Message from Secondary Principal



Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal

Dear SBS International School Bangkok Families,

The week kicked off with LS1 presenting their rescheduled assembly on Mental Health Awareness, following our recent flooding disruptions. They delivered a powerful message emphasising that "it's ok to not be ok," while sharing practical strategies and encouraging anyone in need to speak up. This tied in seamlessly with our Wellbeing curriculum, where students transitioned from exploring brain science last half-term to focusing on VIA Character Strengths this term.

Halloween arrived in full force today, and it was wonderful to see the incredible creativity and effort students put into their costumes. Be sure to check out this week's photo montage to see all the spooky and fun highlights! Having lived in the USA for two years, Halloween was one of the highlights of the year - bringing communities together as children would partake in trick or treat. This holiday however, historically rooted in Samhain, traditionally marks the end of the harvest and the transition into the "dark half" of the year. While seasonal shifts feel very different here in the tropical climate of Thailand, the spirit of Halloween still invites us to consider what we wish to shed before the year draws to a close, making it an ideal moment to audit habits, mindsets, or projects that no longer serve us. A perfect time for our students to pause and reflect.

As we leave Halloween behind, our sight turns toward the end-of-the-year festivities and the upcoming Christmas holiday. Auditions open next week for students interested in starring in our end-of-year performance (see the full details towards the end of this edition).

Finally, starting tomorrow, our student-athletes will be in action. First making waves in the pool for swim meets at BASIS International School, followed by competitions on the basketball courts both home and away. We wish all our competitors the best of luck!

Science - Liquids in Layers: Engineering a Rainbow Column

Can you stack liquids on top of each other without them mixing? Our Year 9 students did exactly that during their recent science lab sessions, mastering the physics of density through a hands-on, colorful experiment.

Density tells us how tightly packed the molecules in a substance are. By carefully calculating the mass-to-volume ratio of various household liquids—such as honey, dish soap, water, and vegetable oil—students predicted exactly how they would interact. Because liquids with higher densities sink while lighter ones float, pouring them sequentially from densest to least dense created a perfectly suspended, multi-colored tower.











Drama





This week in Drama, our Years 7–9 students will continue developing their acting, improvisation, and characterisation skills through exciting collaborative performance activities. Students will explore how characters' motivations, objectives, and relationships influence their actions and dialogue, creating imaginative scenes filled with interesting situations, unexpected developments, and dramatic challenges. Through teamwork, creative problem-solving, and performance, students will strengthen their confidence, communication skills, and ability to bring believable characters to life on stage.

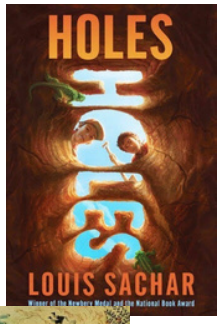
Global English

Who says grammar can't be exciting? This week, our Year 8 ESL students transformed an English grammar lesson into a lively, interactive sentence-building challenge! Working collaboratively, students matched different sentence parts to create grammatically correct and meaningful sentences using the determiners all, both, each, and every. The activity encouraged students to think critically, discuss their choices, and apply their understanding of English grammar in a fun, hands-on environment. It was wonderful to see such enthusiastic participation, teamwork, and problem-solving as students discovered that learning grammar can be both challenging and enjoyable!



English

Year 7



Students continued their active engagement with Louis Sachar's novel, Holes. Throughout the week, class discussions focused heavily on reinforcing their understanding of irony, specifically situational, verbal, and dramatic irony, as students analysed how the very name "Camp Green Lake" serves as a central piece of irony within the text. Alongside these textual discussions, students began translating their comprehension into visual representations by drawing out their ideas of what Camp Green Lake looks like based on descriptive detail. Crucially, students are working hard to refine the core Cambridge ELA skill of utilising textual evidence to support and justify their analytical ideas.

