

Singapore, 23 July 2021

## PARENTS INFORMATION SSiS #1

Dear Parents,

It has been a very challenging period for all of us living in Singapore. Despite this, the whole school team is in high spirits, and is looking forward to starting the new school year. We are sure that you and your children are also already in great anticipation of coming back to our Swiss School in Singapore after this summer break.

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 238 students have registered for the first semester. On Tuesday, 10 August 2021, 235 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 43%; 22% are from Germany, 11% from France, and the remaining 28% are citizens of 27 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 40 of our students, 10 August 2021 will be a very special day: It will be their first day at school as first graders.

Word from our Vice Principal:

*Dear parents,*

*What a pleasure to write to you from my office at SSiS! I am very happy to be back and looking forward to the new school year. We are fortunate to have a wonderful environment for your children - our students, which I am sure will make for an excellent school year. I send you my best regards and look forward to seeing you again or getting to know you.*

*Murielle Quenzer*

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

- Suzan DONUK, German FDO Teacher
- Clothilde HENRY, Assistant Teacher French Stream
- Shu Hui KHOO, Assistant Teacher Arts & Craft
- Noemi MORENO, Assistant Teacher German Stream
- Rachel MUSSELECK, French FDO Teacher
- Thaïs RODUIT, French Support Teacher
- Franziska SCHARDT, German Subject Teacher
- Eva SCHLOESSER, German Support Teacher

Overall, there are now 61 people 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.

### Launch of new Parents App “SchoolsBuddy”



We have worked with SchoolsBuddy to create a new school app for parents. Kindly download the app on your phone or you may also access the portal from your computers via this [link](#). **You can create an account on your app or the portal starting 1 August 2021.**

In order to explain and assist parents further, we will be having a **Schools Buddy Parents Evening on Thursday, 5 August 2021, from 7.00pm to 8.00pm, held virtually via Zoom**. We highly recommend that you have created an account prior to joining in this session. During this hour, we will be explaining the benefits of the system, and also run through some Click [here](#) for the meeting invite, and the meeting details are as follows:

Meeting ID: 859 5330 1785

Passcode: 723690

### Start of the new school year

- **German as a Foreign Language Support (DAF):** DAF-support for students will start from 10 August 2021 onwards, new students will start in the week of 23 August 2021. All parents of the existing students have already been contacted directly by the Head of Support Team.  
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
- **French as a Foreign Language Support (FLE):** FLE-support for students will start from 10 August 2021 onwards. Parents have already been contacted directly by the Head of Support Team. The FLE-support for Kindergarten 1&2 (1H-2H) will be integrated in the regular lessons.  
FLE Kindergarten 1&2 (1H-2H): integrated during regular lessons  
FLE P1-P2: Thursday, 1.45 – 3.30pm  
FLE P3-P4: Wednesday, 1.45 – 3.30pm
- **English Support (ES):** ES for remaining students will start from 10 August 2021 onwards, new students will start in the week of 23 August 2021. All parents of the existing students have already been contacted directly by the ES teacher.  
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 Tuesday, 10 August 2021, onwards.
- **Language Preparation Course for the Transition from Primary to Secondary School for P5 and P6 (German Stream)** will start from Friday, 13 August 2021 onwards.

- **Extra-Curricular Activities (ECA):** As mentioned, the school is launching a new SchoolsBuddy app for parents. Starting this year, ECA bookings will be done via SchoolsBuddy. The registration will be open from Tuesday, 10 August 2021, at 9am and closes on Friday, 13 August 2021, at 12pm. More details about the registration process will be shared during the SchoolsBuddy Parents Evening.
- **EC and Primary Timetables:** The [EC](#), [Primary \(German Stream\)](#) and [Primary \(French Stream\)](#) timetables for school year 2021/22 are available online.
- **Lunch Service:** SSiS offers lunch service for all children who attend classes at our school in the afternoon (regular lessons, DAF, FLE, ES, FDO PGII/KG). **Registration for lunch service on 10 Aug until 20 Aug 2021 is open now and ends on Thursday, 5 August 2021.** Thereafter, once ECA placements are confirmed, lunch service registration for the rest of the semester will be done via SchoolsBuddy.
- **Timeline**

Fri, 23 July 2021	<a href="#">Start of registration for Lunch Service</a>
Thu, 5 August 2021	End of registration for Lunch Service
Tue, 10 August 2021	First Day of School
Tue, 10 August 2021	Start DAF & ES
Tue, 10 August 2021	Registration of ECAs
Fri, 13 August 2021	Start language preparation Course P5/6
Fri, 13 August 2021	End of registration of ECAs

### 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 is mandatory to wear a mask in school at all times.
- For children aged 7 and above, it is mandatory for your child to bring their TraceTogether token to school every day to facilitate check in.
- If you bring your child to school yourself, we ask you to do so **only between the time of 8.00 to 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 the Swiss Club.
- Please keep your child at home if they are not feeling well.

### 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 10 August 2021, please refer to the [school material list](#) for all Primary classes.

### Absent students in the beginning of the school year

Some students will not be able to come back in time for the beginning of the school year. This is due to the fact that some parents did not yet receive a return travel permit or an initial entry permit. We hope that as many students as possible will be at least already in hotel quarantine so that their re-entry will then be possible more quickly.

The school is aware of the difficult situation for those affected parents and we want to do the best in order to support the learning process of our students.

The school defined therefore the following principles. We like to summarize those for you in the bullet points below:

- Please report your absent children to the class teacher and in "cc" to Principal latest by Friday, 6.8.
- Please define together with the teacher your communication channel(s).
- The Class Teachers will hold virtual meetings with absent students - the frequency and duration depends on the timely resources of the teacher.
- Exercise books and school supplies can be sent to quarantine.
- Please be aware that our teachers are happy to support your children by beginning of the school year – on 10.08.
- Each teacher decides independently about any support that the teachers offer, based on the educational added value of the measures, his professional resources and the teachers themselves decide within the scope of their educational freedom.
- The teachers enjoy full trust of the school management when making these decisions.
- Regulations for tests and exams are defined by the Class Teacher.
- The School unfortunately cannot provide individual HBL or recordings of lessons due to the limited resources of the school and/or legal issues.

Thank you all for your cooperation in order to support the learning process of our students.

### **Holiday Plan School Year 2021/22**

In anticipation of future lifts of travel bans and travel restrictions after the vaccination goal will be attained by Singapore, we like to announce that we decided to extend Christmas break by one week. Christmas Break will start

**as scheduled on 17.12.21 BUT will be extended until 14.01.22.**

In order to keep the correct number of school days we cancel the planned break in May from 17.05.22 to 20.05.22. Those days are going to be normal school days. We also like to inform that we are not going to re-consider this decision in order to guarantee your planning security.

### **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

Victoria Costilles 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 [Victoria Costilles](#). 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 [Victoria Costilles](#).
- **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](mailto: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 Carolin Henke are looking forward to 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 (August to November 2021) is not yet confirmed.

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

9 August 2021	PH National Day
10 August 2021	Start of new school year, 8.30am
24 August 2021	Parents Evening P5/6 German Stream, virtual online meeting
25 August 2021	Parents Evening Early Childhood, virtual online meeting
26 August 2021	Parents Evening French Stream (KG, P1/2, P3/4/5) virtual online meeting
27 August 2021	Casual Friday
1 September 2021	Parents Evening P1/2 German Stream, virtual online meeting
2 September 2021	Parents Evening P3/4 German Stream, virtual online meeting
3 September 2021	Parents Evening KG German Stream, virtual online meeting

**Upcoming publication**

10 September 2021	Parents Information #2 2021/22
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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