



Newsletter

Udon Thani International School

25th September 2015 | ISSUE2

Magical Market Day

at Udon Thani International School

มหัศจรรย์วันเปิดบ้าน

โรงเรียนนานาชาติอุดรธานี

Saturday 10 October, 9-11am

วันเสาร์ที่ 10 ตุลาคมนี้ เวลา 9-11 โมง

FREE entry
All welcome

fun

ร่วมสนุก

Prizes

ของรางวัล

food

อาหาร

Games

เกมส์มากมาย

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Thursday 1st October
Teachers day

Candy

Saturday 10th October
9am - 11am
School open day

TICKETS

MARKET

Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents

We are into our fifth week of term and nearing the end of the rainy season in Thailand. It has been a busy start to term throughout the school and it's great to see so much student work going up around the school.

This week we submitted our application to the International Baccalaureate (IB) for our PYP application. We should have some news in November about the status of this. If accepted, we will become an IB candidate school and the first IB school in the Northeast of Thailand. This will be very exciting for us and some validation that we are on the right track as a school.

This year, all classrooms have been using Storypark (www.storypark.com). Storypark is a website where teachers, and parents, can upload pictures or classroom work and link that into learning outcomes. These 'stories' are then available for parents to view and comment on. If you have not seen Storypark, please ask your homeroom teacher for more information. We will be announcing a Storypark picture of the week, each week, and placing it in one of our public spaces. So, please look out for that.

Finally, we are busy planning our **Magical Market Day Open House** on Saturday 10 October from 9-11am. We will have booths and stalls with fun activities available and lots of food. The event will be attended by a number of our community partners too. To celebrate, we are offering a special registration promotion for new students registering before October 10 and who will start school after this date. Parents will receive a 25% discount off the registration fee and go into the draw to win their registration fee back. This draw will be made at our Open House. Please contact the school office for more information.

Best regards

Dr Lindsay Stuart

Head of School

Early Years Update

All About Me!

By Miss Jennifer Chapman, Preschool Teacher

Dear Preschool Parents,

It is so lovely to see how well the preschool students are settling into school and getting to know their teachers! We have been very busy learning the new routines focusing on developing our social skills and personal independence, caring for each other, negotiating, turn taking, hand washing and toileting skills. We will also look at why is necessary to have some agreed rules for behaviour and why we need to take care of our equipment, ourselves and each other.



Early Literacy:

Literacy is taught through play and language based experiences. We have regular story times and listening activities. Student practise their mark making skills and are working on word recognition such as their names.

Early numeracy:

Within Preschool we use play based experiences to develop mathematical skills. We have introduced shapes such as squares, circles and triangles, and are learning to count 1 to 10.

We are continuing to take a closer look at the PYP theme, 'All about me,' which provides rich opportunities for the students to explore their 5 senses, understanding how their body works, talking about their families and immediate environment. We have recently been focusing on learning parts of our bodies and been working hard practising, "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' to perform in assembly. Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend, we had lots of fun.

Fantastic Work Preschool!



Early Years Update

Groovy Kindergarteners!

By Miss Phibzia Siddiqui, K1 Teacher



We are moving and grooving in kindergarten! The students are really catching on to the routines and expectations we have set in class. They have exceeded their token goal for September of being respectful, responsible, and safe! One other task the kindergarteners are taking responsibility for is setting up the lunch tables and they are encouraged to represent family dining at the school. They have also been responsible for keeping their water bottles on the shelf. Way to go, kindergarten!

This term, children have been provided with a variety of open-ended activities that enable success in a school setting. Our goal is to enhance the development of a positive self-concept and a positive attitude towards school and learning for each child. Much of our work has focused on the development of personal and social skills necessary for learning to take place across all subject areas. We are working on how to manage our emotions with coping strategies and how to solve problems with others.

Early Literacy

The children are involved in a variety of language experiences each day. Children are looking at and listening to stories and songs. The children are learning to recognise letters in their names. We started off the year learning our letters and sounds using Jolly Phonics. Students are engaged in daily literacy centres, which include: fine motor activities (drawing, cutting, play dough, etc.), printing, letter recognition, imaginative play, and cooperative building centres.



Early Numeracy

In mathematics, we have covered colours, shapes and patterning and have recently begun numbers from 1-10. Each day, the children are exploring numbers and numerals through counting classroom objects, daily calendar experiences and starting to recognise and name the numbers from 1 to 10.



Numbers, Colours and Shapes

By Mr Kameron Lund, K2 Teacher



Our K2 class is really coming together as the kids are learning about their new school and their new classroom. We have been having lots of fun playing together, getting to know each other, and learning about what makes each of us special and unique.

