

GREENACRE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 | Term 2a | January 25, 2021

Welcome to term 2 and the third edition of our Greenacre Newsletter.

We are very excited to share this half terms updates with you all.

We would like to wish you a very positive and healthy new year for 2021.



Key Upcoming Dates

1st February: 100th Day of School

Whole school celebrations and fundraising

12th February: Chinese New Year

Whole school celebrations

15 - 16th February: School open as normal

17th – 21st February – Mid Term break

Admissions



We are very happy to welcome new students Ozora, Koko and Milana to Greenacre International School.

A Message from the Headmaster

Welcome back to term 2. The school came alive again at Greenacre for the start of Term 2. Children were thrilled to be able to greet their friends and discuss their holiday stories.

We are delighted to welcome more children again this term. Returning children came back eager and motivated, ready to throw themselves into an exciting and interesting new school term.

This term we are having a big focus on children in primary and secondary wearing the correct uniform to school which is practical and smart. Children should feel proud to belong to the school and share this with the community. It would be great if you as parents could share the expectations of the school and send your child to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. We believe that the wearing of a school uniform enables children to identify with their school, gives a sense of belonging, is practical and smart, and reinforces a positive work ethos.

Sadly, Prince our school dog was involved in an accident last week. He was rushed to Phuket to get specialist treatment and will need major surgery to save his leg. We as a school will be fundraising and getting fit at the same time to raise money for his surgery and recovery. I am sure everyone concerned will fully support us with this. More details will follow shortly.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support and commitment to Greenacre. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you in the coming weeks!

Teacher Dara





Environmentality

Propagating cuttings with Year 7

During January's online learning, our Year 7 students learned how to propagate cuttings. We took advantage of the fact we were all on our computers to research propagation and watched some great instructional videos. Students were then able to cut and propagate their own cuttings at home.

Now we're back at Greenacre we've been taking cuttings from several different types of hibiscus flowers around the school. The cuttings are already starting to put out little root nodules, roots next and then the leaves.

The students are looking forward to the day the cuttings are leafy enough to plant in the ground and start flowering!





Environmentality

Erosion Control with Year 9

Plants are nature's best form of erosion control, this week Year 9 have been helping this process along on our school grounds.

Last year, our Environmental Club planted what was a bare, eroded bank with a plant we took from the jungle. This beautiful little yellow flower spreads out across sunny areas, rooting and locking the earth as it goes.

In December, Year 9 took and propagated some new cuttings. This week they planted them on the bank alongside our gym, ready to spread out and protect the rest of the area.

Gardening in Thailand often yields surprises, this lesson was no different - Thengkwa found a tiny 'blind snake' under our planting trays!



Updates

Art and Design

I would like to say a big thank you to our children for the great work and effort in our Art lessons. Last term we displayed our work in an exhibition in the Hall and the artwork shared was amazing.

These exhibitions will help our students find inspiration and motivation to show their best results and improve their skills in art. This term, we will focus on the basic knowledge of professional art which means that the lessons will not only be fun and creative but also important for the future. We will continue to study the theory of colour, colour saturation, light and shadow, composition in drawing, as well as study different types of drawing and different art techniques.

After school Art Club available this term with a limited number of spaces:

KS1 - beginners for children from 5 years old.

KS2 - intermediate and advanced for children from 8 years old.

*Drawings, crafts, creativity and new knowledge for children. These lessons will help to develop imagination, improve art skills and learn how to paint like real artists with professional materials and tools.
Teacher Tatiana*



Updates

Wellbeing

The focus of last term's 5 Ways to Wellbeing was 'Giving'. Greenacre students across foundation stage, primary and secondary have been practising acts of giving and kindness. They have been creating positive feelings and a sense of reward for themselves and students alike by practising kindness. The students of Greenacre International School are so connected in kindness and this makes me very proud to see. They continue to practice small acts of kindness in their every day interactions at school and took part in larger acts of kindness in our local community.

During the Christmas celebrations students collected much needed food for the happy dogs at Pariah Dog Shelter expressing their care and concern for animals. The Shoebox appeal was a success and our school made the lives of many families very magical this Christmas. Each class prepared such beautifully decorated packages and filled them with essential and fun items for the underprivileged children to enjoy. The students of Greenacre also extended their gratitude to the wider community in our school by recognising those who make our school such an amazing place. Every Friday the students continue to 'fill someones bucket' by taking time to think of someone who was extra kind to them during the week and sharing this in assembly.

The focus of this half term's 5 Ways to Wellbeing is 'Be Active'. Students will be focusing on their physical health and fitness which will also improve their mental wellbeing by raising self esteem, helping them to set goals or challenges and achieve them and causing chemical changes in their brain which can help to positively change their moods.

Students will be taking part in sponsored group and individual fitness challenges, learning more about yoga and meditation and encouraging and motivating eachother to get fit!

Physical activity is associated with improved learning and the ability to concentrate.

I look forward to the Active term ahead and thank you parents for your continued support in making the wellbeing of the children such an important factor of life here at Greenacre.

Teacher Olivia



Positivity

Feedback from Online Learning

We would like to share some of the positive feedback we received from parents during the week of online lessons. Thank you for your kind words and support as always.

"Big thank you to all the teachers who put so much hard work and effort to make online classes so interesting. Kelvin and Richard enjoyed them so much. At first they were upset to know they are going to study online but as soon as they started, they were enjoying it and were looking forward to their classes every morning. All the teachers did a great job to keep them interacted and we are very grateful for that. It gave us, the parents an opportunity to see the schooling from within too which was great. Please pass the message from us to the teachers."

"It was very nice for me to see what my kids learning and doing. All make this very fantastic. Thank you. 😊"

"Thank you. Kelvin really enjoyed his classes today even though he was so upset to find out he won't be seeing his friends and teachers. You are brilliant! You make so fun."

"Thank's was a great PE lesson we enjoyed very much."

Christmas Enterprise Fair

We are very happy to announce the success of our Christmas Enterprise Fair.

The students in Foundation, Primary and Secondary worked extremely hard at Christmas planning, preparing and setting up our annual Christmas Fair.

We are pleased to share that they earned a total of 8,550 baht which will shared between various charities of the student's choice and for our Class Dojo shop which we are very excited to share in the coming weeks.

"In my opinion, online lessons are very disciplined for the student. For example, with Varvara last year. She was very successful in knowledge during online lessons. Especially in English. Of course, online there is no face-to face communication with the Class but as an alternative during Covid, it's a great option. It is convenient for parents they see how the lesson is going on, see what the child understands or does not understand."

"Online learning was a positive experience overall. Sasha liked to study this way. Teachers have found the perfect balance between studying and having fun making the lessons productive and enjoyable. I thank the whole Greenacre team and all the teachers involved for the excellent work they did with online learning."