Nurturing and Inspiring

Primary School is where we build the foundations of our children’s learning. Their attitude to school, their ability to make and develop friendships, their curiosity, creativity and individuality are all fostered throughout the wonderful primary ages. This is where we give children space to ask crazy questions, to build connections, to learn how to disagree and most importantly to begin to express themselves as individuals. Primary School is where children begin to recognise themselves as independent learners. Building on the beautifully nurturing Early Years environment and transitioning all the way to be ready for the exciting world of Middle School, Primary is a neighbourhood full of deep and vibrant learning, caring relationships, and natural curiosity.

Primary School Community

We believe in the importance of students not only having a sense of belonging in their grade community, but also belonging to a wider community of learners. Feeling safe, understanding that they are a valued member of the community and building lasting relationships, truly are at the heart of successful learning.

This sense of belonging is nurtured in many ways throughout the week. In classrooms, teachers facilitate community meetings, build class agreements centered on our IRESPECT values and hold regular community building activities. Our weekly Primary School assembly allows students from across the grade levels to share their learning experiences, to celebrate the uniqueness of our community and to join together in song and dance. It is a celebration of the diversity, energy and enthusiasm of our community. Our whole Primary School also unites for celebration days, sports events, community celebrations and many festivals. We create links between classes and grades with regular, facilitated sharing sessions and encourage teachers to build links with our local balinese community.
Primary School Curriculum

At Green School Bali, Primary School refers to the learning offered from Grade One through to Grade Five. Students typically become seven years old during the academic year they join Grade One and eleven years old during their last year in Primary School.

In Primary, we believe that students learn more from how they are taught than from what they are taught. Thus, our programme reflects the Green School Principles, which are core shared beliefs about how to nurture learning experiences that build connections, allow for exploration and inspire joy and wonder,

Our pedagogical belief is that learning is most impactful when it is:

The REAL learning principles are designed to foster authentic experiences in which students can grow and nurture their values, skills and competencies.
A Balanced Approach to Learning

Always evolving, the Green School Learning Programme seeks to find a balance between the skills, values and discipline-based competencies that prepare learners for an ever-changing world. Our program aims for a carefully balanced approach of personal and social growth as well as academic learning designed to develop the qualities, skills and competencies described in Green School's Ambitions.
Green School Skills

By nurturing ‘Green School Skills’ in our students we aim to prepare them for their journey as learners and as passionate friends of the environment for the rest of their lives. Students learn these skills throughout every part of our program, including projects and lessons that align with the Green School Mission of ‘A Community of Learners Making Our World Sustainable’.

Students in Primary School are welcomed into a community in their grade and into a learning environment that values them as an individual. The learning is active, hands on, messy, sweaty and fun! Indonesian and international homeroom teachers together oversee pastoral care; building safe, nurturing and responsive spaces and communities. Inspiring specialist teachers of Drama, Art, Music, Science, Green Studies and Physical Wellbeing (PW) enrich the weekly program. Students are further supported by a wonderful team of experienced and passionate learning specialists. All of our teachers work collaboratively in the aim to nurture the all important home-school relationships, building strong and positive partnerships with parents and families.
IRESPECT Values

As a school we subscribe to a set of values - IRESPECT. These are the values of Integrity, Responsibility, Equity, Sustainability, Peace, Empathy, Community, and Trust. At all times we are teaching and modeling these values and supporting our students in doing the same. We encourage all teachers to honour and recognize theses values in our students at all times with ongoing dialogue, discussions, and reinforcement.

**Integrity** – being honest and ethical with thoughts and actions.
**Responsibility** – being accountable for thoughts, actions and deeds.
**Empathy** – understanding and caring for the feelings of others.
**Sustainability** – ensuring that your own body and surroundings are cared for so they are clean and healthy for as long as possible.
**Peace** – contributing to a state of harmony.
**Equity** - respecting everyone as an individual and valuing fairness
**Community** – being part of a group seeking common goals and taking care of each other.
**Trust** - building and maintaining strong relationships with each other, the school and the environment.

