

Singapore, 5 August 2020

Parents Information SSiS #1

Dear Parents,

The whole school team is looking forward to starting the new school year. We are sure that you and your children are also already in great anticipation of next school year - A very warm *Grüezi, welcome back* and *un bon début* from the Swiss School in Singapore.

As the new principal of the Swiss School in Singapore I am looking forward to getting to know you all and I am awaiting a new year full of activities, projects, growing and learning. I am very happy to be here and like to thank you all for your warm welcome!

A special welcome goes to all our new parents and students. We wish you all an excellent start at our school and we look forward to an enriching collaboration, always bearing in mind our common goal: The education of your children – our students.

I would like to give you some information about the beginning of the new school year:

All in all 222 students have registered for the first semester. On Tuesday, 11 August 2020, 219 students will start the new school year with us and additional 3 students will join in the coming months.

The Swiss children's share is at 47%; 25% are from Germany and the remaining 28% are citizens of 19 other countries from all over the world. It is wonderful and rewarding for us all to build on such a multicultural variety and diversity of students.

For 35 of our students the 11 August will be a very special day: It will be their first day at school as first graders.

This school year, eight new teachers will start working at the Swiss School:

- Solenne BERTHOUD BORCARD, Class Teacher French Primary P1/2F
- Samuel BONJOUR, Class Teacher French Kindergarten 1/2F and Special Needs Teacher
- Carole CHATELAIN, Class Teacher French Primary 3/4F
- Dean NICOLETTI, English Main Teacher
- Susanne NUFER, Special Needs Teacher
- Stefanie ROHR, Class Teacher Primary P1/2B
- Michael SCHOLBE, Class Teacher Primary P3/4B
- Livia WERMELINGER, Class Teacher P1/2C
- Freya ATHAYDE, Assistant Teacher French Kindergarten

Overall, this means that 52 people are working for the Swiss School in various functions.

Semester overview

Please visit our [semester overview](#) for all important dates and events. Because of the COVID-19 situation, we still do not know when the next event for the whole school community will take place.

Start of the new school year

- German as a Foreign Language Support (DAF):** DAF-support for remaining students will start from calendar week 33 (11 to 14 August 2020) onwards, new students will start in calendar week 35 (24 to 28 August 2020). All parents of remaining students have already been contacted directly by the DAF teacher.
 DAF P1: integrative during regular lessons
 DAF P2: Thursday, 1.45 – 3.30pm
 DAF P3: Monday, 1.45 – 3.30pm
 DAF P4: Wednesday, 1.45 – 3.30pm
- English Support (ES):** ES for remaining students will start from calendar week 33 (11 to 14 August 2020) onwards, new students will start in calendar week 35 (24 to 28 August 2020). All remaining parents have already been contacted directly by the ES teacher before the summer holidays.
 ES P1/P2: Wednesday, 1.45 – 3.30pm
 ES P3/P4: Monday, 1.45 – 3.30pm
- Optional Full Day Offers (FDO) for LT/PGI and PGII/KG:** Both full day offers will start from calendar week 33 (Tuesday, 11 August 2020) onwards.
- Language Preparation Course for the Transition from Primary to Secondary School for P5 and P6** will start from calendar week 33 (Friday, 14 August 2020) onwards.
- Extra-Curricular Activities (ECA):** Thank you for sending the applications for ECA program. We strive to start school this school year with minimum interruption to the daily life of the student and do see that ECA program is an important part of it. That's why we have redesigned our offer and tried our very best to meet the current COVID-19 restrictions. Unfortunately, we are still unable to start ECA program on the planned date of 24 August 2020. We will resume the ECA once the authorities allow schools to run ECA again. We will keep your applications as of now and inform you with the new starting date as soon as we have more information. The providers are informed and the fees will be pro-rated with the new starting date. We seek your kind understanding in this matter.
- EC and Primary Timetables:** The [EC](#) and [Primary](#) timetables for school year 2020/21 are available online.
- Mittagstisch (lunch service):** SSiS offers lunch service for all children who attend classes at our school in the afternoon (regular lessons, DAF, ES, FDO PG2/KG). **Registration is open [now](#) and ends on Thursday, 6 August 2020.**
- Timeline**

Wed, 5 August 2020	Start of registration for Mittagstisch
Thu, 6 August 2020	End of registration for Mittagstisch
Tue, 11 August 2020	First Day of School
Wed, 12 August 2020	Start DAF & ES
Fri, 14 August 2020	Start language preparation Course P5/6

- **Covid-19 Safe Management measures**

Our objective is to run the school as normal as possible, however unavoidably there will be some inconveniences. We seek your understanding and co-operation.

