

Middle School News September 30, 2019

THAI-CHINESE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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Ms. Ammy (Secretary) 02-751-1201 ext. 208 (attendance) Dr. Michael (Principal) 02-751-1211 ext. 206

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL



Dear TCIS Community,

In this newsletter, there is a section about the Sermpanya Proficiency Test Competition, a section from Mr. Jeff on the importance of treating everyone with respect, information on our Spelling Bee Grade Level Winners, a section on the TCIS sporting events, a section from Mr. Dean and the library, a section about our Middle School upcoming trip to see the Terracotta Warriors, a section on laptops in Middle School, a section on the Middle School Sunglasses Day, and the menu for the month of October.

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:30AM, we will have a Parent Coffee with all the principals. For this Parent Coffee, there will be a focus on MAP Testing and reading the results. Mr. Ted, our Curriculum Coordinator, will lead this meeting and will help parents read the reports.

October 11, 2019 is the date of the Parent / Teacher Conferences. Please call Ms. Ammy to set up a time to meet with any teacher you wish to talk with.

The Parents Association met with Dr. John and the Administrative Team last week and one area of discussion was the importance of child safety and security at the school. Dr. John is working on plans to improve campus security and these will be rolled out in the coming two months. More detail on this in the coming weeks.

Thank you for choosing the TCIS and please know that my office is always open to you for a conversation or to help with any issues or concerns you may have.

Dr. Michael

E-mail: michael@tcis.ac.th



Congratulations to our amazing Middle School Students on their testing awards!

The results of Thai language, Social Studies and English proficiency Test 2019 were announced.

There are 500+ students for Samutprakarn Province, 1000+ students for Central Thailand and 5000+ students for Country participated in the Sermpanya Proficiency Test Competition. Our TCIS Middle School students received the 1st place for all subjects.

1st Place Central Thailand: English Language Remy (Grade 5)

1st Place Samutprakarn Province: English Language - Pinn(Grade 5)

1st Place Samutprakarn Province: English Language - Tintin (Grade 6)

1st Place - Samutprakarn Province: English Language-Grace (Grade 7)

1st Place Samutprakarn Province: English Language - Smerf (Grade 7)

News from the Middle School Counselor



Hello Middle School Parents!

Each day at TCIS, students learn many academic skills from reading, writing, and math to listening, speaking, and perhaps playing a new instrument. But what is also important is teaching students social skills and behavior expectations both in school and out. This week, we want to focus on making sure our students remember to respect all staff at TCIS, whether it's their teachers or Principal, or the guards, maintenance, and cafeteria staff. Everyone that comes to TCIS to work or learn deserves respect. Former First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama, once said, "We learned about gratitude and humility - that so many people had a hand in our success, from the teachers who inspired us to the janitors who kept our school clean...and we were taught

to value everyone's contribution and treat everyone with respect." This quote reminds us that even the people working somewhat in the background are here working for the students, and they too deserve the same level of respect our teachers expect on a daily basis. I always point back to the Golden Rule, treat others the way you wish to be treated. If we can teach our students to embrace this rule, our school community and the greater community at large will reap the benefits.

If you have any comments or questions about this or other assessments, please feel free to reach out to me directly. Have a great weekend!

Regards,

Jeff Chelin School Counselor jeffrey.chelin@tcis.ac.th

ATHLETICS

Season 1 Sports have started!

TENNIS:



Make sure you sign up on the TCIS Athletic Website!

New to Tennis - Monday 3:45-4:45pm **Experienced players -** Wednesday 3:20-5pm

Grade 7& under



PRACTICES DURING BREAK TIME IN GYM 5

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
SEPT 23, 25, 30, & OCT 2

GRADE 7 AND GRADE 6 STUDENTS THIS IS FOR YOU!!!
COME OUT & PLAY BASKETBALL
MONDAY @BREAK!

Grade 5 & under



PRACTICES DURING BREAK TIME IN GYM 5

TUESDAY & THURSDAY
SEPT 24, 26, OCT 1 & 3

GRADE 5 AND GRADE 4 STUDENTS THIS IS FOR YOU!!!
COME OUT & PLAY BASKETBALL
MONDAY @BREAK!

Sign up with Mr. Brad, Mr. David, Ms. Sam, or <u>CLICK HERE</u> for G7U and <u>HERE</u> for G5U!



