



# Garden International School Newsletter



IB World School

January 10<sup>th</sup> 2011

## *From the Principal*

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

At the end of last year we said goodbye to Emma Jones and Forrest Waudby. They have left for personal reasons but I know that they both leave us with much regret. Ms Jones has moved to the USA and Mr Waudby to Bangkok. We do, however, welcome Tommy Elderkamp and Mark Beales as excellent replacements. Later you can read a little about these new additions to our teaching body.

Following the recent resit results being released, we are now pleased to announce that **we had a 100% pass rate for the IB Diploma** for the 2010 examination year. Our congratulations go to all the students and a huge thank you to their teachers.

Many PE lessons are outside in the sun so we strongly advise students to wear a cap, which must be either their house cap or a Storm cap (see later).

Later on you will read about the arrangements for the International Day and Evening. Mark in your diary Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February –we do hope that you can attend.

My best wishes to you for a happy and peaceful New Year.

**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



## New teachers



Tommy Elderkamp is a young enthusiastic teacher from the Netherlands, who just moved together with his English wife and six month old daughter from Cambodia, where he took a break from teaching to run a hotel. He likes to play sports such as basketball, football and tennis and loves to beat his wife in a game of scrabble or backgammon whilst enjoying a glass of wine. He is very much looking forward to getting to know everyone at GIS. Other than the Geography classes and an EAL class, he will be coaching the varsity girls' basketball team.



Originally from England, Mark Beales left behind life as a journalist and newspaper editor and came to Thailand in 2004. Since then he has worked as a teacher, television presenter and travel writer for Lonely Planet. With a BA (Hons) in English Literature and a diploma in TESOL, Mark loves reading and writing and is keen to pass his passion for words on to his students. Mark has been married to his wife, Bui, for eight years. He will be teaching mainly EAL but also some first language English.

## Up-coming events:

11 <sup>th</sup> January	PTA committee meeting
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Mock exam week for years 11 to 13
4 <sup>th</sup> February	International Day and Evening
8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Primary Play
10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Chiang Mai Basketball Tournament
22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Secondary Sports Day
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Reception to year 2 Sports Day
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Years 3 to 6 Sports Day
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentines Disco

## International Day: Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> February.

Here are the arrangements for the International Day and Evening:

Starting at 0820 and finishing around 10am we will have the Flag Parade with anthems. This will be under the Secondary covered area as it gives more shade in the morning.

After a short break Foundation parents may join the classes to celebrate the children's cultures and nationalities, and Primary parents may join their children for a tour around the world. The Secondary students will enjoy an international quiz and a range of activities with 'international' themes. Led by the IB students, some of it will involve preparation of food for the evening event. A truly international flavour!

To allow students to prepare for the evening events we will finish the school day at 1:30pm. Buses will leave at 1340. If you pick up your child, please collect by 1340 in the afternoon. We do expect secondary students to attend the evening show.

No students will be allowed to remain on campus during the afternoon.

We then reopen at 1800 with a range of international food and a BBQ and bar in the canteen area. This is where you (parents, students, teachers and friends of GIS) can enjoy a social get together.

Later, starting at 1930 in the Hall, we will have the International Show put on by various sections of the school from years 4 to 13.

The day promises to be an enjoyable celebration of the diversity of cultures and nationalities here at GIS.

## Spanish Evening, by Heta Shah y11.



On the evening of 3<sup>rd</sup> December the IB 1 students organized a Spanish evening for years 9-13 with the help of Ms. Lopez and Ms. Escobar. The aim of this evening was to practice our Spanish speaking ability with the help of conversational games.

The evening began with a Spanish guessing game where we had labels stuck to our back so we did not know which character we were. In order to find

out, we had to question, and be answered back, in Spanish. Later on we had a treasure hunt planned for us by Daniela and Grace. All the clues were in Spanish of course. Soon after the exciting treasure hunt some of us played bingo along with Ms. Escobar and others played another guessing game with Ms. Lopez and Ms. Jen. Other teachers



who joined the Spanish students were Ms. Morris and Mr. Moroney. Along with the games we also had prizes which were sweets and candies.

After a while we all took the opportunity to try the delicious Spanish food. Without the Spanish food the Spanish evening would have been incomplete! In order to end the evening we had to question ten people in Spanish. To sum up, it was an evening of delight, full of excitement

and entertainment. In addition to that we also achieved our principal aim which was to practice our Spanish conversational skills.

## Mocks

Year 11 and year 13 students should be studying hard just now. Next week is 'mock exam' week. These are practice exams for real thing later this year and are taken under full examination conditions.

## HELPING MAKE OUR SCHOOL THE BEST IT CAN BE

### News from the volunteers of the P.T.A. (Parent Teachers Association)

The next PTA committee meeting is tomorrow, Tuesday at 7pm in the library.

## Music Exams

In October some of our music students travelled to Bangkok to sit piano and flute exams with Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. We finally got the results through and are delighted to report that everybody passed. The music team are very proud of the students involved- many passed with merit, and one with a distinction! These exams are of an international standard, and it was a truly nerve-racking experience for all involved- so well done to the following students:



Kym, yr 9 Grade 1 Flute- Pass  
Ploy, yr 9 Grade 1 Flute- Pass with Merit  
Jack, yr 10 Grade 3 Piano- Pass with Merit  
Melissa, yr 10 Grade 1 Piano- Pass with Merit  
Hyo Jung, yr 10 Grade 5 Piano- Pass with Merit  
Daniela, IB1 Grade 4 Flute- Pass  
Christina, IB1 Grade 4 Flute- Pass with Merit  
Anne (Hyo-Mi), IB1 Grade 5 Flute- Pass with Distinction  
Pan Pan (has now left school but would be in yr9) Grade 1 Flute - Pass with Merit

Additionally, last term three other students sat separate exams last term, and we would also like to congratulate them:

Rohit, yr 10 Grade 4 Keyboard – Pass with Merit  
Azeez, yr 11 Grade 5 Piano – Pass  
Anjali, yr 5 Grade 1 Piano - Pass

## Kids Mag



Pictured (left) is the front cover of the second edition of 'Kids Mag' which went out at the end of last term. The next edition will be out in time for Valentines Day. It is written by the Year 6 non-Thai students when they are with Ms Horwell during Thai classes.

## SPORTS DAYS

For the next 5 weeks, **ALL** students will be practicing Track and Field events (running, jumping and throwing) in preparation for the school's annual Sports Days. The dates are as follows:

<b>Tuesday, February 22:</b>	<b>Secondary</b>
<b>Wednesday, February 23:</b>	<b>Reception, Years 1 and 2</b>
<b>Thursday, February 24:</b>	<b>Primary – Years 3 - 6</b>

During this time, students will be spending many PE lessons outside in the sun so we are encouraging them to wear a cap during these lessons.



It's a great opportunity to pick up the **NEW GIS** Storm baseball cap!!

### Storm Baseball Caps On Sale Now

Soft feel, light-weight 100% polyester cap with Coolmax technology for added comfort and performance.

Embroidered Storm logo and adjustable velcro self strap. Washable. **One size fits all.**

Made by [FENIX APPAREL](#) in Bangkok, this cap features the Storm logo on the front, the *FX™* logo on the back.

**Colors Available:** White, Navy Blue

**Regular Price:** 300 baht

**Sale Price: 250 baht** until January 31, 2011.

To purchase, contact Doug Lynch [dougl@gardenrayong.com](mailto:dougl@gardenrayong.com) or visit the PE office on the first floor.