



អ៊ីនធឺណេស៊ីណាល ស៊ូល អេហ្វ សៀមរាប
International School of Siem Reap

2016-17

Issue 6

February 2017

The High School

NEWSLETTER

(+855) 98 878 782

<http://issrcambodia.com/>

adminhs@issrcambodia.com

School Fair

The Principal expresses his gratitude and congratulations to all the staff and students who made tremendous efforts in ensuring the February School Fair was an unqualified success. Approximately \$2400 was raised, which will be divided between the three organisations being supported. There was a wide range of activities, food outlets, crafts, books and performances, the entire event was well attended and our parents were most appreciative. Thanks to all members of our community for their support of such worthy causes.



Curriculum Plans

The students have been issued with the curriculum plans for this term, which outline the topics to be covered and texts used in each subject.

Examination Updates

CIE Entries

Candidate entries for Year 9 Checkpoint, Y11 IGCSE and Y13 AS/A2 Level examinations were submitted promptly to the Cambridge Board two weeks in advance of submission date; the Principal thanks the teachers and tutors for ensuring that this process was completed efficiently.

Trial Examinations

Year 11 and 13 have now completed their trial examinations, which went very smoothly, and the students are now waiting for their results, which will be indicated in the end of term reports. Students will be able to consult their trial papers in order to plan their revision in preparation for the actual examinations in May and June.

Subject Options for Year 10 2017-2018 and Year 12 2017-18



Year 10 Options

ISSR has now aligned itself with other international schools worldwide in offering an options system for Year 10 with effect from August 2017, and we are delighted to be able to provide a diverse range of subjects. This new system affects the current Year 9 as full-time students are required to select certain subjects to be taken as IGCSE examinations in Year 11.

There are two subject groups:

The **core** subjects: all students (full-time and part-time) study these subjects.

1. English Language (5 periods per week)
2. Mathematics (5 periods per week)
3. ICT (3 periods per week)
4. Science Double Award (6 periods per week) = 2 x IGCSE awards
5. Physical Education (1 period per week)

The **optional** subjects: full-time students choose a total of FIVE additional subjects, ONE subject from each of options 1 - 5; each subject is taught for three periods per week.

	A	B
Option #1	History	Art
Option #2	Geography	Design Technology
Option #3	Business Studies	Drama
Option #4	English Literature	Physical Education
Option #5	AS Mathematics	French / Mandarin Chinese

Therefore, students will sit a maximum of ten IGCSE examinations i.e. 5 x core and 5 x optional. In some cases the School may – after discussion with the student, the teacher and the parents – consider it appropriate for a student to sit only nine IGCSEs, the remaining three periods being devoted to private study.

Please note that **AS Mathematics** is a highly demanding subject and students will only be permitted to pursue that course if (a) s/he attains 6.0 in the Checkpoint Mathematics examinations in Year 9 and (b) the Mathematics teacher confirms the suitability of the student.

The **Physical Education** course referred to in the optional subjects is not the same as the single period Physical Education which is compulsory for all students.

It is part of the UK educational structure and the Cambridge International Examinations upon which this school is based that students must gradually narrow the number of subjects studied; it is neither feasible nor desirable to seek to sit examinations in more than ten subjects. The pursuit of 10 IGCSE subjects puts our students on a par with most other international schools and, indeed, ahead of many.

Inevitably students may face some difficult choices and, in deciding which subjects to select, students should consult with their teachers and their parents. The following criteria should be taken into consideration:

[1] All of the options have equal validity and, above all, the student should enjoy and be progressing well in the subjects s/he chooses. There is little purpose in selecting a subject because it is perceived to be more “important” than another one – which is not case – only to be studying that subject for two years when the student does not feel motivated to pursue it. Given that scenario, it is unlikely that the student will achieve his/her full potential.

[2] With the exception of AS Mathematics (which has already been discussed above) the subjects in column A generally involve a thorough command of written English whereas those in column B focus more on practical and creative skills although written response is still required.

[3] Certain students may already have some career aspirations and, with that in mind, may wish to tailor their options by including certain subjects that offer transferable skills of future benefit to them, for example:

Architecture	Art and Design Technology
Law / Journalism	History, English Literature, Drama; Drama is a good example of a subject that builds self-confidence and communication skills enormously
Tourism	History, Geography, Business Studies, Modern Foreign Language
Engineering / Medicine	AS Mathematics

In the forthcoming weeks, we will be talking again with the students and furnishing them with more information, in particular with relation to Drama, Art, Physical Education and AS Mathematics, all of which are welcome additions to the IGCSE programme. Thereafter the options form will be issued. In the

meantime, if Y9 parents would like to discuss choices in more depth, they are welcome to email the Principal, and – given that there is no rush for students to make the decisions at this point – discussions can also take place during the parents’ meetings at the end of term 3.

