



MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

JAN-FEB 2026 / Edition 12

MERITTON NEWS

SUMMER COLOURS

*10 Iconic Flowers
of Thailand*





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MERITTON
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ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2026-27

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome to another edition of our newsletter which endeavours to keep the MBIS community up to date with the latest happenings and news around campus.

Firstly, a very happy new year to our Chinese parents in particular though I hope everyone had the chance to enjoy the special festivities.

We are actually now looking towards the next academic year which involves a great deal of proactive planning, especially with our new A level programme due to start in August.

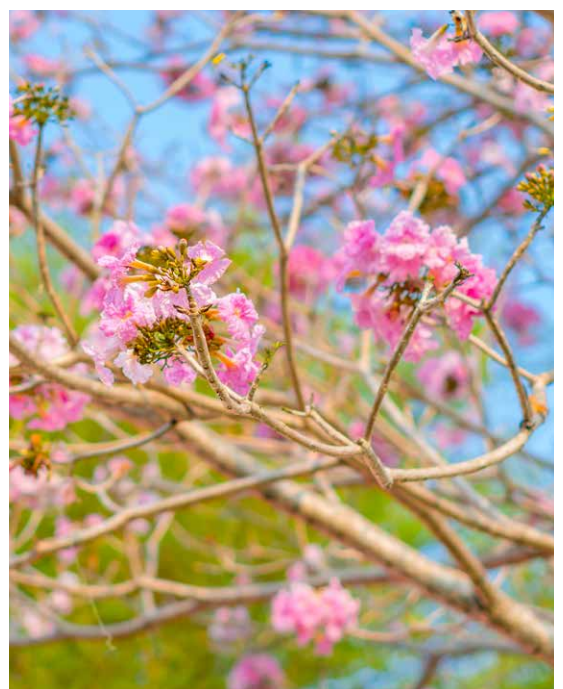
This will involve hiring some new teachers but I am pleased to report that very few of our current teachers have indicated they wish to leave so the new Head of School will enjoy some good level of stability.

Please look out for important upcoming events, especially our Open House and, at the end of March our first parent Wine and Cheese evening at Chom Cafe.

In the meantime, please enjoy the upcoming break and I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Best Wishes,

*- Peter J McMurray
Head of School*



HAPPINESS

During our first Value Focus of Term 2, students across the school explored the meaning of Happiness and what it truly looks like in action.

Key Stage 1 and 2, students reflected on why happiness is good for themselves and others, how small acts of kindness can lift someone's mood, and how helping others can also bring joy to ourselves. Secondary students broadened their perspective, considering how happiness is experienced in different cultures and how it can be shared beyond our own community through global connections and acts of service.

This learning culminated in our Values Celebration on 29 January. We enjoyed a wonderful musical performance from Catherine (Year 5), awarded certificates to students who consistently modelled the value of Happiness, and heard inspiring presentations from our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award students. We were also delighted to be joined by the parents of our Happiness Champions, making the occasion even more special. It was a heartwarming celebration that truly reflected the positive spirit and strong sense of community at MBIS.



ความสุข

คุณธรรมของต้นภาคเรียนที่ 2 นี้ นักเรียนทั่วทั้งโรงเรียนได้ค้นหาคำหมายในนิยามของคำว่า "ความสุข" และสิ่งที่ทำให้ "ความสุข" ปรากฏให้เห็นอย่างแท้จริงคืออะไร? ในช่วงชั้น Key Stage 1 และ 2 นักเรียนได้เรียนรู้ว่าอะไรคือความสุขที่มีต่อตนเองและผู้อื่น การกระทำเล็กๆ น้อยๆ ที่แสดงความเมตตาสามารถยกระดับอารมณ์ของผู้อื่นได้อย่างไร และการช่วยเหลือผู้อื่นสามารถนำความสุขมาสู่ตัวเราเองได้อย่างไร นักเรียนในระดับ Secondary ได้ขยายมุมมองโดยพิจารณาว่าความสุขในวันธรรมที่แตกต่างกันนั้นมีผลอย่างไรบ้าง? และเราสามารถแบ่งปันความสุขนั้นให้สังคมได้อย่างไร

เรามีการเฉลิมฉลองในวันที่ 29 มกราคมที่ผ่านมา และได้สนุกกับการแสดงดนตรีจาก Catherine (Year 5) และมอบใบประกาศนียบัตรให้กับนักเรียนที่เป็นแบบอย่างคุณธรรมของ "ความสุข" และเราได้ฟังการนำเสนอที่สร้างแรงบันดาลใจจากนักเรียนที่ได้รับรางวัล Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award นอกจากนี้เรายังยินดีที่ได้ต้อนรับผู้ปกครองของนักเรียนที่ไดรับรางวัลคุณธรรมของ "ความสุข" ของเรา ทำให้โอกาสพิเศษยิ่งขึ้นไปอีก เป็นการเฉลิมฉลองที่อบอุ่นหัวใจซึ่งสะท้อนให้เห็นถึงคุณค่าของคุณธรรมในครั้งนั้น และความเข้มแข็งของชุมชน MBIS อย่างแท้จริง



HONESTY

This half term, our Value Focus has been Honesty. Across the school, students have been exploring what it really means to be honest, not just telling the truth, but showing integrity, taking responsibility, and doing the right thing, even when it feels challenging.

