



GARDEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, BANGKOK NEWSLETTER



It is hard to believe we have already reached October! The first half term of the academic year has flown by, and what a busy and rewarding few weeks it has been. Although here in Thailand we do not experience the crisp air and falling leaves of autumn, this season still carries great meaning. Across the world, autumn represents maturity, growth, and change - a time to reflect on progress made and prepare for what lies ahead.

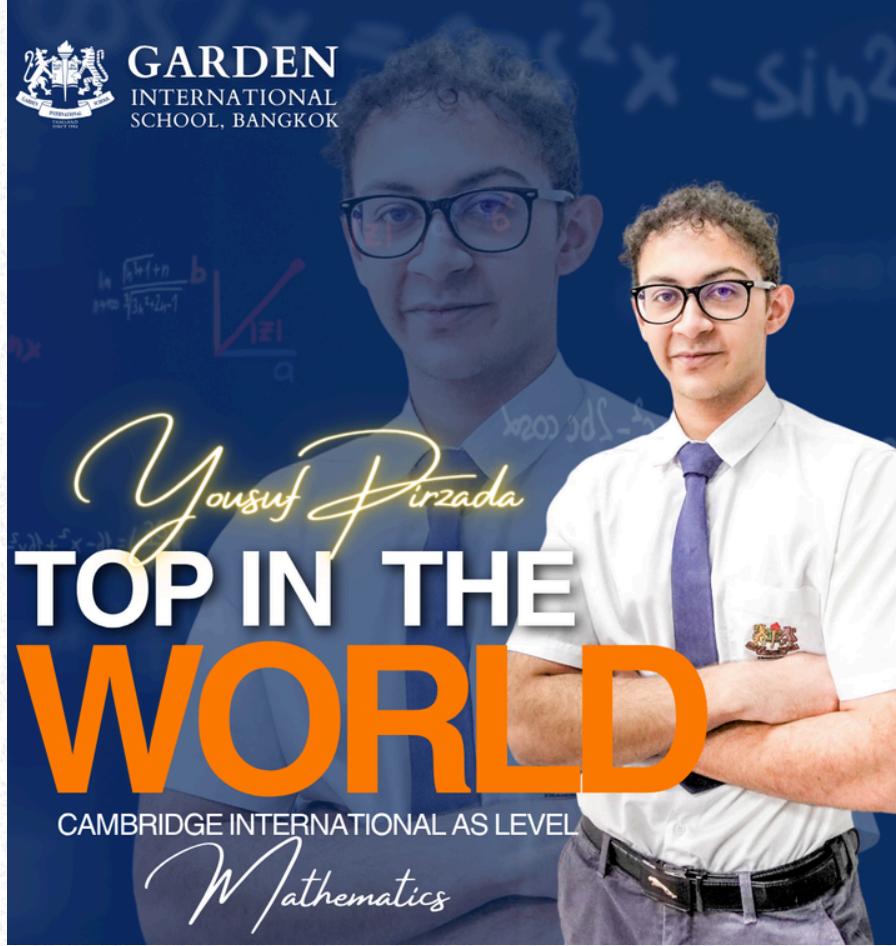
In many ways, this mirrors our journey so far this school year. Students have settled into new classes, embraced new challenges, and shown resilience as they've adjusted to fresh routines. Our staff have worked with dedication and care to ensure learning has been purposeful and inspiring. Together, as a community, we have already achieved so much in these opening weeks.

As we step into this new season, let us take inspiration from the idea of change as an opportunity: to grow, to reflect, and to set our sights on even greater goals. Just as autumn encourages people around the world to pause and appreciate the beauty of change, we too can take pride in the progress our students are making each day.

Following International Week celebrations next week, the school will be closed from **Monday 13th October to Friday 17th October**, reopening on **Monday 20th October**. We wish all our families a restful and refreshing half-term holiday, full of quality time together.

Ms Georgina and SLT

PROUD MOMENT



CONGRATULATIONS YOUSUF!

It is with immense pride that we at Garden can celebrate a truly extraordinary academic achievement, as Yousuf Pirzada has been awarded the prestigious “Top in the World” accolade in Cambridge AS Level Mathematics. This award is a testament to his exceptional talent and unwavering dedication to his studies.

