



# Garden International School Newsletter



IB World School

October 13th, 2010

## From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

After half term we have many big events to look forward to that involve the whole school community. First we have the ever popular Diwali night. Please note that the date has been changed at parents' requests to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November. Next we have the secondary production (the spectacular 'Little Shop of Horrors') with two evening performances on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November. On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December is our fun day, the Christmas Fair. We hope you can make it to these events and look forward to seeing you there.

It's important that we have up to date medical information about the children in the school. Along with this newsletter you will find a medical form for you to fill in on behalf of your child/ren. Please either fill in the Word version and email it to K Ning our school nurse [phonthipp@gardenrayong.com](mailto:phonthipp@gardenrayong.com) or print out the pdf file, fill it in and return it to the class teacher. Paper versions and a Thai version are available from the front office.

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a body set up with the primary aim to support and enhance the education and all-round development of students in the school. It has grown over the past couple of years into a strong and effective body for parents to discuss and act on school issues. Please see the article giving information about the Annual General Meeting next Tuesday evening at 7pm.

Kind Regards,  
Dave Moroney, BSc, PGCE, MA

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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 School



## Up-coming events:

### October

#### October

- 19<sup>th</sup> PTA Annual General Meeting 7pm  
22<sup>nd</sup> Halloween Theme Afternoon (Primary)  
25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> Half Term

### November

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Haunted House (Primary)  
8<sup>th</sup> GIS primary has Talent Round 1  
12<sup>th</sup> Diwali Evening  
19<sup>th</sup> Loy Kratong  
24<sup>th</sup> Secondary Production  
25<sup>th</sup> Secondary Production  
29<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> December Year 5 and 6 trip to River Kwai

### December

- 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas fair at GIS  
6<sup>th</sup> No school – The King's Birthday  
9<sup>th</sup> Key Stage 1 Christmas Show  
9<sup>th</sup> Reports go home  
10<sup>th</sup> No school – Constitution Day  
13<sup>th</sup> GIS primary has Talent Round 2  
13<sup>th</sup> Secondary parents' evening  
14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Concert  
15<sup>th</sup> End of Term, enjoy your holidays

At Garden International School the safety and security of our students is paramount. It is for this reason that we have a **'Student Driving Policy.'**

To ensure the safety of students, and approved passengers, driving their own vehicles as transport to and from school, *a student driver must have read the policy statement and agree to abide by the conditions stated.*

A vehicle refers to any motorised transport.

The full policy can be requested from the front office, but an important point is that students must apply for permission for the privilege of driving any vehicle onto the school campus. All car drivers must be 18 years of age or older. All motorised bike drivers must be 16 years of age or older. There are no exceptions to this.



As you are aware we are selling healthy, well-prepared meals through the school canteen. We would also like to make this food available for take away and will be selling bags of food and healthy jasmine/red rice mix available from 2pm. Bags are 25baht for food and 10baht for rice. Availability is limited to first come first served.



You can see at the end of this newsletter a **Garage Sale (October 23<sup>rd</sup>)** advertised to **support Dek Dee** ([www.dekdee.org](http://www.dekdee.org)). They are a relatively new charity that has begun in the village next to Garden International School. Its main aim is to provide pre-school facilities and education to children whose parents cannot afford private pre-school. By providing this service in the local community it means that parents can go out to work to provide a better income for their families. Importantly, for families who have migrated large distances in Thailand it means that they can bring their children with them as there will be someone to look after them when the parents go out to work. The garage sale helps in two ways – it raises funds for the nursery, and it also benefits local Thai families, who are able to buy quality goods at very cheap prices. They normally try to keep to clothes, linen, towels, small household items and toys – Dek Dee is not very big, so large items are more difficult to handle. But anything at all would be welcome.

### **Garden's Got Talent 2010!** By Vanessa Vanderpoel (IB1)

It was that time of year again where the students of Garden International School came out of their shell and showed the world what they have got in them.

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September the school hall was transformed into a star stage, to make it feel as though it were a real TV broadcasting studio.

The contestants who entered the event were: Monika (IB1), Jennifer (Yr 8), TK and Johnney (IB2 & IB1), Fiat (Yr 8), Harshita (Yr 7), Vidushi (Yr 7), Grace (IB1), Praw (Yr 7), and of course Mr. Shiells and Mr. Watkins (AKA the "Black Eyed Proclaimers"). Our panel of judges included Mr. Campbell, Mr. Lund and Ms. Morris, and the event was compered by Romy and Martin in IB1.

The crowd went wild for all of these contestants, and the judges had a difficult time making their decision. Eventually, they agreed that first prize should go to Praw from Yr 7 who sang the song "This is me". Praw performed with effortless charisma, a confident look and a beautiful singing voice. Such a lot of talent for such a young girl!



In second place was Grace with the song "Teenage Dream" by Katy Perry, and in third place it was Harshita and Vidushi with their Indian dance.

Overall, it was a wonderful event and it was brilliant to see so much talent on display. If we are lucky there will be another talent show soon!

