

FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 6, 2026

KONKUK UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER



2026

INTERNATIONAL
WINTER SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

DORMITORY CHECK IN

Konkuk University's International Winter School commenced on February 1, 2026.

With over 100 students joining the program from various countries, like Japan, China, and Finland.



Interns and buddies expected the arriving students on the first floor of KU:L House Dormitory's Vision Hall for check-in. The lobby was filled with different languages, from English, Japanese, and Mandarin. The elevator's sound echoed in the lobby as it consistently went to different floors, especially during the peak period.

Within the rooms, we provided the students with a welcome kit containing basic necessities for their short stay, like tissues and a water bottle to stay hydrated. Students either explored or relaxed before joining the welcome dinner - some even went to Myeongdong and Gangnam after dropping their bags off in their room!

WELCOME DINNER

Students, buddies, and interns gathered on the first floor of Vision Hall at 7PM before making their way to eat Korean bbq or chicken for dinner. Everyone had a chance to get to know each other and exchange contacts, while enjoying delicious food.

After dinner, students had time to visit Daiso, Olive Young, and other stores before coming back to the dormitory. Some students came back from dinner earlier to relax and prepare themselves for the next day's orientation.



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ORIENTATION DAY

On Monday, February 2, the visiting students, buddies, and OIA staff gathered at Room 102 of the Law Building (#8) for a fun and informational *orientation day*. The OIA organised performances from K-Tigers and interactive games for students to familiarise themselves with Konkuk University's campus along with their respective buddies.

Students participated in various games, such as random quiz, music quiz, and an ice breaking bingo game. There was even a dance battle between respective students for some groups!



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KOREAN SAUNA

Buddies organised their first activity with students after classes ended on Tuesday, February 3. The students were guided to a traditional Korean sauna, *jjimjilbang* (찜질방), at Spalex Good Morning City by taking the subway. With their buddies' guidance, students enjoyed a couple of hours at the sauna, trying the different rooms, getting to know each other, and trying Korean food. In addition, they enjoyed the warmth from the sauna as Korea's winter can be freezing and different from their home countries. Although it was a bit of a culture shock for some people, the students made amazing memories and gained perspective into Korean culture.



"Though it was a culture shock, I had a fun time!"



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"The tour was amazing!"
-Student from China



FIELD TRIP GROUP B

Students gathered at Konkuk University's Museum before departing for Ilsan at 9 AM. The two buses made their first stop at the National Museum of Korea, where they learnt about Korean history.

Before moving to the MBC Studio, students had lunch at Gwangjang Market, where they tried different Korean snacks and meals. After filling their stomach and exploring the market, everyone

hopped back on the bus and moved to the MBC studio to observe and learn about South Korea's entertainment industry; walking through the filming areas used for Korean dramas, movies, and stage. They explored the area used for filming the MBC stage and had the opportunity to stand on the same stage their favourite artists may have performed.

FIELD TRIP GROUP A

The first group travelled to Paju where they toured a famous filming location. Everyone enjoyed the tour as they observed and gained knowledge on how the Korean dramas are filmed. Although there were no filming on site, we had the opportunity to see the set, how it works, and other interesting facts about the Korean entertainment industry. After concluding the tour, we had lunch at a Korean restaurant in Paju. There were many side dishes to try and each one tasted amazing! After filling our stomach, we made our way to Yongsan CGV to watch "Avatar 3" before returning to the campus.

"We got a look into a script of a finished drama..."
-Intern Bomim



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Korean class

CLASSES

At Konkuk University's International Winter School, we offer students: **Track A** (Korean classes in the morning and academic classes in the afternoon) and **Track B** (Korean classes in the morning and afternoon).

Korean Classes

Konkuk University offers Korean classes based on difficulty level. There are **beginner** classes for students starting to learn the language. **Intermediate** classes for students who wants to improve their conversational and writing skills. Students who wants to challenge or improve their Korean fluency can take **advanced** classes.

Academic Classes

Students in Track A have elective classes in the afternoon. Starting with the **K-Culture** classes on Tuesday, February 3. The students learn about South Korea and participate in a field work, where they cook Korean cuisine gungjung bulgogi and kimbab.

From Friday, February 6, the **K-Beauty** classes began. The students learn about South Korea's beauty industry, including workshops on skincare and creating their own perfume.

The **K-arts and Pops** classes will begin in week 2, where they explore Korean arts culture.



First day of classes



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Korean cooking studio

K-CULTURE FIELD WORK

Due to a number of participants, we divided the cooking class into two days - Track A students on Thursday (2.5) and on Friday (2.6). On Thursday, the students were split into three groups to allow easier translations into Chinese and English.

The students were allocated an hour and a half to learn how to make Korean cuisine, gungjung bulgogi and kimbap. Everyone participated in cooking, taking turns prepping the ingredients, and had the chance to try their cooking afterwards.



Gungjung bulgogi & kimbap



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*A look into
Gyeongbokgung
Palace*



GYEONGBOKGUNG PALACE

As we conclude the first week of Konkuk University's International Winter School, the *buddies* have prepared an activity with students to experience and enjoy traditional Korean clothing, Hanbok (한복), on Saturday, February 7.

Gyeongbokgung Palace was South Korea's primary palace during the Joseon dynasty (1392 to 1910) and established in 1395, when King Taejo reigned for the 4th year.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

When: Saturday (February 7, 2026)

Where: Gyeongbokgung Palace

Meeting Place: Lake Hall E-Mart

Group 1 - 11AM

Group 2 - 1PM

Due to the number of participants, the trip will be split into a morning and afternoon group. Please make sure you know which group you're in! And wear warm clothes, such as heat tech, to stay warm under the hanbok!



What to expect:

A fun time at the palace, learning about Korea's history, taking LOTS of pictures in traditional clothing, and enjoying the company of buddies and fellow students throughout the day.

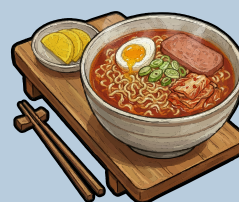
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PREVIEW - NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

*Sunday
February 8*

Free Time with your Buddy

Students and buddies takes the day to spend time together and enjoy their chosen activities.



*Monday
February 9*

K-Beauty Field Work

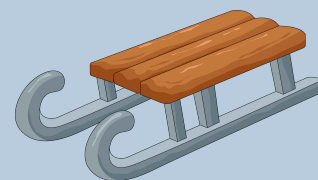
Students who have chosen to take the K-Beauty class have the opportunity to gain practical experience.



*Tuesday
February 10*

Field Trip

The OIA has organised a field trip for students to experience South Korea's winter sports.



*Thursday
February 12*

K-Arts and Pops Field Work

Students who have chosen the class are provided the opportunity to gain practical experience in the field.



*Friday
February 13*

Farewell Ceremony and Lotte World

IWS 2026 concludes and a trip to Lotte World have been organised for students to enjoy their final day.



*Saturday
February 14*

Dormitory Check-out

Students to check-out of the dormitory.

