



For Immediate Release

SST – FutureSchool to adopt 1-to-1 learning program

Technology support from Apple

Singapore, November 20, 2009 – The School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) announced today that it will adopt a 1-to-1 learning program when the school opens in January 2010. Apple will provide technology and tools to assist in implementation of a digital learning environment.

With the adoption of the 1-to-1 learning program, students and teachers have access to a notebook computer and the Internet. SST students can attend cross-border leadership summits, do projects online with international students, share group projects on class blogs and have access to rich internet content. Some of these are interactive periodic tables of chemical elements, high resolution anatomy flash cards, visual trigonometry calculator and a global news information website.

Mr Chua Chor Huat, Principal at SST, elaborated, “The job market of today and tomorrow increasingly relies on technology to share information which is why the 1-to-1 learning program with its unique applications allows for a more engaged form of learning.”

New learning tools for students

SST students will be able to video chat teachers, download lessons online, upload ideas for group projects on wiki sites, and have an ongoing discussion about assignments on the class blog while doing math calculations on calculator widgets.

These tools enable students to express themselves not just in written reports but also in today’s multimedia rich environment that includes photo essays, presentations, podcasts and movies.

Teachers have access to global education exchange

SST teachers have access to learnings and best practices from educators around the world and a platform to exchange ideas.



Mr Chua explained, “Teaching staff at SST have undergone a six-month professional development course that covers technical skills and curriculum design to make classroom learning interesting. We also have an on-going engagement with Apple Professional Development consultants to enhance our teaching methodologies in today’s 21st century classroom.”

Lesson applications in English, Physics and Humanities

Mr Richard Koh, Subject Head of English Language at SST, explained how an English lesson will be taught. “One of the English lessons will be about learning how to write clear instructions to create a ring tone, which is something they can relate to. Students will thus be engaged in the activity while learning and applying language skills. The lesson activity requires them to observe the teacher demonstrating the procedure with a software program called GarageBand. They will also listen for details and develop their own set of instructions on how to do this,” he said.

“The lesson encompasses the use of the right tense of English, creating a narrative that is clear and precise, and then sequencing the instructions so that it is understandable and workable. The group activity also provides students with opportunities to practise other skills such as teamwork and peer critique. It is learning in a whole new way,” explained Mr Koh.

According to Physics teacher Mr Chan Kin Chuah, students will explore physics concepts such as the effect of forces on objects through online simulation games. By manipulating certain parameters in the game, students figure out how some factors, such as “thrust”, influences a spacecraft landing. With teacher-led discussions and the help of an online worksheet, students will be guided step-by-step to uncover concepts through this interesting way.

In Humanities, an unconventional lesson will get students to use Twitter, a real-time online short messaging service, to organise and express their thoughts on the definition of propaganda. The tweets will be consolidated by the teacher to identify and create linkages to bridge and extend students’ prior knowledge. “Using multimedia tools like Keynote, Apple’s presentation software, students can translate their learning into ideas illustrated in digital posters showcased in the class blog. Through the virtual ‘gallery walk’, students will learn to give constructive comments to facilitate peer-to-peer learning,” said Ms Jennifer Tay, Subject Head of Integrated Humanities.



Mr Lam Hin Chew, Head of Sports and Wellness who also teaches Innovation and Enterprise, emphasized the interactive nature of lessons. “In an I&E lesson, for example, to teach students how to create a brand name and tagline from scratch, we’ll first elicit from them a list of brand names that they are familiar with through an online survey. The students will then be asked to describe what they think contribute to these brands’ success.”

He added, “Using an online collaborative presentation tool, students could share images and taglines of popular brands gathered online to make comparisons and surface common characteristics among the brand logos and taglines. With insight garnered from this activity, the students will proceed to create their own brand name and tagline and post their creation in the wiki, where we will encourage peer evaluation and critique.”

Students from SST can expect classroom lessons to be conducted in a digital learning environment. Mr Chua elaborated, “What it means is that our pupils can get actively engaged in what they are learning, and there are more opportunities to show what has been learned. It involves more than putting a laptop into the hands of each student.”

Mobile learning on a wireless campus

SST has wireless access throughout the school. The program, which aims to enhance teaching and learning in today’s wired and connected world environment, will fit into the school’s direction of applied learning as it encourages every student to utilize high technology tools to explore rigorous academic concepts in real life situations.

The latest of the four specialised independent schools in Singapore, SST offers a distinctive four-year programme that prepares university-bound students for the GCE ‘O’ level examinations via applied learning, steering them to develop practical, innovative and entrepreneurial mindsets.

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About School of Science and Technology, Singapore

Commencing January 2010, the School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) is a Specialised Independent School that offers a distinctive 4-year programme preparing university-bound students for the GCE ‘O’ Level examinations. Learning in SST is multi-faceted as students gain a strong foundation of key academic concepts in core subjects like Mathematics and Science through applied learning (learning by doing). With focus on innovation and enterprise, students also learn by being daring. The learning experiences at SST aim to produce students not only with excellent ‘O’ level results, but students who are also thinkers, innovators and entrepreneurs.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

Marguerita Tan / Lena Soh-Ng

Huntington Communications Pte Ltd

Tel: 6339 2883

E-mail: marguerita.tan@huntington.com.sg or lenasoh.ng@huntington.com.sg