



Message from the Principal - Toddlers, Early Years & Primary



Rachel Crossland
Early Years & Primary Principal

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Welcome to the new look bi-weekly 'Primary Pulse'! This will be a shortened version of the longer Primary newsletter and it will land in your inboxes every other week. The Primary Pulse will give a 'Parent Takeaway', any urgent messages and the key events that are upcoming.



'Friday Takeaway - 'Reading Tip of the Week: Why Talking Matters as Much as Reading



A message from Mr Ian

Here's something that might surprise you: the biggest thing that predicts how well older kids understand what they read isn't how well they can sound out words — it's how much they already know and how many words they already have in their vocabulary.

Young children mostly need help cracking the code of letters and sounds. But as kids move up through the grades, the game changes: comprehension leans more and more on background knowledge and vocabulary, and less on decoding. A child can read every word on a page perfectly and still not understand it, if the topic and the words are unfamiliar.

The good news is this is easy to build at home, and it doesn't require a worksheet. Three simple things you can do this week:

Read with your child, not just to them or past them. Pause and ask what a word means, or what they think will happen next. A few minutes of conversation about a book does more than an extra ten minutes of silent reading alone.

Talk about new words when they come up — at dinner, in the car, watching a documentary. Hearing a word used a few times in real conversation is one of the best ways kids actually learn it.

Feed their curiosity about the world. Museums, nature walks, cooking together, news stories at their level — all of it becomes background knowledge that helps them understand what they read later, in any subject.



Meet the Teacher Conferences

It has been a privilege to listen to the Primary 'Meet the Teacher Conferences' this week. These are valuable opportunities to get to know you and your children and paves the way for truly personalised approach to learning. Thank you for attending these and for the meaningful conversations.

Full School Day timings:

Next week we will revert to our normal school hours following a phased in approach for Toddlers - Early years children. Please expect them to be a little more tired than usual at pick-up!

Please note the following:

- **Toddlers drop-off:** 8.30am (Teachers will be available from 8.00am)
- **Toddlers pick-up:** 1.45pm (nap commences at 11.30am)
- **Early Years drop-off:** 8.15am (Teachers will be available from 7.45am) Nursery children will nap between 12.00pm and 1.00pm
- **Early Years pick-up:** 2.15pm OR 3.15pm at the canteen if ECA

Late Pick-ups:

Please note that from next week late pick-up will continue to be located in the library but a charge will be applied according to the following times:

EY late pick-up grace period: 2.15pm-2.45pm (after which a charge will be applied)

Primary (Y1-3) late pick-up grace period 3.10pm-3.40pm (after which a charge will be applied)

Curriculum Overviews

Now that the students have settled into their new routines it is an appropriate time to share with you your child's curriculum overview giving detailed information on what is being studied in every subject this half-term. We will be sharing these with you at the beginning of next week.

Wai Kru - Thursday 24th September

Wai Kru is approaching, (a traditional Thai ritual where students express formal gratitude and respect to their teachers). At SBS Bangkok we will be celebrate Wai Kru on Thursday 24th September.

For **Early Years**, if parents wish, students are welcome to bring flowers to school on the Thursday to present to their Homeroom Teacher and Thai Teacher. For students who are unable to bring flowers, the school will provide artificial flowers for them.

For **Primary and Secondary**, we would appreciate parents' support in asking students to bring flowers to school on Thursday 24 September to contribute to their class Wai Kru trays. The school will provide the trays and some materials for each class.

For safety reasons, please do not allow your child(ren) to bring any sharp or potentially dangerous materials to school.

Students are also welcome to bring a flower garland (พวงมาลัย) or flowers to present to their Homeroom Teacher and Thai Teacher. If students would like to do so, we kindly ask parents to prepare these from home, as they are not included in the flowers provided by the school for the class activities.

The main celebration will take place during Periods 1 and 2 before break. Please ensure your child is dressed in formal uniform for this period - if they have PE on this day then they may bring their PE kit into school to get changed into after the event.

Thank you for supporting our wonderful teaching team.



Upcoming Events

- **Mon 7 Sept and all week** - Uniform shop Open for House Shirts (new students) and for Toddlers and Nursery Sleeping Bag purchases.
- **Thurs 24th Sept** - Wai Kru Celebration (CD)
- **Fri 9 Oct** - Report 1 Published
- **Frid 9th Oct** - INSET DAY (no school for students)

Uniform

Thank you for observing the deadline for addressing uniform issues, particularly school shoes. A reindeer that trainers may be worn on PE days only - thanks for your cooperation.

Closing

Next week I will be overseas, but available on email. For urgent matters, please contact:

- Saran (saranyap@sbsbangkok.ac.th);
- Mr Ian Wang (ywang@sbsbangkok.ac.th);
- School Manager (schoolmanager@sbsbangkok.ac.th).

I will be dropping our youngest daughter to University in the UK and I only hope that I can do as great (and brave) a job as many of you have done over the past two weeks. You have been detaching yourselves confidently from your young children and entrusting them to us - all done with a warm smile and confidence in them and us. I hope I can do the same! Enjoy the weekend.

Warm regards,
Rachel Crossland
EY and Primary Principal





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CONTACT

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this amazing opportunity, then please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms. Ainsley
ahenderson@sbsbangkok.ac.th



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Contacts

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Admissions

Monday - Friday
8.30am - 4.30pm

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