

02/20

September 2019



*The official campus newsletter of Garden
International School, Eastern Seaboard*

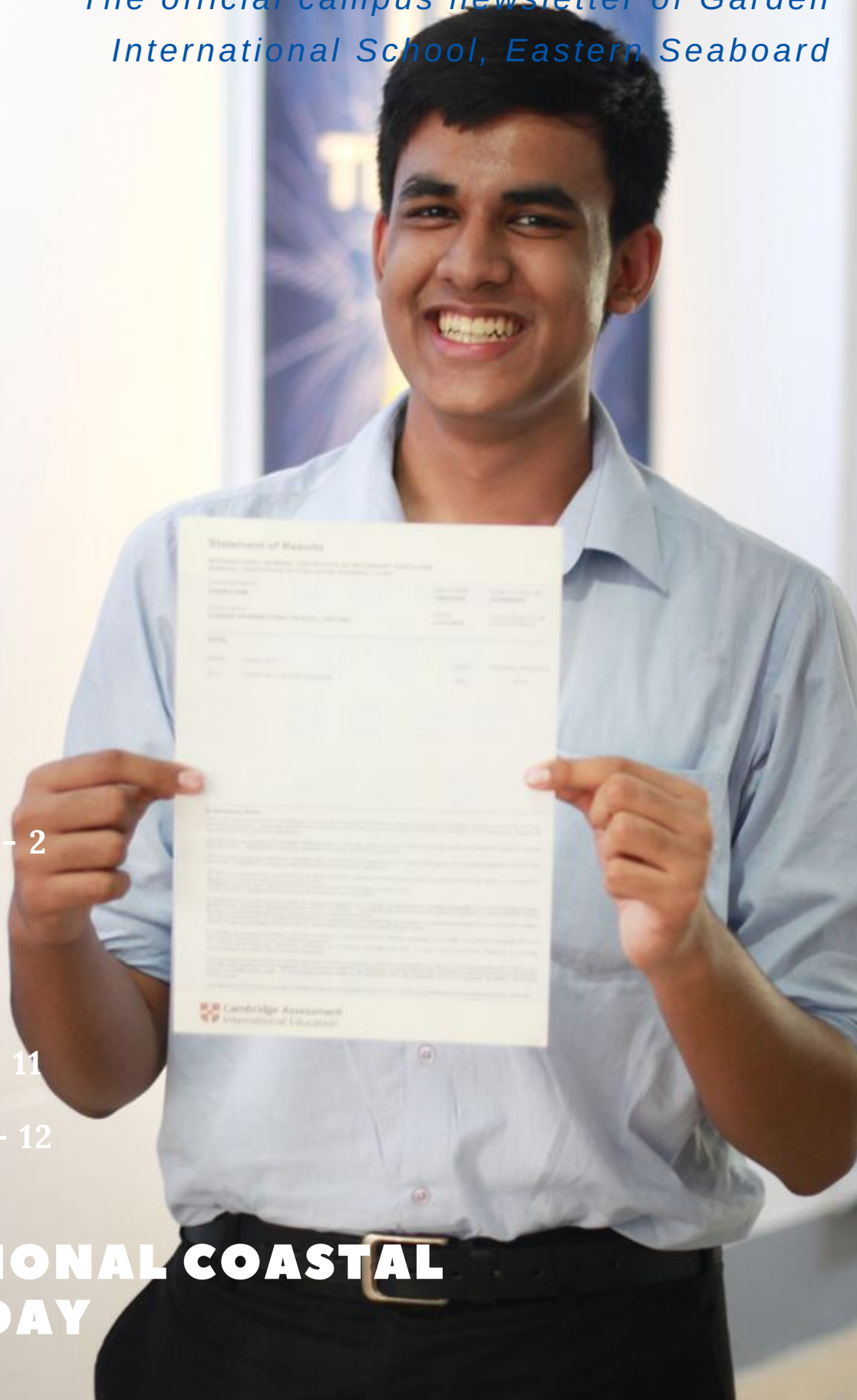
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CLEANUP DAY**



UPCOMING EVENTS

Whole School

Well Being Week - 7th-11th October

World Mental Health Day - 11th October

Half Term Break (No School) 14th - 28th October

Diwali Celebrations - 30th October

Primary

Halloween Celebrations - 31st October

Secondary

Year 7-10 and IB1 Parent Teacher Conferences - 10th October

Other Events in the Area

Halloween - 31st October

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*Thank you once
again to our
generous
sponsors for
their continued
support*
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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by *Mrs. Dinah Hawtree*

Welcome to the September issue of our GIS newsletter.