Yousuf has always been a model student, but this award firmly places him amongst the global elite in Mathematics. In the classroom, Yousuf is not only a dedicated learner, but also contributes to every discussion, offering perceptive insights that further develops his own and his peer's understanding. Yousuf consistently pushes himself to try the toughest problems, going above and beyond expectations to create pages of useful notes and examples that have helped him to succeed. This incredible honour is the result of an organised, meticulous approach to learning in the classroom and at home, that has redefined the benchmark for excellence.

Yousuf, the entire Garden community applauds you. You have not only mastered your subject, but also proved the power of curiosity and hard work. We are all excited to see the brilliant future you will undoubtedly shape. Congratulations.



At Garden, we believe the strongest schools are built on a genuine partnership between home and school. Garden Friends offers a clear, positive way to strengthen that partnership by bringing parent voices, talents and perspectives into the life of our community.

There are many meaningful ways to be involved across the year: welcoming new families; supporting International Weeks, STEAM Weeks, Enterprise Weeks and Book Weeks; lending a hand at family events and school fayres; offering translation support so messages reach every household; or sharing professional skills and cultural knowledge to enrich pupils' learning. Each contribution helps students to settle more quickly, participate more fully, and experience a vibrant, well-supported programme of activities.

The commitment is intentionally light and flexible. Most opportunities are short, well-defined tasks that fit around work and family life, with safeguarding and clear boundaries in place so that everyone can contribute confidently.

We are now inviting self-nominations for Garden Friends roles. A broad, representative group across phases, languages and backgrounds ensures that decisions are informed by real family experience and that our community feels truly connected. If you can offer even a small amount of time this term, your participation will make a tangible difference.

Full details have been shared with families - please check your emails. Please consider putting your name forward and helping us make arrivals warmer, events richer and our shared community even stronger.

FIRST SCHOOL



NURSERY B EXPLORE FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND FEELINGS!

FIRST SCHOOL



NURSERY B EXPLORE FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND FEELINGS!

What a wonderful half term it has been in Nursery B as we launched our very first topic, Marvellous Me! This exciting theme has guided us through learning about personal identity, family, friendships, and emotions. Through engaging stories such as Monkey Puzzle, The Three Little Pigs, The Colour Monster, and Oh No, George!, the children have explored big ideas like love, connection, and emotional awareness in a fun and accessible way.

A collage of images showing children in a classroom setting, likely during a story time or interactive session. To the right is the book cover for 'Oh No, George!' by Chris Haughton, featuring a large, purple, textured monster face.

MAKING  CHOICES!

PIC•COLLAGE



Our days are filled with hands-on, imaginative play, which is central to everything we do. If you stepped into our classroom, you might find children dressed as the Three Little Pigs acting out the story, or enjoying a teddy bear picnic, learning valuable social skills like sharing and turn-taking along the way.

In Expressive Arts and Design, our little artists have truly flourished! From blow-painting colourful monsters to creating vibrant “friendship hands” by mixing paints, the children have explored a wide range of techniques and materials, producing artwork full of personality and joy.

FIRST SCHOOL



It's been a joy to see every child grow in confidence and creativity. We cherish each moment and look forward to making even more special memories as the year continues!

NURSERY B EXPLORE FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND FEELINGS!

FIRST SCHOOL



FASCINATING TOYS



This term, Year 1 have been busy exploring the fascinating topic of Toys. We began by looking at toys from the past and compared them with those we enjoy today. The children were excited to discover how toys have changed over time, from the simple wooden and handmade toys of long ago to the electronic and interactive toys they recognise in the present day.

YEAR 1B

FIRST SCHOOL

This creative project was also linked to our Literacy lessons on instruction writing. We thought carefully about the equipment we needed, the method we should follow, and how to order our steps clearly. The children enjoyed combining their practical and written skills, producing both wonderful puppets that they have enjoyed playing with!

Year 1 truly brought toys to life this term!



