



MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

SEP-OCT 2025/ Edition 10

MERITTON NEWS

The Tradition of Salak Phat





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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome to the new academic year and to a greatly renewed school community. We are delighted to have 21 new teachers on board, along with newly appointed Deputy Heads of Primary and Secondary, who bring fresh energy and a clear sense of purpose to drive continual improvement and raise our standards of teaching and learning.

In early November, we will welcome an accreditation team from COBIS (the Council of British International Schools) for a week-long visit. This agency is now recognised by the Ministry of Education in Thailand, and the report it files at the conclusion of its visit will help us focus on how we can make our school even more effective.

Alongside being the only fully accredited Values-based Education (VbE) school in Thailand, we are now recognised as an official centre for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Our first cohort of 15 students has already enrolled and is working with an externally qualified trainer.

Our facilities also continue to grow and improve. The expanded multi-purpose hall and a new academic administration block with additional adult toilets are now operational. In addition, a purpose-built IT lab with two large new classrooms will open after half-term.

To further enhance campus security, a new facial-recognition entrance and exit gate has been installed, allowing us to track exactly who is on campus at any given time.

All in all, it has been an exciting and positive start to the year as we move towards forming a formal Parent Teacher Organisation, with the elected Chair serving as a member of the newly formed Executive Board.

I look forward to a positive and rewarding year ahead for all of our students.

*Peter J McMurray
Head of School*



MEET OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL



PETER MCMURRAY

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Mr Peter joined the Meritton community bringing with him more than forty years of experience in international education. His career has taken him to twelve countries, where he has led schools across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the United States, and Asia, including Thailand. He has served as Head of School, Chief Educational Officer, and Director, and more recently co-founded IES Educational Consultants.

Mr Peter has a strong background in the International Baccalaureate and has supported schools to grow, improve, and manage significant transitions. Whether through strategic planning, raising academic standards, or empowering teachers to thrive, he is dedicated to creating purposeful and inclusive environments where young people can flourish.

In addition to his leadership roles, Mr Peter has contributed as an IB examiner, accreditation team member, and curriculum consultant. He is deeply committed to ethical leadership, open communication, and the development of strong school cultures.



JARED TABITA

DEPUTY HEAD OF PRIMARY

Mr Jared began his career in the United States as an elementary school teacher with a focus on English as an Additional Language acquisition. He holds master's degrees in Curriculum and Instruction from Arizona State University and in Administration and Policy from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a certified principal in the United States and also holds certifications in Early Childhood and Elementary Instruction. In addition to teaching, he has worked as an instructional coach and curriculum designer in both the United States and India.

His career in international school leadership spans more than 13 years. He has served as an Early Years and Primary Principal in schools in Central Asia and South America, and he is now honoured to be part of the Meritton community in Thailand. He is dedicated to contributing to a high-achieving team of educators committed to supporting students in their academic and social development.

ROBERT TAYLOR

DEPUTY HEAD OF SECONDARY

Mr Rob completed his undergraduate studies in Biology and Geography at Queen's University in Canada, followed by a Bachelor of Education in Intermediate and Senior grade levels and a Master's degree in Curriculum. Most recently, he completed the Principal Qualification Program in his home province of Ontario.

With an international outlook from an early age, Mr Rob was motivated to pursue a career in education by the opportunity to teach in different countries and experience diverse cultures and contexts. His career as a classroom teacher and educational leader has spanned more than 20 years across Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, and Thailand.

He is honoured to be part of the Meritton British International School leadership team, where he is responsible for guiding the development and implementation of the Secondary School programme. He values the warm welcome he has received from the teaching staff and is committed to supporting them in making teaching and learning the best possible experience for all students.



PAKANATT THADRUK

THAI DIRECTOR

Kru Natt brings over a decade of dedicated international school leadership and teaching experience to this role. Her academic background includes a Bachelor's Degree in Education, a Master's Degree in Southeast Asian Studies, and a Master's Degree in Educational Administration. These studies have provided her with a deep appreciation for both the cultural context of the region and best practices in school leadership.

Throughout her career, she has served in a range of leadership positions, including Deputy Director and Thai Principal, with experience spanning from early years to high school. She is a strong advocate for enquiry-based, concept-driven learning and is particularly passionate about educational frameworks such as the IB Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) and IGCSE.

Kru Natt's vision is to ensure that students receive a dynamic and relevant education that prepares them to become both thoughtful scholars and responsible global citizens.



BRENDAN MCGUINNESS

HEAD OF VBE

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Mr Brendan graduated with a degree in Social Work and spent six years as part of a school social work team in the United Kingdom. This experience strengthened his commitment to children's wellbeing and inspired him to pursue a Master's degree in TESOL, enabling him to explore the teaching side of education.

In 2021, he moved to Thailand, a country he first visited in 2007 while volunteering with the Fr. Ray Foundation in Pattaya. Since then, he has worked exclusively at Meritton British International School, teaching across primary and lower secondary year groups in a setting that reflects his values and approach to education.

He also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in School Leadership of Mental Health and Wellbeing, which informs his commitment to whole-child development and fostering an inclusive school culture.

As Head of Values-based Education, Mr Brendan is dedicated to expanding the VbE programme and creating meaningful, values-rich learning experiences for all students.



VALUES FOR THE FUTURE

WORLD VALUES DAY | 10 OCT 2025



WORLD
VALUES
DAY



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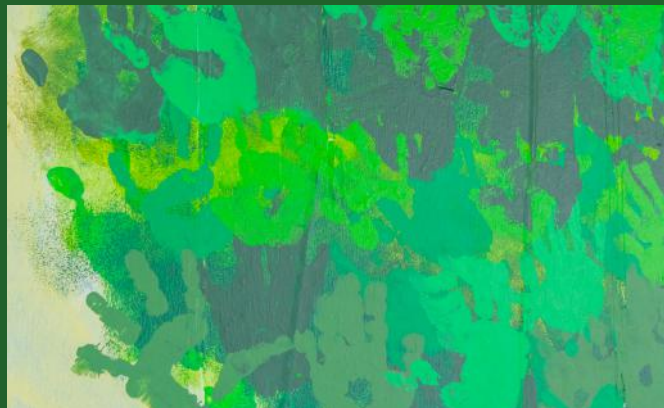


FOCUSING VALUES

COLLABORATION

At MBIS, collaboration is more than just working together – it is a value we actively teach and model across all year groups. In the younger years, students begin by learning the meaning of the word, how to say it, and gradually deepen their understanding of this key piece of ethical vocabulary. As they grow older, this foundation develops into practical applications, where collaboration becomes central to their learning, from group projects to preparing for their IGCSE examinations.