In this month's issue we celebrate the tremendous successes of our IB and IGCSE students, which are testament to the hard work of our students and the high quality of our teachers. We also celebrate our commitment to the environment with a feature about our Beach Clean – thank you to all those who supported this, demonstrating our great GIS community spirit. This was also demonstrated at our FoG coffee morning last month – and if you missed that, then please come along to the next one which is this Thursday at 8am. Pop in, say hello, and enjoy a coffee and some delicious treats before you head off to continue your day.

Looking ahead, on Wednesday we will announce our new student leadership team – Head Boy and Girl, House Captains and Student Directors, who will work with the school leadership over the coming 12 months to make our school an even better and more fun place to be.

Next week is 'wellbeing week' when we all turn our focus to our mental and physical health, our work/life balance, and reconsider our priorities. At the end of a long half term, this period of reflection is particularly timely.

We then break for two weeks, and I know that many of you will have plans for this break, be that simply relaxing with friends and family, or embarking on an exciting adventure – whatever you do I hope you travel safely and returned refreshed for another action-packed term ahead. With our CIS visit, Diwali, Hallowe'en, the Secondary show 'Lord of the Flies', Loy Krathong, Remembrance, IGCSE and IB options events, an online FOBISIA maths competition, U15 FOBISIA games, a plethora of trips and all of our Christmas events, next half term may only be 6.5 weeks, but it's probably the busiest of the school year!

Best wishes

Dinah Hawtree



GIS HAS THE RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

by Ms. Sarah Steele and Mr. Chris Share

GIS students celebrated their hard work when the IGCSEs were announced. With 90% per cent of students achieving at least 5 A*- Cs and 45% per cent of the grades being A*/A there has been a lot to shout about. It is a fantastic achievement which yet again reflects the commitment and high work ethic of GIS students but also highlights the excellent standard of teaching of the teaching staff.

IGCSEs are graded from A*-G with an A* being the top result. The abundance of A* from a number of GIS students shows why GIS is the place to be to receive a world class education.

Vedant Iyer achieved the top school grades. He has achieved an astonishing 10 A* and 2 A grades. A in Additional Mathematics, A*A* in Co-ordinated Science, A* in Design and Technology, A* in First Language English, A* in History, A* in Foreign Language Spanish, A* in World Literature, A* in Mathematics, A* in Information and Communication Technology, A* in Computer Science & A in English as a Second Language.

We are extremely happy to say that Vedant is staying at GIS to study for his International Baccalaureate.

Chloe Lin achieved results to be proud off with 3A* and 4As. Her results were; A* in World Literature, A in First Language English, A in Physics, A* in Biology, A in Music, A* in Information and Communication and A in Maths

Chloe commented "My results were better than I expected. I was really surprised as my mocks results were lower. I am really satisfied with my end results as my hard work paid off. I would like to thank my teachers (especially Ms. Morris, Mr. Cullen and Mr. Frost) for always believing in me and pushing me to my limits."

As Chloe said, hard work is the key to success and she now has an excellent set of results which have enabled her stay at GIS to study for her International Baccalaureate.

“

Once again our students have exceeded our expectations, particularly in the number of top A and A grades achieved. I am very proud of all our students, and the young adults they are developing into, and I wish all of them every success as they move onto the IB Diploma programme - Dinah Hawtree, Principal.*

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I was completely surprised at my results as they were much better than I had expected. I'm very happy to have done well because all the stress and work paid off! IGCSEs are a difficult time and I'd like to mostly thank my parents for supporting and encouraging me. I'd also like to thank my teachers (especially Mr. Croft, Ms. Morris and Ms. Childs) for always being supportive and helpful. I really was helped by the small GIS class sizes and the willingness of all teachers to offer extra help.- Vedant

“



Ellen Dowling achieved exceptional results in all her GCSEs. 3A*, 3As and 3Bs. A* in World Literature, A* in First Language English, A* in History, A in Biology, A in Drama, A in Music, B in Chemistry, B in Maths, B in Foreign Language Spanish.

