

Garden International School Newsletter



IB World School

June 23, 2011

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

It has been an exceptional year here at GIS. We have had superb concerts, magnificent performances, great events, fun and educational trips and have constantly punched above our weight on the sporting front (65 medals at the last FOBISSEA games!).

Of course we haven't forgotten all the hard work that goes in the teaching areas, and we have still maintained outstanding academic standards throughout the school right up to the International Baccalaureate. Let me give a big thank you to all the teachers for supporting the students throughout the year.

It is that time when we sadly say farewell to many students and teachers. Ms. Stanton and Ms. Hegarty and family are returning to the UK. Both Mr. Figes and Mr. Yarwood are moving to schools in Bangkok. Of course with Mr. Figes goes K. Ice, my wonderful PA for the past three years. Also going to Bangkok, but transferring to our sister school there, are Ms. Kirstie (Davies) and Mr. Tom (Grogan) from Primary. Ms. Horwell returns to Europe, Mr Campbell is going to India and Mr. Cleal moves to Vietnam. Finally, Mr. Bender returns to Canada.

On behalf of everybody here I would like to wish all the departing staff all the best wherever they go and hope that they keep in touch.

In the first newsletter of the new school year I will say a few words about the replacement teachers.

Similarly, as is the nature of international schools, we have many students moving on. We wish them every success and happiness wherever in the world they may be traveling.

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 Regular Member of the Council of International Schools



Up-coming events:

Tuesday August 23 - new school year starts

News from Primary and Foundation**End of year goodbyes**

We have come to the end of a very busy and successful year in Garden International School. On behalf of Primary and Foundation can I thank you for your continued support throughout the year. This year was very busy and the continual support of parents is vital in keeping us moving in the right direction and in keeping GIS as the best school in the region. This year was a year where we achieved a great deal. The teachers worked extremely hard, as always, and I would like to thank them for their professionalism and dedicated service. Your children depend on the teachers to ensure that they, the children, make the maximum possible progress, learn many new things and have fun doing it.

The last newsletter of the year is a great time for reflection. This year in Primary and Foundation seems to have the busiest since I joined GIS back in 2007.

We have had fantastic residential trips to the River Kwai and to the Zoo as well as numerous class trips to a very large number of sites locally. We had the colourful Christmas Key Stage 1 production as well as the Key Stage Two dramatization of 'Hoodwinked'. In the House Activities we have had sporting events, musical events, dramatic events as well as academic events. Some year 5 and 6 children represented the school in FOBISSEA and we have competed against our local International Schools a number of times in a number of swimming and sporting events.

We have held a very successful Christmas Fair as well as the recent car boot sale. We have celebrated Divali, International Day, Loy Kratong as well as Songkran. We have had visits from the Camillian Centre and Dek Dee. We have had the Musician of the Year; the Spring Concert; the Summer Concert; the Band Slam event and the Christmas Concert. On top of all this we have had the class assemblies, the Talent Show assemblies and the Spelling Bee. WOW.... No wonder everyone is looking forward to the holidays....

The end of year is always an interesting time – on the one hand you are looking forward to the holidays but on the other hand you are sad because people you know and have worked with are leaving. This is the nature of international schools all over the world.

This year we say goodbye to the following children from Primary and Foundation:

- Remus
- Liam
- Jack
- Naptr
- Tham
- Alyssa
- Harry
- Ticha
- Suyash
- Aditi
- Dominic
- Benjamin (year 6)
- Katrina
- Jakki

Good luck wherever you go and keep in touch if you can. It is always nice to have correspondence from leaving children.

We also say goodbye to the following Teaching Assistants:

- Ms. Monica who is leaving us to return to the Philippines
- Khun Nat who is leaving us to get married in Italy
- Khun A who is leaving us to look after her child

At the end of this term we also say goodbye to three teachers – Mr. Tom, Ms. Kirstie and Ms. Horwell.

Both Mr. Tom and Ms. Kirstie have been working at GIS for two years and have done a fantastic job in Years 1 and 3 respectively. However as both of them are moving to the Bangkok campus, we will hopefully see them from time to time. Ms. Horwell has taken the same group of children for the last three years and the amount of progress that her class has made over this period is incredible and is a lasting tribute to her. We wish her all the best on her return to Europe to start a new stage of her life.

