



## Upcoming Events:

- Sept 1 Holiday (Eid Al-Adha)- School Closed
- Oct 2-6 Holiday (Thadyingyut)- School Closed
- Oct 18 End of Quarter 1
- Oct 19-20 Holiday (Diwali)- School Closed
- Oct 27 Quarter 1 report cards go home  
Parent Teacher conferences

# Welcome to the new academic year!

In this issue you can see that MIS has had a very successful summer. We warmly welcome over 100 new families and 19 wonderful new international teachers who have made a great start, as I am sure your children have told you.

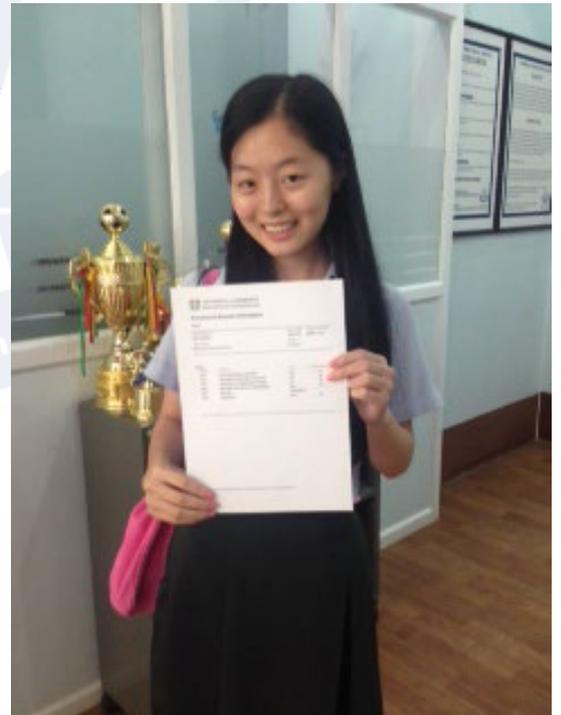
Our examination results are very pleasing. At A and AS level half of all grades awarded were at A or B and the pass rate was 88%. At IGCSE there were dramatic improvements in English and Physics results and 75% of students achieved good passes in both English and Maths. The secondary Checkpoint scores were significantly up in all three subjects and in primary the results were especially pleasing in science.

During the holiday we received the great news that we have been awarded a full six-year accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) from the USA, meaning we can award fully recognized American high school diplomas.

Because of the increased numbers in the school four new classrooms have been created including for Economics and Accounting which will be offered for the first time. The School Governors have invested heavily in new resources and staff training and we are especially excited about the introduction of the Oxford Reading Tree in Primary. This will make a big difference to the quality of our literacy teaching.

I am sure that we will have a very successful year together at MIS.

David Tansey  
Academic Director



## Mr. Christian has joined our leadership team!



Mr Christian O'Brien has joined MIS as the new Senior Leader for Student Support. A member of the Academic Leadership Team, Mr Christian will be responsible for behaviour, attendance, counselling and English as an Additional Language programmes. Before joining MIS, Mr Christian worked as an instructional coach, training teachers and school leaders in Florida, USA.

# A message from Principal James

Welcome back to what promises to be a wonderful year at MIS! It will be a year full of new experiences, new learning, and new friendships for our students. What is not new, however, is our commitment to your child's safety at MIS. I remain fully dedicated to providing your child with a safe environment where they can flourish in all aspects of school life. I truly value and am humbled by the trust you have put in me and our staff to take care of your child.

This year, we have welcomed many new teachers to MIS, and I have been involved in the hiring of each primary staff member. I am proud to say that MIS has continued its improvement and we are dedicated to continual improvement in the future. To assist in that goal, we have added increased student support in the primary to better meet the needs of students who are second language learners or who have other learning needs.

A major academic upgrade has been the addition of the Oxford Reading Tree (ORT) as our primary reading scheme, and homeroom and assistant teachers received up to three days of training in the program during our orientation week. Another new addition is the implementation of Class Dojo as a class management system as well as an additional means of communication with our supportive and valued parents.