### **Amari Midnight Run** By Vanessa Vanderpoel (IB1)

On the night of October the 9<sup>th</sup> the majority of the IB1 and many members of the school staff went up to Bangkok to join in with the 13<sup>th</sup> Amari midnight run. The money raised from the run goes to support Chalerm Prakiat HRH Princess Sirindhorn school which supports the education of children whose parents have passed away due to HIV infection and Baan Gerda, the Children's Village project which supports HIV-infected orphans children in Nongmuang, Lopburi province.

The run was challenging for everyone whether they were trying to set a personal best time or just complete the distance. The IB students all ran the 6k run, except for TK who decided to tackle the 12km along with some of the teachers.



It was exciting running through the streets. There were over 400 police men stopping traffic and helping at the event, some people in costumes as well as some very serious athletes. The atmosphere was excellent.

At the finish line we were all awarded medals as a souvenir for our participation in the event. We had lots of fun, and it was great to really apply ourselves to this challenge. As for me, I already know, I will be trying to beat my time next year for sure!

### **Model Club News**

Pictured are the pilots from GIS with their models in various stages of construction. Painting the models has been an especially taxing skill which is slowly improving after working on every pilot, wing and wheel.

The completion stage will soon be here for some of the students when they have put the finishing touches to their models.

That will be the moment of satisfaction - seeing all those hours of hard delicate work pay off with life-like realistic scale models of the real thing.

Chocks away!

Flt Sgt Berry



If you would like to have a stall at the Christmas Fair on 4<sup>th</sup> December please contact Ms Tiina [tiinal@gardenrayong.com](mailto:tiinal@gardenrayong.com) for more information

**Slave Auction** By: Romy Khanijou (IB1)  
On Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of October, the Student Council team organized the slave auction during the school's lunch time. The purpose of this event was to help raise money for the eagerly awaited school production "Little Shop of Horrors". The slaves being auctioned were characters from the production; however, we also had teachers who took part.

The Student Council team did a great job in organising this event as they were responsible for jobs such as: marketing the event, organising music for the event and most importantly to encourage people to bid for the slaves.

To help us out with this event we also had Ms. Morris who was a very enthusiastic auctioneer. She encouraged people to buy slaves for a high price and she herself bought a slave too.

It was really good to see students enjoy the event; they were really keen to take part in



this. It was a good, fun break from the hectic school life for the senior students.

Students were really motivated and it was great to see them bidding amongst each other for the slaves.

This event was a real success as the money raised is enough for the costumes which the production department will buy for the characters. On behalf of Student Council I would also like to thank all the students and teachers who supported this event.



## **News from Primary and Foundation**

### **Halloween**



We are having a '**Halloween Theme Afternoon**' on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October from 1.20pm until 3.15pm. If children want to wear a scary Halloween Costume they can – there will be prizes for the scariest costume in each year group and it costs *20 Baht to come in 'mufti'*. We will be showing Halloween type age appropriate cartoons and refreshments will be on sale. So come along to have fun....



## **House points and competitions**

Every second Friday we have 'House' activities. This is an opportunity for the children to compete for their respective 'House'. So far this term we have had Unihoc – which is similar to hockey – and a Poetry competition. The results for these are shown below.

Total points earned for the Year 1-6 House Unihoc Competition

<b>Team</b>	<b>House points</b>
Cobra	10
Eagle	8
Gecko	8
Tiger	7

Year 1-6 Poetry Competition

<b>Team</b>	<b>House points</b>
Cobra	1
Eagle	7
Gecko	11
Tiger	10

This gives us the total running House Points so far this year as:

<b>Team</b>	<b>House points</b>	<b>Position so far</b>
Cobra	11	4 <sup>th</sup>
Eagle	15	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Gecko	19	1 <sup>st</sup>
Tiger	17	2 <sup>nd</sup>

This Friday and on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November we are having the Mini Olympics. This will be followed by a Football competition later in the term.

## **Drama opportunities**

There are two major drama events taking place outside school in March, these are open for children from Years 4-6 to take part in. They are:



1. The first FOBISSEA Performing Arts Festival in Penang, Malaysia on the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of March – please e-mail Mr. Ken ([kenl@gardenrayong.com](mailto:kenl@gardenrayong.com)) for more details.

2. The first Drama Festival at St Andrews school 'Student Spotlight' on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March. Please e-mail Miss. Horwell ([sarahh@gardenrayong.com](mailto:sarahh@gardenrayong.com)) for more details.

## **New uniforms**

The last day for this round of orders is this Friday – the 15<sup>th</sup> of October. Soon after that we should see children walking around in our newer, smarter uniform. The next opportunity to order the new uniforms will be in late November and there will be a further order in June.

## ***Star of the Month for September.***

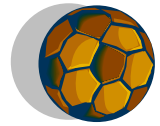
Well done to all of the following children for earning the first stars of the month for their classes or specialist subjects. If your child did not earn an award encourage them to keep working hard – it might be them next month.

