



SBS International School

Bangkok

AN ARTHIT OURAIRAT INSTITUTION

Message from Secondary Principal



Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal

Dear SBS International School Bangkok Families,

As we enter the final weeks of the term, the spirit of Christmas has truly arrived on our school site!

The spectacular Christmas tree is now proudly up, casting a beautiful, festive glow. Walking through the corridors, you can feel the seasonal cheer thanks to the wonderful classroom decorations put up by students and staff—a huge thank you to everyone who helped make the school look so festive!

The buzz is palpable, as attention now turns to the stage! Rehearsals are in full swing ready for our much-anticipated Christmas Show performance next week. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication our students are showing.

While the festive preparations are well underway, our students have also maintained an impressive level of focus on their studies.

This time of year is crucial for measuring progress, and students have been diligently completing a range of end-of-unit and other types of assessments across the curriculum. These assessments are vital for helping students, parents, and teachers understand where knowledge has been mastered and where further support may be needed as we move into the New Year.

Tomorrow, Friday, December 5th, marks a very significant day for the Kingdom of Thailand.

As a national public holiday, we observe the Birthday Anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great (Rama IX), which is also celebrated as Thailand's National Day and Father's Day.

This day provides an important opportunity for our entire school community to pause, reflect, and honour the legacy of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who was deeply revered as the Father of the Nation. It is a time for all of us to consider the values of unity, service, and responsibility, which are central to both this national observance and our school's mission.

We wish all of our students and families a meaningful and restful holiday as you celebrate with your loved ones.



AOI × Sansiri — Field-Based Learning Experience

The AOI × Sansiri collaboration delivered a full-day field-based learning experience at Narasiri Phahol–Watcharapol on Saturday 29 November 2025. The programme provided students with meaningful, real-world exposure across the themes of sustainability, community design, and responsible development.

Key learning outcomes included:

- Real-estate fundamentals - introduced through the interactive “Sansiri Board Game,” linking planning, budgeting, and project decision-making to real-world contexts.
- Sustainability in modern development, highlighting how environmentally responsible design shapes long-term community wellbeing.
- Architectural and spatial awareness, developed through an on-site walking tour that examined design choices and their impact on living environments.
- Circular-economy thinking through the ‘Waste to Worth’ workshop, where students transformed discarded materials into purposeful design concepts, reinforcing creativity and resourcefulness.
- Reflection and communication skills, demonstrated in the final Showcase & Q&A as students presented their ideas and explained their design rationale.

Two students from SBS International School Bangkok had the opportunity to attend and fully engage with the program. Saipor (Y8) and Punn (Y7) both quickly made new friends within their assigned groups and showed leadership and enthusiasm. When asked about her experience, Saipor said, “I think learning about new things such as the real estate industry was very interesting. Also learning how to recycle trash to create something new was a great experience.”

This experience aligns with AOI’s commitment to integrating rigorous academic learning with authentic industry exposure, equipping learners with analytical capability, creativity, social responsibility, and future-ready mindsets.



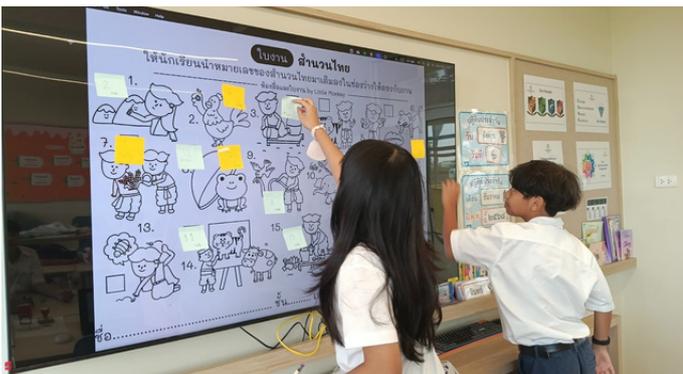


Thai Language and Studies - Language in Action Week!

Year 7 students practiced summary writing through short stories, engaged in group discussions, and wrote structured summaries to develop clarity in communication. They also learned about levels of language through activity stations, allowing them to build their own understanding and choose appropriate vocabulary for different contexts.

