Balazine

May 2025

STARTING THE BALANCE

BALANCE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SURATTHANI
โรงเรียนนานาชาติ บาลานซ์ สุราษฎร์ธานี

I want to share an African folklore story with you this month. An elephant and a dog became pregnant at the same time. Three months later, the dog gave birth to six amazing, healthy puppies. At six and nine months after that, she again fell pregnant and gave birth to healthy puppies each time.

Eighteen months later, the dog approached the elephant and asked her if she was sure she was pregnant. They conceived at the same time, but the dog had a dozen puppies already. The elephant calmly replied: “What I carry isn’t a puppy, it is an elephant. I only give birth every two years, but when my baby touches the earth, the world will feel it. When people see it, they will stop and stare in wonder. What I carry is powerful and majestic.”

She continued, “Don’t lose faith, when you see others receiving rewards quickly, don’t feel jealous if yours hasn’t come yet. Instead, remind yourself that your time will come, and when it does, people will be amazed!”

Moral: Everything comes when it is meant to – never too soon, never too late, but always at the right moment.

We always offer challenges to our students at Balance, and sometimes they are ready for these; other times, they take longer to adjust to new ways of doing things. I hope that the month of May has been a majestic time for everyone to discover something new and challenge themselves.

Grant Larter
Head of School

Splash-Tastic Water AND Bubble Play Day!

Today was a splash-tastic day of water and bubble play! Everyone was thrilled to put on their swimming costumes and jump into the paddling pool. We loved zooming down Teacher Sarah's homemade slip 'n slide, exploring the science of soap and movement. We experimented with bubbles, foam, and water, using our bodies and breath to make more bubbles while learning through sensory and physical play. No one wanted to leave the pool, and we've all asked for another water day soon —Teacher Sarah is considering it!

Ms. Sarah

Celebrating South Korea

IN NURSERY

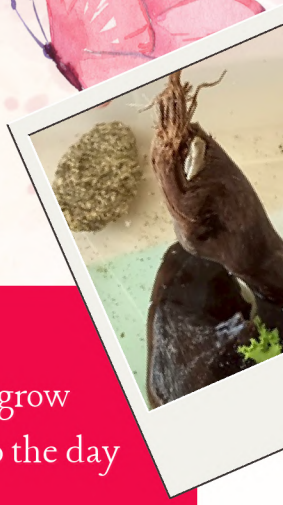
As part of our International Day celebrations, the Nursery class has been learning all about South Korea. Using a world map, the children explored where Thailand and South Korea are located—an exciting introduction to geography that supports early communication and understanding of the wider world.

Throughout the week, we incorporated Korean culture into our daily routines. The children learned how to say simple Korean phrases such as "hello," "thank you," and "I love you,", introducing the children to a new language in a playful and meaningful way. We explored traditional Korean foods, and the children enjoyed messy sensory play by recreating colourful dishes in our themed rice box—an activity that supported both fine motor development and creative expression.

Physical development was also encouraged through a lively Korean ribbon dance using chopsticks, where the children moved their bodies freely and joyfully to music. To round off the week, Nursery teamed up with Year 2 to create beautiful cherry blossom art, encouraging collaboration and community across age groups.

Ms. Hollie

Growing Minds, Growing Bodies!



This term, we've been busy exploring how we grow - inside and out!

Healthy Bodies

We made colourful fruit kebabs and learned how healthy foods help us grow strong. Families also shared breakfast photos to show how a good start to the day makes a big difference!

Amazing Nature

We watched real-life caterpillars turn into butterflies! Seeing them fly free after weeks in our butterfly aquarium was truly magical.

Life Cycles in Action

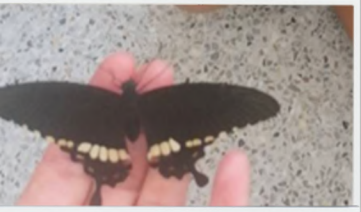
We also had tadpoles in class and observed them grow legs and become little frogs - science in action!