These are their goodbye messages to you:

A short farewell message

Grateful for the opportunities teaching in the primary has given me.

A credit to the school are the children

Really great celebrations and events showing the diversity and opportunities on offer.

Deciding to coach the girls football and coordinate costumes for productions allowed me to meet more students across the school.

Enthusiasm my two classes has given me the greatest pleasure - to all of 3K I will miss you.

Now for new adventures and challenges in GIS Bangkok, I am not going far!!

Miss Kirstie

Goodbye from Mr Tom

Goodbyes are rarely “good” and while I've truly enjoyed being the Year 1 teacher here at GIS, my life's path has me moving on to join the team at GIS in Bangkok next year. It's been a wonderful experience working alongside so many gifted and talented colleagues and I'm a better educator because of the great people that I've had the opportunity to work with and learn from during my time here at GIS Rayong.

I will miss the close family atmosphere of the community and I truly appreciate all the support I've received during my tenure at the school. I am sure the teacher that will be taking my place will enjoy teaching your children as much as I have over the course of my time here with you. So, thanks for all the good memories to those who have made the effort! It's the good people I've worked with here that have made the time well spent. It's you that I will miss the most!

Mr. Tom

Memories from The Garden by Miss Horwell

I can't think of a more appropriate way to go out than with the words of the children I have taught at Garden for the last 3 years (see below). Now moving on to the senior school, and for some taking their own journeys away from Thailand, I share some of their own memories and of course have more of my own, but we will be here forever if I begin on that course!

In sum, my time here 'in the Garden' has really felt like just that. When I arrive in the morning after my drive through jungle on one side and tinkering boats on the other I park

up the car, enter the rickety primary gate that often the children help me to open, and am greeted by numerous happy children playing amongst the greenery. I feast my eyes upon the fun that they are having and do this often throughout my day, which I am quite sure will be my main memory of what it is like to teach here.

After being greeted by their wonderful enthusiasm for another day here, I go about my business of teaching them, which really doesn't feel like the chore of business at all. They soak up new knowledge and learning like the palms that surround them soak up the wet season and I am so grateful to have witnessed their development, even though they are probably rather tired of me and our classroom now, quite rightly so!

As Year 4 students, I had the pleasure of inheriting a comical bunch of characters with all kinds of creativity inside. And while the group dynamic has changed with children coming and going, they have all brushed their own strokes of genius, generosity, enduring quirks and kindness onto the palate. Each day they have created a new colour for me, one day is never the same as another.

I will take away many memories from each and every one of them. So to mention any one of them would be an injustice to those whom I don't speak of, and in saying this, I include both the primary and secondary students that I have had the pleasure of working with. These children really are the colours of the sunshine that they grow up in and I thank them all for my special time here. All the best to you folk moving on and many thanks to the parents, teachers and children who have made my journey here in Thailand so very memorable.

Some students' memories

I remember when I first came to GIS, I was in Year 1. I was really nervous, so I hid behind my parents hoping nobody would see me. Eventually someone saw me and took me to the playground, so I wasn't nervous anymore. The best part about Year 1 was making paper mache and getting all messy! **Jakki**

I remember one memory that I will never forget, going to YMCA. My favourite activities were the flying fox and the canoeing. I got wet there, but it was great fun! **Tan**

When I came to Year 5 I acted at GIS both with Miss Horwell and Mr Watkins. The first play was called 'Alice in Wonderland'. I had the role of a Dodo and a cook. I was the only person with two roles and I was in both acts, apart from Alice!

The second drama was called 'Funny Bones' and was for a drama festival at St Andrews. We even made a magazine called Kids Mag to raise money for it. I was an actor, singer and dancer. I felt great at that time.

Sadly, Miss Horwell is leaving us and moving to either Italy or Luxembourg. My friends are moving to secondary and I am moving to India. I'll miss all of them but will get to know many others! **Aditi**

At the start of Year 6 Miss Horwell came up with an idea to make a magazine to raise money for the drama festival. In the first edition I was the assistant editor and I helped Miss Horwell do the page layout. In the fifth edition I was able to do the page layout all by myself without Miss Horwell's help. I feel really proud of myself. **Srishti**

New teachers

We have a very large number of new children GIS next year. In addition we have employed two new TAs – Khun Rose who will be working with the EAL and Thai departments and Ms. Manisha who will be working in Foundation with Ms. Jane. I hope they will be happy here. We have also employed a new teacher for Year 3 – Ms. Laurence who joins us from St Andrews.