Year 8



Our Year 8 literary journey with Madeleine L'Engle's classic novel, A Wrinkle in Time, progressed into an in-depth study of character construction. This week, students explored how authors carefully develop characters throughout a narrative, focusing on the distinction between direct and indirect characterisation. By analysing explicit statements versus subtle behavioral clues and dialogue, students learned to extract deeper insights about character motivations and traits.

Year 9



It was a dynamic and milestone-filled week as students successfully completed and presented their ideal societies projects. Following these presentations, the class transitioned into a broader foundational discussion on the three primary economic systems; capitalism, socialism, and communism, analysing how many of their own ideal society models naturally integrated structural elements of socialism and communism. This contextual groundwork was designed to prepare students for their upcoming political allegory study. On Friday, students received their copies and workbooks for George Orwell's Animal Farm, setting the stage for reading and discussions to begin in earnest this coming Monday.

Membean

To support their high-level reading skills all secondary students should continue their vocabulary development on Membean, maintaining the required schedule of three 15-minute training sessions per week, with one completed at home.

PE

Year 7
We had a fantastic, action-packed week in PE class, with our full focus on Kickball!

Throughout the week, the students worked hard on honing the fundamental skills needed to excel at the game. Beyond developing physical execution such as precise kicking, reliable catching, and agile base-running, we placed a strong emphasis on real-time decision-making and strategic thinking:

- **Fielding Awareness:** Understanding where to make the play when receiving the ball to get the out quickly.
- **Base-Running Strategy:** Judging whether to take the risk and advance to the next base, knowing that once a runner steps off, there is no turning back!

We capped off the week with an exciting, full-length match. After splitting into two student-selected teams, **Orange and Gold,** the stage was set for a thrilling contest. On paper, Team Gold appeared to be the underdogs right after the yard picks. However, through incredible teamwork, sharp tactical play, and remarkable resilience, Team Gold pulled off a huge upset and secured a comfortable victory in the end!

Above all, the team spirit across both sides was outstanding to witness. The encouragement, energy, and sportsmanship displayed by every student made it a truly memorable week.

Thank you for your continued support, and feel free to ask your child about their favorite plays from this week's game!

Year 8
Year 8 began Unit 3: Recreation Games, with a focus on Chairball. Students were introduced to the basic rules, skills and strategies of the game, building on their previous experience with invasion games.

Through different activities and game situations, students practised passing, catching, movement, communication and teamwork. The lessons encouraged students to develop their decision-making skills while working together to create scoring opportunities.

It was a fun and energetic start to the new unit, with students demonstrating enthusiasm, cooperation and good sportsmanship throughout the week.



Year 9
Year 9 kicked off Unit 3: Recreation Games this week with Chairball, focusing on teamwork, communication and tactical decision-making.

Students participated in competitive games that challenged them to apply passing accuracy, movement off the ball, attacking strategies and defensive positioning. They were encouraged to communicate effectively, create space and make quick decisions under pressure.

The activities provided an opportunity for students to develop their leadership, cooperation and problem-solving skills while enjoying a competitive and engaging team game. A positive start to our Recreation Games unit!



Thai Language

Year 7

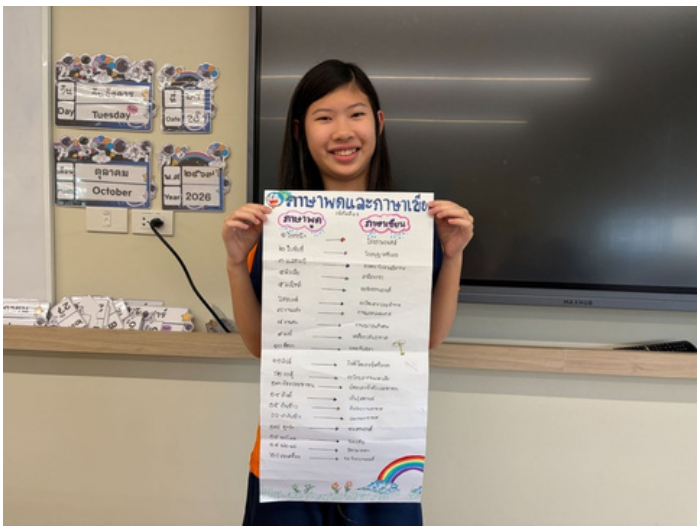
This week, students read “กลอนกานท์จากบ้านไทย” from the วรรณคดีลำนำ textbook. They learned about the Thai poetic form Kap Yani 11 (กาพย์ยานี 11) and practised researching information related to the story, including traditional Thai houses, fragrant flowers, the history of Nang Songkran, and the traditional water-pouring ceremony to pay respect to elders during Songkran.





