

Middle School News November 16, 2020

THAI-CHINESE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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NEWS from the Middle School



Dear TCIS Community,

We had a busy week at the TCIS. Our Grade 5 and Grade 6 students presented their musical performance to each other, our teachers, and administrative team. Dr. John and Dr. James were in attendance and said how much they enjoyed the performances. The students' performances were so much fun to watch and enjoyable to hear. Thank you Dr. LiChou, Ms. Rebekah, and Mr. Cary for such a wonderful job in leading our students (see photos below). Also, the Grade 8 students took the PSAT. The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship

Qualifying Test is a standardized test administered by the College Board and cosponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in the United States. Students should get their results back in the coming weeks and Mr. Jeff will work with students to help them make a plan for improvement.

In this newsletter Mr. Jeff shares details about the PSAT that our Grade 8 students took last week, Ms. Tang shares details about an eating ice activity her Chinese Language students worked on, Mr. Ted shares his English Language Arts newsletter, Mr. Shane shares activities regarding his Pre-Algebra class, and Mr. Brittany shares her Science newsletter. Also, in this newsletter are photo collages from our first all school assembly and one from Ms. Angela.

Thank you for choosing the TCIS and please know that my office is always open to you for a conversation or to help with any issues or concerns you may have.

Dr. Michael

E-mail: michael@tcis.ac.th

News from the Middle School Counselor



Hello Middle School Parents!

Last week, our Grade 8 students took their first PSAT exam. While I know it may have been a stressful experience for some, I did my best to remind our students that it was only practice, and that they still have a long way to go and plenty of time to practice before they take the real SAT, likely as Juniors in High School for most students. As a reminder, our students will take the PSAT again in Grades 9, 10, and 11. As they become more used to the format and the types of questions asked of them, they should see their scores improve over time.

Students should expect to receive their scores by around our December break. At that point in time, they should be able to log into their Khan Academy accounts for personalized test prep based on their performance on the PSAT. If any parents have questions about this process, please let me know and I would be

happy to discuss this with you.

As for our Grade 5 and 6 students, they will begin their new elective classes starting Monday and Tuesday. This year, our students are going to take a third of a year each of Band with Mr. Cary, Chorus with Ms. Rebekah, and Strings with Dr. Li-Chou. All of our Grade 5 and 6 students have been informed via Google Classroom as to which class they should go to starting next week. We hope this rotation provides our students with a wonderful opportunity to explore new skills and get their creative juices flowing!

I also spent some time during last week's assembly discussing with the entire Middle School the importance of keeping passwords and various accounts our students use both in school and out, safe and confidential. Doing so helps ensure that no student's account is accessed inappropriately. Learning internet safety is an important part of being a responsible net citizen, and something our students learn about in various classes, including Ms. Shanesz's Technology classes.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please email me or stop by TCIS for a visit. My door is always open.

Regards,

Jeff Chelin School Counselor jeffrey.chelin@tcis.ac.th

Maker Space Workshop for Middle School Teachers

While the rest of the TCIS community has a fun day on Saturday, we have 4 dedicated Middle School Teachers who went to school today to take place in a Maker Space Professional Development Class. The TCIS is working hard to prepare our students for the 21st Century and our teachers work hard to help them with this task. Thank you Mr. Thomas, Ms. Yuhan, Ms. Shanesz, and Ms. Angela for giving up your weekend to take a class for our students! And, thank you to our Foundation Board for making these opportunities available for our teachers!



Eating Ice with Ms. Tang and the Grade 7 Students

Ms. Tang's Grade 7 Chinese Mother Tongue students are talking about the taste of eating ice. After Students learn the vocabulary which can describe the taste of ice, she asked them to design their own ice desserts, and make a poster by using the vocabulary they learn from Lesson 4. She gave students paper money so that they can decide which ice desserts were most attractive to them, and stick the paper money on it. She also invited other classes and teachers to come to see, and choose their favourite.

























Mr. Ted's Grade 8 Parent Newsletter

Dear parents!

Thank you again for allowing me to educate your children. Grade 8 always surprises and delights me! I absolutely love watching them grow and develop!

