



Newsletter

Udon Thani International School

30th March 2016 | ISSUE11



Student led conference week

From Monday to Thursday (28-31 March) it is our student led conference week. Students from all levels will be showing parents what they have been learning at the school. This is a really important part of our curriculum as this process helps children understand their learning, recognise what they have learnt and be reflective as to their next learning steps. We think parents will be very impressed with the learning that students have made so far this year.

IN THIS ISSUE :



Message from the Head of School p2

Inquiry Corner p2

Executive School Board p3

Early Years Update p5

Primary Years Update p7

Language and Culture p10

Health and Safety p12



Message from Admin p11

Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents

Well, we are coming to the end of Term 2 for the year. It has been a busy term with many school events and I hope everyone can refresh themselves over the 2 week holiday break.

For the final week of school we will be holding student led conferences. All levels will be holding these and they are a chance to showcase the learning our students. Students across the school have made some great progress this year and the conferences are a chance to celebrate the learning that has taken place.



On Friday 1 April, we will also hold our Songkran celebration. This will be from 8:20am-10:05am. After school will be the chance for water play with the students.

I would also like to announce that our Executive Board has now met twice this academic year. We would like to formally introduce our school community to our Executive Board and all Board members are profiled later in this newsletter. The role of the Executive Board is to ensure that UDIS provides students with a good education. The Executive Board sets the plans and policies of the school, and oversees the employment of school staff and the management of the school budget.

Best regards

Dr Lindsay Stuart

Head of School

Inquiry corner

By Mr Michael Delcavo, Deputy Principal/Curriculum Coordinator

Students in the PYP programme are currently finishing their fourth unit and will be moving into their fifth unit after the Songkran break. Students in the Early Years programme are finishing their third unit and will be moving into the fourth and final unit for them. The current units of all classes are kept on our programme of inquiry board next to the school gate.

Students are well versed in what the units now look like and should be encouraged to ask questions. Parents can ask their children about what new understandings they have about the unit they are working on. Investigation into the unit can be happening all the time and the more parents are aware of the units the more beneficial it will be for the students.

Children may ask questions that relate to the unit outside of class. If this is happening, it is great information to pass along to the teachers who can record this information onto their planners to note what has gone well and what might need improvement.

The more we are working together, the more the students will progress.

Executive School Board

The Executive School Board for Udon Thani International School.



Dr. Chairaj Nopchalemroj
Chairman

Dr. Chairaj is the Managing Director of three companies in Thailand; IPC Inter Trade Co. Ltd, IPC Assets Co. Ltd and Silk Service Co. Ltd. Dr. Chairaj is also the President of Rex Royal Financial Corp (USA) and serves as the Director of ITTI Pte Ltd (Singapore) and Hang Tad Travel (Hong Kong). Dr. Chairaj has an outstanding record of public service as a member of the Intelligence Operations of ISOC, Advisor to the Internal Security Operations Command, Chairman of the Indonesian Government Trading House and Secretary General of the Royal Project (Thailand, โครงการอันเนื่องมาจากพระราชดำริ). Finally, he also acts as an Advisor to Northeastern University in Khon Kaen.



K. Siriphat Pukpo
Representative of the Owner

K. Siriphat has been involved in all levels of education for over 10 years in Thailand. She is also currently the licensee of Kornprapaphat Bilingual School (KPBS) in Khon Kaen which was one of the first English programmes to be launched in Khon Kaen in 2004. She has also been involved in the administration of universities, polytechnics and has been a prominent member of the Khon Kaen Private School's Committee for many years.



K. Wicha Chanklom
Honorary Member

K. Wicha is the Head of the ASEAN unit at the Udon Thani Provincial Government Office. He takes an active role in the promotion of Udon Thani in both Thailand and the wider ASEAN region.



K. Prayoon Thavon
Honorary Member

K. Prayoon is the Referral Coordinator at Bangkok International Hospital Udon Thani. He is very active within the expatriate and Thai communities within Udon Thani.

Executive School Board

The Executive School Board for Udon Thani International School.