This year, collaboration was also celebrated through a whole-school art project. Students from Early Years right through to Year 11 worked together to create a “Tree of Values,” with each child contributing a unique piece. This powerful artwork stands as a symbol of how individual effort and teamwork combine to produce something greater than the sum of its parts.



The celebration of collaboration culminated in a special Values Celebration for Key Stage 1 (Years 1-2), Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6), and Secondary. During these assemblies, two Values Champions from each class were nominated and proudly presented with a certificate. Parents of the students who received a Values Champion award were invited to share in the celebration, making it a meaningful and memorable family event.



COLLABORATION AT HOME

Here are some tips for developing the value of collaboration you can do at home with your children;

- Encourage family projects where everyone has a role, such as cooking a meal together or planning a family outing.
- Model respectful listening by giving space for your child to share their ideas and showing how to build on them.
- Praise effort as well as outcomes, highlighting how working together made the task easier or more enjoyable.
- Provide opportunities for your child to collaborate with friends, siblings, or relatives, and reflect afterwards on what went well.



ความร่วมมือร่วมใจ

ที่ เมริทตัน การแสดงความร่วมมือร่วมใจนั้นไม่ใช่แค่การทำงานร่วมกัน แต่เป็นคุณธรรมและคุณค่าหลักแห่งชีวิตที่เราสอนและแสดงเป็นแบบอย่างให้กับนักเรียนทุกช่วงวัยให้เห็นถึงความสามัคคีกันในทุกเรื่อง สำหรับเด็กเล็ก พวกเขาเริ่มจากการเรียนรู้ความหมายของคำ วิธีการพูด และค่อย ๆ ขยายความเข้าใจเกี่ยวกับคำศัพท์ผ่านการสังเกตคุณครูและผู้ใหญ่ รวมถึงการให้ร่วมปฏิบัติในชั้นเรียนและผ่านกิจกรรมของโรงเรียน เมื่อพวกเขาเติบโตขึ้น รากฐานนี้จะช่วยพัฒนาต่อยอดเป็นการนำไปใช้ในชีวิตจริงโดยการร่วมมือร่วมใจกันเป็นสิ่งที่สำคัญของการเรียนและการทำกิจกรรม ตั้งแต่การทำงานกลุ่มไปจนถึงการเตรียมตัวสอบ IGCSE

นักเรียนทั้งโรงเรียนร่วมมือกันสร้างสรรค์ผลงาน “ต้นไม้แห่งคุณธรรมและคุณค่าหลักแห่งชีวิต” โดยนักเรียนตั้งแต่ระดับชั้นอนุบาลจนถึงชั้นมัธยมร่วมมือร่วมใจกันสร้างสรรค์ผลงานชิ้นนี้ เพื่อแสดงถึงกระบวนการที่ผ่านการวางแผนโดยมีเป้าหมายร่วมกัน และปฏิบัติไปในทิศทางเดียวกันจนสัมฤทธิ์ผล

นอกจากนั้น เรายังจัดกิจกรรม “Values Celebration” โดยมีการเลือกนักเรียนตัวแทน ๒ คนจากแต่ละชั้นเรียนเป็น “Values Champion” ผู้เป็นแบบอย่างที่ดีด้านความร่วมมือร่วมใจ พร้อมมอบกำลังใจให้นักเรียนและผู้ปกครอง กิจกรรมนี้เต็มไปด้วยบรรยากาศที่อบอุ่นและน่าภาคภูมิใจสำหรับครอบครัว



ความร่วมมือร่วมใจในครอบครัว

เรามีคำแนะนำที่ท่านสามารถปฏิบัติร่วมกับลูกง่าย ๆ เพื่อสนับสนุนพฤติกรรมที่บ้าน ดังนี้:

- สนับสนุนกิจกรรมในครอบครัวที่ทุกคนมีหน้าที่ เช่น ทำอาหารร่วมกัน หรือวางแผนการท่องเที่ยวในครอบครัว
- ผู้ปกครองแสดงเป็นแบบอย่างในการฟังอย่างให้เกียรติ โดยเปิดโอกาสให้ลูกได้เสนอความคิดเห็น และแสดงให้เห็นว่าความคิดเห็นนั้นสามารถต่อยอดได้
- ชื่นชมทั้งความพยายามและผลลัพธ์ โดยเน้นให้เห็นว่าการทำงานร่วมกันทำให้งานง่ายขึ้นหรือสนุกมากขึ้น
- เปิดโอกาสให้ลูกได้ทำกิจกรรมร่วมกับเพื่อน พี่น้อง หรือญาติ และหลังจากนั้นลองสะท้อนร่วมกันว่าอะไรคือสิ่งที่ทำได้ดี





RESPECT

Our next school-wide value focus is Respect, which we will be exploring over the next four weeks. Each key stage will approach this value in ways that are age-appropriate and meaningful:

In Early Years and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 - 2), students will learn about everyday respect in the classroom and playground – using kind words, listening carefully, sharing fairly, and taking care of their environment.

In Key Stage 2 (Years 3 - 6), students will extend this understanding to respect in friendships, teamwork, especially when working together. They will practise resolving disagreements respectfully and learn how mutual respect builds stronger friendships and groups.

In Secondary, students will take a more critical look at respect, exploring respect in the future, respect for our elderly population, and the importance of respecting the opinions and views of others.

Respect will also be a central theme for our **World Values Day** on Thursday 10th October. This year's theme, "**Values for the Future**", invites students to think about how values like respect can help us shape a better future for ourselves, our families, and our wider community. Each year group will take part in activities that explore respect as a foundation for building stronger societies.

การแสดง ความเคารพ

คุณ ค่าและคุณธรรมหลักหัวข้อถัดมาที่ทั้งโรงเรียนของเราให้ความสำคัญคือการแสดงความเคารพ ซึ่งนักเรียนจะได้เรียนรู้และฝึกฝนตลอดสัปดาห์ข้างหน้า โดยแต่ละช่วงชั้นจะมีวิธีการเรียนรู้ที่เหมาะสมกับวัยและมีความหมายเพื่อสามารถนำมาใช้ได้ในชีวิตจริง

ระดับชั้นอนุบาลและประถมต้น

นักเรียนจะได้เรียนรู้การเคารพในชีวิตประจำวัน ทั้งในห้องเรียนและสนามเด็กเล่น เช่น การใช้คำพูดที่สุภาพ การตั้งใจฟัง การแบ่งปันอย่างยุติธรรม และการดูแลรักษาสสิ่งแวดล้อมรอบตัว

ระดับชั้นประถมปลาย

นักเรียนจะต่อยอดความเข้าใจไปสู่การเคารพในมิตรภาพและการทำงานร่วมกันเป็นกลุ่ม โดยจะฝึกฝนให้แก้ไขความขัดแย้งด้วยความเข้าใจ และเห็นอกเห็นใจผู้อื่น และเรียนรู้ว่าการเคารพซึ่งกันและกันช่วยสร้างมิตรภาพและสังคมที่เข้มแข็งขึ้นได้อย่างไร

