



# Garden International School Newsletter



IB World School

24<sup>th</sup> September 2009

## From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

I am pleased to announce that the **Council of International Schools** (CIS) has granted us Provisional Membership. CIS is a major world body in education and we will be following their procedures for accreditation shortly. In due course, a Membership Visit will be carried out to consider us for full membership of CIS.

As part of our **improvements to the school facilities** we have installed half a dozen ceiling-mounted projectors in Secondary classrooms. These are used to enhance teaching by adding a multimedia aspect to the classroom delivery.

We place a high value on continuing **professional development for teachers**. We are, after all, a community of learners with a stated commitment to life-long learning. Already this term we have sent three teachers on IB training and six on a first aid course, and one teacher is completing an online learning programme. All our new teachers have completed a 20 hour Thai language and culture course, expertly delivered in-house by K Lalita and K Nidd.

I would like to invite you all to our **'Diwali Night' festivities**, in honour of the well known Hindu Festival of Lights, on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Don't miss this one!

You are encouraged to bring a dish to share at 1800, before the performance itself starts at 1900.

For more details and a reply slip please see the attached flyer. Many thanks to the two main organisers, Brinda and Anushree in IB1.

Kind Regards,

Dave Moroney, BSc, PGCE, MA

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



department for  
**children, schools and families**



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 Schools





### **Garden has got talent!**

...and this was displayed at the Garden's Got Talent show last week. The students put on some terrific performances, giving the judges a difficult time. The top three acts were the belly dancing, the Twilight parody, and Naz's wonderful dancing.

### ***The Parent-Teacher Association needs you!***

Would you like to join the committee? We need a Chairperson and a Secretary. If you are interested let me know [gisprincipal@gardenrayong.com](mailto:gisprincipal@gardenrayong.com) and I will send you further details. Together we can then arrange the first meeting of the year.

### **Some IB news**

The Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC) in the States <http://www.epiconline.org/> recently announced the results from a report that analysed the alignment of the IB Diploma Programme standards and the 'Knowledge and Skills for University Success (KSUS)' standards. They found IB standards to be "highly aligned with the KSUS standards." In particular, the key cognitive strategies emphasised in the Diploma—critical thinking skills, intellectual inquisitiveness and interpretation—were found to be fully aligned with the expectations of US universities.

"What is perhaps most notable about our findings is the degree to which IB standards were found to be related to the kinds of key cognitive strategies that our previous research points to as being so important for success in colleges and universities," said David Conley, CEO of EPIC. "We have learned that it's not enough for students to study content in isolation; they must use their content knowledge to solve problems, make conjectures and inferences, and think deeply about the big questions of the disciplines. The IB standards seem to be particularly well suited to achieving these aims."

The findings from EPIC's study **confirm that the Diploma Programme is achieving one of its major objectives: preparing all students for university.** Students that complete the programme have a strong foundation not only in academic skills but also in other areas, such as critical-thinking, problem-solving, research, writing and communication that are so vital to success in university and the 21st century world.

For more information about the IB contact our IB Co-ordinator, Mr Ian Fraser [ianf@gardenrayong.com](mailto:ianf@gardenrayong.com)

### ***Primary & Foundation News:***

Primary is very busy organising trips, sporting and other events as well as the usual teaching and learning. Please make a note of all these activities happening soon in Primary and Foundation.

### ***Coming up***

#### ***Football matches***

The first of five fixtures this term happens at GIS on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September (Tuesday next week) at 3.45. This is against **Regents** school. We have five GIS teams playing and I know that our children would welcome your support, so I hope to see you there.

#### ***Film Evening***

Primary are holding a film afternoon on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October from 3.30pm to about 5.15pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Entrance is 20 baht and food and drinks will be on sale.

#### ***Car boot sale***

This is happening on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October between 8.30 and 11.30 am. It will take place on the car park in front of Foundation. If you want to bring things to sell – see Mr. Grisdale or write to him at [robertg@gardenrayong.com](mailto:robertg@gardenrayong.com)

Please come along on the 10<sup>th</sup> and see what other people are selling. Admission is free.

#### ***Halloween Party***

Primary are having a Halloween party on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October from 3.30 to 5.30pm. There will be numerous games, shows and activities – put the date in your diary.

### ***Notices***

#### ***Reading support***

I have five volunteer parents – Vedant's mum; DD's mum; Hemakshi's mum; Koustav's mum and Janine's mum - to hear reading in Primary. If there are any more volunteers can you let me know at [robertg@gardenrayong.com](mailto:robertg@gardenrayong.com) I will be setting up the support scheme very soon.

#### ***After School Care Club***

Children in Foundation can stay in school until 15.10. They will be looked after in the orange room by the Foundation Teaching Assistants and they will have a range of activities to occupy them the cost for this club is 50 Baht per session per child (children of teachers and children on school buses do not have to pay).

#### ***Baby Group***

Each Thursday afternoon from 14.20 until 15.20 Ms. Lucy runs a baby group for children under the age of two. This takes part in the Early Years Tigers' room and costs 100 Baht per session. All are welcome.

#### ***Homeopathic Doctor***

Vedant's (Year 2) mother is a qualified Homeopathic Doctor. If anyone needs her services I am happy to give them her e-mail address.