Middle School Grade Level Spelling Bee Winners

Tracy Grade:5A	Vic Grade: 5B	Vic Grade: 6A	Tracy Grade: 6B
Fumi	Pinn	Aaron	Aeya
Andy	lmm-Jun	Fa-Tian	Jett
Thun	Hans	Alisa	Stamp

Terracotta Warriors of Qin Dynasty & Gallery of Thai Nation History and History of Fine Arts (@ Bangkok National Museum)

October 16 - 5th and 6th Grade Trip to see the Terracotta Warriors

October 17 - 7th and 9th Grade Trip to see the Terracotta Warriors



Middle School Theme Day Sunglasses or Fun Glasses Sponsored by the Middle School Student Council





































The Library Bulletin - Oct. 2019

Library Information

Asian Literature Recommendations from "Good Reads"

Hidden Gems in the Library

Reasons Why the Internet Is No Substitute for a Library (Part 2) Mark Y. Herring

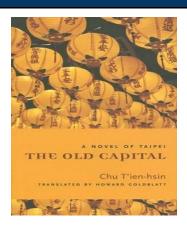
In an effort to save our culture here are 2 more reasons why the Internet is no substitute for a library

What You Don't Know Really Does Hurt You

The great boon to libraries has been the digitization of journals. But full-text sites, while grand, aren't always full. What you don't know can hurt you: 1. articles on these sites are often missing, among other things, footnotes; 2. tables, graphs, and formulae do not often show up in a readable fashion (especially when printed); and 3. journal titles in a digitized package change regularly, often without warning.

The Internet: A Mile Wide, an Inch (or

Less) Deep Looking into the abyss of the Internet is like vertigo over a void. But the void has to do not only with what's there, but also with what isn't. Not much on the Internet is more than 15 years old. Vendors offering magazine access routinely add a new year while dropping an earlier one. Access to older material is very expensive. It would be useful for students to have access to more than just the scholarly materials written in the last 10 to15 years.



The Old Capital: A Novel of Taipei

by Chu Tien-hsin

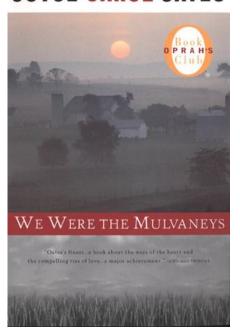
Chu T'ien-hsin's The Old Capital is a brilliant evocation of Taiwan's literature of nostalgia and remembrance. The novel is centered on the question, "Is it possible that none of your memories count?" and explores the reliability of remembrances and the thin line that separates fact from fantasy.

Comprised of four thematically linked stories and a novella, The Old Capital focuses on the cultural and psychological realities of contemporary Taiwan.

The novella is built on the memories and recollections of a woman trying to make sense of herself and her homeland. After a trip to Kyoto to meet with a friend, she returns to Taipei, where, having been mistaken for a Japanese tourist, she revisits the sites of her youth using a Japanese colonial map of the city. Seeing Taipei anew, the narrator confronts the complex nature of her identity, embodied in the contrast between a serene and preserved Kyoto and a thoroughly modernized Taipei.

An intertextual masterpiece, The Old Capital is a moving and highly sensual meditation on the elasticity of memory and its power to shape personal identity. We have lots of new books and old books. This column will focus on the older ones that have stood the test of time.

JOYCE CAROL OATES



The Mulvaneys of High Point Farm in Mt. Ephraim, New York, are a large and fortunate clan, blessed with good looks, abundant charisma, and boundless promise. But over the twenty-five year span of this ambitious novel, the Mulvaneys will slide, almost imperceptibly at first, from the pinnacle of happiness, transformed by the vagaries of fate into a scattered collection of lost and lonely souls. It is the youngest son, Judd, now an adult, who attempts to piece together the fragments of the Mulvaneys' former glory, seeking to uncover and understand the secret violation that occasioned the family's tragic downfall. Each of the Mulvaneys endures some form of exile-physical or spiritual - but in the end they find a way to bridge the chasms that have opened up among them, reuniting in the spirit of love and healing.

Podcasts

Tech-Tip

Staff and Student Shout Outs

Between the Covers



Brought to you by Tin House and KBOO 90.7FM community radio in Portland, Oregon, Between the Covers is a literary radio show and podcast hosted by David Naimon. These long-form in-depth conversations have been singled out by the Guardian, Book Riot, the Financial Times, and BuzzFeed as one of the most notable book podcasts for writers and readers around. "If you haven't peeped this podcast vet," says poet Morgan Parker, "it's one of my favorite interviews and my mom says it's my 'best one.'"



https://tinhouse.com/podcasts/

German Startup Raises 35 Million To Transform The Way We Read will radically change the world and how we read

Berlin is Europe's startup hub — an eclectic city known for pushing boundaries and breakthrough innovation. At the center of Berlin's thriving startup scene is Blinkist, an app that's changing the way we read, which has sparked the interest of US investors.

The Blinkist app highlights key insights from the world's best nonfiction books in just 15 minutes. With Blinkist, users can read or listen to over 3,000 (and counting!) titles from the world's smartest minds and start introducing positive change to their lives straight away.



Finding the time to read is tough, but that doesn't mean books are off limits. Blinkist built the solution: a microlearning app that fits reading into busy routines whenever there's a spare minute.

https://www.blinkist.com/

This column will offer recommendations for books from readers in our TCIS community.

