

ISSUE NO.18 / 2023

THE MANTA

THE UWC THAILAND COMMUNITY

INTERACTIVE E-MAGAZINE



Celebrating our Cultural Diversity

With students representing 95 national identities, we celebrate the unique perspectives and experiences that each individual brings to the table. By promoting cultural exchange and understanding, we create a space where students can learn from each other, challenge their assumptions, and broaden their worldviews. This not only enriches the learning experience, but also helps to foster empathy, tolerance, and respect for different cultures, which are essential values for creating a better world.

“

My dream would be a multicultural society, one that is diverse and where every man, woman and child is treated equally. I dream of a world where all people of all races work together in harmony.

Nelson Mandela, Late Honorary President, UWC



Learn more about UWC Thailand and follow us on social media



95 National Identities at UWC Thailand

UWC Thailand experienced an exciting period of growth in the 2022/23 academic year. The school welcomed more than 150 new students and staff members who, including their families, grew our community to over 500 total community members. This growth is exciting as it presents both challenges and opportunities to get to know each other and to continue to build and strengthen our community.

Nationality vs National Identity?

At international schools, families often seek an educational experience that goes beyond academics and provides exposure to a diverse range of cultures... [Read more.](#)

By Raquel Silva, Director of Admissions, Marketing and Engagement

[Click here](#) for the full article 

The Power of Intentional Kindness

Nurturing a Culture of Inclusion and Belonging at UWC Thailand

Kindness comes in many shapes and forms—we know it when we experience it. The motto, “Good Heart, Balanced Mind, Healthy Body” has been a part of UWC Thailand’s identity from its very inception. With a “good heart” comes the value of kindness, which is shown in the many acts of generosity and thoughtfulness each day on campus... [Read more.](#)

By Kim Young, Director of Mindfulness

[Click here](#) for the full article 

Kindness is awareness and acknowledgement that our words and actions can impact our surroundings positively.

Siaji Otieno, UWC Thailand English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) teacher

Kindness is being grateful for what you have, and respect.

Maya, Grade 3 (Poland)

Kindness is friends, community.

Rosie, Grade 3 (UK)

Kindness is a positive feeling that you want to share with everyone.

Jay Anne Lua, UWC Thailand Learning Support teacher

Kindness is helping others and being kind, and playing with them.

Dailin, Grade 4 (China)



INTERCULTURAL DAY 2023

Intercultural Day 2023 was a truly unforgettable experience! From the captivating performances and delicious food to the stunning national costumes and inspiring flag parade, it was a genuine celebration of the rich traditions, cultures, and national identities represented at our school. The decorations and open dialogue only added to the wonderful atmosphere of the day.

Thank you to the whole UWC Thailand community for joining us, and especially, a big thank you to the Manta Parent-Teacher Association for making this event possible.

“

One of my favourite days is Intercultural Day. It always reminds me of how diverse and beautiful our community is, and how amazing and special it is to have people from all around the world gathered together to share their cultures.

Dale Meier, UWC Thailand
Secondary Visual Arts Teacher

LIVE

[Click here](#)
to watch the
live stream
from the day!

[Click here](#) for more photos 📸





Values Aligned Day

Our latest Values Aligned Day of the 2022/23 academic year was dedicated to Service Learning - a critical part of our UWC mission and values.

Through events like this, we strive to instil a sense of service and community in our students, teaching them the importance of giving back and working together to make a positive impact.

From the Mini Mantas to grade 12, all students and staff rolled up their sleeves and spent the day working on a variety of activities, most of which took place on campus. A range of activities was offered, including bag painting, school bike maintenance, baking, car washing, and making garden boxes, all with the goal of providing service and showing appreciation to our community.

Save the date for our final Values Aligned Day this year - dedicated to our commitment to Sports & Activities and scheduled for 31 May.