Here come the idioms! This week, Year 8 students learned about Thai idioms through a variety of activities. They played an idiom-guessing game, researched idioms of their choice, learned their meanings and appropriate usage in different situations, created Canva presentations, and presented their selected idioms in front of the class.

Due to the upcoming Father's Day celebration this week, Year 7 and Year 8 students learned about the significance of Thailand's National Father's Day and the royal duties of His Majesty King Rama IX. They practiced presentation skills and presented His Majesty's royal contributions in front of the class.





Mandarin

Year 8 Mandarin Pathway A

In addition to the key vocabulary, grammar points, and communicative practice, students placed a strong emphasis on reading Chinese characters without relying on pinyin. To support this, students created their own flashcards for the new vocabulary. Students also enjoyed Kahoot activities, reinforcing their learning and providing interactive practice in class.

Year 8 Mandarin Pathway B

With only one Mandarin lesson this week, students used Kahoot to review all key content.

Next week students will not only focus on textbook knowledge but also on practical communication. A series of outdoor learning activities will be arranged to enhance real-life language use.

Year 7 Mandarin Pathway B

Students used Kahoot to review and practice this week's content, especially topics related to dates, festivals, and places to go.

Science

Exploring Ecosystems Through Terrariums

Our Year 8 students have been diving deeper into the fascinating world of ecosystems. As part of their learning journey, they designed and built their very own terrariums—miniature, self-sustaining environments that beautifully demonstrate the balance between living organisms and their surroundings.

The project allowed students to:

- Apply classroom knowledge of food chains, energy flow, and nutrient cycles.
- Experiment hands-on with soil, plants, and moisture to create closed systems
- Observe ecological interactions such as photosynthesis, respiration, and the water cycle in action.
- Develop creativity while designing unique terrarium layouts.

Students were amazed to see how these small glass gardens thrive when the right conditions are provided. The terrariums will continue to serve as living models in the classroom, sparking curiosity and reinforcing the importance of sustainability.



Our Year 7 students have been sharpening their scientific thinking by exploring the fascinating world of classification. As part of their studies, they continued their presentations on how scientists organise living things using dichotomous keys—a step-by-step tool that helps identify organisms based on their observable features.

Through this activity, students:

- Practiced critical observation by carefully noting characteristics such as shape, structure, and adaptations.
- Applied logical reasoning to distinguish between organisms and place them into the correct groups.
- Build confidence in communication by presenting their findings clearly to peers.
- Connected classroom learning to real science, understanding how biologists classify species in the natural world

The presentations were not only informative but also interactive, with students guiding their classmates through branching questions like “Does it have wings?” or “Is it warm-blooded?” to arrive at the correct organism.

This exercise reinforced the importance of classification in biology, showing how scientists bring order to the diversity of life. It also encouraged teamwork, curiosity, and a deeper appreciation of the living world around us.



Humanities

Throughout the term, students have been delving into the world of natural hazards. They began by establishing a foundational understanding of Earth's structure and the theory of plate tectonics. Students then explored the different plate boundaries and the associated geological activity, including where and how volcanoes form and the hazards associated with an eruption.

To conclude this unit, students have started their assessed task: comparing the Asian Tsunami of 2004 and the Japanese Tsunami of 2011, before moving on to study meteorological hazards.



Service Learning

A gentle reminder about our Amazing Christmas Shoebox Appeal - we really need your help and support to spread joy across communities far less fortunate than our own





English

Year 7 students have been actively engaging with the two designated Golden Values: Kindness and Generosity. Our lessons integrated these themes through diverse texts:

Fiction Study: Students read a compelling short story centered on a Thanksgiving Dinner, prompting discussions about maturity, family roles, and perspective-taking, as a young protagonist opts for the "kids' table" to challenge expectations.

Non-fiction Insight: We explored a non-fiction article that highlighted the scientific links between acts of kindness and generosity and an individual's overall feeling of well-being. This provided a valuable context for understanding the positive impact of these values.

Year 8 English class is continuing to make excellent progress on their Global Issues Research Project, demonstrating growing sophistication in their research methods and analysis.

