



# Newsletter

Udon Thani International School

6th November 2018 | ISSUE5



## School open morning

Halloween party photos  
on page 13

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 5 November Parent Cafe #2
- 19 November PTA#3
- 22 November Loy Krathong event (Assembly)
- 29 November Kings Birthday event assembly
- 3 December Parent Cafe #3
- 5 December Rama IX Memorial Day Holiday
- 14 December Christmas Festival (unless advised otherwise)
- 14 December Last day of Term 1
- 15-7 December End of year holidays

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Head of School p2

Inquiry Corner p2

Staff changes after half term break p3

Early Years Update p4

Primary Years Update p6

Language and Culture p8

School Board & PTA update p9

Health and Safety p10

House Update & Parent Café p11

Community Partnership Programme (CPP) p12

School Terms and Dates 2018/2019 p14

## Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents

This week I attended the CIS Leadership and Recruitment conference in Bangkok. This was a chance for leaders across Asia to come together to learn about the latest recruitment practices with CIS members and trainers.

At the conference we particularly learned about safer recruitment techniques to ensure that schools are appropriately protected from employing staff that are not suitable to be working with children. It was good to see that many of the practices we do at UDIS as part of our recruitment policy were also those recommended by CIS. In sum, they recommend a process which involves:

- Provision of a candidate application pack that makes clear the school's commitment to safeguarding
- Applicants completing a standard application form
- A video conference or face to face interview with the applicant
- A full 5 year background check of the candidate
  - ◊ Police checks for all countries worked in
  - ◊ Police check from home country
- At least two background references that are checked by phone

It was great to have the chance to discuss how to make recruitment safer with other leaders from top international schools in the region. We will be sure to align our practices with CIS recommendations in time for August recruitment.

Just before the half term break we also had a group of students attend Don Bosco school for a variety of competitions for English, Thai, robot and music. A special well done to Kevin, Pordee, Uma, Saiorse and Zen for all picking up Gold awards in various competitions. Well done!

Best regards  
Dr. Lindsay Stuart  
Head of School



## Inquiry corner

By Ms Cynthia Thomas, PYP Coordinator



This week most classes are starting a new unit of inquiry. Here at UDIS we plan our inquiry teaching to suit the level of understanding that the learners are at. This means that before we teach anything we find out what the learners already know. Teachers plan activities which allow the learners to show what they already know and can do. This is to avoid teaching what they already know, or teaching concepts that are beyond their understanding. This kind of planning allows us to be sure that we will engage the learners and optimise the learning experience.

Without this kind of approach the learners may be bored because the lessons are either too difficult or too easy. Here at UDIS, this is how we make the learning experience as engaging as possible. This is why students are motivated and wanted to take their learning further.

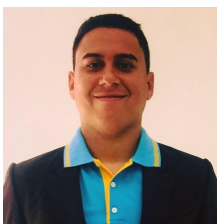
## Staff changes after half term break

We are pleased to welcome the following staff who are taking up positions with us:



### **Ms. Wanassanan 'Bee' Nonting - Registrar**

Bee is an Udon Thani native and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Udon Thani Rajabhat University. She is an experienced administrative professional with experience of office systems, communications, file maintenance, scheduling and visa management. Bee comes to us from working at the Udon Thani immigration department where she worked for over 6 years. Bee is also a talented baker and we hope to sample some of her creations at the school.



### **Mr Ranouver 'Xavi' Pereira - PSPE Teacher**

Xavi is a qualified teacher from Brazil and holds a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from the Federal University of Ceará. He is a professional physical education and swimming teacher who has over 6 years experience in Brazil, Thailand, the Philippines and Laos. Xavi is also a licensed football coach by the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) with experience in youth football in Brazil with clubs like Cruzeiro Esporte Clube. He is also responsible for the Brazilian methodology of teaching football at the Cruzeiro Soccer School Asia which has branches in Thailand, Laos and the Philippines.



### **Mr Terry Renton - Arts Teacher**

Terry is a qualified teacher from Australia with a Bachelor degree of Fine Arts and a Diploma of Education both from the University of New South Wales. He has over 20 years of teaching experience from working in leading schools in Australia, Indonesia and now Thailand. He has taught art, art and design, drama, drama studies, music production and recording to students from preschool to secondary students. Terry has experience with the International Baccalaureate with previous positions as an MYP arts teacher and was the Curriculum Development Advisor of the Lombok Learning Village which was an innovative, inquiry based school in Indonesia which he helped design and develop.

Terry is passionate about the arts, he loves learning and has a passion for creating things so he will certainly have his hands full with the blank canvas he will have at UDIS!



### **Ms. Phachara (May) Phurisi - Teaching Assistant**

We are also pleased to announce that Ms. May is joining us to work within our Year 3/4 class. May is a native of Udon Thani province and attended school here until she completed her Bachelor of International Marketing from the International College at Khon Kaen University. She has worked with students before in tutoring settings and is excited to learn more about how we teach at UDIS.



