

11th May 2017 | ISSUE16


## May is Healthy Eating Month!



### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- All of May - Healthy eating month
- 17 May - Parent Cafe #3
- "The role of EAL at UDIS"
- 19 May - Executive Board Meeting #3
- 19 May - Parents & Toddlers #4
- 22-23 May - Half term break  
(School holiday)
- 2 June - Parents & Toddlers #5
- 3 June - PTA Meeting #7
- 9 June - Parents & Toddlers #6
- 12 June - Parent Cafe #4
- "Assessment at UDIS"
- 23 June - Term 3 end of school

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## Message from the Head of School

*Dear Parents*

This week, I would like to report back on a few excerpts from the CIS membership report that Jenni Thompson, our CIS membership advisor prepared for us after her visit in November:

Udon Thani International School is a young school, beginning to establish itself in an area of Thailand unfamiliar with the concept of a school that is inquiry-based and seeks to develop an ethos of international mindedness in its predominantly Thai population. This has produced a number of challenges of which the school is aware and beginning to address.



A great deal of the past two years has for the school, by its own admission, been taken up with the development of policies and procedures. As it moves forward, the school now needs to ensure that these are understood by parents and staff alike and consistently applied. The school has a commitment to school improvement and has undertaken the Membership process with CIS with energy and enthusiasm. Although small in number, it is evident the staff are enthusiastic about the school they are creating, and willing to undertake the developmental work required to meet the Preparatory Evaluation standards should the school move forward in the accreditation process.

The school has identified that an important first step is a review of its guiding statements to refine them further and ensure they accurately reflect the context of the school. Time and effort devoted to developing a real understanding of the ethos of the school among all constituents will pay dividends in the long run. The school has identified a number of priorities around curriculum, staff and community development and have prepared a detailed action plan. However, to be truly effective, priorities should be refined to a few key initiatives which, when acted upon will have the optimum effect and ensure the school is progressing forward and not getting caught up in a cycle of constant change.

The school is to be congratulated for being ready to host a Membership Visit so soon after being accepted into the process. This is indicative of its commitment to school improvement and determination to create a high quality school.

In the next issue, I will report back on our PYP visit report by Maike Silver our PYP Consultant.

Best regards

*Dr Lindsay Stuart*

Head of School

## Inquiry corner

*By Mr Michael Delcavo, Deputy Principal/Curriculum Coordinator*

Soon we will be hosting a session at school about assessment. It will be an excellent chance to sit in to find out how we assess things in as an IB school and how we are able to give feedback to parents and students.

In most traditional schools, a grade system may be used which awards points for different assignments, classwork and tests and provides a total score for the year. Sometimes assignments are given different weights to show their importance. This system can be lacking as students may not always be able to perform when the teacher expects them to.

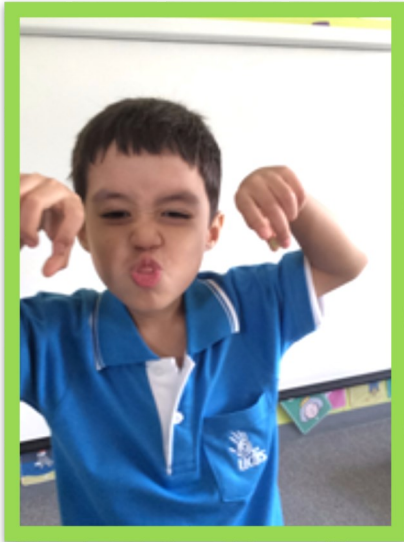
We use a more advanced form of assessment and hope you will come by as we talk about the assessment used at UDIS. This Parent Cafe is planned for Monday 12 June from 3-3:45pm.

## Early Years Update

### K1 class update - Expressing our feelings

By Ms Jennifer Chapman , K1 Teacher

K1 have started our new Unit of Inquiry 'How we express ourselves' and are learning about different ways we can show our feelings and ideas. We started by looking at feelings and what can make us feel that way. We have made lots of connections to characters in stories and loved talking selfies to show our feelings! K1 have really enjoyed expressing themselves through listening to music and dancing. We have also started meditation and yoga to help us feel calm and reflect on the day.



### Year 2/3 class update - Our bodies and wellness

By Ms Emmi Hines Year 2/3 Teacher

This unit we have explored how our body and mind are affected by the everyday choices that we make. We have learned about the meaning of a good diet, keeping fit, good hygiene, and the importance of play and rest. We have investigated the food groups and how food provides us with the nutrition and energy to carry out our daily activities. We have read books about healthy living and discussed how these relate to our own lives.

There has been plenty of opportunities for the children to use their bodies in an active way as we explored different types of wellness. Next week, for the summative assessment, students will work out a lunch menu that shows what they have learned about healthy choices and the food pyramid. Each student will be able to plan and cook their own lunch for their classmates.