Next year, most of the children in Primary and Foundation will be with teachers who have not taught them before. The list below indicates the teachers we have allocated for each year group in Primary and Foundation for next year.

Foundation

Class in 2011-2012	Teacher	Teaching assistants
Early Years Yellow Room	Ms. Aren	Khun Boy, Russel
Nursery Blue Room	Mr. Kam	Khun Tim, Khun Su
Reception Green Room	Ms. Jane	Khun Poi, Manisha

Primary

Class in 2010-2011	Teacher	Teaching assistant (s)
Year 1L	Mr. Lucy L	Khun Nic, Khun Ruth
Year 2L	Ms. Lucy H	Khun Pom, Khun Ruth
Year 3L	Ms. Laurence	Ms. Siewhar
Year 3T	Ms. Tiina	
Year 4C	Ms. Claire	Khun Pia
Year 4E	Ms. Erica	
Year 5M	Mr. Miller	Ms. Aenny
Year 5S	Mr. Siv	
Year 6J	Ms. Jenn	
Year 6W	Mr. Watkins	

The final of the Talent Show was held on June 13 and the six finalists were tremendous. The final order was:

1st: Seren with her guitar and singing

2nd: Peter on the piano

3rd: Aastha with her dancing

4th: Suyash with his jokes

5th: Swamini with her presentation

6th: Sonal with her dancing

Well done to all these finalists as well as the 40 other children who competed. Next year we will have this event once more.

In the final assembly of the year, tomorrow (Friday), we will be giving out the STAR OF THE YEAR awards as well as revealing which House has won the 2010-2011 House Competition – watch this space.

Have a great holiday, I hope you are happy and safe wherever you go and I look forward to seeing you again in August. Don't forget: **We start school again on the 23rd of August 2011.**

Robert Grisdale
Head of Primary

Chief Editor's Letter



Hello! I'm the new Chief Editor, Dominic, of this edition. This issue is our Farewell edition, since we are not going to be here any longer in Primary and some of us will be leaving the school forever, me included!



Kids Mag will no longer be here in the next school year, but we will continue on our very own website, Kids Mag blog, and you can too! So go to the following link and subscribe to our blog to get all the latest news and reviews. You can even add your own posts about KidsMag! (www.kidsmagblog.wordpress).

There are lots of things to read and do, it features us, the Kids Mag team, creating KidsMag from our first edition and includes; the Diwali Divas report, how we started Kids Mag, our number 1 fans, some of our best pages from our last 5 editions and lots more to come soon.

In our 5th Farewell edition we also have new pages such as the credits to tell you who did what, El coco moves to Italy (where Miss Horwell will be leaving us for), new juicy fun activities in Fun Station and lots more to do in this final, exciting edition.

Bazaar bonanza

A massive second-hand bazaar was held GIS on Sunday June 19. The school hosted the sale in its grounds from 8am to 12pm. With over 25 stalls selling a variety of second hand goods, it was a great chance to pick up a bargains. Money raised will help buy playground toys in Primary and a swing set in Foundation.



Flying high in Years 3 and 4

On June 21 and 22, a total of 23 children from Years 3 and 4 went to Khao Kheow Open Zoo.

We fed lots of animals, including the rhinoceros, flamingos, deer, giraffes and elephants. The best bit was the Flight of the Gibbon, which is high in the forest trees

and has 24 zip wires. We had to wear a harness and a helmet because it was so high. The highest platform was 50m up a tree and the longest wire was 300m.

The first time was very scary but then we got used to it and it was amazing and so exciting. We slept in bunk beds and were a little scared we would fall out!

We think all Year 3s and 4s should go because it was super fun.

by Nutt, Tatchan and Sharika Year 4

News from Secondary

IB Graduation Dinner



IB2 students from Garden International School in Rayong had a special graduation dinner to mark the end of their IB Diploma studies.