ISSR AS and A2 Level programme

**Cambridge
International
AS & A Level**

We strongly encourage the current Year 11 carefully to consider their futures. The Advanced Supplementary and A2 Level programme is the internationally recognised means of accessing quality universities worldwide. The International School of Siem Reap is the only institution in the town that offers this programme, providing courses in at least English, Mathematics, Sciences, ICT and Business Studies. Students are normally expected to select four courses in Year 12 and may reduce this to three courses in Year 13 as considerable private study and independent research are required. Further information will be given to the students after the results of the trial examinations, and further details will be issued to Y11 parents.

Year 11 Assembly

On February 27th Year 10 and 11 students attended an assembly conducted by the Principal covering numerous aspects of the AS/A2 level programme available from August 2017. The Principal encouraged students to maximise their potential and to maintain open minds and global visions when considering their future academic and professional pathways. The options available for students participating in a GAP year or work experience were also discussed.

Start!

Thinking
Talking
Asking
Researching
Emailing
Applying

Taking control



Year 11 students are at a major point in their lives – on the threshold of adulthood – and the Principal encouraged the students to think carefully about their next step, to discuss and to consult with teachers, to research and, above all, to take control of their own futures.

Assemblies

Students of all year groups have the opportunity to conduct their own assemblies in front of the entire school. In February we have had two student-led assemblies: street art and the Amazonian Rainforest.



A talk was given by Yuvan (Yuvan'ki) and John (John'ki) on how their tribe (the Tapuki Tribe) has been affected by the development of the Amazon Rainforest. The students, wearing Amazonian crowns and facepaint, presented on how their ancient community is being overrun by illegal loggers and cocaine producers.



Even though the Tapuki people have lived in their current location for hundreds of thousands of years, according to modern Brazilian laws, the land upon which they live on has never been claimed. People from outside have been mercilessly taking their land as a result.

They then went on to describe the benefits of the Amazon including rare medicines that can be found there as well as describing the rich flora and fauna. Furthermore, they explained that the Amazon is the lungs of the Earth as it produces 20% of the world's oxygen. (MEJ)

The Year 9 contribution for the school's Monday assembly was about street art.

“Street artA form of art that intrudes into the public spaces has now been readily accepted by the general population into their realm. The widely displayed painting, stencils and sculptures found mostly in the urban areas around the world have significantly left impressions in millions of people. The extreme use of colours, texts and materials to express certain messages, ideas, and many other issues have stayed on and been accepted by majority of the public”.



The year 9 students presented the talk with works from around the world. They explained briefly about the many genres and people making their marks in the public spaces. The risks and the challenges they took to display their art works such as Banksy and other undercover artists. They also found street art all around Siem Reap and introduced it to the school. The group of 13 students managed the entire process independently and as a final piece they presented their own painting on a board for display. (TM)

English Literature: update

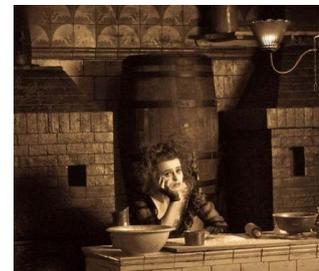
Through the medium of film and play scripts, poetry, song lyrics and excerpts from novels, Year 7 and Year 8 are currently pursuing a course in English Literature that is designed not only to enhance their skills of reading, pronunciation, enunciation, personal response and interpretation, but also to introduce them to a range of global and historical themes including working conditions in Victorian London, the literature of revolution, and changing attitudes in the 21st century, while exposing them to different styles of literature requiring, for example, the analysis of poetic devices and the interpretation of script for the purpose of dramatic performance.



“Pirate Jenny” from Bertolt Brecht’s The Threepenny Opera; revolutionary songs and why they are necessary



The meeting of Scrooge and Marley from A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens; can people change their attitudes?



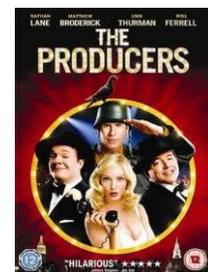
Victorian social conditions are presented through Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street



“(Not) Getting Married Today” from Sondheim’s Company: social change in the twentieth century



The influence of the Press is discussed through “We both reached for the gun” from Chicago by Kander and Ebb.



The art of comic delivery is explored through dialogues from The Producers by Mel Brooks.



...and a novel way of teaching Physics...



The International School of Siem Reap

Wat Damnak Village
Salakamreuk Commune
Krong Siem Reap
Kingdom of Cambodia

Tel: (+855) 98 878 782

E-mail: adminhs@issrcambodia.com

Website: <http://issrcambodia.com/>

