



Message from Secondary Principal



Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal

Dear SBS International Bangkok Families,

It has been an incredibly busy and rewarding week here at school. From the sports courts to the exam halls, our students continue to make us proud. Last weekend was a milestone for our athletics department. Our boys' and girls' basketball teams took to the court at SISB, and "phenomenal" is the only word to describe their performance. Our Girls' Team secured a historic win as Runners Up, bringing home the school's very first trophy. The Boys' Team played with heart and skill, finishing in a respectable 5th place. A huge congratulations to all our athletes for their dedication and sportsmanship. You've set the bar high!

This week, our students transitioned from the court to the classroom for their subject assessments. For many, this included their very first experience with Cambridge-style assessments. We have all been deeply impressed by the student body's approach to these challenges. They have remained diligent, focused, and mature throughout the process. Well done to everyone for keeping your cool under pressure!

Please keep an eye on the calendar and for these upcoming events and celebrations:

- **Day 101' at SBS Bangkok** - on Friday 6th February we have a day of celebrations as we acknowledge this very important milestone.
- **Parent Coffee Morning** - on Monday 9th February a session with the AOI Group Counselling Coordinator from BISP—highly recommended for parents looking ahead to iGCSEs and Higher Education.
- **Global Reef Day** - on Wednesday 11th February a day dedicated to ocean conservation and environmental awareness.
- **Chinese New Year** - on Friday 13th February students will be invited to wear red or traditional chinese dress as we celebrate the Year of the Horse with cultural activities.

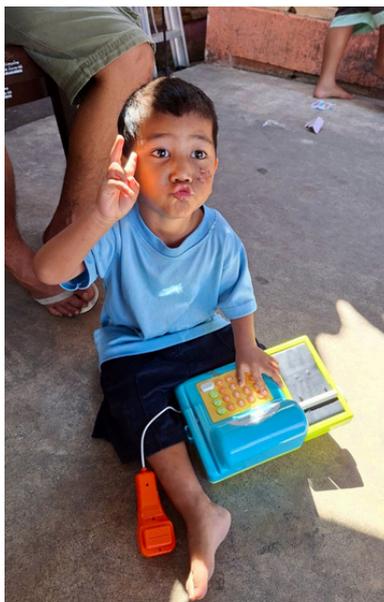
We couldn't have asked for a better way to wrap up the week than the Yellow House Birthday celebrations. It was a fantastic, high-energy event that brought a lot of smiles to our "Leopards." Seeing the house spirit in full swing was the perfect antidote to a week of hard work.



Thank you SBS International Bangkok

On December 27th the Gift of Happiness foundation visited Wat Mai Si Muen Temple Orphanage and shared our wonderful Christmas shoeboxes with the children living there.

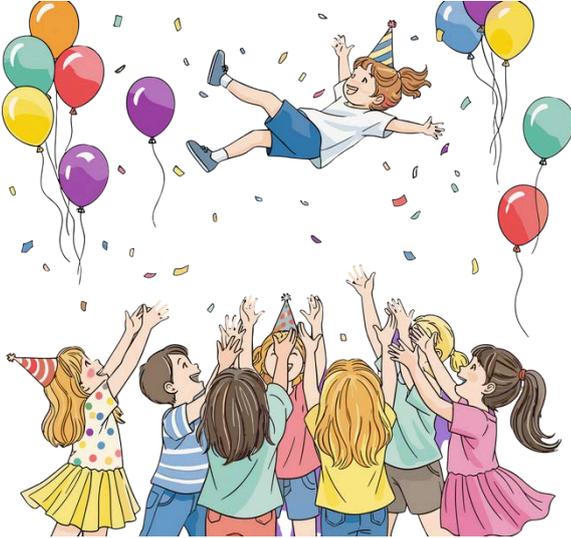
Wat Mai Si Muen was founded around 1794 and is located in Ratchaburi. It is led by Phra Khru Sophon Chantrangi (Luang Por Phong), known as a father figure who has supported needy children, underprivileged, orphaned, and ethnic minority children for over 16 years. The children's bright smiles, laughter, and excited eyes can be seen in the following photos as they received their gifts.