[Click here for more photos](#) 



AFRICA WEEK

The UWC Thailand community was swept away by the vibrant rhythms, enchanting music, and exciting games and performances of Africa Week! From exhilarating drumming sessions and engaging Buddy reading time to captivating classroom activities and energetic African games, Africa Week had something for everyone. The week culminated in a dazzling African Cultural Show that left the audience in awe!



Cultural Show



Lunchtime activities



3-Way and Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences

During our 3-Way and Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences earlier this month, students led conversations as they reflected on and celebrated their learning. These conferences empowered our students to take pride in their learning and further increased their belief in their abilities. By taking an active role in showcasing their work, they developed a strong sense of ownership and responsibility for their education.



“

As we listened to the inspiring stories of women leaders from around the region, we realised that the power of storytelling lies not only in the ability to inspire, but also in the ability to connect and learn from one another.

Mehregan, Grade 11 (Iran)

Mehregan is a UWC Thailand Future Women Leader scholar. To learn more about our scholarships please visit our [website](#).



UWC Thailand Future Women Leader scholars at the International Women's Day event.

Go Make A Difference

GoMakeADifference (GoMAD) was created in 2001 by Colin Habgood and Jill Longson to offer grants to UWC Atlantic College students. Since then, it has awarded grants to students from various UWC Schools and Colleges, leading to 50 projects in 40 countries across five continents. Over 500 participants have benefitted from the program, with numerous successful projects and positive feedback.

This year two of UWC Thailand's initiatives, Plastic Free Phuket and "Mam teeda me" won the award.

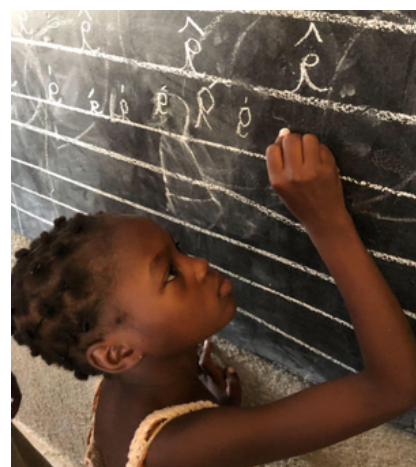


PLASTIC FREE PHUKET

Plastic Free Phuket has won for the second consecutive year, demonstrating measurable outcomes from their utilisation of last year's funds and continued impact on the island.

MAM TEEDA ME

Axelle, a grade 12 student, is leading the "Mam Teeda Me" project, which seeks to empower and educate women and youth in her home region of Burkina Faso, all while driving positive change.



If you wish to discuss sponsorship opportunities here at UWC Thailand, please contact Nicki, our Chief Advancement Officer:
nicki.robertson@uwcthailand.ac.th or go to the [support us page](#) on our website.



UWC Thailand hosted the first in-person PHASE Conference since 2019.

It was a pleasure to welcome over 200 Physical and Health Education (PHE) teachers from around the world to our campus. We hope all attendees felt the sense of community and diversity that makes UWC Thailand so special.



PHASE
@PHASEglobal

Amazing three days of learning at [#phasephuket](#). Big thanks to all the presenters, sponsors and most importantly [@UWCThailand](#) for being kind and generous hosts. See you at the next one!



Casey Mizzone
@CaseyMizzone

Thank you [@PHASEglobal](#) For an amazing wknd. I'm now rejuvenated more than ever 2return 2 [@MYISMagic](#) & model what's best for students! 🙏 to all the amazing session leaders & [@UWCThailand](#) staff who helped me release a new found energy 2promote what's best 4our students 🇹🇭 [#phasephuket](#)



Jess Kekelis (she/her)
@jess_kekelis

The best PD is when you can come home and immediately use it in your classes. Thank you [@PHASEglobal](#), [@UWCThailand](#), our team and all of the presenters for an incredible weekend of learning. [#PhysEd](#) [#PHASEphuket](#)



Amy Lauren Smith
@teaching_health

Gearing up for a full day of [#WholeSchoolWellness](#) with [@PELeathwood](#) at [@PHASEglobal](#). Folks from all over the world gathered here [@UWCThailand](#) for some learning and collaboration! [#HealthEd](#) [#isedchat](#)



Tweet your reply



Phuket Discovery Tour

The Manta Parent-Teacher Association's recent 'Phuket Discovery Tour' was another resounding success!