ระดับชั้นมัธยม

นักเรียนจะได้มองความเคารพในเชิงลึกมากขึ้น เช่น การเคารพต่อผู้มีวิสัยทัศน์ การให้เกียรติความคิดเห็นและมุมมองที่แตกต่างของผู้อื่น รวมถึงการคิดถึงบทบาทและความหมายของการแสดงความเคารพที่ควรมีในโลกอนาคต



ความเคารพยังเป็นหัวใจสำคัญของงาน World Values Day ในวันพฤหัสบดีที่ ๑๐ ตุลาคมนี้ ภายใต้หัวข้อ “Values for the Future” ที่เชิญชวนให้นักเรียนลองตระหนักว่า การมีสังคมที่ทุกคนเคารพและให้เกียรติซึ่งกันและกัน จะส่งผลดีต่อตนเอง ครอบครัว และสังคมรอบตัวในอนาคตได้อย่างไร ซึ่งแต่ละช่วงชั้นจะมีกิจกรรมที่ทำให้นักเรียนเห็นว่า การแสดงความเคารพคือรากฐานสำคัญของการสร้างสังคมที่เข้มแข็ง



RESPECT AT HOME

Here are some tips for developing the value of respect you can do at home with your children;

- Model respect in daily life by the way you speak to others – children learn as much from what they see as from what they are told.
- Encourage your child to listen without interrupting and to acknowledge the feelings and opinions of others.
- Create routines at home that emphasise respect for shared spaces, such as tidying up together or setting the table as a family.
- Praise respectful behaviour when you see it, whether it is directed towards family members, friends, or others in the community.
- Talk with your child about the importance of respecting differences – in culture, language, or opinions – and how this strengthens relationships and communities.

การแสดง ความเคารพในครอบครัว

เรามีคำแนะนำที่ท่านสามารถปฏิบัติร่วมกับลูกง่าย ๆ เพื่อสนับสนุนพฤติกรรมที่บ้าน ดังนี้:

- ผู้ใหญ่เป็นแบบอย่างด้วยการพูดจาและปฏิบัติต่อผู้อื่นด้วยความเคารพและให้เกียรติ เด็ก ๆ เรียนรู้พฤติกรรมได้ดีจากสิ่งที่เห็นมากกว่าสิ่งที่ฟัง
- ส่งเสริมให้ลูกฟังโดยไม่ขัดจังหวะเวลาที่คนอื่นกำลังพูด และทำความเข้าใจว่าผู้อื่นสามารถมีความรู้สึกหรือความคิดเห็นส่วนตัวของเขาที่แตกต่างจากเราได้
- สร้างกิจวัตรในบ้านที่เน้นการเคารพพื้นที่ส่วนรวม เช่น การช่วยกันเก็บของให้เรียบร้อย หรือการจัดโต๊ะอาหารร่วมกัน
- ชมเชยพฤติกรรมของลูก ที่สื่อถึงการแสดงความเคารพ ไม่ว่าจะเป็นต่อคนในครอบครัว เพื่อน หรือคนอื่น ๆ ในชุมชน
- พูดคุยกับลูกถึงความสำคัญของการเคารพในความแตกต่าง ไม่ว่าจะเป็นด้านวัฒนธรรม ภาษา หรือความคิดเห็น เพราะสิ่งเหล่านี้ช่วยเสริมสร้างความสัมพันธ์และสังคมที่เข้มแข็ง

VOTES FOR VALUES

29th AUG 2025

At Meritton British International School (MBIS), values are at the heart of learning. This academic year began with our MBIS Values Election, a school-wide initiative that empowers students to shape the community they are part of.

Over the past few weeks, both Primary and Secondary students took part in a special Values Election. Each class nominated and presented the values they believed were most important to guide our learning, behaviour, and community spirit. Students then voted in a real-life election format, placing their choices in ballot boxes to make the experience authentic and memorable.

THE RESULTS

The following values received the highest number of votes across the school community:

HAPPINESS – 128 VOTES
RESPECT – 124 VOTES
KINDNESS – 118 VOTES
EQUALITY – 113 VOTES
CREATIVITY – 108 VOTES
PERSEVERANCE – 101 VOTES

From these results, combined with the values voted by school staff, the first four focus values for Term One are:

- ✓ **COLLABORATION**
- ✓ **HAPPINESS**
- ✓ **RESPECT**
- ✓ **KINDNESS**



This election was more than just a vote. It was an opportunity for students to experience participatory democracy, one of the UK government's five fundamental values for schools. By engaging in this process, students developed leadership, responsibility, and an appreciation for the importance of community voice.

At MBIS, our Values-based Education approach ensures that students not only achieve academic success but also grow into confident, caring, and principled individuals who contribute positively to society.



PARENT MORNING #1

"WELLBEING AND VALUES"

18th SEP 2025

We sincerely appreciate our Meritton parents for joining the first Parent Morning Coffee on campus last week. It was inspiring to see families share how they support their children's wellbeing and nurture important values at home.

The morning provided a valuable opportunity to exchange parenting practices and perspectives within our supportive community. Together with families, the school aims to nurture young learners to grow with kindness, empathy, a positive attitude, confidence, independence, and a sense of responsibility to themselves and to the society they live in.

Mr. Brendan and the Safeguarding Team also used this opportunity to present our mission of ensuring a safe and welcoming environment that supports every student's wellbeing and development.



Together from the workshop, parents agreed on *Positivity* as the value they will contribute to the school's eight core values for the next two academic years.



WAI KRU CEREMONY

25th SEP 2025

Planting the Seeds of a Bright Future

The Wai Kru Ceremony was once again a cornerstone of our school year, a heartfelt Thai tradition that celebrated the invaluable bond between students and teachers. This year, we embraced the theme **"Planting Happiness, Nurturing Kindness, Growing in Respect,"** a metaphor that linked the growth of a plant to the development of our students' character.

Just as a seedling requires the right conditions to thrive, our students flourish when surrounded by the sunshine of happiness, the water of kindness, and the strong roots of respect.

A CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE AND GROWTH

1. Cultivating Gratitude in Every Language

To honour our diverse community, students expressed their thanks through personal notes, poems, and letters in multiple languages, including Thai, French, Chinese, Korean, and Myanmar. These heartfelt messages reinforced the idea that gratitude is a universal language, capable of bringing joy and appreciation to all.



2. The Eco-Friendly Offering: A Living Metaphor

In a symbolic and sustainable gesture, student representatives offered auspicious plants (ต้นไม้มงคล) instead of traditional bouquets. Each plant represented a living metaphor:

For teachers: The plants they received and nurtured symbolised their vital role in providing knowledge and support to help students grow.