Thank you to everyone at SBS International Bangkok for your kind generosity, as you can see the art of giving, filled everyone's hearts with happiness, reminding everyone that even small gifts can create great joy and lasting memories.



'Day 101' at SBS Bangkok



Friday 6th February marks a truly momentous occasion - this will be our 101st day of 'learning well and living well' at our school! We cannot let this day pass without celebrating and we have lots of things in store!

We are inviting all students from Toddlers - Y8 to dress up, either as a 101 year old person OR in clothing which celebrates the number 101! We will be in touch early next week with more details about our Friday activities. We can't wait to see all of our 101 year olds next Friday!

Coffee Morning with Amy Pothong - AOI Group Counselling Coordinator



We are very fortunate to have Ms Amy with us for the day on **Monday 9th February** where she will run a couple of workshops with our secondary school students.

You are warmly invited to attend a coffee morning session where Ms Amy will be talking about general preparation and IGCSE course exploration, as well as an insider's perspective on selective universities and what they look for.

Ms Amy will also be joined by Peter Smith, a university counsellor at BISP who was formerly a UC Berkeley admissions assistant director.



Global Reef Day - Wednesday 11th February 2026 - TRIPLE excitement



We are extremely excited to invite Mr Piers Baillie founder and director of Global Reef - a marine research and education organisation based in Thailand.

Piers will be with us for a whole day and will be delivering educational workshops for all students from Reception through to Year 8. His presentations will focus on marine organisms, coral reefs and marine conversation.

In addition to the workshops Piers will launch our very first whole school competition. Students will be tasked with designing SBS International Bangkok's first artificial reef. The winning design will be constructed by Global Reef before being deployed in Thailand as part of a government-partnered restoration programme - propagating hundreds of coral.

In addition to the workshops, Piers will be running our very first virtual reality experiences. This optional experience will give students, parents or staff the chance to explore Thailand's coral reefs in 3D, experience scuba diving, and see first-hand the conservation projects Global Reef are working on.



The Virtual Reality sessions will take place after school on **Wednesday 11th February**

Duration: 20 minutes

Cost: 500Baht per person (payable on the day)

Spaces Available: 15 spaces per session

Sessions: 4 (3:10PM, 3:30PM, 3:50PM and 4:10PM)

Open to all students from Reception to Year 8, parents and staff at SBS Bangkok.

To avoid disappointment please book today to guarantee your space.

For more information about Piers and or Global Reef please visit <https://global-reef.com/>





Artificial Reef Design Competition

The poster features a dark blue background with a vibrant, colorful illustration of an artificial reef structure on the left. The reef is composed of various shapes and colors, including green, yellow, orange, and purple, representing different types of coral and marine life. The text is white and yellow, providing details about the competition. Logos for SBS International School Bangkok and Global Reef are in the top left and right corners respectively.

SBS International School
Bangkok
AN ARTHIT OURAIRAT INSTITUTION

Global Reef

SBS Bangkok

Artificial Reef Design Competition

Design an artificial reef to support marine life and help protect our oceans.

The winning design will be selected and built by a professional company, before being placed on the sea floor during the Easter holidays.

Launch
Wednesday 11 February

Deadline
Friday 13 March 2026

**Your design.
A real impact.**

sbsbangkok.ac.th

More information on the competition will be shared by Piers on **Wednesday 11th February** - however, in the meantime, get your artistic juices flowing and think about what you want the school's first Artificial Reef to look like.

Friday 13th February - Chinese New Year

The poster has a red background with a golden horse in the center, depicted in a traditional Chinese style with flowing mane and tail. The text is white and yellow. There are small white confetti-like dots scattered across the background. A golden cloud-like shape is at the bottom right.