The tour group embarked on longtail boats and explored the stunning mangrove forests and a secluded beach, which was off the beaten track and offered a unique experience to the participants. The natural beauty of the mangroves and the serene beach setting provided the group with an opportunity to appreciate and connect with nature.

The tour culminated with a fantastic Thai lunch that left everyone satisfied and happy.

Maths Week



Peak, Grade 11 (Thailand), swept the competition at the π (pi) recitation contest on Pi Day by memorising **300 digits!**

Maths week was filled with various events that aimed to encourage students to embrace and enjoy mathematics. There was a competition for the best poster featuring hidden historical mathematical figures, a maths art challenge, and a "get caught mathing" challenge. Moreover, students had fun reciting numbers of π and throwing pies at their teachers during the "pie a teacher" event. Ditloids, a type of word puzzle, were also incorporated into classes throughout the week to enhance the students' learning experience.



Can you solve this ditloid?

4 W on a C

Clue: transport



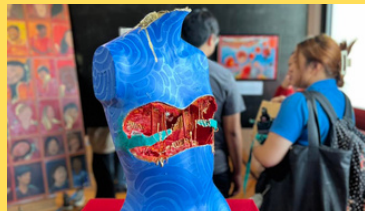
Building Number Sense through Visual Models and Tools

By Tiffany Eaton, Primary Mathematics Coordinator

Here in Primary School at UWC Thailand, mathematical learning often looks messy. At times, learning and teaching does not resemble how we might have been taught math previously. Yes, our students still learn their times tables; ultimately, however, at the initial data or memorisation stage, the learning for our students... [Read more.](#)

[Click here](#) for the full article and more photos





Visual Arts Exhibition

Art has the power to communicate when words fail us.

Through a range of mediums such as sculpture, digital and traditional drawing and painting, printmaking, and installation, eight Diploma Programme students addressed significant global and social concerns while reflecting on their own heritage, cultural diversity, and traditions.

PASSION IN ACTION

As part of the IB Middle Years Programme, grade 10 students explored their personal interests and passions to create amazing projects that showcase their skills and creativity. From gardening, robotics, and sports, to fashion and everything in between, these projects represent the culmination of months of hard work and dedication.



My Special World

by Margaret (Mega), Grade 10 (Philippines)

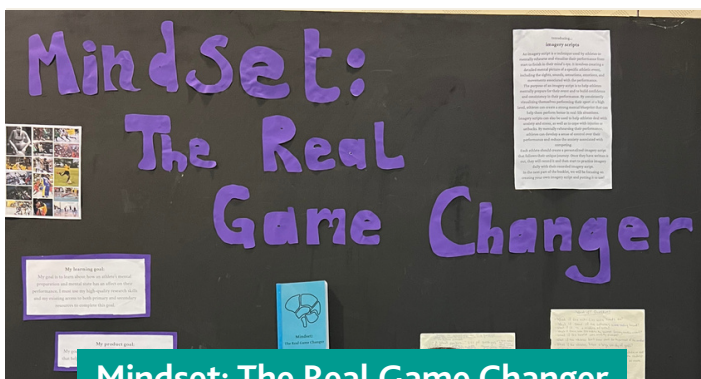
"My Special World" is a personalised colouring book for autistic children, tailored to their interests and activities, promoting autism awareness and advocacy.



