



Message from Secondary Principal



Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal

Dear SBS International School Bangkok Families,

As we approach the end of our first term together, my thoughts have naturally turned toward the upcoming Christmas break. For me, Christmas has always been a season defined by reflection and gratitude.

It is a time to slow down and reconnect with what truly matters: family. This year, I am particularly looking forward to seeing the "magic of Christmas" through the eyes of my son. Watching that sense of wonder reminds me of the importance of being present and thankful for the people who support us. It is in these quiet moments with loved ones that we find the energy and inspiration to return to our work with renewed purpose.

Reflecting on the last 16 weeks, I am struck by how much we have built together. This hasn't just been a "term"; it has been the foundation of our secondary school's identity. We have navigated a whirlwind of milestones, including:

- **Student Leadership:** The appointment of our first House Captains and the formation of an active Student Council.
- **Academic Rigor:** Launching our curriculum, completing initial assessments, and hosting our first productive Parent-Teacher Consultations (PTCs).
- **Community Spirit:** The official formation of our PTA, supporting the U13 basketball team, and welcoming new families through school tours and open events.
- **Engagement:** A vibrant calendar of sports fixtures, House events, and our first school photos.
- **Purpose:** Meaningful Service Learning projects that have already begun to connect our students with the wider world.

On that note - I extend my sincere gratitude to all families who contributed to making our very first Christmas Shoebox Appeal a phenomenal success! Over 200 shoeboxes are now safely in the hands of Gift of Happiness who will distribute them to children in need. We are promised an update in the New Year - so watch this space.

While the list of achievements is long, the true success of Term 1 isn't found in a list of events—it is found in the strength of our community.

We have fostered a positive learning environment where our young people truly shine. I am constantly impressed by the attitude of our students; they are hardworking, resilient, and possess a genuine kindness toward one another. We are a close-knit group, and that bond is what makes our school a special place to be every day.

I want to thank you—the parents and guardians—for your trust and partnership during these inaugural 16 weeks. To our students: thank you for your energy and your excellent attitude toward your studies.

I wish you all a peaceful, restful, and magical Christmas break with your families.



And Happy New Year



A message from form tutors



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students of the Pioneer Cohort of SBS Bangkok,

Please allow us to express our gratitude and appreciation to everyone for an amazing first term ever at SBS Bangkok. Many of you joined our school community not really knowing what to expect or what would happen. To be completely honest, we were having the same feelings before school started. However, it soon became clear to us what an amazing group of young adults had chosen to attend the school.

Mr. Jimmy and I quickly learned that we had the privilege to lead a group of students that is kind, polite, talented, and ready to help out at a moment's notice. We told everyone that they had a tremendous amount of responsibility on their shoulders by being members of the highest year groups at a new school. Establishing traditions, being role models, and encouraging further enrolment were just some of the things they were asked to do, and do it with enthusiasm and gusto they did!

It is truly an honor to be your student's Form Tutors and we are looking forward to an even more amazing term ahead. We will be welcoming at least five new students into our happy family, and I'm sure everyone will welcome them warmly and they will soon feel part of this extraordinary group of young people.

We wish you all a happy and blessed holiday season and look forward to seeing you in January.

With warmest regards,
Robert Bowley and Jimmy Canete



Years 7 & 8 - Maths Overview

This term has been a long journey for year 7 and 8 students. They have worked well as individual classes, once they had overcome their initial fears and settled into learning mathematics. Students have become familiar with routines and expectations and understand what they need to achieve each lesson to make good progress. All students have been assessed on the 6 units of the year's work and have shown steady improvement in general. They have all used the Myimaths online program extensively and have on-going booster lessons and tasks for homework.



Year 8 - English

Reading Between the Lines: How Data Tells a Story

This week in Year 8 English, we put on our detective hats and explored a fascinating new way to 'read': interpreting data presented in visual format! We discovered that data—whether it's in a bar chart, a pie chart, or a scatter plot—isn't just a collection of boring numbers. It's a powerful narrative tool! Every line, colour, and label is part of a story waiting to be uncovered.

Spotting the Truth vs. The Spin

A key focus this week was learning to differentiate between valid data and manipulated data. Just like a cleverly written piece of persuasive writing, a graph can be intentionally skewed to promote a certain viewpoint. We learned to ask critical questions:

- What are the labels on the axes? Are the scales misleading?
- What is the source of this data? Is it reliable?
- What data might be missing?