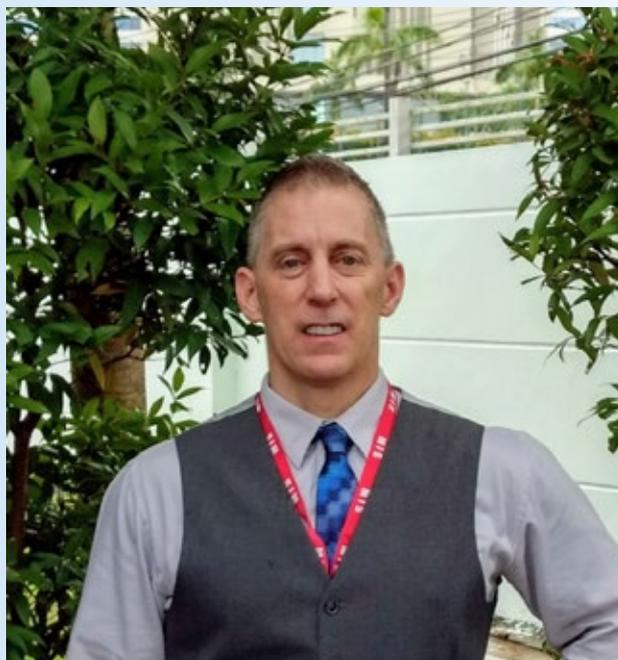
Starting this year, students in primary are not allowed to bring cell phone or electronic devices to school. As you get them ready in the morning, kindly help us by making sure those items stay home. We have stepped-up our uniform requirements this year, and our students look extra smart in their black leather shoes and white socks for girls and black socks for boys. When students line-up to go to class in the morning and at lunch time, everyone looks the part and we now have a stronger sense of community at MIS.

During this week's first Monthly Primary Assembly, we provided students with four tips on how to have a successful year at MIS:

- Be safe
- Be ready to learn
- Be respectful
- Be happy

By following those simple steps, they will be well on their ways to achieving the success of which I know they are capable.

Principal James



Cambridge  
Primary  
Checkpoint

Cambridge  
Checkpoint

Cambridge  
International  
AS Level

# Uniform Updates

Students in the photo below can be seen wearing the MIS uniform as described in the letter sent to parents. Please pay special attention to the socks and shoes worn by these students as they are changed items for this year. Jumpers are not pictured, but are on order and will be made available as soon as possible.



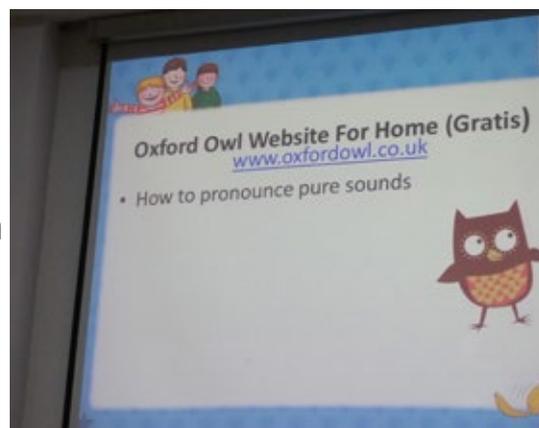
Angelina 5A (wearing PE kit) , Thor 8.1, Jennifer 7.1, Tracy 6A, Ricky 4A, Phone Min Thant ( Year 1B), Kim Jiin @ Esther (KG B) , Justin 7.1 (wearing PE kit)

# Oxford Reading Tree Training

By Ms Leonie Bisquera Ramos

Oxford Reading Tree (ORT) is one of the latest improvements to Myanmar International School's curriculum. ORT is the UK's most successful reading scheme used in over 80% of its primary schools and it has helped millions of children from all over the world learn to read and love to read. It is rooted in reading for pleasure with systematic phonics teaching at its heart, with well-loved characters and a broad selection of books (over 800!) with varied writing styles to give children everything they need to become confident readers.

For three days (10-13 August 2017), MIS Primary teachers - especially KG to Year 3 teachers - started the school year with training from Ms. Suzanne Ship. She showed how to use the ORT resources and curriculum to effectively teach children to be literate and to love reading.



# Secondary Students Take Helm at New Electives

By Mr Jeremy Burns

Have you ever thought about getting a robot to clean your house? It may now be possible if your student is in middle school at MIS.

Our school now offers a practical course in Robotics, as developed by the Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy, and every student will learn to program a virtual robot.

Other new courses include: Philosophy for Kids, for any student interested in improving their ability to determine what is “true”; Sweet Treats for those who like to eat their elective; and a Guitar Club where students will learn how to play various songs of their choice and improve their skills through improvised jam sessions.

The school has an experienced golfer ready to teach students how to improve their swing and prepare for the golf team’s season.

In Chess Club (maybe the most popular) students will learn different strategies and principles to win the ancient game.

These are just a few of the many exciting electives delivered by our talented pool of teachers.

---

## Primary After School Program

By Mrs Shelly Leen

The After School Program is a program for primary students where the teachers offer classes to share their talents and interests. Each activity is offered once a week, for six weeks, on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 3:20-4:00 p.m. There is a maximum of 20 students per class.

The First Quarter Clubs will begin next week. The activities being offered are Music Appreciation, Yoga, Dance, and Arts and Crafts—including an Internet drawing class! Our new staff are excited to share their interests and talents with our students.

The After School Program is immensely popular with students and parents. We try to offer as many choices as possible. Occasionally, a class is very popular and more students sign up than there are openings for. In that case, there is a lottery drawing with everyone interested. The first 20 names are drawn, and the remaining students are put into their 2nd or 3rd choice activity.

If you have any questions regarding the After School Program, you can talk to Mrs. Shelly in Year 2A.