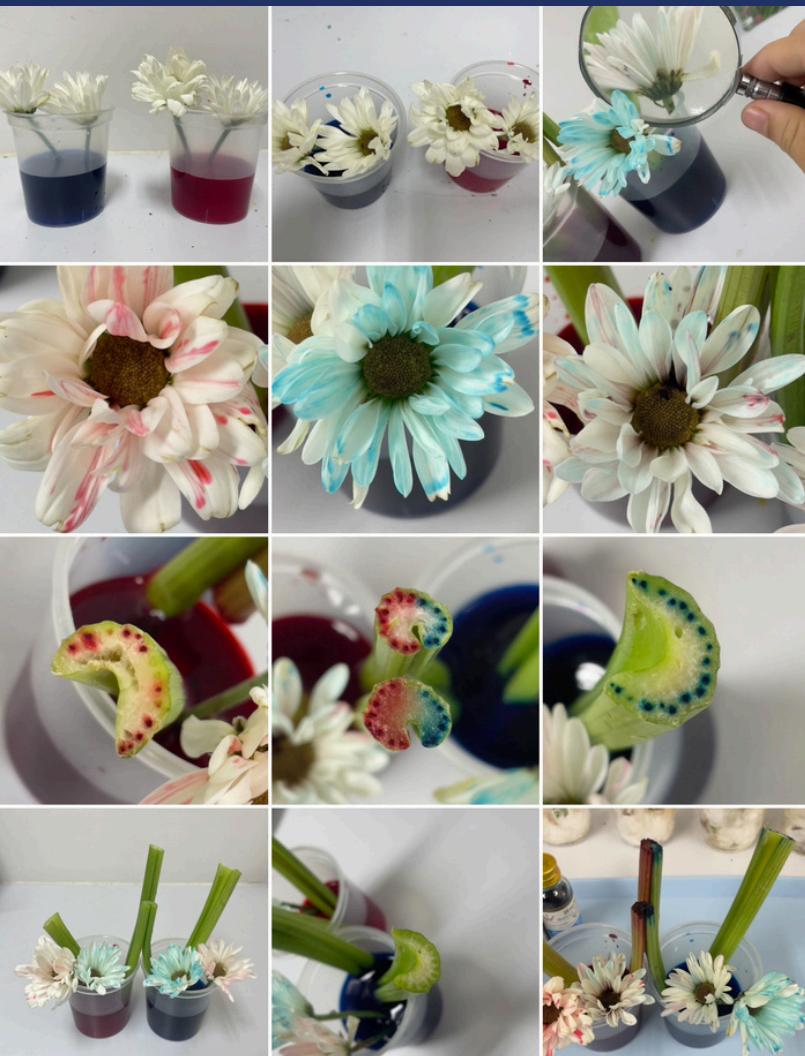
FASCINATING TOYS



YEAR 1B



PRIMARY SCHOOL



Year 3 have been busy budding scientists this term as we explored the fascinating world of plants!

We began by learning all about the different parts of plants and their functions, before carefully dissecting flowers to see these structures up close. We had the chance to plant and grow our very own bean plants, observing how roots, shoots and leaves develop over time. Using microscopes, we also inspected stems in detail to see how water travels through plants - a truly eye-opening experience!

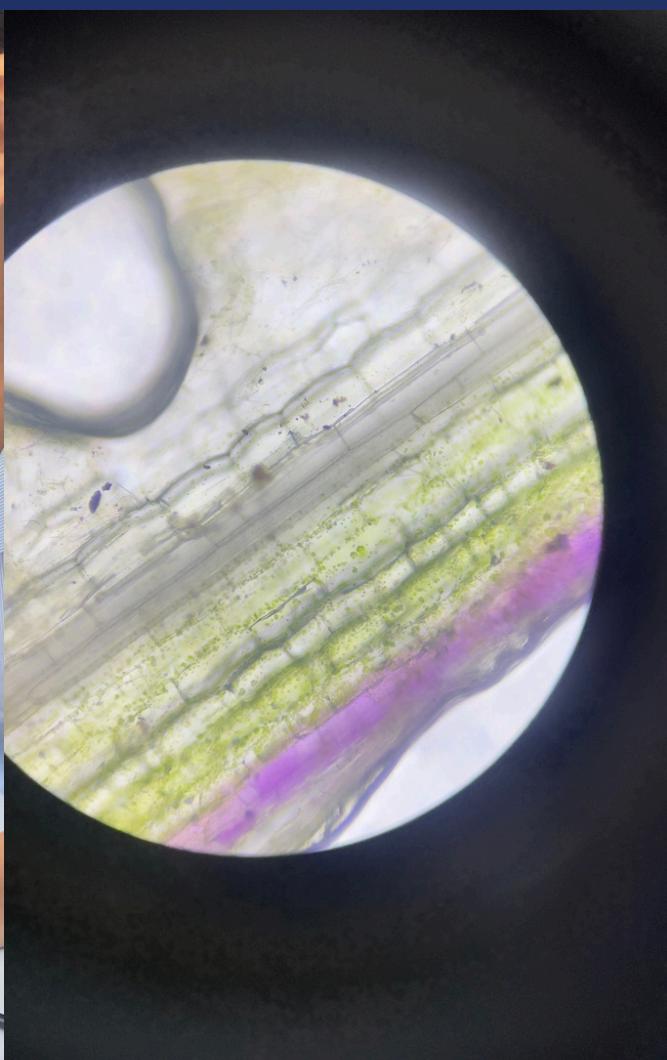
YEAR 3 PLANT EXPLORERS!

