

17th May 2019 | ISSUE16



External testing

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

All May	Healthy eating month
20-21 May	Half term break (Holiday)
27 May	PTA#8
31 May	Parent toddler #4
3 June	Queens birthday holiday
	(A newly announced holiday)
7 June	Parent toddler #5
10 June	Parents cafe #7
19 June	End of Term 3
13 August	Start of Term 2019/2020



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Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents

Over the two weeks, we have been carrying out the external testing of our students from Year 2 and upwards. After our trial of the GL tests, we have moved ahead with using these for students this year as a way for us to measure student progress annually and to identify students who need further support. We have used the Progress Test of English (PTE) and Progress Test of Maths (PTM) and we have been able to record all results within our student management system.

I can say that the results from the external tests have been very pleasing and provide validation that the teaching at UDIS is able to prepare students to a similar level as students in the UK. Our Year 2 class, which represents a group of students who have been with the school since K1, have done



fantastically well. The tests have shown that our EAL learners have struggled on these tests as they use a lot of English language and vocabulary that might be unfamiliar to them. We have also found that students who have been in the school for a year or more have had better results than students new to the school. This seems down to students being familiar with the curriculum, the language and the style of questions used.

We are also in the final stages of wrapping up our survey for the 1:1 programme. If you have not done so already, please get those forms into us. We also held our first consultation meeting with parents about our new MYP programme and we are pleased with the feedback and response so far to it.

Enjoy the half-term break and I look forward to seeing you all for the last half of Term 3.

Best regards Dr. Lindsay Stuart Head of School

Inquiry corner

By Ms Cynthia Thomas

In order for good inquiry to happen, learners need to be constantly developing in particular skills. There are certain skills that are important across all disciplines of knowledge. These are the skills that will support good learning and are completely transferable; as such they are valuable throughout all of one's life. At UDIS we pay particular attention to developing in children the five following skills:

Communication, self-management, social, research and thinking skills.

An important part of of inquiry style teaching and learning is having the students monitor their own progress in these skills. In the coming weeks our newsletter will expand on these and give examples of how you might work on these at home with your children.



Early Years Update

K1 class update - All about materials- Being curious! By Ms Phibzia, K1 teacher

This term science is becoming our favourite subject in kindergarten 1. We have been exploring materials that are made of paper, metal, plastic, glass, fabric etc. A few weeks ago we started investigating about floating and sinking and came up with the idea of making boats with different materials to see if they would float or sink. In literacy and math we have been reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', made our own caterpillars, fed the caterpillars with their favourite food and also made caterpillar patterns.











Year 1 class update – Hands-On-Activities

By Ms Rachel, Year1 teacher

The Year 1 children are indeed active learners and they like nothing better than 'hands-on' activities. Not surprisingly they really enjoyed the activity pictured below. The children were introduced to the concept of fractions; halves and quarters. They were asked to cut shapes into halves and quarters. This they did extremely well, particularly with tricky irregular shapes. Well done Year 1!



The children were engaged in more 'hand-on' activities for UOI. They were asked to make a vehicle of their own choosing for their summative assessment for the Unit of Transport. Their imagination and creativity came flooding to the fore as they produced, cars, trucks, boats and even planes. Is there no end to the talent of these children?







Year 3 class update - How We Organise Ourselves By Mr Nathan, Year 3 teacher

Year 3 is actively engaged in an investigation into how different organisations function. Recently, Year 3 ventured outside the classroom on an excursion to Quality Assembly Thailand Co. LTD and De Princess Hotel. Students displayed confidence and enthusiasm for how Quality Assembly Thailand Co. LTD is organised through their questioning of our hosts. Students inquired about challenges, problem solving strategies, and the characteristics of a successful organisation.





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Year 5 update – Learning about conflict resolution

By Mr John Eastham, Year5 teacher

Year 5 led a Primary Years assembly on the theme of Conflict Resolution.(It was also the first assembly to be attended by our K2 class)

They had to think about incidents from different viewpoints such as child/parent/ teacher/bully/victim	Sometimes finding a solution is easy but it is fine to seek help from and adult or a friend if you are having problems.
In our house teams, we tried to solve some challenges through talking and suggesting ideas	It was great to see some parents attend- ing the assembly
One of our challenges made us hungry. It was all about someone who ate a whole pizza without sharing!	We hope children will be able to sort out challenges without fighting with each other.
One of our challenges made us hungry. It was all about someone who ate a whole pizza without sharing!	

