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THE MANTA Pulse

THE UWC THAILAND COMMUNITY

INTERACTIVE E-MAGAZINE



Moving-on Ceremonies

Celebrating
New Chapters

Steady at the Helm

Navigating
UWC Thailand's Future

Grade 11 Project Week

Community Engagement
Across Thailand

Learn more about UWC Thailand and follow us on social media

Celebrating New Chapters

Moving On Ceremonies for Grade 5 and Grade 10

As the academic year draws to a close, our grade 5 and grade 10 students marked an important milestone in their UWC Thailand journey. The Moving On Ceremonies celebrated their transition from the Primary Years Programme (PYP) to the Middle Years Programme (MYP) and from the MYP to the Diploma Programme (DP).

The ceremonies were filled with heartfelt reflections, shared memories, and gratitude for the friendships and experiences that have shaped their learning so far. Students also participated in Transition Days, giving them a first look at the programmes ahead and helping them feel confident about the next steps.

Congratulations to all our grade 5 and 10 students! We're proud of all you've accomplished and excited for what comes next!













From Primary Years Programme to Middle Years Programme

From Middle Years Programme to Diploma Programme













Click here for more photos



Gratitude in Action

Our Community Thank You Event

The UWC Thailand Community Thank You Event was a joyful celebration of the many people who help make our school what it is. From parents and host families to volunteers, donors, teachers, staff, and the MANTA Staff and Parent Association (SPA), the morning brought us together in appreciation and connection.

We are deeply grateful for the time, energy, and generosity our community gives. Your support strengthens our mission and enriches the experiences of our students every day.

Thank you for all you do—this event, and all we achieve, are possible because of you.



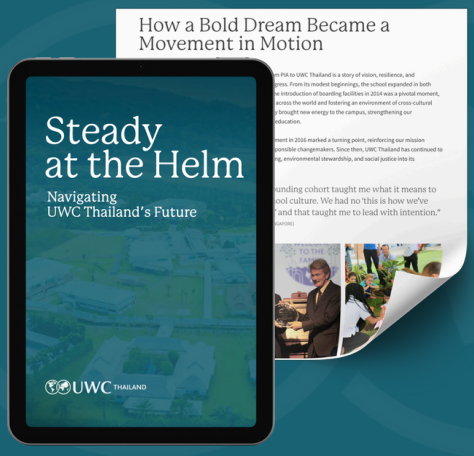








Click here for more photos



Steady at the Helm

A Special Edition from UWC Thailand

In our latest publication, Steady at the Helm, we bring together reflections from our governing boards, leadership team, and incoming Head of School, David Griffiths. This special edition offers a glimpse into the shared vision and steady leadership that continue to guide UWC Thailand with clarity and purpose. We invite you to explore it here: bit.ly/SteadyAtTheHelm.













Shining Bright

The Talent Show 2025

The UWC Thailand Talent Show brought our community together for a joyful evening of music, movement, and creativity. Students and staff took to the stage to share their passions, from soulful vocal performances and dynamic dances to musical ensembles and spoken word pieces. Each act reflected not only skill and courage, but also the diversity and vibrancy of our school community.

The audience responded with warmth and enthusiasm, celebrating every act and creating an atmosphere of support and joy.

Bravo to all our performers—your courage and expression made this event a true celebration of the vibrant spirit that defines UWC Thailand.

Click here for more photos

Creative Brilliance Showcased

Whole School Art Exhibition

The UWC Thailand Whole School Art Exhibition showcased the imagination, skill, and growth of our student artists across all grades. From bold colours to thoughtful compositions, each piece reflected their unique perspectives and creative journeys throughout the year.

In the words of renowned early childhood educator and author Sydney Gurewitz Clemens,

“Art has the role in education of helping children become like themselves instead of more like everyone else.”

This exhibition captured that spirit beautifully, celebrating the individuality and creativity of every student artist. **Congratulations to all our talented students on a wonderfully curated exhibition!**













UWC THAILAND PROUDLY PRESENTS

OPUS

PERSONALISED PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS



Crafting Masterpieces at UWC Thailand

This year marks a significant transition for PAPA as its service comes to a close. Beginning next academic year, the programme will be managed by UWC Thailand under the new name, Opus. While the name is changing, the same talented team of teachers will continue to provide high-quality, personalised music instruction.