YEAR OF THE HORSE

...2026, 2014, 2002, 1990,
1978, 1966, 1954, 1942...

www.chinahighlights.com

We are very excited to be celebrating Chinese New Year and the Year of the Horse on Friday 13th February. On the day, we will invite students to wear the color red or traditional Chinese clothing. We are currently planning a day of enriching cultural experiences for the students.



Highlights of the Week Leopard's Birthday in Photos





English

Students in Year 7 & 8 reached a significant milestone this week by completing their mid-year assessments. These exams were specifically designed to emulate a formal, Cambridge Curriculum style assessment. The goal was to provide students with authentic experience in navigating external examination formats, focusing on time management and precise responses under pressure. We are incredibly proud of the focus and maturity the students displayed during this process.

It has been a high-energy week in Year 7 English as students balanced the rigors of formal testing with the magic of Diagon Alley. Here is a look at what we've been up to:

Our deep dive into Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone continues! We are currently in the middle of Chapter 5: Diagon Alley. We are reading it in a movie or another book you have at home!



As Harry gets his first glimpse of the magical world, students have been introduced to the literary term juxtaposition. We've specifically explored how J.K. Rowling uses this technique to introduce Hagrid. By analyzing the contrast between his intimidating, "giant" physical appearance and his gentle, nurturing personality, students are learning how authors create complex, multi-dimensional characters.

Next week, we will leave the "Muggle" world further behind as we delve even deeper into the magical lore of Harry Potter. We will begin exploring the nuances of world-building and how Rowling establishes the rules of her universe.

Over the dinner table - Ask your child to define "juxtaposition" and see if they can find an example of it in a movie or another book you have at home!

It's been a pivotal week for our Year 8 students as they transitioned from the focus of formal examinations back into the gritty, atmospheric world of 1960s Tulsa.

We are now moving through **Chapter 3 of The Outsiders**. This is a crucial turning point in the novel where the lines between the rival gangs begin to blur.

Students have been "grappling" with the complex social dynamics between the Socs (the "Socials") and the Greasers. While the two groups seem worlds apart on the surface, Ponyboy's realization that "things are tough all over" has sparked excellent classroom debates. We are analyzing:

- External Differences: Wealth, cars, and clothing.
- Internal Similarities: Shared feelings of isolation, family pressures, and the universal experience of watching the same sunset.

Beyond the "turf war," students are looking beneath the surface of key characters. We've moved past basic descriptions to analyze the deeper character traits and motivations of figures like Johnny, Cherry, and Ponyboy. By examining their dialogue and internal monologues, students are learning how S.E. Hinton uses subtle cues to reveal a character's true nature.

As we move into next week, the tension in the novel begins to escalate. We will be focusing on foreshadowing and how the events in Chapter 3 set the stage for the dramatic conflicts to come.

This weekend - Ask your child: "What did Cherry Valance mean when she said 'things are tough all over'?" It's a great way to see their perspective on the book's themes.



Maths

Students in Year 7 & 8 have been reviewing the first 6 units from the Cambridge Lower Secondary curriculum in readiness for their first progress assessment. They have practiced processes and skills, recollection of facts and tips on how to navigate an assessment. Units they have been assessed on are;

- Unit 1 - Integers
- Unit 2 - Expressions, formula and equations
- Unit 3 - Decimals
- Unit 4 - Place value and rounding
- Unit 5 - Angles and constructions
- Unit 6 - Collecting data

The purpose of the progress assessment is to determine what students have learnt and highlight any misunderstanding or gaps in their learning. The next unit of study of fractions has also started this week.

Humanities



Students concluded the unit on atmospheric hazards this week with an assessed task linked to Tornadoes.

Students spent time watching a National Geographic documentary on 'Surviving the largest Tornado outbreak in history'.

They used this knowledge in an assessment which assessed their ability to communicate their knowledge and understanding of how and why tornadoes form to the devastating impact they cause through a Diary entry.