To deepen our learning, we visited the Living Plant Museum at Chulalongkorn University. There, the children had the unique opportunity to learn from experts and discover a wide variety of plant species. It was a fantastic way to connect classroom learning with real-life science.

The Year 3 team are so proud of the children's curiosity, enthusiasm and growing knowledge. Our young botanists are well on their way to becoming plant experts!



PRIMARY SCHOOL



YEAR 3 PLANT EXPLORERS!



PRIMARY SCHOOL



YEAR 3 PLANT EXPLORERS!



PRIMARY MANDARIN CLASS



The Mid-Autumn Festival is one of the most cherished and meaningful celebrations in Chinese culture. It is a special occasion for families and friends to reunite, admire the bright full moon, and share traditional mooncakes.

In Mandarin class, students explored the fascinating legends, customs, cultural practices, historical background, and classic Chinese poetry associated with the Mid-Autumn Festival, which will be celebrated on Monday, 6th October 2025.

MID - AUTUMN FESTIVAL (中秋节)



PRIMARY MANDARIN CLASS



MID - AUTUMN FESTIVAL (中秋节)

They also enjoyed singing beloved Chinese songs such as “The Moon Represents My Heart” 《月亮代表我的心》 and reciting the timeless poem “Shui Diao Ge Tou - When Will the Moon Be Clear and Bright” 《水调歌头·明月几时有》 .

Wishing everyone a bright and joyful Mid-Autumn Festival filled with love, peace, and moonlit memories!



The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a globally recognized programme, which was established by The Duke of Edinburgh in 1956, that offers a unique journey of self-discovery and personal growth. More than just a certificate, it is a framework that challenges students to develop new skills, step outside their comfort zone, and make a tangible difference in the world around them.

The Award is comprised of four key sections: Volunteering, Physical Recreation, Skills, and the Adventurous Journey (Expedition). In a vibrant city like Bangkok, students have a wealth of opportunities to contribute to local communities, master a new craft, join a sports team, or even plan an expedition through Thailand's stunning landscapes.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD



Participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award will equip them with essential life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and leadership—all of which are highly valued by universities and employers worldwide. It's an unparalleled opportunity to build resilience, boost their confidence, and create unforgettable memories with their peers. By committing to this journey, they are not only investing in their future but also contributing to a more capable and compassionate world. We encourage all students to take on this challenge and discover their full potential.

AS A RESULT OF DOING THE AWARD...



80%

felt inspired



81%

are more confident



81%

are more determined



81%

are more resilient



87%

now see challenges as opportunities to develop

"You have nothing to lose if you do this Award. It does take time and effort, however, the benefits reaped from those simple sacrifices far outweigh them. It is an opportunity to better yourself and your future."

Bronze Award participant, Australia

BROADENING HORIZONS



96%

tried something new



83%

see the importance of contributing to their community



88%

improved their teamwork skills



81%

are better at seeing other people's point of view



83%

feel more comfortable in new and unusual situations

"I see young people overcoming their fears and adapting to situations outside their comfort zones. The service component exposes students to different communities, cultivating empathy and understanding."

Award volunteer, Zambia

BUILDING POSITIVE HABITS



80%

feel more likely to volunteer in the future



81%

improved their fitness



80%

are more likely to participate in future outdoor activities



87%

are more likely to participate in future skill development

"The Award has been life changing. I've been inspired to participate in so many activities I would have never imagined I would do. I have learned so many valuable skills and made so many memories that I will cherish forever."

Gold Award participant, Australia

RECOMMENDING THE AWARD



96%

of Award holders would recommend the Award to others



Net Promoter Score (NPS) aims to measure the loyalty that exists between a provider and a user. Scores range from -100 to +100.

Global Social Value Impact



A global social value impact of £400 million

Global Social Value Impact of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, across more than 130 countries and territories, in 2020.