Green Fingers

Each child planted a bean and watched the roots and shoots grow. What a joy to see nature at work!

It's been a fantastic learning journey - and just like our beans and butterflies, we're growing every day!

Ms. Ros



MONEY MONEY MONEY

This month in Year 1 Maths, we explored the exciting topic of money!

We began by discussing why people use money and how it is more convenient than bartering. The students learned that long ago, people traded items, but over time, money became an easier way to buy and sell things.

We examined real Thai coins and talked about the value of each one. The children enjoyed making coin prints in their notebooks using crayons, which helped them focus on the numbers and symbols on each coin. We then looked at coins from Mexico and talked about how those coins show a similar value. Together, we created a class poster to show different ways we can use coins to make equal amounts. The activity encouraged teamwork and helped the students understand the concept of value and number combinations. It was a hands-on and meaningful way to connect maths with the real world!

Mr. James

FIELD TRIP

HORSE VIEW FARM STAY

This month, Year 2 students saddled up for a unique learning experience with a field trip to Horse View Farm, a local business known for offering horse riding lessons. The visit was not only exciting but also educational, as learners discovered how horse riding can be a fun and effective way to stay fit and active.

With helmets on and excitement buzzing, each learner had the opportunity to mount a horse and experience the thrill of riding. The session helped students appreciate the balance, strength, and coordination that horse riding requires.

As part of their Global Perspectives project, students prepared a set of thoughtful questions to ask the instructors.

Back at school, the class worked together to create a vibrant and eye-catching display stall packed with facts, photos, and fun facts from their trip. Most impressively, students confidently shared what they had learned with others, sparking conversations about trying new ways to stay active and healthy.

Ms. Sally

Portugal

IN FOCUS

For this year's International Day, our Year 3 class proudly represented Portugal. The children explored Portuguese culture by creating traditional arts and crafts, including colourful hand-painted roosters.

We were thrilled to collaborate with other classes and share our work in a lively cultural exchange. It was a joyful and enriching experience that helped the students celebrate diversity and build international-mindedness.

Mr. Charles

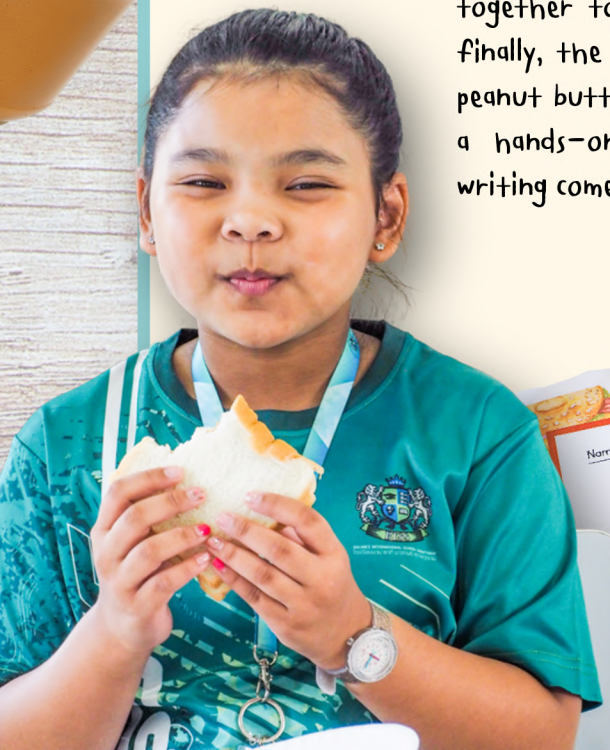
Descriptive Writing

In Year 4 English, we've been learning all about descriptive writing. To help the students understand the importance of clear and detailed instructions, I asked them to explain how to make a peanut butter sandwich. I set up a display with bread, peanut butter, a knife, and plates, and followed their instructions exactly as they were written.

