

# LONGEST REIGNING MONARCHS IN HISTORY

- Sivaporn Waleesila

Let's take a look at the longest-reigning kings and queens throughout the history of the world.



**King Louis XIV** took his duty as King very seriously and he was elevated to the mythical status as the Sun King.

**Queen Elizabeth II** ushered in the second Elizabethan age, which lasted over seven decades. 14 British Prime Ministers served during her reign. She was the first head of state to open the Olympic Games,



**King Bhumibol Adulyadej** is well loved by his subjects, and he in turn gave most of his time to the service of his countrymen.

**King Johann II** was a very private man, and never married or had any children. He loved the arts and was known as a generous and thoughtful patron of cultural projects.



**K'inich Janaab' Pakal** expanded Mayan's power and he produced some of Mayan civilization's finest architectures.

**King Franz Joseph I's** reign was marked by territorial disputes and nationalistic tensions throughout his lands, while his personal life was rocked by tragic incidents.



**King Ferdinand III** headed the party at Habsburg imperial court during the Thirty Years' War and ended it in with the treaty of

Peace of Westphalia.



**Queen Victoria's** reign came to be known as the Victorian Era. She oversaw the expansion of the British Empire—which covered a

fifth of the world by the end of the century.



**King James I** was an important figure in the development of the Catalan language, and literature.



**Emperor Hirohito** led the Japanese imperial expansion, militarization, and involvement in the World War II. Many Japanese revered him as a god.

Source: countryliving.com

## The Longest Reigning Monarchs in History

Monarchs of sovereign states with verifiable reigns by exact date

Louis XIV Kingdom of France	1643-1715	72 years, 110 days
Elizabeth II United Kingdom & Commonwealth Realms	1952-2022	70 years, 214 days
Rama IX Thailand	1946-2016	70 years, 126 days
Johann II Liechtenstein	1858-1929	70 years, 91 days
Muhammad Jiwa Zainal Adilin II Kedah Sultanate (Malaysia)	1710-1778	68 years, 220 days
K'inich Janaab' Pakal I Maya City of Palenque (Mexico)	615-683	68 years, 33 days
Franz Joseph I Austria-Hungary	1848-1916	67 years, 355 days
Chan Imix K'awiil Maya City of Copán (Honduras)	628-695	67 years, 130 days
Ferdinand III* Kingdom of the Two Sicilies	1759-1825	65 years, 90 days
Victoria British Empire	1837-1901	63 years, 216 days

\* Ferdinand I reigned as Ferdinand III (Kingdom of Sicily) from 1759 to 1816.

Sources: Wikipedia, media reports, Statista research



statista

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The Official Newsletter of Adventist International Mission School  
195 Moo 3, Muaklek, Saraburi, Thailand 18180

Volume 7 Issue 1

August - October 2022



I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service, and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.

Elizabeth II  
1926 - 2022



"We don't just teach,  
we build character."



Western Association  
of Schools and Colleges



Office of National  
Standards and Quality  
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Adventist  
Accrediting  
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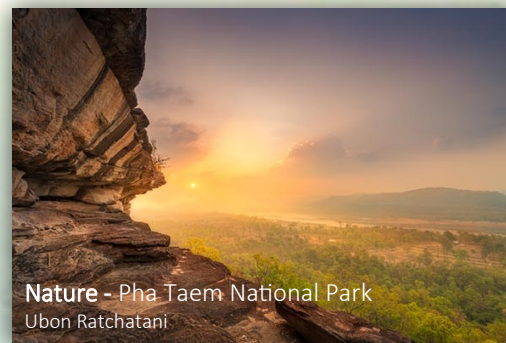
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# Thailand Tourism Back on Track

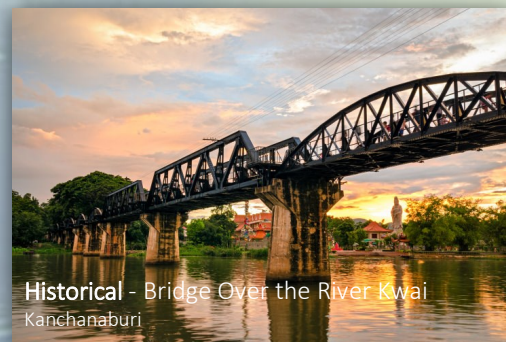
- Napharada Yaibandit

Thailand has been consistently on the top ten of the world's best tourist destinations. It is considered as one of the best choices for tourists to spend their vacations and R&R. From nature, history, culture, adventure, and even for health reasons, Thailand has it all for everyone. There are places all over the country where people can relax and have fun.