#### ***Contact procedure in Foundation and Primary***

If you have any concerns, please note them in your child's communication book and the class teacher will see it the next day. If you have any queries regarding the running of Primary or Foundation or want to contact me for any reason my e-mail address is [robertg@gardenrayong.com](mailto:robertg@gardenrayong.com)

Yours faithfully

Mr. R. M. W. Grisdale (Head of Primary and Foundation, GIS)

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS IN ADVANCE FOR THIS EVENT!!!

On Friday Nov 6th parents and students are invited to attend a fun-filled afternoon in the Hall during secondary assembly time.

The starting time for the event is 2.20pm until approx 3.10pm.

The event will be an Art Auction of original GIS student artwork to raise money for FOBISSEA Music and Sports trips.

All parents are very welcome to come along, take part in the bidding and support the event and be able to purchase an original artwork by our talented GIS art students.

Look forward to seeing you all there!!

Ms J.Ransome - Art Department

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### **GISR Physical Education Programme 2009-10: First Half Term Activities**

We have a varied activity programme for Physical Education classes this year. At present the students are taking part in a series of fitness tests. By doing these tests and looking at their results we are then able to work to on your child's fitness in areas that require more attention.

#### **Reception:**

**Movement Education:** This unit utilises concepts that give students the ability to handle themselves under a variety of circumstances, to include body awareness, locomotor and non-locomotor movements.

#### **Manipulative Education:**

This unit focuses on the development and improvement of perceptive abilities such as coordination, laterality and timing through basic ball activities and lead up games.

#### **Year 1-3:**

##### **Teaching Games for Understanding:**

The Unit is designed to ensure that students have the opportunity to participate and experiment with different game tactics they experience success and enjoyment and will help them to develop intrinsic motivation to continue to build their skills.

#### **Year 4-6:**

##### **Games 1:**

Students will engage in a number of invasion games. During this unit the emphasis is based on working as a team, leadership and sports skills.

Throughout the first term all students will be swimming and working on developing their swimming strokes.

#### **Year 7:**

##### **Team Building :**

This is a new unit we are introducing at GISR. The Team Building section looks at students working together as group in order to achieve a number of challenges.

#### **Year 8-9:**

##### **Games 1:**

Students will engage in a number of invasion games. During this unit the emphasis is based on working as a team, leadership and sports skills.

## **Year 10-11:**

### **Intramurals:**

Activities include invasion, net and striking and fielding games. The students are responsible for organizing the students into teams, selecting equipment for the activity and officiating the game they are playing. The main emphasis is on student leadership and working as a team.

The secondary students will be also swimming in the first term preparing for their interhouse swim meet.

Robert Edwards  
Head of Physical Education

This first season we have a packed sports programme for the students. Take a look at the tournament fixtures below. Don't forget, parents, we would love you attend and support us throughout the year. Do come along and cheer our teams.

### **Tournament Dates:**

| <b><u>Sport</u></b> | <b><u>Venue</u></b> | <b><u>Date</u></b>             |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| U11 Football:       | St Andrews          | October 13 <sup>th</sup> 2009  |
| U13 Basketball:     | ISE                 | November 17 <sup>th</sup> 2009 |
| U 15 Basketball:    | Regents             | October 15 <sup>th</sup> 2009  |
| Varsity Volleyball: | Garden Int School   | November 10 <sup>th</sup> 2009 |
| Varsity Football:   | ISE                 | November 24 <sup>th</sup> 2009 |
| Swimming:           | Regents             | November 9 <sup>th</sup> 2009  |
| Cross Country:      | St Andrews          | December 1 <sup>st</sup> 2009  |

These are just the tournament dates. The regular fixtures for all teams are on the ESAC notice board by the PE office 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Take a look when you come into school.

Many thanks to all the coaches for their commitment to the sports programme.

Soccer Report: 7-a-side Senior Boys Football v ISE (Away) Final Score 0-0

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September the GIS senior boys team kicked off their season with a solid performance at ISE. Wearing their new royal blue kit, the boys played some excellent attacking flowing football creating several chances, hitting the woodwork on numerous occasions.

The game was a fast paced affair with both sides making regular changes. GIS were in control for long periods where they demonstrated excellent composure in goal and defense, tenacity in midfield and sheer pace up front.

ISE's coach was very complimentary of the boys' performance, next time out they will be looking to turn their possession and chances into goals.

Team: Lee, Miang, Martin, Jan©, Sajjan, Mark, Kevin. Subs: Aman, Alex, Pranjal, Jonny.

**Man of the match: Martin**

Finally, don't forget that 16<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> October is the half term break

# Activities for Kids

## ***Tennis and Piano Lessons on offer!***

*More than 9 years of experience in both activities*

*Ranked #1 the Fairtex Challengers Ranking 2007*

*Higher Level in ABRSM Education for Piano Practical and Theory*



## ***Reasonable Prices***

*300 baht an hour*

*2800 for a 10 hour package*

*Tennis rackets for hire!*

## ***Sajan Khanijou***

*Tel: 086 838 1335*

*Email: [skhanijou@hotmail.com](mailto:skhanijou@hotmail.com)*

*Languages spoken Thai, English, Hindi*

*Please call for further information*