Ellen described the moment she received her results, "I achieved A*-B grades in my IGCSE exams and, although not as impressive as some other students who achieved all A*/As, I am extremely proud of myself. Most of my subjects were ones that I was passionate about, making it a lot easier for me to get higher grades.

To be completely honest, I expected to get a few Cs for my IG subjects since I didn't do that well in my mocks. However, I realised that stressing over my results wouldn't do me any good. I think the support of my close friends and peers was instrumental in helping me through my exams."

We are very proud of Ellen too and we are delighted that she is staying at the school to study for her International Baccalaureate.

Alyza Cadelina results showed what revision and hard work can produce with 4A*, 5As and a B. A* in World Literature, B in First Language English, AA Co-ordinated Science, A in Drama, A Computer Science, A in Music, A* in Maths, A* Information and Communication, A* in Foreign Language Mandarin.

Teachers at GIS will always support hard working students to achieve and we are very happy that Alyza is staying at the school to study for her International Baccalaureate.

Tanya Choudaha has results to be proud of with 2A*, 6As, a B and a C at IGCSE. A in World Literature, B in First Language English, AA Co-ordinated Science, A in Business, A Computer Science, C in Additional Maths, A* Information and Communication, A in Foreign Language Spanish and A* Design & Technology.

Teaching staff were extremely pleased to see Tanya return to study for her International Baccalaureate.

“

In some of my subjects, I was really surprised with my end results. It was a grade higher than what I thought I would achieve. I was struggling a lot with a lot of my subjects but in the end, it all was worth it. I'd like to thank a lot of my teachers like Mrs. Childs and Ms. Dee for taking their own time to help us with revision: I found it really helpful. - Alyza

“

“

I was very pleased and satisfied with my final results as they turned out well overall. I would like to thank my parents and teachers for endlessly supporting me throughout the stressful but memorable time and I would not have achieved this without them. GIS has helped me get this far and allowed me to be able to achieve these results by providing a resourceful and collaborative environment for the purposes of learning. - Tanya

“



In Year 10, gifted Mathematicians have the opportunity to take their Extended Maths IGCSE early. They can then extend their maths knowledge by studying for Additional Maths in Year 11.

Aradhana Chularatnaphol took Extended Mathematics at the end of Year 10 and got the highest grade possible, A* Mathematics.

Aradhana described her emotions as happy but shocked, "I was very happy with my extended mathematics IGCSE A* result which I completed a year early. I was also quite shocked but I think that revising and doing past papers at home helped me a lot to achieve this grade."

Tiger Sriyoha took Extended Mathematics at the end of Year 10 and achieved an excellent result. A Mathematics.

Tiger said "I was so pleased with my results, it has allowed me to continue to study a higher level of maths in year 11. I really enjoy maths and although it is sometimes hard, I want to achieve another excellent grade".

Kita Aimsang also took Extended Mathematics at the end of Year 10 and gained a deserved A grade.

She said "I am pretty pleased with my result, but I feel like I can do better. I would like to thank both friends and teachers who helped me to revise. Friends either give mental support or help with revising the parts of the course I struggle with. GIS always tries their best to give us great support, teachers understand the students because of the small classes and the attention they give to us."

The Year 9 English Second Language results were fantastic. The students below did exceptionally well and are looking forward to the next two years of their IGCSEs with one top grade already achieved.

Junseo Kin achieved an A in English Second Language. Junseo said "I'm delighted with it"

Peter Wang achieved an A in English Second Language and he was very modest with his comment of "Pretty good but I could have done better". Which just highlights the incredible work ethic of the GIS students.

Kevin Fierens achieved the exceptional A* in English Second Language. He was extremely happy with his results.