Students who have already signed up for the Duke of Edinburgh Award this term are in the process of organizing volunteering opportunities with Bangkok Community Help for the Homeless and Elderly or are already supporting other students in ECAs. If any more students are interested in more information or participating in The Award, please email me at richardf@gardenbangkok.com, have a look at the website <https://intaward.org/> or come and see me during break time or after school. Students participating in the award do not necessarily need to attend the Duke of Edinburgh ECA on Friday, as we can meet at another time to start the process.



FOBISIA STUDENT HACKATHON

During September, 13 of our amazing Secondary students proudly represented Garden International School Bangkok in the prestigious FOBISIA Hackathon hosted by British School Jakarta, joining peers from across Asia in a fast-paced, creative, and highly collaborative challenge.

The Hackathon gave our students the chance to showcase their skills in coding, problem-solving, design and teamwork while tackling real-world challenges that demanded innovative solutions. During the Hackathon, students worked in teams or as individuals, to design and build solutions that bring people together, strengthen connections, and create positive change across communities.

Our students rose to the challenge with energy and enthusiasm, displaying resilience, creativity, and leadership throughout the event. They not only gained valuable experience in technology and innovation but also developed essential skills in communication, critical thinking, and collaboration.

A highlight of the Hackathon was the way our students embraced the spirit of teamwork, contributing ideas, listening actively, and supporting their teammates. Many commented on how inspiring it was to collaborate with like-minded peers, sharing perspectives and learning from one another.

We are incredibly proud of their participation and achievements, and we look forward to seeing how they continue to apply their creativity and problem-solving skills in future projects.