In Key Stage 1, students have learned about honesty through stories and simple, everyday situations. In Key Stage 2, they have reflected more deeply on being honest with themselves, learning from mistakes, and understanding how truthfulness builds trust and respect. Upper primary students have also explored the importance of honesty within Thai culture and society.

In Secondary, students have looked at the more complex side of honesty, discussing moral dilemmas and situations where telling the truth requires courage and strong values.

ความซื่อสัตย์

ครึ่งหลังของภาคเรียนที่ 2 นี้ คุณธรรมที่เราส่งเสริมให้แก่นักเรียนคือ “ความซื่อสัตย์” นักเรียนทุกคนได้สำรวจความหมายที่แท้จริงของความซื่อสัตย์ ไม่ใช่แค่การพูดความจริง แต่รวมถึงการแสดงถึงความซื่อสัตย์สูงสุด การรับผิดชอบ และการทำในสิ่งที่ถูกต้อง แม้ว่าจะรู้สึกท้อแท้ก็ตาม

ในระดับช่วงชั้น Key Stage 1 นักเรียนได้เรียนรู้เกี่ยวกับความซื่อสัตย์ผ่านเรื่องราวและสถานการณ์ง่ายๆ ในชีวิตประจำวัน ในระดับช่วงชั้น Key Stage 2 พวกเขาได้ตระรองอย่างลึกซึ้งยิ่งขึ้น เกี่ยวกับการซื่อสัตย์ต่อตนเอง การเรียนรู้จากความผิดพลาด และการเข้าใจว่าความซื่อสัตย์สร้างความไว้วางใจ และความเคารพได้อย่างไร นักเรียนในช่วงชั้น Upper primary ยังได้สำรวจความสำคัญของความซื่อสัตย์ในวัฒนธรรมและสังคมไทยอีกด้วย

และในช่วงชั้น Secondary นักเรียนได้พิจารณาด้านที่ซับซ้อนมากขึ้นของความซื่อสัตย์ โดยอภิปรายเกี่ยวกับปัญหาทางศีลธรรมและสถานการณ์ที่ต้องใช้ความกล้าหาญ และความเข้มแข็งในการพูดความจริง





MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



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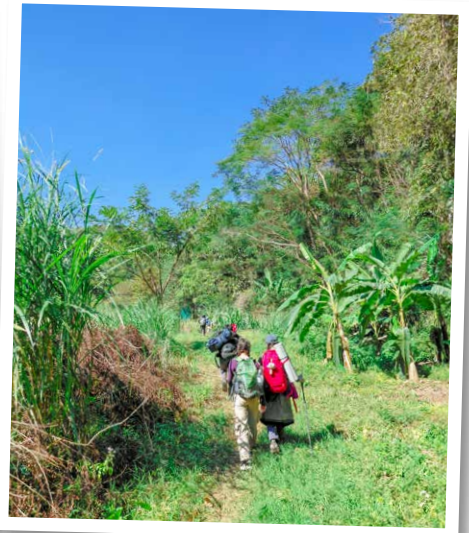
JOIN US AS A PIONEER AT **MERITTON BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** AS WE CONTINUE TO DEVELOP OUR **IGCSE (YEAR 11) AND A LEVEL (YEAR 12)** PROGRAMMES. THESE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED QUALIFICATIONS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS, UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS, AND FUTURE LEADERSHIP.

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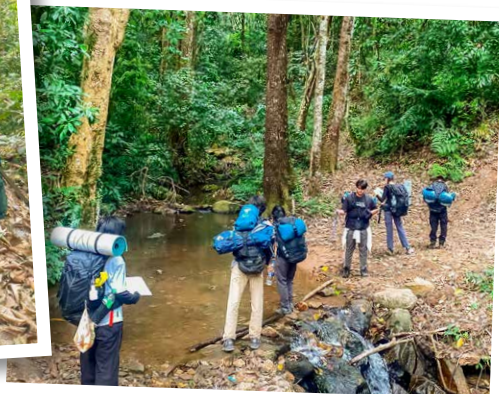
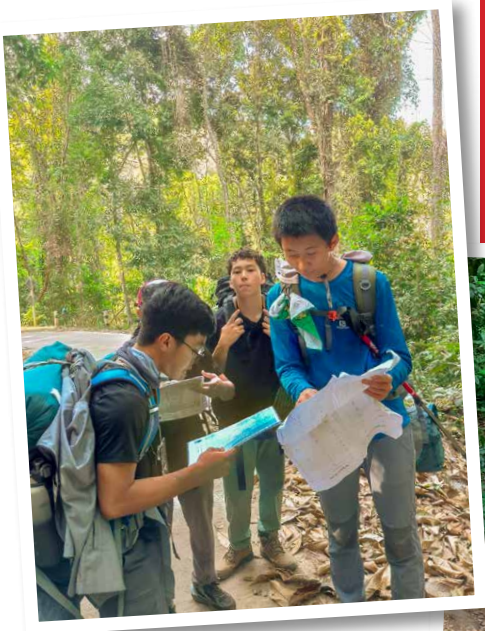


DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD: BRONZE AWARD

Our Years 9 to 11 students have recently completed both the Practice and Qualifying Adventurous Journeys for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Bronze), demonstrating resilience, teamwork and determination throughout. From Friday 9 to Saturday 10 January, students undertook their Practice Journey, which provided an important opportunity to develop the skills required for success. Over two days, they hiked close to 20 km, navigated their own routes, camped overnight and prepared their own meals. This experience strengthened their confidence, independence and ability to work effectively as a team.