The dinner was held on Saturday May 28 at the Holiday Inn in Pattaya and was attended by IB students, parents and teachers. The food was great, the speeches

were even better and a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all.

Congratulations to our graduating students Anushree, Brinda, TK, Jun, Ellen and Heiko.

We wish them all the best in their future studies and hope that they keep in touch with GIS wherever they are in the world!
Ian Fraser, IB Coordinator



IB1 Group 4 Project



Water and energy were the themes of the IB1 Group 4 Project for 2011.

This project, which was held over two full days on May 31 and June 1, included teams of four IB students who had a choice of exploring “**Water at GIS**” or “**Energy at GIS**”.

Five teams worked tirelessly over the two days, brainstorming, investigating and constructing powerpoint presentations of their findings.

Collaborative teamwork is one of the most important components of the Group 4 project. This was seen in abundance, whether it was students calculating the volume and evaporation rate of swimming pool water, investigating solar energy feasibility at GIS or even attempting to measure the energy transformed in a student-constructed potato rocket!

Each team gave a short presentation of their findings on June 9 with two teams choosing the “Water” option and three teams the “Energy” option. There were some novel ideas investigated by the teams, from energy expended by IB students in their daily walking to classes over the four floors at GIS, electrical energy produced by a combination of limes from the GIS canteen, and “damped” pendulum oscillations in the swimming pool, through to thermal energy absorbed by various samples of water around the school campus.

All students agreed it had been a successful two days of teamwork. Each team member will now be assessed by the GIS IB Science teachers under the criteria of “personal skills” in the Group 4 project.

This assessment will contribute a percentage towards student’s final grades for IB Sciences that will be determined in 2012.

After all the hard work that was put in by the students over two days we hope that there may be a few future science Nobel laureates amongst the graduating IB class of 2012 – watch this space!

Ian Fraser: IB Coordinator, GIS

IGCSE Graduation Dinner



On Saturday June 11 The Hilton Hotel, Pattaya, hosted a wonderful night of entertainment, food and celebration for our IGCSE Year 11 students.

In what was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year for our students, we saw parents, families, teachers and guests come together to enjoy a splendid night that will live in the memory for a long time to come.

The night was organised by a group of students, with a little guidance and support from Mr Stokes, and included piano solos, a fashion show, singing and a few speeches, punctuated by lots of lovely food deserving of the occasion.

The organisers (Hanna, Nuk, Ayesha, Rosa, Ben R, Heta) co-ordinated everything from choosing a venue, contacting the marketing team there (K. Som), the graphic design of the tickets, collecting money, setting the menu to arranging for professional photography. No doubt the opportunity will stand some of these girls in good stead for organizing any future wedding party!

It’s always a slightly sad occasion to see a year group leave, but the night gave us all an opportunity not only to dress up formally and take what seemed like hundreds of photos, but to reflect on school life, on growing up and on what the future may hold. We do hope that all our students performed to their best in the recent IGCSE exams and we look forward to the results being published by Cambridge International Examinations Board in August.

We look forward to welcoming back about half the students to commence the IB Diploma course in the next academic year. To the others we wish them luck in their adventures at various universities around Thailand, or abroad - wherever they may be heading! For the moment though, well done on a successful year and a fully deserved big night out!

**Chris Stokes,
Deputy Head, Upper Secondary**

Garden musicians impress judges



Garden International School's talented students hit the right note with judges at the annual Musician of the Year competition.

Held on June 8 at the Rayong-based school, there were seven competitors aged from Y1 to Y12 (IB1). They were: Hyo Jung Y10, Jack Y10, Neuy Y8, and Peter Y1 (all on Piano), Rohit Y10 on Keyboard, and Christina and Anne Y12 on Flute.

Our judges this year were Ms Lucy from Nursery, Mr Allan, our latest addition to the Music Department Instrumental Service, Teacher Dom, Head of Secondary and Music teacher at REPS, and our very own Principal, Dave Moroney.

The standard, as usual, was high and the judges said they found it very hard to decide on this year's winners. But they finally chose the following:

- Peter Y1 Piano Awarded Most Promising Musician
- Anne Y12 Flute Awarded 3rd Place
- Hyo Jung Y10 Awarded 2nd Place
- Neuy Y8 Awarded 1st Place

Congratulations to all our competitors, we look forward to next year!