Year 8

Students explored the differences between spoken and written Thai, focusing on how to choose appropriate vocabulary for different contexts. They worked in pairs to develop their collaboration skills and practised researching information to deepen their understanding. Students then brought their learning together by creating individual posters to showcase their knowledge and creativity. They showed great effort and produced some excellent work. Well done, Year 8!





Year 9

Students explored Thai word formation, focusing on Compound Words (คำซ้อน). They discovered how words can be combined to create different meanings and practised choosing the right words for different contexts. Through engaging activities, students expanded their vocabulary and developed their Thai language skills.

Mandarin



This week, following last week's holiday conversations and sharing activities, our Year 7–9 students delivered their Mandarin presentations about their October break. They successfully used Chinese to talk about past events and the places they had visited. The presentations also created some lovely moments: after watching PB's presentation about a piano competition, Year 7 student Ottin was amazed to discover how well PB plays the piano, and was deeply impressed.

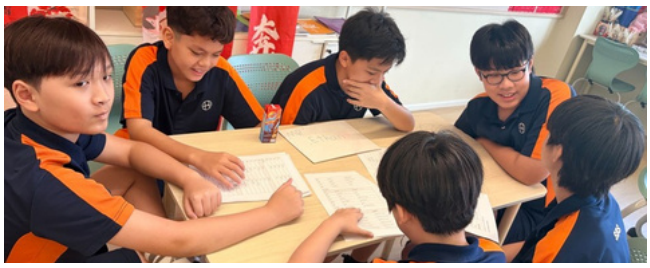


Building on this foundation, students are now preparing for the upcoming three-week Christmas holiday by learning how to talk about future plans in Mandarin. Through a differentiated poster project, students will design and present their own holiday itineraries, explaining when they plan to travel, who they will go with, where they will go, and what they will do. Students working at higher levels will extend their presentations by giving reasons for their choices and introducing local specialities and scenic attractions. They will also include budgets and more detailed travel plans. Along the way, students are learning relevant sentence structures and linking words to communicate their ideas more effectively.

Alongside this project, our Pathway A students continue to develop their language skills systematically through textbooks aligned with HSK Levels 1–4, progressing lesson by lesson according to their individual learning pathways.

This Wednesday's Mandarin Coffee Shop offered another valuable opportunity for authentic communication. The Coffee Shop runs every week and welcomes one year group at a time: this week was Year 7's turn, with Year 9 and Year 8 to follow. Year 7 students had real conversations with two Chinese teachers and two Chinese students, interviewing the teachers about their holiday activities and asking about their Christmas holiday plans. They also answered questions about their own holiday experiences. Through these exchanges, students practised asking and answering questions in Mandarin, building confidence and applying their classroom learning in meaningful, real-life interactions.

Poster presentations will take place over the next two weeks. Parents are welcome to ask their children about their holiday plans in Mandarin at home. We look forward to seeing their creativity and hearing them share their exciting plans!







Halloween Fun in Photos - Happy Halloween Everyone

















Congratulations

Well done to Noyan (Y8), who successfully passed the Trinity College London Grade 5 Drum Kit exam. We look forward to seeing you perform at our end-of-year celebration, if not before!



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PLAY
LEARN
GROW

SBS BALLERS WEEKEND ACADEMY

TEAM | SKILLS | ENHANCEMENT

WE'RE BACK!

SAME PASSION. BIGGER GAME.



