



# Balazine

STARTING THE BALANCE

April 2025



BALANCE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SURATTHANI  
โรงเรียนนานาชาติ บาลานซ์ สุราษฎร์ธานี



# Balazine

April 2025



April is often associated with many things, but perhaps most significantly, it represents a time of new beginnings. At Balance International School, the month was marked by the joyous celebration of Songkran, a cherished Thai tradition that allowed us to welcome the Thai New Year with cultural rituals and spirited water festivities.

As we embarked on Term 3, we embraced several new beginnings within our school community. We were pleased to welcome two new members to our teaching team: Ms. Pattra, who has joined us as the Learning Support Assistant in Year 3, and Mr. Quinton, who brings his expertise to our Robotics and Coding program. We are confident that both educators will make valuable contributions to our students' learning experience.

Additionally, we welcomed a number of new students into our Summer Ice Program this term. We trust that their time at Balance will be both enjoyable and intellectually stimulating, encouraging them to explore new perspectives and engage in dynamic learning opportunities.

Term 3 promises to be an enriching period, filled with exciting experiences—from Literacy Week to our very first Residential Program. We look forward to seeing our students grow, explore, and thrive as they continue their educational journey at Balance.

*Grant Larter*  
*Head of School*



# PIZZA

## MAKING

We had an exciting food adventure - we made our own pizzas with the school chef! We practised our Physical Development by spreading sauce, sprinkling cheese, and carefully adding toppings to our pizzas.

We also used our Mathematics skills by counting our toppings and talking about shapes—is a pizza a circle or a triangle when we slice it?

The school chef taught us about different ingredients and how they come together to make a delicious meal, helping us develop our Understanding the World.

Cooking together was so much fun, and we loved being little chefs for the day! 🍕👩🍳🌟

Ms. Sarah





## CREATIVE SPLASHES

# SONGKRAN!

In preparation for Songkran, our Nursery class put their water-squirting skills to the test—swapping water for paint to create magical rainbow canvases! Using duck-shaped water pistols, the children explored colour mixing and movement as they squirted paint onto their canvases outdoors.



This fun, hands-on activity supported our learning objectives, by encouraging creativity, fine motor development, and playful exploration. A perfect way to celebrate and get ready for the Songkran fun ahead!

Ms. Hollie







# MUD KITCHEN



Our Reception class had a blast outdoors by creating their very own Mud Kitchen! To kick off the excitement, they brought in pots, pans, and chef outfits, making the experience even more fun as they "cooked" with natural materials like mud, leaves, and water.

The Mud Kitchen encourages creativity, teamwork, and exploration. The children followed the recipe by reading the steps and adding the necessary ingredients. The mud they created was bright red, a lovely spicy colour that added to the fun! As they played, the students also explored mathematical concepts like numbers and measurements, incorporating them into their "recipes." This hands-on experience promotes sensory exploration, environmental awareness, and helps develop important life skills.



**Ms. Ros**





# OCCUPATIONAL ROLE-PLAY

Our Year 1 students stepped into the shoes of their future selves this week as part of an exciting Global Perspectives project on occupations. Each child chose a profession that sparked their curiosity—from bakers to doctors, dentists to artists—and teamed up with classmates to become mini-experts. Using the computer lab, they researched everything from uniforms and tools to daily tasks and responsibilities.

The classroom buzzed with energy as students proudly presented their findings to their peers, showcasing what they had learned with confidence and enthusiasm. Then came the real fun—role-play! The children transformed into their chosen professionals, bringing in chefs' hats, lab coats, and aprons, and engaging in imaginative role-play scenarios.

It was a joy to see our little learners taking their roles so seriously, whether they were carefully inspecting “teeth” as dentists, mixing up imaginary treats as bakers, or giving out tours in their exhibitions. Through teamwork, creativity, and curiosity, the Year 1s not only explored new careers but also developed valuable communication and collaboration skills. Well done to our budding professionals!

**Mr. James**





This term in our Global Perspectives class, learners have been learning about how people in Surat Thani can stay active and lead healthy lives. Using their knowledge of the city and tools like Google Maps, learners explored two fantastic places for fitness: Surat Thani Provincial Stadium and Koh Lamphu Park.



The class worked together to investigate what kinds of sports and physical activities are available in each location. They viewed satellite images and street views on Google Maps, and took screenshots showing jogging tracks, sports courts, and open spaces for group exercises or family outings.



## STAYING ACTIVE IN SURAT THANI

# A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PROJECT

This project was a great way to combine technology, research, and communication skills while also celebrating the benefits of fitness and outdoor activity. Well done to everyone involved!

**Ms. Sally**

To put their learning into practice, we welcomed a foreign guest into the classroom. Learners had the chance to share their findings and explain how people in Surat Thani can use these two areas to stay healthy and active. From football matches at the stadium to peaceful evening jogs along the river at Koh Lamphu, our learners did a great job promoting healthy lifestyles and showing pride in their local community.

**STAY  
ACTIVE!**







# STUDENT TALK TIME

This month, we have been providing students with leadership opportunities to increase their confidence and communication skills.



By taking on roles such as group leaders, discussion facilitators, and classroom helpers, students are given more chances to speak and collaborate in English. This approach not only encourages them to express their ideas but also helps develop their teamwork and problem-solving skills. With more student-led discussions, we are reducing teacher talk time and allowing students to take greater ownership of their learning.

This has created a more interactive and engaging classroom environment where students learn from one another. We look forward to seeing their leadership skills continue to grow!

**Mr.Charles**



# EXCITING ADVENTURE

The final academic term of the year has quietly arrived, and in just two months, our Year 4 students will be writing their final examinations. To help them prepare, we've dedicated every Friday lesson to revising content covered during the first two terms. Additionally, students are encouraged to use their homework periods on Mondays and Wednesdays to work through revision sheets and reinforce their understanding.

