



Garden International School Newsletter



IB World School

September 30, 2011

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of GIS,

My congratulations to Azeez (year 12) on becoming the new Student Council President, taking over from Daniela. I am sure that he will meet the expectations of office and be an excellent representative of the student body. Azeez has already impressed me in my meetings with him.

Here's some good news for parents of children in year 2. The growth in numbers there this term certainly caught us by surprise. I am pleased to say that we intend to split the class. We will create a second classroom by converting the two smaller rooms next door. We will start the recruitment process soon and all being well we will appoint a new teacher not later than the start of next term. My Special thanks go to Ms Lucy H and Classroom assistant K Pom for their hard work and dedication to the students.

Morning safety.

For the safety of the children, please be sure to drop off against the kerb where K Bun is ready to assist. Make sure the children exit kerb-side; that is, on the left. The right hand lane is for driving through without stopping. When children are dropped off in the right lane or other areas of the car park they have to walk across the traffic. Dangerous!

Kind Regards,
Dave Moroney, BSc, PGCE, MA

gisprincipal@gardenrayong.com

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:

September

- 27th - PTA Annual General Meeting
- 28th - Unihoc finals all Primary years
- 29th - School Executive Board meeting
- 29th - Garden's got Talent (Secondary)

October

- 3rd – Star of the Month assembly
- 5th – Mini Olympics Years 1-3
- 6th – Movie Night 3.30pm
- 10th – 3T assembly
- 10th Trip to Madihol University (Senior)
- 12th - Mini Olympics Years 4-6
- 17th - GIS Primary has talent elimination round (Primary)
- 17/18th – Usmile (school photographers) here
- 20th – Diwali Night
- 24th to 29th – Half Term Holiday
- 31st – Halloween Mufti Day and party from 13.20 (Primary)

News from the School Executive Board meeting held on 29th September 2011.

If you wish for further explanation of any of these points please contact the Principal.

Facilities

The Board supports all initiatives to improve the quality of education offered at GIS. There are several areas in the school where we intend to make significant improvements to our facilities. These include the library, computer and related technology and science equipment. The board also approved an increase in funding on staff professional development. These items were also recognized by the CIS visiting accreditation team as requiring further resources.

Thai Discounts

From January the discount for Thai students will be 10%. This is in accordance with the fee structure for 2011-12 that was announced last year, when we were able to keep the fees at the same level.

Other discounts will be reviewed on a case-by-basis.

The Board recognizes that some families may have difficulties paying fees, and have approved a bursary fund also starting in January. A bursary is an award that is distributed based on financial need. You can read about this below.

Bursaries

The Board is aware that financial situations change and that some families at times find it difficult to pay for their children's education. General bursaries, based on financial need, will be available, starting January, from funds set aside from the tuition fees. They are for families in genuine need of support who do not have the ability to afford full tuition costs. When applying for a bursary the parents must supply a financial disclosure form. Students may be awarded a bursary of up to 30% of tuition fees. It is an expectation that students will have good behaviour and have a good attitude to their studies and student life, and that fees are paid promptly.

To apply for a bursary fund please contact the PA to the Principal, K Ann

acharap@gardenrayong.com

Enrollment Fees.

According to the 2011-12 fee structure, as a child passes from one level to the next the difference between the two levels' enrollment fee must be paid. The Board has agreed to remove this additional enrollment fee in future.

Invoices

All invoices will be issued electronically from now on. As well as saving on money that can be better used for our students, we also reduce our paper usage.

PTA

The next Parent teacher Association committee meeting is on the evening of 11th October. Feel free to get involved and help us to help your child.

Helping Celebrate Diwali

Following last year's fantastic Diwali festival GIS is planning to make this year's celebrations even more spectacular. Not only is Diwali an opportunity to celebrate one of the most important dates in the Hindu, Jain and Sikh calendars, it also allows GIS staff, pupils, parents/carers and others in our community to get together to share ideas, expertise and enthusiasm to make our celebration as spectacular as possible.

