



Garden International School Newsletter



**IB
School** **World**

September 23rd 2010

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

Thank you all for your support for the Jesters Fair. Each year the 'Jesters Care for Kids' charity raises millions of Baht for children in much more need than ours. There is an article about the day later in this newsletter.

We would still welcome more volunteers to be part of our advisory body. If you have ever wanted to be a school governor and play a role in the progress of a school this is your opportunity. Details were in the last newsletter. Feel free to email me at gisprincipal@gardenrayong.com if you are interested or have any questions.

Our revised Mission Statement, following helpful feedback from last month, is at the end of this newsletter. The School's Mission and Vision statement tell all the school community what we believe in and where we are heading.

On Monday the students were lucky enough to have an extra day to their weekend. Not so for the teachers! It was a Professional Development day where we joined forces with two other local international schools. The teachers enjoyed a wide range of workshops and sessions, honing their skills and hopefully carrying ideas into the classroom for the benefit of our children's education.

**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 School



The International Baccalaureate



IB students thinking of a practical solution to a physics problem.

Up-coming events:

September

30th Book Fair (library)

30th Garden's Got Talent (1420, main hall)

October

1st Book Fair (library)

1st Grade Cards Issued

Last Sunday the **Jester's Fair** at Diana Garden Resort took place and Garden International School was out in force. More than 50 students and staff turned out to support our stall and subsequently Jester's Care for Kids charity. We raised 9,100 Baht in total and collected more than 250 tokens from the Jesters Kids. Our stall was a great success, though this would not have been possible without all of your kind donations. In particular I would like to thank Teng in Year 8 for his very generous donation of 24 bottles

(all paid for out of his own pocket money). We also ran a "Guess the Weight of the Cake" - kindly baked by Nic and ably assisted by Noot which made 1000 Baht all on its own, and a "Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar" competition. Noot and Grace also made Nam Kaeng Sai to sell to all the thirsty fairgoers.



Once all of the bottles had been collected by Miss Lucy in Primary, and by the IB students in Secondary, they totalled over 400 - which is an excellent achievement. Thank you once again to everyone.





It was a hot 7 hours out in the sun for the students and staff but they worked very hard throughout and managed to keep a smile - all be it a tired one - on their faces. Special thanks must go to Ms Emmy and all of the boarding students for their help, Mr Liversidge who ended up staying for twice as long as he'd planned because he was having so much fun, Mr Hegarty and K.Bonnie for all their work to market the school at the event, as well as all the other staff and students who helped on the day.

Garden International School is very proud to sponsor Jester's Care for Kids, and we look forward to continuing our support next year and into the future.

Ms Jones

The model club is flying high with growing enthusiasm as the models take shape. The glue is flowing over the wings and wheels as well as the paint.



All the modellers have their own modelling equipment and are rapidly learning how to construct their models in a clean environment using the most effective techniques to ensure the best results.

Jason's F-117A is awesome due to the fact that it is the strangest and biggest of all our models this term.



Alex's Apache helicopter ought to be a magnificent sight once the rotor blades are in situ. Jenn, May and Laila are all making the same aeroplane (the Harvard T6-G) so that will be interesting to see how they turn out of the hanger.

Here are a few photos to show these classic models in the construction process and to see just what is involved in making a model aeroplane from a box of parts.

Mr Berry

"BAKE SALE!! Bake Sale, This Friday the 24th of September the student council members will be hosting their first bake sale of the year.
Don't forget to bring your money so that you can come and enjoy all these delicious treats."

Library Opening Hours

We have extended the library opening hours. This means we are open again before and after school. GIS Library is now open from 7.30am - 5.00pm. Parents, you are welcome to join and use the library to support your children's school work and to borrow senior fiction for your own reading.

Donating books to the Library

Many thanks to James Marshall and everyone who has donated books recently.

We do welcome donations of suitable books.

We look for children's books for ages 2-18 or senior fiction that staff and parents may be interested in.

All books need to be less than 5 years old and in good condition.

GIS Student Council Elections

31st August 2010 marked a very important day in the school calendar for GIS students as it was the day that our Student Council President was elected by students from Year 5 to IB2. Students campaigned hard for a week before the election producing posters, fliers, speeches, setting up Facebook groups, and shaking a lot of hands!

Our 5 candidates for President were:

Viraj Chokshi

Daniela Escobar

Hanna Inthararat

Hyeonjun (Jun) Jang

Bhunyanutch (Noot) Kanjananon



On election day all the candidates were feeling nervous about the prospect of talking in front of more than 230 people. As students from Year 5 to IB2 began to register to vote outside the election hall the tension was mounting, but the 5 candidates held their nerve and even managed to do some last minute campaigning.



Speeches from all the candidates were delivered with a great deal of confidence and passion, inspiring both teachers and students alike. All too soon, it was time to vote!

