



NETWORK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Network Newsletter T4

June 2023



Gratitude

Our recent Year 3 Mars assembly focused on gratitude. It was a timely reminder for me of its importance, particularly as the success of this year has been a collective effort. There are a lot of people that I need to express my gratitude to.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our incredible team of leaders, teachers, associate teachers, assistant teachers, admin staff, site team, support staff, and, of course, our wonderful children and their families.

It is through your collective efforts and unwavering support that we have experienced a truly remarkable and successful year here at Network.

To our leadership team, thank you for continuing to put the children and their education first in all of your decision making. You have helped make my first year at Network wonderful, and have facilitated truly special experiences for our children.



To our dedicated teachers, thank you for your passion, expertise, and tireless commitment to guiding and nurturing our children. Your dedication to their growth and development is truly commendable, and it is because of you that our classrooms have become vibrant spaces of learning and inspiration.

To our associate teachers and assistant teachers, thank you for your invaluable support and assistance in the classrooms. Your dedication to helping our children thrive and your willingness to go above and beyond are truly appreciated. You play a crucial role in creating a nurturing and engaging learning environment.

To our hardworking admin team, thank you for your behind-the-scenes efforts that keep our school running smoothly. Your organisational skills, attention to detail, and efficiency are instrumental in ensuring that everything operates seamlessly, allowing us to focus on what matters most: the education and well-being of our children.



To our diligent site team, thank you for maintaining our facilities and creating a safe and welcoming environment for our community. Your hard work and dedication ensures that our campus is always in top shape, providing an optimal setting for learning and growth.

To our invaluable support staff and cleaning team, thank you for your assistance and contributions throughout the school, from the school office to the playground, from the library to the classrooms. Your efforts play a vital role in enhancing the overall experience of our children and ensures that the school runs smoothly.

And last but not least, to our incredible children and their families, thank you for your trust, engagement, and partnership throughout the year. Your active involvement and support are essential in creating a strong and vibrant school community. I am eternally grateful for the privilege of working with your children and witnessing their growth and achievements.

Together, we have made this year at Network truly memorable and successful. It is through our collective efforts and collaboration that we have created an environment where children can thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.



As we reflect on the accomplishments and milestones of this year, let us carry forward the lessons learned and the bonds formed, as we continue to strive for excellence in education.

I sincerely hope that each and every one of you enjoys a restful and rejuvenating break. Take the time to unwind, spend quality moments with loved ones, and indulge in the activities that bring you joy.

Next year promises to be filled with excitement, growth and new opportunities. I am eagerly looking forward to welcoming you all back.

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication throughout this journey. It is the collective effort of our community that makes Network International School truly exceptional.

Until we reconvene in Term 1, cherish the memories we've created together and remember that the best is yet to come.

Principal Stephen

Incredible Journey

Dear Network Community,

As we reach the end of our first full-time school year after a period of challenging school years, I want to express my deep joy and happiness as we conclude this incredible journey together.

If you take a look at our school's social media pages, you'll see how busy, fantastic, and fun-filled this year has been. From attending football matches and swimming tournaments to engaging assemblies, the positive energy and enthusiasm from our students have been evident every day.

Parents, you must be incredibly proud of how your children have grown into polite, helpful, respectful, caring and talented individuals, ready for the next chapter in their learning journey.

I'm sure our School Heads, Jon, Jay, and Alice will have shared details of the outstanding academic achievements in their respective phases.



For me, this year has been truly inspiring as I've witnessed our young learners becoming confident and passionate students.

I want to take a moment to thank the teachers, support staff, parents, and most importantly, the students for making this year a source of joy and pride for me. Now, as I prepare to spend time with my family during my trip back to the UK, I wish you all a happy holiday as you reunite with your family and friends. I eagerly look forward to welcoming you all back in August for the start of our new school year.

Best Wishes,

Teacher Carole

www.networkinternationalschool.com

Exams

As is normally the way at this time of the year, exams have rather dominated the term in Secondary School. Our Year 11 students have completed their IGCSE exams, our Year 12s have now completed their AS Level exams, and our Year 13s are now finished with their Network education and have completed all of their A Level exams.

However, all of the other year groups have also completed assessments in almost all of their subjects. The aim of these is to help establish the level of progress that students have made over the year and to consider what needs to be done by student, teacher and parent to help each student to progress in the future.

This term was certainly not solely about exams and students across the school have participated in a wide range of events and celebrated their talents and interests.