This has been a VERY busy month! We recently began studying William Shakespeare's famous play *Romeo and Juliet.* This is a very complicated work, and quite a challenge. Your students spent some time preparing to study the work by researching aspects of Shakespeare's life, his Globe Theater, and life in Verona, Italy. This research was to provide foundational knowledge about the play. Your children have also learned about Shakespeare's sonnet structure and his use of meter (iambic pentameter). We recently completed Act 1 of the play, and are building knowledge about characterization, one of the primary focuses of this year. Students are reading and writing every single day.

Your child should always be reading independently, so please be sure to ask him/her about the novel they are reading. Students are responsible for earning 25 points on Accelerated Reader every quarter. Please encourage them to read at home when possible.

I've included some photos of the hard work going on in this class.

As always, please never hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Ted









First Assembly of the Year for TCIS - Thank you Mr. Shaun for the Photos!































Celebrating our happy students from Ms. Angela

Piggy back riding



Cookie monster



Self care - give yo'self a hug!



Brotherly love



Ms. Brittany's Grade 8 Science

Dear Parents and Guardians.

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the cooler and drier weather. October has been a short, yet very eventful and productive month. We celebrated many festivals, had a much appreciated vacation and also enjoyed working in the STEAM laboratory doing exciting chemical experiments.

The eighth graders started the month learning why atoms combine based on their valence electrons. We then did some single replacement chemical reactions, and built molecular models. The experiments were very exciting and the students enjoyed all the color changes, while understanding how atoms can switch

partners based on their charges. The students followed the safety protocols very well, and dabbled a bit in balancing equations, which is a high school standard important for understanding the conservation of mass.

We then studied types of reactions, and the exchange in energy that takes place. Exothermic means that the temperature goes up and energy is released, while endothermic means the temperature cools down. The students then conceptualized different uses such as cold packs, ice melters, and other various products that could be made from each of the chemical combinations.

We then moved on to the pH scale and the differences between acids and bases. The students did demonstrations, tested household chemicals, and hypothesized about some mystery solutions and their uses based on the pH.

Understanding the periodic table is of utmost importance for chemistry and future science courses. The students will show their understanding of how it works by designing their own periodic table board game to share with the class. As a final assessment for this unit they will integrate the 4 aforementioned standards into a fun game that they will share with others. The students will do a jigsaw activity in which they teach their classmates their game, then rotate through the other groups, and play the games their fellow classmates have created. This activity and assessment will enhance the knowledge and skills we have been studying as well as develop the student's collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creative skills. I am very proud of the eighth graders with their ability to use the scientific equipment safely and maturely while investigating the nature of matter and reactions.















Mr. Shane's Grade Pre-Algebra and our SLO's

The teachers at TCIS place just as much emphasis on the Student Learner Outcomes (SLOs) as the standards that they are teaching. Mr. Shane does this by challenging his pre-algebra students with minds-on math problems at the beginning of class. The students really enjoy the variety of questions that they face and working together to find solutions. In these photos, you can see his students tackling complex problems, collaborating with each other, and having fun while doing so. Great job Mr. Shane!

















To maintain student and teacher safety, campus is closed to food deliveries (for everyone). Plan to bring everything with you in the morning.

Parents/visitors who wish to enter campus are asked to schedule an appointment through the registrar.

- Masks must be worn at all times, including the classroom.
- Students' temperature is checked upon entrance.
- Late students must check in <u>with the Registrar</u> to receive an "Admit to Class" slip. The registrar is located in the main lobby of the middle school.
- Students must use hand-sanitizer before entering school and before entering each classroom.
- Students must sanitize any shared classroom materials/supplies after each use.
- Students sanitize their desks before leaving from every class, with the provided supplies.
- Students must remain socially distant at all times.
- No more than 4 students in the restroom at any given time.
- Students may take their backpacks into their classroom for each block to avoid groups at the lockers.
- MS Students have a 20 minute transition period between classes.
- Students may wear a face shield <u>as well as a mask</u> but not instead of a mask.
- Lunch (Students' temperature is checked upon entrance to the canteen before lunch.



Students in grades 5-8 use the Accelerated Reader program to track their reading comprehension skills and obtain points based on the books they read each quarter. Accelerated Reader is a software tool that allows students to select their own book and then assess whether a student has completed reading the book by asking a

series of questions. We keep track of this each quarter and have a big party at the end of the year. Accelerated Reader is administered by the English Department under the direction of Mr. Ted, our Curriculum Coordinator and Head of English. Students in each grade are required to read independent novels and get points each quarter.

