

# Canterbury Tales

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## Principal

This has been a relatively calm week after having the accreditation visit from COBIS last week. I did catch up with the lead improvement partner from COBIS this week and, without including any details, I can confirm that the school came out well from the inspection and I am very confident we will become the first school in Cambodia to be COBIS compliant. This is a stamp of quality so a real fillip for the school. The full report will be published over the next two months and while there are a number of recommendations in it, which we will learn from, there are even more commendations.

The school enjoyed two significant events this week. The first one was the hosting of the CISSA (Cambodia International Schools Safeguarding Association) termly meeting. This is a really important group because it helps share safeguarding concerns amongst key schools and for schools to collaborate on how to tackle the latest concerns. The second one was the celebration of Book Day. It was wonderful to see all the students and many of the staff dressed up in costumes of some of their favourite characters from the very best of literature. Certainly there were plenty of characters from some of my favourite books, including many from A. A. Milne's Winnie the Pooh and J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series.

Next week we will have events for Pi Day, a TTRS maths competition, and Science Week, so as ever more to look forward to for all the students. In the meantime, I encourage parents to make sure they procure the right colour of Khmer traditional dress for their sons and daughters in preparation for our Khmer New Year celebration. Have a great weekend.

## Early Years

This week in pre-nursery, the children continued their exciting dinosaur theme, engaging in various creative activities. They had fun painting on the windows, creating a colourful mosaic, and even made dinosaur footprints by painting their feet and stamping them onto paper. The children also enjoyed experimenting with playdough as they explored their artistic skills. We practised singing 5 Green Bottles and Bingo during Circle Time. The week was filled with extra excitement as we celebrated Book Week, where the children dressed up as their favourite characters on Thursday.

This week in nursery, we have continued our space adventures, with the children working collaboratively to build a junk-modelled rocket. They have explored scientific concepts by investigating different types of sedimentary rocks and testing objects to see if they are magnetic. In maths, they have reinforced their understanding of positional language through prepositions and begun comparing different-sized shapes. In phonics, they have enjoyed learning Pat-a-Cake and identifying rhyming words. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm shine through in all areas of learning!

In reception this week, we continued exploring the story of Little Red in English, focusing on the use of adjectives to describe the characters in more detail. The children worked on identifying descriptive words and applied them to create their own character descriptions. In maths, we used dominoes to practise subitising, helping the children quickly recognise numbers without counting, before moving on to write simple addition sentences based on the domino patterns. In topic, the children learned about the distances of each planet from the sun and then delved deeper into fascinating facts about each planet, such as their size, composition, and unique features.





## Primary

We have had another busy week here at school. Monday was World Wildlife Day. Understanding the importance of protecting our planet's diverse wildlife forms a significant part of our curriculum. In assembly this week, our primary children had an opportunity to watch a poignant video of animals disappearing. They were able to offer insightful reasons as to why this is happening, drawing on various lessons and referencing a range of books they are familiar with. It is pleasing to see the confidence the children have in sharing their ideas aloud with one another and their respect towards one another is to be commended.

One of the lessons in which all our primary children have an opportunity to come together is PE, and this week they were joined by some of their reception peers for the first time. What is great about our school is the way in which our older pupils nurture and encourage their younger peers. Gymnastics was the lesson focus, and Mr. Middleton has lots of great comments to share about how well the children did. I was lucky to spy the primary group practising jumping earlier in the week. You would not believe some of the leaps I witnessed!

Next week promises to be yet another busy one. Science enthusiasts will be delighted to know that Science Week is just around the corner. Ms. Sofia is particularly excited about this event, and she and our senior pupils have been busy planning a series of fascinating experiments and discoveries that will ignite the curiosity of our primary scientists.

Let's not forget Pi Day (March 14th) also! While it might sound like a day dedicated to delicious pies, it's actually all about celebrating the wonders of mathematics. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Middleton are already brainstorming some tricky brainteasers to challenge our students' problem-solving skills.



## World Book Day, fun!

We had an absolute blast celebrating World Book Day this year! The school was buzzing with excitement as both children and teachers dressed up as their favourite book characters. From Harry Potter to Cinderella, the creativity on display was truly inspiring. If you need a Superhero, several are to be found in the classrooms of TKSVM!