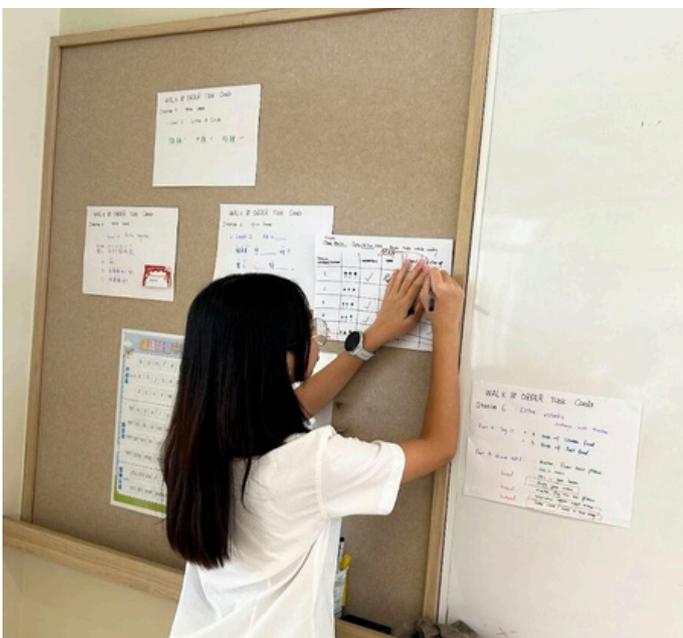
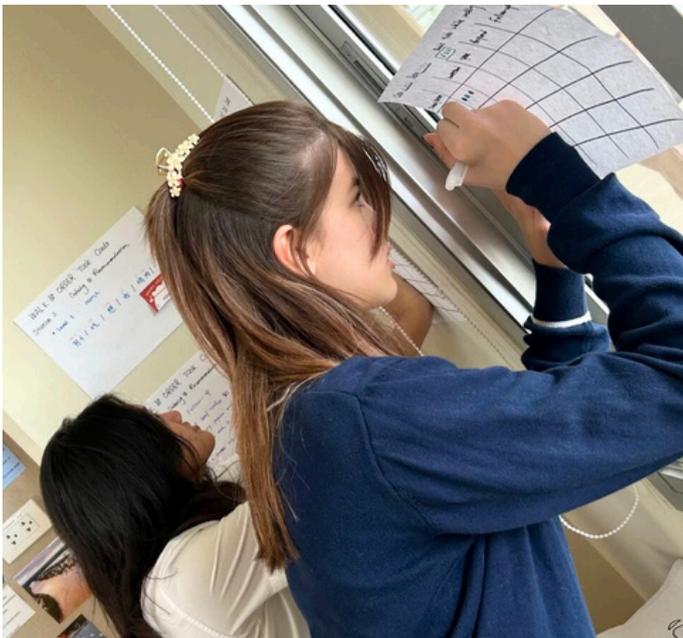
Mandarin

Students took part in a real-life Mandarin role-play activity focused on ordering food. This week, we reflected on the activity in detail. Students thoughtfully identified areas where they felt confident, areas they found challenging, and set clear goals on how to improve.

We also introduced an innovative and creative learning activity in the classroom — a walk-around ordering challenge. Six different stations were set up, each offering three levels of difficulty. Students moved independently between stations, using a self-assessment checklist to track and evaluate their progress. The activity was both fun and highly effective.

For higher-level students, the School Tour project progressed into the filming stage, moving from mind map planning to route finalisation and recording.

With Chinese New Year coming up in two weeks, our Mandarin learning and upcoming activities will be centred around the festival — stay tuned for more exciting experiences!





Music

Since the start of term, students have been exploring the foundational Tresillo rhythm, a syncopated "three-beat" pattern that serves as the heartbeat of Caribbean music and modern pop. The focus has been on moving beyond simple repetition to understanding how rhythm and melody intersect through the lens of the D Major scale.



