



Newsletter

Udon Thani International School

20th October 2017 | ISSUE5



FAREWELL TO KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ

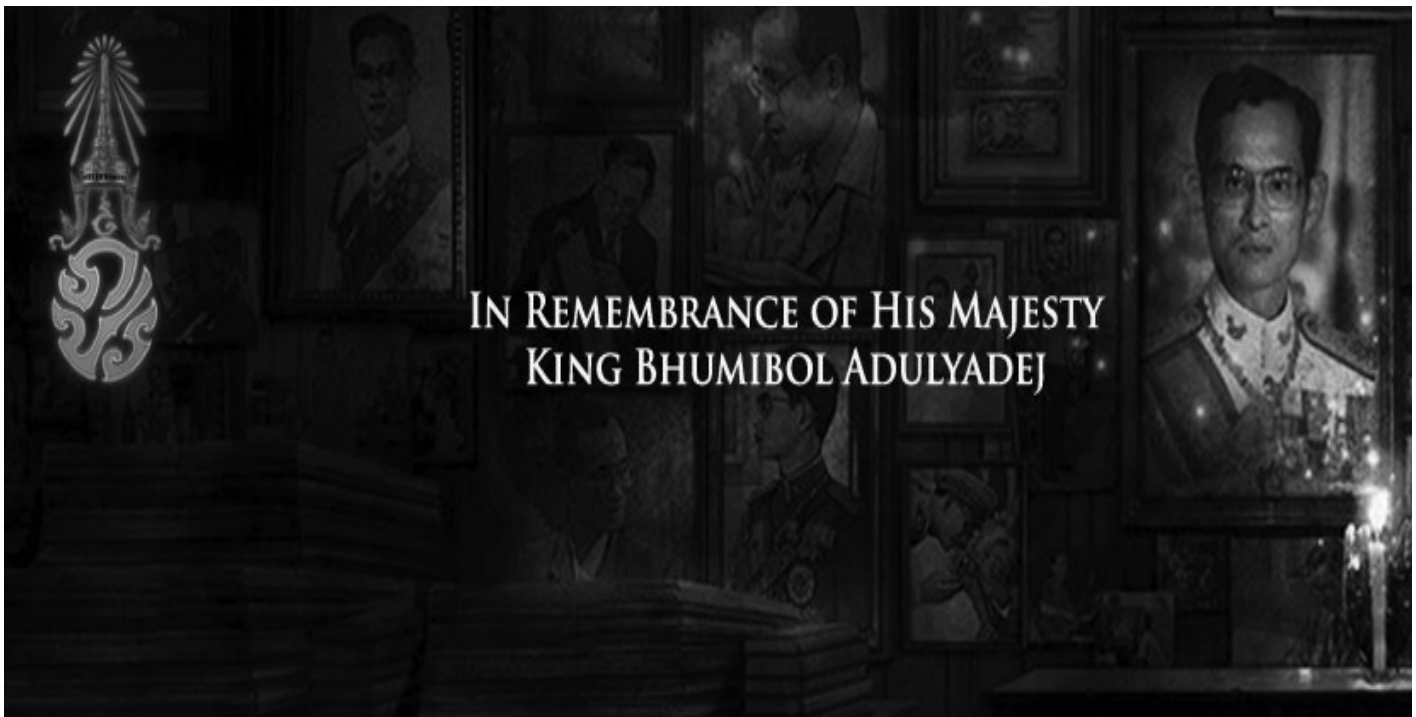
UDIS joins with the rest of Thailand to mourn and farewell King Bhumibol. King Bhumibol worked throughout his life to work tirelessly for peace and the welfare of the Thai people. Our thoughts and condolences are with the Royal Family during this time of mourning.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