To their surprise, I dipped my hands straight into the peanut butter and smothered it onto the bread's plastic wrapper—just as their vague directions suggested! This fun (and messy!) activity showed the students how missing even a small step can lead to big confusion. We discussed how strong descriptive writing includes clear, step-by-step instructions and specific details to help the reader understand exactly what to do.

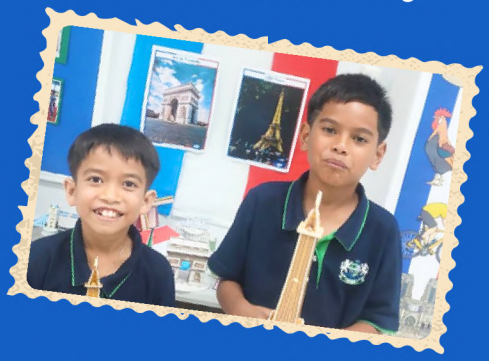
Afterwards, we revised the instructions together to make them more accurate, and finally, the students got to make their own peanut butter sandwiches to enjoy 🥪. It was a hands-on lesson that made descriptive writing come to life!

Ms. Britney



Exploring Holidays & France!

This month in English, our focus was on Holidays, and what perfect timing - it lined up wonderfully with our International Day celebration! Year 5 had the exciting opportunity to represent France, and they truly embraced the challenge.



Our young globetrotters dove into learning all about French culture. From researching how to travel around the country to comparing the prices of budget and luxury hotels, they developed practical skills while discovering the charm of French life.

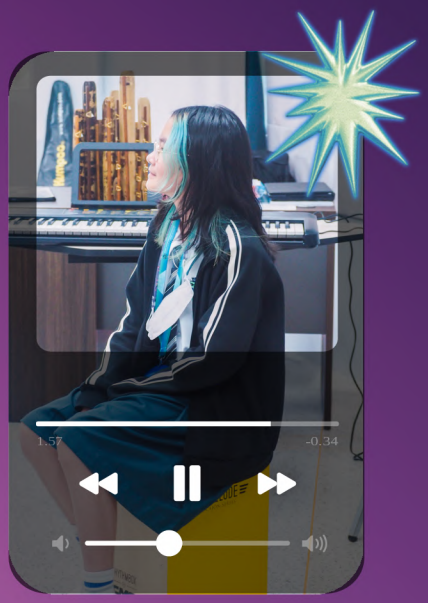
They also explored iconic sights, landmarks, and customs, building a deeper understanding of what makes France such a popular holiday destination.

To cap it all off, our Year 5 students became teachers themselves, guiding the Year 2 class in a fun and friendly game of Pétanque, a beloved French pastime. It was a wonderful way to end the unit - with learning, leadership, and a little bit of games!

Mr. Sam

MUSIC REHEARSALS

Hello, here's an update from our Year 6 music class.



Recently, we've been actively rehearsing music together as a group. Our ensemble includes a pianist, an electric guitarist, a Cajon drummer, and a vocalist. Some of the songs we've been working on include Photograph, Best Part, Glimpse of Us, and more.

Throughout this process, the students have been truly enjoying themselves. They've not only had fun making music, but they've also been developing key musical skills, especially rhythm coordination and teamwork during practice. Watching them grow as a band has been inspiring.

Looking ahead, we are now preparing for an upcoming performance on 6th June 2025. Our Year 6 students have been putting their hearts into every practice session, and we can't wait to show you what we've been working on. So please stay tuned and look forward to the performance. We promise it will be something special!

Mr. Satang

Year 7 - Art

Art Project

ACT FOR OUR EARTH

In the “Act for Our Earth” project, Year 7 students learned about global warming and how it affects our planet. They talked about what causes it and why it’s important to take care of the Earth. After learning, students used their creativity to make art from recycled materials.