10 SATURDAY TRAINING SESSIONS

October: 10, 17, 31
November: 14, 21
December: 5, 12, 19
January: 9, 16

10 SESSIONS

TRAINING GROUPS (BOYS & GIRLS)

U7 / U9 / U11	U13 / U15 / U17
1:00 – 2:30 PM	1:00 – 3:00 PM

SBS International School Bangkok

Air-Conditioned Sportshall

MORE THAN A GAME

TEAM & SKILLS ENHANCEMENT

Our programme focuses on individual skill development and team enhancement, including ball handling, passing, shooting, defense, game understanding, teamwork, and competitive play.

SBS and non-SBS students are all welcome! Whether you are currently playing for an SBS team or joining us from another school, come train, develop your game, and enjoy basketball with the Ballers community.

New and returning players are welcome!

See you back on the court!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

083-198-9074 Coach PJ Castillo

Lead PE Teacher & Sports Coordinator | SBS International School Bangkok
Head Coach & Founder | Ballers Academy Thailand

BALLERS CULTURE

DISCIPLINE | FRIENDSHIP | OPPORTUNITY

Upcoming Events

Next Week

- **Saturday 31st October** - Basis Swim Meet at Basis International School | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- **Wednesday 4 November** - *U13 Boys Basketball vs SISB Thonburi | 3:30 PM | @SBS Bangkok Sports Hall - *U13 Girls Basketball vs SISB Thonburi | 3:30 PM | @SISB Thonburi
- **Thursday - Saturday 5th - 7th November** - U13 Boys FOBISIA Basketball Tournament at King College Bangkok
- **Saturday 7th November** - U13 Girls BISAL Basketball Tournament at Basis International School | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Looking Ahead

- **Thursday 10th December** - Half Day Finish at 12.00
- **Friday 11th Dec** - No school - Staff INSET

Reminders



Ho Ho Ho!! Calling all budding actors and actresses

Open auditions are taking place next week for all secondary students.

Dates:
Monday 2nd November 2026 for students in Yr 8 & 9
Tuesday 3rd November 2026 for students in Y6 & 7

Time:
8:00–8:25 a.m. (during homeroom - students must register with their tutor first)

Location: Theatre Room
Auditions will be informal, and students do not need to prepare anything in advance. I will provide all necessary materials and instructions on the day.

Closing Note

As we wrap up another fantastic week at SBS International School Bangkok, I want to thank our entire community for their enthusiasm, creativity, and supportive spirit, from our vibrant Halloween celebrations to the wonderful learning happening across all classrooms.

Starting tomorrow, many of our student-athletes will be representing our school in the pool at the BASIS Swim Meet, with basketball fixtures following next week. We wish all of our competing students the absolute best of luck. We are behind you all the way!

Wishing everyone a safe, fun, and spooky Halloween weekend!

Warm regards,
Gary Crumbie
Secondary Principal




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SCUBA DIVING CLUB
SSI SCUBA EXPLORERS
8–10 YEAR OLDS
Basic scuba skills in the SBS Bangkok pool. Learning to use scuba equipment under direct supervision. Games and challenges that teach buoyancy, communication, and teamwork underwater. Introduction to marine life and coral reef care.
SBS Bangkok's 25m swimming pool
8 weeks, plus one full-day practical session
PRICE
฿19,000
FEE INCLUDES
• Instructor costs
• Dive equipment rental
• Certification
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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SSI SCUBA EXPLORERS
10+ YEAR OLDS
Build essential scuba skills through SSI learning, supervised pool sessions and an open-water experience, leading to the internationally recognised SSI Junior Open Water Diver certification.
SBS Bangkok's 25m swimming pool
8 weeks, plus one full-day practical session
With an Open Water Dive trip to Koh Tao
PRICE
฿33,000
FEE INCLUDES
• Instructor costs
• Dive equipment rental
• Certification
• Flights, transfers and accommodation
• Costs for the Open Water Dive trip to Koh Tao
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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SBS International School
Bangkok

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Nurture Holistic Wellbeing,
Cultivate Curiosity & Passion

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Admissions

Monday - Friday
8.30am - 4.30pm

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