

**NURTURING
LIFELONG
LEARNERS.**

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Dear MYIS Community,

This evening we received an update from ISAT indicating that, as directed by the Ministry of Education, **all educational institutions in Thailand are to be closed from Wednesday, March 18, 2020, until further notice.** Please read below with updates of how we will be moving forward as a school during this time of campus closure.

Distance Learning

We would like to thank all of our families who supported their children through the first day of our Distance Learning Program on Monday. The level of participation across the school was impressive and the students exceeded our hopes for day one. There were challenges along the way, but today our entire staff were able to reflect, share and discuss strategies that we are excited to implement starting tomorrow.

All MYIS students will recommence the Distance Learning Program beginning tomorrow (March 18, 2020) at 8am. Each day they will be required to:

- Respond before 9am to their class Morning Message.
- Join their class in a whole group *Zoom* session
- Participate in small group instruction lessons (either literacy or math focused) with the teacher (this does not apply to the Early Years classes).
- Students must complete daily activities assigned to them by their teachers (both homeroom and specialist) and submit them via their SeeSaw journal within 24 hours.
- Students can request extra *Zoom* meetings with teachers if they have questions or are needing clarification.

Teachers will be available during school hours (8am - 4pm). They will be sharing a more detailed schedule with you, including specific times when they will be available for immediate contact.

Early Years

We understand that there have been some concerns regarding the Distance Learning Program for our youngest students (T&C - P&U). The learning engagements provided for this age group are developmentally appropriate, with opportunities for the children to develop their critical thinking and creative skills. Furthermore, we hope these activities will help to give you inspiration and ideas for how to interact with your children while at home. We consider our Distance Learning

Program to be a unique opportunity for not only student learning, but also parent/guardian learning. There will be very little, if any, need for access to a device. For consistency across the class and curriculum, it is essential that children complete their Distance Learning assignments. Please get in touch with your child's teacher if you are having difficulty in this matter.

Community Well-Being

Teachers have spent the day today focusing on planning for their lessons for the coming weeks. We are uncertain of the amount of time we will be closed and teachers are working hard to ensure they offer the most effective and beneficial program they can. We ask for your understanding that while our teacher's primary concern is for the well-being of their students, we as a community must ensure that we are keeping the teacher's well-being in mind. We have spent time with teachers today, looking at their workday and highlighting the need for them to try and achieve balance. We have asked teachers to avoid responding to student work and emails outside of school hours. This time is critical for them to be spending "refilling their bucket" ready for the next day of online learning. While as many of the activities assigned for students do not require technology as possible, for our teachers ALL of their work will be on the screen. For this reason, the allocated work hours are even more important.

Campus closure brings an absence of opportunities for families to meet with MYIS teachers and administrators. It is important for us to remember that while our *campus* is closed, *school is not*. We encourage you to make contact with your child's teachers and administration, for the well-being of the entire community. This communication and connection between you and the community is vital in helping this time feel less isolating.

We will continue to update the MYIS community as we receive new information from the Ministry of Education. We look forward to the Distance Learning we will be witnessing over the coming days and weeks.

Thank you once again for your support and cooperation during this time.

Kind Regards

Khanum and Mel

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|  | <p>Ms. Khanum Thampi. Ms. Melanie Taylor <i>Head of School Assistant Principal</i></p> <p>T: 0-2156-6222 F: 0-2156-6099 22/122, Moo 3, Soi Prasoet Islam, Bang Talat, Pakkret Nonthaburi 11120, THAILAND Twitter: @melleytaylor @MYISMagic www.magicyears.ac.th</p> |
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