For parents: Students also presented plants to their families as a symbol of respect and gratitude for their love, guidance, and the firm foundations they provide.

3. A Garden of Values

The ceremony stage was transformed into a garden, where every plant represented a core value cultivated at Meritton. The seeds of happiness, kindness, and respect, when nurtured by both teachers and parents, blossomed into well-rounded individuals ready to face the world with compassion and confidence.



CONNECTING TO OUR VALUES-BASED EDUCATION

Planting Happiness: Teachers create joyful, supportive learning environments where students feel safe to explore, make mistakes, and celebrate successes. The multilingual messages of thanks reinforce that joy transcends cultural boundaries.

Nurturing Kindness: Students are encouraged to show empathy and consideration in their actions, reminding us all that kindness is the light and water that helps every individual grow.

Growing in Respect: Respect, like strong roots, anchors all positive relationships. The students' offerings of plants to teachers and parents demonstrate how the respect learned in school extends to their families and the wider community, beyond a single day.



“The Wai Kru Ceremony of 2025 was a powerful expression of gratitude, unity, and growth. It reminded us all of our shared commitment to cultivating a community where every individual can flourish—and to planting the seeds of a bright and compassionate future.”

Kru Natt,
Thai Director

WORLD VALUES DAY

10th OCT 2025

VALUES FOR THE FUTURE

On Friday, 10th October, we celebrated World Values Day with joy, reflection, and a strong sense of community. Families, teachers, and students came together to explore the theme “Values for the Future” through creative, hands-on activities across all key stages.

It was heart-warming to see parents joining their children in learning experiences that encouraged meaningful conversations about kindness, respect, and responsibility, values that guide us in life and learning.

We were also honoured to welcome our friends from Ban Tong Kai School (โรงเรียนบ้านตองกาย) and the village heads of Baan Muang Kung (บ้านแม่ทองคุด), whose visit added even more warmth to this special occasion.



LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Early Years: Sunflower Planting

Our youngest learners planted sunflowers as symbols of growth and positivity, learning how kindness and care help things and people grow.

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 – 2): The Bright Future We Imagine

Students imagined the kind of world they want to live in, expressing their dreams through drawings, crafts, and group discussions.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6): Five Values for the Future

Learners identified 5 core values that will help shape a better future, sharing thoughtful insights on how to practise these values in everyday life.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 – 9): Chiang Mai 2050 – A Future Built on Values

Students explored how values can influence the future of Chiang Mai, creating inspiring ideas for a sustainable, compassionate city. They interviewed local people in **Mae Hia Fresh Market** (ตลาดแม่หิยา), **Baan Muang Kung** (บ้านแม่ทองคุด), and **the Hang Dong Subdistrict Municipality** (เทศบาลตำบลหางดง), to learn how community members envision the city's future.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 – 11): The Debate

Older students engaged in lively debates about the role of values in achieving success.





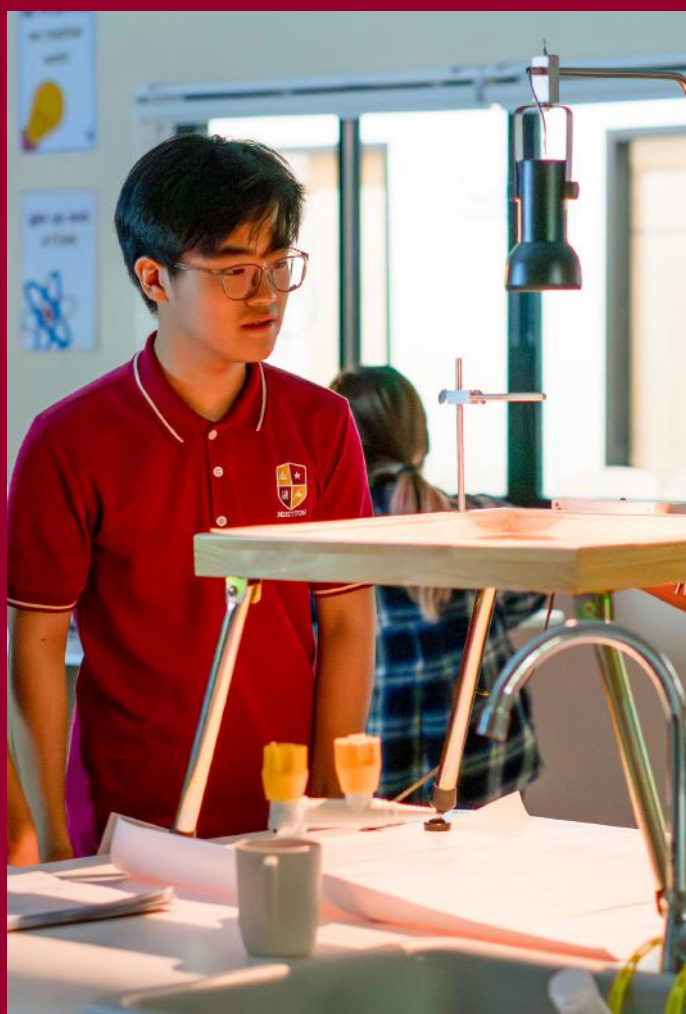
VALUES FOR THE FUTURE

As we look ahead to the future, Meritton continues to grow as a community that nurtures kindness, respect, and a shared commitment to shaping the kind of world we all wish to live in. Events like World Values Day remind us that education is not only about knowledge, but about building character and contributing to a better society, one value at a time.

VIEW SHORTS ON YOUTUBE:







CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Term 1 2025



EARLY YEARS

CARING FOR BABIES

10th SEP 2025



Our Nursery and Pre-Nursery children had a wonderful time exploring how to care for babies and practicing kindness through play. Together, they learned about comforting babies when they cry, feeding, bathing, dressing them, and even washing their clothes.

In the garden, dramatic play stations were set up with a baby bath, a grooming and changing area, and a tiny clothesline for pegging outfits. Children stepped into the role of caregivers, feeding, dressing, and bathing baby dolls while also looking at their own baby photos to see how much they've grown.

Through these activities, the children developed empathy, responsibility, and positive relationships while also expanding their vocabulary and imagination. Splashing in water and bubbles made it even more fun, and at the same time, their fine motor skills, communication, and sense of caring for others blossomed.

"Through this play, they developed empathy, fine motor skills, and a sense of responsibility, all while having so much fun."

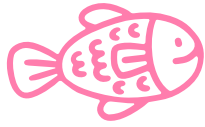
Ms V., Nursery Teacher



"It also developed Communication and Language as the children used new words and shared their ideas during play."

