

CHARTER NEWS

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Events calendar updated**



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- What's happening in Secondary



"culture of care is common throughout the school"

"关爱文化在整个学校中处处得以体现。"

"วัฒนธรรมแห่งการดูแลเอาใจใส่เป็นสิ่งที่พบเห็นได้ทั่วทั้งโรงเรียนชาร์เตอร์"

CIS/WASC May '23



MESSAGES FROM THE DIRECTOR

The big news over the last few weeks has, for us at least, been the Air Quality here in Bangkok. Once again, I want to thank everyone who has contributed their thoughts and concerns over this issue. Everyone who contacted us did so in a really positive way and has helped to improve the environment around the school.

As you will know, we have installed over 80 air purifiers in classrooms and other rooms around the school this week and, as part of our contract with Coway, will be serviced regularly.

Like all international schools in Thailand, last week, we received updated guidance from OPEC on how we should respond to times of poor air quality. I am delighted to say that we already exceeded their requirements and apart from a few technical changes, these changed

guidelines will have minimal impact on us.

When events like the poor air quality happen, it is all too easy to feel powerless and that there is nothing we, as individuals can do. However; that is mindset that stops things improving. Perhaps only in a small way, but it would help if more of us car shared in the morning to reduce the emissions from cars and the congestion. Is there someone who lives near you whose children also go to Charter that you could share the school run with? It might even mean a more relaxing morning for you? Similarly, do you need to keep your engine running when you are waiting to collect your children after school?

All of these small changes can help and do add up!

I hope that you all enjoyed our wonderful Chinese New Year celebrations earlier in the week. Both the Primary and Secondary concerts were a great celebration on Chinese culture, both traditional and modern.

To continue the theme of internationalism, we will finish the 1/2 term with International Day. A focus for our year-round emphasis on developing Global Citizens, celebrating our cultures and coming to gather as one big Charter community.

It is absolutely one of the highlights of the school year and I am looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to our campus for the parade. Finally, on behalf of the students, I want to thank those who have volunteered so magnificently to help by providing food for our international buffet at lunchtime.

As always, you are welcome to contact me with any questions you may have. We can either meet in person or drop me a line at nelrick@charter.ac.th.



‘There is an abundant of opportunities for us to explore and learn’

Panpan , Graduate student at University of Glasgow , Master of Science in Psychology



PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



celebrated. We look forward to sharing this special day with you!

Mrs. Julie Kelly
Head of Primary
jkelly@charter.ac.th

Messages from Head of Primary

As we approach International Day on Friday, 7th February, our school community has been embracing the richness of diversity through a range of meaningful discussions and celebrations. Over the past few weeks, students have explored stories in our Friday assemblies that foster an appreciation for the many colours that make up our world as well as encouraging our students to think critically and inclusively around gender stereotypes.

A standout moment this week was our vibrant Chinese New Year celebration, where students experienced the depth of

Chinese culture through a diverse range of performing arts. This was a fantastic opportunity for our learners to demonstrate the significance of global festivals and traditions.

Looking ahead, International Day promises to be an exciting culmination of our five-week term. We warmly invite parents to join us by dressing to represent a nationality of their choice and participating in our whole-school parade. Following this, a short cultural show will showcase the wonderful diversity within our community.

Thank you for your continued support in making our school a place where every culture is valued and

COMING UP...

• Feb 5th

Coffee Morning Online Safety
Primary in the Lily theatre
8.10am *in the Lily Theatre*

• Feb 7th

International Day



STAR OF THE WEEK 24TH JANUARY 2025



STAR OF THE WEEK 31st JANUARY 2025

WHAT'S HAPPENING...



KINDERGARTEN - N

We have had a wonderful time celebrating Chinese New Year in Kindergarten. First we made Lanterns to decorate our inside play area using star patterns and ribbons.