In the Primary School we recognise that fostering these values is part of a four-way interaction. These values need to be embodied and enacted from:

1: Adults to adults
2: Adults to children
3: Children to adults
4: Children to children.
Wellbeing

The wellbeing program in the Primary School truly embodies the principal of wall-lessness. It incorporates social-emotional learning, physical wellbeing development, community building, strong and positive relationships as well as elements such as yoga and mindfulness.

Social-emotional learning in the Primary School happens everywhere, all the time. In directed lessons in the classroom building on the expertise of talented educators, when playing on the zipline in the playground, during conversations around the lunch table or when there has been an argument between friends. Being able to recognise our own emotions, to understand how to build relationships and of course having strategies for how to overcome problems are all key elements of this program.

Physical Wellbeing is so much more than PE! As well as understanding the importance of exercise and physical health, we develop an understanding of fair play, practise cooperation and celebrate the successes of others. Taking turns, helping out, and having a part to play are all vital skills developed through physical wellbeing lessons.

Yoga and Mindfulness in the primary school allow space for the developing social, emotional and behavioural skills which play an integral role in self development. Mindfulness offers strategies for helping students to focus their attention, improve self-regulation skills, build resilience and develop a positive mind-set whilst at school and in life. Mindfulness as a practice in class and school wide is a feature of each day.
Developmental Archetypes

In the Primary School we understand that learning is not a ‘one size fits all’ proposition, but rather needs to be evolving, adaptive and responsive to the developmental and environmental readiness of our learners. At Green School Bali, we address this by relating different stages of our primary school to developmental archetypes.

Guardians of the Earth

Our learners from Grades 1-3 are the Guardians of the Earth! As Guardians of the Earth, a reverence for the earth as our teacher deepens. Increasing our connections to the earth and her gifts leads to an authentic feeling of emerging stewardship. Building on a love for the natural world, our guardians explore, question and care for the world around them. We tend for the worms wriggling in the soil in our gardens, we protect the delicate blossoms on the butterfly pea as they open in the warm sunlight and try to care for and protect all of the beautiful creatures who share the Green School campus with us. The Guardians of the Earth love getting our hands dirty with experiential learning in the gardens, drawing on the beauty that is all around to inspire our own curiosity and passion for learning. We are the soul and spirit of Green School’s care for our natural world, and our spirit burns bright!
Warriors of the Earth

Learners in Grades 4 and 5 are the **Warriors of the Earth**! As Warriors of the Earth, our reverence for the earth as our teacher solidifies. Warriors of the Earth are heartfelt, inquisitive and enthusiastic advocates for the amazing environment in which we live. We follow our passions, are energetic investigators and are emerging activists. The Warriors of the Earth dig deeply into personal wonderings and observations. We develop projects born from our own learning and linked to our respect of the natural world. Warriors of the Earth are entrepreneurial thinkers and ardent communicators, sharing our personal passions with the community. Warriors of the Earth strive to become change-makers, growing a global movement through our deeply-rooted locally focused projects. We are the embodiment of Green School’s drive for local-to-global change, and we are powerful!
A Structured Approach to Learning

Three Frames of Learning

The pedagogy used in Green School is the Three Frames of Learning. This defines how we deliver the content of our courses in the classroom. This scaffold is designed to provide a consistent, relevant, well-rounded and comprehensive learning experience. The three frames of learning are:

1. **Proficiency Frame**
2. **Thematic Frame**
3. **Experiential Frame**

These frames of learning can also be thought of as a practise-apply-try paradigm:

1. Practise: Where we practise and improve discrete intellectual competencies across different proficiency disciplines.
2. Apply: When we can apply the skills we have been practising and developing through exciting and engaging thematics.
3. Try: Where we can have-a-go at new, exciting, challenging and risky activities through hands on, active experiences.
THEMATIC

This frame is an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to learning where units are focused on a particular theme. Thematic units inspire students through relevant concepts and real-world experiences. They provide opportunities for students to ask questions and follow their own paths of inquiry and they bring to life the beauty, surprises and connections in the world around us. Thematic lessons are holistic in that they engage multiple styles of intelligence and learning and they build on the Green School principal of wall-lessness by building collaboration between homeroom and specialist teachers.