Here are some problems. How would you solve them?

- Emily spent ages drawing a lovely picture but someone scribbled all over it and ruined it.
- No one will play with Oliver at playtime even though he asked to join in the game.
- Someone called Toby stupid because he didn't get anything right in his test.
- Someone hit Lily in the playground and called her a mean name.
- Noah is playing with a ball in the playground when an older pupil takes it away from him.
- Amelia is upset because her friends aren't talking to her and she doesn't know why.

There may well be more than one possible solution!

Modern languages - English as an Additional Language (EAL)



In our EAL classes, we have been studying poetry and rhyming words. We have listened to and read poems by Dr. Suess, Shel Silverstein, and Jack Prelutsky. The students did an amazing job on their rhyming words posters.





Mark your calendar!

Each EAL student will be be participating in our Udon International School Living Museum on Thursday, June 6th at 8:30 a.m. Please join us as we learn about famous individuals.

Hi everyone! Car parking is becoming a problem because of the new building that is going on. We are currently trying to think of ways that hopefully will make your visit at the end of the day a hassle free experience. There will be a few trials to see which way is the best way to make picking up your children the easiest in the afternoons. So please stay patient and courteous to all the other drivers while we trial a few different solutions. Thank you for your understanding.



House Update

UDIS has a House system comprising of five house teams. This is the third year that we implemented the house system at our school.

The current house point totals are:

House team	Current points	
Red House Confucius	18	
Blue House Martin Luther King	12	
Black House Princess Diana	17	Quidis service of the
Green House Nelson Mandela	15	
Yellow House Mother Teresa	10	

Parent cafe

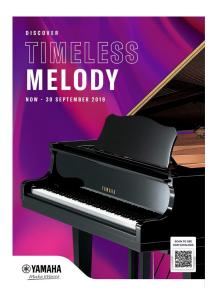
Our Parent cafe for 2018/2019 will resume this year and the upcoming events are:

Session	Date	Торіс
#7	13/5/2019	End of year reports and external testing

The next parent cafe is "End of year reports and external testing" with Mr. John and Dr. Lindsay



Promotion from Yamaha







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School board update - Summary of meeting held on Friday 22 February

The school operates a school board which oversees how the school is operated and makes decisions on policy, fees and budgets. The parent volunteers role is to look out for the interests of parents on the school board so that the Board can consider the interests of parents when it makes decisions.

On Friday 2 November, the school held its second Board meeting of the year. The Board lineup for this year is:

Acting Chairman: K. Siriphat Pukpo Honorary member #1 K. Wicha Chanklom Honorary member #2 Mr. Kurt Lunstrum K. Ampuscha Chotnopparatpatara Parent representative Parent representative K. Kasama Kraikutree Teacher representative Mr. Robert Langridge School Director K. Sineenard Charmart Board member Dr. Lindsay Stuart

At the meeting, the Head of School reported on school activities since the last Board meeting which covered the growing enrolment of the school, school activities, accreditation process and teaching activities. The Board then reviewed and confirmed the budget for the next school year which includes a 3% fee increase for the tuition, textbooks and catering fees at the school. Finally, the Board had a chance to learn more about the PYP programme from Ms. Cynthia and some special guests from Year 6/7. This was a great opportunity for the Board to learn more about what we do at UDIS to help them prepare for our PYP verification visit.

The next Board meeting is planned for Friday 17 May, 2019.





PTA update - Summary of meeting held on Monday 27 April

On Monday, 29 April we held our 7th PTA meeting of the year. The Head of School introduced information about the 1 student to 1 device programme (1:1) with two options for parents to consider. The first option is to stay as is with the second option being to move to a 1:1 policy. The 1:1 policy can be met by parents supplying their own device, or renting a device from the school for their children. The next step will be for the school to survey all parents on their thoughts about the 1:1 programme before a final decision is made.