How the World Starts the Day

by Manoa, Grade 10 (France)

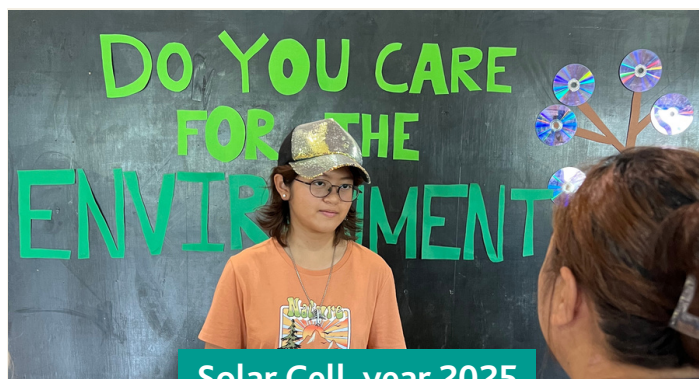
Featuring ten unique breakfast recipes from diverse cultures and backgrounds, "How the World Starts the Day" is a cookbook highlighting the importance and diversity of breakfast foods.



Mindset: The Real Game Changer

by Isabel, Grade 10 (USA)

"Mindset" is a project that aims to help athletes achieve their best version, understand their worth, and maintain a healthy mental state by providing a booklet with 14 activities to follow.



Solar Cell, year 2025

by Subreena, Grade 10 (Singapore)

The "Solar Cell, year 2025" project aims to showcase the potential for humans to generate energy using natural sources like sunlight for beneficial purposes.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The recent grade 4 and grade 5 camps provided students with unique opportunities for personal growth and development. Grade 4 students enjoyed mountain biking, sailing, and hiking at the Phuket campground, where they learned new skills and felt empowered by the experience. The grade 5 camp was filled with exciting activities such as sailing, team building, hiking, swimming at Lampi Waterfall, and kayaking through Phang Nga Bay's islands and lagoons.



**My favorite part was sailing,
which was a lot of fun! We even
saw an orange jellyfish!**

Thaw Tar (Alexander), grade 5 (Myanmar)



**I had a lot of fun in camp, I ate
s'mores and got to sleep in a tent
for the first time! I can't wait to go
to camp again!**

Maggie, grade 4 (Canada)



[Click here for more photos](#) 

SPORTS ROUND-UP

First place at ASAC Football Tournament 2023

The UWC Thailand Under 14 girl Mantas secured first place at the 2023 U14 ASAC Football tournament in Vietnam! Our boys also earned a proud and well-deserved 4th place.

“

The individual and collective progress that our U14 players and teams have made since the start of the season is great to see, reflected in the wide distribution of most valuable player (MVP) awards awarded to us from our opponents after each group match.



Steve Wallace, UWC Thailand, Head of Football



ASEAN Sports and Activities Conference Basketball Tournament

Our boys' team finished the tournament with a well-deserved win, and our girls' team took a close 4th place in a highly competitive tournament. It was an honour to have two of our players represent UWC Thailand in the female All-Stars match, and Richard, showcased his skills on the boy's team.



Our Manta High Performance Athlete, Jehanara, Grade 12 (Pakistan), has won a staggering **8 Gold medals, set 1 National Record, and was named the Best Female Swimmer** at the 18th Women's National Swimming Open Championship 2023.

The Unique Experience of Boarding at UWC Thailand

Living and Learning Together

Boarding at UWC Thailand offers students a unique opportunity to build interpersonal skills and relationships across cultures and backgrounds through a shared living experience. Boarding students live in shared rooms in the on-campus Boarding House and the off-campus villa, with roommates assigned in alignment with the value of deliberate diversity. Students engage with one another and with the boarding house staff in our common spaces, consisting of the communal kitchens, study spaces, and lounges that each provide a varied experience of living within the community... [Read more.](#)

Tapiwa Chikungwa, UWC Thailand Director of Residential Life

“

The UWC Thailand boarding house community has become like family to me over the last two years. The laughs we share and the smiles we exchange make the boarding house a hub for fun and chaos. Despite the challenges we encounter, boarding students are there for one another to provide constant support.

Iyla, Grade 12 (New Zealand)

“

As a freshman, I came to boarding and have since learned a lot. Boarding has helped me build strong bonds, become more independent, and grow as a person. It has become my second home.

Myat (One One), Grade 10 (Myanmar)



[Click here](#) for the full article 

WE ARE



UWC
THAILAND