



Newsletter RIS Swiss Section 2017 - 18

Eighth Issue

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Dear Friends of RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok!

It is our great pleasure to present the eighth issue of the newsletter and we wish you a pleasant and informative reading,

Simon Dörig, Principal & Hendrik Schuhmacher, Editor

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School Board

Caroline Braunshofer - new member since 2017

45 years old, Nationality: Austria

Children at School: Katharina in Grade 5, Maximilian in BS-B

Professional Background

- MSc - Food- & Biotechnology
- MBA - General Management
- Consultant in environmental technology & integrated management systems
- Until end of 2014: Head of Process Management at Raiffeisen Schweiz



Motivation for working on the school board:

- Pro-active contribution to the success of our school
- Support to ensure the best possible learning environment for our children
- Contribute to a goal-oriented implementation of the decisions made by the AGM

School Board

Robert Ruh - new member since AGM 2017

44 years old, Nationality: Swiss/Thai

Children at School: Jaye Ruh Grade 9, Fay Ruh Grade 7

Professional Background

- Electronic Engineer Diploma, Berufsschule Schaffhausen Schweiz
- Bachelor of Business / Administration Hagen University Germany
- Sales / Key Account Manager Asia Pacific Kronos Thailand Co., Ltd.



Motivation for working on the school board:

- Support the school management to create a modern and attractive school for the children
- To secure the education quality for our children



School Development

How do we prepare our children for a future in which not only cars drive automatically...

On the way to school 4.0 ... an educational discussion in the school development group on digitalization - automation and the impact on school

Education 4.0 deals with the learning and educational processes of digitalization. Based on this background, digital learning is also actively discussed at our school. It is a term that implies many opportunities and raises hopes, but also puts schools under pressure. Schools are expected to upgrade classrooms technologically, to make their teachers tech fit and to offer "contemporary learning". The session of the School Development Group provided exchanges, answers and various incentives.

The school development group regularly deals with specific topics related to education at its meetings. Representatives of our various committees discuss current challenges and discuss possible solutions. School 4.0 was the topic of the discussion at the school development meeting on 12.10.2017. The aim of the RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok is to prepare our students the best possible way for their further personal and professional development. What are the future challenges and how can they be mastered? It was stated in the discussion that "we can expect that the children who are currently attending kindergarten at our school will not have to drive cars by themselves anymore...". In the discussion, it was agreed that this and further changes need orientation and that not only the school has a responsibility in this regard, but also parents and of course the students themselves.

For example, the question arose as to how it would be meaningful to the media - / computer science lessons in the future to become incorporated even more into the different subjects. It has generally been noted that teaching and learning is changing and that it needs a change of mind from everyone involved. RIS Swiss Section is positive about the digital transformation and sees it as an opportunity to support learning processes and make personalized learning possible. During the discussion, it turned out that well-founded general knowledge and, in particular, specialized knowledge will obviously continue to be important in the future, but clearly inter-disciplinary competencies, such as media literacy or communicative/interpersonal competence, will be of central importance. With the announced introduction of the Swiss Curriculum 21 and the competence-oriented curricula of the German Schools abroad, RIS Swiss Section is also ready for the next steps. In addition, the working group also sees opportunities in the forthcoming expansion of RIS Swiss Section to tackle technical improvements, creating spaces for innovative learning and teaching, and structures for self-organized learning.

Remo Nyffenegger, Head of School Development Group



SMV

School-Hoodies!

We as the student representatives wanted to offer an alternative to the regulations on jackets and hoodies at our school - and started the project "School-Hoodies".

It took us some time but now we can proudly announce that the project is a success! We designed the hoodies and even purchased them on our own. We sold the first hoodies in February and March 2018.

Julien Leider, President SMV



Teachers

Study counselling and career orientation at RIS Swiss Section

It is an important goal for us to support our students in making self-determined and competent career and study choices.

This can only succeed if students have concrete ideas about their future life, know their strengths and weaknesses, learn to assess their abilities, are informed about education and study opportunities and have gained experience in the working world. The study counselling and career orientation at our school is organized by Rolf Nährich.

The three main elements of study counselling and career orientation at our school are:

Internship Program in Grade 9

Professional orientation is an important part of our school program and therefore the students take part in an internship in our Grade 9. For two weeks they plunge into real work life, which demands a lot of independence.

After two weeks they come back to school again, deeply satisfied with themselves and rich with precious experiences from work life. A detailed report and a presentation for students and parents is the final highlight of this important and successful project.



Economics Week in Grades 9 and 10

The Economics Week is a joint project offered by the Ernst Schmidheiny Foundation, the Chambers of Industry and Commerce, and supported by the Credit Suisse and other Swiss companies.

The students in Grades 9 and 10 take on the role of managing their own company. As in the real business world, the students have to develop strategies for their companies, learn to understand the activities of their competitors and the development of the market, organise themselves, put marketing concepts into practice and make a great number of decisions. The students experience the way a company functions in the market in a more realistic environment.

The instructors are managers from the world of commerce and industry acting voluntarily. Numerous companies in Switzerland, large and small, are making management staff available for the Economics Week.

Career Counselling and “Career Days” in Grades 11 and 12

Our school continually receives a significant amount of information on opportunities in higher education. We also organize career counselling events and workshops and invite experts to give insights to the students on different educational institutions, occupations and careers.