Being able to spot these tricks is a crucial skill, not just for English class, but for navigating the world of news, advertising, and social media!

The Power of Questioning

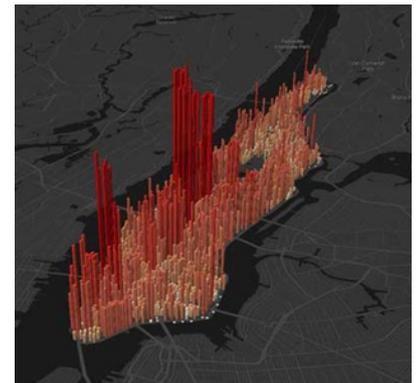
To truly understand the story a visual is telling, we encouraged everyone to practice asking questions as a result of looking at the data. Instead of just accepting what we see, we challenged it!

One particular image this week generated a flurry of truly insightful and intriguing questions from the class. Asking "Why?" or "What if?" helps us move beyond simple observation to deeper analysis and understanding, which is the heart of critical reading.

Vocabulary Corner: Membean Progress

A shout-out to the whole class for their continued efforts to sharpen their language tools! All students successfully completed the required weekly training this week. Your dedication to improving your vocabulary skills through Membean is truly paying off.

Remember, a strong vocabulary gives you the perfect words to articulate the complex stories you uncover, whether they are in a novel or a complicated graph.





Year 7 - English

What a wonderful week of reading and learning in Year 7 English! We immersed ourselves in the moving story, 'Wishing for Christmas' by Kirsti Harris, a tale that sparked some important discussions and deepened our understanding of narrative craft.

Themes That Matter: The True Spirit of Christmas

'Wishing for Christmas' is set during the challenging times of the Great Depression, a period in history that taught us a lot about hardship and resilience. The story encouraged us to look beyond material gifts and truly appreciate the most valuable things in life. Our discussions focused on key themes:

- The True Meaning of Christmas: It's not about how much money you spend, but the time and love you share.
- The Importance of Family: How familial bonds provide support and strength during difficult times.
- Historical Context: Understanding how the economic struggles of the Great Depression impacted daily life and attitudes.

Mastering the Art of Dialogue

A major focus this week was on dialogue—the words characters speak to one another. We learned that dialogue is essential for moving the plot forward and revealing a character's personality.

Crucially, we studied the role of dialogue tags (like she whispered, he exclaimed, or they muttered). These tags are the writer's secret weapon, guiding the reader to understand not just what a character said, but how they said it, revealing their emotions and intentions. Vocabulary Power-Up: Membean

Keep up the fantastic work on Membean! Your dedication to expanding your vocabulary is crucial. A strong word bank helps you better analyze the nuanced emotions writers convey through dialogue and dialogue tags.

Humanities

Students have moved on to exploring hazards associated with the atmosphere, however, they started the week recapping their existing knowledge of the Hydrological Cycle and the processes linked to atmospheric systems.

Students learnt about the importance of low and high pressure systems and the weather associated with each and then transferred this knowledge to understand the Global Circulation System making 3D Models for their exercise books.

Please keep encouraging your sons and daughters to continue keeping up to date with the news both here in Thailand and from around the world.





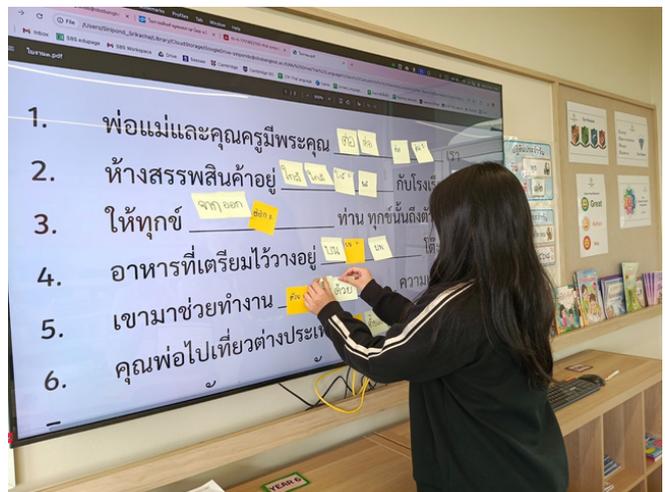
Thai Language

During this term, Year 7 students have been developing confidence in learning Thai and becoming more comfortable using the language in class. As they settled into routines, students showed increasing participation and a growing willingness to communicate in Thai across listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities.

