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JOD MAI KHAO - ASCOT NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Donnah Ciempka



As we close another Term here at Ascot, it is with a full heart. Songkran is approaching and this is a significant time for us all as it is the new year. It is a time to stop, reflect and acknowledge all that has happened. It is also a time for excitement and joy as we focus our attention on the next year.

As a school, our year is not ending, but we are heading into the last Term of the academic year and this is always a time of joy, excitement and acknowledgement. Term 3 is significant in our school as it is a time of transition, closing chapters, finishing years and saying goodbye. It is also a time of excitement as we plan for the next year.

During the next term we will be running transition programmes for our EY3 and Year 6 students and they prepare to move into new school sections. We will host graduation ceremonies for our Year 6 and Year 13 cohorts as they start their next chapters of life. There is so much to look forward to.

As the school plans and prepares for the next academic year, there is much to plan for and prepare. We started our re-enrollment process this week and I do encourage all families to confirm their plans for the next academic year. This information ensures we can provide the best possible education for your children.

I wish you all a happy and joyous Songkran and I look forward to sharing Term 3 with you all.

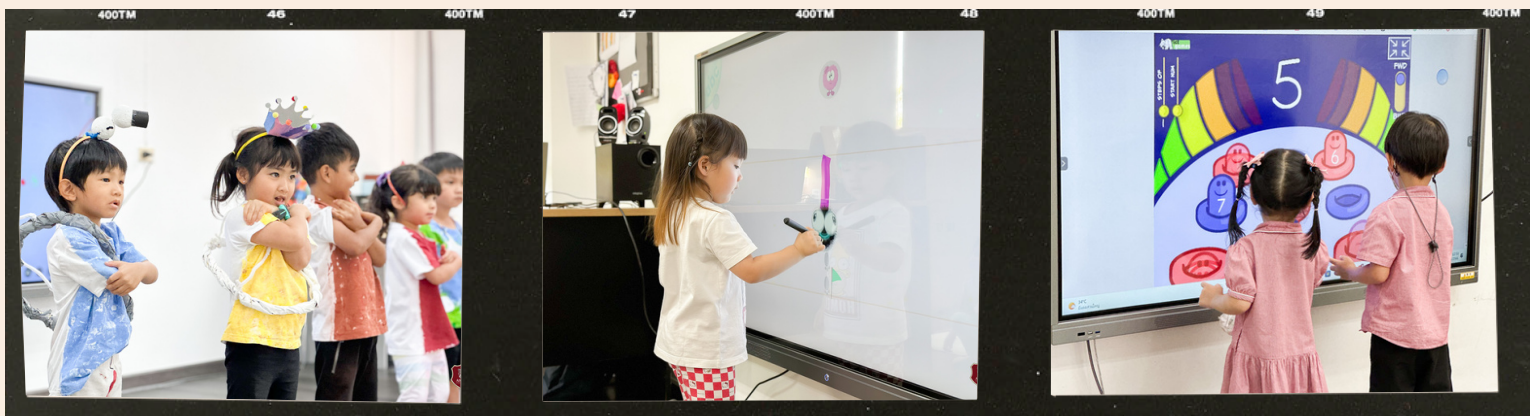


NEWS FROM SCHOOL

Early Years

We have had a busy couple of weeks in Early Years. We have been trying to welcome parents back to campus so it was wonderful to have the EY Gala where parents were able to connect to the learning that happens in school. The learners shared how we have been exploring and discovering in different ways.

We have also installed interactive screens in our EY2 classrooms. This is a part of our ongoing plan to use technology to support student learning throughout the school. The students have been able to interact with technology and have greater agency in their learning.



We had our final House Colours event of the year. In Early Years we took the opportunity to build community and understand what our house system is all about. The idea of collaboration came through strongly and the students were able to connect with other students.



We ended term 2 with a fabulous cultural celebration, led by the Thai team. Our Thai teacher, Kru Thip, facilitated the learning about Songkran by teaching our students about the festival in our Thai lessons running up to our celebration as well as a whole day of events for the students in EY.



