



Friday, 15th February 2019

Headmaster's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Campus Development

I am very pleased to announce there will be a number of major campus development projects commencing during the Songkran Holiday.

- 1. The existing Secondary basketball court is to be expanded and completely re-developed into an enclosed multi-purpose auditorium that will be used for various sports and provide an appropriate venue for school performances and events. The facility will have state-of-the-art flooring together with lighting and sound and flexible stage areas in addition to the full-size basketball court with bleachers for seating.*
- 2. The primary paved soccer / basketball space is to be covered with a permanent steel/aluminium roof with solar panels to keep UV rays to a minimum.*
- 3. As our enrollments in sixth form increase we will be constructing a much larger senior common room that will have ICT facilities and a communal centre for our senior students to gather and study.*

These campus improvements will be a major step forward in our school's strategic development plans and will provide further commitment of our school to meet the academic, sporting and performing arts needs of our students.

Air Quality

We continue to monitor air quality on both school campuses to ensure student/staff health and safety is maintained and will keep our community informed.

We remind parents to share information with the school medical team regarding pupils with ongoing / immediate health concerns.

ECA's

We have made significant improvements in the provision of ECA's this term including the introduction of new activities and improved coordination of the process. Over 90% of primary students are now participating in an ECA and some activities have proved so popular we are considering expanding the programme even further in





Term 3. The registration for ECA's within Secondary is less but we understand the majority of secondary students are engaged in curriculum support activities in preparation for IGCSE or A level.

We value and welcome your suggestions for ECA's and please share with us your ideas for future development

Visit from Nepal Football teams

On Friday 18th January we hosted 40 footballers and the teachers from Chelsea International Academy in Kathmandu for a series of fixtures. Our teams included students from Primary and secondary and our teams performed well and demonstrated a high level of sportsmanship. This is the first time RBIS has hosted a school from another country and the interaction and participation was a great success. We have been invited to send a group of students to Kathmandu next year to participate in cultural and sporting activities.

A special thank you to Mr Ben Scholes for his coordination of the event



Round Square International Trip

In a year of firsts for RBIS I am pleased to announce that four of our senior students will be attending the Round Square Student Regional Student Conference being held in Shenzhen, China on 3-6 April 2019.

Gigi, Alec, Rathana and Kimyi will be representing RBIS at an international student conference for the first time. The conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for our students to interact with students from around the world as well as participating in discussions, sporting, tourism and cultural activities. I am sure our student representatives will have much to share on their return.

Mr Tom De Smet will be accompanying our students.



Sports Day

The Sports day for Early Years and Key Stage 1 (Years 1and 2) has been re-scheduled for Friday 8th March and will be held at the Secondary sports field. This decision was made due to the lack of shade at the National Stadium. The event will commence at 8.15am. Further information regarding the day will be sent in the coming weeks

We are currently investigating an alternate venue and date for the Secondary Sports day and will advise all parents as soon as decision has been made.

Tournament of the Minds

This year RBIS is entering a number of teams in this challenging event and students have been briefed on the tasks and planning involved. Each Friday morning, our teams will have time to prepare under the mentorship of our primary Teachers. Our Secondary teams are also being provided with time for preparation. We are confident our students will be very successful in this year's competition.

Primary House Events

Some concerns were raised by our primary parents concerning the lack of Inter House Events. I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you that the following Inter House Competitions have already taken place or are scheduled in the near future

Inter House Singing

Inter House Dancing

Inter House Art

Inter House Swimming

Inter House Football (5-a-side)

Inter house Treasure Hunt

Inter House Flash mob

Creative Story Writing

Jump Rope and Hula Hoop

Headmaster's Coffee Connection

Thursday 14th February

Sixteen (16) parents joined me for coffee yesterday morning. I had some exciting announcements regarding campus development together with the introduction of improved technology access for students and a very fruitful discussion took place on a variety of Issues. I will summarise the points discussed



1. Parents requested the school administration survey parents to determine the level of interest in offering French and Mandarin as optional subjects. Students could select one of the options. Thai language history and culture is a mandatory requirement of the Thai Ministry of Education.
2. A concern was expressed regarding the need to establish a Sport Department within the school with a designated member of staff leading the team. At present all teachers coaching teams and squads also have full-time teaching loads and parents understand the additional responsibilities do take a toll on teaching and learning
3. Parents are very pleased with the improvements in ECA offerings this term
4. The administration was asked if alternate sites could be visited for residential programmes so that students did not visit the same site over a number of years
5. A parent committee is to be formed to assist the schools with planning for school events including Chinese New Year, International Day, Teachers' Day and Songkran. Teachers, admin, staff and parents will work together to make our community events a great success



International Day

Our International Day will be celebrated on Wednesday 20th March from 11am - 1.30pm. We would like to invite our parents to join a planning committee and work with us in planning for the day. We are hoping the air quality index will be at an appropriate level and we will be able to plan activities outside.

Each day I am excited by the strong relationships and partnership that exist within our community. RBIS is a



vibrant and stimulating learning community and I see evidence of this every day as I walk around the campuses and visit classrooms. We have a strong leadership team in place, an inspiring group of teachers and administrative staff, supportive parents and hard-working students who are enjoying their learning.

Our future is bright and we look forward to working in partnership with our parents as RBIS expands and becomes a leading school within the international community in Bangkok.

Dr Bruce Robinson
Headmaster