

# WATER FESTIVAL PRESENTATION FROM KHMER PROGRAMME STUDENTS

This week sees the Water Festival Celebrations begin in Cambodia. At Siem Reap planned celebrations include the traditional river boat racing, full moon salutations, lantern floating and local product and food exhibitions.



At ISSR the Khmer Students held their own celebration during Friday 8th Assembly. This related the history behind the festival which is celebrated over the span of three days and commemorates the end of the rainy season, as well as the change in flow of the Tonlé Sap River.



In traditional dress and using drama and audio-visual aids the students presented and acted out events to illustrate the significance of the celebrations. This was followed by handing out Om Bok to everyone. The event was a great success and shows the ties the school has with its Khmer culture.

Dr. Chris



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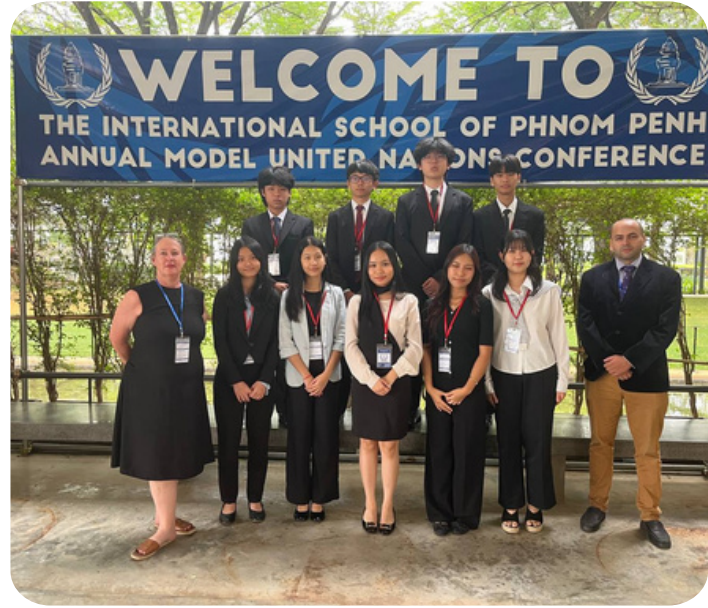
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# ISSR MUN UPDATED

In October, Ms Lee-Anne and Mr Dale took 9 of our students to the Model United Nations conference held at the International School of Phnom Penh. Model United Nations (MUN) is an extracurricular activity where students act as delegates to the United Nations (UN) and simulate UN committees.



MUN events help students learn about the UN's principles and how it operates, as well as about diplomacy, international relations, and current world issues. The conference was an international event which schools from all over south-east Asia attending. Our students at ISSR, represented the countries of Ecuador and Fiji and made speeches, debated and networked with hundreds of students.

This was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their communication skills and engage with real-world issues. Ms Lee-Anne, Mr Dale and the school are very proud of our 9 delegates who represented the school commendably.



Mr Dale



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# GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PROJECT

Global Perspectives is a subject which help students develop skills like critical thinking, research, and collaboration through a real-world approach to learning. As part of the IGCSE curriculum, Year 11 students have been completing team projects. The team project is worth 35% of their IGCSE grade. The students have identified local issues in Siem Reap and have researched and planned events to address these issues.



Several groups have raised money for local charities, other groups have made videos to raise awareness of drunk driving and unhealthy diets. Quentin, Vionna, Emily and Ash (pictured) are raising awareness of the Khmer Rouge and landmines in Cambodia. These projects have helped develop their team work skills and will make a difference in the local community.

Mr Dale



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# FIRST TERM PARENTS' MEETING

Our first term has concluded with a welcoming parents' meeting. Teachers and parents are collaborating to support students both at home and at school. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents for taking the time to engage with us and for their continuous support. We also deeply appreciate the dedication and hard work of our teachers in providing tremendous support for our students.



Congratulations to all the students who have achieved excellent grades this term! Your hard work and commitment have truly paid off. For those whose grades need improvement, we encourage you to learn from this term's progress report and seek support from your teachers, friends, and family. Remember that it is okay to ask for help. We believe in your potential and are here to support you every step of the way.



We would also like to remind parents that they can view their child's progress grades, homework, and updates from the school via the EduPage system. If you need assistance creating an account, please contact the office, or you can ask your child to show you from their device.

**Mr Sinath**

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# 'JUST A MINUTE' COMPETITION



During our October 25th house assembly year groups from each house had great fun competing in a 'Just A Minute' competition. This is where students try to talk for a whole minute on a chosen subject without repetition, deviation or hesitation. Four students take part, and one starts the talking. The other students can interrupt if they think the speaker has broken one of the rules. They gain or lose points depending on if their interruption is correct. The person still speaking at the end of the minute also gains points.

Each year group competed with the house nominees for their particular year. All students and all year groups performed brilliantly, and it was a fierce and fun competition.

Well done to all those that took part and to the audience that participated well with their great vocal support and interest in the competition.

