



The St. Stephen's International School Khao Yai Weekly Bulletin



2024 - 2025 Bulletin 17: Monday 27 January 2025

Year 7 Geography and Science Curriculum Trip to KYNP

Year 7 students completed a day of geography and science fieldwork in the national park. They developed several skills including measuring for line transects and using quadrats to estimate plant populations and recording the depth of the river bed to make a river profile for geography. Visiting the fold mountain range provides an ideal opportunity to support their learning of tectonic plate theory. In the visitor centre and along the nature trail they learned about the role of national parks in conservation and the protection of endangered species. During the day they saw macaques, an eagle, crabs, fish and frog spawn and heard plenty of other birds as well as the gibbons.



Year 10 Science Trip

On Friday 17 January Year 10 went on a science trip to the Fossil Museum and the Regional Space Observatory in Korat. They learned about the environmental conditions that existed in here in the past when dinosaurs and later ancient elephant species ruled the area. The students took measurements of fossilised trees and practised their mathematical skills to estimate the volume of the trunks. In the space observatory they applied their learning from physics to explain how astronomers use data about the light from stars to build models of the universe. They also compared the force of gravity on different planets in our solar system. They enjoyed the feeling the effects of powerful centrifugal forces so much that they all bought themselves t-shirts!



Chinese New Year


We will be celebrating Chinese New Year in school next week on Wednesday 29 January. Students are encouraged to dress up in traditional Chinese costumes. There will be a Lion Dance performance after Flag at 08:15 on the field and student performances in the gym from 14:20. Parents are very welcome to join—a letter has been sent home about this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 20 January – Saturday 25 January

<p>Monday 27 January ASA Programme</p> <p>Tuesday 28 January ASA Programme</p> <p>Wednesday 29 January Chinese New Year Celebrations ASA Programme</p> <p>Thursday 30 January ASA Programme</p> <p>Friday 31 January ASA Programme</p> <p>Saturday 1 February Dorm Trip— Café 88</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Monday 27 January</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Tuesday 28 January</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Wednesday 29 January</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Thursday 30 January</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Friday 31 January</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Saturday 1 February</p>
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a reminder:



Swimming will restart on Monday 17 February. Hopefully the weather will have warmed up by then!



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World Book Day

World Book Day will be taking place on Thursday 6 March. All students and staff are encouraged to dress up as a book character during that day and parents are welcome to join in too! There will be a range of activities throughout the week to encourage reading, which underpins learning in school. Keep reading the bulletin for more information over the coming weeks!

Sports Day

Students are currently busily developing their athletic skills in PE lessons ready for Sports Day on the morning of 25th February. We hope that parents will be able to come and support.

English Workshop ASA in Culinary Battle

In the last week of the Term 2 ASA programme, the English Workshop moved out of the classroom and into the kitchen! So much time is spent teaching English in classrooms, so here came the idea from our own ASA club members: why not utilise different and authentic real world situations for our language learning and development? Research shows that getting learners to negotiate recipes, discuss ingredients and collaborate to achieve an aim can really help learners demonstrate 'Active Learning', all while doing so in the medium of English. Ploy (Year 10) led from the front by sharing her own pork belly stew recipe with her team. Her junior chefs cooked this succulent dish to perfection under real time pressure. Pin and Niki (Year 11) took charge of their own team creating their own take on authentic coconut-infused Indian vegetable curry, garnished with vibrant edible flowers. At SISKY we are lucky to have a teaching kitchen, which recently has been renovated with fans and full air-conditioning. Well done to all English Workshop members who had to deal with fast and fluent instructions given in English, simultaneously testing both their active listening and culinary skills. Thanks also to Miss Tori for organising our excellent ASA programme for us this term!



Dance Competition

Two teams from St. Stephen's International School Khao Yai successfully progressed onto the finals of the 2nd North Eastern Region 'Band and Cover Dance' competition to compete against ten other finalist teams. The secondary team of Nia and Sakura from Year 10 and Loma and Bonus from Year 8 produced a fantastic performance but sadly did not win one of the top prizes. Congratulations to the primary Alpha Girls Marine team, Maprang, Khongkwan, Ai, Chahma, Charyn, Baibua, who received an honorable mention from participating in the final round after an exhilarating performance. Both teams have been training with Ms. Wann who organised the choreography of the performances. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to all the parents who supported the girls with their costumes and to Mrs. Tinnapat Sillapasuwan who sponsored accommodation at Centara Hotel in preparation for the performances.





