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## HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE: FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

(Scroll down for Chinese translation) (请翻阅后面的中文翻译)

Welcome to March and our fifth week of online learning. I would like to begin by thanking everyone for participating in our online learning feedback survey. We received many positive and affirming responses to the meaningful learning experiences that many students are having.

More importantly, we also received many helpful constructive suggestions on how we can enhance and improve our strong online learning program. Our Learning Leadership team has already reviewed all of your comments and we are in the process of implementing additional strategies to make the online learning even better! Look for more specific communication from each division later in this week about what new enhancements are coming!

Another enhancement we are going to add to our communications strategy during this prolonged COVID-19 period is the addition of more video messages and the launch of virtual online parent coffee meetings to further support you and your students during this time. Stay tuned for more details to come!

Furthermore, we continue to be in close contact with our other premier international schools in China so together we can share best practices in online learning and serving our parent communities throughout China. The schools in China, and especially AISG, has the opportunity to be a leader for other schools around the world in how to positively lead a school and support the continuation of student learning through this COVID crisis.

Finally, I would like to share a quote that encourages me during challenging times. Napoleon Hill shared that "Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle." I know you are putting forth tremendous efforts during this crisis and I know that it is a struggle for all of us. However, the good news is that when we victoriously emerge from this crisis, we will all be stronger and better than before because of the growth that has occurred as part of our journey together!

## What We Currently Know

- The tentative resumption date of March 16 for in-person instruction is no longer a viable return date. AISG will continue to provide online learning to its student body until further notice.
- The original calendar amendments proposed in the February 25th schoolwide communication are no longer applicable due to the indefinite closure of the campus
- The original recommendation of allocating March 9th – 13th as a **travel week** is now no longer applicable. This calendar change was based on the assumption of a March 16th resumption. Therefore, the travel week will **not occur on March 9th** due to the continued closure of on-campus instruction
- As soon as the school receives notice to open, the school will enact its three-week notification strategy whereby Week 1: Travel Week / Return to Guangzhou. No online learning offered during this week; Week 2: Quarantine Week. Online Learning to resume. Week 3: Quarantine Week. Online Learning to continue
- Due to the latest developments in Covid-19 spreading across the world, prolonged closure of schools in PRC China, Vietnam, South Korea, and Japan, traveling restrictions and World Health Organization and governmental guidance on health and safety regulations, APAC 3 season has been canceled

## What We Have Done

- Reviewed the parent responses to the Online Feedback Survey
- Our Directors of Curriculum and Learning have shared guidelines for video calls related to child protection with all teachers to support safe virtual conversations during the period of online learning
- Shared Online Learning Parameters with all teachers to ensure consistent and sustainable implementation of the online learning experience
- Successfully recruited for all teaching positions for the 2020-2021 school year
- Established a more robust communication schedule to support the consistency of communication across all divisions
- Our college counselor and IBDP Coordinator have been in constant contact with students, teachers and their families regarding the impact of Covid-19 on our IB students. We have been in contact with IBO since the start of our school closure. They are aware of the platforms we are using for our online classes and the structures we are using to complete our IB2 classes and revise for exams
- Daily Read-Alouds have been implemented for elementary students. Students are able to join live and the recordings of the Read-Alouds will be made available to parents
- A small team from Long Yuan has re-started on-site works at the Science Park construction site
- Both Er Sha and Science Park campuses are progressing with the implementation of the GEB directives to prepare for the eventual re-opening of the school. This includes establishing

rigorous health check routines, incident reporting systems, set up of onsite quarantine rooms and ordering supplies

- Maintained regular communication between the PTA and the School to promote effective sharing of information between the school and parent body and a proactive response to community concerns
- Created a Covid-19 website (<https://www.aisgz.org/covid-19>) as a repository for all AISG communications and resources. If you have any suggestions for this page, kindly send them to [prepare@aisgz.org](mailto:prepare@aisgz.org)

