

#### 5th September 2019 ISSUE2



## **Student Council: Making positive change**

#### UPCOMING ACTIVITIE

16 September Parent Cafe #1 19 September Teachers day event (Assembly, 2 periods) 30 September PTA#2 October Follow your passions month King Bhymibol Memorial Day 14 October 14-23 October Half Term break 23 October Teachers Only Day #1 **II November** PTA#3 **II November** Loy Krathong event (Assembly) 25 November Parent Cafe #2 4 December Kings Birthday event assembly Rama IX Memorial Day Holiday 5 December 13 December Christmas Festival unless advised otherwise Last day of Term I 13 December (This is a full day)

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#### **Dear Parents**

We are over a month into the new term now and I can say that the team has been working really hard to continue to build UDIS into a great school. This week, our building partners have completed the addition of new shade sails across our swimming pool. This will help protect our learners from the sun during swimming lessons.





Our building contractors continue to make steady progress on our new building for the primary years. Despite the weather, they are well advanced on completing the first floor structure. We are certainly on track for having this building completed before the end of the academic year for parents to see. With this being our fourth major development, we certainly have the expertise within the school to pull off these projects on time.

Finally, I would like to share that we are racing into our planning for our Middle Years Programme (MYP). I have been working closely with Terry, our MYP Coordinator, in readying our candidacy application for the MYP. Having just completed our PYP authorisation, we are in an excellent position to get our candidacy approved ready for August, 2020.

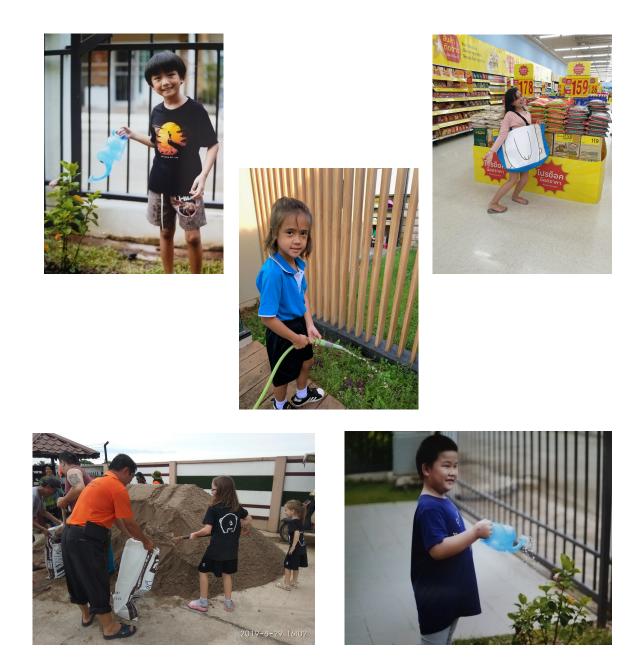
**Best regards** 

Dr. Lindsay Stuart Head of School

### Student council for 2019/2020

This year's student council has grown in number with a greater number of students taking an interest in making a positive change within the community as well as in UDIS. We have started some new initiatives to encourage all students at the school to take action and have their voices heard. Currently, there is a class competition going on which allows students to care for the environment that we live in ways such as caring for plants, animals, and reusing recycled products.

For each photo a student submits that shows them taking action they could earn one house point. The class who earns the most house points by the end of September will receive a special class prize. Another initiative to have students voices heard by student council is our student suggestion box. For each meaningful suggestion submitted by students they will have the opportunity to earn house points for their house team.



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### Early Years Update

### K1 class update - Creative Thursday!

By Ms Phibzia, K1 teacher

We have had a wonderful start to the year in K1. All children are well settled now and ready to take learning to the next level. Last week we started a 'creative Thursday' to provide voice and choice for our learners and on this day they are given a choice as to what they would like to do. In math and literacy we are beginning to recognise numbers 1-5 and 1-10. We are now practising finding our names from a small selection of name cards. K1 loves our rhyme times and we love to sing 'Incy Wincy Spider and family finger rhymes'. We sometimes choose outdoor play as part of our day. Here are a few pictures of the last few weeks:













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### Year 1 class update – Busy Little Bees!

#### By Ms Rachel, Year1 teacher

What a wonderful start we have had to the year! It was inspiring to see all of the children arrive eager and enthusiastic on the first day and I must say the enthusiasm has not waned. The children have participated fully in all subject areas, producing very pleasing results.

In phonics we have been looking at individual sounds as well as blending those together to read and write simple words. The children have been exploring patterns and shapes in maths. Last, but of course not least, we have been learning all about 'Who We Are' in our Unit of Inquiry. This has involved exploring similarities we share and also how we differ in many ways.

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Tone shows his knowledge of the sound 'c' by making a cake from clay, whilet Botch draws a curb for the sound 'c'

whilst Petch draws a crab for the sound 'c'.