Ms. Kathleen Joy Recommends: <u>Outlander</u>



Time travel, drama, adventure, romance, action and suspense – the book Outlander has it all. Outlander is the first novel by Diana Gabaldon about Claire Randall, a World War II nurse who surprisingly travels through time from 1945 to 1743.

She finds herself caught up in a Scottish resistance against the English and all sorts of other danger. Nevertheless, she shows resourcefulness, determination, a fighting spirit and resolution – traits I think heroes possess.

Like all novels, Outlander teaches us lessons. These are the important reminders I see from the book:

- It is important to stand up for yourself. Your voice deserves to be heard and when you refuse to let others crush your worth, you show yourself what you're capable of doing.
- It is important to apologize. Sometimes we go beyond our limits and say and do things that aren't acceptable. It is better to say sorry to the people we hurt to keep our friendship solid
- It is important to know that you can do the things you think you can't. You'll be surprised with how quickly you can adapt when you're thrown into a situation with very few resources and unfamiliar faces.

Student Computers

The Faculty and Administration believe technology is a powerful and integral part of the TCIS instructional program. While there are many good computers on the market, please understand PC/Windows based computers are not supported for academics at TCIS.

1) TCIS High School is a MacBook one-to-one school - MacBooks are required for all grade 9 through 12 students



- 2) TCIS Middle School
 - a) MacBooks are recommended for grades 7 & 8 students.
 - i) A Chromebook is acceptable (remember a MacBook is required for grades 9-12)
 - b) School owned Chromebooks are provided for grades 5 & 6 students.
- 3) TCIS Elementary School
 - a) School owned technology is provided for all elementary students

TCIS Approved Devices - 2019-2020 School Year

- Grade 9-12 MacBooks (student owned)
- Grade 7 & 8 MacBooks recommended (Chromebooks acceptable) student owned
- Grade 5 & 6 Chromebooks (school owned)

You are encouraged to visit the following sites for more information:

- Apple MacBook Computers https://www.apple.com/th-edu/shop
- Chromebooks http://www.9pi.co.th/ Gaopai Company Limited

Should you desire to purchase a Chromebook for your middle school student, the **Acer Chromebook Spin 511** is approved for use during your child's middle school years at TCIS and can be purchased through the TCIS Cashier by completing the <u>Optional</u> TCIS Chromebook Purchasing Agreement

EVENTS

October 1 - Parent Coffee with a focus on MAP Testing

October 4 - End of Quarter 1 - Middle School Assembly - Effective Communicator Awards Given

October 5 & 6 - Google Summit

October 8 - 11 - Book Fair - Come purchase reading material in the library

October 10 - Double Ten Day

October 11 - Parent Teacher Conferences & Report card pick-up (All day)

October 14 - Memorial Day King Rama IX (No school)

October 16-17 - TCIS Spelling Bee Finals

October 16 - 5th and 6th Grade Trip to see the Terracotta Warriors

October 17 - 7th and 8th Grade Trip to see the Terracotta Warriors

October 18 - Middle School Assembly

October 21-25 - No school

November 1 - Middle School Assembly

November 7 - PSAT Grade 8

November 11 - Loy Krathong @ 9:25 am (Basketball Court)

November 12-15 - All School Spirit Days

November 15 - Middle School Assembly

November 19 - Grade 5 Science Field Trip

November 20 - Grade 6 Science Field Trip

November 21 - Grade 8 Science Field Trip

November 19 & 20 - Chinese Proficiency test (TOCFL) Grades 3-12

November 27 - Progress Reports emailed at 2:30 pm to all students & parents

November 28 - Grade 7 Science Field Trip

December 3 - Principal Coffee @ 7:30 (Library)

December 4 - Father's Day Ceremony @ 1:45pm (5th Floor Gym)

December 6 - Middle School Assembly

December 20 - End of Quarter 2 (End of First Semester)

December 23 - January 3 - Christmas Break

January 6, 2020 - First day of Quarter 3 (First day of Semester 2)

Estimated 19/20 Assembly dates (subject to change):

October 4, 18
November 1, 15
December 6
January '20 17
February 7, 21
March 6, 20
April 3
May 1,15

CANTEEN MENUS

PK Sept 30

All Sept 30

PK Oct 7 All Oct 7

PK Oct 14

All Oct 14

PK Oct 28 All Oct 28

Previous Middle School Newsletters

August 5, 2019 Parent Newsletter

August 13, 2019 Parent Newsletter

August 20, 2019 Parent Newsletter

August 26, 2019 Parent Newsletter

September 2, 2019 Parent Newsletter

September 9, 2019 Parent Newsletter

September 16, 2019 Parent Newsletter

September 23, 2019 Parent Newsletter



- TCIS reserves the right to make any changes without prior notice





Middle School Staff 2019-20

English an	nd Social Studies Departme	nt		
Mr. Ted	ted.persinger@tcis.ac.th	Head of English and Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator	High School Room 3-43	Mr. Ted's Google Site
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Chinese Department

Mr. Tony



Head of Chinese Office High School First Floor Office

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