### **What We Are Currently Preparing For**

- Following a review of the parent responses to the Online Feedback Survey, our Leadership Team are identifying the best way to share out the learnings and actions we'll be taking as a result of the feedback we've received
- Our Innovation and Technology Coaches are currently arranging Teachers Teaching Teachers (TTT) sessions to further support the sharing of best practices during online learning
- While AISG has IB exams tentatively scheduled in May for IB students, the school is exploring alternative exam sites for students in the event that school is not reopened or IB is unable to ship exam papers to the school
- Our Admissions team has been navigating queries from prospective parents and will be starting the re-enrollment process for SY20-21 soon

### **What We Need You To Be Thinking About**

- Ways to encourage your children to remain engaged, motivated and active as their online learning is prolonged. Administration, faculty, and staff are also exploring various creative and innovative ideas to keep learning interesting and exciting. One concept we are developing is the idea of a "Screen-Free Learning Day" where students will do alternative learning activities with the suggestions and directions from their teachers so as to rest their eyes and have a new and unique learning experience without technology

Finally, I want to thank you all for the support, feedback and constructive conversations we're having as we strive to continue offering the best possible online learning environment for our students during this challenging time. This is an unprecedented time in our history, and I know we are all feeling incredibly challenged by this current situation.

I want to remind our community that we are all in this together. It is completely normal to be experiencing a lot of emotion during this time as we look to one another for certainty and strength in this highly-fluid situation that is Covid-19. The concept of a connected community is one that we hold dear and it is times like this that I want to encourage you all to support one another the best way you can. Communities need connection and never has this been more important than right now.

In closing, please continue to reach out to the school to let us know how we can support you during this challenging time. Likewise, please continue to let us know what we're doing well and what is working for you and your family. You can share your positive online learning experiences via our designated email address ([prepare@aisgz.org](mailto:prepare@aisgz.org)), through your child's teacher or divisional principal or simply by contacting me directly.

Stay safe, be well and keep positive.

Kevin Baker  
Director  
American International School of Guangzhou

尊敬的家长和监护人，

欢迎来到三月，我们开展在线学习的第五周。首先，感谢大家参加我们的在线学习反馈调查。我们收到了许多关于学生正在体验的在线学习的积极和肯定的反馈。

更重要的是，我们也收到了许多关于如何加强和改进我们在线学课程的积极建设性建议。我们的管理层团队已经审阅了您的所有意见，我们正在实施更多的策略，使在线学习更有效果！在本周末，你将收到从各个分部发出的关于在线学习的一些新的具体改进信息。

在这漫长的COVID-19新型冠状病毒肺炎期间，我们将改进的另一个沟通策略是增加更多的视频信息，并推出网络在线家长咖啡会，以进一步支持您和您的学生。请继续关注更多细节。

此外，我们继续与中国其他一流的国际学校保持密切联系，共同分享在线学习的最佳方法，为中国各地的家长社区服务。中国的学校，特别是AISG，有机会在如何积极地引领一所学校并支持学生在这场COVID新型冠状病毒肺炎危机中持续学习方面，为世界各地的其他学校树立榜样。

最后，我想分享一句名言，在我面临挑战的时候，它能激励我。Napoleon Hill说：“力量和成长源于不断的努力和奋斗”。我知道你们在这场危机中付出了巨大的努力，我知道这对我们所有人来说都是一场战争。然而，好消息是，当我们胜利地从这场危机中走出来的时候，我们都会比以前更强、更好，因为这是我们共同成长的一部分！

### 我们目前所知情况

- 回顾家长对在线学习反馈调查的回复。
- 我们的课程和学习主任与所有老师共享了有关儿童保护的视频电话指引，以支持在线学习期间的进行安全的网络虚拟对话。
- 与所有老师共享在线学习规范，以确保在线学习体验的一致性和可持续实施性。
- 已成功招聘20-21学年度所有教师职位