The highlight of our day was undoubtedly the costume parade. It was wonderful to see everyone proudly showcasing their outfits, and it was particularly pleasing to see our youngest learners confidently parading around our school!

A special mention goes to Mr. Mallon, who captivated everyone with his thrilling reading of 'Shark in the Park.' His animated storytelling brought the book to life, keeping the audience on the edge of their seats. As you will see from the photographs, he fully immersed himself in the role, delivering a fine performance indeed! Additionally, our senior pupils played a significant role in the day's festivities. They spent time with their younger peers, sharing books and engaging in book-themed arts and crafts activities. It was heartwarming to see the older students mentoring and inspiring the younger ones, fostering a love for reading, creativity, and teamwork.

Overall, World Book Day was a fantastic celebration of literature and community spirit. We can't wait to see what next year brings!



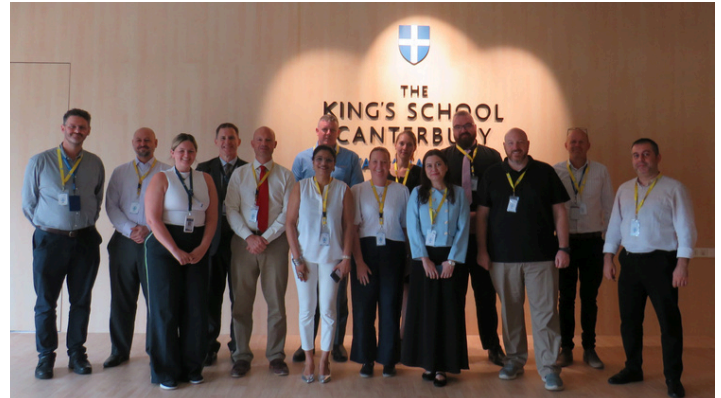
## Reminders

### Khmer New Year

You should all have received letters about Khmer New Year this week. To honour our cultural heritage, we plan to mark this event with a celebration here at school. Ensuring our children not only speak Khmer but understand Cambodian culture and customs is key for us. All children are asked to dress in traditional dress on April 1st. Children participating in the fashion show are requested to wear the colour of their assigned day. Ms. Peaheng is here to help if you have any questions.

### Times Tables Competiton

Next week, mathematically adept students are invited to partake in the worldwide Times Tables Rockstars Competition. If you know your multiplication tables by heart, do join!



## Secondary

### PSHE, Physical Education, and World Book Day

It's been another busy and rewarding week at school, with students taking part in a variety of activities both in and out of the classroom. In PSHE, students have been learning about the importance of reading for their mental health. They discussed how getting lost in a good book can help reduce stress, improve focus, and offer a healthy escape from everyday worries. Many students shared their favourite books and how reading helps them relax and unwind.

In PE, badminton has been the sport of the term. Students practised their serves, rallies, and footwork, and it was great to see their confidence and skill grow with each session. Hopefully they will continue to improve with hard work and determination between now and the next holiday.

Thursday was World Book Day, and our secondary students really stepped up. They supported the primary and early years students in a range of activities, including reading stories aloud and helping with book-themed events. Their leadership, patience, and maturity shone through, and they were fantastic role models for the younger students. We were all very proud of them!

It's always inspiring to see our students embracing new opportunities and making a difference in our school community. Well done, everyone!



## CISSA

On Wednesday King's School hosted the termly Cambodia International Schools Safeguarding Association (CISSA) Meeting. This group was formed less than 2 years ago so schools could collaborate on areas of common concern relating to safeguarding/child protection, both physically and in cyberspace. We were able to welcome Nick Rose (Deputy Director), and Simone Searle (Safeguarding Lead) from the CPU-Child Protection Unit for Cambodia [Child Protection Unit](#). They help the police investigate child abuse cases and also support women who suffer from domestic abuse in Cambodia. We will be working with them going forward and to help our staff navigate this difficult but very important topic, they will also provide our staff with scenario training, that is so pertinent to all schools in Cambodia and around the world.