Slammin'



Wednesday June 8 saw the first annual Band Slam competition to be held in school. There were nine bands involved in the competition with students from Y6 to Y12 playing music ranging from Muse to Avril Lavigne to Oasis.

Each band performed one song - with the prize being an amazing two hours recording time at a professional studio with professional sound engineer in Pattaya.

Students cast their votes after listening, thinking about the band who performed the best. The band with the highest number of votes was *Hat Trick* (Rohit Y10, Benji Y12, Robert Y10, Sony Y8) who sang *You Give Love a Bad Name*, by Bon Jovi. Third place went to aMUSEing (Sarah, Gorn, Aree, Gi Ung Y9) and second place was awarded to Praw and the Y 10 boys (Praw Y7, Jack, Robert, Rohit Y10).

Putting Our Students To The Test!

This month four of our secondary students will sit their ABRSM Grade 5 Theory exams in Bangkok. The students have been studying hard for these and we wish them the best of luck!

The Music Department

Transition Day for Year 6



Year 6 students enjoyed a special transition day as they prepare to make the move from Primary to Secondary.

The students came to see Secondary on June 10. After registration, they went to have a taste of drama, geography, history, music, maths, science, art and English classes.

In one of the English classes the students learned about limericks and had to put back together lines from limericks that had been cut up. (pictured left).

The aim of the day is to make sure students are confident and prepared for their move into Secondary.

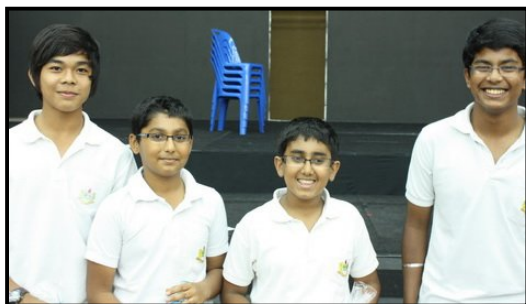
Garden students win Maths Challenge

GIS recently hosted the Team Maths Challenge for students in Years 7 to 11.

Each team had four members, which could include a maximum of two from Upper Secondary (Years 10 and 11).

The Challenge lasted a whole day and 20 teams took part: 15 from GIS, three from Regents and two from REPS.

There were five different rounds, and in each round students were not allowed to use a calculator.



Our winning team (pictured left) of Rohit, Luqman, Vishal and Arjit did extremely well all day, and finished several points ahead of the second-placed team of Ben Bartlett, Parth, Arpan and Yash (pictured below, left).

Third and fourth were teams from Regents, and fifth was The Korean Tigers which consisted of Robert, Rain, Sarah and Hui Eun (pictured below, right). These students are all superb

Mathematicians; the six older students all took their IGCSE in May and we are sure that they have all achieved high grades.

Paul Chesters



Students pay respects at wartime memorial



Secondary students learned about Thailand's wartime history during a trip to Kanchanaburi.

The group headed off to the western province for their trip, where they learned about the infamous railway that Prisoners of War were forced to build in World War Two.

Students had time to enjoy the area's fantastic natural wonders as they kayaked and travelled in bamboo rafts along the famous River Kwai. They were also able to enjoy an elephant trek and even bathe the elephants afterwards.

A visit to the Hellfire Pass Memorial gave students the chance to walk part of the actual railway track, and see the infamous cutting where many Prisoners of War died. Students also visited a war cemetery, where they paid their respects.

Aliens, robots and drama at Garden!

Students did drama, drawing and had discussions on science fiction/fact as part of a time capsule project. On June 16, GIS students began the day by listening to an interesting introduction about science fiction and fact. Topics like evidence about the moon landing, alien art, alien drama, short theatre, advertising about aliens and arguing about whether they are real or not were some of the activities.



Some students even dressed up as aliens and astronauts, and designed their own creatures, robot and other scientific gadgets.



Year 7 student, Yukta, said: "My favorite part was discussing about whether the Americans were really the first to land on the moon or if it was fake."