- 每周制作一段来自校长的视频信息，以回应家长的反馈，分享在线学习期间的信息和学生体验。
- 建立一个更健全的沟通计划，以支持各分部的沟通一致性。
- 我们的大学升学老师和IBDP老师一直与学生、老师和他们的家长保持联系，了解Covid-19新型冠状病毒对IB学生的影响。自学校停课以来，我们一直与IBO保持联系。他们了解我们在线课程使用的平台，以及我们完成IB2课程和复习考试的课程结构。
- 已经为小学生实施了每日阅读提醒。学生可以现场参与，家长也可以听朗读的录音。
- 工程建设龙源公司的一个小团队已经在科学城的建筑工地重新动工。
- 二沙和科学城校区都在根据GEB广州市教育局的指引，为学校最终的重新开学做好准备。这包括建立严格的健康检查程序、报告系统、建立现场隔离室和订购物资。
- 在PTA与学校之间保持定期沟通，以促进学校与家长群体之间的有效信息共享，并积极回应社区关注的问题。
- 创建了一个Covid-19新型冠状病毒网页(<https://www.aisgz.org/covid-19>)，作为所有AISG通信沟通和资源的存储库。如果您对本页面有任何建议，[请发送邮件到prepare@aisgz.org](mailto:prepare@aisgz.org)。
- 暂定的复课日期3月16日不再是一个可行的恢复线下学习的返校日期。AISG将继续为学生提供在线学习，直至另行通知。
- 2月25日全校范围通讯交流邮件中提出的原定校历修订由于学校关闭期的不确定性而不再适用。
- 原定的3月9日- 13日为**旅行周**的建议现在不再适用。这个日历的修订是基于假设3月16日恢复的线下教育。因此，由于学校继续停课，**旅行周不再是3月9日那一周**。
- 一旦学校收到开学通知，学校将实施为期三周的通知策略，即第一周:旅行周/返回广州。此旅行周不提供在线学习;第二周: 隔离周。恢复在线学习。第三周: 隔离周。继续在线学习。
- 由于covid-19新型冠状病毒肺炎在全球蔓延的最新发展，中国、越南、韩国和日本的学校被长期关闭，旅行限制和世界卫生组织(World Health Organization)以及当地政府对健康和法规指引，APAC第三季活动已经被取消。

### 我们正在积极准备的事项

- 在回顾了家长对在线学习反馈调查的意见后，我们的领导层团队正在考虑如何用最好的方式来分享我们收到的反馈后将采取的学习和行动。
- 我们的创新IT老师们目前正在安排老师培训老师(TTT)会议，以进一步支持和分享在线学习期间的最佳实践方法。
- 虽然AISG暂时为IB学生安排了5月份的IB考试，但如果学校届时无法重新开学或IB无法向学校寄送考试卷，学校将为学生考虑其他考试地点。
- 我们的招生团队一直在处理申请入读家长的咨询，并将很快开始下一年度SY20-21招生流程。

### 我们需要家长们考虑以下几个方面

- 因学生们的在线学习时间延长，鼓励他们保持积极，主动参与。管理层、教职员工也在探索各种创造性和创新的方法，使学习更加有趣和使学生感到兴奋。我们正在开发的一个概念是“无屏幕学习日”的概念，学生将在老师的建议和指导下进行其他学习活动，让他们的眼睛得到休息，在不使用电子科技的情况下获得一种新的、独特的学习体验。

最后，衷心感谢你们的支持、反馈和积极建设性的沟通，我们正在努力在这个充满挑战的特殊时期继续为学生提供最好的在线学习环境。这是我们历史上前所未有的时刻，我也明白，对于目前的形势我们感到巨大的挑战。

我想提醒我们的社区成员，我们一起共同面对。在Covid-19新型冠状病毒肺炎这种高度不稳定的情况下，我们彼此寻求确定性和力量的时候，经历情绪的起伏是完全正常的。紧密联系的社区精神是我们所珍视的，在这样的时刻，我想鼓励大家尽最大努力互相支持。此时此刻，社区的团结一致比任何时候都重要。

最后，请继续与学校保持联系，让我们知道在这充满挑战的时刻，我们能够如何支持你们。同样，请继续让我们知道我们在哪些方面做得很好，哪些方式适合您和您的家人。您可以通过发送电子邮件到我们指定的邮箱[prepare@aisgz.org](mailto:prepare@aisgz.org)，或者邮件联系您孩子的老师，分部的校长或直接与我联系，分享您积极的在线学习经验。

祝你平安，保持健康，积极面对！

Kevin Baker

校长

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