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Ms. Lak

<Coding Week>

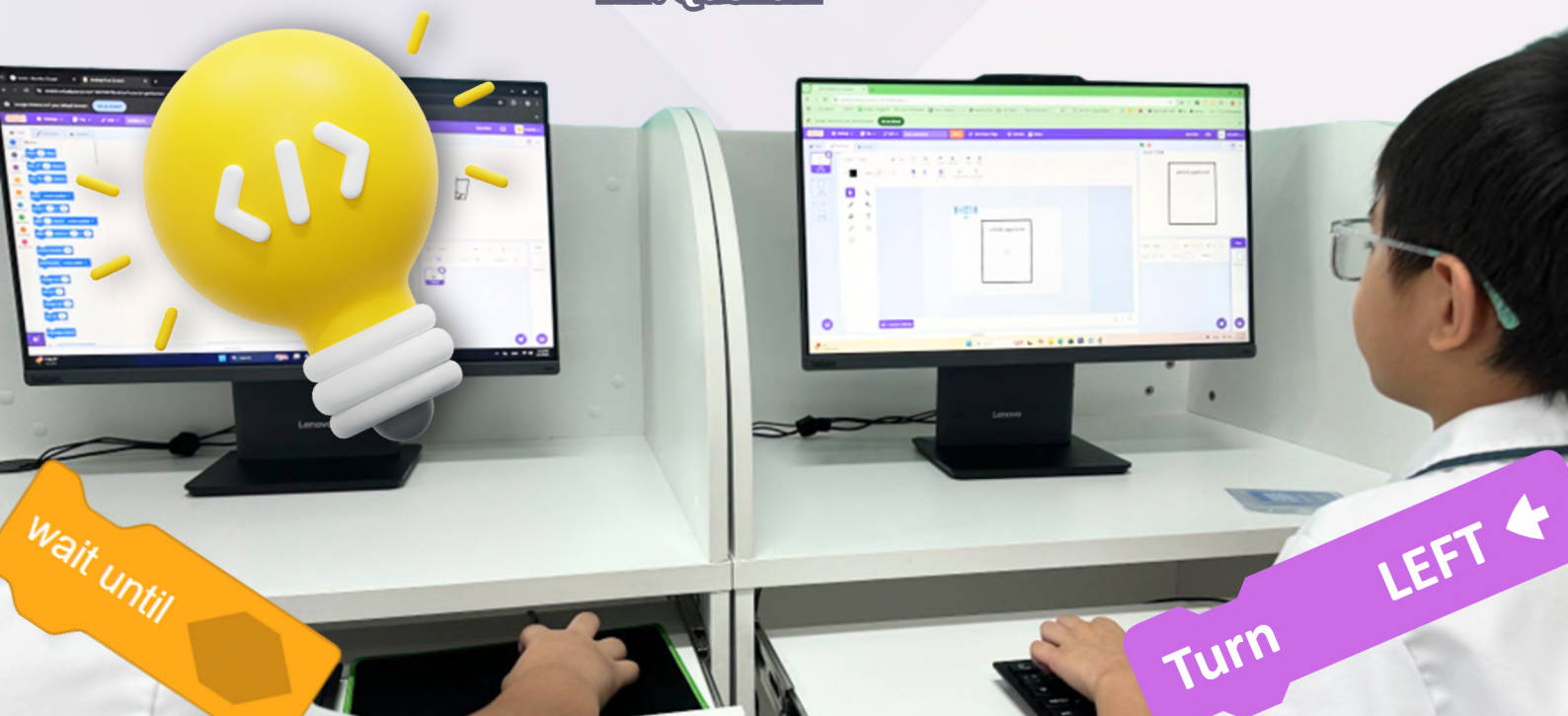
<Robots & Games>

This month, pupils in Years 2-7 used the Matatalab Scratch IDE to programme sprite robots to draw shapes like triangles and squares. They also learnt how to make the robot move around the room, detect obstacles, and respond with a message such as "I've dodged it, no damage was caused."

Meanwhile, pupils in Years 4-7 took on a more advanced challenge by using loops in Scratch to create their own computer game called Wall Breaker.