Kru Stefan - Piano & Saxophone
Kru Caden - Drums & Beginner Guitar
Kru Colin - Guitar & Bass
Kru Rannze - Drums & Vocals

Private music lessons will be available for:
🎹 Piano
🎤 Vocals
🎸 Guitar
🎸 Bass
🥁 Drums
🎷 Wind Instruments (on request)
💻 Music Production/GarageBand

Students in Grades 6–12 can also audition for our Co-curricular music groups:
Manta Jazz/Blues Band – Tuesdays, 5:10 pm - Kru Stefan
Manta Rock Band – Wednesdays, 5:10 pm - Kru Caden
Manta Senior Vocal Group: Thursdays, 5:10 pm, Kru Rannze

Sign-ups for CCPs will open in the new school year on School's Buddy. For more information, please contact: diana.brender@uwcthailand.ac.th

We also celebrate the achievements of several students in their recent Rockschool (RSL) exams:
Hannah Gunara Chen – Merit, Grade 2 Piano
Holly Miller – Distinction, Grade 3 Classical Piano
Yutong Fan (Clint) – Merit, Grade 7 Classical Piano
Anna Beltiukova – Merit, Grade 1 Drums

👏 Congratulations to all of these talented students—and a heartfelt thank you to PAPA for your years of dedicated service. We look forward to the continued growth of our music programme under Opus.









Spirit & Sportsmanship on Display



UWC Thailand's Action-Packed Spirit Days

Our Primary and Middle Years students wrapped up the school year with two vibrant days of activities during UWC Thailand's Spirit Days. Organised by the Student Council with the support of our Physical Education team, the event was packed with action—from football and ultimate frisbee to basketball and capture the flag.

With cheers echoing across the fields, students gave their all, demonstrating teamwork, determination, and school spirit in every match. More than just a series of competitions, Spirit Days were a celebration of community and connection, reminding us of the friendships and memories formed throughout the year.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make these final days so joyful and energising!



Click here for more photos









Table Top Sale

The last Table Top Sale of this academic year, organised by the Manta Staff-Parent Association (SPA), was a lively celebration of sustainability, creativity, and connection. With over 20 community members selling second-hand treasures and handcrafted goods, the event welcomed families and friends to browse, shop, and enjoy time together.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the event such a success.

Click here to watch the highlights video.

Learning in Action

Student-Led Conferences

Our Primary students recently took the lead in guiding their parents through a full-day experience that showcased their learning journey. From classroom routines to subject highlights, students proudly shared their daily activities and growth, offering a meaningful window into their school life.

It was a powerful celebration of ownership, reflection, and connection.







Joy of Play Takes Centre Stage



For the fifth year in a row, UWC Thailand joined the International Day of Play, now officially recognised by the United Nations. This global initiative celebrates play as a vital part of childhood and learning. Our Primary students embraced the day with enthusiasm, engaging in self-directed play across campus.

Bringing in games from home—ranging from board games and puzzles to building blocks and creative toys—students explored, collaborated, and let their imaginations lead the way. With no screens, batteries, or toy weapons allowed, the focus was on meaningful, mindful play that encouraged connection, creativity, and joy.

It was a wonderful reminder of how play supports wellbeing, strengthens relationships, and sparks curiosity—core values we continue to nurture at UWC Thailand.









Click here for more photos

Grade 4 Film Festival

Our values and strengths guide us to contribute to our community.

As part of their Unit of Inquiry, grade 4 students explored the central idea: "Our values and strengths guide us to contribute to our community." Through the special theme of **Masks**, they reflected on both the inner and outer sides of themselves—their feelings, identities, and how they engage with the world around them.

They shared their learning and short films with families during a student-led mini exhibition, then hosted the Grade 4 Film Festival for fellow students and teachers. Each film was a creative response to the central idea, showing how their personal values and strengths shape the ways they contribute to their communities. A thoughtful journey of self-discovery, storytelling, and action.















From Awareness to Action

Student-Led Initiatives at the Grade 7 Sustainability Fair

By Heidi Oxley-Whitnell , UWC Thailand CAS & Community Engagement Coordinator

At UWC Thailand, community engagement is a vital part of how students learn, grow, and connect with the world around them. As part of our commitment to experiential learning and meaningful partnerships, grade 7 students recently collaborated with the Phuket Home for the Elderly in Paklok. This partnership was more than a school project—it offered a powerful opportunity for learning and contribution.