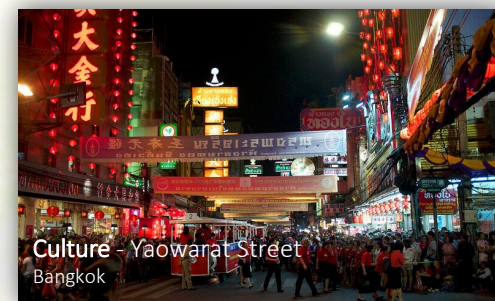
**Nature** - Pha Taem National Park  
Ubon Ratchatani

It is located in the Northeast of Thailand, near the border of Laos, along the Mekong River. Pha Taem's cliff is famous for its sunrise. It is known as the place where the first sunrise of Thailand can be seen. It is also a vantage point to see Laos just across the Mekong River. Ancient paintings can be seen on the surface of the cliffs that dates back to 3,000 - 4,000 years, and this gives a glimpse of how prehistoric people in this area lived.



**Historical** - Bridge Over the River Kwai  
Kanchanaburi

This 415 kilometer long railway was part of the Japanese army railway from Nong Pla Duk station in Kanchanaburi, Thailand to Thanbyuzayat Myanmar. Built in World War II by Prisoners of War (POWs). It was temporarily built with wood, but was replaced with iron imported from Melayu.



**Culture** - Yaowarat Street  
Bangkok

Yaowarat is one of the best places for families in Thailand to reunite and have a memorable time together. In the olden days, Yaowarat was where the largest Chinese community lived. It has been the main center for trading by the Chinese community since they moved from their old site some 200 years ago to make way for the construction of Wat Phra Kaew, also known as the Grand Palace.



**Fun/Adventure** - Santorini Park  
Cha-Am

Santorini Park is divided into amusement rides, swimming pool, and shopping areas. It covers 60 rai, and designed after Santorini Island in Greece.



**Health** - Banana Conservation Center  
Suphanburi

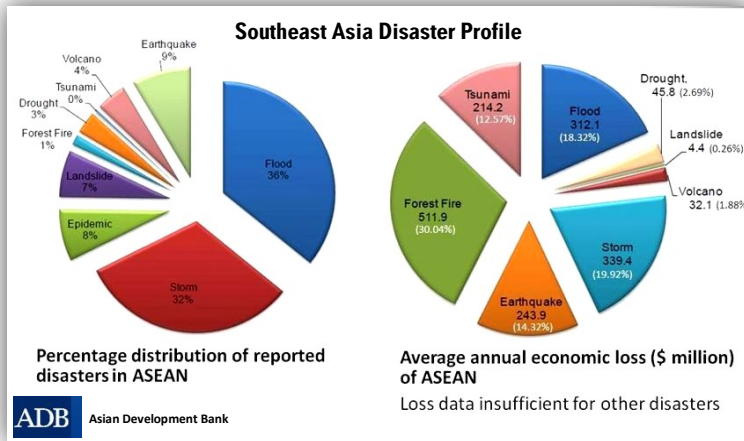
The center collected and conserves up to 108 species of bananas, and uses them for a number of bi-products like food and skin care products.



# Climate Change Disasters

- Chanika Panyos

The way the temperature change nowadays due to climate change is becoming more alarming. More catastrophic disasters are happening everywhere in the world. Since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas. Some countries that are the most affected by climate change are Brazil, the United States, Philippines, and China.



**Brazil** About 85% of disasters are caused by flashfloods, landslides and prolonged drought.

**China** all In the last few decades, almost all types of major disasters except volcanic eruptions have hit China including earthquakes, flash-sandstorms, typhoons, hail-storm surges, droughts, landslides, and rodent borne diseases, grassland and forest fires, heat waves, and red tides.

**Philippines** In the recent years, two major kinds of disasters hit the Philippines. Typhoons (Rai, Noru,) and volcanic eruptions (Taal, Mayon).

**United States** the highest number of disasters were caused by hurricanes and snow storms.

## What are the causes of climate change?

Human activity is the main cause of climate change. Everything that human beings touch almost immediately becomes a wasteland. In people's desire for a better life, the environment had to suffer to give them the comfort they want.

### Other Major Causes :

- ② **Generating power.** Generating electricity and heat by burning fossil fuels causes a large chunk of earth's global emissions.
- ② **Manufacturing goods.** Industrials emissions, mostly from burning fuels to produce energy for the production of various goods.