It was a fun and rewarding week that helped everyone build their coding confidence while thinking creatively and logically.

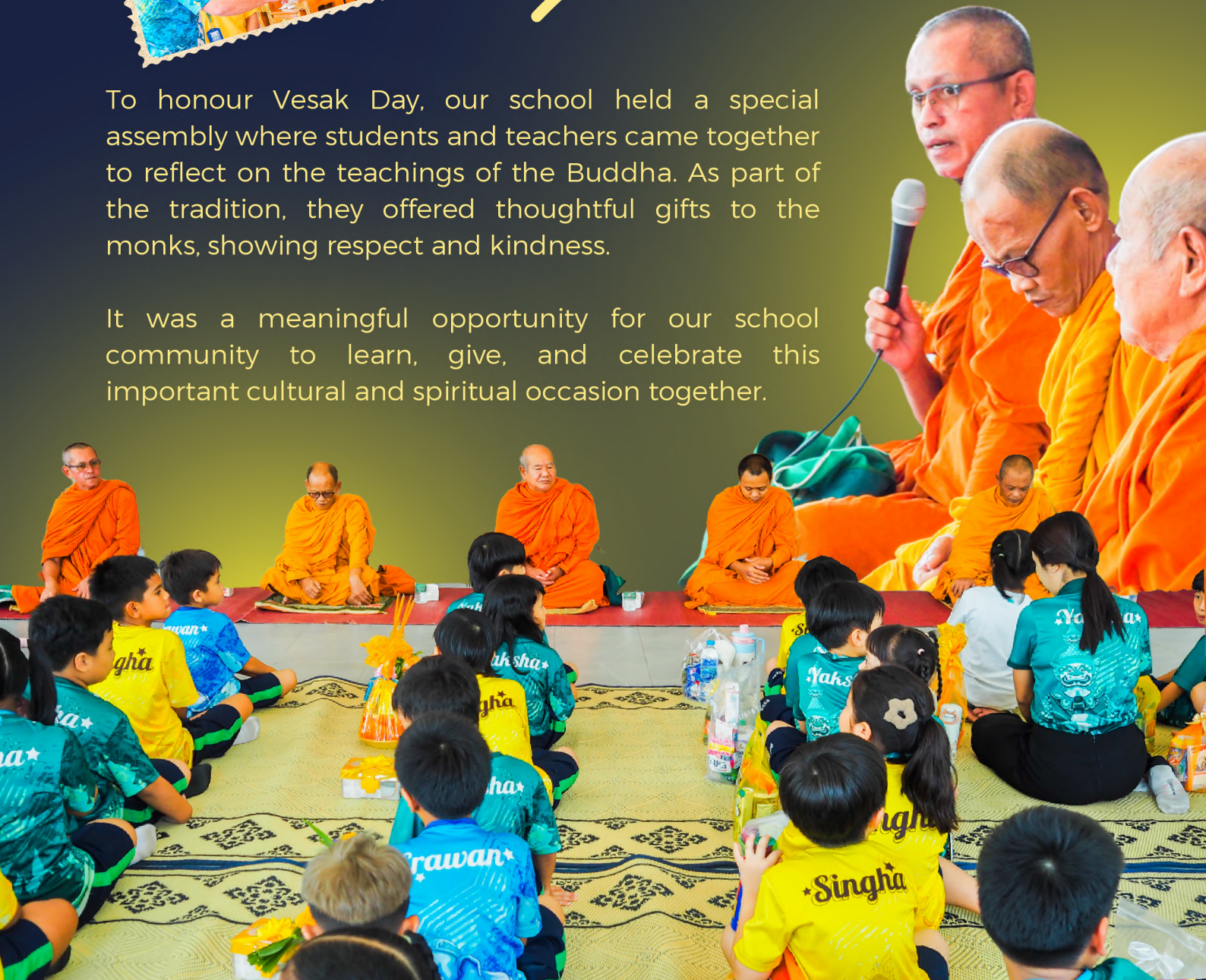
Mr. Quentin



HAPPY Vesak DAY

To honour Vesak Day, our school held a special assembly where students and teachers came together to reflect on the teachings of the Buddha. As part of the tradition, they offered thoughtful gifts to the monks, showing respect and kindness.