Grade 5 - 12 points

Grade 6 - 15 points

Grade 7 - 20 points

Grade 8 - 25 points

To find a list of books that qualify as Accelerated Reader (AR) books and the points for each book, please go to: https://www.arbookfind.com/

Student Computers

The Faculty and Administration believe technology is a powerful and integral part of the TCIS instructional program. While there are many good computers on the market, please understand that the TCIS High School requires MacBooks for all students.

1) **TCIS High School** is a MacBook one-to-one school - MacBooks are required for all grade 9 through 12 students



2) TCIS Middle School

- a) MacBooks are recommended for grades 7 & 8 students.
 - i) A Chromebook is acceptable (remember a MacBook is required for grades 9-12)
- b) School owned Chromebooks are provided for grades 5 & 6 students.
- c) All students in Grades 5-8 need access to a computer at their home. Students will be using Google Classroom and various websites for school work. We do recommend a laptop but any computer for home use is fine. iPads and tables are acceptable but have some limitations. Windows-based computers are fine for home use as well but are not allowed on the school network.

3) TCIS Elementary School

a) School owned technology is provided for elementary students

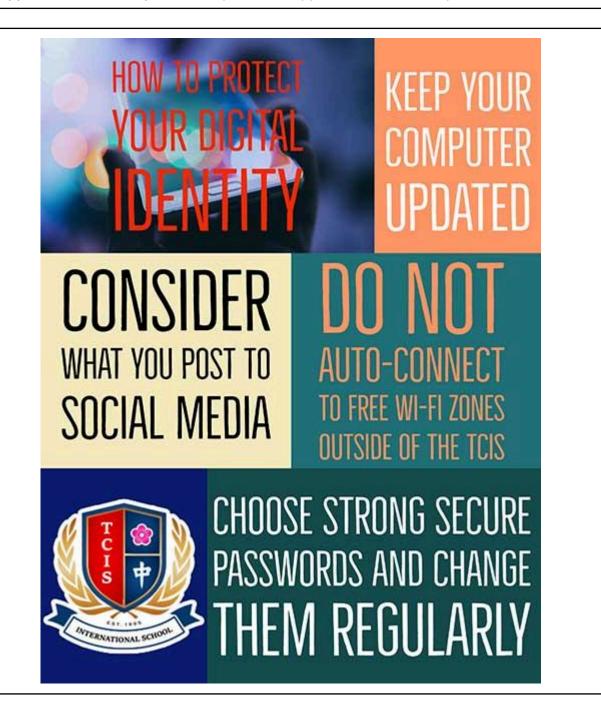
TCIS Approved Devices - 2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 9-12 MacBooks (student owned)
- Grade 7 & 8 MacBooks recommended (Chromebooks acceptable) student owned
- Grade 5 & 6 Chromebooks (school owned)

• PC/Windows based computers are not supported for academics at TCIS.

You are encouraged to visit the following sites for more information:

• Apple MacBook Computers - https://www.apple.com/th-edu/shop



Important things to consider when reading content online

T.R.A.A.P. METHOD

TIMELINESS

When was the information published or updated? Does your topic require current information?





RELEVANCE

Does the information answer your main question? Does the information meet the stated requirements for the assignment?



AUTHORITY

Who is the author? What are the author's credentials? Is the author affiliated with an educational institution or other organization? Do other books cite the author?



ACCURACY

Are there statements you know to be false? What citations or references support the author's claim? What do other people have to say about the topic?



PURPOSE

Is the author's purpose to sell, persuade, entertain, or inform? Is there an obvious bias? Are other points of view expressed?



Middle School Parent Newsletters

August 3, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

August 10, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

August 17, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

<u>August 24, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter</u>

August 31, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

September 7, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

September 14, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

September 21, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

September 28, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

October 5, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

October 19, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

October 26, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

November 2, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

November 9, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter

November 16, 2020 Middle School Parent Newsletter









Important Dates

- November 27 End of guarter 2 / Semester 1
- December 7 King Rama IX's Birthday 5 School Closed
- December 18 Last day before break, Students Dismiss at 11:30
 - December 21 January 5 Christmas Break

Visiting the Campus - Who to Contact

Parents/visitors who wish to visit campus are asked to schedule an appointment through the registrar or with Ms. Ooy for early years and elementary school. They will follow-up on your request. The appointments must be confirmed via email before parents enter the campus.

