

**7th June 2018** ISSUE17



#### Silver Fern Sports Exchange photos on page 21

#### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

18-21 June Parent-Teacher conferences

22 June - Last day of Term 3 & UDIS Got Talent 2018 event

27 July, 20 8 - Final date for Term 1 20 18/20 19 invoices

14 August, 2018 - Start of Term 1 2018/2019

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### Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents

Last week we had a wonderful visit from Silver Fern International School in Roi Et. It has been fantastic to start developing some links with other international schools and begin these sporting exchanges. It was great to see all the kids competing and other students cheering everybody on. We hope to further develop this programme for 2018/2019 which could involve further exchanges or a possible joint expeditions trip.

This week we held our final PTA meeting of the year. At the meeting we introduced all of the new changes for next year. We are pleased to announce that we are able to begin the development of our long awaited swimming pool. We will build a five lane, 25 meter, salt water pool on the



site of our existing swimming pool. This should be completed by Christmas. We are also developing our EY outdoor areas to make more use of our outdoor spaces and get the kids into more messy, creative play. Finally, we will be tidying up the spaces outside our Clock Tower and completing the walkway system. These will bring some lovely additions for our students for next year.

In this issue we also have our teacher list for 2018/2019. We do have a couple of further appointments to make which we will announce in due course. We have worked hard to secure a great lineup of staff for next year and I am sure these staff will continue to build on the strong foundations departing staff have left.

Over the last couple of weeks of school, we will have our parent conferences in the final week and please don't forget about our End of Year - UDIS Got Talent 2018 event on Friday 22 June. I hope to see you all there as we say goodbye to 2017/2018.

Best regards

Dr Lindsay Stuart Head of School

#### Inquiry corner

#### By Mrs Cynthia Thomas, Curriculum Coordinator

The IB Primary Years Programme aims to instill particular attitudes in children, one of which is enthusiasm. Here at UDIS our students are certainly enthusiastic about learning. It is a pleasure to see them come to school every day with interesting questions and meaningful conversations to share. We believe that this motivation comes from the way in which we organise the teaching and learning here.

The inquiry based learning here at UDIS is based on the idea that students come to us with some amount of prior knowledge. Our work as teachers is to get to know our students well so that we can understand their personalities and interests. From that point we are able to create learning situations which stimulate them to want to ask questions and find out more about the things that interest them. In this way children willingly engage in study of some complex concepts. This is possible because the teacher has designed enjoyable learning experiences based on the student's interest; and so it follows that UDIS students are full of enthusiasm in the classroom.

#### Teacher lineup - 2018/2019

We are very pleased to announce our teaching lineup for the 2018/2019 academic year.

#### **Management staff**



#### Head of School - Dr. Lindsay Stuart

Lindsay is an experienced school administrator with over 15 years experience working in education in Thailand. Lindsay hails from New Zealand, where he graduated from the University of Canterbury with Bachelor degrees in Arts and Science before completing a PhD in Information Systems. He also holds a Masters degree from Mahidol University in Thailand and a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Administration from Massey University in New Zealand. Lindsay has an excellent understanding of educational administration, learning and technology and uses that knowledge to guide and shape exciting learning programmes for the students of UDIS.



#### **Deputy Principal - John Eastham**

John holds a Masters degree in International Education from Oxford Brookes University in the UK and has taught throughout the Primary age range (5 to 11) in the UK, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand and most recently in Myanmar. John has worked in a variety of roles including Principal, curriculum leadership and class teaching. He is delighted to be at UDIS at a time when it is developing its membership of CIS, and is an IB Primary Years candidate school, as this will ensure quality internationally based learning for all UDIS students.



#### **Primary Years Coordinator - Emmi Hines**

Emmi holds a Master's Degree in Administration of Education from Grand Canyon University. She also has a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Purdue University and is TEFL and ESL certified from the USA. She has 12 years teaching experience in the USA, China and 3 years at our sister school, KPBS, in Khon Kaen. Her passion is helping her students become the best they can be through a variety of teaching techniques.

#### **Management staff**



#### **Early Years Coordinator - Jane Sutton**

Jane holds a Bachelor degree in Music and teaching from Ripon and York University in the UK. With thirteen years teaching experience in schools across the UK, Cambodia, Norway, China and Taiwan. Jane has considerable experience working with the 3-7 year-old age range as well as coordinating Sports, Music, Art and Phonics. She also holds TEFL certification.