HARD WORK PAYS OFF

We have exceptionally talented and hardworking students and teachers, but we also owe our ongoing success to our home school partnership. At GIS we have had a number of events during the school years where we invite students and parents to come and work with us on issues such as "wellbeing" to "how to prepare for exams as a family" that supplement our Academic focus. Our results are for us all to celebrate, and many of the students mentioned here have already been involved in projects to inspire and pass on the secrets of their success to those that follow.

All our IGCSE students are to be commended on not only their results but the way they conduct themselves in the lead up to exams. Students work hard and support each other to make sure they achieve. The team effort of teachers, students and parents no doubt has helped GIS achieve yet another year of fantastic results.

Mr Share, Head of Secondary

“

I am incredibly pleased with my results. I would like to thank Mrs. Hucknall in particular for guiding me to achieve these grades. Also, I would like to thank GIS for providing a fun and creative learning environment - Kevin

”



FOG COFFEE MORNING

by Mr. Colin McKean

Despite the rain, which caused the event to move to Foundation at the very last moment, the Friends of Garden Action Group's (FOGAG) spirits were not dampened at their first coffee morning of the year on 5th September. Both parents and FOGAG members alike, were able to get to know each other better over a cup of coffee and more importantly, the tantalising snacks provided. A huge thank you to parents Ilse, Loan and Khun Chadapa who contributed snacks in addition to the ones provided by the FOGAG members.

The main aim of the coffee mornings is to be the bridge connecting parents and the school and to discuss how all of us members can 'support the school and enhance the education and all-round development of students in the school'. If you would like to engage in this discussion or just come for the mouth-watering snacks, do come along to the next coffee morning which will take place on 3rd October in the Primary section of the school.

We look forward to you joining us!





STEAM ROOM

by Ms. Lucy Howett

Students in Primary have been enjoying the new "Maker Room" on the ground floor of the primary building. The room has been specially designed to give teachers and students a dedicated, resourced space where they can extend the learning in the curriculum.

A range of science, technology, art, design and gardening projects are planned and we are all looking forward to 'Making' and creating.

“

*A special thanks to
Mr Mark Holmes
who has been an
enthusiastic driver
for the
development of the
room.*

“

GIS GOES MAD

by Mr Ken Lund

The Arts department is recognising students this year with a new initiative called the M.A.D (Music Art and Drama) Award. It will be presented bi-weekly to recognise outstanding participation in the Arts.

Our first recipients go to Tian for excellent communication skills in Drama, to Jasmine for a superb still life sketch in Art and Design and to Maya, Ananya, Lisa, Vaidahi and Jasmine (again) for total commitment to their band rehearsals.

Well done everyone!



LONG SERVICE AWARDS

by Mrs. Dinah Hawtree

Every month we hold a short ceremony to recognise a number of employees for their long standing service to the school.

This month the school recognised two long serving teachers for their long service to the school. Ms. Lucy, the head of Year 1 & 2, and Ms. Amy Guan, our secondary Mandarin teacher were recognised for 15 and 10 years service, respectively.

All the GIS community would like to say a massive thank you for your dedication and commitment to GIS over the years. Here's to many more years to come!

“

At GIS our highly qualified, experienced and long serving teachers and staff are one of our greatest assets

”



FROM MR WALSH: HEAD OF PRIMARY

Dear Parents and Carers,

More Magic in the Maker and Music Rooms! Lots more learning has been happening in our new maker room and new music practice room (pictured right).

PORTRAITS

The students did a great job of drawing this year's batch of staff portraits. Here are 3 of the portraits. Can you guess who these people are? (answers are below)



Mr Andrew, Khun Pia and Ms Jessica

LITTLE SEEDLINGS BABY GROUP

Baby Group has got off to a flying start this year with record sign up numbers.

It is a fabulous chance for families to get to know each other, children to play and to enjoy the Early Years classroom.

The baby group is open to children under the age of 2 and is free to join.

Sessions are held in the foundation school on Tuesdays from 1.30pm to 2.30pm.

To register please call the front office on 038-030808 and speak to Khun Bonnie.