23-27 October (1 week) - Half term break
30 October - Teachers only day #1
31 October - First day of Term 1 Half Term 2 (Tuesday)
1 November - PTA #2 (Wednesday)
2 November - Loy Krathong event
6 November - Parent Café #3 - Growth mindset
29 November - PTA #3
30 November - King's birthday (Fathers Day) event
5 December - King Rama IX Birthday holiday
15 December - Christmas festival event
15 December - Last day of Term 1
8 January, 2018 - Teachers only day #2
9 January, 2018 - Start of Term 2
26 January - Sports day event
29 January - PTA #4

IN THIS ISSUE :

Message from the Head of School	p2
Inquiry Corner	p3
Early Years Update	p4
Primary Years Update	p6
Language and Culture	p9
Health and Safety	p11
House Update & Parent Café	p12
Community Partnership Programme (CPP)	p13



IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS MAJESTY KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ

Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents

This week is the final week of the first half-term of Term 1. Next week, Thailand says farewell to King Bhumibol and remembers him for all the good things he did for Thailand. I hope during our break, all our students, parents and teachers will have a chance to reflect and say farewell to the King.

Last week, I had the chance to visit the DIDAC conference in Bangkok. At this event, I had the chance to learn about innovations in education that can be applied at UDIS. It was exciting to learn about these new opportunities and we will be discussing as a school what we can best get involved with going forward.



Last week was also our Book Week. It was great for us to focus on the importance of literacy across the whole week. I know the children enjoyed the book week activities and getting dressed up for the final assembly.

Finally this week, I am pleased to announce that we have appointed a new arts teacher, Mr. Larry Schultz. Mr Larry hails from the USA and has taught throughout the world in the USA, Colombia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand. He is an experienced PYP educator, teacher, and musician, who previously worked at United World School in Phuket. We are really excited to have him join our school and take on our arts programme.

Please have a safe and refreshing break and we will see everyone back for a busy second half-term.

Best regards

Dr Lindsay Stuart

Head of School

Inquiry corner

By Mrs Cynthia Thomas, Curriculum Coordinator

This is part of series of short articles which discusses 'The Inquiry Cycle'. It is hoped that through reading these articles our style of teaching at UDIS will make more sense to parents and the wider community. The last article was about 'Tuning In', and so it follows that this one is about 'Finding Out'.

Inquiry based teaching and learning is very much about giving the student some independence in their own learning. The teacher sets the central idea of the study and lines of inquiry give structure to the unit, but then students are encouraged to ask questions of their own. In this way, there is naturally a good amount of motivation for students to research answers for themselves.

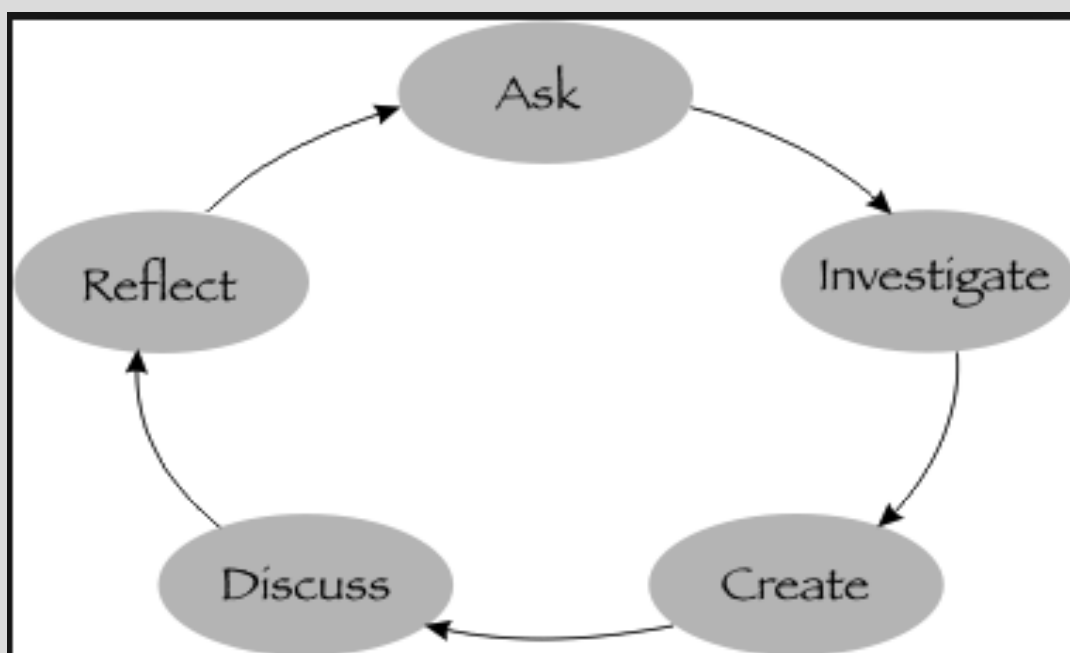
Guiding the student through the Finding Out stage of a unit involves scaffolding them as they build on what they already know. Here is list of activities that we often use to engage students in finding out:

- Visits to museums, places of interest, galleries and exhibitions
- Listening to guest speakers
- Interviewing local people - scientists, designers, business owners
- Contacting experts via email
- Conducting observations

The above activities engage the students in communication, thinking and research skills. The students learn first hand from the original source. There are also many activities which allow the students to collect data at a distance:-

- Videos, artwork and photographs
- Reading electronic texts
- Newspapers and journals
- Printed books.

These methods of research produce 'rich' and meaningful data and since the students collect the information themselves, it remains in their memories over time.



Early Years Update

Preschool class update - Reading is Our Thing!

By Ms Olga Sviridova, Preschool Teacher

We actively use children books to expose our students to English. Our preschoolers love stories that are simple and repetitive with colourful illustrations. That is why we were very happy to celebrate the Book Week at our school.

The children were very excited to visit our new library for the first time. We had discussions about our favourite stories and characters. Our students chose their top 3 books from the classroom library: 'Going to the Doctor' by Vivien French, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle, 'Little Gorilla' by Ruth Bornstein. The students listened to a story every day and practised their listening skills. We told stories with props and played language games based on the stories we read. On Thursday we had lots of fun participating in the book week costume parade!



Early Years Update

K2 class update - The K2 Book Worms!

By Ms Jo Fletcher, K2 Teacher

We finished our Summative Assessment for our Unit of Inquiry recently, so K2 decided to get really stuck into Book Week - and we thoroughly enjoyed the celebrations! We have a lot of favourite books and we enjoyed tying these into our class activities. K2 loved making Gruffalo masks (after all, the Gruffalo is one of our favourite books!) We also spent some time drawing hair for Thing 1 and Thing 2 (from Cat in the Hat) and it was great seeing all of the crazy hairdos!



Year 2 class update

By Mr John Kelly, Year 2 Teacher

We have been busy making Dioramas about how we use our public spaces. We have discussed how we should behave when we use these spaces. We have been learning how to research for picture information by using the school laptops. Students researched what signs we should see in public shared spaces and what they mean. Students were then able to copy and paste their work onto Word documents. Very exciting. Some of the children have been getting certificates for their fantastic work on our study ladder. Well done to them and keep it going everyone!

Yesterday we learned a new technique of painting by covering the area with spots of paint and today we painted our hands for a class mural. You will see the finished picture next week.

Over the past week has been book week and the children have been listening to stories read by the teachers and making their own books in class. Last Thursday was the best day though because we all dressed up as our favorite book character.

As part of our English work the children have been learning about how to use adjectives and all about what are rhyming words and how we can use these words in poetry.



Year 4 class update

By Mr John Eastham, Y4 Teacher

Year 4 led a Primary Assembly on the theme of **CARING**, one of our **PYP** attributes.