Jane is an energetic and caring teacher who takes great pride in her class. She firmly believes in teaching children how to think while building their confidence and allowing them to prosper.



#### **PYP Coordinator - Cynthia Thomas**

Cynthia is an experienced PYP educator who has worked in schools in Thailand, Turkey, Japan, Spain and the United Kingdom. Cynthia holds a Bachelor of Education Honours Degree (Primary Years) from the University of Nottingham and a Masters Degree in International Education from Sunderland University. She has previously worked with a variety of primary levels in schools including UWC Thailand (Phuket International Academy) and Bilkent Laboratory & International School which are both IB World Schools.

Cynthia enjoys working to develop equality of educational activities with prior work with migrant communities in Phuket. She is also interested in mindfulness, Mathematics and the teaching of EAL.

#### **Homeroom teachers**



#### Preschool - Charlotte Elizabeth

Charlotte is from Wales in the United Kingdom and completed a Bachelor's degree in Primary Education with a specialism in Early Years Education from York St John University in North Yorkshire. She has always known that she wanted to work with children and her upbringing in the capital of Wales gave her opportunities to experience the benefits and beauty of multiculturalism.

Charlotte loves to laugh, sing, and create and is always trying to bring a sparkle of magic and wonder into her teaching. She is also bringing her family to Thailand for the first time and is looking forward to learning about a new culture and finding time for her hobby of archery.



#### K1 - Maria Panagos

Maria is a qualified teacher from South Africa who holds a Higher Education Diploma in Pre-Primary Teaching from the College of Education Pretoria. She has over 12 years of teaching experience with both primary and preschool classes. She is also familiar with working with EAL children through her training and implementation of the Step-by-Step ECD English Language Development Program in South Africa.

Maria is a loving and caring Early Years Teacher, who thrives on motivating creative thinking and exploration of the young child's interests while having fun learning. She believes in supporting self-expression that allows children to find confidence through a variety of holistic experiences. She takes great care in her interaction between herself, the children and their parents. Maria is also an energetic and outgoing lover of nature and hopes to explore this passion further in Thailand.



**K2 - Jane Sutton** 

Jane holds a Bachelor degree in Music and teaching from Ripon and York University in the UK. With thirteen years teaching experience in schools across the UK, Cambodia, Norway, China and Taiwan. Jane has considerable experience working with the 3-7 year-old age range as well as coordinating Sports, Music, Art and Phonics. She also holds TEFL certification.

Jane is an energetic and caring teacher who takes great pride in her class. She firmly believes in teaching children how to think while building their confidence and allowing them to prosper.

#### **Homeroom teachers**



Year 1 - Rachel Bradley

Rachel holds a Diploma in Primary Education from Notre Dame College of Education and a Bachelor of Educational Studies from Stirling University, Scotland, UK. Throughout her long and varied teaching career Rachel has taught in many countries including Australia, West Africa and the UK with classes taught from kindergarten all the way through to student teachers. In recent years, Rachel has also run her own successful private Tuition Centre in Australia.Rachel is extremely excited at the prospect of returning to the classroom and working with our Year 1 class. Rachel is passionate about Early Education and knows full well the importance of laying solid foundations, if children are to become successful life long learners. Consequently, Rachel places great importance on establishing a safe, and happy environment in which children are unafraid to take risks and are motivated to learn. Rachel believes that children's learning is optimised when there is a strong partnership between the school annthe parents, as such Rachel likes to encourage parent involvement in the classroom.



Year 2 - John Kelly

John was born in Glasgow, Scotland, where it is usually cold wet and windy and lived there for the first 16 years of his life before immigrating to Australia with his family. In Western Australia he was awarded a Bachelor of Education at Curtin University. John has taught in Australia, England, Turkey, Thailand, Qatar and Kuwait over nearly three decades. During his time in these various countries he has taught all grades of primary school and worked with students and teachers from across the globe. John is looking forward to returning to Thailand with his wife and son. John considers himself an open, creative, friendly and reliable teacher who is a keen advocate for the development of community within a school. In past schools, he has taken pride in being able to utilise parents in the development of students learning. John believes that students must be engaged, challenged and able to reflect independently and collaboratively about their learning.