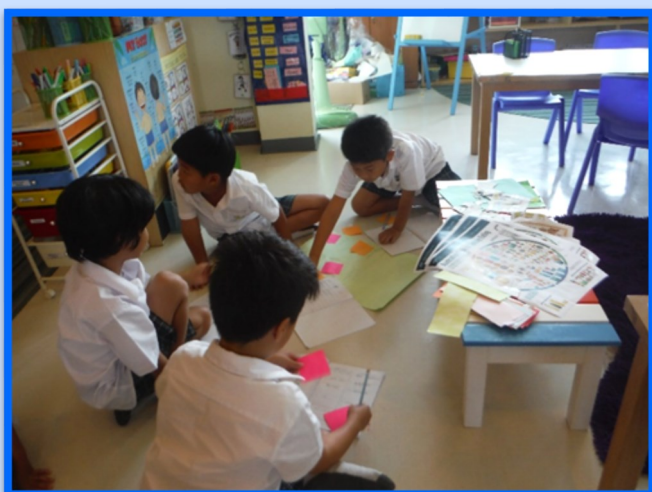
Our wellness project



Comparing different types of diets.



Meditation is a great way to relax and calm our minds.



Group work on choices that affect their well-being.

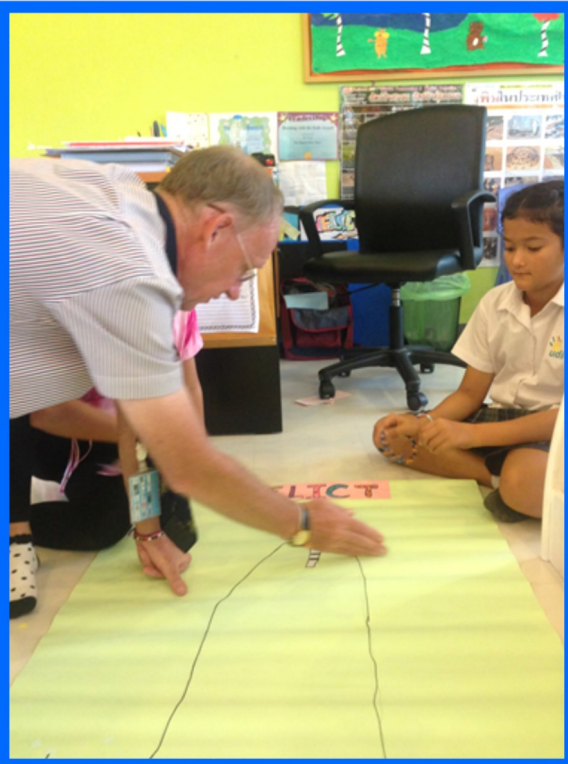


Exploring nature .

## Year 5/6 class update - Conflict causes and resolutions.

By Neil Pilkington , Y5/6 Teacher

During this unit students have been inquiring into why conflicts arise and strategies that can be used to reach a resolution. We started off by looking at different levels of conflict from person to person, person to self and person to nature through the story of The Lorax, then inquired into the Trojan War and the continuing conflict about the need for zoos. For our summative assessment, students are investigating possibly the biggest conflict of all time, World War 2. Students will take on the role of one of the leaders and explain their wants and needs throughout the conflict. They will also consider ways in which the conflict could have been resolved sooner or avoided altogether - lessons from history.



## MODERN LANGUAGES - CHINESE

Recently we have been working hard to coordinate the learning in the Chinese class with that in the homeroom. This can increase the enjoyment of students as they can see how the homeroom unit unfolds in Chinese. EY students have looked into simple inquiries while PY students have had assessments to check their learning in Chinese.



## English as an additional language (EAL)

We recently had a workshop on “Differentiation” with all of our teaching assistants at the school. We discussed what differentiation is and how we can best support students with different needs at the school. Teachers were given different scenarios and were asked to choose different resources that could be supportive to the students.

It is our goal as a school to differentiate our teaching to students to develop deeper layers of learning, while simultaneously structuring curriculum to support lower level students or students with learning difficulties- both identified and unidentified.

### FUN RIDDLES!



# Health and Safety

*By Mr Michael Delcavo, Health and safety coordinator*

The health and safety team has been working hard to complete our annual plan and we are now starting to look into the tasks for next year. In August, we will have two new buildings and we are looking at developing communication systems to support this as well as to look into what other health and safety implications these structures will have.

We are also interested in feedback and issues that we can look at to make the school a safer place. Please feel free to provide feedback or let us know about your concerns.

Health and safety month has started off nicely with the students learning about proper use of utensils and about food groups. We will continue on with lessons during the assembly time for the remainder of the month.



## House Update

This year, we have introduced a House system at the school comprising five house teams. Students have been placed into these teams and able to gain points from classroom activities and school events.

