



OCTOBER 2021

Dates to Remember

- 10/11 Double Tenth
National Holiday
(No School)
雙十節假期**
- 10/14 Fire Drill
火災演習**
- 10/29 Halloween Party
(Kids only)
萬聖節派對
(僅限小朋友參加)**

What a fantastic Start!

What a fantastic start to our 2021-2022 school year! We are happy to see how quickly our students are settling into their new classrooms and daily routines. Thank you to all parents who took time out of your busy schedules to attend the parent-teacher orientation last month. It was so wonderful to meet new and returning parents online (feedbacks are included in the end of this newsletter!). We are excited for many upcoming events on campus for our students this October!

很快的學期已經過了一個月！看到孩子們的漸漸地適應，我們非常的感動！感謝家長熱心參與我們線上的家長會，並提供了寶貴的建議與回饋！

Halloween Party 10.29

Our returning parents know that Halloween is one of the biggest event that happens in Smart Start. With current on-going pandemic, it saddens us to officially announce that this year's Halloween event will be **kids ONLY** on campus. We have planned out lots of game stops, singing performances, and trick-or-treating. But don't worry parents, **we will broadcasting the event LIVE on our Instagram page. Make sure to hop on our IG on the day of the big event!**

★ **Parents, please prepare for trick-or-treating by sending in 6 little individually wrapped treats for your child to school before Oct. 22nd!**

Date: Friday, October 29th **Who:** Kids & Teachers ONLY
Time: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Where:** Instagram LIVE @SmartStartSchool

萬聖節活動即將於10/29到來！因應防疫安全，本年度的萬聖節活動將無法開放給家長參加。但我們將由Instagram上Live直播孩子們的活動實況。家長們別忘了在活動開始之前追蹤我們唷！

*校內的「不給糖就搗蛋」活動，請家長於10/22前為您的孩子準備6包個別包裝好的糖果或餅乾，送至學校。



SCAN ME

"Western Wednesday"

"Meatless Monday" on our lunch menu has been very well-received. It is a simple step we can partake in for the health of our planet. We've now added **"Western Wednesday"** (courtesy of our parents!) We thought this may be a great way to spice up our menu, and provide more fun in dining for our children! What do you think?!



For those who are new to our school, our 'Smart Kitchen' serves **organic vegetables, non-GMO Soy products and all ingredients are locally sourced**, including our meat and poultry! We further look forward to our gardening program this coming Spring, when kids have the opportunity to harvest their own veggies and fruits!

P.E. instead of Water Fun



“We had a blast during Water Fun!”

As we enter the Fall season, the weather is getting a little chilly. We will be pausing our water funs and switching to P.E. class. On the days your child has P.E., please have him / her **dress appropriately for outdoor activities (sneakers, running shorts and comfortable t-shirt).**

天氣已漸轉涼，玩水的課程即日起將由體能課取代。請各位家長於體能課當日為您的孩子穿上適合活動的服裝及運動鞋到學校！

COVID-19 Update

A huge thank you to all the parents and Smart Start staff for working so diligently during this pandemic! Taiwan is doing an excellent job in keeping us safe, and we ought to continue the hand-washing, mask-wearing and disinfections! Do stay active, get tons of vitamin D in your body by exposing to the sun (as it's been shown to boost your immunity), sleep well, and eat nutrient-dense foods!

疫情雖已趨緩但我們必需為維護校園安全及孩子們的健康繼續共同努力，感謝所有家長的配合！



Little Artists



Anna Schreel & Antonio Martinez



Joshua Chou & Sean Chen



Baron Lin,
Jill Liu &
Mia Chen



Haruna Kiten & Hannah Cahill



April Chiu, Kyosuke Kawamoto & Sem Yim

ORIENTATION RECAP!