Year 3/4 - Mark Abbadessa

Mark holds a Bachelor degree in Sociology and Elementary Education with a specialisation in Special Education from William Paterson University. He holds dual Highly Qualified Teaching Status Licenses from America and has received a Masters Degree in Literacy from the University of New England. He has attended additional postgraduate teaching courses at North Dakota State University. Mark has also received PYP and TEFL course certificates of completion. He has worked in both public and international schools settings in the USA and China and has taught children from 4-16 years old from a variety of different teaching roles throughout his 10 year teaching career. Mark enjoys teaching in an international school setting and continues to research new and innovative teaching strategies to use in creating motivational teaching activities to engage his students. He uses a vast variety of technology platforms during classroom lessons to capture the minds of his students and to also build real world technology skills needed in today's society and workforce.

#### **Homeroom teachers**



Year 5 - John Eastham

John holds a Masters degree in International Education from Oxford Brookes University in the UK and has taught throughout the Primary age range (5 to 11) in the UK, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand and most recently in Myanmar. John has worked in a variety of roles including Principal, curriculum leadership and class teaching. He is delighted to be at UDIS at a time when it is developing its membership of CIS, and is an IB Primary Years candidate school, as this will ensure quality internationally based learning for all UDIS students.



Year 6/7 - Cynthia Thomas

Cynthia is an experienced PYP educator who has worked in schools in Thailand, Turkey, Japan, Spain and the United Kingdom. Cynthia holds a Bachelor of Education Honours Degree (Primary Years) from the University of Nottingham and a Masters Degree in International Education from Sunderland University. She has previously worked with a variety of primary levels in schools including UWC Thailand (Phuket International Academy) and Bilkent Laboratory & International School which are both IB World Schools.

Cynthia enjoys working to develop equality of educational activities with prior work with migrant communities in Phuket. She is also interested in mindfulness, Mathematics and the teaching of EAL

#### **Specialist teachers**



EAL - Phibzia Siddiqui

Phibzia holds a Master's Degree in Education (TEFL) from the National University of Laos. She has also completed a Bachelor of Arts (B.A) and an Advanced diploma in "Early Childhood Development" from ECD-Affiliated Edith Cowan University (Australia). She has 13 years of teaching experience around Asia and has training and experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). Phibzia comes to us from a position as EAL teacher at Vientiane International School. Phibzia has the passion and the energy for English language learning and teaching across all levels of students. She has used a range of teaching strategies to accommodate student's different learning styles and their unique needs.



#### **ICT Coordinator - Richard Slack**

Richard holds a Bachelor of Science in Computing and a Professional Graduate Certificate in Education from Sunderland University. He has worked previously in schools in Thailand and Turkey teaching technology to students from different levels. Richard has a particular passion for IT which he used during a successful career in programming and systems management.



#### Music teacher - Larry Schultz

Lawrence (Larry) is a qualified teacher from the USA. He graduated with a Bachelor degree in Classical Guitar Performance from the North Carolina School of the Arts before completing a Masters degree in Music Literature from the University of Houston. He completed his teacher training in Houston before gaining a lifetime Teacher Certification from Texas (Pre-kindergarten to 6th grade). Larry has worked in schools in the USA as a music teacher, primary teacher and kindergarten teacher before moving abroad to teach in South America, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines and most recently Thailand. Most recently, he comes to us from Phuket International Academy, an IB world school, where he was teaching first grade. Larry is interested in yoga, meditation, classical guitar, chess and circus arts.

#### **Specialist teachers**



**Learning Support Coordinator - Robert Langridge** 

Robert graduated with a Bachelor of Education and an Ontario Teaching Certificate from the University of Toronto. He also holds a Bachelor of Physical Education and Special Education Certificates. Robert has over 20 years of experience working in Canadian schools before teaching internationally in China, Egypt and Thailand. Robert is passionate about physical education and is a certified coach in track and field, soccer and volleyball. He has extensive experience in special education where he is trained at identifying the learning needs of students and intervention programmes to help them.



**PSPE - Ivan Diaz** 

Ivan is a qualified, physical education teacher from Spain. He holds a Masters of Teaching in Physical Education from the University of A Coruña and a Bachelor of Sports Science and Education from the National Institute of Physical Education in A Coruña. Ivan has worked as both a football coach and a PE and swimming teacher in Spain, Australia and Kuwait. Ivan enjoys travelling and is excited to be coming to live and work in Thailand for the first time. He is a qualified football coach and has developed many types of youth programmes to develop skills in children. He also enjoys sports, literature and history.