Building on this preparation, students successfully completed their Qualifying Adventurous Journey from 30 to 31 January 2026 in Doi Suthep-Pui National Park. Over two challenging days, they hiked more than 20 km with an elevation gain of over 700 metres, navigating independently while carrying all of their own equipment. It was a demanding route that required careful planning, perseverance and strong collaboration. This represents a fantastic achievement for all involved. We would like to thank our dedicated teachers and DdD Education for their guidance and support throughout both journeys.



Students are now continuing with the Voluntary Service element of the Bronze Award, further developing responsibility and commitment within the wider community. We look forward to seeing them complete all sections of the award and celebrate their full Bronze achievement. In the next academic year, MBIS will also introduce the Silver Award, providing students with further opportunities for challenge, leadership and personal growth. We are extremely proud of the maturity, resilience and determination our students have shown throughout their Duke of Edinburgh's International Award journey so far.

Read More





THE MERITTON OUTREACH AND LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Meritton Outreach and Leadership Initiative was launched at the end of Term 1 with a clear purpose: to strengthen Meritton’s connections with the local community, provide meaningful leadership opportunities for our students, and offer MBIS as a supportive resource to local schools.

Since the start of Term 2, our secondary students have been visiting **โรงเรียนบ้านทองกาย (Baan Tong Kai School)** to deliver English lessons through their English for Fun programme. These sessions are planned and led by our students, giving them the chance to develop confidence, communication skills and leadership, while supporting younger students in an engaging and enjoyable way.

At the same time, our students have been organising a book collection to support **โรงเรียนบ้านดอนปิน (Baan Don Pin School)** and **โรงเรียนท่าเหนือวิทยา (Tha Nua Wittaya School)**. This initiative not only provides additional learning resources, but also reinforces the importance of service and community responsibility.

After the mid-term break, students will continue to expand and develop the MOLI programme, building stronger links with local schools and exploring further ways to contribute to the wider community. We will also begin creating opportunities for parents to get involved, so that this becomes a shared effort across the whole MBIS community. We are proud of the leadership our students are showing and look forward to seeing the initiative continue to grow.





170th ANNIVERSARY OF UK-THAILAND DIPLOMATIC

15th JAN 2026

MBIS was honoured to take part in the 170th anniversary celebration of British–Thai diplomatic relations, marking an important milestone in the long-standing partnership between the United Kingdom and Thailand.

As part of the celebration, our students delivered a series of musical performances across a range of instruments including cello, violin, piano, guitar and band. They performed with confidence, professionalism and maturity, and their contributions were warmly received by guests in attendance.



Students also had the opportunity to meet Mark Gooding, His Majesty's Ambassador to Thailand, and represented the school with pride and excellent manners throughout the event.



Well done to all students involved. Your talent, dedication and enthusiasm were a credit to MBIS.

Read More



We congratulate the following students for their outstanding performances:

Enoch (Year 11) – Guitar
Joseph (Year 11) – Guitar
Vanessa (Year 9) – Cello
Phoom (Year 9) – Piano
Tina (Year 8) – Band
Eloisa (Year 8) – Band
Artur (Year 8) – Band
Anna (Year 8) – Guitar
Sian (Year 5) – Keyboard
Teresa (Year 5) – Violin

To further mark the occasion, MBIS held a Primary art competition celebrating British–Thai relations. We are delighted to congratulate the following students for their creativity and thoughtful work:

Kiki (Year 5)
Oriana (Year 5)
Indie (Year 5)
Kardia (Year 3)
Erika (Year 4)



THAI LANGUAGE CULTURE & HISTORY WEEK

19-26 Jan 2026



Pre-Nursery, Nursery

Storytelling “ตำนาน”
„WOW Animal
and Thai Picnic Day

Reception A, B

Storytelling
“พญายักษ์ป่าหิมพานต์”
Hanuman Performance
and Thai Picnic Day

Year 1, 2

The Queen Sirikit
Department of
Sericulture,
Animal Life Cycle
and Silk Making

Year 3, 4, 5

Elephant Camp
Pang Dee Dee,
Elephant Medicine
Making and
Trail with Elephant

Year 6, 7, 8

Chiang Mai Museum,
Chiang Mai
Sightseeing History
and Workshop with
local wisdom

Year 9, 10, 11

Lanna Wisdom School,
Handicraft, Lanna Music,
Lanna Description
and Lanna Market

**DAY 1**

19th JAN 2026

THAI LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND HISTORY WEEK

We started the Thai Language, Culture and History Week with exciting special activities featuring Exotic animals, with the main attraction is giant turtles. Children enjoyed watching the turtle, participating in storytelling activities, and learning how to make Pandan leaf drink (Nam Bai Toey). The children had fun with the exotic animals and also enjoyed the story of "The Red Turtle".





DAY 2 20th JAN 2026

FIELD TRIP AT THE QUEEN SIRIKIT DEPARTMENT OF SERICULTURE

Our students had an amazing field trip at The Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture. They spent the half-day diving into the world of Thai silk through four hands-on stations:

1. Life Cycle: Watching the incredible transformation of silkworms.
2. Silk Making: Learning the delicate art of reeling silk threads.
3. Cocoon Art: Getting creative with colorful cocoons.
4. Mulberry Magic: Making (and tasting!) fresh mulberry juice.