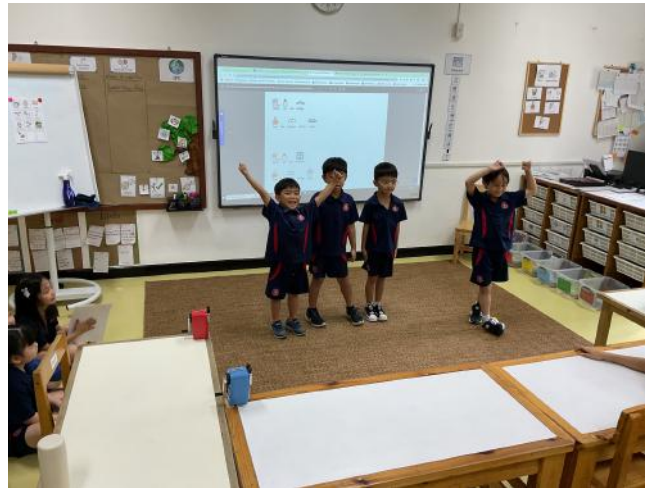
We also redecorated our home corner kitchen to resemble a Chinese themed restaurant where the children have enjoyed pretending to make some Chinese foods like playdoh Chinese New Year cookies and salapao. The children then roleplayed selling their food with their customers giving them money in the form of gems or coins in Aug pau red envelopes.



NOISY YEAR 1K

Throughout our English lessons, we have explored the fascinating relationship between sound, poetry, and rhyming, and how they contribute to the overall effect of a poem. We've learned that sound in poetry is not just about words but also about the rhythm, pace, and musicality they create. By covering 'Hand on the Bridge' by Michael Rosen, we discovered how rhyming word patterns can shape a poem's flow and enhance its meaning.

We have been sound investigators around the school and during our IPC lessons, we made a list of sounds so that we can find out what sounds there are and how they are made. We recorded our findings on a piece of paper and used tables to group the sounds in various ways, sounds made by animals, people, nature and machines. In the end, the little poets created their poems using sounds and rhyming words we collected during our sound hunt.



A ROARING SUCCESS: DINOSAUR WORLD VISIT

As part of our IPC topic, Footprints From the Past, which focuses on dinosaurs, our school had the incredible opportunity to welcome a special guest from Pattaya Dinosaur World. Khun Alexander, the owner, and his son, Niko, brought prehistoric history to life for our students in the most exciting way.

The visit featured some of their impressive dinosaur hand puppets, which captivated the children from the moment they were revealed. With lifelike features and movements, these puppets provided a unique and interactive way for the students to engage with the fascinating world of dinosaurs. The children were thrilled to stroke the "dinosaurs," sparking a tangible connection to their learning.

Khun Alexander also patiently answered the children's many questions about dinosaurs, sharing his vast knowledge and passion for these ancient creatures. This hands-on experience left the students both amazed and inspired, making their journey into the past one to remember!



YEAR 6K ASSEMBLY

Year 6K dazzled us with their impressive detective work, showcasing the different forensic science techniques they used to solve the mystery of the stolen house point charts. They demonstrated their IPC learning from their 'Investigators' unit, where they performed various experiments to prove they were capable of tackling the house point crime! Their scientific knowledge and language is truly impressive! They showed they are great critical thinkers and communicated their learning beautifully. They were able to narrow down the suspects using scientific evidence they collected and identify who was responsible. We were all shocked to discover that the thief was none other than Ms. Giorgia Hannan! Luckily, the house points have now been safely returned.



LEARNING ACTIVITY FOR YEAR 5 THAI STUDENTS

In this unit, the teacher has organized a "Thai Market Day" in the classroom to help students learn about planning and selling Thai products. Students will design their own Thai products to sell, such as Thai food, traditional desserts, toys, and other items. This activity aims to foster teamwork and collaboration while also allowing students to practice using Thai currency in real-life transactions.



PRIMARY CHINESE NEW YEAR

On Jan 28th, we successfully hosted a vibrant Chinese New Year performance under the theme "The Spirit of Chinese Festivals". The event showcased four major traditional Chinese festivals: Chinese New Year, Lantern Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, and Mid-Autumn Festival. With a bilingual hosting team, the audience enjoyed a cultural journey filled with music, dance, and theatrical performances. Each segment highlighted the unique traditions and values of the festivals, from the joy of family reunions during the New Year to the patriotic spirit of the Dragon Boat Festival. The event successfully deepened appreciation for Chinese traditions and left everyone with lasting memories of cultural heritage and festivity.



STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENT



REN YEAR 4W

We are proud to share Ren's (4W) incredible accomplishments over the past five months. Since joining the school's Swordfish Team in Year 2, Ren has worked hard to improve his skills. Five months ago, he courageously began competing in independent competitions outside of school.

In that short time, Ren has participated in six competitions, winning an amazing 18 medals and earning 25 individual points. His achievements include:

- 2 Gold Medals
- 6 Silver Medals
- 10 Bronze Medals

Ren's success is a result of his determination, courage, and effort. We hope sharing his achievements will make him proud and inspire his friends to set their own goals and work toward them.

Congratulations, Ren! Your hard work and dedication are truly inspiring.



LANTA SHINES AT SISB MERLION BASKETBALL COMPETITION

We're thrilled to share that Lanta participated in the 2nd SISB Merlion Basketball Competition for U10 Girls on January 18, 2025. Representing the 'CoachMaoAcademy' team, the event was hosted at the SISB Thonburi (TR) Campus.

Lanta and her teammates displayed incredible teamwork, skill, and determination throughout the tournament. Their hard work paid off as they triumphed in the competition, securing the championship title!

This remarkable achievement is a testament to Lanta's dedication and love for basketball. Congratulations to Lanta and the entire 'CoachMaoAcademy' team for this outstanding accomplishment. We're so proud of you!

CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 6 CHAMPIONS!

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 students who represented Thailand at the Southeast Asian Mathematical Olympiad Extended Round (SEAMO X 2025) on January 18, 2025, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia!

This prestigious competition brought together over 1,500 students from 22 countries, and our students showcased their exceptional talent on the international stage.

August – Gold Medal & Ranked 1st in the World!
TanTan – Bronze Medal
Nuri – Merit Medal

Their dedication, hard work, and passion for mathematics have truly set them apart. We celebrate their outstanding achievement and look forward to seeing them continue to shine!





SECONDARY NEWSLETTER



Messages from the Head of Secondary

As we move into the second half of the academic year, I am pleased to share some key updates and celebrations from our Secondary School.

Term 1 reports have now been published and are available for parents to access via the Parent Portal. These reports provide valuable insight into your child's progress, and I encourage you to review them and reach out to subject teachers or form tutors should you have any questions.

Our Chinese New Year celebrations were a fantastic showcase of cultural appreciation and student-led performances. From vibrant lion dances to creative classroom activities, it was wonderful to see the whole school come together to mark this occasion in such a joyful and meaningful way.

We also extend our congratulations to our students who took part in the Junior Achievement trade fair at Ekkamai Gateway. Our two teams, 'Bliss' and 'Base,' impressed the public with their eco-friendly products and entrepreneurial skills, and we look forward to seeing them compete in the upcoming finals.

This term, we have also welcomed prospective families to our Secondary Open Days. A special thank you to our Sixth Form students, who have been exceptional ambassadors, sharing their experiences and insights with visiting parents and students.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome our community for International Day. This is always a highlight of the year, where we celebrate the incredible diversity of our school, and I encourage everyone to take part in this

special event. As well as welcoming our year 9 parents to discuss IGCSE options in our coffee morning next Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming school events in the near future.

Best regards,
Mr Adam Plant
Head of Secondary

TEACHER FEATURE



Mr. Joshua Stevenson
History

This edition's teacher to be featured is Mr. Stevenson who teaches History in Secondary School.

I am delighted to join Charter for a second time having been here for five years from 2017 to 2022, and I am particularly excited to take up the additional role of Head of Humanities. I started my teaching journey in Thailand, in 2012, following the completion of my BA (Hons) History degree. It is a journey that has taken me back to my home country, the UK, on two separate occasions: firstly, to teach in a UK school and become a qualified History teacher and, secondly, to complete a Master's degree in Education. I was teaching at a well-known British international school in Abu Dhabi last year which, although provided a wealth of professional and personal growth, didn't quite live up to what Thailand and Bangkok have to offer, so I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to return to the country, job, and school that have given me so much. In my spare time, I like to watch and play a range of sports including football, swimming, boxing, and skiing; additionally, being a history enthusiast, history books/articles, movies, documentaries, and places of historical interest are very high on my to-do list! I look forward to once again contributing to the continued growth of Charter, and playing a crucial role in delivering the outstanding learning opportunities that we provide to our fantastic and talented students.