Wishing you a safe and happy holiday. If you travel, take care on your adventures. We return to school on Monday 24th April.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL

Primary

Our final two weeks of Term 2 have been action packed in PY. Our units of inquiries have continued with a focus on connecting to real-life experiences. In the last few weeks Year 6 were exploring global issues and went to clean the klong, Year 1 were looking at community roles and went to look at roles on the Moori Moori farm and Year 2 were looking at how people interact with the environment at Chul Farm.



We are trying to engage parents in the classroom over the coming weeks. This started with the Year 6 Gala where parents came to visit the classrooms looking at student learning as well as helping their children to think about their PYP Exhibition. The other classes will be sharing their learning with parents soon, if you have not received a save the date message from you classroom teacher, please check on Toddle or with the teacher.

Of course, we also joined together as a community to celebrate with our Songkran festival assembly. As a newcomer to Thailand I enjoyed my first Ascot Songkran, especially having fun out on the field in the water fights.

We return to school on Monday 24th April. Please remember that learning in Y1-6 begins at 7:40am. It is important for students to be in school on time so that they are well prepared for the day ahead and do not miss out on our start of the day activities.

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday. If you travel, take care on your adventures.



NEWS FROM SCHOOL

Secondary

IB Art exhibition - Our Year 13 IB Diploma Visual Arts students showcased their work to the rest of school and family and friends on Monday 3rd April. Each student had to display at least eight pieces of artwork and I'm sure all that attended would agree, it was a fantastic exhibition. Thank you to Mrs England for her hard work in assisting them and to the Y10, 11 and 12 Art students for also helping and displaying some of their work.



University Fair - On Thursday 30 March we had 15 universities come to Ascot for a university fair. Year 10 to 12 students attended this fair with the idea that talking to universities will get them thinking about potential courses, careers and entry requirements.



Y9 trip to Bang Pakong - On Tuesday 2 May, the Year 9 students will be going to Bang Pakong on a Geography field trip organised by Ms. Mohammed. The students will be looking at the Mangrove forest ecosystem and the river estuary. Permission slips and more information will be published as soon as we return to school after the Songkran holidays.



IB and IGCSE exams - The IB and IGCSE exams start on Friday 28 April, and finish on Friday 19 May for IB students and Tuesday 6 April for IGCSE students. The Y11's and 13's must make sure that they spend their time wisely during the Songkran holidays and plan properly for revision.





UPDATES FROM THE AFA

ASCOT FOOTBALL ACADEMY
& SPORTS ACADEMY



Ascot International School's U10 and U11 football teams have achieved an outstanding feat in the Bangkok Youth Development League 2023. The league ran from January to March this year, and both of Ascot's teams emerged victorious with a record of 10 wins in 10 matches.

The U10 (2013) and U11 (2012) teams demonstrated their skills and teamwork on the field, securing their place as champions in both age groups. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of the young athletes and their coaches.

The Bangkok Youth Development League is a highly competitive league, featuring teams from around the city. Ascot's success is a reflection of the quality of the football program at the school, as well as the players' commitment to training and improving their skills.

The school is incredibly proud of the U10 and U11 teams and their remarkable achievement. Congratulations to Ascot's U10 and U11 football teams on their impressive performance in the Bangkok Youth Development League 2023. We look forward to seeing their continued success in the future.



U10 (2013)

Bangkok Youth Development League

- Match 1 – Ascot 3-0 Futboys
- Match 2 – Ascot 15-0 Bangkok FC
- Match 3 – Ascot 5-3 PFA
- Match 4 – Ascot 6-1 Dream Academy
- Match 5 – Ascot 13-3 Galaxy FC
- Match 6 – Ascot 3-0 Futboy
- Match 7 – Ascot 9-1 Galaxy FC
- Match 8 – Ascot 14-2 Dream Academy
- Match 9 – Ascot 12-2 BT United
- Match 10 – Ascot 6-0 PFA

AFA – CHAMPIONS
10 matches, 10 wins

U11 (2012)

Bangkok Youth Development League

- Match 1 – Ascot 5-3 PFA
- Match 2 – Ascot 16-3 Galaxy FC
- Match 3 – Ascot 4-1 OAZ
- Match 4 – Ascot 13-1 Dream Academy
- Match 5 – Ascot 4-3 Bangkok FC
- Match 6 – Ascot 6-3 PFA
- Match 7 – Ascot 3-0 OAZ
- Match 8 – Ascot 8-0 BT United
- Match 9 – Ascot 5-3 Bangkok FC
- Match 10 – Ascot 8-0 Dream Academy

