8th of March to celebrate women and push for gender equality and the advancement of women's rights across the globe.

As part of the #EmbraceEquity campaign in commemoration of International Women's Day 2024, Ms. Dani Shaw has extended an invitation to all students in all key levels to create and publish a portrait or essay featuring a woman who inspires them. This allows our students to take the opportunity to reflect on women that inspire them and how they can pursue their goals and ambition, as well as actions they can take to contribute to building a more diverse, equitable and inclusive world. Boys and girls are also encouraged to challenge themselves to attempt something new or something they have never done before, or even just think about a career that they would want, as we discussed how women and girls can accomplish anything.

To receive five house points, students must complete their work using any media and turn it in to their form tutor by March 4th.

Additional Resources for International Women's Day can be found here.

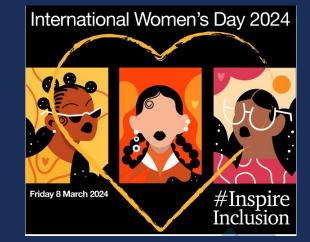


Key Stage 3 - Years Seven and Eight

As part of the #EmbraceEquity campaign in commemoration of International Women's Day 2024, Ms. Dani Shaw has extended an invitation to all students in all key levels to create and publish a portrait or essay featuring a woman who inspires them. This allow our students to take this opportunity to reflect on women that inspire them and how they can pursue their goals and ambition, as well as actions they can take to contribute to building a more diverse, equitable and inclusive world. Boys and girls are also encouraged to challenge themselves to attempt something new or something they have never done before, or even just think about a career that they would want, as we discussed how women and girls can accomplish anything.

To receive five house points, they must complete their work using any media and turn it in to their form tutor by March 4th.

Many thanks to Ms Yu for a great assembly introducing the topic to our key stage and discussing equity and equality with our students.



Students in years 7 and 8 have already started to plan their inspirational works during form times this week and year 8 are also doing an independent research project about the significant contributions of individual women in science, that they will present to each other on International Women's Day!

Help needed!

In a few weeks time I will be travelling to Cambodia with the Valkyries (a girls rugby team made up of players from different teams across Singapore)!

We travel to play rugby and take donations to support a charity there called the Balopp Initiative. This charity supports underprivileged and disabled children to engage in sports including rugby helping to promote social inclusion and education. This year we are collecting donations of used sports kits for the children to use. We will spend one day playing with disabled and homeless children and another day playing games against teams run by the charity! I went last year and it was great fun and I made some brilliant new friends who love the same sport as me!! It is really important to me that I help children who are having a tough time, because I am so lucky to have my life!

Hi! My name is Kitty, I am in year 7 and I am in Otter house! I play rugby with my team the Titans RFC and train every week just 10 minutes from our school on Dover Road. I play contact rugby on a mixed team and also on a girls only team, in league games and in tournaments.









Rugby and this trip build into the core values of our school: RESPECT and CARE - respectfully gaining an understanding of the challenges others face, COLLABORATION - developing life skills and working together to make a change,

If you would like to help us, please leave any used sports kit donations with reception. Money can be donated in a sealed envelope labeled 'Donation for the Balopp Initiative'. We will use money to purchase mouthguards to take. Please also leave your name if you donate. We need donations by 4th March please!

Congratulations!



We would like to extend our heartiest congratulation to Ms Winnie Wang on the arrival of her baby boy last month! We wish Ms Winnie and her family an abundance of happiness and love during this special time.

Discount card for our families



CLICK BELOW TO FOLLOW US. FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT YOUR

We are very excited to announce an Invictus Bukit Timah discount card for our community of families with a variety of local businesses and restaurants in and around the Bukit Timah area.

We will be issuing families with parent ID cards within the next few weeks. Once these cards are issued you will be able to use these by taking them into our sponsors shops/restaurants. Watch this space for more partners and chances to win prizes! Watch this space for more information!



10% off!





30% off your 1st facial! 15% off your 1st lash or nail treatment! 10% thereafter!

10% off!

Key Contacts

Safeguarding: <u>safeguarding.bt@invictus.edu.sg</u> (Please call 999 for any urgent safeguard matter)

For subject teacher and curriculum matters, please email the form tutor directly, the keystage lead or subject teacher.

Please contact <u>admin2theprincipal@invictus.edu.sg</u> for any urgent appointments required or call the school at Tel: 6971 8210.

Please use the following contacts for any of these areas: Admissions: admissions.bt@invictus.edu.sg General Queries: <u>questions.bt@invictus.edu.sg</u> School nurse: <u>schoolnurse.bt@invictus.edu.sg</u> Student Services: <u>studentservices.bt@invictus.edu.sg</u>

Social Media





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Singapore

VICTUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