Applying the CRAAP Test for Source Evaluation

This week, a core focus was on reinforcing the principles of digital literacy and source credibility. Students began the week by rigorously applying the CRAAP Test, a valuable framework developed by academic researchers at California State University. This systematic tool guides students in assessing the validity and veracity of online resources by considering five key criteria:

Currency (The timeliness of the information).

Relevance (The applicability and depth of the content).

Authority (The credentials and expertise of the author/publisher).

Accuracy (The reliability and correctness of the data).

Purpose (The underlying reason the information was created, e.g., to inform, persuade, or sell).

By evaluating these five aspects, students are significantly enhancing their ability to discern reliable, high-quality information, a skill that is paramount in academic and civic life.

From Analysis to Innovative Solutions

Students have spent time diligently researching the historical background and the current status of their chosen global issue (such as climate change, poverty, or refugee crises).

In the coming weeks, their focus will shift from analysis to synthesis and innovation. We will encourage them to move beyond conventional approaches and employ a creative, solution-focused mindset. The goal is for them to envision and propose realistic, yet potentially novel, solutions or strategies for addressing their chosen global challenge. This phase will foster critical thinking, problem-solving, and imaginative engagement with real-world problems.



Enhancing Literacy Skills in Year 7 & 8

To further support their academic development, students are currently benefiting from two key literacy resources:

1. Introduction to Writer's Toolbox

We have introduced students to Writer's Toolbox, a supplementary writing enhancement program we will be piloting over the next six weeks.

While it will be utilized periodically in class, its primary function is to serve as a home-based resource to reinforce and supplement the skills taught during English lessons.

Goal: This tool aims to provide students with additional support in developing and refining their writing techniques.

2. Continued Vocabulary Development with Membean

Students are making excellent progress in expanding their vocabulary through the online platform Membean.

To ensure consistent growth, please continue to encourage your child to complete a minimum of one 15-minute training session at home each week. Consistent use is vital for long-term vocabulary retention.





Service Learning

Welcome back to Service Learning at SBS International Bangkok - last week we asked you:

But where and by whom are these beautiful products made?

This question was in relation to the amazing handmade products from Ring Pulls.

Where? The Tondo Dumpsite is situated north of Manila and is home to over 12,000 residents. Tondo is known as the poorest slum in Manila.

The term "Tondo dumpsite" refers to Smokey Mountain, a former large landfill in the Tondo district of Manila, Philippines, which was officially closed in 1995. The area was named for the numerous fires that would spontaneously ignite from the decomposing waste, producing smoke.

By whom?

Many of the 12,000 residents living in Tondo are engaged in the informal sector - mainly scavenging, sorting through the waste and earning money from selling recyclable products.

The Purple Community Fund is one organisation that works in the heart of Tondo. One of their key roles is running a Livelihood Programme where the women on the dumpsite are employed to make the Ring Pull products. The income they make is used to educate their children, to cover health care costs and have access to food and clean water.

The aim ultimately is to reduce the community's dependency on the dumpsite for their livelihood. To have a generation of children who are educated and do not need to sort through the dumpsite to earn a living.

How can you get involved?

Find out next week!





Next Week

- Monday 8th December - Active8 Sign Up for Term 2 Closes
- Thursday 11th December - Christmas Celebrations. Students can opt to wear festive fancy dress or normal school uniforms. Final day to bring in Christmas Shoeboxes.

Looking Ahead

- Friday 19th December - Last Day of Term - see reminders below
- Monday 5th January - Term 2 Starts
- Monday 12th January - Active8 Sessions Start
- Saturday 24th January - U13 Boys and Girls Basketball BISAL Tournament, taking place at SISB Nonthaburi

Reminders

- Active8 Sign Up closes on Monday 8th December
- The last day of term finishes for Toddlers at 11.30am; Early Years 12.30; and Years 1- 8 at 1.15pm

Closing Note

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and focus our students have maintained on their studies, even with the festive excitement building.

We wish all of our SBS International School Bangkok students and families a meaningful and restful long weekend as you celebrate with your loved ones.

Warm regards,
Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal





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



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Admissions

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