Policy Reviews

Over the course of this year, a lot of time and effort has been dedicated by teachers to reviewing our curriculum. This has meant a relaunch of our Teaching and Learning Policy, our Assessment and Reporting Policy and our Schemes of Work.

This has been a huge undertaking that has involved all teachers within the school and we are very excited for the full delivery of these from next year. These were launched to parents in this term's Coffee Mornings and have been very well-received. Further details can be found in the articles that have been published on the school website.



World Scholar's Cup

For the first time since Covid, the World Scholar's Cup returned to Yangon and our students were very much up for the challenge. None of them had participated in the event before, but this didn't stop them as they used the talents and skills that have been developed in school and took the challenge in their stride.

They did fantastically well, winning 69 Gold Medals and 54 Silver Medals. One Junior team came 1st and another came 3rd, and Oaktra ranked 3rd overall in the Junior Scholars. Overall, every single one of them qualified for the Global Round in Bangkok. Congratulations to all!





Arts & Enterprise Weeks

To round off the term and year overall, our students were involved in Arts and Enterprise Week.

All Key Stage 3 students were involved in a variety of Arts activities, both from the more traditional perspective of Arts subjects, but also through Maths and Science. This culminated in an Arts Showcase for students and parents on the final Thursday.



Since early in the year, the Year 10 students have been preparing for Enterprise Week. They have come up with businesses and business plans and in this final week, they put their plans into action, selling their goods to students and visitors alike. Some profits were made, but more importantly, some lessons were learnt in the process. It was a highly valuable experience for the students.

Term 4 Sports

Our students have been able to try a number of new sports this term, especially through the ECA programme. These sports have included Athletics, Tag Rugby, Water Polo and Rhythmic Dance/Gymnastics.

Despite it being out of the main sports seasons, there were still a number of tournaments that our students participated in, and they did brilliantly well.

The swimmers did amazingly at the Swimming Gala at ISY, where the teams were combined of both Secondary and Primary students. Our U14 Boys Football team won the Yangon Inter Schools Football Championship. Both boys and girls also won medals at the MISAC Table Tennis and Badminton tournaments. Well done to all!

House Challenge

This year saw the launch of the inaugural House Challenge. This pitted teams of four students from each House against one another, with teams made up of at least one student from each Key Stage.

The format of the competition was taken from the British TV show, University Challenge, with students asked general knowledge questions from a wide range of topics. Overall, Diamonds were victorious and took home the trophy. Those points then went towards the final House Trophy, to be announced at the Celebration of Achievement at the end of term, along with all of the other competitions over the year and individual House Points.



The Year In Review



Jay Thompson
Head Of Primary



A year of learning, growth and reflection.

What an amazing year we have had in Primary, as we continue to rebuild our community after so long apart. Our students have continued to show very high levels of focus and determination, immersing themselves in their learning and showing an eagerness to be involved in ECAs, sports and music. As we all know, it is not just academic skills that will lead to their dream careers, but an ability to demonstrate soft skills including creativity, problem solving and critical thinking.

Our student House Captains and Wellbeing Ambassadors have also been working hard to listen to their peers and create meaningful change. Through their hard work we have introduced new spaces, student wellbeing events and even changes to our break time. Next year we will look to provide further opportunities for students to take on leadership roles within the school and expand our ECA and wellbeing programs.

Our first year back competing in inter-school fixtures has been very successful, with students securing first and second places in multiple events, including football, benchball and swimming. Our musicians have also been practicing hard, forming our first primary orchestra and multiple student bands. It is truly inspiring to see such talented and passionate individuals, who are both academically and creatively gifted.

I wish all our our students and families a safe and enjoyable summer holiday. We will see you all back on the 16th August for the first day of term.



Primary Wellbeing



Joe Gill
Primary PE & Wellbeing Coordinator

What a term it has been for PE and wellbeing at Network!

- Year 1 and Year 2 used their Physical Cogs by developing skills such as throwing, catching, kicking and bouncing .
- Year 3 expanded their Creative Cogs by inventing challenges for their partners when improving their counter balance.
- Year 4 used their Health and Fitness Cogs to consider the effect of exercise on their bodies and minds; exploring how this knowledge could improve their own health and happiness.
- Year 5 got tactical by using their Cognitive Cogs to plan strategies to outwit opponents in a variety of competitive games.
- Year 6 explored their Personal Cogs by analysing their strengths and applying themselves to a range of sports from including basketball and cricket.