As voters filed out of the hall to cast their vote the IB1 and IB2 students provided valuable support by managing the queues and helping the younger students understand the voting form. A lot of credit must go to Year 5 and 6 from Primary



who listened carefully to the speeches and then made thoughtful decisions about who to vote for. All that was left was for the votes to be counted. The boxes were emptied and votes painstakingly processed,



twice, just to make sure there were no mistakes. In the end the results were close, however there was one clear winner.

Congratulations to Daniela Escobar in IB1 who ran a very well thought-out campaign.



She had a mascot, produced some excellent leaflets and gave a positive and well rehearsed speech. She also baked some excellent cakes!

Now, the hard work will begin for Daniela and her team as she will start to form an executive committee and hold meetings with class representatives on a weekly basis. The job of the student council with Daniela at the helm will be to give students a greater voice, arrange student events and advocate to staff and school management on behalf of all students at GIS.

It's going to be an exciting year...

IB Rock Climbing, by Mint.

In the morning 14th of September I was very excited because we were going to go to Fairtex in Pattaya to do rock climbing. All morning in the lessons I kept thinking about it.

At 1 o'clock we all got on the bus and went down to Fairtex, I thought that Fairtex was going to be something like the one that I climbed in Scotland a few years ago.

I was very surprised when I went into the reception because it looked more like a grand hotel and I did not know it was a sports complex with so many gyms, a boxing arena and tennis courts.

Difficult & Easy!

There are 2 levels of the walls, the hard course and the easy course, we all decided to try the hard course, after all we are so good, strong and we all thought we were super man (woman), we soon found out this was not easy for any of us, of course it's not easy.



Romy was the first person that went up because he had been there many times before and we had never been. Romy climbed up very quickly because he is familiar with the procedure. We believe all of us in the group must have very strong arms and legs, because we had to use all our energy to push and pull our self up to the top. While we climbed up our arms and legs started to get very tired and our limbs ached to the point it felt like they were burning. When I reached the top I felt like I was standing on the top of Mount Everest. Only Me, Kento, Thomas, Romy, Vanessa, Miss. Jones and Miss. Stanton managed to reach the top.



After we went down!

After we had all abseiled down to the ground we all gathered around and started to take group pictures to remember what a great day we had. We were all feeling hungry maybe because we had burned a lot of energy climbing, so off we went to 7/11 to find something to eat. On the way back to school most of the class had fallen asleep, but Fern and I chatted like silly teenagers.

Ms. Jones Climbs the Highest Mountain in Africa

In August, Ms. Jones flew to Africa from Bangkok to the city of Nairobi in Kenya. The reason she went all the way to Africa was to climb the highest mountain in Africa, and one of the tallest mountains in the whole world, Mount Kilimanjaro.

Mount Kilimanjaro is 5,895 metres high. It is actually located in the country of Tanzania and is covered with snow and ice. The name Kilimanjaro means "white mountain" in the Swahili language. Climbing up the mountain is so hard, that only 40% of those who attempt the mountain make it to the top.



Ms. Jones saw many interesting animals on the mountain including Vervet Monkeys, Lammergeyers, Humming Birds, and Ravens. Because the mountain is so big, it takes a few days to climb up. Local people, called porters, helped Ms. Jones and her friend carry all the food, tents, and supplies to the upper camps where they slept and cooked.



On the morning of the final climbing day, she ate breakfast (pancakes, tea, eggs, Cadbury chocolate) in the cold midnight air looking up through the stars. After eating, she left camp with her friend, and a mountain guide named Justice for the final 6-hour push up the mountain to the summit called Uhuru Peak. Her view from the top of the mountain, where she could see all the way to other countries, was

incredible. She also tried to use her mobile phone but it didn't work so high up. After only a few minutes of rest and a quick photo, she headed back down the mountain because of the intense cold and lack of oxygen at the summit.

"Although the mountain is very beautiful", said Ms. Jones "the snow and ice are melting more and more every year from Global Warming, the heating of our atmosphere from burning fossil fuels. Everyone can help reduce this warming by conserving electricity and caring for our environment."

The next goal, said Ms. Jones, "is to climb up to the Mount Everest south base camp in Nepal." That camp is located at 5,360 metres. Everyone in class 5M says: "good luck Ms. Jones."

Interview by Anjali and Khushi (Class 5M).

Edited by Mr. Miller Photos by E. Jones



Garden International School, Thailand

Vision:

To be internationally recognised as a leading provider of quality student-centred international education.

Mission:

Garden International School is committed to:

- Providing a safe, positive and enjoyable learning environment using a British educational framework.
- Encouraging all students to develop to their full potential.
- Responding to the differing needs of individuals.
- Promoting qualities of leadership, responsibility, critical thinking, international mindedness and respect.
- Providing an environment that aims for the highest educational standards in life-long learners.

We have translated our mission statement into a set of learning outcomes:

Students at GIS will

- Enjoy learning in school and beyond.
- Develop to their full potential in all areas.
- Be confident people able to take leadership roles.
- Take responsibility for their actions and the environment.
- Apply critical thinking skills.
- Develop knowledge and understanding across a wide range.
- Be open-minded to the values and traditions of all cultures.
- Be respectful of others.
- Study in an environment promoting high academic standards.