K. Ampuscha Chotnopparatpatara
Parents Representative

K. Ampuscha works as a Pharmacist and is an active member of the Udon Thani community including membership of the Rotary Club's Silapakorn Chapter. She is also the parents representative to the Executive Board.



Mr. Michael Delcavo
Teachers Representative

Mr. Michael is the Deputy Principal and Curriculum Coordinator at UDIS. He has spent a number of years within a variety of schools within Thailand and understands education in this region. Mr. Michael is also the teachers representative to the Executive Board.



Dr. Lindsay Stuart
Board Member

Dr. Lindsay is the Head of School for UDIS and the School Manager for Kornprapaphat Bilingual School. He has been working within education in the Northeast since 2002 at kindergarten, primary and university levels.



K. Apirak Naprasertkul
Board Member

K. Apirak is the Managing Director of 99 Dragon Technology. He has worked in education in Khon Kaen for a number of years and has business interests in both Khon Kaen and Udon Thani.



K. Mongkol Udomsil
Board Member

K. Mongkol has worked in education within the Northeast region for a number of years both at the kindergarten, primary, college and university levels.

Early Years Update

Preschool class update - Expressing ourselves!

By Ms Jennifer Chapman, Preschool Teacher

Preschool are currently completing the Unit of Inquiry 'How We Express Ourselves - how stories can engage their audience and communicate meaning.' Students have looked at a variety of story books and have explored the work of author Eric Carle. Preschool students have used Eric Carle's method of illustration using tissue paper art to create their own stories.

Their lines of inquiry has led towards imaginative play and acting out familiar scenarios or stories using the role play toys within the classroom. The students particularly enjoyed their first school trip to the Kidzooona play area, where there were many role play centres for students such as a supermarket, doctors and a florist. Students were able to adapt their plan and take on various roles while using their imagination. The students played well in a group and expanded on each other's role play ideas.

Preschool have enjoyed spending time in the library as part of this units exploration of stories. Children are provided with time to browse and select books of particular interest, share story time with other children, learn about featured authors and discover the elements that make up a book.

The students gave fantastic reflections of the field trip and the unit so far. To summarise our learning of how stories are created and shared, Preschool have made a social story 'A day in Preschool' for parents and children who are new to the school, they are very excited to share their story with others.



Early Years Update

K1 class update - How K1 came to write books!

By Ms Kaitlyn Hyland, K1 Teacher

K1 has been doing some amazing work! The ABC book that inspired a class book is nearly finished after so much time, energy and effort has gone into it. Each child has practised forming every letter of the alphabet and associating it with the words and objects that begin with that word. Indeed, our most recent literacy assessments have shown the students making a lot of growth in their early literacy skills.

The students are so excited to show off their hard work and strengths in artwork. They have been learning to treat each other with grace and courtesy through our dramatic play activities. Stories have been our main focus this term and their reflections show they have gotten a lot of meaning from the central idea of the unit. The children now know how to construct an effective story, have demonstrated teamwork abilities and have shared ideas that facilitate team authorship.

They are also so proud of their growing gardening skills. They have planted bean seeds and are measuring the bean's growth. The Tiny Seed story has been a great inspiration for this project. I am so proud of the great work K1 has been doing and cannot wait to start the next term and explore new ideas with this group.

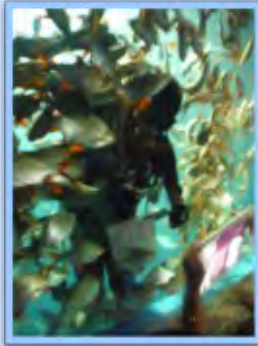


A TIME FOR REFLECTION

By Ms Karyn Scrimgeour, Year 1 Teacher

Students in both Year 1 and 2 have been continuing to reflect on the choices we make and how they impact our planet. The lines of inquiry of the unit have led students to look at the waste people produce and its negative impact. Students were given the freedom to create their own displays depicting renewable and nonrenewable resources which demonstrated their knowledge of these. Students did a fantastic job and these are displayed in the atrium of the second floor.

Students have been learning that there are many eco-systems which can be negatively affected by the choices we make regarding our use of resources. A field trip to the Nong Kai aquarium was arranged to allow students to get to know some of the residents of one these ecosystems more personally. Students looked to compare different marine life and used iPad's to document their visit.