Prim and Natasha are extremely proud of the patterns they made with the cubes and rightly so!







Petch and Thun Thun, busy painting a life size picture of a girl, for the class to label the body parts.

After discussing our different 'likes' and 'dislikes', Euro drew a picture of his favourite toy.

# Year 3 class update - Starting the year out in Year 3

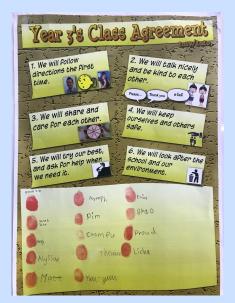
By Charlotte (Charlie) Ramsey, Year 4 teacher

We have had a wonderful start to the year in Year 3. The students have been working well together developing some routines and expectations in class alongside Ms PJ and I. All the students have Google accounts that have been activated and we are beginning to use them. The new 1-1 policy is popular with the students.

As part of our learning about environmental care last week the students designed posters encouraging the recycling of glass, plastic, paper and metal. After this the class decided to make some recycling bins in class and have started putting them to good use. We hope to take a lot more action following our learning at school.









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## Year 5 update – Our Essential Agreements

By Mr John E., Years teacher

Year Five spent time discussing how they wish to relate to each other. They created these essential agreements which are displayed in our classroom.



#### **Our Essential Agreements**

- Don't be afraid to try new things
- Always be polite
- Don't copy others
- Be friendly and show others respect
- Never be afraid
- Always tell the truth
- Be responsible for your own actions
- Don't daydream during learning time
- Pay attention
- When you are angry do not fight but tell an adult  $\cdot$
- Do not go into a classroom if there is no adult there · Clean up any mess you make

- Have fun as often as you can
- Believe in yourself
- We do not use erasers except for final copies
- Be courageous
- Keep your hands to yourself
- Don't bring food to class .
- Don't talk at the same time as someone else
- We speak English as often as we can
- Never use inappropriate language
- Ask the teacher before leaving the classroom

Year 7 – The Central Idea of our Unit of Inquiry is:

By Ms Cynthia, Year7 teacher

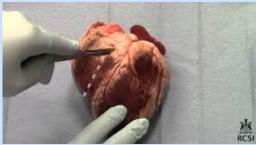
We all mature throughout life and need to take care of ourselves as we change.



A key part of this has been inquiring into puberty. On Tuesday we were grateful to Grace's parents for coming to our classroom to discuss with us some of the things we have learned about. Dr. Gong prepared some wonderful slides about how we grow and change. We laughed because he showed us clips of Sailor Moon, Ben Ten and Transformers. We don't change like them, rather we experience gradual changes that we call puberty



This unit also includes some inquiry into the circulatory system.We enjoyed handling pig hearts and seeing what is inside. This helped us towards making a clay model of the heart and talking about its work on video.



The circulatory system was the topic for our English work. We had more practice in writing an information report. We've learned a lot about how to structure information texts.

In Maths, we have been completing research on UDIS' favourite fruit to assist the menu committee with the menu changes. This has also been a great link to the statistics strand of the

Maths curriculum. This week, we have been applying our researched data to create pie charts. In addition, we have also been looking at place value, rounding to the nearest billion and estimation through addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The Year 7s have been working hard independently and as a whole class to gain a greater depth of knowledge and understanding.



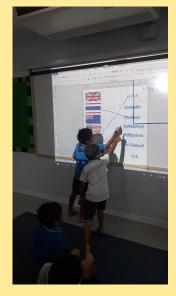
### Modern languages - English as an Additional Language (EAL)

In EAL, we have had an exciting start to the year getting to know each other and celebrating our differences. We made surprising discoveries about our favourite things and we had a chance to have a snowball fight with each other. We learnt about the many things that make us unique. We looked at the flags of the countries we come from, drew ourselves in our national clothes and shared things that we like about the countries we are from.











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### Health and Safety- Parking

Good afternoon to you all. I would like to give all of the parents, careers and nannys a gentle reminder that as you enter the school, you need to have your parent ID visible. If you forget to bring it, that's not a problem, just explain to the office staff and they will give you a temporary pass for that morning or afternoon. Don't forget to return the temporary pass back to the office on your way out of school.

Secondly our new parking and drop of routines are improving each week. Thank you that's really great! I have one request! Please drive around the circuit again if your child has not arrived at the gate when you arrive to pick them up. I don't want you parking near the gate and causing congestion or worse, someone accidently scratching your car.

Now for some items of happy news. The extension to the canteen area is complete.

The children and staff will have more room to move around and enjoy their food. Speaking of food the

school menu has been reviewed and there are new and interesting foods to be tasted. The teachers are encouraging the student's to try all the new foods, please you could do the same at home. Thank you!

Last of all this week, an update regarding the swimming pool shade. This has been completed and the children will again be able to enjoy their swimming lessons again (weather permitting!).