It was a day full of discovery, creativity, and delicious treats!



DAY 3 21st JAN 2026

FIELD TRIP AT THE TREASURY MUSEUM AND CHIANG MAI'S OLD CITY

We stepped outside the classroom for a field trip to the Treasury Museum and sightseeing tour of Chiang Mai's historic old city. It was a perfect blend of fun and discovery; seeing the city's art, lifestyle, and history that experience was truly amazing. Besides being a lesson, the day strengthened our love for our community and instilled a shared responsibility to preserve these precious traditions for future generations.





DAY 5 23rd JAN 2026

FIELD TRIP AT THE PANG DEE DEE (ELEPHANT CAMP)

Our students had an amazing experience at Pang Dee Dee Elephant Camp. They spent the day caring for these gentle giants by making them healthy vitamins and enjoying a fun feeding time. After watching a refreshing elephant bath at the river, we were treated to a special show of creativity as the elephants showed us their painting skills. It was a perfect day spent learning about nature!



DAY 6

26th JAN 2026

MYTHS & MOVEMENT: HIMMAPHAN FOREST & KHON DANCE

To wrap up our Thai Language, Culture, and History Week, our Reception students embarked on a "Himmaphan Forest Adventure."

The highlight was a spectacular live Khon (Masked Dance) demonstration. Students watched wide-eyed as Hanuman and Ms. Suphan Matcha performed a short set, introducing them to the magic of Thai performing arts.

Storytelling and dance are universal languages. By exposing our students to these classical arts early, we ignite their imagination and open their minds to the beauty of diverse cultures.

We hope these activities will bring you joy in learning about Thai culture





HAPPY SPRING FESTIVAL



17th FEB 2026

The school celebrated Spring Festival with activities such as a lion dance performance at the morning and cooking of delicious food (Dumpling) and desserts (Tang Hulu). There were also art activities stations that provided fun and educational experiences about how important of this festival. Besides the fun and joy of the students, We were delighted to see their smiles. We would like to thank the Chinese teachers, the PTO, and all the parents for organizing such a wonderful event, and also thank all the students who participated.





MBIS AND BCIS FRIENDSHIP MATCH

VOLLEYBALL, FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL

It was a pleasure to bring the MBIS and BCIS communities together for a friendly matches. Activities like these are important for good relationships and teamwork among our students.





Every matches are important in helping our students build confidence, learn the value of sportsmanship. A huge well done to everyone involved for showing such great spirit toward one another!





CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Term 2 2026

EARLY YEARS

EXPLORES VOLCANOES!

6th FEB 2026

The Reception children have been exploring how things change through hands-on science investigations. After experimenting with rescuing toy animals from ice using warm water, the children talked about the ice melting and what they noticed as it changed. These conversations sparked lots of questions and ideas, and soon the children began talking about volcanoes and lava.

This interest led to a volcano investigation, where the children watched a video of a real volcano erupting and talked about what might happen when lava meets different objects.

They then created their own erupting volcanoes using baking soda and colourful vinegar. The children were full of excitement as the volcanoes erupted, watching closely and talking together about what was happening. Some children began using new words such as lava and erupt as they explained what they were seeing.

To continue this learning, the children also made and painted their own small clay volcano models, allowing them to explore their ideas further through creative work.



SHOW AND TELL!

Reception-A have recently begun Show and Tell, with children excitedly bringing in items that are special to them to share with the class. Through this, the children are practising speaking to a group, listening to one another and asking simple questions to learn more about their friends.

- Ms Hannah, Reception Teacher



PRIMARY SCHOOL

THAI LANGUAGE CULTURE AND HISTORY WEEK

As part of our Thai Language, Culture and History Week, students from Year 1 to Year 6 took part in educational field trips designed to deepen their understanding of Thailand's heritage, traditions, and natural environment. Through hands-on experiences and cultural interactions, students connected classroom learning with real-world experiences.

Years 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B visited the Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture for an engaging afternoon of discovery. Rotating through four interactive learning stations, students explored the life cycle of silkworms and learned about the traditional silk-making process. They examined cocoons up close, created artwork using real cocoons, and made mulberry juice, gaining a greater appreciation for the craftsmanship and cultural importance of Thailand's silk industry.



Students in Year 3A, 3B, Year 4 and Year 5 travelled to Pang Dee Dee Elephant Camp for a meaningful nature-focused experience. They prepared vitamin supplements, fed the elephants, and observed them bathing while learning about elephant care, conservation, and Thailand's deep cultural connection with these gentle animals.

Year 6 visited Chiang Mai's Old City. Students explored the Treasury Museum to learn about the history of Thai currency, took part in a hands-on Shibori tie-dye workshop, and enjoyed a tram tour of key landmarks, including a visit to Wat Chiang Man. The trip provided a valuable opportunity to experience Thailand's cultural heritage beyond the classroom.

Through these enriching experiences, students strengthened their cultural awareness and understanding of Thailand's traditions while creating memories that will stay with them for years to come.

- Ms Lauren, Year 3A Homeroom Teacher & KS2 Coordinator



SECONDARY SPOTLIGHT

A MONTH OF GROWTH & MILESTONES!