In the afternoon, students put their work into the time capsule, which was buried in the school grounds. It will be dug up in 20 years.

Along with the students' work, Mr Berry donated his own watch! (pictured above right)



By Jida, Yukta, Tanisha, Salena and Arpan



Cultural trip promotes understanding

GIS secondary students had an action-packed trip to Rayong. Among the activities were swimming off Koh Man Island, planting mangrove trees (pictured left) and various exercises. Everyone slept over at a homestay and had a great time!

This was a Thai cultural trip called "Love Rayong's Projects" and the aim was to encourage students to see and protect the environment, community and culture of this

town. K.Wan was the trip leader, and was accompanied by K.Runu, Mr Yarwood and Mr Liversidge.



Parents Evening

Dozens of mums and dads came to GIS on Monday June 20 for our parents evening.

Secondary teachers sat and spoke with the parents for more than two hours as they discussed their children's progress and goals for the future.

Peter Brown Award for Academic Excellence in Year 9

A shield and a 1,000 baht book token are awarded to the Year 9 student with the highest average grade at the final reporting session. This is a very prestigious award and I would like to thank Mr Brown, a friend of GIS, for his donation that has allowed this to happen.

The shield is kept over the summer vacation by the student, and during the school year it will be on display in the front office. The student's name and year will be engraved on the front of the shield.

There are some conditions: no C grades and no behavioural issues throughout the year, and the student must be returning to year 10. So who has won the first Peter Brown Award? That will be announced in assembly on Friday!

Research project on Koh Samet



Tourists going to the island resort of Koh Samet pay up to 50 per cent more than they do on the mainland, a student research project has revealed.

On June 2, a group of students from Garden International School in Ban Chang, Rayong, went to Koh Samet, an island near Pattaya, to investigate the tourism industry for their Geography coursework.

The results showed that soft drinks on the mainland cost 15 baht, but on the island they are 25 baht.

Snacks, such as crisps, are about 20 baht on the mainland but on Koh Samet the price usually doubles, and while mainland ice-cream goes for 40 baht, once on the island the cost is 60 baht.

Water was almost the same price, only 2 baht more expensive than the normal price of 8 baht, so there's no need to carry lots of bottles over on the ferry.

Items purchased were between 5 and 30 baht more expensive. Chewing gum was particularly more expensive than on the mainland, while bottled water was only 2-3 baht more.

Most of the land was used for shops, convenience stores and restaurants.

In the morning, all the students on this trip took a bus to the port in Ban Pae, Rayong, and then caught a boat to the island, arriving before lunch. Students prepared and started to do their research on 'environmental quality' at Hat Sai Kaew. From the result of this experiment, it revealed that the further we travel away from Hat Sai Kaew the environmental quality at the beach increases. We tested the water and how clean the beach was and how many people were there.



After all the morning experiments, we then had lunch at the town centre of Koh Samet, which is cheaper than the food at the hotel. After lunch, we surveyed 25 tourists that visited Koh Samet. At Koh Samet there are a lot of tourists that come from different countries, but from the results many of them are domestic tourists, but the majority were international tourists.

On the next day we needed to find out the prices from a convenience store and the price of services on Koh Samet and compare these to the prices on the mainland. From what we find, most things on Koh Samet are more expensive than on the mainland, because Koh Samet businesses need to pay for importing goods that they take in from outside.

The last thing that all the students needed to investigate the use of land on Koh Samet; what is it used for and what is the total usage area in Koh Samet.

After all the investigations and surveys that all the students did, they put all that information into a 2,000-word essay for their Geography coursework which will be used towards their IGCSEs next year.

By Supanut Yaemsri (Off)



No more exams? - let's have cake!

Having your cake and eating it!

Year 7 have just taken their first end-of-year exams in Secondary school. After all the revision and thinking I decided to treat them to one of their favourite foods - cakes!

As you can see from the photo, they were excited that the exams were over and jubilant at the thought of tucking into some delicious cakes. Well done 7B (B for brilliant) - let's see if your results deserve another treat!

Mr Berry

Record book fair

A bumper book fair means GIS has nearly 20,000 baht-worth of free books - a new record! The fair on June 8 and 9 was well supported by teachers who took students to the library and explained many of the books to them.