We have also been learning our numbers 1-20, shapes, colours and how to write our name.

Early Literacy

K2 has begun to recognize their letters and sing fun songs about each sound. The literacy program we are using is called Jolly Phonics and it is a great way for the kids to have fun and sing-along to the sounds of each letter. The students really love singing the songs in the class and it helps them develop their understanding of sounds and letters. We are also learning how to write our name and the children are very proud of being able to do this. Please encourage your child at home to write their name, they will love to show you.

Early Numeracy

In mathematics, we continue to focus on numbers and shapes. The students are learning their numbers 1-20 and are counting a variety of different objects around the school. Please encourage your child to count things at home as early numeracy is a very important part of their academic development.

Primary Years Update

Positive Profiles

By Miss Karyn Scrimgeour, Y1 Teacher



We have been focusing a great deal on positive reinforcement and reward in Year 1, as well as learning to be 'Risk Takers' and become more independent. We have created a rewards board for the positive attributes of the IB where students earn raindrops with their name on every time they show one of the positive attitudes displayed on the umbrellas. We have already made a good start and the specialist teachers are also rewarding them too. We have also been looking at the IB learner profile, concentrating firstly on 'knowledgeable' and now 'risk taker'. As we view these, we wear different hats each day. We have created a hat for each profile and when a student demonstrates it we put that hat on their stand to show how well they are doing in becoming a well rounded and independent learner.

We carried out 'The Eggsperiment' in which we learned about taking risks, trying and that sometimes getting it wrong can be fun! Although we had to break a few eggs to get there, I think we all learned a lot; I know I did!

We have been continuing to work on our phonics table and have invited some of our friends from Year 2 to join in learning more about Phonics. We have been doing a lot more work with our friends from Year 2 in English, which is helping our development and cooperation skills.

We are getting the hang of addition and subtraction sums but any opportunity at home to get students to complete simple sums, count or identify shapes and colours will always support what we are doing in class. A firm favourite from my childhood was car bingo on those long drives.

In our Unit of Inquiry we have started making emotion books in which, together with Year 2, we create a class poem about the emotion and then an individual picture to go with it. They are going well and we hope to share them soon.

Please remember to practice reading at home, not only with the words and reading books from school but other books of interest. We are currently using Level 1 readers at school and there are lots of books like this available. Reading to children also encourages a love of books and a desire to read so if you can make time to do this that's brilliant. Until next time you can keep up with our progress on 'Storypark'.



'Attitude Umbrellas'



'Making new Friends'



'integrity' I completed my homework.



'The Eggsperiment'



Committed to Learning

By Ms Emmi Hines, Year 2 Teacher

Cooperation, being a team and helping each other have been our focus since the start of school. As we continue to move forward with the IB Learner Profile and Attitudes we will always keep cooperating, being a team and helping each other as the core of our classroom environment. As we learn more about each other, we are also finding time to relax with each other as this helps build our friendship and classroom community.

In our UOI, we are steadily working on our Feelings book and taking the time to reflect on our feelings. Next week, we will continue to work on class projects and have students do self inquiry as a form of assessment on their interests.

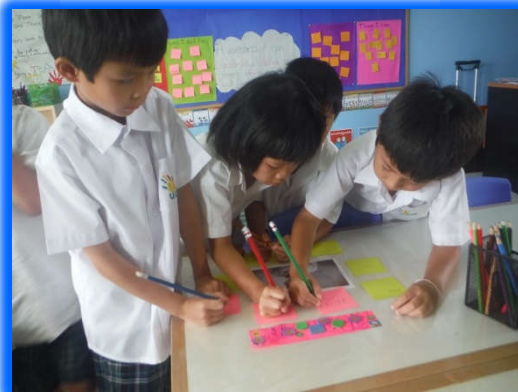
We have started a Daily 5 routine during our language time. This is a checklist that each student chooses what they work on. The choices are work with a teacher, read to self, read to someone, work on writing, listen to reading and sight word work. The idea is that your child decides the order of which they complete the activities. If an activity is not completed then that is what he/she would start with the next day. This routine has been up and running for two weeks and it is going well and the kids love it.

Maths is progressing right along. As your child meets a standard he/she is encouraged to inquire deeper into their understanding by playing "the teacher" or independently working on activities with a focus. This week and next we are examining shapes, sides of shapes, vertices and symmetry of pictures.

writing stories based on words



pictures provoke feelings



making connections to pictures and phonics



creativity is the core of exploring

Year 3/4 class update

By Mr Liam Chadwick, Year 3/4 Teacher

Everything has been going well in class, routines and structures are working well and student learning and assessment is also progressing well. Understanding where the students are is essential in setting up a structured learning program for them. Our assembly about "Respect" was a hit and all the students did a great job.