#### **Specialist teachers**



Thai Teacher - Hattaya Sirito

Hattaya (Doum) holds a Bachelor of Art in English from Udon Thani Rajabhat University in Udon Thani and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching from Santapol College. Doum has worked as a teaching assistant and classroom teacher for 7 years at Paramin School and Tumble Tots in Udon Thani. Doum enjoys reading, drawing, Thai dance and handicrafts.



TAL Teacher - Mrs. Pornthip Kaewpakdee

Pornthip (Paew) comes from the south of Thailand and holds a Bachelor's Degree in English from Ramkhamhaeng University, a Masters Degree in Educational Administration from Ramkhamhaeng University and a Graduate Diploma in Curriculum and Teaching. Paew has almost 15 years teaching experience in schools in Thailand and the Middle East and comes to us as our TAL teacher. She is very organised and reliable and loves to teach both Thai and English to her students.



**EAL/Library/Afterschool Chinese - Jiang Chen** 

Chen has a Bachelor of Arts from Ludong University in China and a Master of Arts in TESOL from the University of York in the United Kingdom. She has over 8 years experience teaching both Chinese and English to students in China from primary to university levels.

Chen is familiar with teaching Chinese to both non-Chinese speakers and Chinese language speakers using art, music, pictures, videos and resources. She believes that the best way to teach Chinese is through speaking Chinese to the students. She enjoys traveling, photography, reading and swimming.

#### New facilities for 2018/2019

#### New swimming pool development

- 25 meters in length, 5 lanes, 1.2m to 1.5m depth
- Smaller training pool of 60cm depth for Early Years students
- Saltwater
- Changing rooms for students

#### • Early Years outdoor playground upgrade

- New shade areas & outdoor development play; sand & dirt

#### • Other development to be completed

- Completion of walkways and entrances; From EY building to Clock Tower
- Upgrade of the area in front of the Clock Tower

















# Early Years Update

# Preschool class update - Preschool's Shining Stars!

By Ms Olga Svyrydova, Preschool Teacher

It seems just like yesterday that it was the first day of school. But time flies quickly and we have made it to the end of the year already! We have been wondering, exploring, learning and growing together. Our preschool students have formed a nice classroom community. It is wonderful to see all the progress the children have made throughout the year. We as teachers are very proud of our shining stars. Please meet them in person!



Arvy and Estelle



Fah and Prab



Lisa and Like



Win Win



Hosseyn and Poom



Phu



Glacier and Enrich





Awa

# Early Years Update

# K2 class update - Working hard, playing hard! By Ms Jo Fletcher, K2 Teacher

It has been a busy but enjoyable few weeks in K2! We are still learning about plants and products they make, which the children find very interesting. They were so surprised to learn that French fries are made from potatoes! Other activities we have been doing in K2 include basic addition, rehearsing our play for the end of year show, and practicing our CVC words. The K2 children are starting to get ready for stepping up to Year One next year! This is my final newsletter for the year, so I wish everyone all the best and hope you all have fantastic and well-deserved holidays!











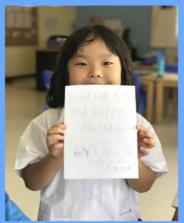
# Finally made it to the end of Year 2:-)

By Mr John Kelly, Year 2 Teacher

Year 2 have been learning about angles and the names given to them. We have been discovering the units of measurement for length, time and liquids. The children have been studying the use of suffixes and prefixes in English and they have also been writing riddles for each other to solve. Sadly we have said goodbye to Kaiyin who left Year 2 on Friday and returns with her family to Singapore. We celebrated her birthday last Friday with a Nemo cake, party hats songs and dancing.

I would like to say thank you for all the support this year from the Year 2 parents when I needed it. It was very much appreciated. I think the children have developed into inquisitive learners and it will be wonderful to see them develop further next year. I hope you all have a great holidays whatever you do, and wherever you go, and I look forward to seeing you again next August.