Outside of PE, our House Captains and Wellbeing Committee organised a brilliant 3 day swimming festival at our Bahan campus. We also had several students participate in our Primary swim team, winning the overall award at the ISY swimming meet. Since the beginning of the year we have had a whopping 76 different students from primary representing Network in competitions around Yangon. We can't wait to get back playing and learning next year!





Year 1: Wild Weather

Year 1 has ended the year by investigating weather! In English, students learnt how to create fact files, speeches and weather reports through our weather themed stories 'Lost and Found' and 'We are Water Protectors'. They have produced some fantastic work and shown how well they have progressed.

In maths, students explored fractions, place value, position and movement, time and money. We looked at a half and a quarter of shapes, quantities, objects and turns.

Art has seen students creating pieces themed on the four seasons and using a range of styles by Stanley Spencer and Henri Matisse.

PSHRE centred around healthy eating, road safety and first aid. We learnt about what to do in an emergency and practised treating minor injuries. In Science and Humanities, we become experts in all things weather; learning how to measure, predict and report weather patterns and present weather forecasts.

We really enjoyed our exploration of different climate zones and extreme weather events around the world.

The Year 1 teachers are so proud of the progress all of Year 1 have made this term, and we can't wait to see all the incredible things they will achieve in Year 2.



Year 2: City Life

This term Year 2 has been learning all about City Life. In English, we enjoyed reading 'Rosie Revere, Engineer' by Andrea Beaty and 'A Walk in London' by Salvatore Rubbino. Using these two books, students produced wonderful pieces of writing for a wide range of purposes. We are extremely proud of their work this term and the amazing creativity they have shown.

In maths, students focused on 2D and 3D shapes, exploring triangles, quadrilaterals, circles and polyhedrons. We learned about sides, angles, and symmetry, and practised classifying shapes based on these properties. Year 2 have also been busy conducting a range of exciting science experiments; learning about the importance of a detailed hypothesis, method and written conclusion. While in Art we explored famous artists from around the world and how they portray emotion through their art. Students then created their own self portraits and sculptures using a variety of tools.

Year 2 have had a wonderful end to the year and we are looking forward to hearing about all the adventures they have over the summer holiday.





Year 3: Finding Freedom

The topic of forces can be a tricky one. How do you teach something you can't see? Fortunately, this term we've had plenty of opportunities to perform hands-on testing and practical experiments in our science lessons. We thoroughly enjoyed playing around ramps and toy cars in our friction experiments and making and testing our own helicopters in our air resistance experiment. While in humanities, we explored the rivers of the world, including our very own Irrawaddy. We discovered the importance of rivers to different societies and how they impact on people and the land.

In English, students delved into the gloomy world of 'Varmints' where a young creature bemoans the loss of nature and the depression of the concrete jungle. We also read the story of the struggle for freedom and emancipation during the pre-civil war United States with 'Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt' and more recently through the book 'Tar Beach'. Our Year 3 Mars Assembly further reminded students to always be grateful for all that they have in their lives.

It has been a good ending to our year and we are really pleased with the progress of all students. Well done everyone!



Year 4: One Of A Kind

This term in Year 4, we participated in lots of exciting activities that were fun and interesting! We started by discovering the amazing story of 'Hidden Figures,' which taught us about the incredible achievements of African-American women who were maths geniuses at NASA. Their determination and bravery inspired us to believe in ourselves and work hard to achieve our dreams.

We also learned about creating healthy meals and why it's important to eat nutritious food. We got to be little chefs and tried out delicious recipes that were good for our bodies and had a balance of the food groups.

In maths, we have learnt about data handling, including collecting and organising information and making useful graphs and charts. Lastly, we explored the idea of communities and how they make our world special. We learned about different types of communities, how people work together within them, and the roles we could play in our own lives.

We are very proud of the work our Year 4 students have completed this year. They have been a wonderful year group to teach and we wish them all the best as they move up to Year 5!





Year 5: Final Frontiers

Year 5 has been having an absolute blast in Term 4! We've been exploring both 2D and 3D shapes, as well as measuring and discovering all the different angles within them. We have loved building and analysing their relationships to deepen our understanding.

In our English class, we've been on some incredible literary adventures with the books "Race to Space" and "Curiosity." These stories have taken us to amazing places and sparked our imaginations. We have also been focusing on our writing skills, using descriptive language and creating our own fantastic stories and poems.