In order to make our Diwali celebration special we need sponsorship. In return for financial support, the benefits for sponsors include:

- An invitation to celebrate a very special night of live entertainment, music, dance and food which is performed by our children at GIS.
- A reserved VIP area for the sponsor to meet and greet guests and offer promotional information for their business.
- Prominent display of their company logo on show posters to be hung throughout Ban Chang, Rayong and Pattaya.
- The sponsor's company logo to be added to the events page that will appear on the school website.
- To include your company name and how much you donated on 'GIS Diwali Night' article in Pattaya Mail.

Sponsoring GIS's Diwali celebration 2011 will ensure that this most holy and auspicious event is promoted and celebrated to the children, parents, staff and the wider community.

To take advantage of this special opportunity please contact me at kamrulu@gardenrayong.com or K.Bonnie on bonnie@gardenrayong.com / Tel: +66-38-880-360-3.

Diwali night will be held on Thursday October 20 and will include entertainment staged by staff, pupils and parent/carers of GIS. In addition to traditional and contemporary acts there will be a pot luck supper.

Mr Kam, Early Years Caterpillars Teacher, Foundation Department

Library Assistant Required

We have a vacancy for a part time Library Assistant to help from 1.30pm -4.30pm.

We are looking for someone who enjoys working with children of all ages and has a friendly helpful manner. The position would suit a Thai national with excellent spoken and written English.

Good and accurate ICT skills are also essential.

For an informal discussion please contact Tara on Taraw@gardenrayong.com

Please forward your CV to K Jeb jeb@gardenrayong.com and cc to Taraw@gardenrayong.com.

News from Primary and Foundation

This term seems to be flying by. We are already one month in and it seems that we have not even taken a breath. The next month looks equally busy; please see the Upcoming Events list above for full details. We have started the House competitions and I will bring you all the results of the Unihoc next month.

Trips

As part of our educational program here at GIS we try to have one residential trip per year for Key Stage 2. At the moment we are putting the finishing touches to a three day and two night trip for Years 3 and 4. This trip will take place in January 2012 but we will be sending information about it early next week.

Training

This week ten teachers from Primary and Foundation are going on training. It will not affect your child's lessons unless your child is in Early Years or Nursery.

Football tournament

On Saturday September 24 eight GIS teams travelled to St Andrew's International School, Green Valley, for a five-a-side football tournament called 'ONE DAY, ONE GOAL' - in support of the Luca Waugh foundation.



Luca was only 18 months old when he wandered through a shared pool gate that was left open and fell into the water. He was clinically dead but was revived by his nanny and a local American family. Unfortunately this accident left Luca with some serious physical problems and a foundation was set up to support Luca and raise Water Safety Awareness.

Competing against several local international schools plus St Andrew's Bangkok and Bangkok Patana we had our work cut out for us. With both boys' and girls' teams representing GIS at U13, U11 and U9 all teams fought hard, cheered on by supporting parents and coaches.

Both the U13 Girl's team and U9 Girl's team made it through to the finals. The U13s

narrowly lost to Regent's with a one-goal difference on penalties and the U9s put up a strong first performance, just being beaten by Patana. "We had a great day and love playing football," said the boys in Year 4, "when can we play other schools again?"

A big thank you to all the parents who came to support the teams. The coaches, Mr Edwards, Mr Grisdale, Ms Jenn, Ms Claire and Mr Baker, plus staff who helped out on the day: Mr Gordon and Mrs Baker. A big thank you also to the students who played their socks off and did us proud.

A total of 42 primary students attended, and everyone's behaviour was exemplary. The Under 9 boys came 5th, winning two and losing two matches; the Under 9 girls came second, losing in the final to Patana; the Under 11 boys B team came 4th, winning three, drawing one and losing two – the highlight being losing the semi final 1-0 to Patana. The Under 11 boys A team came 6th with a draw, a win and three loses. The Under 11 girls teams came 3rd and 4th respectively, both reaching their semi-finals.

Rob Grisdale, Head of Primary and Foundation



Helping our school look even better

The Primary painting club has been having great fun creating a road for the Year 1 and 2 playground.