Even with all this revision, learning never stops! We're currently exploring the topic of special numbers. Negative numbers, for instance, can be tricky—did you know that  $-8$  is actually smaller than  $-7$ ? It's strange, yet fascinating! We're also diving deeper into odd and even numbers, as well as numbers called perfect squares.

To make sense of all our discoveries, we're learning how to organize our findings using Venn Diagrams and Tree Diagrams.

Maths in Year 4 is such an exciting adventure!

**Mr. Peter**







# EXPLORING THE EVOLUTION OF CARS

In Year 5 English, we always strive to make learning engaging by connecting lessons to topics that excite our students. That's why, as we wrapped up our transportation unit, we focused on something that truly captures their interest—supercars!

Students explored how cars have evolved over time, comparing vehicles from the past to those of today and imagining what the future of transportation might look like. They showcased their ideas through comparison posters, designed their own futuristic supercars, and wrote step-by-step guides explaining how these high-performance vehicles are built.



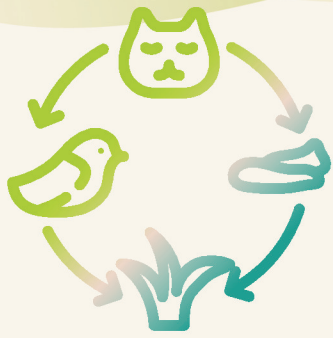
To put their English-speaking skills to the test, students became salespeople, pitching their supercars to potential “buyers.” With enthusiasm and creativity, they tried to persuade their classmates that, for the low, low price of 1 billion baht, their dream car could be theirs!

By tapping into their interests, we encourage creativity, critical thinking, and a deeper connection to their learning. It's been an exciting and inspiring unit!

Mr. Sam







# Food Webs & Chains!

This month in Science, Year 6 explored food webs and food chains, learning how they support ecosystems and impact human life. They researched how harmful substances like mercury and microplastics enter food webs, affecting all organisms, and presented their findings with great creativity.



To further enhance their learning, we took an exciting field trip to the Phunphin Geological Museum, where students worked in teams to complete a scavenger hunt. This hands-on experience reinforced key topics from this term, including types of rocks, the rock cycle, and fossils. It was fantastic to see their enthusiasm as they connected classroom learning to real-world science!

**Mr. Judd**





# Fake News



This term, the Year 7s explored the benefits and risks of online news reporting and compared it to how news was reported in the past. As part of their learning, they were challenged to create fake news coverage on a celebrity feud of their choice. The girls took full creative control - writing their own scripts, leading the production, and editing their videos for the final review .

Through this project, they developed essential skills in storytelling, media literacy, and digital editing. They also gained a deeper understanding of how misinformation spreads online and the importance of verifying sources. Their dedication and teamwork truly shone, and the final videos were both engaging and impressive!

Ms. Britney





CHINESE CULTURE

# THE STORY OF NIAN

年的故事



To celebrate and explore Chinese culture, students learned about the legend of Nian through an engaging video that told the story behind traditional Chinese New Year customs. They read and discussed how the villagers used red decorations, loud noises, and fire to scare away the monster Nian.

To deepen their understanding, students created colorful paper dragons and crafted Nian masks, allowing them to express their creativity while connecting with the cultural meaning behind the traditions.

Ms. Gam





# MY TIE DYE SHIRT



In Term 2, all Nursery and Reception students learned about colours in Chinese. They can now remember the colour words and say sentences like “I like (colour)” in Chinese.

Before Songkran Day, the children enjoyed a fun tie-dye activity where they used many colours to decorate their shirts. The shirts turned out beautifully and showed how creative our students are. We had a lot of fun and wore our colourful shirts to celebrate the Songkran festival in Thailand.

**Ms. Nutchra**







# SONG KRAN

Marking the end of Term 2 in true Thai style, BISS celebrated Songkran with a splash!

Our students enjoyed a range of fantastic activities, including the respectful Water Pouring Ceremony and Bathing of the Buddha statue.



There was also creative fun building pagodas with sand and water, alongside traditional games. Of course, no Songkran is complete without plenty of joyful Water Splashing!





# Lunch BUZZ



SPEAKER

**ดร.ธีรพร เจริญศักดิ์**  
Tiraporn Jaroensak, Ph.D.

## WHAT IS BREAKFAST/LUNCH BUZZ?

Breakfast/Lunch Buzz is an engaging session by Balance International School, where parents and experts come together to share knowledge and ideas over coffee and breakfast, focusing on supporting student development.

A big thank you to Dr. Tiraporn Jaroensak, Ph.D., for leading our Lunch Buzz session on 25 April 2025. Her inspiring talk, “Beyond Borders: Empowering Language Skills in Everyday Life,” encouraged our Balance parents to view language not as a limitation, but as a powerful tool for everyday growth and connection.

We were thrilled to see our parents engaged, asking thoughtful questions, and sharing their own experiences during the session. After that, parents were invited to join a luncheon before attending The Third Gallery Walk - a perfect time to reflect and connect.


At Balance, we are committed to creating meaningful opportunities for parents to support their children’s learning journeys. Thank you to all the parents who joined us!








# THE THIRD GALLERY *Walk*



On the 25th of April, the Third Gallery Walk was held for parents to view the achievements our students have made in Term 2. It was also an opportunity for parents to discuss academic progress and learn more about upcoming clubs such as Coding, Golf and others for Term 3



Thank you to all Balance parents who attended and supported their children's learning journey.







## GET IN TOUCH WITH US



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