In science and humanities, we've been on a cosmic journey, exploring the wonders of space in the most incredible ways. Virtual reality transported us to distant galaxies, and mind-blowing videos showed us the vastness of the universe. And guess what? We even got to enjoy some tasty oreos as we learned about space.

As term 4 comes to an end, we can't help but feel proud of everything we've achieved. From mastering angles and shapes, to immersing ourselves in mind-boggling space adventures, Year 5 has truly been a blast. We can't wait to see what exciting challenges and discoveries Year 6 has in store for us.



Year 6: Make An Impact!

It has been a truly fantastic final term in Year 6! Throughout the past few months, our students have been dedicated to making a positive impact on both our local and global communities. Our culminating task was to make an impact, challenging students to plan and deliver an event to raise awareness, funds or wellbeing experiences for their community. It was the perfect opportunity to see our children demonstrate their leadership skills and execute a fantastic event which was loved by all. Their creativity and determination have truly shone, making a tangible difference in the lives of others.

Furthermore, in their English lessons, Year 6 students showcased their exceptional writing skills. They produced outstanding pieces of persuasive writing, effectively advocating for causes close to their hearts. Their ability to articulate their ideas and convince others to take action is truly commendable. In addition, students embarked on imaginative journeys, crafting captivating fiction stories centred around a promise they can make to have a lasting impact on the world.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 students' commitment, creativity, and compassion in making a positive difference in our world. They have truly exemplified the Network values. We wish all the students the best of luck as they embark on their journey to Secondary School.





Foundation 1 - Colour

This term, F1 delved into the fascinating world of colours!



They had an incredible time learning the names of various colours and engaging in sensory and art activities. The children's learning was supported by playing sorting games where objects were sorted according to colour and shape. One of the highlights was their exploration of mixing paints to create new and vibrant colours. By experimenting with different mixing techniques, they were able to unleash their creativity and create unique artworks. It was truly a hands-on experience that allowed everyone the opportunity to get messy and express themselves through art.



Foundation 2 - Light and Dark

F2 had a very scientific exploration of "Light and Dark" in Term 4. We were engrossed in hands-on and creative learning based around shadows, rainbows and reflections. We were able to showcase our efforts in an art gallery display for Open Day in May - both in the hall and the shelter. Another artistic opportunity arose when 4 art students from secondary campus came to help us to create a Jackson Pollock inspired canvas. We are so proud of the progress and development of all our students in F2!



Foundation 3 - Eric Carle

This term, our Foundation 3 students explored the captivating world of artist Eric Carle, known for his beautiful pictures created using various materials and techniques. They crafted their own versions of "The Hungry Caterpillar," "A Home for Hermit Crab," and a group collage inspired by Carle's techniques. They also read "The Bad-Tempered Ladybird" and "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" to learn about time. Everyone really enjoyed making fruit kebabs and eating them all just like the caterpillar.





Foundation Stage Open Days

We are thrilled to share the wonderful experience of our first Open Days at Foundation Stage, where the children took on the role of teachers for the morning. It was a moment of great pride as the children showcased our vibrant learning environment and demonstrated how they learn through play. These Open Days provided a valuable opportunity for parents to firsthand witness a typical day in EYFS and understand why their children are tired at the end of each bustling and dynamic day. We appreciate the active involvement of our parents and their commitment to their child's education.



The mornings were filled with an abundance of engaging activities, representing the seven areas of development. Parents and children had the opportunity to explore art, construction, maths, and writing activities. There were also delightful opportunities to get hands-on and messy with water, playdough, face paints, and clay. In addition, everyone had the incredible privilege of participating in captivating music sessions led by the talented Tr Mu Mu. It was a truly fortunate and enriching experience for all involved.



Foundation 3 graduation

As we bring the academic year to a close, we gathered together to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our Foundation 3 students. The grand finale took the form of an extraordinary show, showcasing class dances and heartwarming performances by the entire F3 cohort. It was a moment of immense pride as Teacher Carole presented each child with their well-deserved certificate.

Throughout the year, these incredible children have demonstrated the power of hard work, resilience, determination, and infectious smiles. They have shown that there are no limits to what they can achieve. We are filled with anticipation as we witness their future adventures unfold, eager to witness the incredible heights they will undoubtedly reach.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the students on their remarkable accomplishments and wish them continued success and happiness in their journey ahead!



Everyone at Early Years Foundation Stage wishes all Network International School families a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to seeing you in August!