It was a meaningful opportunity for our school community to learn, give, and celebrate this important cultural and spiritual occasion together.

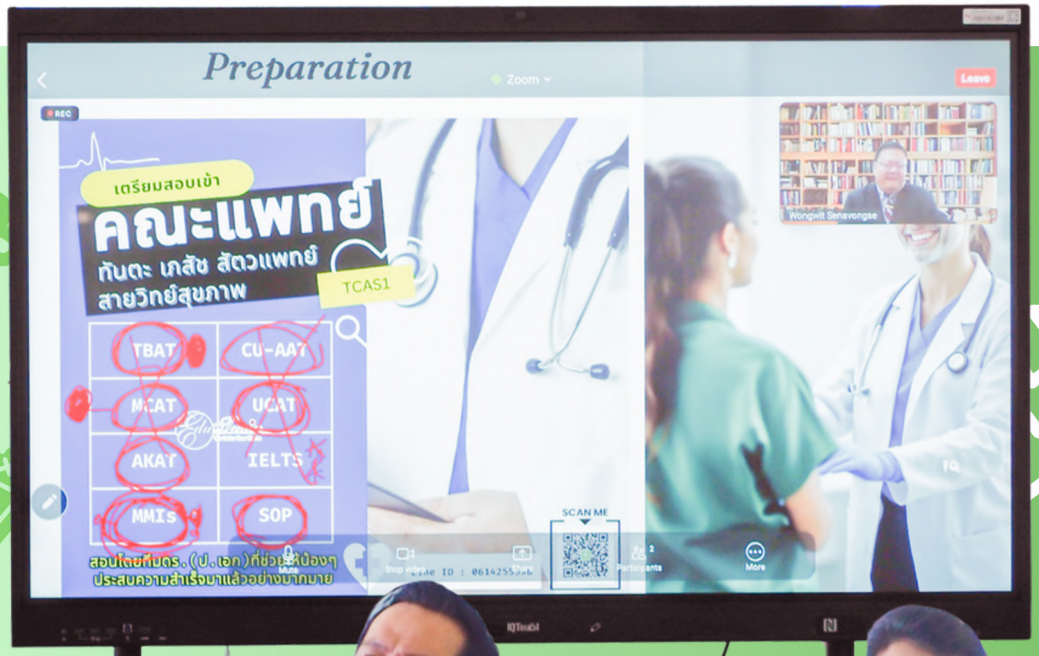


ZOOM CONFERENCE

หลักสูตรอินเตอร์ไม่ใช่อุปสรรคของเส้นทางสู่หมอไทย

Balance International School Suratthani successfully held an online Zoom Conference on 29 April 2025, featuring Dr. Wongwit Senavongse from Srinakharinwirot University.

The session, titled "Pathways from International Curriculum to Medical Studies in Thailand," offered valuable insights and addressed many questions about the university application process and requirements, as well as Dr. Wongwit's personal experience becoming a doctor after completing international programmes.



Thank you to everyone who joined us. Stay connected for more informative events from BISS!

LITERACY WEEK

It was a fun-filled Literacy Week with activities for everyone. Students took part in a Reading Competition, enjoyed reading with other classes during Reading Buddies sessions, made special Bookmarks, played Reading Bingo, and explored a Book Fair with SE-ED Bookstore.

Holding their Balance passports, students set off on a journey around the world From vibrant Asian countries like Japan, Vietnam, and Korea, to European nations such as France and Portugal, and the rich cultures of Papua New Guinea and South Africa. It was a day full of exploration, learning, and fun.

International Day

A wonderful way to celebrate global diversity and international mindfulness at Balance

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