It has been an incredibly busy and exciting month in the Secondary department! From welcoming new faces to conquering big exams, our students and staff are charging ahead.



MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS!

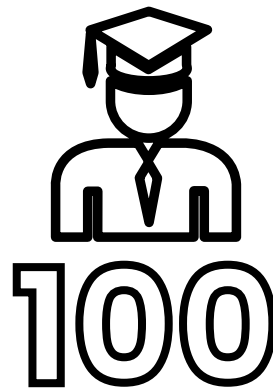
We are thrilled to welcome two new staff members who are already making a huge impact on our students' studies:



Ms. Aoon:
Our new **Lab Tech!** She's diving right in to assist Ms. Tharika and Ms. Aneesha in the Science Lab, ensuring our experiments run smoother than ever.



Ms. Beebee:
Our new **Secondary TA!** She's here to support all our teachers and work alongside Ms. Kanuta. If you see her around, ask her a tough calculation—she is especially gifted at **Maths!**



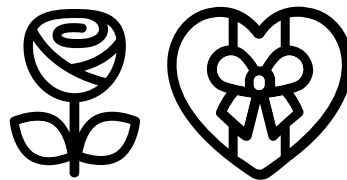
GROWING TOGETHER

The Secondary family just keeps getting bigger! We've welcomed several new students this month, and our enrollment is now fast approaching the **100-student mark! ###**

IGCSE MOCKS: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Our Year 11 students have officially wrapped up their **Mock Exams**. It was a marathon of a month, with students sitting for 14–16 different exams across Science, English, Maths, Geography, Business, and Computer Science.

While the up to 2-hour sessions were intense, the students put in their absolute best effort. These mocks are a fantastic “dry run” for the real thing—helping parents and students identify exactly where to focus those study sessions before the final stretch!



LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

We couldn't let the month pass without mentioning **Valentine's Day!** Our fantastic **Student Council** really stepped up, organizing a wonderful sale of flowers and chocolates. Their enthusiasm while delivering treats to the classrooms was infectious. We can't wait to see what holiday events this leadership team dreams up next!

- Mr James, Teacher of Global Perspectives, Geography, and Values; Secondary Coordinator



LOOKING AHEAD: THE ROAD TO IGCSES

The “real deal” begins just after the **Songkran break** and will continue through the first week of June. We are already sending all our positive energy and “Good Luck” wishes to our students for these externally graded exams. You've got this!



Summer Colours

10 Iconic Flowers of Thailand

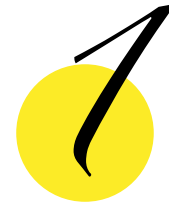
In many parts of the world, summer is a quiet awakening. In Thailand, it is an explosion. As the “cool season” fades in February and the “hot season” begins to sizzle towards April, the landscape undergoes a dramatic transformation. This is the time of the Deciduous Bloom. Many of Thailand’s most iconic trees drop their green leaves entirely, standing bare for only a moment before dressing themselves in thousands of vibrant blossoms. To walk through a city or countryside during these months is like to walk through a living gallery of gold, purple, and pink.



Ratchaphruek



Ratchaphruek



RATCHAPHRUEK

(ราชพฤกษ์)

The National Pride

THE GOLDEN SHOWER TREE

The Ratchaphruek is more than just a flower; it is a symbol of the Thai nation. Its name means "Royal Tree," and its bright yellow color is associated with King Rama IX and the glory of Buddhism.

THE LOOK

Long, hanging racemes (clusters) that look like golden grapes. When the wind blows, the petals fall like "golden rain," which is where its English name comes from.

THE EXPERIENCE

These trees often line the highways heading out of Bangkok. In the peak of March, the sight of hundreds of these trees standing in a row, completely devoid of leaves and dripping in gold, is enough to make any traveler pull over for a photo.



Flame Tree



Ratchaphruek

FLAME TREE

คางนกกยงฝรั่ง

Delonix regia

ROYAL POINCIANA

In Thai, it is called Hang Nok Yoong Farang because the flower looks like a peacock's tail.

THE LOOK

Massive, spreading canopy covered in fiery red and orange petals. The leaves are feathery and green.

THE EXPERIENCE

It looks like the tree is on fire! It is the ultimate symbol of the school break and the peak of summer heat.



Flame Tree



Flame Tree



THE SILVER TRUMPET TREE

เหลืองปรีดียาธร

TABEBUIA AUREA

It is one of the most popular trees to plant along Thai roadsides because it is very tough and loves the hot, dry weather. In March and April, it turns ordinary streets into “Golden Roads,” making it a favorite for photographers and travelers.

THE LOOK

This tree is famous for its bright, “electric” yellow flowers that are shaped like small trumpets. Similar to the Chompoo Pantip, it often drops all its leaves before blooming, leaving the entire tree looking like a solid cloud of gold.

THE EXPERIENCE

While the Ratchaphruek (Golden Shower) hangs down in chains, the Silver Trumpet Tree points its flowers upward and outward, catching the summer sunlight.



INTHANIN

อินทนิล

The Lilac of the East

THE QUEEN'S CRAPE MYRTLE

While many spring flowers are delicate, the Inthanin is a survivor. It thrives in the intense heat of the Thai sun, lining city streets and canals with shades of violet and mauve.