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Duke of Edinburgh International Award Practice Expedition

Students from the Khao Yai and Bangkok campuses of St. Stephen's combined on the weekend of Friday 17 January to Sunday 19 January for their practice expedition as part of their Duke of Edinburgh International Award. This is the most prestigious non-academic award taken by students age 14—25 across the world and involves sustained involvement in community, skills and physical activities as well as completion of a challenging expedition, which for the bronze level occurs over two days and involves camping overnight. It was an opportunity to make new friends and further develop skills that will be useful to the students in later life. The expedition is a team event, which to pass all members of the team must complete together. Over the weekend the students completed four trails including Trail 6, which is the longest, wildest and least frequented! As well as climbing up and down hills in the jungle there were also river obstacles and numerous fallen trees to clamber over. Whilst the students observed evidence of bears having climbed trees and recent droppings from elephants we did not see them up close! However, a giant black squirrel was seen on Day 1 and there were numerous sightings of hornbills on Trail 6. The sound of them flying was truly awesome. At the campsite some trees were producing fruit and around fifty different species of birds were spotted. The students really enjoyed cooking and camping overnight, even though the temperature dropped to a chilly 8°C. The final expedition will take place over the weekend of Friday 8 March to Sunday 10 March.



**Dr Kevin Hylands
Head of Campus**



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Primary News

The children in Nursery enjoyed looking at and listening to the story of "Baby Brains". They were very attentive during their story reading and were able to name some objects they saw in the book. They also enjoyed colouring some baby pictures. In connection with the story we are investigating, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar", the KG1 children began to learn about healthy and unhealthy food. They sorted some food toys into different containers. They also looked at real photos of food and decided which are good and healthy for us. KG2 has been exploring the world of shapes, and they took their learning outdoors to enhance the experience. The children collected a variety of natural materials, such as leaves, sticks, rocks, and flowers, and used them to create basic shapes like circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles. It was truly wonderful to see the children engaged in hands-on learning, applying their knowledge of shapes in a real-world context. Pupils in Year 1 have been learning about number fact families and subtraction. They have been using the part whole model to recognise links between addition and subtraction. In computing the pupils have continued to explore how to debug programs when controlling a beebot. During IPC lessons, the pupils have been exploring life processes and classifying living and non-living things. Year 2 pupils have been learning about division and sharing. They have drawn mathematical pictures and used mathematics equipment to support themselves. In computing the Year 2 pupils have been writing algorithms and programming a Beebot. Year 3 pupils have been exploring the fascinating world of magnetism in science. They investigated magnetic fields using iron filings to observe how they form around magnets. Additionally, they conducted experiments to test and identify which materials are magnetic and which are not, deepening their understanding of this force. Year 4 pupils have been learning about ancient Sumerian and Egyptian gods, comparing their roles and significance in both civilizations. They also conducted a sound survey around the school, identifying different sounds and discussing how they travel and vary in different environments. Year 5 students have been busy with a range of engaging activities. In outdoor learning, they practised multiplication and division through collaborative tasks. As part of their IPC topic, the children created timelines of chosen cities, exploring how tourism has impacted these places while also learning about human history. In PSHE, they had thoughtful discussions about discrimination and read inspiring stories of people who stood up to injustice, sparking meaningful conversations about fairness and equality. The Year 6 students have been busy learning about algebra in mathematics this week. They have solved one and two-step function-machine problems and generated algebraic formulas and expressions.



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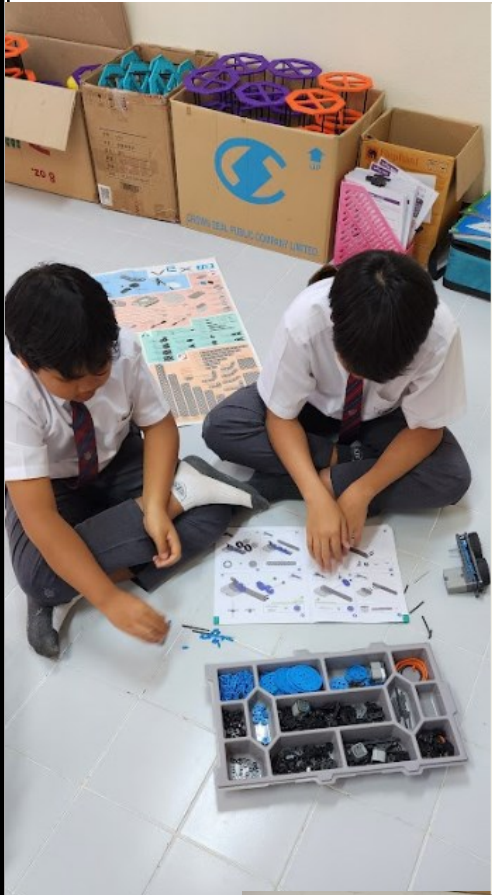
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VEX IQ Robotics News

This term's VexIQ Robotics club is up and running. Students are developing their knowledge of robotics 'know how' as well as developing their team work—an important aspect for success in the future competitions they will be in. The robot technicians are building a 'clawbot'. Watch this space to see how they get on in future weeks



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