What we are working on now:

English:

We are using the Collins Treasure House for the English program. I have spent time identifying the students spelling and reading levels and also taking a writing sample. We are also working on dictionary skills and alphabetical order.

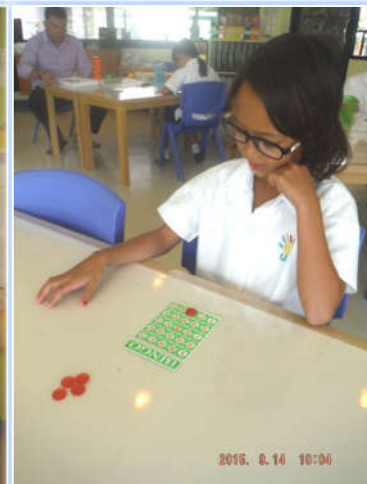
Math:

We are working on The Busy Ants programme supported with an online program called Mathletics. Our focus is place value, thousands, hundreds and ones.

Unit: Our PYP Transdisciplinary Theme this term is "Who we are", with our central idea being, "Choices of role models reflect the beliefs and values of individuals and societies".

The lines of inquiry we will be looking at are: What determines our beliefs and value? How and why role models are chosen? Influence of role models on our choices and actions. Students are looking at choosing a role model and answering questions about their role model and why they selected this person.

If you would like to contact me regarding any aspect of your child's learning please contact me at liam@udis.ac.th or Miss Apple at prakasani@udis.ac.th. In addition, you can also write a note in your child's communication book or drop in to see me before school begins or at the end of the school day. I am always happy to help you in any way that I can.



Year 5 is Up and Running

By Mrs Rebecca Kehn, Year 5 Teacher

Year 5 has become quite comfortable in the classroom and the school. With classroom routines and structures in place now, students have been spending more time getting into their learning. They have started a new spelling list, new mathematics topics, and have begun drafting a writing piece on the topic, My Teacher, in preparation for Wai Khru Day. Students have also enjoyed several exciting school assemblies!



English:

In English, students will continue spelling practice, fluency practice, and they will also be participating in guided reading groups. They will enjoy read alouds and independent reading. Students will participate in daily reading fluency practice and engage in a variety of texts. In the coming weeks, we will continue reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. We will also be reading Selected Poems from A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein. Students will also engage in the writing process.

Mathematics:

In maths, students are currently working on parallel and perpendicular faces and edges in 3-D shapes and identifying properties of 3-D shapes. Exploration of this topic will conclude our first unit. Following a unit assessment, students will be moving into Unit 2 where they will be working on multiplication and division, fractions, and a bit of geometry.

Unit of Inquiry:

Students will continue exploring their first unit of inquiry: Who We Are. In this unit they will be exploring the central idea, systems that define beliefs and values offer explanations about the world around us and what it means to be human. As part of our finding out stage, students will continue to research world religions. While researching, they will be practicing their research skills: asking questions, collecting and recording information, organising information, finding the connections, and sharing what they have learned.

Again, feel free to email me or stop in if you have concerns regarding the homework your child is receiving. Parents are always welcome to stop by the classroom before or after school.

Language and Culture

By Miss Nat, Head Thai Teacher

“ปาเจรา จริยา โหนติ..... Paa-Je-Raa Ja-ri-yaa Hon-Ti”

This week, we have heard the students practice this chant very often because our students are very excited to get ready for the school event that's coming up next Thursday. That is Wai Khru Ceremony!

“Wai Khru” means “pay respect to the teacher” in Thai. It is the most important event to be held for every school in Thailand at the start of the new academic year. It is always held on Thursday because it is traditionally the day of wisdom and teachers.

UDIS Wai Khru Ceremony 2015 will be held on Thursday, 1st of October 2015. In the ceremony, students will recite the wai kru chant (บทไหว้ครู, which expresses respect for, and gratitude to the teachers, and asks for the teachers' blessing of their studies. After that the representatives of each class, will present the teachers with offerings of flowers, candles and joss sticks arranged on *Phan* (traditional Thai pedestalled trays) and follow with the rest of the students that will present the cone of flowers to the teachers.



In this event, the students can join in the writing and painting competition in the topic “I Love My Teacher” which are the way they can express the feelings they have to the teachers through the words and pictures.



Inquiry corner

By Mr Michael Delcavo, Deputy Principal/Curriculum Coordinator

We have recently posted our school's programme of inquiry at the entrance of the school across from the office. What is the programme of inquiry? It is what we are studying throughout the year as our main focus. It shows the themes we will be inquiring into in each of our classes throughout the year and the units of inquiry which explore each theme.