PRIMARY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

by Mr. Matt Walsh

Primary students have been developing their global citizenship by learning about the United Nations agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

" This is all about educating the students about the issues facing the world at the moment and teaching them good attitudes, knowledge and behaviours to make a better world for tomorrow. " Mr Matt Walsh - Head of Primary

The students each learned about one or more of the 17 SDGs and created a small performance with their friends to show to the other students at the Primary assembly. The SDGs they covered were:

- 1 No Poverty
- 2 Zero Hunger
- 5 Gender Equality
- 6 Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7 Affordable and Clean Energy
- 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 10 Reduced Inequalities
- 14 Life Below Water
- 15 Life On Land

These students of today will be the leaders of tomorrow and they have a wonderful vision for the world!

“
This is all about educating the students about the issues facing the world at the moment and teaching them good attitudes, knowledge and behaviours to make a better world for tomorrow.
”





COASTAL CLEAN UP

by Ms. Lucy Howett

The whole GIS community was out in force to clean the beach at Phayun on Friday 20th September, in honour of International Coastal Cleanup Day. Teachers, support staff, students and families demonstrated what a fantastic, caring community we are by cleaning up a huge stretch of beach from the Dragon Bridge all the way to Nam Rin.

The beach cleans have been growing in momentum over the past few years and this was the best turnout ever with more than 100 students registering on the evening and bringing multiple family members too! A huge thank you to the Primary parents who supported the clean with donations of bags, gloves, ice cream and litter pickers. Thanks to generous donations we were also able to leave a lasting legacy of 3 rubbish recycling bins at the site. Plans are afoot to have more clean ups, and all the participants said they would happily join in with future events, loving the chance to get our community working together to help our make our home a cleaner place. The school really is taking the UN's Sustainable Development Goals to heart and getting out into our local area to help



"THE LIVING PICTURE"

by Ms. Anna Flores

The Year 2 children have been learning about the different kinds of plants found in the local area and how to grow them. To consolidate this learning, they went to a local garden centre to learn and explore different kinds of garden plants. They had fun planting and designing their own living picture.



“

The school really is taking the UN's Sustainable Development Goals to heart and getting out into our local area to help

”



FROM MR SHARE: HEAD OF SECONDARY

LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD

This is a crucial time of year as we set up our students for success. I am really proud of the students that we have featured in our IGCSE and IB results articles in the newsletter who are the clear sign that we can nurture your children and encourage them to be the best they can possibly be in all areas of life. Exam results are the standard that schools are often judged by first because of the impact it has on the children's future. Another successful year of results is also reassurance for the teachers that we are on the right track and, for the students, it is inspirational and aspirational. Other students see their success and want to copy and even beat them. This year, only 213 students worldwide (0.1%) achieved the elusive 45 points total on the IB, but I still very much believe we have a 45 point maximum score IB student in our population. We will work hard to make this happen, as much as we will work hard to ensure all our students achieve, no matter what their targets are. It is great to see the students of different nationalities, backgrounds, strengths and personalities show our students across the school what it is possible to achieve. That is why our best students are already sharing their experiences not only through the newsletter but by presenting with the teachers at our "succeeding at" events at the beginning of the year and through many of their roles as student directors and even as Head Boy and Girl.

Our students across Secondary are now settled into the school year, and we have been closely monitoring those students at key change points in Year 7, 10 and IB1. We have parents evenings and grade cards coming in the next few weeks to ensure the home school partnership keeps us all informed about how the students are doing and how we can help them improve. Don't forget in Secondary this year that every single child in Year 7, 8 and 9 has a learning ladder in their books that show them how they can achieve and what they need to do to be a great student achieving the highest grades of 6 and 7's. Ask to see their books and discuss it with them.

CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT

Behind the scenes, we are all reflecting on what we could do even better academically: the Secondary Heads of Department have met with the Senior Leadership Team and made reports on what went well last year and what we could do better. We have action plans to ensure we will build on our strengths to do even better next year!

Additionally, I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming parent evenings to discuss any aspect of your child's learning and experiences inside the school.