We celebrated the contributions made by the whole UDIS community including teachers, teacher assistants, nannies, our school nurse, our gardeners, our driver, our housekeepers, our security staff, our cooks, and our office team

- At UDIS we are a team
- We work hard to care for each other
- Our school is a safe place to be

CARING PEOPLE

- Care for others
- Try to help others
- Want people to be happy
- Are sensitive to other people's needs



Year 6/7 class update - CONTINUES TO "ROLL"

By Mr Thomas Schuck, Year 6/7 Teacher

We have had a very productive couple of weeks! Our Year 6/7 students have settled into our classroom in the new building and have really enjoyed our new surroundings. We have just completed another transdisciplinary theme 'Who We Are'. In addition to this and several other hands-on activities, Year 6/7 regularly completes "daily" math timed tests, have completed 8 weeks of spelling and vocabulary tests, and used the writing process to create and write their own poems. We also completed a science experiment which tied into our transdisciplinary unit regarding cultural backgrounds and their belief systems, and the students are excited to see the results from this as the weeks progress. Our class very much enjoyed participating in our yearly Book Week as well. We look forward to being involved in many more new and interesting projects that are upcoming.

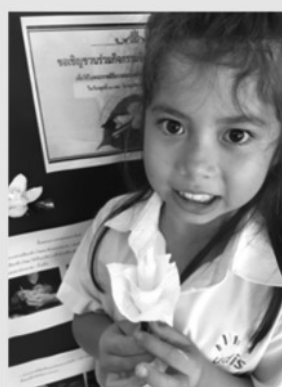
Congratulations to all of my Year 6/7 students for their continued hard work and taking great pride in all of their efforts within our classroom. Please keep checking the Year 6/7 Blog for photos and important announcements of happenings within our classroom.



MODERN LANGUAGES - THAI LANGUAGE

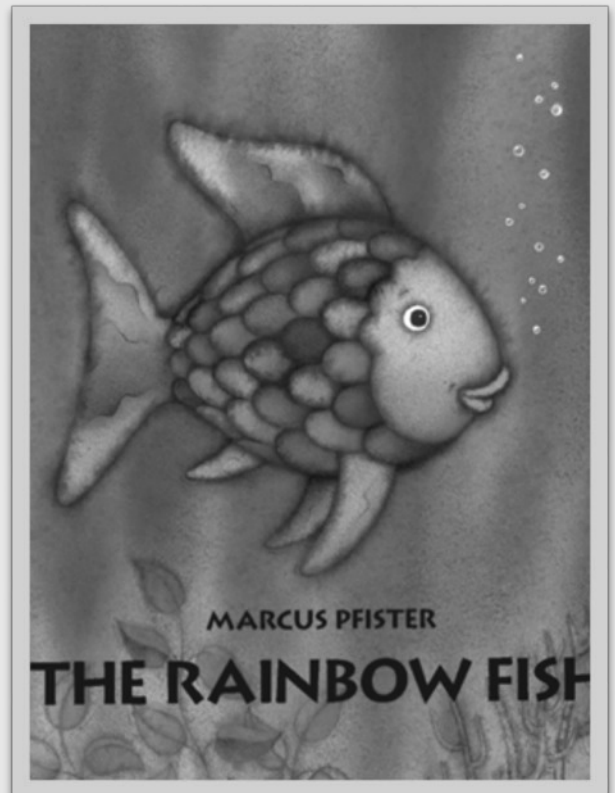
‘ธ เสด็จสวรรคตอยู่ขึ้นไหน
โปรดทรงทราบในพระทัยไทยทั่วหล้า
ยังคงเศร้าร่ำร้องนองน้ำตา
หวนรำลึกถึงวันนั้นวันอาลัย
นักครบนั่งปัดทรงจาก
แต่ละคนยังยากจะรับได้
เสียงสะท้อนในอกอย่างตกลใจ
ยังสะท้อนก้องในหัวใจประจำ
ยินเสียงเพลงที่ทรงไว้ให้สะท้อน
น้ำตารินราโรยแผ่ไยหา
เห็นภาพที่ทรงลำบากตรากตรำมา
หยาดน้ำตายังไหลไม่รู้ตัว
ธ เสด็จถือนักดารทรงงานให้
ตรึงตราในพระเมตตาประจำทั่ว
ความในหายหวาดหวั่นสิ้นระริว
ต่างหมองมัวไม่ปลื้มสำอวยรำไป
อยาตน้ำตาคงจะไหลย้อนในอก
อีกหลายศกกว่าจะฟื้นคืนมาได้
จะเหลือแต่ความหวังความตั้งใจ
ได้รอมบาททุกชาติไปไม่คลาดคลา’

นายมิชชัย ฤชุพันธุ์
ประธานคณะกรรมการร่างรัฐธรรมนูญ (กรธ.)