Year 1 & 2 Field Trip to Aquarium

This term has seen some great developments for all the students in Year 1 regarding their mathematics and English skills. Students have demonstrated great strength in one or more areas, which they cannot wait to share with parents at their student conferences. A range of pictures have been selected from their many moments on Story Park, which have been placed in a video for which they have chosen their own soundtrack. They have reflected on how they have demonstrated the positives of the IB Learner Profile by creating a book. In the book they comment on how they feel they have demonstrated each profile and have added photos to create their own individual version of what the learner profile means to them. This will help students gain a better understanding of the profile, which they can then pass on to their parents at conference time.

A further time for reflection was had when we created our class social story. This is now complete and we were able to share it with the primary students as part of our assembly on speaking and listening. A fantastic piece of work from a class of students who, on my own reflection, are "Just Plain Awesome!"



Year 1 Assembly - Speaking & Listening - Learning about languages and cultures



Our Social Story

Year 3/4 class update

Unit of Inquiry: How the world works.

By Mr Liam Chadwick, Y3/4 Teacher

Our central idea is that “the design of buildings and structures is dependent upon environmental factors, human ingenuity, and available materials.”

Year 3/4 completed their last Unit of Inquiry, (People create organisations to solve problems and support human endeavour and enterprise), and completed a visual presentation. The presentation included photos from our field trip that the students reflected on to demonstrate their understanding of the Unit of Inquiry. They have been added to Storypark and can be viewed in our classroom along with other completed work samples.

We are now well into our next unit and the students have tuned into this with a lot of enthusiasm. We have been fortunate in that there have been many recent events that we can relate to our unit, such as Mother Tongue week. We were given China as our country to represent which allowed us to look into China and what structures or buildings we could include in our presentation. We chose to focus on The Great Wall of China, and the students then researched pictures of The Wall and how they could complete a similar structure, or model. The design they decided on was to complete a part of the wall using clay (plasticine). First they drew the shape, or direction of the wall they wanted to complete and then proceeded to sculpt the wall with plasticine. This activity was a perfect fit for our Unit of Inquiry.



Year 3/4 class update

Unit of Inquiry: How the world works.

By Mr Liam Chadwick, Y3/4 Teacher

We have also been very fortunate that there is a structure in development right here at UDIS, The Eco Farm. Year 3/4 have been following this project from the start and have been able to reflect on its development. The development of the structure is near completion and planting will proceed shortly. Students have also had the opportunity to share their ideas about the new Primary Years playground. We were given an aerial layout of the school and needed to decide what we would like in the playground and where it should be. We reflected on our suggestions and will share these thoughts with Dr Lindsay.

In the classroom, students have been on task and focussed. They have taken on an active role in their learning which allows me to facilitate their learning, providing support and guidance. This also provides the opportunity for students to be responsible for themselves and the decisions they make in and out of the classroom. We are looking deeper into the IB Learner profiles focussing on one Learner profile, fort nightly, reinforcing the IB language and modelling what it looks like.



By Mr Wang Yankun, Chinese Teacher

Modern languages - Chinese

Dear parents, we have been working hard in Chinese. Students have been listening to Chinese traditional stories across all levels. Younger students were learning Hanyu Pinyin in relation to the UOI while older students were involved in developing their Chinese reading skills. These skills can be difficult to develop so a lot of practise is needed by students. Next, we will be working on developing the students speaking skills in Chinese.

Students have enjoyed the Chinese lessons and have had fun inquiring into different elements of Chinese culture.



K1 students learning about traditional Chinese stories.