#### Inquiry corner

It is our aim here at UDIS to find out what the students already know before we start inquiring into new content. It is very important to us as teachers to engage students at just the right level of challenge. We don't want to repeat what they already know, and neither do we want to make them feel worried because they know nothing about the topic. The aim is to engage each child at their own level of understanding. Allowing children to learn at a level that is good for them and allowing them to engage in their own inquiries is the key to engaging students and keeping them motivated in their work. This is the heart of inquiry style learning.





## 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	39
Blue House	28
Black House	33
Green House	41
Yellow House	23



### Parent cafe

Our Parent cafe for 2019/2020 will resume this year and the upcoming events are:

Session	Date	Торіс
#1	16/09/19	The PYP and Learner Agency
#2	23/09/19	Playbased learning at UDIS

The next parent cafe is the PYP and Learner Agency with Ms. Cynthia on Monday 16 September.



Promotion from CPP Eng Inc



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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 17 May, the school held its third Board meeting of the year. The Board lineup for this year is:

- Acting Chairman: Honorary member #1 Honorary member #2 Parent representative Parent representative Teacher representative School Director Board member
- K. Siriphat Pukpo K. Wicha Chanklom Mr. Kurt Lunstrum K. Ampuscha Chotnopparatpatara K. Kasama Kraikutree Mr. Robert Langridge K. Sineenard Charmart 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 learned that the school has gained authorisation in the Primary Years Programme and will become an official IB World School. The Board also reviewed the fee increase for 2019/2020 with no change in the fees for materials, catering fees and Year 4-7 tuition. There will be a 3% fee increase for tuition fees for students in Preschool to Year 3 levels. The Board also confirmed the switch to a 1:1 policy as a clear majority of parents were in favour of this. The Board also discussed the impact of the International Community School (ICS) that plans to open a campus in August, 2020. UDIS needs to ensure that parents understand the difference between the inquiry based, open-minded and international education of the school versus the Bible oriented view of ICS and its focus on Christianity as a central part of its education. **The next Board meeting is planned for Friday 27 September, 2019**.

## School board update - Summary of meeting held on Friday 17 May

On Monday 2 September the school held its first PTA meeting of the year. The meeting was held to setup how the school will run the PTA meetings and the responsibilities of all involved. The school is also looking for a second parent representative to sit on the School Board. So, please let us know if you are interested.

The school outlined some important initiatives this year including using the PTA representatives more, preparing for CIS accreditation, communication, Learner agency and the enhanced PYP for 2020, digital portfolios and completing the rollout of the 1:1 programme. The school then explained what had been done to improve the menu. This involved taking into consideration feedback from parents and adding a dedicated egg and soup dish each day.

General concerns included a Year 1 parent asking about showers after swimming. The school recommended every learner have a shower after swimming and will look into this to make sure it is happening. Other parents asked about the use of air purifiers in class and dedicated Line groups for announcements and suggestions/feedback. The PTA class representatives for this year are:

Preschool	Mrs. Wannisa Chueawanit (Kool's mum)
K1	Ms. Chonnanee Rattanasuntorn (Pleng's mum), Ms. Mukda Purinit - Phat's mum
K2	Ms.Prapapit Chaiyawong (Prabs's mum), Ms. Mukda Purinit (Phu's mum)
Year1	Mrs. Kasama Kraikutree (Torch's Mum)
Year2	Ms. Potchawan Tangpan (Linux's mum), Nattira Pollock (Tanat's mum) Ms. Wannisa Chueawanit (Khung's mum)
Year3	Vacant
Year4	Vacant
Year5	Mr. Arnaud Klinsberg (Rainer's dad), Ms. Lhin (Phee's mum) , Ms. Nuch (Athens's mum)
Year6	Ms. Prodpran Supadech (Grace's mum), Ms. Kasama Kraikutree (Time's mum)
Year7	Mr. Sanpet Enguthaiwat Laopaiboon (Bua's father), Mrs. Rattana Pipatsuttikul (Anfield's mum)

## 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:

Monday 20 April, 2020 18-19 May, 2020 (2 days) Friday 19 June, 2019

#### Teacher Only Days

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

### Public holidays

Queens Birthday King Bhumibol Memorial Day Monday 14 October, 2019 Chulalongkorn Day King Rama IX Birthday Makha Bucha Day Labour Day Visaka Bucha Day Queens Birthday

#### Payment dates

Term 1 due date Term 2 due date Term 3 due date

Monday 12 August 2019 Wednesday 23 October, 2019 Thursday 5 December, 2019 Monday 9 March, 2020 Friday 1 May, 2020 Thursday 7 May, 2020 Wednesday 3 June, 2020

Friday 26 July, 2019 Friday 29 November, 2019 Friday 13 March, 2020

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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: sineenard@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: kane@udis.ac.th

Y4 teacher: charlotte.r@udis.ac.th

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

Y6 teacher: mark@udis.ac.th

Y7 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