Ms. Ooy	pongvilai@tcis.ac.th
Registrar Office	registrar@tcis.ac.th

Reporting Student Absences and Tardies

(New Process This Year)

Send an email to: registrar@tcis.ac.th

Or

Call the Registrar's Attendance line at: 751-1201

Please notify the registrar as soon as possible of your child's absence or tardiness from school.

A parent or guardian must email the Registrar within one day following the absence.

Excused Absences

For an Absence to be Excused, a parent must email/call in the absence within 24 hours. The reason for the absence must be supported by the factors outlined in the attendance policy:

- Illness with medical documentation
- observation or celebration of a religious holiday
- recovery from accident with medical documentation
- required court attendance with court notice
- death in the family
- other absences that may be deemed acceptable by the Head of Schools or Designee

Unexcused Absences

If a parent does not email/call in the absence, the student is marked as absent without excuse.

School-Wide Learner Outcomes (SLOs)

At the Thai-Chinese International School, we expect students to work to the best of their ability to demonstrate the following:



1.Complex Thinkers and Problem-Solvers -

Students will:

- 1.1 Use information from many sources.
- 1.2 Make good decisions based on the information found and think about this information.
- 1.3 Use learned information to solve real-life problems.
- 1.4 Learn how to deal with problems in the correct way.



2. Collaborative Workers -

Students will:

- 2.1 Be able to take on different roles in different situations.
- 2.2 Be able to problem solve by working well with others.
- 2.3 Want to be leaders.
- 2.4 Be responsible friends to everyone.



3. Effective Communicators -

Students will:

- 3.1 Speak, read, and write English clearly and successfully and use Thai and Chinese languages.
- 3.2 Use many sources to inform and communicate.
- 3.3 Speak clearly, listen closely, and respond appropriately.
- 3.4 Express and support your ideas with facts.



4. Independent Life-Long Learners -

Students will:

- 4.1 Be able to work hard by themselves and feel good about their work.
- 4.2 Be willing to take on challenges, to ask for help, and to learn from mistakes.
- 4.3 Accept new ideas and apply them to the outside world.
- 4.4 Make and work towards goals for personal and life-long growth.



5. Responsible Global Participants -

Students will:

- 5.1 Understand problems in our world.
- 5.2 Accept and appreciate people who are different from them.
- 5.3 Be able to solve problems in the real world.
- 5.4 Use what they have learned to make a difference in the world.

學生學習成果 (SLOs)

在泰國中華國際學校的學習環境中,我們期待學生展現他們最棒的學習能力在以下幾個向度:



- 1. 縝密的思考者和解決問題者 -
- 學生將:
- 1.1 使用多方來源的訊息。
- 1.2 根據找到的訊息仔結思考並做出正確的決定。
- 1.3 使用學到的訊息來解決現實生活中的問題。
- 1.4 了解如何以正確的方式處理問題。



- 2. 有效溝通者 -
- 學生將:
- 2.1 清楚完整地用英文進行說, 讀和寫並成功使用於泰語和中文。
- 2.2 使用多元訊息來源進行交流。
- 2.3 說話清晰, 仔細傾聽並適當回應。
- 2.4 用事實來表達印證您的想法。



- 3. 終身獨立學習者 -
- 學生將:
- 3.1 能夠自己精進學習,並對自己的表現感到滿意。
- 3.2 樂於接受挑戰,尋求幫助並從錯誤中學習。
- 3.3 接受新想法並將其應用於真實世界。
- 3.4 設定目標並為個人和終生成長努力實踐。



- 4. 協同工作者 -
- 學生將:
- 4.1 能夠在不同情況下扮演不同的角色。
- 4.2 能夠通過與他人合作解決問題。
- 4.3 想成為領導者。
- 4.4 成為對每個人負責的學伴。



- 5. 負責任的全球參與者 -
- 學生將:
- 5.1 了解我們世界中的問題。
- 5.2 接受和欣賞與我們不同的人。
- 5.3 能夠解決現實世界中的問題。
- 5.4 利用他們所學到的知識來改變世界。