The Early Years group cover four themes each year while Primary Years covers all six themes. Each unit is grouped under a theme and includes a central idea. The central idea is the main conceptual idea the students are asked to inquire into. So, instead of students learning and remembering a range of content knowledge we use the knowledge we cover as a vehicle towards the understanding of concepts. So, instead of learning facts about dinosaurs, children might use knowledge about dinosaurs to generalise their understanding of the concept of extinction. This develops higher order thinking and the ability to draw patterns and connections between related facts, ideas and examples and to synthesise information at a conceptual level.

Each unit is then guided by several lines of inquiry which serve as parameters for the inquiry and which are used to provoke thought about the central idea.

The key concepts provide different conceptual lenses for which the unit can be examined. The key concepts are associated with an open-ended question to promote focus and deeper thinking about the enduring understandings we hope to develop from each unit of inquiry. For instance for the key concept of Form, students are asked "what is it like?" for Change they are asked "how is it changing?"

A school's programme of inquiry is an essential part of the curriculum and should be posted for all to review. We are pleased to have ours displayed at the front of the school. If you have questions about the programme, please feel free to ask me.

เปิดโลกกว้างแห่งการเรียนรู้กับคำภาษาต่างประเทศ

เห็นเกี่ยวประสบการณ์ใหม่ในต่างแดน ฝึกฝนทักษะ สร้างความมั่นใจ
เพลิดเพลินกับกิจกรรมทัศนศึกษามากมายพร้อมเจ้าหน้าที่ดูแลใกล้ชิดตลอดโครงการ



โปรแกรมพิเศษ Design Your Own Program!

สำหรับนักเรียน นักศึกษา หรือบุคคลทั่วไป
ที่ต้องการฝึกฝนเพิ่มพูนทักษะภาษา
สามารถเลือกประเทศ และกำหนดระยะเวลาที่ต้องการได้
ตั้งแต่ 2-24 สัปดาห์ จัดได้ทั้งแบบเดี่ยวหรือจัดกลุ่มมาเอง

พร้อมรับโปรโมชันค่าเรียนสุดพิเศษ
จากสถาบันภาษาคุณภาพ



Singapore

ค่ายสิงคโปร์ 11-24 ตุลาคม 2558
สำหรับน้องๆ อายุ 7 ปีขึ้นไป
เรียนที่สถาน The YPLS
พักที่หอพักพร้อมสิ่งอำนวยความสะดวกครบครัน
สนุกสนานกับกิจกรรมสอดแทรกสาระความรู้มากมาย
เจ้าหน้าที่ดูแลตลอด 24 ชม.

• บริการรับจัดค่ายต่างประเทศให้ทีมหน่วยงานต่างๆ •

ประสบการณ์กว่า 25 ปี | รับจำนวนจำกัด | เจ้าหน้าที่ดูแลตลอดโครงการ

New Zealand

ค่ายนิวซีแลนด์ Auckland 3-23 ตุลาคม 2558
สำหรับน้องๆ อายุ 11 ปีขึ้นไป
เรียนที่สถาน Unique New Zealand
พักที่ครอบครัวชาวนิวซีแลนด์ที่พร้อมต้อนรับอย่างอบอุ่น
พร้อมกิจกรรมมหัศจรรย์ตลอดทั้งปี ชม! วิวเมืองไรโรโร

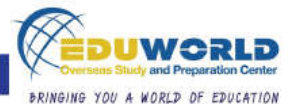
สนใจสอบถามเพิ่มเติมที่

ilingua สาขาอุดรธานี ชั้น 4 เซ็นทรัลพลาซ่า อุดรธานี โทร.042 921 259-60

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Community Partnership Programme (CPP)

We are also looking for new partners for this academic year.
Please contact the school office if you have a business to promote as part of our CPP.

Find out more on our website
(<http://www.udoninternational.com/en/general-information/cpp/>)

Contact us

Office hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm

School Number: 042 110 379 , 095 668 9636
(for all general enquiries)

Head of School: lindsay@udis.ac.th

Deputy Principal: michael@udis.ac.th

Assisting Principal: emmi@udis.ac.th

School Secretary: wannapa@udis.ac.th

Pre-school: phibzia@udis.ac.th

K1 teacher: kameren@udis.ac.th

K2 teacher: kameren@udis.ac.th

Y1 teacher: karyn@udis.ac.th

Y2 teacher: emmi@udis.ac.th

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

Year 5 teacher: rebecca@udis.ac.th

Email suggestion box: suggestions@udis.ac.th