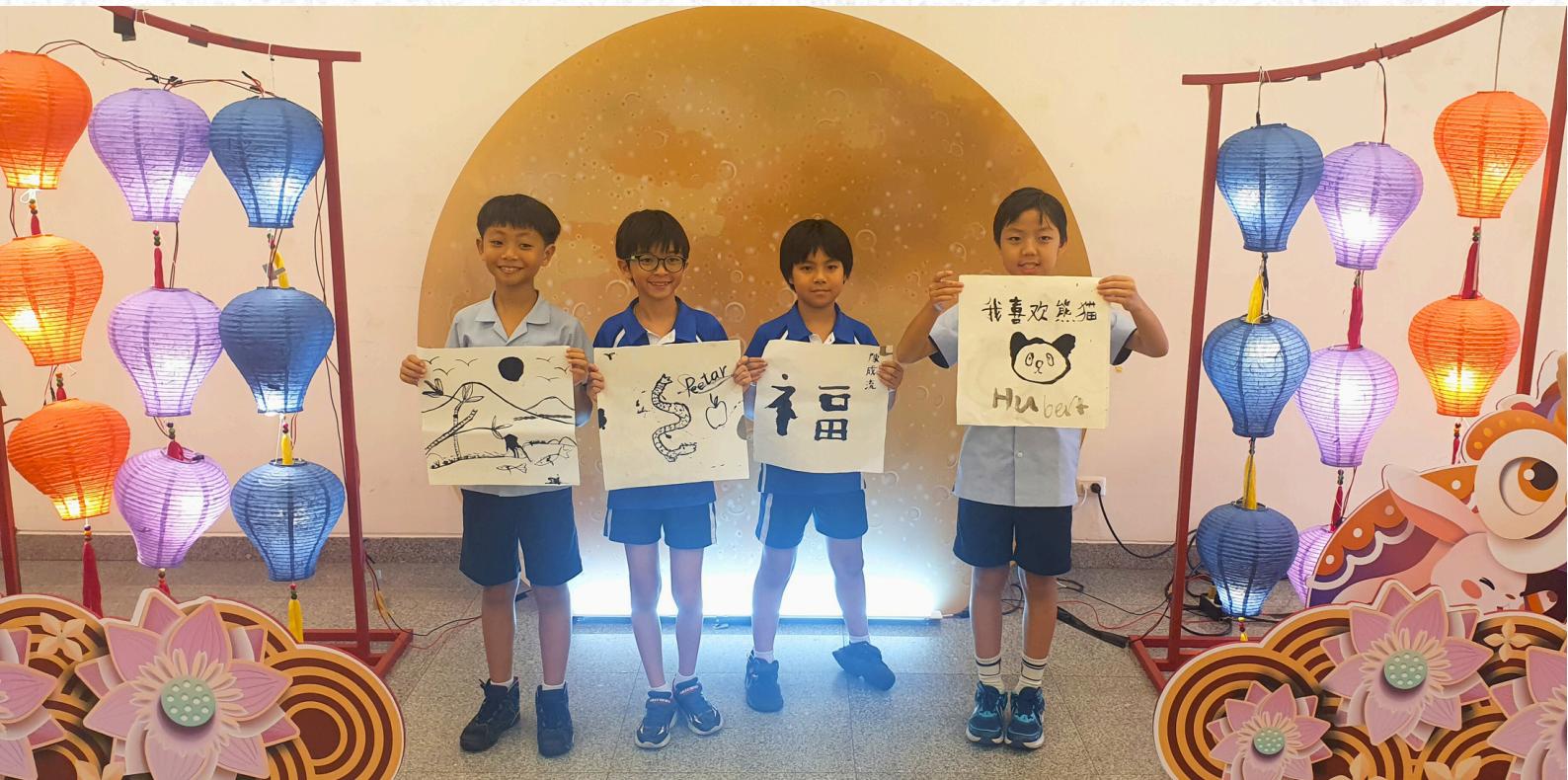
FOBISIA STUDENT HACKATHON





50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHINA-THAILAND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

On Wednesday, September 24, 2025, our school was honored to be invited by the China Cultural Center in Bangkok, Thailand, to attend a special performance by the Gansu Art Troupe at “A Shared Moment under the Same Moon: China-Thailand Mid-Autumn Celebration,” held in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of China-Thailand Diplomatic Relations. This prestigious event highlighted the enduring friendship and rich cultural exchange between the two nations.



CHINA CULTURAL CENTER EVENT

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHINA-THAILAND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Students from Year 5 and Year 6, together with their parents, participated in an enriching Chinese Painting and Calligraphy Cultural Experience and had the privilege of enjoying the remarkable performance presented by the Gansu Art Troupe. This invaluable experience provided our students and families with the opportunity to deepen their appreciation of cultural traditions while celebrating learning, community, and international friendship.



CHINA CULTURAL CENTER EVENT



EAL GRADUATION

This week we came together to celebrate the students who graduated from our English as an Additional Language (EAL) programme for Term 3 of the 2024-2025 school year. Graduation is always a special moment—it marks the point where students have shown they are ready to fully thrive in the mainstream classroom, not only through their academic progress but also through their confidence in communicating and connecting with others.

Our graduates have demonstrated Resilience in persevering when learning felt challenging, and Enquiry as they asked questions and explored new ideas with curiosity. They have shown Respect and Care in the way they support their peers, and Reflection in thinking about their learning and continuing to grow. Most of all, they have shown Integrity in their determination to always give their best.

In Primary, we celebrated Qarizh, Nita, SET, Aston, and Nunang.

In Secondary, our graduates were Posh, Nine, Wawa, Sor, Tutu, and Rada.

We are so proud of the journey each of these students has taken, and we know that they will continue to shine as they move forward in their learning. Congratulations to all of our graduates—you inspire us every day.



On Wednesday, 25 September, our U13 Girls Basketball team opened their season with an outstanding performance against Aster, securing a 29-6 victory. The girls demonstrated incredible offensive play, working together with confidence and precision. Their ability to support one another on the court showed true Respect and Care, reminding us that success is strongest when it is shared.

This match also marked the announcement of our leadership team. We are proud to recognise Alice as our Team Captain and Adele as our Vice-Captain. Their commitment, integrity, and positive influence on their teammates have already set an excellent example of Integrity and Resilience. We look forward to seeing them continue to guide the team with confidence and compassion.

A special congratulations goes to Celine, our Player of the Match. She demonstrated remarkable game sense, consistently reading the play and making decisions that elevated our team's performance by adapting quickly to the flow of the game.

U13 GIRLS BASKETBALL



Finally, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents who came to support the team. Your encouragement is invaluable, and your presence strengthens the spirit of our players both on and off the court.



U15 GIRLS BASKETBALL

Last week, the U15 Girls Basketball team secured their second straight victory of the season, defeating TSI 12-5. This result puts the team at 2-0 for the year, an excellent start that shows their growth and determination.

The match was a physical one, with TSI playing very aggressively. Despite the pressure, our girls showed resilience and tremendous defensive organisation, holding their opponents off and forcing turnovers that led to scoring chances.