<b><i>Year</i></b>	<b><i>Name of Child</i></b>	<b><i>Reason for award</i></b>
1T	Koustav	For having such a positive attitude in any task given to him
2L	Riddhi	For working hard and being kind to her friends.
3T	Rebekah	For making great progress with her reading.
3K	Shireen	For working faster in lesson time.
4C	Cheshta	For always working hard.
4J	Asha	For always doing his best and for being a great kid
5M	Aakheel	For always studying and doing well on his spelling tests.
5S	Tina	For producing some excellent Maths work this term as well as being a polite and helpful member of the class.
6H	Lily	For wonderful progress and speed in Numeracy
6W	Tan	For her improvement in her Literacy
Library	Harry	For his boundless enthusiasm for Aeroplanes
PE	Oliver	For helping during class
Swimming	Sang Hyun	For his good effort
Music	Henry	For continuously developing his vocal skills in music.
Spanish	Miriam	For working hard and learn the numbers
Mandarin	Katrina	For always concentrating in class. Her work is excellent. Well done!
Thai Language	Kita	For her great reading.
Thai Culture	Riddi	For her good manners and neat work.
EAL	Sean	For talking a lot more and for helping Haruto.
EAL	Gee Gee	For always coming to class prepared and making great progress.
DT	Philip	For showing excellent promise in DT

## **Christmas Fair**

The Christmas Fair promises to be a great event this year. We have a large number of stalls offering a range of interesting items for sale or games to play. ***If you are interested in running your own stall or if you are interested in donating a prize to the raffle*** – please let Ms. Tiina know at [tiinal@gardenrayong.com](mailto:tiinal@gardenrayong.com).

We have organised a football tournament to occur at the same time as the Christmas Fair and are inviting the other schools – St Andrews; REPS; Regents and ISE to take part in it along with some local Thai schools. If your child is in Primary and wants to play in this event they should contact Mr. Grisdale at [robertg@gardenrayong.com](mailto:robertg@gardenrayong.com)



## **Trips**

This term has already been a busy one as far as trips are concerned. Both Nursery classes have been on a trip linked to their '*Transport*' theme. Year 2 have been to the Turtle Sanctuary in Sattahip which links into their theme of '*Living Things*' and the children in Years 5 and 6 are getting increasingly excited about their trip to the River Kwai. This major residential trip links into the Year 5 theme of '*Water*' and the Year 6 theme of '*World War Two*'.

We are busy trying to organize a residential trip for Years 3 or 4. This will be held either at the zoo or at the local YMCA. Next term we will also be taking a whole Primary trip to Nong Nooch.

## **Clubs**

The number of clubs offered this term is the greatest number we have ever offered. We offer 50 clubs spread over three days and the range of these varies tremendously from reading, to dancing to art based activities. Ms. Lenz – the clubs coordinator – wrote an article in the Pattaya Mail (8<sup>th</sup> October edition) about the club opportunities in Primary. It is well worth a read.

## **Interactive Whiteboards**

The interactive whiteboard in the Year 6W classroom has proven so popular that we have ordered two more boards. These will be located in the Year 3K classroom and in the Orange room in Foundation. This means that each section of Primary and Foundation will have good access to this medium of learning. Hopefully in the future we will be able to buy even more of these boards as they are proving a real asset to teaching and learning here at GIS.

## **Our Cultural Diversity**

At GIS we try to celebrate our cultural diversity. Our mission statement as part of the Student Outcomes states that our students will be 'Be open-minded to the values and traditions of all cultures'. In addition they will 'Be respectful of others.' Hopefully such events as the ones described below will help them achieve these goals.

## **Diwali**

After half term, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November, we will be celebrating the Festival of Lights – Diwali – there will be a number of activities in the classroom during the day and there will be an evening performance in the main hall to follow. If people are interested in helping or performing in this festival please contact Ms. Hegarty at [nimh@gardenrayong.com](mailto:nimh@gardenrayong.com)

## **Loy Kratong**

A week later, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, we will be celebrating Loy Kratong. Again we will be having activities in Primary culminating in a show and the floating of Kratongs during the last period. I know that many parents will be involved in this show but if there are any more volunteers please contact Khun Lalita at [lalitap@gardenrayong.com](mailto:lalitap@gardenrayong.com)

### **HELPING MAKE OUR SCHOOL THE BEST IT CAN BE**

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

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a body set up with the primary aim to support and enhance the education and all-round development of students in the school.

All parents or guardians of any student currently attending the school plus academic staff currently employed by the school are members of the PTA.

According to our constitution each year we hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM).

At the AGM the members will receive a Principal's report on developments in the school, will receive the accounts of the PTA for the period since the previous AGM, elect the committee members and discuss and deal with any other issues put before them.

The AGM will be next Tuesday evening 19<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in the Primary Hall.

# Garage Sale

★ Saturday 23 October 2010

★ from 10.00am to 3.00pm, at

★ Dek Dee Early Learning Centre

★ Soi 2, Tung Blong, Ban Chang (next to Eastern Star  
★ Golf Course)

Please help! Your donations of clothes, toys and household items will be gratefully received and sold to Thai families in the area.

All funds raised will go towards the running of this day care centre for 45 Thai children, aged 2½ to 4 years old . Please contact Gillian Thom on 081-7626003 or [gillianthom86@gmail.com](mailto:gillianthom86@gmail.com)

or Khun Porn on 081-1537276 for more details or to arrange collection.