English as an additional language (EAL)

An anonymous quote says, ***“A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.”*** But getting kids to crack open books is often no walk in the park! During our book week at school we shared the wonder and magic of books in our EAL classroom with help from a few great literacy lessons.



Health and Safety

By Mr Donato Nucciarone, Health and safety coordinator

Our school is in the process of completing our hand-foot-mouth disease policy (HFMD.) The policy will clearly state instructions and procedures to follow in the case of a student getting the disease either at school or outside. The policy will be implemented after the holiday.

In addition, the flooring company will be coming next week to install the floors to the gymnasium. We are really looking forward to having our PE lessons in the gymnasium as it will provide shade and a safe learning environment for students to run and play sports in.

Finally, we will be installing a new drainage system in our sand pit. The drainage system will help with any flooding issues that our sand pit is having. Moreover, the drainage system will also help with germ buildup from the rain water.



House Update

The House system at UDIS comprises of five house teams. Students have been placed into these teams and are able to gain points from classroom activities and school events. The first house assembly for this year will be next Thursday! Please bring House T-Shirts on Thursday, September 28th 2017.

The current house scores are:

House team	Current points
Red House Confucius	181
Blue House Martin Luther King	110
Black House Princess Diana	141
Green House Nelson Mandela	167
Yellow House Mother Teresa	147



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	Monday 6 November	Helping your child with mathematics

The next parent cafe is Monday 6 November 'Helping your child with mathematics' with Miss Cynthia. Please mark it on your calendar. It will be a very informative session.



Welcome New CPP AIM Tennis Academy to our school's community partnership programme (CPP).

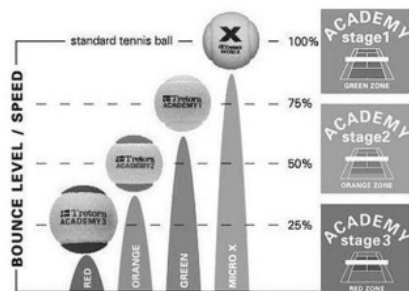
AIM Tennis Academy will offer special promotion is discount to all UDIS members from October 2017, if member show student card or Staff Card to them.



COURT MINI TENNIS

STAGE	RED	ORANGE	GREEN
AGE	5 - 8	8 - 9	10 and up
BALL	Red ball or foam Moves slower and bounces lower than orange ball	Orange Moves slower and bounces lower than green ball	Green Slightly reduced bounce from yellow ball
COURT SIZE	 36' x 18'	 66' x 21' singles 66' x 27' doubles	 76' x 27' singles 76' x 36' doubles
NET HEIGHT	2'6"	3' center, 3'6" at net posts	3' center, 3'6" at net posts
RACQUET	Up to 23"	23" - 25"	25" - 27"

TENNIS BALL



RACKET





Message from Admin

Administration - Message from the office

Term 2 invoices are due by Friday 1 December.

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

Deputy Principal: john.e@udis.ac.th

Assistant Principal: emmi@udis.ac.th

Preschool teacher: olga@udis.ac.th

K1 teacher: jennifer@udis.ac.th

K2 teacher: jo@udis.ac.th

Y1 teacher: jane@udis.ac.th

Y2 teacher: john.k@udis.ac.th

Y3 teacher: emmi@udis.ac.th

Y4 teacher: john.e@udis.ac.th

Y5 teacher: robert@udis.ac.th

Y6/7 teacher: thomas@udis.ac.th

School Secretary: wannapa@udis.ac.th

Email suggestion box: suggestions@udis.ac.th