Students have successfully mapped the D Major scale degrees to the physical layout of the steel tongue drums. By identifying the pattern as 3, 1, 5, and 2, they are learning to bridge the gap between harmonic structure (chords) and melodic movement.

A major focus has been identifying and executing off-beat patterns. Students are moving past "straight" timing to find the syncopation in the Tresillo skeleton, learning how to place accents between the main beats to create an authentic sense of groove.

The class is now practicing the coordination required to lock their melodic patterns into a collective "drive" alongside live guitar accompaniment.

PE

This week marked the final week of our Volleyball unit. Students completed their volleyball assessment, which focused on bumping, serving, setting, and applying skills in game situations. The assessment allowed students to demonstrate the progress they have made throughout the unit in both individual skills and gameplay understanding.

Following the assessment, students were grouped into three teams and took part in game play to 15 points, giving them the opportunity to apply their skills in a competitive yet enjoyable environment. The matches encouraged teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship.

It was great to see how much the students enjoyed this unit and how actively engaged they were throughout the lessons. Next week, we will begin a new PE unit, and we look forward to another exciting phase of learning.



Congratulations

Our SBS U13 basketball teams proudly competed in their first-ever BISAL (Bangkok International Schools Athletic League) Basketball Tournament last weekend, marking an important milestone for our school sports program.

The U13 Boys competed in the morning session and were placed in a very strong pool, facing taller, more physically developed, and experienced teams. Despite the challenge, our boys demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and determination, finishing the pool stage with two wins and two losses. With no quarterfinal or semifinal rounds in the tournament format, the team concluded the competition in 5th place out of 8 schools. Their performance highlighted great potential and promising development for the future.

In the afternoon session, our U13 Girls delivered an excellent performance, winning two games in pool play and advancing to the finals against TSI International School. After a hard-fought match, the team finished as runners-up, proudly bringing home second-place trophies and medals. Their effort, composure, and teamwork were commendable throughout the tournament.





Most importantly, this event provided a valuable and positive learning experience for all our players as they represented SBS Bangkok in their first BISAL tournament. The smiles, excitement, and growth shown by our students reflected the true spirit of school sport.



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Coaches PJ, Jimmy, and Korn for their guidance, commitment, and support throughout the day. A special thank you as well to Mr. Simon for taking the time to cheer and support our players at the venue. Finally, thank you to all our parents for your continued encouragement and support, and congratulations to all our players for their hard work and sportsmanship.



Upcoming Events

- Monday 9th February - Coffee morning with Amy Pothong - AOI Group Counselling Coordinator
- Wednesday 11th February - Global Reef Day
- Friday 13th February - Chinese New Year Celebration

Next Week

- Friday 6th February - 101 Days at SBS Bangkok Celebrations!
- Saturday 7th February - BISAL Swim Meet at BASIS International School

Looking Ahead

- Friday 13th February - Report 2 Published and End of Half Term
- Friday 13th February - End of first half of Term 2
- Monday 23rd February - Start of second half of Term 2.

Closing Note

The energy this week—from the high-spirited Yellow House Birthday celebrations to the heartwarming updates on our 'Gift of Happiness' shoebox donations—reminds us what a vibrant community we are building together. With a busy February ahead featuring our 100-day milestone, Global Reef Day, and Chinese New Year, there is much to look forward to. Thank you for your continued support as we watch our students grow, learn, and lead. I wish you all a restful weekend ahead.

Warm regards,
Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal



SBS International School Bangkok

AN ARTHIT OURAIRAT INSTITUTION

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



Follow us on

-  SBS International School Bangkok
-  sbsbangkok
-  sbsbangkok
-  @SBSBangkok

Contacts

-  Info@sbsbangkok.ac.th
-  www.sbsbangkok.ac.th
-  +66 (0) 81 577 8222
-  @sbsbangkok

Admissions

Monday - Friday
8.30am - 4.30pm

sbsbangkok.ac.th