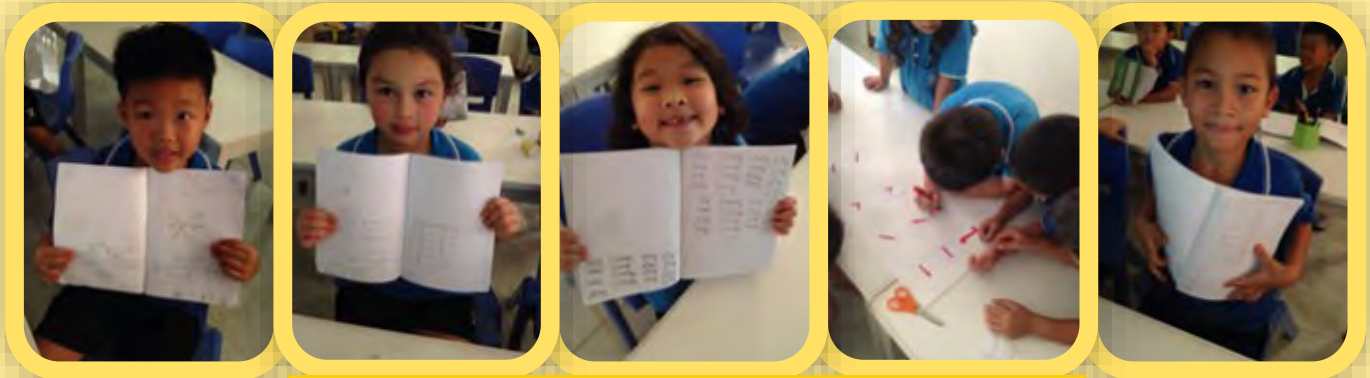
K2 students learning about traditional Chinese stories.



Y1 students learning about Chinese phonics and tones.

Language and Culture

By Mr Wang Yankun, Chinese Teacher



Year 2 students trying simple Chinese writing .



Year 3/4 students learning about reading and writing.



Year 5 students learning about Chinese writing skills and developing their Chinese speaking skills .

Health and Safety

By Mr Michael Delcavo, Health and safety coordinator

The temperatures are rising quickly and being careful in the heat is important at this time of year. At UDIS we monitor the temperature and humidity levels daily. From these numbers we are able to calculate a "heat index" which lets us determine if it is appropriate to have the kids outside during PE, morning break and lunch break.

If the heat index is too high, we have indoor activities available for the students which include time in the library, soft play room or art room. Everyone of these rooms has an air conditioning unit in it to keep children cool.

If the students are outside, we encourage them to take the appropriate precautions including wearing hats, bringing a water bottle, and monitoring their heat levels.

If students were to overheat we have precautions in place that would include bringing them indoors and having the nurse treat them. We have mineral packets that students can drink to help bring down their temperature and replace vital minerals and vitamins that may have been lost due to sweat.





Message from Admin

Uniform discounts

Currently we have discounts available for Grade B uniform items. Please contact the office for more information.

UDIS Summer School

We are launching a summer school for students aged 5-10 years of age. The central purpose of the Summer School is to provide an opportunity for outside students to spend a week at the school. If you know of anyone who is interested in our Summer School, we have posters and pamphlets available for pickup in the office. Summer School will run from 4-8 April and costs 6,500 baht per student.

End of Term 2 and start of Term 3

The final date for Term 2 is Friday 1 April.

The start date for Term 3 is Monday 18 April.

Community Partnership Programme (CPP)

UDIS operates a Community Partnership Programme (CPP) with local businesses in the Udon Thani area who wish to support the school and its staff and students. Under the CPP, these businesses have offered discounts and benefits to staff and students who present their UDIS ID card.

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

or contact the School Office for more information.

Contact us

Office hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm

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Y1 teacher: karyn@udis.ac.th

Y2 teacher: emmi@udis.ac.th

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

Y5 teacher: rebecca@udis.ac.th

School Secretary: wannapa@udis.ac.th

Email suggestion box: suggestions@udis.ac.th

Little Explorers

English Summer Programme
เรียนภาคฤดูร้อนระยะสั้น

4-8 April
(4-8 เมษายน)

Inquiry learning
เรียนรู้ในรูปแบบการสืบเสาะหาความรู้

Fun, fieldtrips
จากกิจกรรมแสนสนุก การทัศนศึกษา

Arts and crafts
งานศิลปะและงานประดิษฐ์



With... Karyn & Kat

6,500 baht

Limited Places Available

รับจำนวนจำกัด



Udon Thani International School
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