

## EMI Center and International Affairs Office Co-host Tea Party, Fostering Friendship Among Local and International Students

Campus focus

The tea culture experience event, co-organized by the Center for English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) and the Office of International and Cross-Strait Affairs, invited around 20 local and international students to Yunfong Tea Shop in Tamsui Old Street for a tea journey on April 30. Vice President for International Affairs and Director of the EMI Center, Dr. Hsiao-Chuan Chen, shared the initial intention behind organizing the tea event: "Taiwanese tea has a long history and is renowned internationally. Early Taiwanese tea was marketed worldwide from Tamsui. Inviting local and international students for a tea journey and tasting tea history holds significant educational value."

The event began with a tea knowledge quiz, where students enthusiastically responded to questions about the functions of tea, harvesting times, and cultivation locations. The atmosphere was lively, with continuous laughter filling the air. Following this, the tea shop owner introduced the functions of tea ware and the tea brewing process. Finally, students were divided into groups to taste tea together. Taiwanese and international students learned to brew tea leaves together, creating a warm and harmonious atmosphere. Besides sharing their tea-tasting experiences, students exchanged insights into their daily lives and cultural differences.

Dr. Kai-Su Wu, Chief of the EMI Teaching and Learning Section at the Center, expressed his hope that through this activity, Taiwanese and international students could appreciate the beauty of tea culture, and international students would have the opportunity to introduce their own tea cultures. "This event also provides students from different countries with more opportunities to interact and communicate outside of the classroom." Yano Saho, a 2nd-year Japanese student from the English-taught Master's Program in Computer Science and Information Engineering, happily

shared: "I enjoyed the aroma of Alishan tea leaves and the entire tea brewing process. This activity also allowed me to feel the similarities and differences between Taiwanese and Japanese tea cultures."