Last term we were busy with a hopscotch project and this term we're enjoying touching up playground equipment (pictured left).



Year 4E Explains Why We Have Rules

As we jump into another school year, it's always good to review the school and classroom rules. This year Primary has modified the school rules as well as playground rules making them more understandable and easier to follow for children in Primary. You can see the rules posted in various places around Primary.

Year 4E thought it would be a good idea to reenact behaviour appropriate in school and in the classroom for their assembly on September 12. The students had a lot of fun practicing, memorizing their lines and reflecting on attitudes and behaviours we see and experience every day among our classmates.

Year 4E put on a great performance and the question and answer session at the end demonstrated how well the message was received by the audience. The 10 minute, 4-scene skit ended in a song about the rules we strive to follow. After all, we have rules to remind us to "be kind and respectful, to give everyone the same chance to learn and to keep our school and classroom safe". Let's all work together to keep our school a happy and fun place to learn!

Year 4E

News from Secondary

By Fawn Ngamarom



Students show bottle after Jesters downpour

Rain failed to dampen the spirits at a charity event for children in Pattaya.

On Sunday September 11, GIS students braved torrential rain and floods to make it to Diana Golf Driving Range.

Although the 14th Jesters fair was cancelled due to heavy rain, GIS brought back the 500 bottles it was planning to sell, and raffled them off at school on September 15. By doing this, the students raised 3,000 baht, which will go to Jester's children's charities.

The IB students who did attend had a great time with some underprivileged children at the fair, which made it worth going.

The Jester's 'Care for Kids' Charity Drive has been running for 14 years. Its aim is to raise money for underprivileged children through eight charities. The charities are: Fountain of Life Children's Center, the Next Step Scholarship Programme, Pattaya Redemptorist School for the Blind, Ban Jing Jai Orphanage, Khao Baisri School for the Disabled, Camillian Home in Ban Chang, Special Olympics Thailand, Sam's Rice Distribution and dozens of public schools.



By Pete Brander



Special visits begin at Sattahip school

GIS students made some new friends following a visit to a special school in Sattahip.

Students interacted with the children while pushing them on swings, jumping on a trampoline and even teaching them how to shoot basketballs. Others were outside playing (and losing at) petanque with the youngsters.

The visit was part of an ongoing outreach project between Garden International School and the school.

IB students in their first year will now make weekly visits to the children as part of the IB Creativity, Action Service (CAS) course.

Is it 'lost property' to 'left behind property'?

This week in the Secondary assembly we had a look at what had been collected already this term in lost property. There were probably 20 PE kits, several pairs of expensive trainers, football boots, sweatshirts, many backpacks (some very good quality), lots of clothes and various odds and ends. They were collected because students had not bothered, or had forgotten, to take their belongings home. We should change the name from 'lost property' to 'left behind property'!

All the things we could do...

The students of GIS are busy rehearsing for their new spectacular production, "Mamma Mia!". This adaptation of a West End musical is set on a colourful Greek island, with the plot serving as a background for a wealth of Abba songs.

A young woman about to be married discovers that any one of three men could be her father. She invites all three to the wedding without telling her mother, Donna, who was once the lead singer of Donna and the Dynamos.

A lot of work is being put into the production, with the main cast, the choir and the dancers all taking time out of their lunch times, break time and after school to rehearse. The students are dedicated to putting on a performance that highlights the variety of talent that is found throughout GIS.

A backstage team is also designing the set, the costumes, the lights and the advertising to make sure that the hard work of the cast is displayed and seen by as many people as possible.

Whilst GIS has a budget for the production and a lot of teachers and students give up their free time voluntarily, a show of this scale does cost money and so we are looking to the local community for support and sponsorship.

We have three levels of sponsorship, each giving varying degrees of exposure and benefits. The first level costs 3,000 baht and offers sponsors a place on the advertising posters. The top level is gold, at 6,000 baht, and gives the chance to display a sponsor's logo on the advertising posters and tables outside the show, and allows a demonstration of products or services offered by the sponsor.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the show should Khun Bonnie on 038 880-360 or email Bonnie@gardenrayong.com or Benl@gardenrayong.com for more information.