AFA – CHAMPIONS
10 matches, 10 wins

U10 (2013)



U12 (2011)



BOOK WEEK CREATIVE WRITING

VOLATILE EPISODE

By Noni (Year 9)

Alexa stretches out a hand, fluttering her glittery nails, gesturing for me to grab ahold of her. I let a low chuckle pass out when seeing her dimples dig into her skin from the smirk that she held. I lightly squeeze her hand, showing my enthusiasm. Dragging each other further into the island, the sky dims and the trees cave over our heads. Small branches and leaves crumble beneath our feet as we reach our designated destination.

My eyes widen at the sight of thousands of deranged-looking dolls. A handful of them have no body; some are beheaded, and some are immersed in mud and dirt. Loose strings of all sorts of colours sway before me, and my stomach churns when Alexa points out the faceless dolls that rock in midair. Life-sized faces are pinned to trees with screws and pocket knives. "Do we really have to stay here till midnight? It's already 7 p.m." I whisper, slowly stepping away from the tree that was drowning in lifeless dolls.

"No! We are not backing out; we've researched and been so excited for this day to come. It's a once in a lifetime thing, Aimy." Her pleading eyes avert from mine to the pile of Annabelle-like dolls.

Pleasing my lungs with large amounts of oxygen, I fiercely tighten my grip on the straps of my backpack. The sky is ablaze with soft tinges of violet and lavender. It is truly a sublime sight, maybe even surreal. Too surreal. Inching closer to Alexa, I can feel her body heat radiating off her. Her perfume has worn off, and that sweet vanilla scent that always brightens my day is gone.

"I think we should give that doll over there a little greeting," Alexa insists in a joking manner, breaking my train of thought.

Smacking her arm, I retort back in a stern tone. "Don't say things like that. What if the rumours are actually true? There's literally a pile of dolls, just like they said."

"Oh no! I'm gonna get dragged in by a bunch of stupid-looking toys." Sarcasm coats her tongue when she twists her head to the side, giving me a look of boredom. "Everything will be fine, Aimy." We continue walking closer to the pile, enduring the painful silence.

Hesitantly lowering myself onto the bottle-green grass, I feel the soft pricks on my thighs. Alexa scoots toward the pile and eagerly unzips her backpack. The rummaging of her backpack muffles the sound of a high-pitched laugh. Alarmed, we both look at each other's eyes, which are both clawed open with horror. Who was that? What was that? She pulls me closer and snatches out a plastic figurine. I place a presiding hand on the figurine, signalling her to stop. She mustn't do this. Not after what we just heard.

As though my deterrent has not been clear enough, I see her brutally throwing the figurine onto the pile. With no second to spare, her head is hung low. Her neck starts to twitch. Her hand reaches for my throat, and her once glittery nails are now coloured in a deep red hue of my blood. Her screeches are loud, as are mine. Her eyes seem as though they are trying to escape, bulging out of their sockets. She eases her grip on my neck, except she pounds the side of my head against a nearby tree. The impact leads to her shuddering as well, making her feet, which were once delved in the moist soil, slide into an unstable kneeling position. I lay there groaning in pain, trying to hoist myself back up. Blood leaks from my temple, causing an iron-like scent to curl up my nose. The moment I am able to regain my footing, ready to sprint, she happens to have a grip around my ankle.

The eyes that stare up at me are lifeless and dark. Her breathing is abnormally raspy and loud. She adjusts her hand perfectly so that her nails would dig into the thin flesh around my ankles. I am unable to scream, I am unable to move, so I stand there with my eyes fogging up and the pounding in my chest escalating by a mere second. Please snap out of it, Alexa. Please. A single clatter is heard before my eyes go dim and my chest clashes into the grass. I can't tolerate the agony, and the darkness in my eyes seems to be too much to bear; thus, I let myself be engulfed in the murk, surrendering at last.

UPCOMING EVENTS



24 First Day of Term 3



4 Coronation Day Holiday
12 Term 3 Open House



5 Queen Suthida's Birthday Holiday
8 Year 2 Sleepover at School
13 Year 13 Graduation
23 House Colours Day
27 Year 6 Graduation
29 Last day of Term 3

"a school like no other"