

Newsletter

June 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The end of the academic year is a perfect time to look back and take stock of what has taken place and this year is no different.

There have been highs and lows throughout the year but everyone associated with Bloomsbury International School Hatyai knows that our highs have well and truly outweighed the lows and this has a large amount to do with what a supportive learning community we have.

Our curriculum continues to promote academic excellence and, having been privy to the end of year examination results, we are making big strides to provide our students with the best learning outcomes possible. This is our priority as a school and I know that we will continue to develop programmes of study that are capable of rivalling any top international school around the globe.

We have also had a number of great events in school and around the local area. Our subject days continue to be a fantastic source of learning and fun and I look forward to seeing what my team of outstanding teachers comes up with next academic year — after all, what can beat the surprised look on students' faces as a bottle of cola explodes several feet in the air! Furthermore, our visit to Central Festival to showcase our way of teaching was a great success and has done the already positive reputation of the school the world of good.

As an international school, promoting



both Thai, British and other cultures is so important. Our Chinese New Year celebrations again showed what great links we have with the local Chinese communities and we want to expand our work in this area so that our students see themselves as citizens of the world as well as members of a nation.

I would also take time to thank our staff who are leaving for all the amazing work they have done.

Miss Sarah Epperson joined us in October of my first year at Bloomsbury International School Hatyai and the positive influence she has had on her students must be noted. She is well suited as a teacher as she puts the needs of her students first and her expertise with Special Needs are second to none.

Mr Keith Campbell has been a great source of advice for me over the last two years. We started together at the school and his pastoral knowledge and honesty have helped ground me in my new role as Headteacher. I dread to think what I would have been like without a few quiet words for him!

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This term has been full of active learning activities across the school: the kinds of things that students love to do and help them live their learning.

It has also been a term where Science has been thrust to the forefront.

In Year 2, the students made slime so that they could study materials. It sounds very messy but also great fun!



Year 2 making slime

Not to be outdone, Year 4 also had a chance to create some mess by building their own mock digestive system and seeing what happens when food passes through the body. I think we all know what happens but it is interesting to see how it happens.



Years 5 and 6

Secondary students also got involved in the fun Science action by creating their own bouncy eggs.

But Science isn't the only subject at Bloomsbury... Keeping with our vision of developing global minded students, Year 5 and Year 6 worked together to plan a trip around Europe, studying different countries and cultures as they took a whistle-stop tour around the continent with their teachers, Mr Rowark and Mr Miles. I wonder where their favourite destination was?



Year 4 making circuits

Our Year 10 students continue to be busy preparing for their exams next year. This term they focused on marketing and were asked to research, design and creating their own original business product. Not an easy feat but I'd maybe purchase one or two of the ideas.

One of my favourite activities to watch develop this term was the designing of heraldry shields by Year 7 as part of their Humanities class. The shields represented each student and their families and they look amazing — so much so that Mr Windsor has already decorated his classroom with them.



Figure Arianna and her heraldry shield

It is the end of the year and although we are saying goodbye to some members of staff, we are also saying goodbye to another group of people: our Year 11 students.

During their time at Bloomsbury they have been the best of role models, showing leadership, creativity and a thirst for knowledge: all the things we want to promote at Bloomsbury International School Hatyai.



Year 11: Bag, Damon, Yang, Anwar, MeeMee, Wahyu and Amira with Secondary staff

Each of these fantastic students, Amira, Anwar, Bag, Damon, MeeMee, Wahyu and Yang will be sorely missed for what they have brought to the school. Everyone here, the staff and the management wish you all the brightest of futures as you leave us for university and beyond.

As people leave, we also have people to say 'welcome' to. We currently have a number of new staff already signed up for next year.

Mr **James Mullin** will be joining us from the UK and will be teaching both Year 3 and our amazing Drama classes.

Mr **James Clare** — don't worry, not everyone is called James — joins us from a local school and has a reputation for making teaching fun and active. He will be teaching Year 5 alongside some Primary ICT classes.

Mrs **Andrea Benson** is also joining us from a local school and will be taking over my previous role as Head of the Secondary school. She is a committed educationalist and has a lot of experience in the role.

We hope to keep everyone up-to-date as more qualified teachers join us over the summer months.

It really is an exciting time to be at Bloomsbury International School Hatyai and we look forward to seeing everyone fresh and ready to engage in exciting learning tasks in August.



Important Dates

Tuesday 22nd August

Thursday 21st September

Friday 20th October

Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October

Friday 15th December

First day of school

Wai Kru Day

Last day of half-term

Half-term holiday (**No School**)

First day of second half-term

Last day of term 1

However, the end of the academic year is also a time to look forward to the next — and the future looks bright for our school.

Thanks to major investment by our very supportive shareholders, the facilities and resources we are purchasing for next year will help in our efforts to solidify our spot as Hatyai's premium international school.



School trip to Wat Prah, Songkhla

We will also have a whole new bunch of qualified teachers joining us ready to share their experiences and expertise as we continue to challenge our students to meet the high expectations we have always set here at Bloomsbury International School Hatyai.

There is also the business of gaining accreditation with the Council of International Schools (CIS). Behind the scenes, Mr Andrew Elliott, our Head of School Development, has been working tirelessly to ensure we are ready and my feeling is that we will be and then some. As you can see, Bloomsbury International School Hatyai is going places.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone associated with the school — students, parents, staff, shareholders and our local community partners for all their efforts. You are all so important to ensuring that Bloomsbury International School Hatyai succeeds and I hope we can continue to work effectively and enthusiastically together for a very long time.

Now, enjoy the school holidays and I will see you on the first day back!

Graeme Simpson

Headteacher

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Thanks from everybody at Bloomsbury International School Hatyai