Well done to everybody who helped make it a success - happy reading over the holidays.

* Many families have a clear out at the end of term. GIS Library is happy to accept any donations of books you no longer need. Donated books should be in reasonable condition, not more than 5 years old and suitable for the school age range of 2-18 years.



Models with a difference

The model club has changed this term with the influx of winged warriors from Japan.

As you can see, once completed the new-style models look fantastic. By the look on Kent's face he was particularly pleased with the results of his work.

Mr Berry

Student Council

Following her year in office as president of the GIS Student Council, Daniela Escobar is stepping down at the end of this academic year. Under her leadership, the Student Council has been very active, putting on events for students in Primary and Secondary every few weeks.

The time has come for someone else to step into her shoes, and take on the responsibility of being President of the Student Council for the academic year 2011-2012. Any GIS student can nominate the person that they think should be the next president. Anyone who will be in Year 11 or IB from August is eligible to be nominated. If you are nominated, you can choose whether you want to stand for election or not. The election itself will be on Friday 2nd September 2011.

Students who wish to make a nomination should send an email to either Mr Watkins (jamesw@gardenrayong.com) or Mr Liversidge (benl@gardenrayong.com) before 3.10pm on the first Wednesday of the first week of next term (24th August 2011).

HELPING MAKE OUR SCHOOL THE BEST IT CAN BE News from the volunteers of the P.T.A. (Parent Teachers Association)

Dear Parents

I know of many children who are below the age of the 13 and are active on Facebook. Did you know that according to Facebook rules, children under 13 shouldn't have an account on the social networking site? Here are some rules read before you allow your child to register:

1. Minimum age to register an account is 13.
2. Facebook says: 'If we learn that we have collected personal information from a child under age 13, we will delete that information as quickly as possible.'
3. It also encourages others to tell them if a child is using the site: 'If you believe that we might have any information from a child under age 13, please contact us through the help page.'
4. Add your child as your 'friend' on Facebook.
5. Know your child's password so that you can monitor his/her activity on the site.
6. Ensure your child does not make any adult friends whom you do not know.
7. Limit the time your child spends on visiting Facebook.

As parents, we need to guide our children to make the right choices in life.....be informed, don't let your child be on Facebook just because it's the 'in thing'; read about privacy settings - know the rules to understand the game.

Rumi Ghosh

PTA

Read more at: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1385272/Numbers-parents-allow-pre-teen-children-open-Facebook-accounts-DOUBLES-year.html#ixzz1PVMPnwCe>

Sports News

Record medal tally at Primary FOBISSEA



Garden International School (GIS) made history with an incredible medal tally of 65 at the Primary FOBISSEA Games in Bangkok.

Students from Garden International School, Rayong, returned from the Primary FOBISSEA Games with their best-ever medal tally. The FOBISSEA Games is an annual event for International schools from all over South East Asia. The competition consisted of three days of sporting

events and was hosted by the Regents School in Bangkok. The first day started with swimming, the second day was Track and Field, and the third day had T-ball and Football competitions.

On the first day the venue for swimming was the new Chulalongkorn University Aquatic centre; our swimmers gave 100% effort and finished with a total of 35 medals (Gold 22, Silver 9 and Bronze 4).

On the second day momentum continued at the athletic stadium, with all athletes rising to the occasion under the stadium floodlights as the competition went into the evening, with a further 27 medals (Gold 12, Silver 8 and Bronze 7).

With T-ball and football on the last day, the students were tired from the previous two days, however everyone raised their game again and delivered the final push to win the Year 6 T-ball competition with a 16-15 score in the final over the Uplands School from Penang, Malaysia. In the football competition the Year 6 girls played the Kota Kinabula School from Malaysia in a thrilling final with a 2-1 win securing the gold medal.

The Year 5 girl's football competition finished with a 3-win, 1-draw and 1-loss tally which gave them the runners-up position and silver medal.

Garden International School had only 14 students but their tally of 65 medals was a fantastic result. Well done to all of you.

I would like to thank Ms Patsy Smith for her assistance over the five days and also for her coaching of the swim team, also I would like to thank the Physical Education staff at Garden for their help preparing the students for the games.



Robert Edwards

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GIS