ผลลัพธ์แห่งการเรียนรู้ (SLOs)

โรงเรียนนานาชาติไทย-จีน มีความคาดหวังที่จะให้นักเรียนของเรามีความตั้งใจ ใฝ่เรียนรู้และสามารถแสดงศักยภาพ ในการเรียนรู้และมีทักษะที่จำเป็นให้เห็นเป็นที่ประจักษ์ ดังนี้



1. นักคิด มีทักษะในการแก้ปัญหาที่ชับช้อน

นักเรียนจะ:

- 1.1 ใช้ข้อมลที่หลากหลาย จากแหล่งที่มาที่หลากหลาย
- 1.2 ตัดสินใจได้ถูกต้องโดยอิงจากข้อมูลที่สรรหามาและใช้ วิจารณญาณในการตัดสินใจ
- 1.3 นำข้อมูลที่เคยเรียนรู้มาช่วยแก้ปัญหาที่เกิดขึ้นจริงในปัจจุบัน
- 1.4 สามารถเผชิญกับปัญหาได้อย่างถูกวิธี



2. กระบวนการทำงานร่วมกันกับผู้อื่น

นักเรียนจะ:

- 2.1 สามารถปรับตัวให้เข้ากับสถานการณ์ต่างๆได้
- 2.2 สามารถแก้ปัญหาร่วมกับผู้อื่นได้
- 2.3 มีความพร้อมที่จะเป็นผู้นำ
- 2.4 มีความรับผิดชอบต่อเพื่อนพ้องและผู้อื่น



3. สื่อสารได้อย่างมีประสิทธิภาพ

นักเรียนจะ:

- 3.1 พูด, อ่าน, และเขียนภาษาอังกฤษได้อย่างชัดเจน และสามารถ สื่อสารได้เป็นอย่างดีทั้งภาษาไทยและภาษาจีน
- 3.2 ใช้แหล่งข้อมูลความรู้ที่หลากหลายเพื่อการสื่อสารที่มี ประสิทธิภาพ
- 3.3 พูดชัดเจน ฟังเข้าใจ และโต้ตอบได้อย่างเหมาะสม
- 3.4 นำเสนอแนวคิดตามข้อเท็จจริงได้



4. เรียนรู้ตลอดชีวิตได้อย่างอิสระ

นักเรียนจะ:

- 4.1 สามารถท่มเททำงานด้วยตนเอง และมีความสขกับงานที่ทำ
- 4.2 กล้าที่จะลองสิ่งใหม่ ไม่รู้สึกแย่ที่จะขอความช่วยเหลือบ้างในบาง ครั้งและเรียนร้จากข้อผิดพลาดที่ผ่านมา
- 4.3 ยอมรับแนวคิดใหม่ๆและสามารถนำมาปรับใช้ในโลกปัจจุบัน
- 4.4 มุ่งมั่นเพื่อไปสู่ความสำเร็จที่ตนตั้งไว้และอนาคตที่สดใส



5. รับผิดชอบต่อสังคมโลก

นักเรียนจะ:

- 5.1 เข้าใจปัญหาที่เกิดขึ้นในโลกของเรา
- 5.2 ยอมรับในความแตกต่างของผู้คน
- 5.3 สามารถแก้ปัญหาที่เกิดขึ้นจริงในโลกปัจจุบัน
- 5.4 นำสิ่งที่ได้เรียนร้มาสร้างความแตกต่างให้กับโลกของเรา

Middle School Staff 2020-21

English				
Mr. Ted	ted.persinger@tcis.ac.th	Grade 8 English Curriculum Coordinator	Middle School Room 5-51	Mr. Ted's Google Site
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Chinese Department

Mr. Tony



Head of Chinese Office High School First Floor Office

	tony@tcis.ac.th			
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Ms. Jamie		Grade 7	Middle School Room 5-24	Ms. Jamie's Google Site
Mr. Frankie		Grade 8	Room 5-24	Mr. Frankie's Google Site

Thai Depar	tment			
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Mr. Jim	im.curtis@tcis.ac.th	Grade 8	Gym	Mr. Jim's Google Site		

Middle School Administration							
Dr. Michael	michael@tcis.ac.th	Middle School Principal	Middle School Room 5-30	Dr. Michael's Google Site			
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