Thematic learning in the Primary School follows an arc of discovery designed using the principles of permaculture. These thematics are explored differently in each grade, but follow a carefully designed sequence which allows children to build an understanding of their community, to feel at home in their space, to develop an understanding of the world around them and to discover a greater sense of themselves.
PROFICIENCY

The Proficiency frame focuses on core, discrete intellectual competencies that require repetition and practice to reach proficiency, namely in Literacy, Maths and Bahasa Indonesia. Green School has developed its own curriculum in literacy and math that breaks away from grade groups but still follows the natural sequence of skill development for student success. Students know their skills and how to advance them to the next level. Attention to detail for individual learners maximises success in this frame.

Teaching teams work together to provide engaging proficiency lessons that are student-centered and differentiated to meet student needs. Green School has developed literacy and maths curriculum overviews and a scope and sequence designed to fit with Green School’s unique vision, mission and educational philosophy. This scope and sequence can also be matched to other curricula around the world and understood by educators broadly.
EXPERIENTIAL

Experiential learning at Green School is the “hands-on, getting dirty” part of Green School. Whether it means working in the school gardens, creating art, building out of bamboo, learning first aid, or carrying out work experience, you will find students exploring and problem solving around the campus and around Bali. Students in every Learning Neighbourhood engage in real-world practical projects that deepen their understanding of their physical place in the world. In primary, experiential learning involves a number of components - specialist programs, student-led projects and elective activities.

Specialist Programs: Practical specialist subject areas are offered at least weekly - Green Studies, Physical Wellbeing, Drama, Art and Music. In these programs students generate a deeper understanding of themselves as learners, are offered the chance to step outside of their comfort zones and express their creativity in a variety of ways.
**Student-led Projects:** This program is designed to honor and value the wonderful creativity and curiosity that is innate in primary age children. By being given the opportunity to truly follow their own interests and passions, children develop a deep sense of pride in and ownership of their learning. Regular meetings with mentors from across the community and high-quality support provided by passionate teachers make this a truly inspiring element in the primary school program.

**Elective Activities:** Elective activities in the upper Primary School (grades 4 and 5) begin to build the bridge to middle school. During the *Jalan-Jalan* elective, children work in mixed-age groups choosing to participate in a variety of practical, hands-on activities. These choices come from a range of areas: service learning, enterprise education, practical arts and outdoor/physical education. They offer the opportunity to engage with our campus in different ways, to give something back to our community or to build connections outside of the boundaries of Green School. Children in upper Primary School also have the opportunity to engage with the **HOP** (Hands on Projects) program. This is an opt-in program that runs once in each term of the year. Students are challenged to take ownership over their learning, become active in the community and to make a difference. Utilising the resources and expertise in the IHUB, Media Lab, Project Hub and our wider community, this really is where we start to activate!
Primary School Timetable

While primary school students have a classroom that can be thought of as their home base, learning occurs in spaces all around the campus. Below is an example of a primary school timetable to illustrate what a typical Green School week might look like.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hari</th>
<th>Senin</th>
<th>Selasa</th>
<th>Rabu</th>
<th>Kamis</th>
<th>Jumat</th>
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<td>Thematic</td>
<td>Thematic</td>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>Jalan Jalan</td>
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<td>Community</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Wellbeing</td>
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<td>Proficiency</td>
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<td>Arts and Drama</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Physical Wellbeing</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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</tbody>
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For more information, please visit us at:

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Green School Bali