Ben Liversidge



IB2 Physics students have been completing an experiment entitled 'Investigating the magnetic force on a conductor in a solenoid'.

Pictured left, you can see them hard at work in the physics lab as they carry out their research.

On a bright note: Students pass music exams

In June, four students travelled to Bangkok to sit their Grade 5 Music Theory exam. This is a very challenging examination, set by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in London (ABRSM). It includes elements of mathematics, Italian, French, German and, of course, music. When the students came out of the exam room their nerves were frayed and most described it as 'very, very difficult'.

We finally received the results in September and I am delighted to announce that all four students passed! So, a big congratulations to Sarah in y10, Hyojung in y11, Ben Bartlett in IB1, and Hyomi, who has now left GIS. These students have now fulfilled the criteria to enter more challenging practical music exams and they are doing so this term, with many students sitting piano exams before December.

Well done, the music teachers are very proud!

Paul Shiells

Model Students

The Model Club is back in force at GIS. This term, only one student (Nicky Year 11) has a model that resembles something real: a Nissan supercar!

All the other students have elected to make Japanese Gundam models that don't need glue.

Here is a photo of Kevin and Akihiro, both in Year 9, reading the instructions and putting together their ingenious model designs.

Flt Sgt Berry



Beach Cleaning: Part 1

By Vanessa A. Vanderpoel

Students from Garden International School have been on a bumper beach clean-up as part of an environmental project.

IB students, teachers along with primary and secondary pupils left their school in Ban Chang, Rayong, on Saturday September 17 and made it to Mermaid Dive Centre in Jomtien.

After students were registered they got onto their allocated songtaews and were taken to Bali Hai Pier.

After taking a boat to Koh Sak, the beach clean-up mission began. Some students were given snorkelling equipment to clean the sea, while others used fabric gloves and black trash bags to collect the garbage, such as bottles, cans, pieces of foam and plastic. After a few hours of cleaning students swam back to their boat for lunch.

After lunch students swam around for a few hours, with people jumping off the sides and going down the boat's slide.

As the day drew to an end, everyone swam back to shore to get photos taken of the newly-cleaned beach. After heading back to land there was a special dinner to end the cleaning effort.

The day was part of the IB students Project Aware, which aims to raise environmental knowledge.



Beach Cleaning: Part 2

Report by Jignil 7A

On Thursday September 22, students from year 7 and IB2 joined together and decided to clean the Nam Rin beach in Ban Chang.

When we got there we all got one binbag to put the rubbish in and then we set off to collect the rubbish. The Nam Rin beach looked as if no cleaning had been done for a long time. We even found two complete light bulbs that were there with the rubbish!



After the cleanup we gathered our rubbish bags, that were pretty heavy, and left them to be collected. It was a great experience for the entire year 7.

The IB2 students that helped organise the event were Romy, Viraj, Rachel, Mint, Riz along with teachers Ms Morris and Mr Beales.

In the future we hope that the entire school can go and clean the beach.

Sports News

1st Season Coaches and Practice Days

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Coach: Mr. Edwards
Practice: Monday and
Wednesday
3.15-4.30pm

Boys Varsity Volleyball

Coach: Mr. Lynch
Practice: Monday and
Wednesday
3.15-4.30pm

All Age Groups

Coach: Ms. Smith
Practice: Monday and
Wednesday
3.15-4.30pm

Swim Team Boys/Girls:***Basketball U 13 Boys***

Coach: Mr. Miller
Practice: Thurs
U15 Boys Wednesday
3.15-4.30pm

Basketball U 13 Girls

Coach: Mr. Elderkamp
Practice: Mon & Thurs
3.15-4.30pm

Varsity Boys Football

Coach: Mr. Chesters
Practice: Tues & Thurs
3.15-4.30pm

Varsity Girls Football

Coach: Mr. Baker
Practice: Tues & Thurs
3.15-4.30pm

GIS prepares to host FOBISSEA

The countdown is on to a major sporting event that will be held at Garden International School.