Dr. Chris

## Meet Our Winners

Year Group	House	Student
Year 7	Bayon	Dara
Year 8	Ta Prohm	Yu E Sam
Year 9	Ta Prohm	Panhaseth
Year 10	Angkor Wat	Ratanac
Year 11	Ta Prohm	Kaknika
Year 12/13	Banteay Srei	Woojin
Team with the most points	Ta Prohm	

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# ISSR FIRE DRILL

Student safety is always of paramount concern at ISSR, and a key aspect of this is the school's response to any whole-school safety issue. One such concern is the procedure in the event of a fire. While the school has the necessary policy and protocol in place, it is crucial to ensure its efficient and safe implementation during an actual fire.

On Tuesday, 12th November, at 9:00 pm, a practice fire drill was conducted. Upon hearing the fire alarm, all staff and students evacuated the building and assembled in their tutor groups in the parking area at the front of the school. This was executed in an efficient and timely manner. Following the drill, our Principal commended the students for the swift evacuation but also emphasised the importance of not spending time collecting books, bags, etc., before leaving the classroom.

Dr. Chris



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# HALLOWEEN



Halloween has become a traditional annual event to celebrate at ISSR. The students over the years have organised fun-filled events to celebrate it and this year was no exception. This was the first main event our newly elected SRC have organised and it was a great success.

The proceedings started off with songs from our school band followed by a performance from our very talented dance group. The band, with support from Mr Ray our music teacher, created a great buzz with their great musical renditions. This being the result of much practicing within music lessons but also some of the students have formed their own small band to develop their own musical tastes. The dance group is a student run affair in that they do their own choreography and practice independently during ECA sessions. The results are impressive as their routines are very professional and great to watch.



The main event of the day was the Halloween Costume Fancy Dress. In the past this would have been based on a scary evil characters but things have changed and student, teacher costumes varied from themes like the Telly Tubbies, the Mafia, Ninja and Men in Black.

Students voiced their support for their favorite costumes via raucous applause but they couldn't split the top two. Thus the eventual winners were Ms Lee-Anne dressed as a bright orange pumpkin and Mr Tony dressed as Avatar – The Last Airbender.

**Dr. Chris**

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# YEAR 11 GLOBAL PROSPECTIVES PROJECT

As part of Global Perspectives IGCSE curriculum, Year 11 students have been completing team projects to submit for their coursework. The students have to identify a local issue in Siem Reap, complete research and create an outcome which will help to address this local issue.

Chankaknika, Arwen and Vorotey held a fundraising event at school where they raised over \$80, this money will be spent on stationery supplies which will be donated to local charity Plant Water Grow. This charity aims to help families in poverty, by giving them access to education.

Other students are creating videos to raise awareness of local issues. James, David and Hyeokjun visited various places in Siem Reap to make a video about unhealthy diets.

Denis, Thika, Ji Seung, Haul and Theanseng visited Heritage Walk to interview Tuk Tuk drivers, they are making a video to raise awareness of the dangers of drink driving – a really important issue in Cambodia.

Finally, Yi Chinh, Holly, Bori, Vitee and Maya also held a fundraising event at the High School. This raised a superb \$100. This money has been donated to charity 'REACH' which helps to reduce malnutrition in Cambodia.

Well done to everyone in Year 11 Global Perspectives, I have been hugely impressed by their efforts in fundraising and raising awareness of important issues in Cambodia.

Mr Dale



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# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

**The Ideal Number of IGCSE Subjects:** Our School's Perspective. At our school, we believe that taking eight IGCSE subjects is the optimal choice for students. This recommendation is based on several key factors that contribute to a well-rounded and comprehensive education. We plan with teacher staffing based on subjects taken at the school and in a small school such as ours we are not able to provide supervision for students wishing to drop a subject.

## Why Eight Subjects?

- Balanced Curriculum:** Taking eight subjects ensures that students receive a broad education, covering a wide range of disciplines. This balance helps in developing diverse skills and knowledge, which are crucial for future academic and career opportunities. Students often want to change their original thoughts about careers as they mature and wish that they had taken more subjects to develop a strong base.
- University Requirements:** Universities look for students who have a strong academic background across multiple subjects. By taking eight subjects, students can meet and exceed these expectations, making them more competitive applicants. Universities do advertise a minimum number of subjects. However, applicants with a wider base and more subjects than the minimum get more preference.
- Skill Development:** Each subject offers unique challenges and learning experiences. By engaging with a variety of subjects, students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are essential for success in higher education and beyond.
- Flexibility and Choice:** With eight subjects, students have the flexibility to explore different areas of interest. This can help them make more informed decisions about their future studies and career paths.



## Addressing Personal Challenges

We understand that some students may face personal challenges that make it difficult to manage eight subjects. In such cases, focusing on seven subjects can be a viable option. However, it is important to consider the following:

- Resilience:** Overcoming challenges and maintaining a strong academic performance despite difficulties is a testament to a student's resilience. This quality is highly valued by universities and employers alike.
- Dedication to Study Ethics:** Dedication to one's studies, even in the face of adversity, reflects a strong work ethic. It shows that a student is committed to their education and willing to put in the effort required to succeed.

## Conclusion

While our school recommends taking eight IGCSE subjects for a well-rounded education, we recognize that individual circumstances may necessitate a different approach. Students who choose to focus on seven subjects should do so with the understanding that resilience and dedication to their studies are key to their success. This choice may not be the best choice for you.

Mr David

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