Lessons focused on building essential language skills, including vocabulary, sentence structure, reading for meaning, and basic grammar, alongside introductions to Thai culture and literature. Learning took place through a variety of activities, such as individual tasks, pair and group work, and creative digital projects using tools like Canva, helping students engage with the language in meaningful and practical ways.

This term, Year 8 students developed their Thai language skills through learning and using Thai idioms, with a focus on meaning and appropriate usage. Students also created their own vocabulary revision games, encouraging independent learning, creativity, and active engagement with language.

Presentation skills were a key focus, with students regularly presenting their work to the class, explaining ideas, and demonstrating their games. These activities helped build confidence and clarity when using Thai.



PE

This week marked the final week of our Chairball and Dodgeball unit. Students continued to demonstrate strong teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship as they applied the skills and strategies developed throughout the unit. Both activities provided an enjoyable and active way for students to finish the term while remaining fully engaged.

The sessions were filled with energy and positive participation, and it was great to see students confidently working together, supporting one another, and enjoying healthy competition.

As we conclude this unit, we wish our students and families a restful and enjoyable two-week Christmas holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for an exciting new term in Physical Education.

ICT

Year 7 students researched and presented a topic as part of their end-of-term project, then worked in pairs on a Scratch activity to develop computational thinking. They predicted a program's behaviour, investigated how it worked (focusing on variables), and modified the code to see how changes affected the outcome, encouraging discussion and problem-solving.

Year 8 students created their own webpages as a project using HTML. They set up a project folder and built on their existing knowledge of basic tags and page structure, developing greater confidence in writing clean, well-organised code. Throughout the lessons, students applied design principles, experimented with layout and formatting, and refined their webpage content as their skills progressed.



Staff vs. Students

This week the student council organised the first ever Staff vs. Students competition. Dodgeball was the game of choice and the students were shocked by the staff's agility and skill - outperforming them with a landslide win.

It was fantastic to see staff and students come together and have a 'friendly' competition in the sports hall.

Thank you to all staff who participated and to the students for organising. We are already looking forward to the next round of competitions in the New Year.



SERVICE LEARNING

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome the Gift of Happiness team back to school to collect our donations for their Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Thanks to the incredible kindness of our school community, we successfully gathered over 200 shoeboxes.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed. Because of your generosity, more than 200 children will have a special gift to open on Christmas morning, bringing them much-needed joy and smiles.



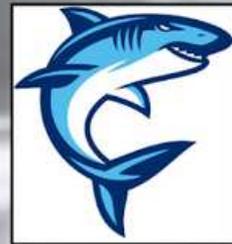


STARTING JANUARY 2026

HOUSE RING PULL COMPETITION 2026

Start collecting
TODAY and be part of
transforming the lives
of people in the
Philippines

WHICH HOUSE WILL WIN?



SBS International School
Bangkok





Upcoming Events

- Monday 5th January - Ring Pull Collection Competition Starts

Looking Ahead

January

- Monday 5th - Term 2 starts
- Monday 12th - T2 Active8 begins
- Friday 16th - Teachers Day Celebration
- Friday 30th - Yellow Leopards Birthday

February

- Friday 13th - Valentines Day
- Friday 13th - Chinese New Year Celebration
- Friday 13th Feb - Report 2 Published

Closing Note

As we conclude this inaugural 16-week term, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our parents and guardians for your trust and partnership. To our students: thank you for your incredible energy, resilience, and the kindness you show one another every day. We are truly a close-knit community, and it is your spirit that makes our school such a special place. I wish you all a peaceful, restful, and magical Christmas break with your families. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for an exciting new term in January.

Warm regards,
Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal





SBS International School Bangkok

AN ARTHIT OURAIRAT INSTITUTION

**Inspire Academic Success,
Nurture Holistic Wellbeing,
Cultivation Curiosity & Passion**



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