



Garden International School Newsletter



IB World School

22nd June 2010

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

I am writing this newsletter having just come from the Primary Summer Concert, and what great entertainment it was! Well done to all the children and thank you to all the teachers and assistants for helping to produce such a good show.

This is the last newsletter of the year so of course we will be saying goodbye to many students and some of the teachers. Of the teaching staff, we say farewell to Joanna Ransome, an inspiration to many of our budding artists; Phillip Reid, the helm of the maths department; Phil Durrant, a teacher who was always there for the students. Those three are returning to Australia. Also leaving are Simon Fowler, a versatile and talented teacher, going to our Bangkok campus; the wonderful primary teacher Michelle Harris, returning to the UK; and we'll miss the creative energy and care that embodies Glenn James, moving on to China. Finally, Jan Nordgreen, who has worked above and beyond in getting our ICT systems improved, moves on possibly to the Caribbean. We do wish them all the best and thank them for the care and professionalism they have displayed. We also give our best wishes to the students that move on knowing that they won't forget their GIS experience. In the first newsletter of next term I will tell you about the new staff.

We look forward to meeting old faces and new faces on Tuesday August 24th, the start of the new school year. Until then, many thanks to all the staff, both teaching and support, for their dedication to the children and to the students for being such a great group of young people.

**Kind Regards,
Dave Moroney, BSc, PGCE, MA**

GIS is registered with the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) in the UK.



department for
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GIS is accredited by the IB to deliver the IB Diploma Programme



GIS is a member of The International Schools Association of Thailand (ISAT) and a member of the Federation of International schools in South East Asia (FOBISSEA)



GIS is a Provisional Member of the Council of International School



The International Baccalaureate Eco-warriors in the Dragon's Den:

The IB1 Group 4 project for 2010 was held over two days in early June with the topic chosen being “**Are you an eco-warrior at GIS?**” Two competing groups of IB1 students used teamwork and sharing of ideas to design an eco-friendly product or system that could be implemented at GIS.

On Wednesday 16th June the teams were asked to present their eco-product or system to the “Dragon’s Den” – a panel of teachers including Mr. Yarwood, Mr Reid, Mr Moroney, Ms. Morris, Ms. Hegarty, Mr. Stokes and Mr. Fraser.



The first team consisted of Anushree, TK, Vanessa and Heiko. These students presented an eco-friendly composting system at GIS to the panel. Food scraps and grass cuttings would be stored in compost bins or their design and then used as fertilizer for an organic vegetable garden at GIS.

The second team consisted of Ellen, Brinda and Jun. This group presented eco-products that would help reduce the use of plastic in the school canteen and minimise the individual “carbon footprint” of each canteen user.

It was unanimously decided that the composting system was the more polished and complete presentation overall. Therefore, Anushree, TK, Vanessa and Heiko were crowned IB1 Group 4 eco-warrior champions for 2010. Well done!

Congratulations, however, must go to all participating IB1 students as the quality of teamwork and motivation in both groups was of a very high standard.

Ian Fraser, IB Coordinator



Several developments are taking place on the school campus over the holiday.

We will be grassing what is now the primary drop-off area. In time this area will be landscaped and feature a café. Primary parents can drop off or pick up in the main front car parking area.

There will be a new entry to the Foundation. This will be on the right just past the front entrance.

We are continuing to improve the Information Technology hardware in the school. All of the ICT Lab 1 has been upgraded and we have made a start on Lab 2. One of the Primary rooms will be equipped with an interactive 'smartboard'. A data projector will be installed in the Primary Hall, adding to the several around the school.

The school has already sent out letters about the new canteen arrangements. For occasional meals we will be using a cash card system

The boarding facilities have been extended to cope with additional students.

More news:

- Congratulations go to TK and Brinda who have been selected as our two student leaders from the IB years for next year. They were voted for by year 10-13 students and teachers.
- Our third designated Student Leader is the President of the Student Council and will be elected by the student body at the start of next term.
- We have been concerned about some students, including young Primary children, hanging around school after the end of the day. Next term students will be asked to leave the campus at 1530 each day unless they have a supervised activity. A warning bell will ring at 1530 and the main entrance by the front office will be locked at 1540. Parents should pick up their children outside the front office. Please don't leave them waiting there unnecessarily.
- Secondary students next year must wear black shoes/trainers with black laces
- Late (after school) buses will in future cost 50 B per person per journey. This is to offset the high cost of running late transport after activities, games and tournaments. We will continue to not charge for the coaching or training the students receive.

EAL Assessments

Last week all secondary pupils taking EAL sat their end of term assessments.

Congratulations to the following students who passed the KET exam (elementary English). Next term they will join the PET group (pre-intermediate English) and will begin to learn History and Geography.