THE LOOK

Crinkled petals that feel like delicate crepe paper. They start as a deep purple and turn into a light lavender as the sun hits them.

THE EXPERIENCE

Inthanin provides a “cool” visual relief during the 38°C days of March. Seeing a canopy of purple against a clear blue sky makes the Thai heat feel just a little more bearable.



DOK PRADU

ดอกประดู่

The Scent of Songkran

THE BURMA PADAUK

If you could bottle the smell of the Thai New Year, it would be the Dok Pradu. It is a flower of unity; legend says that every Pradu tree in a neighborhood will bloom on the exact same morning and fall by the same evening.

THE LOOK

Small, golden-yellow pea-like flowers that hide among the leaves before exploding into bloom.

THE EXPERIENCE

Because they bloom right around mid-April, their sweet, spicy scent is forever linked to the water splashing and family gatherings of the Songkran festival. It is also the proud symbol of the Royal Thai Navy.



Silver Trumpet



Silver Trumpet



Inthanin



Dok Pradu



Leelawadee



Dok Kaew



DOK KAEW

ดอกแก้ว

The Night's Whisper

THE ORANGE JESSAMINE

This is the "hidden" flower of summer. You will often smell a Dok Kaew long before you see it. These small white blossoms are symbols of purity and a "clear mind."

THE LOOK

Tiny, bell-shaped white flowers hidden among glossy dark green leaves.

THE EXPERIENCE

Thai grandmothers often pick these to place on home altars. Walking past a Dok Kaew bush on a warm summer evening is like walking through a cloud of sweet perfume.



FUENG FAH

เฟื่องฟ้า

The Sun-Chaser

THE BOUGAINVILLEA

The name Feung Fah means "glowing in the sky," and no flower lives up to its name more. While other plants go dormant in the heat, the Bougainvillea gets brighter.

THE LOOK

The "flowers" are actually colored leaves called bracts. They come in neon pink, electric orange, and snowy white.

THE EXPERIENCE

They are the "background sounds" of Thailand—spilling over fences and climbing up telephone poles, proving that beauty can thrive even in the harshest sun.



LEELAWADEE

ลีลาวดี

The Temple Blossom

THE FRANGIPANI

No Thai garden is complete without the Leelawadee. Formerly known as Lantom (which sounded too much like the Thai word for "sorrow"), it was renamed to the more poetic Leelawadee, meaning "graceful girl."

THE LOOK

Thick, waxy petals that are usually white with a sun-yellow center.

THE EXPERIENCE

Its fragrance is most powerful at night. It is the scent of Thai hospitality (found in five-star spas, ancient temples, and traditional garlands).



Leelawadee



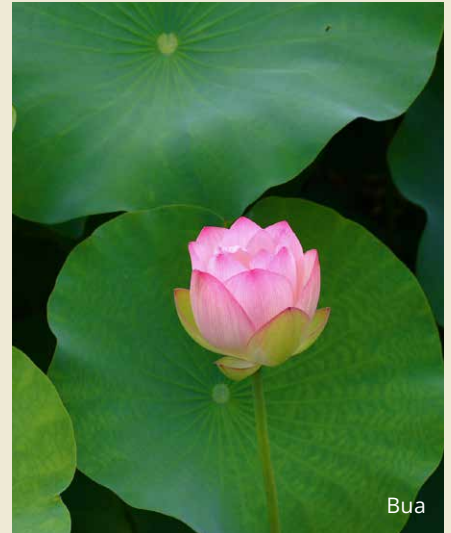
Fueng Fah



Fueng Fah



Chompoo Pantip



Bua

9

DOK BUA

ดอกบัว

The Sacred Dawn

THE LOTUS

The Lotus is the spiritual heart of Thailand. While it blooms year-round, the clear, bright mornings of the spring months (February to March) are when the famous "Lotus Seas" in Udon Thani and Phatthalung are at their peak.

THE LOOK

Perfectly symmetrical petals rising out of the water, representing the soul rising above worldly troubles.

THE EXPERIENCE

Taking a boat out at 6:00 AM to see millions of pink lotuses open simultaneously is a meditative experience that defines the calm side of the Thai summer.

10

CHOMPOO PANTIP

ชมพูพันธุ์ทิพย์

THE PINK TRUMPET TREE

Finally, we come to the most anticipated bloom of the season "the Chompoo Pantip". For many, this tree is the highlight of the year, but for us at Meritton British International School, it is much more than just a beautiful plant - it is our symbol.

A Symbol of Our Values

The Chompoo Pantip is the proud symbol of our school, and it perfectly reflects the values we strive to uphold.

Resilience

Like the tree, which stands strong through the dry winds of the heat, our students learn to be resilient in the face of challenges.



Chompoo Pantip

SEE THEM NOW

They are blooming right now. As you walk through the early year entrance, you can see the pink "trumpets" reaching toward the sky and the soft petals dancing down to the ground. It's a short period, usually only two to three weeks, during which our school transforms into a magical pink wonderland.

We invite everyone to stop and look up. In the rush of our daily studies and busy lives, the Chompoo Pantip reminds us to appreciate the moment, to value our community, and to celebrate the growth that happens when we all bloom together.