“
*This newsletter,
as ever,
demonstrates
the wide
variety of
fantastic
experiences
your child has
the opportunity
to be part of as
part of the GIS
community.*
”



SCHOOL PRODUCTION UNDERWAY

by Mr. Ken Lund

It's September and the senior school production is well under way! Actors are learning lines, rehearsing and working hard in preparation for this year's production of Lord of the Flies!

The classic novel, adapted for the stage in 2014, focuses on a group of British boys stranded on an uninhabited island and their attempt to govern themselves and survive. Throughout the course of the play we see full guts, gangs and gore and most importantly, an excellent cast that has been practicing and perfecting their performance from the beginning of the term.

The show premieres at GIS from November 13-15. Don't miss what promises to be an outstanding production!

“

[The play] focuses on a group of British boys stranded on an uninhabited island and their attempt to govern themselves and survive.

“

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<https://gardenrayong.com/school-services/latest-news/>



TEACHERS NARROWLY MISS OUT ON SILVERWARE

by Mr. Johnny Man

Teachers from GIS, Rayong took part in a 7a-side football tournament at Planet Football Stadium, Pattaya. They managed to qualify for the knockout stages and eventually finished 3rd in the Division 2 playoffs. It was a good test of stamina and strength with a little bit of skill in the heat and humidity but Mr Nolan, Mr Childs, Mr Walsh, Mr. Line and Mr Man showed great character and resilience.

You may also recognise former GIS stalwart, Mr. Carr, who travelled down from Bangkok to play with his former colleagues and bolster the side.

“

It was a hard but enjoyable day at the office for the lads

“

HOUSE SCAVENGER HUNT

by Ms. Tina Stevens

On the afternoon of Wednesday 4 September the whole of GIS Secondary took part in a House Scavenger Hunt. Using clues from around the school, students had to decipher answers to find two words related to life at Garden International School.

Teams were made of students from Y7-13 and the task was made even more challenging as students had to collect each of the twenty clues separately from Mr Share and Mrs Hucknall in Room 401 at the top of the school! There were a lot of tired GIS faces by 3.10, and Gecko Team 1 were victorious as they submitted the most correct answers in the quickest time.

This was a wonderful afternoon in which students from across the school got the chance to interact with each other, and work as a team to help finish the hunt successfully.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY?

If you have an interesting story about a member of the GIS community that you'd like us to consider for the newsletter, please forward it to :

newsletter@gardenrayong.com



IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL YOU'LL END UP WORKING AT MCDONALD'S

by Mr. James Crewdson

On Monday the 23rd of September the current Year 11 and IB2 Business students visited the McDonalds restaurant on highway 36 to participate in one of their DIY Workshops. Students were given a behind the scenes tour and had the opportunity to prepare their own burgers and fries which hopefully gave them valuable first-hand experience of a number of the topics that they are and will be covering in their respective courses and see how these concepts are carried out in the real world.





THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY IN NURSERY

by Ms. Jane Vincent

The Nursery Classes focus work on the Ocean culminated in a field trip to the Rayong Aquarium at Ban Phe. The children were very excited about going to see the real ocean wildlife they had been learning about.

The aquarium is a lovely space where the students were able to view a wide range of creatures including turtles, sharks, stingrays, lobsters and many different kinds of fish. What a great trip we had together.

“

The children were very excited about going to see the real ocean wildlife they had been learning about.

“

DT MENTORING

by Mr. Johnny Man

This month the IB2 students have been taking advantage of the expertise of one of our parents.

Sarah Man is a professional Interior Architect and has been mentoring and assisting IB2 Design and Technology students with their Internal Assessment projects.

She has over 20 years' experience of designing residential and commercial spaces and is really enjoying working with GIS students.



FROM THE STUDENTS



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE BALANCED?

by A. Student

Balanced is the core value for September, and having a well balanced life is crucial for personal effectiveness and living well. Living a balanced life can allow you to have more peace and awareness in your everyday life and routine.

To be balanced means to organise your time for the things that you have to do as well as the things that you enjoy doing.

Different people have different responsibilities and priorities, some go to work, some go to school but we have to create time to do different things.

If we don't do this, our lives will be disorganised, messy and chaotic!