- The school is divided into different areas for the students during their break-time. Students have to stay within their designated break time area.
- No parents are allowed on the school premises.
- It's mandatory to wear a mask or face shield in school at all times.
- If you bring your child to school yourself, we ask you to do so **not earlier than 8am** and not later than 8.30am, and to drop them off at our main entrance. All side entrances will be closed.
- Lunch areas will be marked with safe distancing seats.
- Parents/helpers who bring lunch for the students are only allowed to have lunch with them in front of the office (not entering the school premises).
- Students are not allowed to buy lunch from Swiss Club.

Primary: School Material First School Day

In order to be prepared and perfectly equipped for the first day of school after the summer break on 11 August 2020, please refer to the [school material list](#) for all Primary classes.

School Counselling

Samantha Thassim Roesch, our school counsellor, provides a professional counselling service that supports and enhances the personal growth, resilience and well-being of our students and school community. Access to the advisory services should be simple and uncomplicated: School social work is directly present in the school building and does not provide any preconditions for contacting the school. The counselling is based on the principle of promoting and developing the existing strengths and abilities of the students. Pupils decide on their own whether or not to contact the counsellor. School counselling is subject to confidentiality, i. e. everything discussed is treated confidentially. If third parties are involved in solving the problem, this is only done with the agreement of the pupils. The duty of confidentiality does not apply in acute danger situations.

However, if you have any questions regarding this offer for our students, or do not want your child to be allowed to contact the school counsellor, please contact [Samantha Thassim Roesch](#) directly.

SSiS Parentsforum

Jenny Neuse is the Representative of the Parentsforum Board.

- **Welcome Coffee:** unfortunately the traditional "Welcome Coffee" organised by the SSiS Parentsforum at the beginning of the new school year cannot take place for the time being, due to the current restrictions on social gatherings. We very much hope to be able to hold this informal event a bit later into the school year as it is a great opportunity for new and existing parents to meet, make new contacts, ask questions and exchange experiences.
- **Used School Uniforms:** the Parentsforum is collecting your children's used uniforms again. Kindly drop them off at the school office. If you are interested in purchasing second hand uniforms, please contact [Jenny Neuse](#). Proceeds from the sale will go to the charity committee's fund. Thank you very much!
- **Board members wanted:** the Parentsforum Board is looking for new motivated members to join us for this school year! If you are interested in getting involved or to find out more please contact [Jenny Neuse](#).

- **Class Representatives** facilitate, encourage and support the cooperation between parents and teachers, and between the parents themselves. They are a member of the SSiS Parentsforum. We are looking forward to new and existing Class Representatives for every class. They will be elected at the first parents evening of the school year.

You can contact the Parentsforum by sending an email to parentsforum@swiss-school.edu.sg.

School Bus

D'Best Bus services is our school bus provider. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the school bus, please contact [Samantha Teo](#) directly.

Library

The Library will be open from the first school week onwards. Camilla Businger and Regula Schlegel are looking forward seeing all the interested readers from 8.00 am to 1.45 pm (Tuesday till 3.30pm).

ACSIS

Being the smallest member of the Athletic Conference of Singapore International Schools (ACSIS), we are proud to offer our students and families regular sports activities free of charge. The mission of the Athletic Conference of Singapore International Schools ACSIS is to provide student-athletes with an opportunity to compete in a broad and balanced inter-school athletic program that is an optional but integral part of their educational experience. Win or lose, the ACSIS schools will encourage student-athletes to provide a winning effort, exhibit sportsmanship, and demonstrate respect for all.

Due to the COVID-19 measures, the first season (26/08 – 09/11) is not yet confirmed.

Upcoming events (see also: [Semester Overview](#))

10 August 2020	PH in lieu of National Day
11 August 2020	Start of new school year, 8.30am
25 August 2020	Parents Evening P5/6, virtual online meeting
26 August 2020	Parents Evening Early Childhood, virtual online meeting
27 August 2020	Parents Evening French Stream (KG, P1/2, P3/4) virtual online meeting
28 August 2020	Casual Friday
1 September 2020	Parents Evening P1/2 German Stream, virtual online meeting
2 September 2020	Parents Evening P3/4 German Stream, virtual online meeting
3 September 2020	Parents Evening KG German Stream, virtual online meeting

Upcoming publication

4 September 2020	Parents Information #2 2020/21
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I wish everyone all the best, a beautiful start and many happy moments in the year ahead.
Have a great last week of holidays.

Yours Sincerely,

Marc Schumacher
Principal