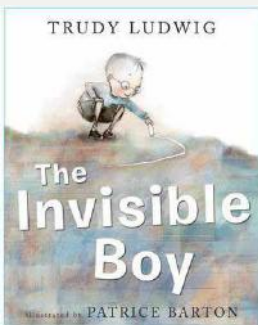
THE LESSON OF THE BLOOM

Thailand's flowers teach us a lesson about timing. They don't bloom all year; they wait for the right moment, and the right light. Whether it's the national gold of the Ratchaphruek or the school-spirit pink of the Chompoo Pantip, these ten flowers remind us that every season has its own unique beauty. So, before the rain comes and the leaves return, take a walk and stand under the pink tree of the Chompoo Pantip. Summer is here, and it is magnificent.

Books Corner

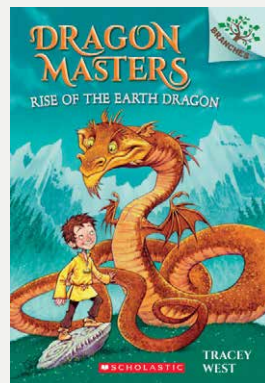


It has been an exciting month in the library! We have had, over the past couple of months, many parent helpers coming in, organised by the wonderful Katrina. To all the parents who have helped us label, cover, and sort books - a massive thank you!



The Book With No Pictures

B.J. Novak



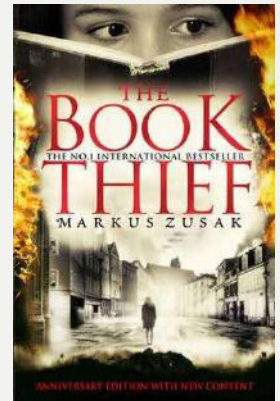
The Dragon Master Series by Tracey West

For KS2, we have bought the first 20 books in the Dragon Master series by Tracey West. It is an early chapter book with illustrations, to ease students into reading older books, and is full of excitement, dragons, and adventure!



Puzzle by Pan Cooke

For KS3, we have a non-fiction graphic novel book, called Puzzle by Pan Cooke. It is a memoir about growing up with OCD and shown in a really easy-to-read, humorous and engaging way, in the form of a comic. I would highly recommend it for anyone who struggles with intrusive thoughts or overthinking in general.



The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

For KS4, we have got a really interesting selection of historical fiction. One of my favourites is The Book Thief by Markus Zusak, a book set in World War 2, where the narrator is death itself. Another is Captain Corelli's Mandolin by Louis de Bernières, another WW2 piece, and The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini, which documents life in Afghanistan before and after Taliban rule. The latter is recommended as 15+. All three books are incredibly moving, and can be emotionally tough to read, but well worth it to explore the human side of history.

The Invisible Boy by Trudy Ludwig

For Early Years, we have The Invisible Boy by Trudy Ludwig, chosen by Ms Kate. This story is about a boy who gets overlooked in class and often feels invisible. This is a great book to read about empathy and can open up some really powerful conversations, with all age ranges! The illustrations are also really unique

The Book With No Pictures by B. J. Novak.

For KS1, a great book to take home and read together as a family is The Book With No Pictures by B. J. Novak. Year 1 and Year 2 will tell you that, after reading this book, a book with no pictures can actually be super fun! I would encourage you to try reading this one at home, and be ready for lots of laughs.

- Ms Kathryn, Librarian Teacher

5 Don'ts! Stray Dog Safety



1

DON'T TEASE: DO NOT PROVOKE OR MAKE THE DOG ANGRY/FRIGHTENED.

Making faces, shouting, or pretending to throw rocks at a dog is never a "joke" to them. Stray dogs live in a constant state of high alert. When you tease them, you are perceived as a predator or a threat. Because they cannot escape to a safe home like a pet can, a cornered or annoyed stray dog will eventually feel that its only option is to bite to defend itself.



2

DON'T STEP ON: DO NOT STEP ON THE DOG'S TAIL, BODY, LEGS, OR STARTLE IT.

A dog's tail, paws, and ears are highly sensitive. If you accidentally step on a sleeping or resting dog, you trigger a "startle reflex." Before the dog even has time to realize who you are, its brain tells it to snap at the source of the pain. It is an instinctive biological reaction to protect itself from injury. Always watch where you walk, especially in areas where dogs tend to nap.



3

DON'T SEPARATE: DO NOT USE BARE HANDS TO SEPARATE DOGS THAT ARE FIGHTING.

This is one of the most common ways people get bitten. When dogs are fighting, their adrenaline is so high that they lose awareness of their surroundings. If you grab them with your hands, they will reflexively bite whatever touches them—this is known as redirected aggression. They aren't trying to hurt you specifically, but in the heat of the moment, your hand is just another target in the fight.



4

DON'T PICK UP: DO NOT PICK UP FOOD OR MOVE THE FOOD BOWL WHILE THE DOG IS EATING.

To a stray dog, food is the most valuable thing in the world. They don't know when they will find their next meal, so they are naturally "resource-guarded." If you reach for their food or try to move their bowl while they are eating, the dog views you as a thief trying to take away their chance at survival. Even the friendliest stray can become aggressive when it feels its food is being threatened.



5

DON'T INTERFERE: DO NOT APPROACH UNFAMILIAR DOGS OR STRAY DOGS.