A special congratulations goes to Mudmee, who was named Player of the Match. She excelled at both ends of the court, disrupting TSI's attack and creating opportunities for her teammates.

The team is now looking forward to their next challenge at the tournament next week, where they will continue to build on this strong start to the season.

Finally, a warm thank you to the parents who came out to support the girls—your encouragement made a real difference. It was wonderful to see you there, and we would love to welcome even more parents at future games to cheer the team on.

Go Garden!

RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (ROR DOR) PROGRAMME

Students in the R.O.T.C. (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) are required to participate in the rigorous Ror Dor training programme, which develops teamwork, self-discipline, and physical strength each year.

Every year, students must complete 80 hours of military training, primarily held on Saturdays.

Training Highlights

- First-Year Cadets begin with a physical fitness test consisting of push-ups, sit-ups, and a timed run. This is a qualifying requirement for the military education course.
- Students also learn the basics of military life, including troop organization, marching, and weapon handling.
- In their second and third years, cadets move on to advanced training: following commands from commanding officers, assembling/disassembling weapons, and using maps and radios to navigate unfamiliar terrain.



RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (ROR DOR) PROGRAMME



★ Benefits of Ror Dor

Completing the programme provides students with:

- Character building
- Physical fitness
- Leadership and teamwork skills

Additionally, students who successfully complete three years of training will receive an official exemption from military conscription at age 21, avoiding the national lottery system.

👤 Who Can Join?

Students aged 15 years and above may apply to join the programme. Training takes place across three years and culminates in a multi-day military camp, where students put their skills into practice.

The programme, equivalent to international army cadets, provides not only physical training but also important life lessons in resilience, responsibility, and unity.

MINUTE TO WIN IT HOUSE COMPETITION

Today we held our exciting Minute to Win It House Competition! The energy was high, and the teamwork and encouragement from each house were truly inspiring. With challenges that tested accuracy, problem-solving, balance, and strategy, students from Primary to Secondary participated with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship. After a fun-filled day of competition, the Tigers roared to victory, earning 160 points for their house! In second place, we had a tie between the Geckos and the Cobras, and in third place, the Eagles soared proudly.

A big well done to everyone who took part, you made this event a memorable one with your effort, energy, and fantastic team spirit!



MINUTE TO WIN IT HOUSE COMPETITION



THE GARDEN CORE VALUES AMBASSADORS AWARD

The Garden Core Values Ambassadors Award

Our Garden International School Core Values are the guiding principles that shape our behaviour, decisions and interactions. Our core values of Respect, Integrity, Care, Enquiry, Resilience and Reflection are embedded into all aspects of our school culture and community.

We are delighted to announce our Values Ambassadors for weeks 7 and 8. They have each been awarded a special certificate from the Principal, gained additional House Points and hold the privilege of eating lunch with friends in the designated 'VIP Values Area' in the canteen.

This is a prestigious achievement, awarded in recognition of modelling our Core Values and a commitment to upholding our Guiding Statements. We look forward to acknowledging further students over the course of the year ahead.

Week	Year Level	Values Ambassador	Core Value demonstrated	Week	Values Ambassador	Core Value demonstrated
7	Y2	Wayla	Resilience	8		
	Y3	Deaw	Resilience		Thee	Resilience
	Y4	Picha	Enquiry		Alice	Integrity
	Y5	Akiyal	Resilience		Mustang	Respect
	Y6	Suvit	Enquiry		Tianran	Enquiry

WEEKLY HOUSE COMPETITIONS AND POINT TOTALS

			
1416	1296	1350	937

WELL DONE COBRAS!

TERM 1 DATES - WEEK 9 - 11

Monday 6 th to Friday 10 th October	INTERNATIONAL WEEK!
Tuesday 7 th October	First School Parade and Stay & Play - Parents Invited U19 Boys vs SISB @ SISB
Wednesday 8 th October	U15 Boys @ S107 Girls @SPIP
Thursday 9 th October	U13 Boys @ LFIB
Friday 10 th October	Last Day of Term 1.1 Upper School Parade and Performances - Parents Invited
Monday 13 th to Friday 17 th October	SCHOOL CLOSED - HALF TERM BREAK
Monday 20 th October	School Resumes for Term 1.2
Thursday 23 rd October	School Closed - Public Holiday: Chulalongkorn Memorial Day
Friday 24 th October	School Closed - Staff INSET Training Day