Susanna Harms and Nitima Somsuk (Snooker)

Congratulations also to the following students who passed the PET exam (intermediate English). They have now completed the EAL program and will join either Mandarin or Spanish classes

Chanchanok Pattanawijit (Oil), Phakhanan Piyanuttapool (Boat), Manatsavee Thaipetkul (Neuy), Gi Ung Hong and Nuthiphong Bunmark (Drive)

Well done to all the students studying in both the KET and the PET groups. English can be a difficult language to learn and they are all making great progress. The next round of assessments will be held in December.

News from Primary and Foundation, by Mr Grisdale

We have come to the end of a very busy and successful year in Garden International School. On behalf of Primary and Foundation I thank you for your continued support throughout the year. This year we achieved a great deal. The teachers worked extremely hard, as always, to make sure your children made progress, learnt many things and had fun doing it. I would like to thank them for their professionalism and dedicated service.

This year in Foundation we moved buildings and the new building looks really fantastic. Our numbers grew and all the children had a great time learning whether in class or on trips. At the end of the year we say goodbye to one teacher - Mr. Glenn who is moving to China to take up a PYP co-ordinator's position. Mr. Glenn has been with us for one and a half years and has made a significant impact on GIS. We will have permanent reminders of him in the artwork he has done and the positive effect his teaching has had on the children lucky enough to have had him as their teacher. We also say goodbye to Ms. Elaine. Ms. Elaine has been a member of the Foundation team for three years now as a reception teacher as well as being the school counsellor, however, the good news is that Ms. Elaine is not leaving GIS as she is taking up the Secondary Art teacher's position as well as continuing her counselling. Ms. Elaine has made a significant impact on the children she has taught and we wish her all the best in her new position. Come and visit us from time to time. Next year we welcome Mr. Kamrul who will be teaching Early Years and Ms. Lucy who will be teaching Nursery. Both Mr. Kamrul and Ms. Lucy are arriving from England. In addition one further change is that Ms. Jane will be moving from Early Years to Reception.

In Primary we have also had a highly successful year. The new hall was finished; we got new computers in the Primary ICT room and computers in the classrooms; we have an interactive whiteboard in the building now; we had a number of great trips and sporting successes. Overall it was a tremendous year. Next year the teaching staff is all the same except for Ms. Michelle, who is returning to the UK. Ms. Michelle will be missed by all those taught by her and we wish her all the best for her new adventures. We will have a permanent reminder of Ms. Michelle because the two beautiful Murals - one outside on the wall and the other upstairs - were designed and executed by the 'mural club' run by Ms. Michelle.

House Points

The school 'House' competition finishes this Friday. For the last three years the winners have always been COBRA. This year - with only merit points to count it looks like we will have a new house champion. All will be revealed in the final assemblies.

Buffalo Village

Last week the children from Years 4-6 went to Buffalo Village. They had a great time learning about Traditional Thai Life. They learnt to give a Thai Massage, to cook Thai food and to play Thai games. The teachers who went with them - Mr. Miller, Ms. Horwell, Khun Pia and Khun Mee all added greatly to make the trip the success it was. Thank you all so much.

Next year the Year 4-6 trip will be to the River Kwai.

Have a fantastic holiday. Take care and return safely for the start of term - the 24th of August 2010.

A BIG thank you to all the teachers, staff and parents for their help and support in Book Week. The children had a great week sharing books with the older secondary students and the younger foundation children. The mystery readers did a super job of livening up story time and lots of children are still talking about their favourite books and asking if they can bring them in again.



As part of their project on The Seaside, Year 2 took a trip to Pala to look at the human and physical features of our nearest beach. We were very sad to see how much litter humans have left on the beach and helped to put the litter in the bin. Then we had fun paddling in the sea and building sandcastles.

Ms Claire

An Outstanding Year of Sports at GIS

2009 / 10 Sports Year in Review

It's that time once again as another school year draws to a close. All the games have been played and the athletes and PE staff are looking forward to a much deserved break.

Firstly, the PE staff would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for their help during the past year:

Mr. Edwards - U13, U15 Basketball (G) Coach, U13 Volleyball (B) Coach, U13 Volleyball (G) Coach, U13 Football (B) Coach, U13 FOBISSEA Team, Primary Basketball Coach, Primary FOBISSEA Team