Approaching a dog you don't know is always a gamble. You have no way of knowing if that dog is sick, injured, or protecting a nearby litter of puppies. Many strays have had bad experiences with humans and may see an approaching stranger as an attacker. By staying away and not forcing an interaction, you allow the dog to feel safe and prevent a defensive confrontation.

IF YOU GET BITTEN...

A bite from a stray dog is a medical emergency requiring immediate treatment to prevent nearly 100% fatal diseases. You must commit to a mandatory, multi-dose series of rabies vaccines administered over several weeks to ensure your survival. You will also likely need an immediate tetanus booster shot to prevent dangerous bacterial infections in the deep wound.



MERITTON
BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Early Years **OPEN HOUSE**

28th Mar 2026 | **The Colour Monster**
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

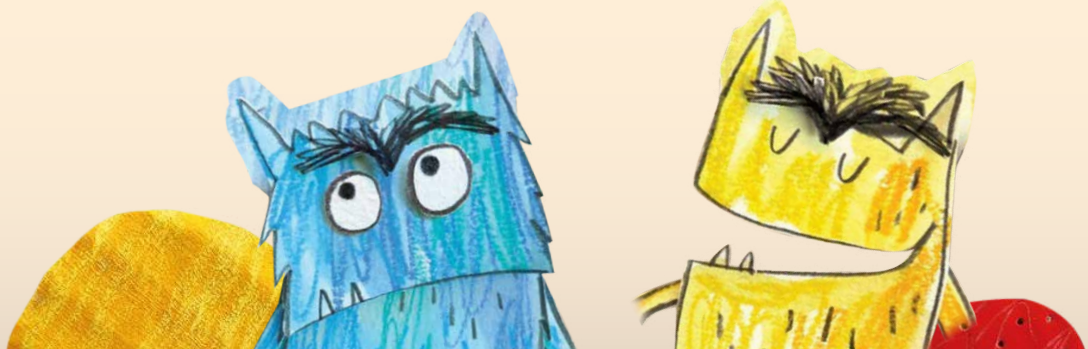
Activities:

1. Colour Sorting Jars
2. Colour Monster Play Dough
3. Child-led storytelling
4. "How Are You Feeling Today?" Self-Portrait Monster

50%

**Discount
Enrolment fee
for new student***

Register



Basketball Court

During the mid-term break, our basketball court was resurfaced to improve grip and make the surface safer for students. At the same time, additional line markings were added so the space can now also be used for other sports, including badminton. These improvements help ensure the court can support a wider range of activities for students throughout the school day. Over the coming months, MBIS also looks forward to welcoming other schools to campus to enjoy friendly games and competitions using our improved sports facilities.



Academic year of 2025-2026

Upcoming Keydates in Term 2

FEB 2026	Mon 23 Feb – Fri 6 Mar Mid-Term Break
MAR 2026	Mon 9 Staff Personal Development Day (PD Day) (no school) Tue 10 Back to School Mon 23 – Fri 27 Sustainability Week
APR 2026	Mon 6 – Fri 10 Parent-Teacher Conferences Mon 13 – Fri 17 Songkran Holidays (no school) Mon 27 Apr – Fri 1 May Book Week
MAY 2026	Mon 11 – Fri 15 International Week
JUN 2026	Wed 7 Queen's Birthday (no school) Tue 9 Parent Morning: Wellbeing & Values (4/4) Thu 18 – Fri 19 End of Year Celebration



**View the school
calendar on
the website**

KEY DATES



FEBRUARY 2026

Monday 23rd February – Friday 6th March – Mid-Term Break

MARCH 2026

Monday 9th – Staff Personal Development Day (PD Day) (no school)

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.

Tuesday 10th – Back to School

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th – Sustainability Week

Sustainability Week is an opportunity for our students to explore how everyday choices can contribute to a healthier planet and a fairer future. Throughout the week, learning across the school will focus on practical ways to reduce waste, use resources responsibly, and care for our local environment.



APRIL 2026

Monday 6th – Friday 10th – Parent-Teacher Conferences

These meetings give parents and teachers dedicated time to discuss each child's progress, celebrate achievements, and agree on clear next steps for learning and wellbeing.

Monday 13th – Friday 17th – Songkran Holidays (no school)

Monday 27th Apr – Friday 1st May – Book Week

It is a joyful celebration of stories and a chance to encourage a lifelong love of reading. Hosted by our librarians, the week is filled with engaging activities that spark curiosity, imagination, and enthusiasm for books across the school. It is one of our biggest and most anticipated events, and a favourite in our community for the way it brings reading to life for every age group.



MAY 2026

Monday 11th – Friday 15th – International Week

International Week is a celebration of the diverse cultures, languages, and experiences that enrich our school community. Throughout the week, students take part in learning activities that promote curiosity, respect, and global awareness, while exploring traditions and perspectives from around the world.

JUNE 2026

Wednesday 3rd – Queen's Birthday (no school)

Tuesday 9th – Parent Morning: Wellbeing & Values (4/4)

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

Thursday 18th – Friday 19th – End of Year Celebration

Our End of Year Celebration is a special occasion to recognise the hard work, progress, and achievements of our students throughout the academic year. It is also a meaningful milestone as we celebrate those moving on to the next key stage, marking their growth and readiness for new learning ahead.



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 **Instagram** instagram.com/merittonbritishschool
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 **Line** @meritton



Office Hours:

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