GIS is to host the Primary FOBISSEA Games from June 5-9, 2012.

At the moment the school is looking for sponsors to help with this international event. Nine schools from Southeast Asia will be heading to GIS to compete in Track and Field, Swimming, Football and T-ball.

FOBISSEA (Federation of British International Schools in South East Asia and Asia) includes 37 schools from Southeast and East Asia.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event, which should attract national and international publicity, please email bussabac@mbftaylors.com.

Below is the Physical Education Unit Programme for Term 1 in Primary

	Aug 23-Sept 15	Sept 16- Oct 11	Oct 12 - Nov 14	Nov 15-Dec 16
	Cycle 1 - 3	Cycle 4 - 7	Cycle 8 - 11	
Reception	Move Ed	Manipulative Ed	GYM	TGFU
Year 1	Fit Test & Fitness	TGFU	GYM	Invasion Games
Year 2	Fit Test & Fitness	TGFU	GYM	Invasion Games
Year 3	Fit Test & Fitness	TGFU	GYM	Invasion Games
Year 4	Fit Test & Fitness	Game Sense	GYM	Invasion Games
Year 5	Fit Test & Fitness	Game Sense	GYM	Invasion Games
Year 6	Fit Test & Fitness	Game Sense	GYM	Invasion Games

- Swimming is throughout the year.
- Move Ed: Basic Movements: Walk, Skip, Slide, Jog, Run
- Man Ed: Basic skills: Throwing, Catching, Passing
- TGFU: Teaching Games For Understanding

Below is the Physical Education Unit Programme for Term 1 in Secondary

	Aug 23-Sept 15	Sept 16- Oct 11	Oct 12 - Nov 14	Nov 15 - Dec 16
	Cycle 1 - 3	Cycle 4 - 7	Cycle 8 - 11	Cycle 12 - End
Year 7	Fit Test & Fitness	Invasion Games	TGFU	Net Games / Str Games
Year 8	Fit Test & Fitness	Invasion Games	TGFU	Net Games / Str Games
Year 9	Fit Test & Fitness	Invasion Games	TGFU	Net Games / Str Games
Year 10	Fit Test & Fitness	Intramurals / Leadership	TGFU / Leadership Skills	Intramurals / Leadership
Year 11	Fit Test & Fitness	Intramurals / Leadership	TGFU / Leadership Skills	Intramurals / Leadership

- Intramurals: Games with emphasis on Leadership development
- TGFU: Teaching Games For Understanding

GIS 1st Season Sports Fixtures

Date	B&G	Age Group	Sport	Vs	Venue
Mon 12 Sept	B&G	Varsity	Volleyball	ISE	GISR
Mon 19 Sept	B&G	All	Swim Meet	All	GISR
Tues 20 Sept	B&G	Varsity	Volleyball	ISE	ISE
Tues 20 Sept	B&G	U13	Basketball	Regents	Regents
Wed 21 Sept	Boys	Varsity	Football	REPS	GISR
Thurs 22 Sept	Boys	U15	Basketball	REPS	REPS
Sat 24 Sept	B&G	Primary	Football	All	St Andrews
Mon 26 Sept	B&G	Varsity	Volleyball	REPS	GISR
Thurs 29 Sept	Boys	U15	Basketball	Regents	GISR
Mon 3 Oct	B&G	Varsity	Volleyball	ISE, REPS	GISR Tournament
Thurs 6 Oct	B&G	U13	Basketball	ISE	ISE
Mon 10 Oct	B&G	All	Cross Country	All	St Andrews
Tues 11 Oct	B&G	Varsity	Football	Regents	GISR
Thurs 13 Oct	B&G	U13	Basketball	ISE	GISR
Mon 17 Oct	B&G	Varsity	Volleyball	REPS	GISR
Mon 31 Oct	B&G	Varsity	Volleyball	REPS	GISR
Tues 1 Nov	B&G	Varsity	Football	ISE	ISE
Tues 1 Nov	B&G	U13	Basketball	All	GISR Tournament
Thurs 3 Nov	Boys	U15	Basketball	All	Regents Tournament
Tues 8 Nov	B&G	All	Cross Country	All	ISE
Thurs 10-12 Nov	B&G	U15	FOBISSEA	International	St Andrews
Tues 15 Nov	B&G	Varsity	Football	ISE	GISR
Tues 22 Nov	B&G	Varsity	Football	All	ISE Tournament B&G
Tues 29 Nov	B&G	All	Swim Meet	All	Regents



