

NEWSLETTER

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PHOTO
OF THE
MONTH

Message from the school president

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School President
Tonkla Modern School

The recent U.S. election results reaffirmed the reality of living in a **VUCA** world—one that is volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous. A single event, such as former President Trump's return to the political stage, can send ripples across the globe, affecting economies, policies, and societies in ways we may not immediately perceive. This serves as a reminder that no matter where we are,

global events impact us, and our children must be prepared to navigate and contribute to an increasingly interconnected world.

Tonkla School has established international connections and earned recognition on a global scale as part of its vision and mission:

- Serving as a learning and internship center for students from **Finland**
- Partnering through an MOU with Asari Schools in **Japan**
- Hosting doctoral students from **China** for educational study and research
- Welcoming Teacher Leaders from **Singapore's Ministry of Education** for educational observation and exchange



Welcoming Teacher Leaders from
Singapore's Ministry of Education for
educational observation and exchange



Partnering through an MOU
with Asari Schools in Japan



Serving as a learning and internship center
for students from Finland

By engaging with the international community and learning from one another, **we prepare our students to be both Thai citizens and global citizens**—equipped to be effective team players and future leaders.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM



SINGAPORE Study Group Visit

Welcoming Teacher Leaders from Singapore's Ministry of Education for educational observation and exchange

Tonkla School recently welcomed a study group from Singapore's Teacher-

Leader Program, who visited to observe our approach to play pedagogy, inclusivity, and fostering a 'learn to learn' mindset. During their visit, the group engaged with our teachers and students, gaining insights into how Tonkla creates an environment where children learn through play, develop critical thinking skills, and grow with confidence.

Their visit was a valuable exchange of ideas, reaffirming our commitment to progressive education while also providing us with the opportunity to learn from other educators. As we continue to grow, we recognize the importance of staying open to new perspectives, ensuring that Tonkla remains a school that evolves and improves for the benefit of our students.

WELCOMING MISS MINNA VIITAMAA

Tonkla School is proud to be recognized by Finland, a global leader in education, as a host for Finnish student teachers for the sixth year. This February, we welcome Miss Minna Viitamaa from Diakonia College, who will join our classrooms for hands-on learning and cultural exchange. Her visit highlights our school's high standards and commitment to global education.



IPC Exit Points

In our International Program (IP), we build a strong academic foundation through the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). Each unit follows a structured cycle, culminating in the Exit Point, where students showcase their learning through presentations, exhibitions, and projects.

These Exit Points highlighted deep learning, creativity, and confident presentations, making them a resounding success!

- P1 – Buildings & Architecture
- P2 – Toys: Past & Present
- P3 – Travel & Tourism
- P4 – People Who Made a Difference
- P5 – Space Scientists:

International Play Festival

**What if learning
wasn't about finding answers,
but about asking
the right questions
?**

A key strand of our program is **International Mindedness**—the ability to appreciate diverse cultures, perspectives, and global issues. Our recent International Day was a perfect example, with students exploring different countries and making connections—whether through language, traditions, or shared childhood games. With over 20 nationalities represented in our school, inclusivity and respect are part of daily life.

"At the festival, I saw traditional games from many different countries, and they were both fun and interesting. One game from China stood out to me—it involved linking legs, holding hands, and skipping in a circle. It made me realize that children all over the world share something in common: we all love to play and be carefree when we are young."

Madee, P4/1

KINDERGARTEN IEP

Pre-Primary Unit

Preparation: From Kindergarten to Primary School

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The transition from kindergarten to primary school is a significant milestone for young learners—one filled with changes, new experiences, and opportunities for growth. To ensure a smooth adjustment, the “Pre-Primary Unit” has been specially designed for K3 students, focusing on both academic skills and essential life skills. This program helps them step into the world of reading, writing, and structured learning with confidence.

Through hands-on experiences in PE, Coding, and Science, students get a taste of actual primary school subjects. They also practice self-care and adaptability through activities tailored to align with the primary school learning approach.



**With strong support**

...

