



Dear friends of English School of Mui Ne,

After having spent a little over a week in Mui Ne, we are now back in Europe, eager to give you an update on the ongoing activities in the school and a general view on our current status.

### Fun Learning Season

The fall season in ES is referred to as 'Fun Learning Season'. You instantly recognize this as you enter the school as the students have made an entrance sign to remind students, teachers and visitors what the fall is about- hard work while having fun.

### New students

In August we had thirty new students entering the school. Twenty of these created a new class, 3B, while the ten remaining got divided between the rest of the classes where we had room for more pupils. As a part of the ES spirit, we place great importance on having the older students help new students in order to create bonds of friendship and teaching the students the significance of team work, cooperation and contribution. During our week in Mui Ne we were happy to see that this policy is really put into action in the school. As a result, the new students have quickly adapted to their new

environment and all seem very pleased to have become ES students. Little by little, they are making progress in their English while meeting new friends.

### ES students going back to public education

During the last months, eight of our students have been studying hard to pass an exam which will grant them the opportunity to go back to the public school system and continue the studies they have been away from for some time.

All of the eight students passed the exam and we are now trying to arrange the schedule for these eight (plus another four) in order for them to attend public school while still learning in ES and having part time jobs in the hotels and resorts in Mui Ne. We are of course very proud of these students' accomplishments and wish them the best of luck.



## High School Students

Mid August thirty-one ES students took an important step forward in their lives as they started their first semester of High School. Their studies are fully funded by ES as a part of our new initiative 'The Next Step'. Twenty-one of these students go to High School in Phan Thiet (the closest city to Mui Ne) while ten of them attend the local Mui Ne High School. The students studying in Phan Thiet are lodged in our new ES dormitory, a place where the students can get the same type of support they had in ES while living away from their families. Students have classes either in the morning or in the afternoon and spend the rest of the day studying on their own. Every day all students eat lunch as well as dinner together in the dormitory prepared by Ms Hong, one of the two new members of the ES team who are responsible for the students living in the dormitory.

When speaking with the high school students during our stay in Mui Ne they told us that they were very happy about having taken this important step in their lives and grateful for having been given the opportunity to continue their education. Though the first weeks in their new schools and new city were tough, they are now starting to adapt to their new environment and they are enjoying life in High School. Once a week the high school students have English class taught in the dormitory by the program manager Ms Vy. On weekends all students go back to ES to attend English classes in the school and take part in extra curriculum activities. The high school students are also responsible for 'mentoring' the younger students, helping them with homework and functioning as important role models for them.



Two of the girls living in the ES dormitory on their way to High School

## University students

As a part of 'The Next Step' we now have five ES students attending university in various places in Vietnam. Three of these students attend university and live in Ho Chi Minh City, one lives and studies in Dalat, (in the center of Vietnam) and one student attends Phan Thiet university. Just as the high school students, the university students had a tough time in the beginning, living far away from their families. Especially the students living in Ho Chi Minh City found the very different from what they were used to coming from Mui Ne. In order to pay for their living costs, most students have taken on part time jobs in coffee shops, stores etc. All the students are working hard and seem to be adapting well to their new lives while having busy schedules juggling school and work.



Some of the boys living in the ES dormitory attending High School in Phan Thiet



## Halloween party

On the night of the 31<sup>st</sup> of October ES was turned into a ghost house as the students, teachers and visitors gathered to celebrate Halloween. The program included a scary walk through the ghost house where the students were hunted by monsters and witches. Once they had made their way into safety on the schoolyard, everyone enjoyed a dance performance by the volunteers. The students were then divided into groups to create their own Halloween artwork. Thereafter each class had prepared a Halloween performance in the form of a drama, a dance show or an entire Halloween musical that they shared with the rest of the school. Everyone had a great time and the students are already looking forward to next year's event.

## Soccer tournament

On Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> of November the second round of the ES soccer tournament took place. Two teams of boys fought hard on the soccer field followed by the two girls teams. The entire school was gathered on the soccer field to support and cheer for their friends. It was a Sunday afternoon filled with laughter and a fun way to make the entire school come together and an opportunity for the students to make friends outside of their own classes.



## Thank you!

To finish we would like to express our gratitude to all of you who support our organization and its cause. It is such an enjoyment to see how these children are developing into happy, healthy, ambitious and intelligent young people and how our great team of teachers are doing everything in their power to help the students create a brighter future for themselves. Without your help, none of this would be possible. A warm and heartfelt thank you to all of you.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding our organization or if you are in need of any particular information.

To get regular updates on what is happening in the school, please visit our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/EnglishSchoolMuiNe](http://www.facebook.com/EnglishSchoolMuiNe). Thank you for 'liking' our page and for spreading the word about English School of Mui Ne.

Kind regards,

Jessica & Marcus Robell

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