Storm narrowly miss out in opening game

He scored the game's final 6 points. He knelt on the court when it was over. He thought of what could have been.

For Mix, the afternoon was emotional and unforgettable. And imagine: The GIS U13 team is only beginning their pursuit of another title.

Finally vanquishing their rivals from Ban Chang,

Regent's School U13 boys basketball team scored 32 points, and fought off a spectacular GIS closing flourish—as the Regent's went on to beat GIS 32-28 and win the first match-up in the closely contested Eastern Seaboard Conference.

When it was over, Mix took a knee, oblivious to the photographers who quickly surrounded him in Regent's exuberant celebration. By then, some of the Garden boys were already heading back to the buses, skipping the customary end-of-game conversations. Mix didn't seem to notice.

"Everything went through my mind at that point, Mix said. "Finally getting another chance against this team. Everything I went through this summer, preparing to play and deciding to come down here to be a part of this U13 team ... because I knew how important team is to this sport ... and coming so close."

The combo of Beam and Mix carried GIS early in ball handling, rebounding, and shooting (albeit with nothing actually going in). Eventually, the Storm's shooting brought the score to 12-10 at the half.

However, a terribly barren shooting spell bewitched the GIS lads for the first 10 minutes of the second half, while Regent's added an easy 4 buckets. Eventually, the Storm began making shots again. But it was too late, as the buzzer sounded its deafening honk.

Mix led GIS with 20 points and 11 rebounds. Beam had 6 points and 5 rebounds, Oliver added 2 points and a number of steals. Sang Hyun, Jackson, Gear, and Almond failed to score but played hard both on offense and defense.

"Right now, I am really upset," Coach Miller said. "I wish we could have played better today. Unfortunately we came up on the short end of the stick. I take my hat off to Regent's. They really played solid basketball, especially on defense".

Next up for the Storm is the rematch at ISE, a series that will begin on October 6.

"It's a great team," Jackson said of his former school during their on-court celebration. "I've got the utmost respect for that team. So it's a hard team loss for us, but now we'll get ready for our next opponent."

Football Tournament



GIS students put in great performances at a recent football tournament at St Andrew's International School. Both the boys and girls under-13 football teams excelled in the charity football competition.



The boys were undefeated in the group stages and the girls made it all the way to the final!

Mr Baker, who was coaching both of the teams, said: "They were all absolutely fantastic - the way that they conducted themselves on and off the field was exemplary. I was proud of every single one of them and with an extra bit of luck we would have won both the competitions. Well done boys and girls!"

Student Council

President Azeez!

Azeez is GIS' new Student Council president. Azeez won a narrow vote against the one other candidate, Parth. Here is Azeez's first report for the newsletter.

The Student Council has been formed for the academic year 2011-2012. The Executives of this council are myself (Azeez Khanijou) as president, Parth Shah as vice president, Taewon Yeon as Treasurer and Heta Shah as secretary. This council has been formed so that students can share their thoughts and ideas with the whole student body.

During the 2011-12 school year I would like to make some changes to the school, according to the students' wishes. With their suggestions and my ideas I would like to make school an even more enjoyable experience. If students have any suggestions they can talk to their class representatives about this or to me personally.

If parents would like to join in to help improve the school or just hear some of the student body's ideas, then they can attend the PTA meetings where I will be present and suggesting some of the changes that have been brought up by the students.

Your President,
Azeez Khanijou

Get in touch!

If you have any articles for the newsletter, please send them to markb@gardenrayong.com before the end of each month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.