WHAT'S HAPPENING...



JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT TRADE FAIR

Last weekend, two Charter teams, 'Bliss' and 'Base,' participated in the Junior Achievement trade fair at Ekkamai Gateway. Both teams showcased their eco-friendly products, which they have designed and marketed with incredible creativity and innovation. Engaging with the general public, they demonstrated outstanding enterprise skills and represented our school with pride. We wish them the very best of luck as they head to the competition finals in two weeks!



FOBISIA SECONDARY MATHS COMPETITION KUALA LUMPUR

Our four representatives - Ansh, Nicha, Juni, and Serena - competed in the FOBISIA Secondary Mathematics Competition 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, where they made us proud! Competing against 185 students from 26 leading schools across Asia, they demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination, and problem-solving skills in a series of intense math challenges. Beyond the competition, the students had a fantastic cultural experience, connecting with peers from across the region and gaining insights from this international event. Congratulations to our students for representing Charter with excellence and enthusiasm.



FOBISIA BATTLE OF THE BANDS COMPETITION

Two representative bands from Charter competed in the final round of the prestigious FOBISIA Battle of the Bands, held last week at Nexus International School, Kuala Lumpur. With over 350 participants from 31 FOBISIA schools across Asia, Charter's Key Stage 3 band, 7-Beat, and Key Stage 4/5 band, Dream Waves, proudly earned Silver Awards for their outstanding performances.

In addition to the competition, both bands had the invaluable opportunity to participate in workshops led by internationally renowned artists. These sessions covered a wide range of skills, including choreography, beatboxing, ensemble singing, and advanced techniques for drums and bass solos.

Congratulations to 7-Beat and Dream Waves for their remarkable achievements and for representing Charter with excellence!



NEO WINS EXCELLENCE AWARD AT NATIONAL VEX V5 CHAMPIONSHIP

A huge congratulations to Neo in Year 12 for achieving the highest accolade at the V5RC High Stakes National Championship on January 19th! This marks his third Excellence Award in a VEX V5 competition. Alongside his team, Neo spent 8-9 months developing their robot, and their hard work has truly paid off. As the recipient of the Excellence Award, he has now qualified to compete in the prestigious VEX World Championships in Dallas, USA. A fantastic achievement, Neo, and best of luck at the World Championships!



KS3 DRAMA DAY

Our Charter students really enjoy Drama and always put a great deal of energy into performances. For Term 1 Drama Day, KS3 students again developed performances for an event in the Lily Theatre. Year 7 worked in small groups to re-enact short movie scenes; Year 8 prepared short scenes that explored Greek myths - with some groups scripting their own original pieces; and Year 9 gave very memorable small group performances of short 'Horror' plays which they scripted themselves. This was the first year that students had 'raised the stakes' and scripted their own plays!

Again, this year's show was the best so far! There were some truly stellar performances and some excellent group collaborations, and it was clear how much progress the Year 8s and 9s have made through the Drama lessons we include in our curriculum. Equally promising was how much confidence the Year 7s showed. This event is a fantastic way for learners to develop their confidence and exercise their skills - from voice projection to facial expression and movement. Everyone put in a lot of effort and for the first time in 8 years, I didn't once have to shout 'Speak up!'



CELEBRATING CHINESE NEW YEAR

Secondary students marked Chinese New Year with a vibrant celebration featuring a range of performances organized by the Languages Department. Students showcased their talents through music, dance, and theatrical displays, immersing the school community in the festive spirit. The celebration included traditional performances on the Erhu instrument and Kung Fu displays from members of the wider community, enriching the cultural experience for all. Additionally, students presented modern dances, musical pieces, and traditional tales, demonstrating their creativity and deep engagement with the festivities.



SECONDARY SCHOOL COFFEE MORNING: AN INSIGHTFUL INTRODUCTION

This week, we welcomed current parents to our Introduction to the Secondary School coffee morning. Guided by our outstanding Sixth Form students, parents toured our facilities and gained valuable insights into the student journey from Year 7 to graduation. The session highlighted the academic pathways, extracurricular opportunities, and university preparation that support our students' success. Thank you to all who joined us for this engaging morning—we look forward to more opportunities to connect and share our vision for Secondary!