## Early Years Update

### Preschool class update - Communicators

By Ms Charlotte Trufit, Preschool Teacher

We have been working on being Communicators - the children will know this better as 'Communicator-don'. This is one of our Learner Profile dinosaurs and is a key attribute to learn as part of the PYP.



The children have been interested in cooking food in our roleplay area and so we have taken their interests on board and turned it into a cafe. This has really fit in with our Communication focus as a key part of this attribute is being able to act things out with family, friends and teachers.





## Early Years Update

### K2 class update - 'Book Week'

By Ms Jane Sutton, K2 Teacher

K2 really enjoyed book week!  
We especially liked reading the story  
'We're going on a bear hunt'  
We went into our outdoor area to re-tell the story together.  
We went through all the different obstacles that we read about in the book.



# Primary Years Update

## Year 2 class update - *Learning About the Past*

Welcome back to the second half of Term 1. It will be short and very busy and we are researching how the past has influenced our way of life today. We are planning to visit the Udon Thani Museum to discover how people in Udon Thani have lived in the past. We will soon be involved with making Kratongs for the upcoming Loy Kratong festival and then shortly after that preparing for our Christmas events. So we will be very busy for the rest of this term!





# Year 5 - Year 5 Out and About

By Mr John Eastham, Y5 Teacher



The Imam is the leader of the mosque.



The Koran is the holy text of Muslim



The Imam explained how he read the Koran.



Worshippers pray facing facing Mecca  
The Imam uses a microphone when speaking



e saw pictures from bible stories  
at the Christian Church.



We saw the room where people prayed, sang  
songs and listened to readings from the Bible



Our visiting Buddhist monk presented a slide show and we carried out a simple meditation  
technique. Phra Jitr answered many questions posed by Year 5



# Language and Culture

By Miss Pornthip, Thai Department

## Modern languages - Thai

Welcome back to school again for Term 1. Our school has good news to share with you. Our students did very well at local Thai language competitions at Don Bosco school on Monday 8 October. Pordee and Kevin received gold awards for Thai handwriting and Uma received a gold award for the Thai story with picture competition. We are so proud of you guys. Congratulations!



## *School board update*

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.

The first board meeting will be held on Friday 2 November. We will report back to parents what happened at this board meeting here.

## *PTA update;*

### *Summary of meeting held on Monday 8 October*

At this meeting, Ms. Cynthia presented ideas for how parents could reinforce the learner profile at home with a variety of materials. Mr. Rick spoke about digital citizenship at the school and presented tips on how parents could watch out for their child's behaviour on digital devices. Parents should supervise their child's use of the internet and make sure they know what material their child is accessing. Mr. John and Ms. Som-O then presented about hand, foot and mouth disease, RSV and what to look out for. Mr John also spoke about the preparedness drills the school conducts such as fire drills and medical emergency drills. We then spoke about our Christmas festival with ideas such as it being held at night, on the court or big field, and to celebrate Christmas festivals around the world being raised. Finally, we heard a few comments back from parents involving short term placements, admissions and provincial competitions.

## *Administration - Message from the office*

Term 2 invoices are due on Friday 30 November.

## Health and Safety

We have welcomed two new staff members to the school. It is always important to make sure they know what to do in case of an emergency. Welcome Mr. Xavi and Mr. Terry. They have been instructed on how we keep our children safe. Thank you for your continued support on using your parent ID cards. It is a great way to make sure that all our children remain safe throughout the day.





## 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	51
Blue House Martin Luther King	69
Black House Princess Diana	89
<b>Green House Nelson Mandela</b>	<b>108</b>
Yellow House Mother Teresa	84



## Parent cafe

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

Session	Date	Topic
#2	5/11/2018	Reading with your child
#3	3/12/2018	High quality learning at UDIS and what this looks like in our classrooms

*The next parent cafe is Reading with your child with Ms. Jane and Ms. Rachel.*





# Champion Drums House

เรียนกลองกับ ครูแชมป์

หลักสูตรการสอน การอ่านโน้ต Groove ในจังหวะต่างๆ Linear, Rudiment เริ่มตั้งแต่ Basic จนถึงขั้น Advance

**พิเศษ!! 10 ท่านแรก คอร์ส 12 ครั้ง**  
จากปกติราคา 6,000 บาท  
**เหลือเพียง 4,500 บาท**

หรือ

รายเดือน จากปกติ 2,000 บาท  
**เหลือเพียง 1,800 บาท**

(เรียนสัปดาห์ละ 1 ครั้ง ครั้งละ 1 ชั่วโมง / ผู้เรียนสามารถเลือกวันและเวลาเรียนได้ตามสะดวก)

หลักสูตรการเรียนการสอนทันสมัยเข้าใจง่าย, สนุกสนาน  
อุปกรณ์การเรียนการสอนระดับที่ใช้ในสตูดิโอ