The current house scores are:

House team	Current points
Red House Confucius	570
Blue House Martin Luther King	599
Black House Princess Diana	682
Green House Nelson Mandela	641
Yellow House Mother Teresa	645



## Parent cafe

We would like to launch our Parent Cafes for parents to come and learn more about different aspects of the school from our talented teaching staff. The schedule is below:

Session	Date	Topic
#3	17 May	The role of EAL at UDIS with Miss Phibz
#4	12 June	Assessment at UDIS with Mr D

***The next parent cafe is 'The Role of EAL at UDIS' with Miss Phibz***



# Yearbook 2016/2017 Advertising Rates

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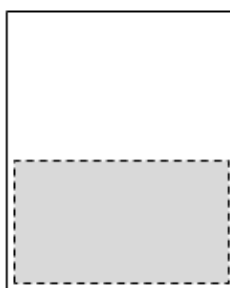
UDIS is launching our annual Yearbook that will document our third year as a school. The Yearbook will celebrate the achievements of our third year as a school and the students, teachers and parents that have been part of it. The Yearbook will include sections on staff, students, specialist subjects, classes, clubs, school activities, awards, fieldtrips and graduating students.

The Yearbook will be distributed to all students, parents and to our community as a printed book. As such, we are looking for Yearbook sponsors who can advertise their products and services. **The final date for submission of advertising will be Friday 19 May.** We have the current advertising space available:

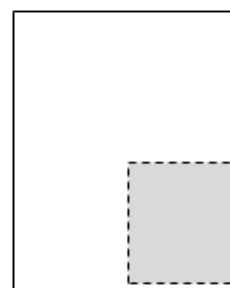
Location	Size	Price
Inside Front cover	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide)	5,000 baht
Inside back cover	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide)	4,000 baht
Full page	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide)	2,500 baht
Half page – horizontal	135mm high x 180mm wide	1,500 baht
Quarter page – vertical	127mm high x 87mm wide	1,000 baht



Full page



Half page



Quarter page

## Details

- Adverts are required in any of the following formats: High resolution Adobe PDF/X files (distilled at 200dpi with all fonts embedded) – Adobe Photoshop TIFF or EPS formats at 300dpi or better – Adobe Illustrator EPS files
- Placement is first come, first served.
- 20% discount available for two or more spots, double pages etc.
- 10% discount for parents of the school

## Submission

Adverts can be submitted to [admin@udis.ac.th](mailto:admin@udis.ac.th) with your contact details and desired advert type and placement or contact the School Office.

Please contact the School Office for more information:

Email: [admin@udis.ac.th](mailto:admin@udis.ac.th) ; Phone: **042 110-379**



## Message from Admin

### **Administration - Message from the office**

**Please note that we have had to make some changes to our calendar for 2017/2018. These are as below:**

#### **Term 1 (82 days)**

School start:	Tuesday 15 August, 2017
Half term break:	23-27 October, 2017 (1 week)
Finish:	Friday 15 December, 2017

#### **Term 2 (56 days)**

Start:	Monday 8 January, 2018
Half term break:	19-20 February, 2018 (2 days)
Finish:	Friday 30 March, 2018

#### **Term 3 (44 days)**

Start:	Wednesday 18 April, 2018
Half term break:	28-29 May, 2018 (2 days)
Finish:	Friday 22 June, 2018

#### **Term 1 2018/2019**

Management	30 July, 2018
New staff	31 July, 2018
Returning staff	6 August, 2018
School start:	Tuesday 14 August, 2018

#### **Teacher Only Days**

Teacher only day #1	30 October, 2017
Teacher only day #2	8 January, 2018

#### **Public holidays**

Queen's Birthday (substitute day)	Monday 14 August
King Bhumibol Memorial Day	Friday 13 October
Chulalongkorn Day	Monday 23 October, 2017 (during school break)
King Rama IX Birthday	Tuesday 5 December, 2017
Makha Bucha Day	Thursday 1 March, 2018
Labour Day	Tuesday 1 May, 2018
Visaka Bucha Day	Tuesday 29 May, 2018

## 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**

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

Head of School: [lindsay@udis.ac.th](mailto:lindsay@udis.ac.th)

Deputy Principal: [michael@udis.ac.th](mailto:michael@udis.ac.th)

Assistant Principal: [emmi@udis.ac.th](mailto:emmi@udis.ac.th)

Preschool teacher: [olga@udis.ac.th](mailto:olga@udis.ac.th)

K1 teacher: [jennifer@udis.ac.th](mailto:jennifer@udis.ac.th)

K2 teacher: [jo@udis.ac.th](mailto:jo@udis.ac.th)

Y1 teacher: [karyn@udis.ac.th](mailto:karyn@udis.ac.th)

Y2/3 teacher: [emmi@udis.ac.th](mailto:emmi@udis.ac.th)

Y4 teacher: [robert@udis.ac.th](mailto:robert@udis.ac.th)

Y5/6 teacher: [neil@udis.ac.th](mailto:neil@udis.ac.th)

School Secretary: [wannapa@udis.ac.th](mailto:wannapa@udis.ac.th)

Email suggestion box: [suggestions@udis.ac.th](mailto:suggestions@udis.ac.th)