The next topic involved the school's accreditations with CIS and the PYP as we had two successful visits in Term 2. We are now moving into the final phase of CIS accreditation with the team visit to be held from 9 November, 2020. We will need parents to help join teams to write the report that the team visitors will assess the school against. For our PYP authorisation, we have completed the final visit and are now waiting for the results from the IB. We expect that we will have our PYP accreditation complete by 2019/2020.

The school then outlined the actions taken around health insurance and will improve insurance coverage to 30,000 baht per student from the current limit. All health insurance cards will be kept within the school to be used for accidents only. Parents will need to acknowledge the new limit and their liability if the costs of an accident were beyond 30,000 baht. The school can provide information on insurance brokers if further insurance is desired by parents.

The school then introduced our brief plans for rolling out into Year 7 and Year 8. A meeting will be held with all interested parents on Wednesday 8 May. It is important for us that parents join this meeting as we want to develop a programme in partnership with parents. The opinions of our parents will help us shape our new MYP programme. Mr Terry, will be our MYP Coordinator and has experience of developing and running MYP programmes in previous schools. We are forming a team to develop this programme during the 2019/2020 academic year to be ready for August, 2020.



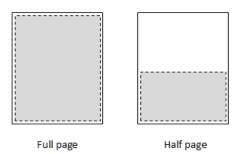
Message from Admin

Yearbook 2018/2019 Advertising Rates

UDIS is launching our annual Yearbook that will document our fifth year as a school. The Yearbook will celebrate the achievements of our fourth 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. <u>The final date</u> for submission of advertising will be Friday 17 May. We have the current advertising space available:

Location	size	Price
Back cover	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide	12,000 baht
Inside Front cover	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide	-8,000 baht- *RESERVED
Inside back cover	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide	7,000 baht
Full page	A4 (297mm high x 210mm wide)	5,000 baht
Half page – horizontal	135mm high x 180mm wide	3,000 baht



Details

- Adverts are required in any of the following formats: High resolution Adobe PDF/X files (distilled at 200 dpi 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 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 ; Phone: 042 110-379

School Terms and Dates 2018/2019

UDIS operates three terms per school year as follows:

Term 3 (40 days) Start: Half term break: Finish:

Monday 22 April, 2019 20-21 May, 2019 (2 days) Wednesday 19 June, 2019

Public holidays Coronation Day Queens birthday

Monday 6 May, 2019 Monday 3 June

School Terms and Dates 2019/2020

UDIS operates three terms per school year as follows:

Term 1 (80 days) School start: Half term break: Finish:

Tuesday 13 August, 2019 14-23 October, 2019 (1 week & 3 days) Friday 13 December, 2019

Term 2 (61 days) Start: Half term break: Finish:

Tuesday 7 January, 2020 17-18 February, 2020 (2 days) Friday 3 April, 2020

Term 3 (41 days) Start: Half term break: Finish:

Term 1 2020/2021 School start:

Monday 10 August, 2020

Monday 20 April, 2020

Friday 19 June, 2019

18-19 May, 2020 (2 days)

Teacher Only Days

Teacher only day #1 Teacher only day #2 Wednesday 23 October, 2019 (Substitute from Tuesday) 6 January, 2020

Public holidays

Queens Birthday King Bhumibol Memorial Day Monday 14 October, 2019 Chulalongkorn Day King Rama IX Birthday

Monday 12 August 2019 Wednesday 23 October, 2019 Thursday 5 December, 2019

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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

Teaching and Learning Coordinator: emmi@udis.ac.th

Head of Thai Teacher: pornthip@udis.ac.th

Preschool teacher: charlotte@udis.ac.th

K1 teacher: phibzia@udis.ac.th

K2 teacher: jane@udis.ac.th

Y1 teacher: rachel@udis.ac.th

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

Y3 teacher: nathan@udis.ac.th

Y4 teacher: mark@udis.ac.th

Y5 teacher: john.e@udis.ac.th

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

School Office Manager: siri@udis.ac.th

Admissions Manager: wannapa@udis.ac.th

Email suggestion box: suggestions@udis.ac.th