Ms Kailah, Pre-Nursery Teacher





KINDNESS

10th SEP 2025

In Reception A we have been learning about the value of Kindness. We read the stories 'I Am Kind' and 'Have You Filled a Bucket Today?' which helped us think about the different ways we can show care and respect to others. The children suggested thoughtful ideas such as "share toys", "help friends clean up" and "don't push friends."



To put these ideas into action, the children decorated their own buckets and explored a sensory play activity with sand, scoops and colourful treasures like hearts, sparkles and pompoms to 'fill' them. We also introduced a class kindness bucket, where a heart is added whenever someone carries out a kind act. The children have already embraced this - helping each other to tidy up after play and handing out bowls at snack time.

- Through these experiences, the children are learning that kindness makes our classroom a happy place for everyone. They are developing positive relationships, building independence in their daily routines and gaining confidence in expressing their ideas about how we can look after each other.



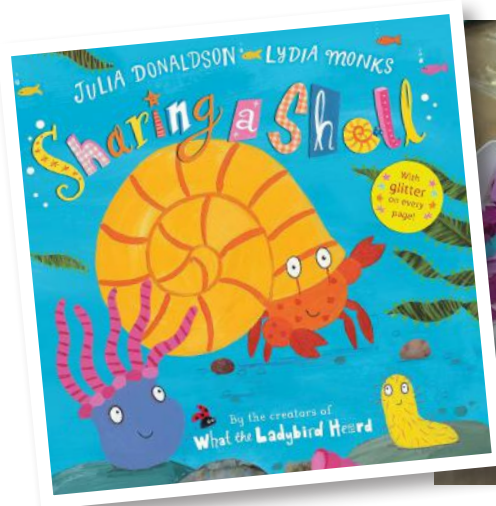
Ms Hannah,
Reception A Teacher

SHARING A SHELL

10th SEP 2025



The story "Sharing a Shell" by Julia Donaldson follows a little hermit crab who finds a shiny new shell but is reluctant to share it. He meets a purple anemone and a bristleworm who convince him to share, offering protection and cleanliness in return. They live happily until the shell becomes too crowded, causing a dispute and separation. After a storm, the bristleworm finds a larger shell, and they reunite, living together in harmony. The story highlights care, kindness, and teamwork, showing how sharing and collaboration help overcome challenges.



Our Reception B children recently immersed themselves in the story Sharing a Shell and inspired by the tale, they worked together to create two fabulous rock pools, building a shared base and then crafting individual plasticine sea creatures from the story characters to add to their collaborative masterpiece.



This collaborative learning experience not only deepened children's enjoyment of a well-loved story but also supported their growth across multiple EYFS learning areas in a fun, creative and meaningful way.

Ms Catherine,
Reception B Teacher
and Early Years
Coordinator



PRIMARY SCHOOL



LINES IN ABSTRACTION

18th SEP 2025

Our Year 1 students have been exploring the many ways lines can be used to create art. They were introduced to abstract art, studied the work of artists such as Jackson Pollock, and experimented with brushes to design their own imaginative line compositions.

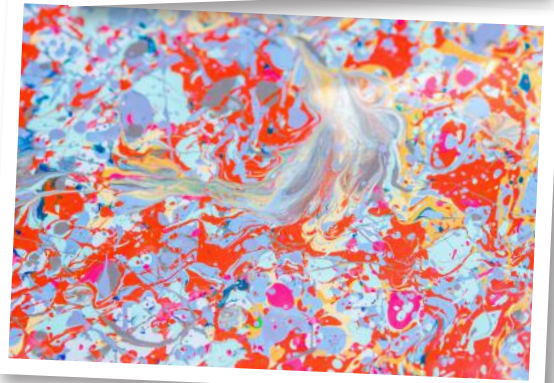
With an emphasis on the joy of creating rather than the final product, students reflected on their work in visual journals and developed new art vocabulary along the way.

The resulting artworks are collaborative creations, colourful, vibrant and unique expressions of Meritton's young artists. These distinctive abstract pieces will soon be displayed on campus for visitors to enjoy. TBC



*Jackson Pollock in action.
Author: Hans Namuth.*

<https://www.alamy.com/jackson-pollock-in-action-museum-private-collection-author-hans-namuth-image407169116.html>



*Ms Gina,
Art Teacher*



A TOY STORY

26th SEP 2025

YEAR 1'S FUN NEW UNIT OF ENQUIRY!

Exploring materials, history, and toys from around the world

This week, Year 1A and Year 1B launched our brand-new Unit of Enquiry, A Toy Story, with an exciting materials hunt! Armed with clipboards and boundless curiosity, our young explorers set off around the classroom and outdoor areas to discover a variety of toys and everyday objects. Working together, they sorted their finds into groups according to material – wood, plastic, fabric, metal, plant, and glass.

This practical investigation was the perfect way to ignite curiosity and begin developing the enquiry skills at the heart of the Cambridge Primary Curriculum. Children were encouraged to ask questions, compare their discoveries, and explain their reasoning – all while having fun and working collaboratively.



LINKS TO THE CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM

Our Toy Story unit connects directly with several areas of the Cambridge International Curriculum:

- **Science:** identifying and grouping everyday materials; exploring their properties and uses.
- **History:** investigating how toys have changed through time, and how they reflect daily life in different periods.
- **Geography:** learning about traditional toys from around the world and recognising similarities and differences across cultures.
- **Values:** building collaboration, respect, and communication as children share and discuss their ideas.

WHY WE LEARN THIS WAY IN A BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

At Meritton British International School, we follow the British approach to enquiry-led learning, where pupils are encouraged to be active participants in their own education. Research shows that when learning is fun, meaningful, and memorable, children are more likely to understand and retain new knowledge.

In Year 1, this approach is especially important as children make the transition from the play-based Early Years Foundation Stage into the more structured academic focus of primary school. By combining hands-on discovery with clear curriculum objectives, we help to bridge this transition smoothly, giving children confidence, independence, and a love of learning that will stay with them for a lifetime.

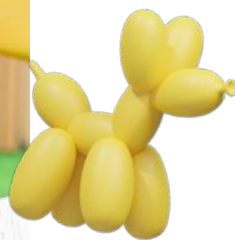


LOOKING AHEAD

We are excited to continue our Toy Story journey. Over the coming weeks, children will explore questions such as:

- What were toys like in the past?
- How have toys changed over history?
- What toys do children play with in different parts of the world?

Through stories, creative projects, and further investigations, Year 1 will not only discover the history of toys but also practise essential skills of enquiry, collaboration, and problem-solving that sit at the heart of the Cambridge International Curriculum.



Ms Rachel,
Year 1A Teacher
and Key Stage 1
Coordinator



We look forward to sharing more of their discoveries with you soon!

