

# NEWSLETTER

Term3

Tuesday, 14th March 2023

Top News

## WHAT IS STUDENT VOICE?

Student voice relates to giving students a say in their own education. Whether that means allowing students to contribute to the classroom layout, or creating structures that allow students to choose their own topics, prioritizing student voice in the classroom means that teachers shift the power dynamic to view students more as partners in their education.



One easy way teachers can self-evaluate their practices is to notice how often students literally use their voice in the classroom.

1. When are students expressing themselves, their thoughts and ideas?
2. Are those moments prompted by the teacher?
3. How do students use their voice in your classroom currently?
4. What topics do they want to study for a research paper?
5. How do they want to discuss their ideas?
6. What classmates do they want to work with on a group project?



If the only times students physically speak in class are to answer questions that the teacher poses, perhaps there are more opportunities to explore to invite more student voice in the classroom. Student voice is often connected to choice, which only seems natural as empowering students to use their voice means giving them the ability to make choices in the classroom. Students can be empowered to both use their voice and make decisions about their educational experience.

## WHAT DOES STUDENT VOICE LOOK LIKE?

Student voice in the classroom is where students are able to make choices as to how they learn to and how they demonstrate their thinking. Teachers can provide a menu of options for students to choose from or allow open-ended decision-making. Students who are empowered to use their voice are supported by teachers who provide options that help them practice exerting autonomy.



## BENEFITS OF STUDENT CHOICE IN THE CLASSROOM

The benefits of student choice in the classroom extend way beyond the school year. Students are better prepared to make responsible decisions, advocate for themselves, and decide their own course of action when they get to practice using their voice in the classroom throughout their education. Within the school year, prioritizing student voice creates a classroom of empowered learners who are actively engaged in learning.







Instead of sitting passively and waiting for the teacher to direct the learning experience, students who are supported to use their voice and choice in the classroom are proactive learners, taking initiative to explore new concepts, are often more resilient through failure, and more collaborative with peers. Any teacher knows that one of the best ways to prevent behavioral issues in the classroom is to deeply engage students in learning. Student choice and voice is an effective way to design classroom environments that deeply engage students in learning.

We at ISSR primary are helping to increase student voice by establishing a student representative council or, SRC. Each class is represented by 2 students who were elected by their fellow students. The council, under the guidance of 2 teachers, meet regularly to discuss matters which come from to their class. Meetings are minuted and the minutes forwarded to the School Leadership Team, who will review and discuss the possibilities of the SRC suggestions.



**A SPECIAL  
REMINDER**

**SWIMMING GALA**



**STAFF IN-SERVICE:** 17th March 2023

## FIELD TRIPS



Reception will be having a class trip to the Angkor Wildlife and Aquarium on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 8:30am from school. And returning by 11:00am to school.

Nursery will be having a class trip to the Butterfly Paradise on Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 8:30 am from school And returning by 11:00 am to school.

Reception 2 will be having a class trip to the the Angkor Wildlife and Aquarium on Thursday 16th March 2023 at 8:30 am from school And returning by 11:00 am to school.

## ISSR

We are One, But We are Many  
Contact Us

Ring Road St, Kor Kranh village, Siem Reap Commune.  
P O Box 93169, Post Code, 171209, Siem Reap Province,  
Kingdom of Cambodia.

Tel: (+855) 012 878 782/081 878 782  
admin@issr.edu.kh

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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<https://www.facebook.com/issrprimary>

2. Website:

[www.issr.edu.kh](http://www.issr.edu.kh)

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust  
my sails to always reach my destination."

– David Key