A highlight of this experience was the Grade 7 Sustainability Fair, where... **Read More.**

Click here for the full article

Exploring the World of Work:

UWC Thailand's Grade 10 Work Experience Week 2025

From 9 to 13 June 2025, Grade 10 students at UWC Thailand stepped beyond the classroom and into the professional world during the much-anticipated Work Experience Week. This annual initiative encourages students to explore potential career paths, gain real-world skills, and connect academic learning to practical applications — all while reflecting on their passions and future ambitions.

"Work Experience Week is not just about shadowing professionals — it's about helping our students see who they can become. Whether they're learning in a clinic, a kitchen, or a classroom, they're developing the confidence and curiosity to shape their own futures."

Chantal Kruger, UWC Thailand Secondary Vice Principal & MYP Coordinator...**Read more**.

Click here for the full article







Future Preparation Week

Grade 11 students at UWC Thailand recently took part in Future Preparation Week—a dedicated time to deepen their academic engagement and prepare for the year ahead. The week brought together three important elements of their learning journey: Extended Essay (EE) development, Project Week presentations, and the Collaborative Sciences Project (CSP).

Each component offered students the chance to build momentum, reflect on their progress, and connect their classroom learning with practical, real-world experiences.

Throughout the week, students focused on refining their Extended Essay topics, conducting research, and consulting with supervisors—making meaningful progress on this key part of the IB Diploma Programme.

They also presented their Project Week experiences to both peers... **Read More.**









Click here for the full article



Project Week







At UWC Thailand, Project Week is more than a tradition—it's a transformative experience. As part of the Grade 11 programme, it gives students the chance to step outside the classroom and into communities across Thailand, where they take on meaningful, student-led community engagement projects. From 7–14 June 2025, students engaged in a variety of initiatives that challenged them to collaborate, reflect, and act with purpose.



This immersive week fosters skills such as independence, resilience, and problem-solving—but it also helps students grow in empathy and understanding. Each group took responsibility for the planning and execution of their project, connecting directly with local partners and learning through real-world engagement.

Across Thailand: A Glimpse into Each Project

- At **Earth Home** in Chiang Mai, students explored sustainable living through natural building, organic farming, and community-based learning focused on environmentally conscious practices.
- The group working with the **Mirror Foundation** in Chiang Rai supported the foundation's work by assisting with a variety of tasks that contributed to its ongoing community initiatives.
- In Bangkok, students at the **Mercy Centre** contributed to a range of activities supporting children in an underserved urban neighbourhood, gaining insight into grassroots community support systems...**Read more.**





Click here for the full article

SPORTS & ACTIVITIES ROUND-UP













by John (JP) Powell,
UWC Thailand Director of Sports, Activities and Camps

Primary Football

Our Primary Football teams wrapped up the year with a series of friendly matches against Finnway, HeadStart Cherngtalay, and Ban Pa Khlong Cheep across various age groups. Win or lose, the Mantas consistently demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship and team spirit!

Social Football with the Community

Social Football has been a year-round highlight, thanks to the enthusiastic leadership of Coach Siaji and Coach Kelso. Every Wednesday, community members came together for friendly matches, building connections while staying active. Thank you to everyone who contributed to fostering a Healthy Body and a vibrant community!

The Co-Curricular Programme ended on a high note! We look forward to the 2025–2026 school year.

The programme concluded on Friday, 13 June. The dedication shown by our staff members, partners, and volunteers demonstrates how the programme enriches our school's educational experience in unique ways. We thank everyone who participated, learned, and enjoyed their journey throughout the year.

Please remember that next year there will be two rotations for the programme. Save the date for Friday, 22 August, in the Multi-Purpose Hall to explore the 2025–2026 offerings at the Co-Curricular Programme Fair!





*Photos from the 2024/25 Co-Curricular Programme Fair

UWC THAILAND

HAPPY Holidays

Enjoy your holiday, stay safe and be well!







Capture the UWC Thailand logo this summer!

Take a photo of the UWC Thailand logo this summer for a chance to win a fabulous goody bag!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to showcase your creativity and win exciting prizes! All UWC Thailand community members are invited to participate!

Show us your creativity and love for UWC Thailand!
The winner will be announced in the next Manta Pulse at the end of August.

Email your photo to communications@uwcthailand.ac.th

Enter to Win