**our young learners step into  
their next chapter with  
confidence and pride**

**as Primary Students.**



## PhBL: PM 2.5

### Learning Through Play

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At Tonkla School, we believe that learning extends beyond the classroom—every moment and situation presents an opportunity to discover something new. When children learn with joy, they develop a lifelong love for learning.

That’s why play is at the heart of our learning experiences, combined with

real-world situations as the foundation for exploration. Through Phenomenon-Based Learning (PhBL), we integrate math, science, and life skills, ensuring holistic development.

One of our PhBL learning units focuses on PM2.5 air pollution, allowing students to observe, investigate, and experiment to understand particle sizes, Chiang Mai’s pollution situation, its causes, and solutions. They also explore how the school manages air quality and how to protect themselves effectively.

Beyond academic skills, this approach fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and environmental awareness, empowering students to connect classroom learning with real-life experiences.



Chinese New Year & Literacy Activities

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At Tonkla School, language development goes beyond rote memorization—we believe in integrated learning, where students connect meaningful content across disciplines. This approach not only enhances critical thinking but also nurtures positive character traits.

To enrich language learning, we designed a Chinese New Year-themed learning experience, immersing students in Chinese culture through engaging activities such as dragon dancing, Chinese greetings, calligraphy, traditional attire, festive food-making, chopstick practice, and creative arts.

Students also explored key vocabulary related to the festival, particularly the word “**Rěn**” (忍), which symbolizes perseverance, patience, and determination—core values deeply embedded in Chinese tradition. Through this hands-on experience, students gained both linguistic skills and cultural appreciation, fostering a deeper connection to the world around them.



# PRIMARY IEP

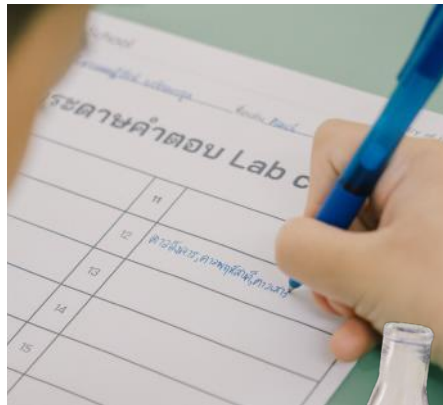


## Learning Module: Market Makers

Learning by doing is one of the most effective ways to develop essential life skills, especially in financial literacy. The Market Makers learning unit was designed to equip students with money management and entrepreneurial skills through real-world practice.

Students in Grades 4–6 take on the role of **entrepreneurs**, starting with market research, product design, pricing strategies, and bookkeeping for income and expenses. Meanwhile, students in Grades 1–3 act as **buyers**, learning to budget, plan their spending, assess product value, and record purchases.

Market Makers goes beyond just selling products; it fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork—all crucial skills for navigating daily life with confidence and efficiency.



## Science Activities LAB Click

Lab Click is a unique type of timed test where each question must be answered within a fixed period. Unlike standard exams, where students can manage their time freely, every question in Lab Click is allocated the same duration. Once the 'click' sound rings, time for that question is up.

This testing format helps students develop systematic thinking and quick decision-making under time constraints—essential skills for real-life situations. More than just assessing scientific knowledge and understanding, Lab Click provides an opportunity for students to strengthen scientific thinking skills, including questioning, structured problem-solving, and the ability to apply knowledge effectively in the future.

## Math Activities

# Speed Math Math Challenge

Mathematics activities help develop students' mathematical thinking processes, providing opportunities for them to showcase their computational abilities, foster a positive attitude toward learning, make productive use of their free time, and apply mathematical skills to real-life problem-solving.

The activities are designed to be both enjoyable and challenging, focusing on speed and accuracy to encourage voluntary participation.

Speed Math builds quick calculation skills, time management, and focus.

Math Challenge develops analytical thinking for solving complex problems.

These activities help enhance mathematical reasoning, problem-solving skills, and systematic thinking



**Because mathematics  
is not just about numbers,**

**but a tool for  
tackling everyday  
challenges.**