Individual guidance takes place through work on individual modules (e.g. “Time self-management” or “Experiences with institutions of higher education” / “Student life”).

This is to ensure that every student receives the necessary support in their personal career development process. In addition, there are “Career Days”, where experts from various professional fields give an insight in their everyday work and its challenges, their career path, study programs and qualifications. The students can ask questions and make contacts.



News



Die RIS Swiss Section,
Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok
erfüllt alle Bedingungen
für die Erneuerung des Gütesiegels
"Exzellente Deutsche Auslandsschule"



BLI 2.0 confirms our accreditation as "EXCELLENT"!

The German „Bund-Länder-Inspektion“ (BLI - the German Joint Federal and State Inspection), inspected our school from 28 August to 1 September 2017 to establish another comprehensive report on the quality of the school, six years after the BLI 1.0 in 2011.

The result was presented to the faculty and then later to the whole school community on Friday 1 September 2017. We again managed to fulfil the requirements for the accreditation certificate of "Excellent German School Abroad" by the German government! During the closing ceremony, the three inspectors reiterated that RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok did not just fulfil the basic criteria, but achieved excellent results in most areas. The main inspector especially valued the integration measures for newcomers at our school, and pointed out that "new students are quickly accepted and integrated at this school." The inspector particularly remembered a new student who said during the inspection that "after just 15 days, I felt as if I had never been at another school". The result of the „Bund-Länder-Inspektion 2.0“ represents another important step in the continuous quality improvement process. It provides the school with valuable information and further development potential, while reconfirming that RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok is not only a good, but an excellent school. During the inspection at the school all involved parties were thoroughly interviewed in regard to each aspect of life at school. The main focus of the inspection were visits to the various grades during lessons. This report presented by the inspectors has already given important insights and ideas to our school. After the presentation to the teachers, there was the chance to discuss and work with the results with the inspectors in a workshop. The detailed final report will then be carefully analysed and discussed. Important impulses for further work will be delivered. The work of quality development at the school will continue.



Loy Krathong Ceremony / Krathong Workshops 2017

On Friday, 3 November 2017, our school celebrated Loy Krathong, one of the most important and beautiful festivals of Thailand. It is an event when the people of Thailand pay respect to the goddess of water by floating Krathongs on any and all waterways around the kingdom. The sight of thousands of Krathongs (floating banana leaf vessels) is a really magical sight, and there are many places in Bangkok and all over Thailand where you can get involved with the festivities. So every year we invite the school community to a special assembly to celebrate Loy Krathong. Students, parents, teachers, administration staff, as well as our special guests Ms Judith Schildberger, First Secretary, and Ms. Stephanie Jakobitsch, Head of Administrative Affairs, of the Austrian Embassy were greeted with welcoming words from Principal Simon Dörig. Afterwards, students of grade 8 presented the history and customs of Loy Krathong, and explained the meaning of this festival for Thai people.

Then students, parents and teachers performed various colourful Thai cultural presentations, explained the meaning of this festival for the Thai people and performed for their guests traditional interpretations of Loy Krathong dances and songs. Later all students joined the activities in mixed age groups and practiced how to make and decorate the Krathong.

At noon all students proudly presented their Krathongs to the guests in the inner school yard. Thank You to our Thai Language and Culture Department for organising this event.



Christmas market and celebration

On December 13th, 2017, we invited all friends of the school to its Christmas market and celebration – traditionally a very popular event. Once again many guests enjoyed the festive atmosphere.

Parents organized a Christmas market on the sports field, which, alongside crafts, was a place to sample international delicacies, such as homemade cookies, and take part in different festive activities. Also, Santa Claus made an appearance and our young guests were happy.

The official event began at 2pm with Christmas workshops organized by students with many activities, food and crafts, both in front of and inside the various classrooms.

Afterwards, guests were greeted on the sports field by Simon Dörig, the Principal. It was a fitting occasion to bid farewell to all students leaving the school at the end of the year. Later, everyone enjoyed the fabulous Christmas performances presented by the students, Kindergarten and Lernzwerge.

Theresa Huber and Deniz Akay from Grade 8 moderated the festive program. Later visitors were entertained with live music performances by the students and a Christmas Raffle on the sports field.

We were able to present this wonderful event with the help and support of many parents of our students and other members of our school community.



The Month of Francophonie

During the month of Francophonie, our classes 9 to 11 were invited to visit the Alliance Française. The Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency Mister Ivo Sieber, and the Head of the Alliance Française, Pascale Fabre, warmly welcomed us.

To prepare for our visit, the students made an exposition about countries of the Francophonie and we worked on the film “Le Nouveau” by Rudi Rosenberg, which we then watched during our visit. Afterwards, we discussed the film, the characters and the content. We played a game called "kahoot" for which we needed knowledge about the Francophonie, grammar, proverbs and other typical things of French-speaking countries. After having had lunch in the restaurant 1912, grade 9 worked on vocabulary games, students of grade 10 studied film reviews and wrote on their own and grade 11 used the facilities of the “médiathèque” for a project work. It was a great day. Merci beaucoup – especially to Pascale Fabre, Brigitte Paktipatt and Fabien Reymondon from the Alliance Française and to Tilman Kröger and Andra Marginean from our French Department.



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