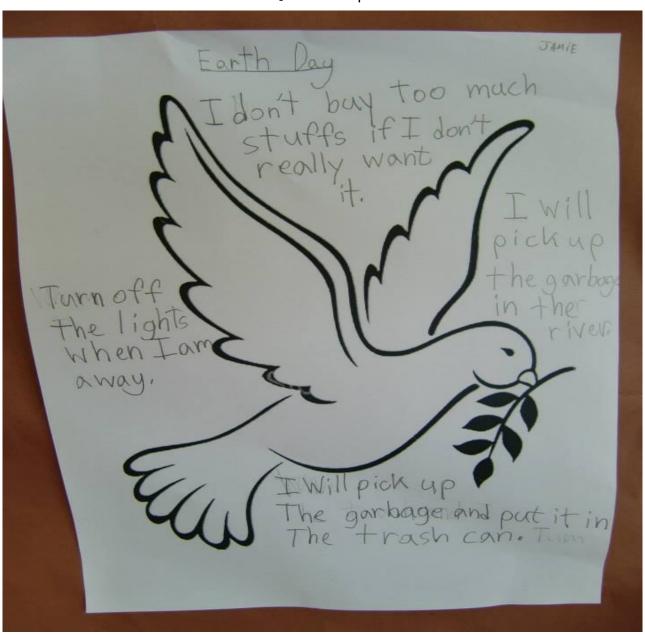


#### 24th April 2015 | ISSUE4



#### IN THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Head of School	p2
Early Years Update	рЗ
Primary Years Update	р4
Language and Culture	<b>p</b> 5
Health and Safety	р5
Inquiry Corner	р6
Earth Day Activity	P7

#### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Month of May Healthy eating month

Thursday 7th May 2015 From 3.00pm

Interactive curriculum education session - Find out how students learn at UDIS. -

Friday 1st May 2015 Labour Day (Holiday)

Tuesday 5th May 2015 Coronation Day (Holiday)

## Message from the Head of School

#### **Dear Parents**

Welcome back to Term 3, I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are ready for a busy and exciting term. We have some fun events and activities coming up including our healthy eating month, academic fair week and our end of year party.

We have also planned some introductory activities for parents to help explore what we do in the classroom. These will be fun and interactive and provide an insight into the difference in learning we offer here. The first session will be held on Thursday 7th May from 3pm with more details to follow in the coming week.

This term we have some staffing changes. First, Mr Dan Stratford is our new Deputy Principal. Dan will be responsible for teaching and learning at our school to help ensure that we provide the best education we can for our students. Dan can be contacted with any questions or concerns at dan@udis.ac.th

We would also like to welcome two new members of staff. Richard Herczeg is our new Music and Art teacher while Karyn will teach our K2 class for the remainder of term.

Richard is a talented and qualified music professional from Australia. Richard previously worked as a professional composer, sound engineer and producer in Sydney before combining that with a career in teaching. Richard has over 15 years experience teaching music, art and drama in Australia and Thailand. He is particularly familiar with different methods for teaching music including Kodalay, Orff Schulwerk, Suzuki and Eurythmics. He is also able to teach a variety of musical instruments including the guitar and piano.

Karyn is a fully qualified teacher from the United Kingdom. She has ten years of experience in teaching and mentoring students from infancy to adults. Karyn has previously worked in kindergarten and lower primary positions in Thailand where she gained valuable ESL experience. She comes to us from a position as a teacher trainer for Scholastic where she was involved with teaching numeracy and early literacy methods to teachers throughout Southeast Asia.

Best regards

Dr Lindsay Stuart
Head of School

## Early Years Update

#### By Mrs Rachel Bernstein, K1 Teacher

We are pleased to welcome Tahsern to our class! We are excited to have him join us for the remainder of the year. This term will inquiring into the we Theme Transdiciplinary Sharing the Planet. Students will help work and design a garden and choose seeds to plant. We will discuss the various ways in which plants provide for us and other living things. Students will learn about the structure of a plant and how to help care for



## By Miss Karyn Scimgeour, K2 Teacher

Hi my name is Karyn and I am very excited to be working with K2 this term. I have been teaching in Thailand for 3 years, but am new to the Udon Thani area. This week I have just been working with the students to get to know them and their abilities. We have been having fun painting, cutting, drawing and writing to assess their fine motor skills, as well dancing, reading and going on scavenger hunts (picture).