SECONDARY SCHOOL

EXPLORING TRANSPORT IN PLANTS

16th SEP 2025

Our Year 9 students are investigating how water travels through the xylem vessels of a celery stalk, gaining hands-on experience with plant transport systems in action.



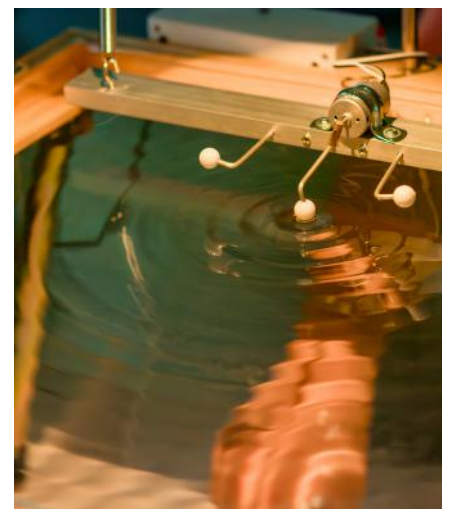
EXPLORING WAVES IN A RIPPLE TANK

17th SEP 2025

Our Year 11 students investigated the characteristics of transverse waves and how they behave under different conditions using a ripple tank to simulate real wave motion.

They designed their own methods, formulated hypotheses related to variables such as water depth and gap width, and carried out observations to collect data. The findings were then used to answer post-experiment questions and deepen their understanding of wave behavior.

This hands-on exploration not only helped them master key concepts about wave behaviour but also built their skills in scientific thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving.





ECOSYSTEM MAPPING PROJECT

22nd SEP 2025

Our Year 8 students investigated the school grounds to observe and document the variety of plants, animal species, and non-living elements on campus. Working in groups, they created detailed drawings of their findings, which were then combined into one large, comprehensive map of our school playground ecosystem.



COMMUNITY SERVICE IN THE SECONDARY

18th SEP 2025

The Year 7 students had their first opportunity to take part in community service in the Secondary School. They arrived at 6:00 a.m. to support those who help them the most: the guards, cleaners, gardeners, and kitchen staff. Over the course of an hour and a half, they picked up leaves, prepared potatoes for French fries, cleaned the playgrounds, and helped get everything ready for the day.

They worked alongside the Year 8 students, who initiated this project last year, as well as several Year 10 students who also volunteered. As a thank-you, the school provided Moo Ping (หมูปั่น) for the students once they had finished. This activity offered the Year 7s a safe and low-stress introduction to community service.



Meanwhile, the Year 8 and Year 9 classes will soon be moving on to projects outside the school grounds and are in the process of planning their events. The Year 10 and Year 11 classes have already taken the lead in creating and implementing their own community service initiatives beyond the school. Current projects include a blood drive, support for orphanages, and food and clothing drives.

Some students have even begun discussions with peers in the United States about potential international community service projects in the future.

EXPLORING UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

27th SEP 2025

On Saturday, 27th September, our Secondary students attended the University Fair 2025 at the Nimman Convention Centre. The fair gave them a valuable opportunity to explore overseas education options, ask questions, and engage in conversations with university representatives based on their personal interests and future goals.



Mr James Mills,
Secondary
Coordinator



The Tradition of SALAK PHAT

L A N N A C U L T U R E

Salak Phat (สลากพัต) is a Buddhist tradition in which laypeople offer food and daily necessities to monks without specifying any particular recipient. Each prepared offering has a small ticket or "lot" attached, and whichever monk draws the matching ticket receives that offering.



**IN THE LANNA REGION
THIS PRACTICE IS
COMMONLY CALLED
KIN SALAK, KIN KUAI
SALAK, TAN SALAK,
TAN KUAI SALAK OR
KIN KHAO SALAK.**

ITS SIGNIFICANCE

This merit-making ceremony is a way to dedicate good deeds to deceased ancestors and relatives. It teaches descendants to be grateful to those who have helped them. Because the offerings are not reserved for any particular monk, the tradition promotes generosity and reduces selfishness and bias. Monks, in turn, practice non-attachment because the items they receive vary widely.

Salak Phat is considered a major community merit event that relies on the collective effort of villagers, bringing about unity, harmony, and gratitude. It is typically held during Buddhist Lent when monks are settled in one monastery and villagers have a pause in their farming work. Agricultural produce is abundant at this time, making it an ideal season for giving. Offering in this way also represents gratitude and pure merit-making through the donation of food and essential items to support monks in their spiritual practice and to sustain Buddhism for future generations.



**IT USUALLY TAKES
PLACE FROM
LATE AUGUST TO
OCTOBER.**





The term Kuai Salak (กล้วยสาร) refers to the woven container used to hold offerings for monks. “Kuai” means a hand-woven basket or bamboo carrier, which can vary in shape and style depending on the region.

LOCAL TRADITIONS EVEN HAVE DIFFERENT NAMES FOR THE BASKETS:

- **Salak Noi (สารกน้อย)** – small baskets or bamboo containers
- **Salak Kuai Yai** (also called Salak Chok) (สารกกล้วยไหญ่ หรือ สารกโชค) – large baskets
- **Salak Ton (สารกต้น)** – very large or tree-like offering structures





Photo of the Salak Phat ceremony taken on 22 September 2025 at Wat Sri Soda Phra Aram Luang





ART & MUSIC

AFTERNOON TEA EXHIBITION

13-14 November 2025

02:30 PM - 04:00 PM | at the Primary Garden



MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Special Articles



PRIMARY STUDENT COUNCIL



Left back to right back - **YEAR 6:** WAAN, ENYA, **YEAR 5:** EZRA, SONJA, **YEAR 4:** YICO, PAXTON

Left front to right front - **YEAR 2B:** ZOEY, BAIBOON, **YEAR 3A:** ROBERT, JESSICA, **YEAR 3B:** BAO BAO, **YEAR 2A:** SUNNY, HARRY, **YEAR 3B:** KARDIA



left to right - **YEAR 1A:** DAISY, XIN, **YEAR 1B:** ANDY, LAUREN

Advisors:

Left - Ms Kathryn, Librarian Teacher

Right - Mr Cory, Business Studies and Humanities Teacher

WHO WE ARE

Your new Student Council is ready to represent you! This year's leaders are:

- **President:** Sonja
- **Vice-President:** Paxton
- **Secretary:** Yico

OUR BIG VALUE

This year the council picked an important value to guide our work: Creativity. We want to use fresh ideas and new ways of thinking to improve our school.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The council will now start making plans to bring these ideas to life. Stay tuned—more updates are coming soon!

OUR JOB IS TO LISTEN TO STUDENT IDEAS,
MAKE PLANS, AND HELP MAKE SCHOOL MORE
FUN, FAIR, AND CREATIVE.