Ms. Stanton - Varsity Volleyball (G) Coach, Varsity Football (G) Coach, U13 FOBISSEA Team, Primary Basketball Coach, Primary Tee Ball Coach, Primary FOBISSEA Team
Mr. Lynch - U13 Basketball (B) Coach, Varsity Basketball (B) Coach, Varsity Volleyball (B) Coach, Varsity Softball (M) Coach
Ms. Smith - Primary Swimming Coach, Varsity Swimming Coach
Ms. Jones - Varsity Basketball (G) Coach
Mr. Yarwood - Varsity (B), U13 (G) Football Coach
Mr. Figes - Varsity, U15 Football (B) Coach
Mr. Hambling, Khun Goi and the Maintenance Crew – Buses, Field maintenance
Khun Panya and the Maid Staff - Water, ice, cups, clean up
Khun Nim – Referees
Monica, Ayesha, Rosa, Lee, Meang, Jae Min - Scorekeeping

There were many great performances on the sports stage this past year by our GIS athletes. Here are some of the highlights:

Team Performances (Secondary)

Varsity Volleyball (B) – ESAC Champions
Varsity Volleyball (G) – ESAC Champions

Varsity Basketball (B) – Runner up (ICS Invitational Tournament)
– Bronze Medal (Senior FOBISSEA Games)

U13 Basketball (G) – Runner up (ESAC Tournament)

U13 FOBISSEA Team – 17 Medals – 5 Gold, 4 Silver, 8 Bronze (ABC Vietnam)

Individual Performances (Secondary)

Varsity Basketball (B) – Nic Neufeld
- 17.8 ppg average
- 32 points vs Regents – January 26, 2010
- 30 points vs ISE – February 16, 2010
- Voted to All-Star Team at CMIS Invitational
- All-Time Leading Scorer in GIS history

Varsity Basketball (G) – Naz Neufeld
- 15.4 ppg average
- 22 points vs Asian Univ. – February 1, 2010
- 20 points vs Asian Univ. – January 27, 2010
- Voted to All-Star Team at CMIS Invitational

Varsity Softball (M) – Mark Hemi
- 11-for-11 (1.000) batting
- 14 RBIs (Runs Batted In)
- 2 HRs (Home Runs)

U15 Football (B) – Mark Hemi
- 3 goals vs Regents – February 10, 2010
- 3 goals vs ISE – March 16, 2010

U15 Football (B) – Ben Mayley
- 3 goals vs ISE – March 16, 2010

Swimming (G) – Coco Atkinson (U13 FOBISSEA Games – March 11-14, 2010)
- 2 Gold Medals – 25m Butterfly, 50m Freestyle
- 1 Silver Medal – Individual Medley
- 1 Bronze Medal – 50m Butterfly

Swimming (B) – Chris Williamson (U13 FOBISSEA Games – March 11-14, 2010)
- 1 Silver Medal – 25m Freestyle

Track & Field (B) - Chris Williamson (U13 FOBISSEA Games – March 11-14, 2010)

- 1 Gold Medal – 200m Sprint
- 1 Silver Medal – Triple Jump
- 1 Bronze Medal – 100m Sprint

Team Performances (Primary)

Primary FOBISSEA Team – 52 Medals – 16 Gold, 14 Silver, 22 Bronze (Kinabalu, Malaysia)

Primary Football (Yr. 5 Girls) – Gold Medal (Primary FOBISSEA Games)

Primary Football (Yr. 6 Boys) – Bronze Medal (Primary FOBISSEA Games)

Primary Football (Yr. 4 Boys) – ESAC Champions

Primary Tee Ball (Yr. 5 Mixed) – Gold Medal (Primary FOBISSEA Games)

Individual Performances (Primary)

Swimming (G) – Katrina Martin (Primary FOBISSEA Games – May 18-22, 2010)

- 4 Gold Medals – 25m Butterfly, 50m Butterfly, 25m Freestyle, 100m Ind. Medley
- 2 Silver Medals – 4x25m Individual Medley Relay, 10x25m Tyre Relay

Swimming (B) – Sang Hyun Lee (Primary FOBISSEA Games – May 18-22, 2010)

- 2 Gold Medals – 25m Freestyle, 25m Breaststroke
- 1 Silver Medal – 10x25m Tyre Relay
- 4 Bronze Medals – 100m Ind. Medley, 25m Butterfly, 50m Freestyle, 50m B'stroke

Track & Field (G) - Katrina Martin (Primary FOBISSEA Games – May 18-22, 2010)

- 5 Gold Medals – 100m Sprint, High Jump, 4x100m Relay, Tee Ball Team, Football

Track & Field (B) – Sang Hyun Lee (Primary FOBISSEA Games – May 18-22, 2010)

- 1 Gold Medal – Football Team
- 1 Silver Medal – 60m Sprint
- 1 Bronze Medal – Long Jump

For more sports information please visit the GIS Sports webpage at:

<http://sites.google.com/a/gardenrayong.com/gis-athletics/>

Finally, as you can see, our former year 11 had a terrific farewell at their IGCSE graduation night on the 12Th June at the Marriott Hotel in Pattaya

