



August Newsletter



Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish a warm welcome to all our students as we begin the school year 2017 – 2018. We are so happy to have our classrooms filled with smiling faces, eager to embrace all the opportunities ahead. A very warm welcome also, to all parents and guardians. Without your continued support of your children and of our school, none of this would be possible.

These first few weeks of term has flown by and it's great to see that our students are settling into school and preparing for the busy year ahead.

After School activities will begin week of Tuesday September 5th following the public holiday on Monday 4th. We have an exciting variety of activities to choose from. There is I hope something for everyone!

We will hold a parents information evening on Thursday September 14th. More info to follow but please keep this date free.

September 4th (Mon)
Vietnamese National Holiday
School Closed

September 14th (Thur)
Back to School Night



Grade 4 busy at work

Class News

Grade 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Grade 1, I look forward to the next year, working with you all and your kids. I am thrilled to be teaching Grade 1 this year. Last year

I taught Lion Class, which is wonderful luck, as I'll have some of my children from last year coming into Grade 1 – welcome back Chi Thanh and An Nhi! As for the rest of Grade 1 this year, we have Irvin, Dai Thanh and Tuan Anh from Van Phuc and we also have Amira, Haruka, Sam and Hyeon who are joining us for the first time. I hope we can all maintain a good friendship across the class, helping each other and respecting each other.

My plan for this year is to have a healthy balance of Maths, English, and Social Studies for the kids, whilst also focusing on their communication skills and ability to share, be kind and make friends. The social side of school is so important and learning should *always* be fun. I will be sending the kids home with a book each night and a reading log so you can read with your child and make comments, this comes back to school every day so I can check the reading level of each child and ensure it is improving.



Haruka & Amira

We have started with our textbooks, which you will all get to see at Back to School Night soon. They have been looking at addition, shapes and time in Mathematics, and in English they are reading together and alone, learning grammar for the first time and practicing their handwriting. In science, we are learning about renewable and non-renewable energy, which Grade 1 students are very excited and intrigued about!



Reading Area

Please also note that schoolwork starts at **8.50AM** everyday and is crucial for all students to be here on time, around **8.30AM** so they can socialise and relax before work starts. We are now using **Class Dojo** for Grade 1, so you can follow your child's progress daily, with photos and updates. I have sent each of you an email with a link to download the app. If you have not received, please email me with your correct information.

Email: Catherine.msisth@gmail.com

Thank you,
Miss Catherine

Grade 2

Dear Parents

I would like to give you a warm welcome to Grade 2. It is time for a new year, a new phase and new memories to be made and stories to be told.

My name is Melissa Human, I am 27years old and I come from South-Africa. This will be my second year teaching at Morningstar. I am very pleased to be part of Morningstar School and working with an extraordinary group of students and colleagues.

Educating and guiding young minds has been my greatest challenge and it has also given me the most reward.



We have been very busy getting to know each other. Each one of them have different characters and personalities, which I adore. I can see that this is going to be a wonderful journey travelling through Grade 2.



Grade 2 Working Together

I have been testing their levels and doing a lot of revision from Grade 1 and introducing the new work for Grade 2. The students are eager to learn and take on new challenges. This coming school year is going to be challenging and hard work lies ahead, but as a team, we shall accomplish great things.

My goal for this year is to give my utmost best for MSIS students and to make learning fun. I want my students to enjoy school and to be happy. I intend to motivate my students while teaching them to be motivated through challenging yet supportive lessons and assignments.

It is important to me that my students, as well as their parents, other teachers, administrators, and people in the community, see me as someone they can approach, who will be fair and honest.

Thank you for the support at home towards each student.

Welcome aboard and enjoy the ride. This is where we explore the world and dreams come true.

Kind regards
Ms. Melissa

Grade 3

Dear Grade Three Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the third grade class at Morning Star International School. The beginning of the new school year holds such excitement and joy, as the students recall previous knowledge and prepare to take on new challenges. This is my second year teaching third grade at our school, and it has been great getting to know your student in the first few weeks of the year.



Our Grade Threes: Gabriel, Duc Giang, Ha Phuong, Canh Minh, Nhat Minh.

Thus far in our class, we have started our new curriculum and delved into our textbooks. We are building upon the foundation of the early elementary years and taking our knowledge further. This year, we will work from our literature anthologies to study different kinds of writing, and work on writing of our own!

This week in mathematics, we have been working on place value and number sense. The class is quick to recall what they know, and they are eager to learn more. We have some interesting math and science projects planned for the year, culminating in the science fair in the spring time.