สอบถามรายละเอียดเพิ่มเติม  
**089-710-9596**

**ครูแชมป์ เวโรจน์ วงศ์วิโรจน์**

- จบการศึกษา ปริญญาโท สาขาหลักสูตรและการสอน คณะศึกษาศาสตร์ จาก มหาวิทยาลัยมหาสารคาม
- อดีตหัวหน้าฝ่ายวิชาการและอาจารย์ภาควิชากลองชุดโรงเรียนดนตรียามาฮ่า ระดับ Grade 6 Advance Teacher Drum (ระดับสูงสุดของสถาบันด้านกลองชุด)

สถานที่เรียน : 945/97 หมู่บ้านพลินวิลล์ (หลังบ้านบ้าน ปตท. เยื้องโลตัสรังสิต) ถ.รอบเมือง ต.บ้านล้อม อ.เมือง จ.อุดรธานี



# Halloween Party





# 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

## **Term 1 2019/2020**

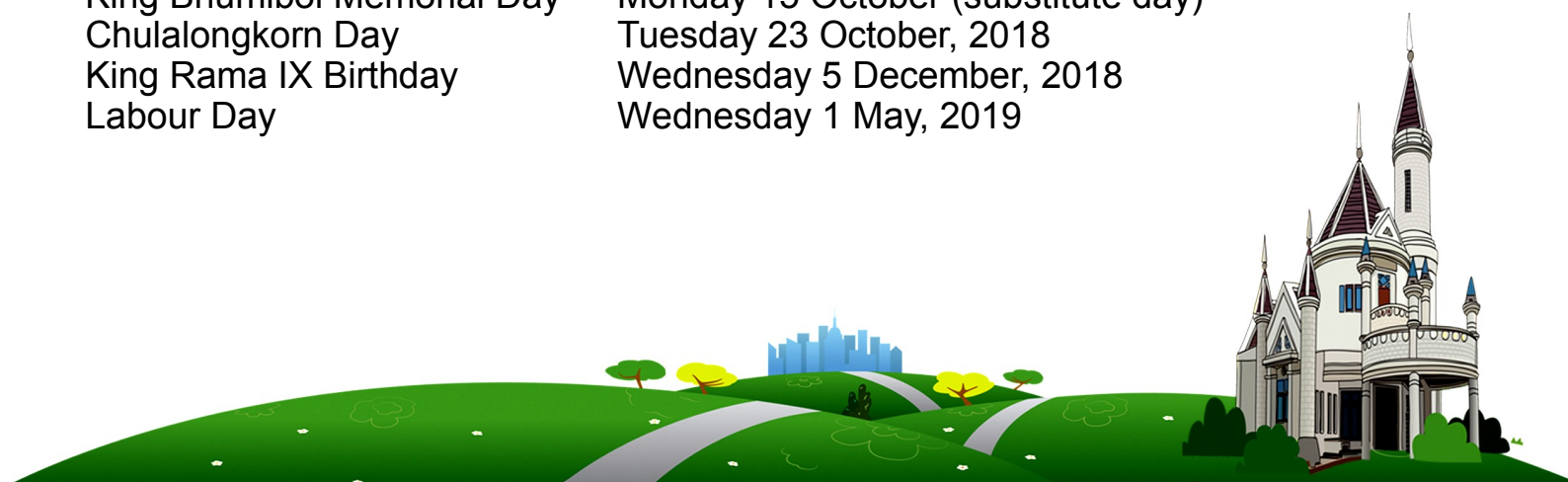
Management & Thai staff: Wednesday 31 July, 2019  
New staff: Thursday 1 August, 2019 (2 days orientation)  
Returning foreign staff: Monday 5 August, 2019  
School start: Tuesday 13 August, 2019

## **Teacher Only Days**

Teacher only day #1: 23 October, 2018 (Monday is substitute holiday for staff)  
Teacher only day #2: 7 January, 2019

## **Public holidays**

Queens Birthday: Monday 13 August 2018 (substitute day)  
King Bhumibol Memorial Day: Monday 15 October (substitute day)  
Chulalongkorn Day: Tuesday 23 October, 2018  
King Rama IX Birthday: Wednesday 5 December, 2018  
Labour Day: Wednesday 1 May, 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

**Office hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm**

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(for all general enquiries)

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

Y2 teacher: [john.k@udis.ac.th](mailto:john.k@udis.ac.th)

Y3/4 teacher: [mark@udis.ac.th](mailto:mark@udis.ac.th)

Y5 teacher: [john.e@udis.ac.th](mailto:john.e@udis.ac.th)

Y6/7 teacher: [cynthia@udis.ac.th](mailto:cynthia@udis.ac.th)

School Office Manager: [siri@udis.ac.th](mailto:siri@udis.ac.th)

Admissions Manager: [wannapa@udis.ac.th](mailto:wannapa@udis.ac.th)

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