★ HIGHLIGHTS ★

- *"It was personal...could see how the children were working in the class via video. Great job of the school!! Congratulations "*
- *"The pictures and video to support your talking points. I am impressed with your COVID management."*
- *"You provided a very complete guide on what our children experience on their day to day in school. Thanks for the time and preparing this for us.."*
- *"We are very happy to be a part [of] Smart Start! We like all Smart Start teachers and staff!"*
- *"The orientation was perfect."*
- *"To record the kid's school life was very impressive :)"*
- *Everything is great except we cannot meet each other face to face."*

★ NOTABLE FEEDBACKS + Q&A ★

"It would be great to know the names of the teachers who are at the gate for drop off/collection, maybe they could wear a name badge just for the time they are doing that."

► Thank you for letting us know, this is a great advice! Teachers at the front gate & school bus all wear their name tags now!

"Send us as much videos as you can 😊" / "it was all good! Maybe share the recording"

► We will continue with our Google Drive sharing system since it worked really well last school year. Please do give us some time as we compile enough photos :) Starting this October, **every beginning of the month, parents will receive a google drive link.** Within the folder, there will be plenty of photos. (Be sure to download if you wish, as photos will be cleaned out when the next round arrives.)

"Sometimes the teacher's voice wasn't clear." / "host gets disturbed sometimes if participants don't mute themselves"

► We did experience disturbances for our Kindergarten class. We will make sure all teachers learn how to mute everyone. As for the voice, we will definitely enunciate under our masks next time!

"Maybe can share about how school control the COVID during the pandemic situation?"

► Apologies to the very few classes that did not get around to address the COVID-19 situation! Please refer below for the brief summary of our **COVID-19 contingency plan, including staff vaccination statuses.**

► **If COVID-19 'level 3' (Students are NOT allowed on campus) were to happen:**

we will be moving our entire learning to **Zoom**. Our daily schedule will be as usual, except that the span of each session on the daily schedule will be shorter to keep our students focused.*

Our teachers will still arrive on campus in their usual classrooms and will implement fun educational activities to keep everyone engaged. **The aim of our distance learning is to emulate school settings and group learning, with stress-free transition for both parents and students.** In addition, there will be no assignments, as we all learn from experience that assignments always... end up becoming our mom/dad's assignments!

**Younger learners (nursery and pre-k) may be subject to change in daily schedule with much, much shorter classes. May not span throughout the day.*

► **Teachers teaching with Masks:**

One difficulty our teachers encountered earlier the school year was teaching phonetic alphabets with masks on. Since mask-wearing is mandated and it looks like the mandate will not be lifted for a while... we have been incorporating: **lip-sync sound formation cards, facial animation, and real-life lip sync videos** to better your child's learning.

► **Gov. Compliances, Mandates, On-Campus Preventions...etc:**

Smart Start is required to comply with government mandates, these include but are not limited to: disinfections, hand-washing, mask-wearing, dining partitions, school staff vaccination (or testing weekly for those who decide not to be vaccinated).

► **Smart Start's Culture, Disability Accommodations, Employee Rights, Privacy & Disclosures:**

Smart Start accommodates for persons with vaccine disabilities and exemption (ie. Religion, medical conditions, health concerns, allergic reactions..etc.) We respect their rights for privacy & disclosure of their decisions. We further believe that one's personal decision on what they want for their own health should always be respected.

If you need more details on the contingency plan, feel free to contact us!

"Teachers been vaccinated yet?"

► **Every staff in Smart Start is vaccinated,** including our kitchen Auntie and driver Uncle (Yay)!! That being said, our school thrives on a diverse group of employee and student body, and we have always valued our employee's rights, privacy and disclosure with anything they decide for their health, as long as it complies with our gov. Please read up on our 'Privacy & Rights, Accommodations' above to get an understanding of our culture/values.

We try our best to keep this campus as safe and healthy as possible! And we hope y'all do your part by keeping us in the loop whenever someone of your close contact or you traveled overseas, as the last thing we all want is a school lockdown...!

☺ **More Questions? Feel free to email us, we are happy to answer you** ☺