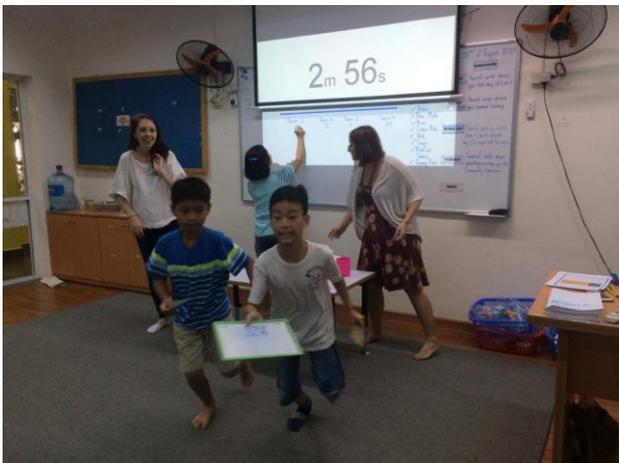


Gabriel and Duc Giang, working on math together

Grade 4

Dear Parents,

August has been a great start to a new year with the Morning Star Grade 4s! It has been such a pleasure getting to know all the Grade 4s and I am looking forward to the year ahead.



We started the year off by getting to know each other through a range of fun and thought-provoking activities. We have been building a supportive class community and everyone worked together to choose our class values. Our values this year are honesty, helpfulness, co-operation, responsibility, kindness and sense of humour. These values were chosen by the Grade

In addition to the science fair, there are a number of other events throughout the year that I am looking forward to working on with our class. From the arts and literature exhibition to the class excursions, I am excited to help the students curate meaningful expressions of what they learn in the classroom.

I am looking forward to a successful school year!
Best regards,

Ms. Emily
Grade Three Teacher

4 learners themselves, as they believe that these values are most important both inside the classroom and throughout our daily lives.

This year will be both exciting and challenging. Grade 4 will come with its challenges as the students encounter new academic work, and also as they are required to become increasingly responsible and independent. I look forward to guiding and supporting them throughout this journey. The time we have spent building a classroom community has been valuable as it has created a safe, supportive and exciting space where everyone feels motivated to learn and challenge themselves.



We have already begun learning in all of our school subjects. Our curriculum is well-rounded and will push our learners to give their best throughout the year. We will have the opportunity to discuss the curriculum and its learning outcomes in greater detail at Back to School Night. In order for all learners to be able to

make the most of all the learning opportunities this year I'd like to emphasise the importance of getting an early night, keeping screen time minimal (watching TV, playing video games etc) and eating healthily. I am looking forward to seeing the great things everyone will achieve this year – particularly after seeing how much these Grade 4s love to learn!

If you have any questions or comments about our Grade 4 class throughout the year, please feel free to contact me via my email (nathaliavonwitt.msis@gmail.com) or ClassDojo.

Kind regards,
Ms Nathalia

Grade 5

Welcome back to school. I hope everyone has had an amazing summer and is prepared for the fun and challenging year ahead. Our first week of school got off to a great start. We did plenty of getting to know you activities and completed some team challenges to foster a sense of community and compassion in the classroom. The fifth graders also helped create the "Three R's" for the classroom. To guide us throughout the year we always try to be, "Respectful, Responsible, and Ready!"

After a week transitioning into the new year the fifth graders were ready to dive into learning! In English Language Arts we began reading, writing, and talking about challenges. Our two main reading selections for the month were "Red Kayak," a story of a teenager who braves treacherous weather to rescue a child, and "Thunder Rose," a tall-tale about a girl who could calm tornadoes with her voice. In math we started learning about place value and how to convert fractions to decimals. Then in social studies we began our year by learning about Native American Migration and reviewing map skills. Finally, in science class we were introduced to the different types of matter and their properties. We also carried out a fantastic experiment in which the students had to devise a trap for carbon dioxide.

I am so excited for the year ahead, and I hope you are too. I know that we will all work hard, learn from each other and our mistakes, have fun, and grow everyday as we strive for excellence.
Kind regards, Ms Ashley



STEM Challenge:
Creating the tallest cup tower

Morningstar Staff 2017-2018

Elementary School (MSIS)

Grade 5 & Dir.Of Studies:	Ms Ashley Heil
Vietnamese teacher:	Ms Trang
Grade 4 & Lead Teacher:	Ms Nathalia von Witt
Vietnamese teacher:	Ms. Hang
Grade 3:	Ms. Emily Medcalf
Vietnamese teacher:	Ms. Thao
Grade 2	Ms. Melissa Human
Vietnamese teacher:	Ms. Liên
Grade 1	Ms. Catherine
Vietnamese teacher:	Ms. Mai
Assistants:	Ms. Cuc, Ms Ha, Ms Thuong

Kindergarten (MSIK)

Lion (Age 5-6)	Ms. Sarah
Assistant:	Ms Van
Hippo (Age 3-4)	Ms. Keyleigh
Assistant:	Ms Hang & Ms My
Giraffe (Age 2-3)	Ms Emily Green
Assistant:	Ms Giang & Ms Van Anh
Tiger (Age 1.5-2.5)	Ms Nicky
Assistant:	Ms. Mai

Office

Operations Manager:	Ms. Helen Ryan
Secretary:	Ms. Nhi
Officer	Ms. Anh
Accountant	Ms. Vân
IT Expert:	Mr. Truong

**For lots more photos check out our
Facebook page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/msis.hanoi>
