



## Tran Ngoc Dien Talk



### Transitions

By Jaom Fisher  
Location Manager TND

**Term 3** has been a busy and exciting time at Tran Ngoc Dien as we have explored 'Our changing world' through the exploration of our natural environment, habitats, issues of pollution, and how we can have a positive impact on our environment in the way that we respect nature and one another.

The children's active response in the form of the creation of their art pieces to be sold at our Charity Art Evening, and their donations of shoes, was reflective of this theme. SmartKids staff were also involved in donating their time and creativity at the Easter Egg Charity Bash aimed at financially supporting 6 local charities.



**Changes:** As we come to the end of our year at Smartkids we are conscious of the transitions ahead as some of our children head off overseas for holiday, others will pack and move to a new home and country, some will leave to attend a new school, and amongst our older Kiddies will be the excitement of

moving up to the 'Big Kids' room.

**New classes:** At Smartkids, we prepare the children who will move in August to the "Big Kids" for this important transition by introducing them to their new room in the final weeks of term so that they are very familiar with this space when they return to class in August. Ms Viviane, who will move from our Thao Dien location to be the "Big Kids" teacher at Tran Ngoc Dien next year, has been spending time in the classroom and facilitating activities with these children so they also become familiar with her.

**Transitions:** Transitions for children can be an anxiety provoking experience, yet when supported can be a positive and growing experience. Transition is a natural part of growing up and of maturing. Handled well it makes stronger people and teaches them how to deal confidently with transition and new challenges.

We are very proud of the transition to Smartkids made this term by our newest members at Tran Ngoc Dien. They have settled very well and developed some lovely friendships. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday break and look forward to seeing you all back in the new school year.

Issue 6 June 2013

#### Smartkids dates:

- \* Last day of Term 3: June 20th 2013
- \* Orientation morning for new year: 16th August 2013 9-11am
- \* First day of new SmartKids year: 19th August 2013
- \* Vietnam National Day: September 2nd 2013
- \* Half -term holiday: 14th -19th October 2013
- \* Non-children day: 21st October 2013
- \* Last day of Term 1: December 13th 2013



### A message from Ms Yoko

Dear Parents,  
It is already the end of another year! Time is flying! We are all part of an ever changing environment. In all locations families and children, as well as teaching staff, will leave SmartKids to go to another school, or will leave Vietnam for new challenges elsewhere. We are working on replacing our "old staff" with new, enthusiastic staff and will make sure we will be ready for a new and exciting year. I wish you a good holiday and I hope to see many of you and your children back in August.

Best regards, *Joke Otter-Van Zijlen* (Pedagogue, General Director ICCC SmartKids Ltd.)





## After School Activities

Our After School Activities (ASAs), which are held on Wednesday afternoons from 3.15- 4.4.5pm for children 3-6 years, will continue next year.

The smiles on the faces of the children attending have been testimony to how much they are enjoying the variety of activities on offer, which this term have included yoga & creative play, music & movement, obstacle courses & social interactive games & cooking.

The children attending have come from various other schools in the area as well as from amongst our SmartKids children, so there has been a wonderful opportunity to develop new friendships and skills while having lots of fun!

If you are interested in the ASAs for next term, inquire at reception for details.



## Orientation and coffee morning

**Our new SmartKids year will begin on Friday 16th August 2013 with a coffee morning from 9.00—11.00am for all children and parents to meet their teachers and friends. We look forward to seeing you after your holidays!**

## Recommended reading

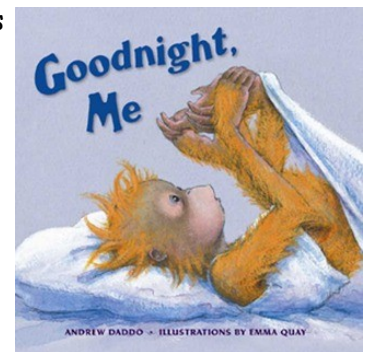
*Goodnight, Me*

By Andrew Daddo

Someone's ready for bed, but it's going to take a long, long time to say goodnight!

Echoing the loving goodnight rituals that will be familiar to many a parent and child, Andrew Daddo's gentle text, with softly hued illustrations by Emma Quay, is just the thing for coaxing an active toddler to sleep.

*"Good night , feet.  
Thanks for running me  
around today."*



## Farewells

### Staff:

There are a few farewells within our staff at the end of this term. After three years at SmartKids, Ms Nikki will move on to another position. We also wish Ms Kristina all the best as she returns to the Philippines for the birth of her baby. Ms Kasia will leave Tran Ngoc Dien to take on the Kiddies class at Street 10

### Children:

We also farewell Jesper and Tofunmi (Yellow Group), and Sebastian (Blue Group) who will move



# Charity Arts Evening

Throughout the year the SmartKids children have been immersed in the topic of *'Exploring Our World'*. They have learnt about themselves and their families, their local communities, which countries they come from, and their changing world and how they can care for the world in the actions they are involved in.

To compliment this, the SmartKids children prepared group art pieces created within their classes to be auctioned to raise money to support the Van Phuoc Kindergarten in Phu Yen Province, through the Loreto Vietnam Australia Program. The Charity Arts Evening held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013 exhibited the children's art work, as well as donated items for sale to support the project. With the music provided by local musicians, Hung and Damien, and the support of parents and donors, SmartKids was able to raise over \$3,570 for the Van Phuoc Kindergarten (to be renamed the Xuan Thanh "Successful Spring" Kindergarten). It was a wonderful effort and an enjoyable evening! Thank you to all who attended!



## *Thank you to all who donated items towards this event:*

Harvest Baking, Loaves and Fishes, Mastro designs, Albetta, Pure Heaven, Mekong Merchant, DLS, Wade Brackenbury, Golden Hands, Saigon Pony Club, Harmony Salon, Aya Salon, Banyan Tree, Maya's parents, Vilde's parents, Tofunmi's parents, Liam's parents, Nami's parents, and to all the children who donated shoes and their creative talents towards the evening.