Being balanced can also mean finding time for yourself. You need time to take care of yourself, such as eating a balanced diet. This can have a huge effect on your personal lifestyle since eating healthily has many benefits. We also need to find time to do physical activities which creates physical balance in our bodies.

How to live a balanced life?

- Take care of yourself.
- Set goals (what you want to achieve).
- Make a schedule.
- Think positively.
- Take the time to do what you like.
- Spend time with the people you love.
- Get an adequate amount of sleep daily.
- Exercise.
- Eat a balanced diet.

We are super-balanced students at GIS!

ROALD DAHL DAY

by Nidhish

On September 13th GIS had Roald Dahl day! Roald Dahl was a famous English writer. One of our favorites is the book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'! Below is one of the most famous things Roald Dahl has written in his books and it shows he has a positive character.

Roald Dahl died in 1990 so you might be wondering why we celebrate on September the 13th, it is because he was actually born on that day. Roald Dahl is most famous for his 19 children books. In our GIS library we have all of his books! And if you really like 'Charlie and the Chocolate factory' there have been two movies based on it!

We celebrate Roald Dahl day by selling chocolate which may contain a GOLDEN TICKET. There were 5 golden tickets and 3 silver tickets with 8 special prizes. Each bar of chocolate costs 20 Baht and the money GIS raised from this goes to charity! We also had a scavenger hunt which primary school teams took part in.

Big thanks to all of the CAS students who helped to make Roald Dahl day so special, notably:

Mansha, Annabelle, Galatee and Debbie in IB1!

If you have good
THOUGHTS
they will
SHINE
out of your face like
SUNBEAMS
and you will always look
LOVELY
-ROALD DAHL



Garden International School, Eastern Seaboard, Ban Chang

Examination Year	IB Diploma Pass rate:	Avg IB Diploma points score for successful students:	Avg IB Diploma subject grade for successful students:	Highest IB Diploma total points score
2012	87%	31	4.78	43
2013	77%	34	5.38	44
2014	82%	31	4.97	41
2015	94%	33	5.14	41
2016	100%	34	5.48	42
2017	100%	33	5.21	44
2018	100%	35	5.47	44
2019	93%	31	5.04	42
Worldwide	78%	29	4.59	45

IB AT GIS – THE FOUNDATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

by R. Longstaffe

In July, the school celebrated yet another outstanding set of IB results with our graduating class of 2019. These results are the culmination of years of hard work for our students and staff; many of our graduating class spent every one of their school days at Garden International School and we are incredibly proud of all of their achievements.

TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESS FOR OUR FUTURE IB CLASSES:

- Try to stay on top of things: keep a list and prioritise!
- Start revising early: check you understand the material, and don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it.
- Try out different study techniques: how about pretending to teach a subject to an imaginary classroom? Or record yourself giving a mini lesson. Use the 'Learning to Learn' information to find different ways to revise.
- Always ask for help sooner rather than later – it will stop you worrying and will make sure teachers can get the best help to you quickly.
- In the midst of all your IB work, try to enjoy yourself. Make sure you take the time to see your friends and relax.

The IB Coordinator, Lauren Hucknall, is an IB graduate herself (UWC of the American West, '01) and so understands first hand that the IB is an incredibly exciting challenge.

“As Mara and Anjali demonstrate, the IB is a wonderful foundation for a students' future, not only due to the level of content but also because of the focus on the core values. At GIS, we are incredibly lucky to have experienced IB staff alongside our students every step of the way, to support and encourage (and nag!) so that our future cohorts can look forward to results as exceptional as these.”

TOP STUDENTS



Anjali Khanijou

IB result: 42 points

Will be studying Medicine in Thailand

“Throughout the two years of IB our teachers always taught us to manage our time wisely. Looking back, this is definitely one of the many valuable lessons that IB taught me. Time management, organisation as well as prioritising what's most important helped me to overcome IB during both the exams and when submitting major assignments.”



Mara Dopp

IB result: 40 points

Now studying medicine at University of Nicosia in Cyprus

“Although it can be hard to do in the moment, realise that things will eventually all come together and also appreciate how far you've come! For me there really wasn't any 'hack' as such but honestly, as long as you just keep going then it will all work out.”