SECONDARY STUDENT COUNCIL



Left back to right back - YEAR 8: TINA, YEAR 9: VANESSA, YEAR 7B: RUN, YEAR 11: RYAN, YEAR 8: PENELOPE, YEAR 8: ANNA, YEAR 7A: CHO CHO
Left front to right front - YEAR 8: THAMES, YEAR 7B: RINHERR, YEAR 10: MICHAEL, YEAR 10: ANNA, YEAR 7A: ANNIKA, YEAR 8: VICTORIA, YEAR 9: WITA

Advisors:

Mr Gerard, English Language and Global Perspectives Teacher
Ms Tracy, Secondary English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher

STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

We are delighted to introduce the second Student Council at Meritton British International School! Building on last year's achievements, this year's council brings together a diverse team of students who are ready to share their ideas, represent their peers, and make a positive impact on school life.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

- **President** – Anna (Year 10)
- **Secretary** – Vanessa
- **Events Team** – Tina, Annika
- **Media Team** – Penelope, Cho Cho, Thames, Wita, Tina
- **Student Well-being Team** – Anna (Year 8), Ryan, Rinherr
- **Sports Team** – Victoria, Penelope, Anna (Year 8), Ryan, Rinherr
- **School Improvement Team** – Michael, Victoria, Vanessa, Wita, Annika, Run
- **Technology** – Thames

Looking ahead, the Student Council has already set an exciting agenda. Their upcoming projects include designing a new sports kit, suggesting improvements to clubs and activities for the second term, developing a school improvement plan, and organising events that bring the MBIS community together.



WE ARE PROUD OF THE COMMITMENT AND CREATIVITY SHOWN BY THIS YEAR'S COUNCIL AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE POSITIVE CHANGES THEY WILL HELP BRING TO OUR SCHOOL.



SAFEGUARDING TEAM

At Meritton British International School (MBIS), safeguarding means promoting the welfare of every student and protecting them from harm. We believe that academic success goes hand-in-hand with students' physical, emotional, and mental well-being. Creating a safe, supportive, and respectful environment is at the heart of who we are as a school.

The MBIS Safeguarding Team ensures that there is always someone available to listen to students, respond to concerns, and take action when needed. We work proactively to build trust, foster resilience, and make sure every child feels safe, valued, and heard.

CAMPUS SIGNS

When you visit our campus, you will see clear signs reminding everyone that children's safety and well-being are our top priority. These friendly reminders help ensure that parents, guardians, staff, and visitors share the same standards of care and provide reassurance that students are under our watchful eye at all times.



MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

safeguarding@merittonbritish.com

WHILE ON OUR CAMPUS, PLEASE:
เมื่ออยู่บนบริเวณโรงเรียน กรุณาปฏิบัติตามสิ่งต่อไปนี้



Kindly avoid taking photos or videos of children.
ขอสงวนสิทธิ์ในการถ่ายภาพหรือวิดีโอของเด็กนักเรียน



Do not exchange contact details with students.
ไม่แลกเปลี่ยนข้อมูลติดต่อส่วนตัวกับนักเรียน



Wear your lanyard so it is clearly visible at all times.
สวมใส่สายคล้องคอให้เป็นที่สังเกตเห็นตลอดเวลา



Use only the designated adult toilet facilities.
ใช้ห้องน้ำสำหรับผู้ใหญ่ที่กำหนดไว้เท่านั้น



If you see or hear anything concerning, please speak to a member of staff.
หากคุณเห็นหรือได้ยินสิ่งที่น่าสงสัย กรุณาแจ้งให้สมาชิกของโรงเรียนทราบ



Always ensure you are not alone with a child.
เมื่อมีเด็กอยู่ด้วย ต้องมีผู้ใหญ่อยู่ด้วยตลอดเวลา

MBIS SAFEGUARDING TEAM



MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Mr Brendan McGuinness
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Ms Yuthika Zoe Saha
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)



Ms Pitchapim Supateerachot
Designated Safeguarding Governor (DSG)

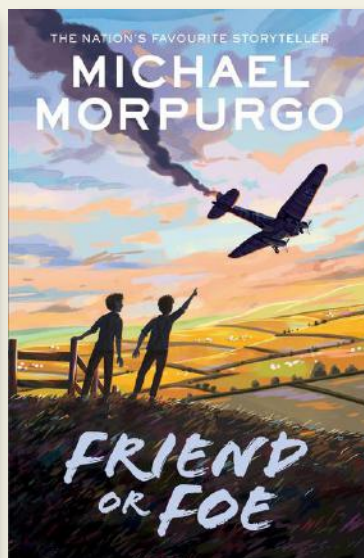
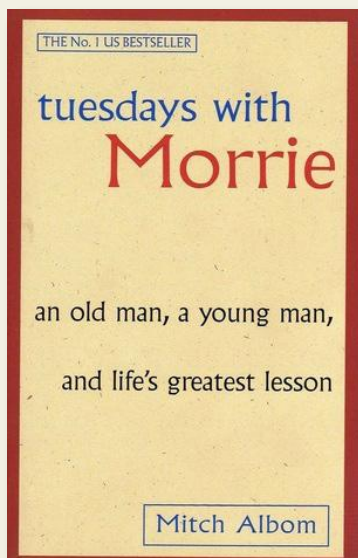


Ms Pakanatt Thadruk
Thai Designated Safeguarding Lead (TDSL)

You can contact the safeguarding team at
safeguarding@merittonbritish.com

For safeguarding policies and full details, please visit our website:

CLICK
FOR MORE INFORMATION



Ms Kathryn,
Librarian Teacher

BOOK CORNER

"It is my pleasure to recommend some books for this month. These recommendations are a mixture of non-fiction, comedy and historical fiction. All of these books are in the library and you can check them out from myself or Ms Kate at any time."

FOR YEAR 9 AND ABOVE

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE

Author: Mitch Albom
First published August 18, 1997

This book is beautifully written and touches some really deep topics about life and death. It is a poignant, true story and the premise is that the author, Mitch, reconnects with his old professor who has a terminal illness and they begin a weekly ritual of lessons about life.

FOR KS2: (YEARS 3 – 6)

BIG NATE STRIKES AGAIN

Author: Lincoln Peirce
First published October 19, 2010

If you are a lover of Diary of a Wimpy Kid, which so many pupils are, then you will be sure to love the series of Big Nate. The series hilariously follows Nate through school and it has some great graphics throughout the story.