# Year 4 class update

By Mr John Eastham, Y4 Teacher

# Year 4 have been developing peer and self assessment techniques.

When I was at school many years ago everything I did was given a mark out of ten. That number didn't help me to get better or tell me what I had done wrong. Those parents who came to the Parent Cafe last week will know that schools today use a much wider range of assessment tools. We even encourage our children to assess each other and themselves. At the end of our last Unit of Inquiry' Year 4 prepared a presentation to share with other children. As they did this two of their friends completed a peer evaluation sheet which gave specific feedback on what they did well and what they may need to work on to improve. They also filled in a self reflection response sheet to indicate how they felt themselves about their presentation. The children collected assessment feedback from their classmates and their own perspective as well as their teachers viewpoint.

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# Year 6/7 class update "Governments and human rights"

By Mr Richard Slack, Year 6/7 Teacher

After a short relaxing break, Year 6/7 are continuing with our unit about Governments and Human Rights. Previously we watched a film called 'The Breadwinner' which portrays the living conditions of people in Afghanistan under the rule of the Taliban. Now we are looking deeper into the history of Afghanistan, before and during the occupation, during the rule of the Taliban and the Afghanistan of today. We have been looking at how this has affected people's human rights, particularly the rights of women, who have had a particularly harsh time.





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQy5cMAciK4



# Language and Culture

By Miss Natt, Thai Department

# MODERN LANGUAGES THAI LANGUAGE

# When you Read you Know "รักการอ่าน"



It has been a very fun week in Thai class. Students presented their own folk stories and created the characters of their stories from their own knowledge and understanding. Students presented these to the class with other students acting as the audience and giving feedback. It was lovely to see students working so well together. All PY students this term have been learning about stories, folktales and literature from different Thai sources. In Year 5, students discussed and learned about children's rights. In Year 6/7, students presented and shared their final projects about government policy and systems.











### Health and Safety

#### By Mr Donato Nucciarone, Health and safety coordinator

We recently wrapped up our Healthy Eating Month. Students participated in four assemblies that focused on healthy eating habits, wellness and physical activity. We ended the month with a sports tournament against Silver Fern International School.

This week I will write up a Health and Safety report with suggestions for next year. For next year, we are looking at procedures for off-site evacuations at Sri Thani. In addition, we will be creating parent badges, nanny badges and new visit badges. Moreover, we will also create templates that will outline possible risks associated with common field trips.



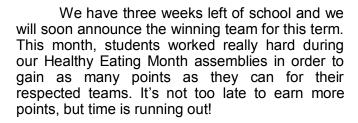




# House Update

The current house scores are:

House team	Current points
Red House Confucius	191
Blue House Martin Luther King	52
Black House Princess Diana	126
Green House Nelson Mandela	277
Yellow House Mother Teresa	23







### Parent cafe

Thank you for your participation in parent cafes this year. We look forward to welcoming you for a new set of cafes in 2018/2019.



# Community Partnership Programme (CPP)

Promotion from Eng Inc school



# Donation from Rotary Makkang event next month.



#### Event from Wattana Hospital



# Silver Fern Sports Exchange



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# Invoices for Term 1, 2018/2019 have now been issued. These are due by Friday 27 July, 2018.



# School Terms and Dates 2018/2019

UDIS operates three terms per school year as follows:

**Term 1 (81 days)** 

School start: Tuesday 14 August, 2018
Half term break: 15-19 October, 2018 (1 week)
Finish: Friday 14 December, 2018

**Term 2 (61 days)** 

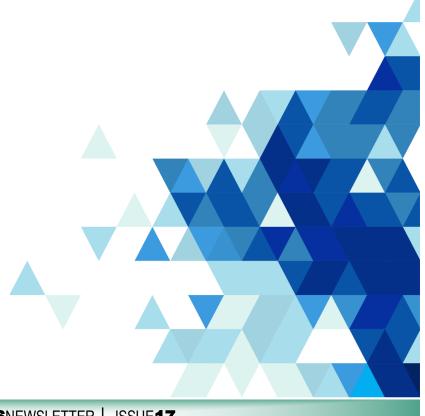
Start: Monday 7 January, 2019

Half term break: 18-19 February, 2019 (2 days)

Finish: Thursday 4 April, 2019

**Term 3 (40 days)** 

Start: Monday 22 April, 2019
Half term break: 20-21 May, 2019 (2 days)
Finish: Wednesday 19 June, 2019



# 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

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