I feel very lucky to have such a lovely group of students and I am sure we will make lots of learning discoveries together in term 3. I am putting together a mind map to highlight the different areas of learning we hope to touch on this term and will display it in the classroom window when complete so that parents can see the kinds of topics and learning I hope to cover with students this term. If you have any questions, feel there is something I need to know or would just like a chat please feel free to come

and see me.



## Primary Years Update

#### By Mr Cormac Johnston, Year 1/2 Teacher

I would like to welcome students and parents back to term 3. I hope everyone had a nice and restful holiday. For our new UOI we will be looking at the natural environment and how the decisions we make impact it in a positive or negative way. The children will be learning about making good choices about sustainability and how their decisions will impact future generations pertaining to our local/international community. Year 1 and Year 2 students have started a new Busy Ants workbook for the final term and the children are working very hard on their numeracy skills. In literacy we are continuing to do daily journal writings and word work to enhance our reading skills. Earth Day, April 22, linked in very well with our current UOI and we will continue to use this theme throughout our inquiry.

Mint learning about the world

Children helping to mix the ingredients together

Playing a numbers game during Maths

#### By Mr Michael Delcavo, Year 3/4 Teacher

The year 3/4 class has started a new unit called, "How we express ourselves". The central idea of the unit is, "People can create or manipulate messages to target a specific audience". We will be looking at advertising and ultimately make our own advertisements as our final project. We are looking at some interesting field trips we can make this term to have students gain a greater understanding of the importance of advertisements but also how those messages can be sneaky.

We have moved into the most difficult part of the year with students learning new concepts in Math and English. The students are performing well and expanding their thinking capabilities. They are getting very close to being ready for the next academic year.



UDISNEWSLETTER | ISSUE4

## Language and Culture

# How Integrating Arts Into Other Subjects Makes Learning Come Alive By Miss Natt, Thai Teacher

'Arts integration seems to be the best form of differentiation out there because it taps into so many different interests and abilities and forms of learning.'

If you pick a subject area like science, social studies, math or literacy and you integrate it with an art form, what you do is connect the two and find ways to really integrate the two so they lean on each other.

Having an atmosphere of being open to various art forms is all your students need.

In the languages classes also we use arts in the classroom because when kids are learning through the arts, they end up getting a deeper understanding and the concepts are more firmly retained.



## Health and Safety

By Mr Michael Delcavo, Health and safety coordinator

Did You Know? Breakfast is the most important meal of the day - your mother's right! A healthy breakfast gives you energy, improves concentration - and helps to prevent weight gain.

A good healthy breakfast gets the body ready for the day and has your child more prepared to learn. Breakfast should be your most dense meal of the day as your body has rested for the night and is ready to process food.



Dinner should be your lightest meal so your body can actively rest, recover and detox throughout the night.

## Inquiry corner

## OUR INQUIRY JOURNEY

By Mr Dan Stratford, Deputy Principal/Curriculum Coordinator

I first taught the IB Primary Years Programme at Frankfurt International School some eight years ago. FIS were the second school in the world after the International School of Amsterdam to offer the PYP. I had already been teaching for eight years and I was given a Year 6 class, the Grade with which I was most familiar. Yet I had never seen such independent, confident learners. These were students who could command the attention of a room when presenting. They had a seemingly inexhaustible skill set of independent research skills and when they wanted to find out something, they set out and did it!

As we begin our inquiry journey now, it is really exciting to already see the evidence of independence of thought and exploration and the growing confidence in our students. There are always those who catch your eye in this process - I might mention Belty from Year 1 or even Sarah in K1, who even at this early stage already look like genuine PYP learners! It is wonderful to have the opportunity as I do to visit classrooms and see the initial stages of watching students who will become the confident, independent leaders of the future.

## Contact us

Office hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm

School Number: 042 110 379 (for all general enquiries)

Urgent matters: 095 668 9636

Head of School: lindsay@udis.ac.th

Deputy Principal: dan@udis.ac.th

KI teacher: rachel@udis.ac.th

K2 teacher: karyn@udis.ac.th

Y1/2 teacher: cormac@udis.ac.th

Y3/4 teacher: michael@udis.ac.th

School Secretary: wannapa@udis.ac.th

Email suggestion box: suggestions@udis.ac.th

## udis celebrated earth day!!! 22nd April



#### Message from our community sponsors

Bangkok hospital checkup promotion.

We have a Community Partnership Programme (CPP) for all interested businesses.

Find out more on our website

(http://www.udoninternationalschool.com/en/general-information/cpp/)

or contact the School Office for more information.