FOR KS3: (YEARS 7 – 9)

FRIEND OR FOE

Author: Michael Morpurgo
First published January 1, 1979

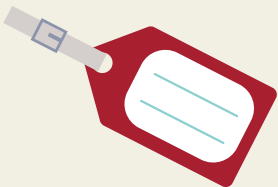
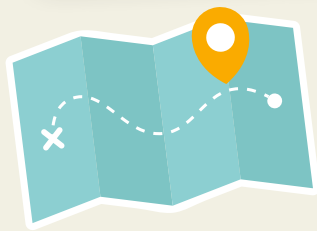
Like many other books from Michael Morpurgo, this historical fiction is set during World War 2, and it is based in England. Two boys are evacuated from London, and once in the countryside a German bomber crashes and the story takes a turn... It is a moving book for anyone interested in war; you will be taken and become lost in the depths of history here.

FOR KS1: (YEARS 1 – 2)

OXFORD READ AT HOME SERIES

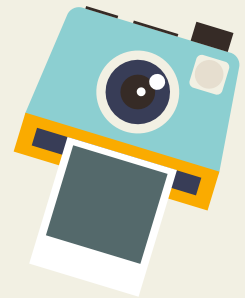
We have got a range of Oxford Read at Home books with a range of different levels, starting with basic phonics and progressing to exciting stories about going to different worlds with Biff, Chip & Kipper. These would be great to read at home, for KS1, and KS2 too. For example, The Fizz-Buzz for KS1, or for early KS2 something more advanced like Shrinking Powder.

Free-to-read e-books are available at:
[Oxford Read at Home Series](https://www.oxfordreadathome.com/)



THE MERITTON TIMES

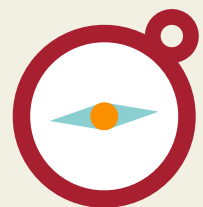
STUDENT VOICES



“ Travel is one of my favourite things to do. For me, it is not just about visiting new places or seeing popular attractions. What I enjoy most are the little things, such as sampling foods I never knew existed, learning about different ways of life, and discovering hidden gems I never expected to find. Travel gives me a sense of truly living and opens my eyes to experiences I would never have in school. It is not about counting countries but collecting memories. Each trip puts the size of the world into perspective and reminds me how much more there is yet to discover. ”

– Laura, Year 10 student and member of the Student Media Team

We hope this article from The Meritton Times inspires the Meritton community and encourages us all to reflect on what sparks our curiosity, just as exploring new places sparks Laura's sense of wonder and appreciation.





Facial-recognition Entrance And Exit Gate

To further enhance campus safety, Meritton has introduced a facial recognition gate system for students from Year 3 upwards. Each student can now enter the campus by face scanning, ensuring secure access and accurate real-time data updates. This system not only strengthens safety but also streamlines daily entry, giving families and staff peace of mind that every student is accounted for.



Parking Area

The parking area near the Early Years entrance has been extended for better convenience in drop-off and pick-up flow.



IT Lab

The IT Lab is soon to launch after mid-term break, Monday 20 October 2025.



Academic year of 2025-2026

Upcoming Keydates in Term 1

OCT <i>2025</i>	Mon 20 Staff Personal Development Day (PD Day) Tue 21 Second Half of Term 1 Starts Fri 31 Halloween Event
NOV <i>2025</i>	Wed 5 Loy Krathong Tue 12 Remembrance Day Thu 13–Fri 14 Art & Music Afternoon Tea Exhibition Mon 24–Fri 27 Sports Days
DEC <i>2025</i>	Thu 4 Parent Morning: Wellbeing & Values (2/4) Fri 5 Father's Day (school closed) Mon 8 – Fri 12 Christmas Spirit week Mon 15 – Fri 2 Christmas & New Year Holidays (school closed)
JAN <i>2026</i>	Mon 5 Staff Personal Development Day (PD Day) Tue 6 Term Two Starts

View school calendar on the website

CLICK



KEY DATES

OCTOBER 2025

Mon 20 Oct – Staff Personal Development Day (PD Day)

A dedicated training day for all teachers and staff to strengthen essential skills and professional practices that support our school community. On this day, there are no lessons and students do not attend school.

Tue 21 Oct – Second Half of Term 1 Starts

Fri 31 Oct – Halloween Event

Our Halloween Event is a fun and friendly themed party for students in the Early Years and Primary School. It is a special day for children to dress up, celebrate with friends, and enjoy games and activities together in a safe and caring environment.

NOVEMBER 2025

Wed 5 Nov – Loy Krathong

Led by our Thai Language and Culture Department, Loy Krathong is a special day when we show gratitude to the river and celebrate Thai traditions. Students will take part in cultural activities that honour this beautiful festival of light and water.

Tue 12 Nov – Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is observed to honour the courage and sacrifice of those who served in wars. In schools, it is marked with moments of silence, reflection, and activities that help students understand the importance of peace and remembrance.

Thu 13 - Fri 14 Nov – Art & Music Afternoon Tea Exhibition

This special event brings together our Art and Music units in a joyful celebration of creativity. Students will showcase their talents and passions, with opportunities for their artwork and performances to shine. Families are warmly invited to join us on campus, enjoy the exhibition, and take part in leisure workshops designed to inspire creativity and connection.

Mon 24 – Fri 27 Nov – Sports Days

Sports Days will be held over four action-packed days filled with exciting competitions and activities. It is a time for students who love sports, teamwork, and physical challenges to shine, while enjoying the spirit of fun and fair play. Meritton families are warmly invited to take part in the games with children and teachers.

DECEMBER 2025

Thu 4 Dec – Parent Morning: Wellbeing & Values (2/4)

Our second parent gathering to work with the school on supporting children's wellbeing and values education at home and in school.

Fri 5 Dec – Father's Day (school closed)

Mon 8 – Fri 12 Dec – Christmas Spirit Week

Christmas Spirit Week is a joyful celebration leading up to Christmas, where we learn about the meaning of giving and sharing love. Each day is filled with fun themes and activities that bring the whole school together. Families are warmly invited to join us on Friday for special performances, which will also mark the last day of Term One.

Mon 15 Dec – Fri 2 Jan – Christmas & New Year Holidays (school closed)

JANUARY 2026

Mon 5 Jan – Staff Personal Development Day (PD Day)

A dedicated training day for all teachers and staff to strengthen essential skills and professional practices that support our school community. On this day, there are no lessons and students do not attend school.

Tue 6 Jan – Term Two Starts

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Email

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General Information	info@merittonbritish.com
Safeguarding Team	safeguarding@merittonbritish.com
Admissions Department	admissions@merittonbritish.com

Social Media

 Website	merittonbritish.ac.th
 Facebook	facebook.com/MerittonBritish
 Instagram	instagram.com/merittonbritishschool
 YouTube	youtube.com/@merittonbritishinternation932
 Line	@meritton



Office Hours:

Monday to Friday
08.00 AM - 05.00 PM (GMT+7)
*except public holidays