## Simple things we can do to help protect the earth

**6Rs** - Cut down on what you throw away. Follow the 6R zero waste ways to conserve the world's precious natural resources.



**Plant a tree.** Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change.



**Bike more - Drive less.** a good way to stay fit and healthy. It can help keep the doctor away, and can make you happy.



**Conserve water.** The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater will end up in the ocean.



**Shop wisely.** Use less plastic, bring a reusable shopping bag every time you buy something from the store or mall.



**Don't send toxic chemicals into waterways.** Choose natural organic products at home and in business establishments.

Let us give **GREEN** a chance!

Sources: preventionweb.com, GFDPR, statista.com, prb.org, un.org, oceanservices.gov

# THE CROWN

- Paphangkorn Sirijanya

Queen Elizabeth II, for the longest time, had been the icon of the United Kingdom. Her reign lasted the longest of any known recorded monarchs in the history of Great Britain, and her face was known to all English-speaking countries.

To put into perspective of how long the queen had been around as a princess before she began her reign, she was a military driver transferring soldiers during WWI, she served in the military as a mechanic in WWII, and help reduced tension in the Cold War by welcoming Mikhail Gorbachev into the country.

She took the throne at an early age of 26, and over the course of her reign, she met and shook hands with 13 US presidents, 15 British prime ministers, and 4 pontiffs (popes).

Even with signs of protests in her early days, Elizabeth II transformed the nation. During her coronation, she allowed the event to be broadcasted which goes to show how she supports the use of technology in royal environments regardless of the controversy that may follow.

Queen Elizabeth II's reign saw the end of British Empire's dominion over their African and Asian colonies. By giving up the megalomaniac ways of the old UK, the queen was able to foster better relationships with the members of the commonwealth. She was a queen who did not seek power nor glory; a queen that knew the people - a queen who gave hope for her nation during times of peril.

Despite her status of being the queen, Elizabeth II always kept away from politics and never elicited any thoughts on controversial political matters. Having been on the throne for so long, the queen symbolized something unchanging and therefore gave the people of UK that subconscious sense of security and stability.

The monarchs of England no longer have absolute authority, although, the queen still had the authority to appoint a prime minister who generally has more 'power'.

Where then does the crown's sovereignty come from?

Queen Elizabeth II represents something more than just the crown - she represents history. Elizabeth II is "the face of a distant historical authority, a literal figure head, having no real power but oodles of symbolic "supremacy".

## Secrets to Being an A Student

- Sherik Kavira Kazimoto



Everyone has their own style of learning. After all, it is up to the students to choose what method they prefer, and what method will most likely help them succeed in their classes. In order to know this, it is recommended that they must know the learning style that best suits them.

The common learning styles are:

- **Visual** - pictures, power points, diagrams and graphs, videos
- **Reading and Writing** - reading of books, taking notes, journals
- **Listening** - lectures, presentations reading-out-loud, discussions
- **Hands-on** - moving around, touching things, making models
- **Self-study** - self-paced learning
- **Competition** - aiming to be better than others in the class
- **Repetition** - daily practice/drills
- **Pressure** - from parents/teachers

Students do not always learn in only one way. They may learn better in two or three methods simultaneously. For instance, a good mixture of hands-on, listening, and reading/writing can be effective to some.

Sometimes the learning styles differ depending on the level or grade of an individual. For example, high schoolers might find self-studying, reading, and writing more effective than just listening in lectures. Elementary students might find hands-on and visual learning more engaging than other learning styles. Thus, the age and level of a person also play a part in the way an individual likes to learn.

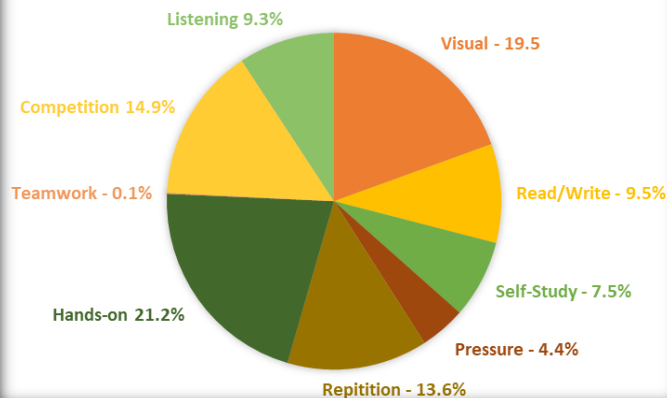
To know more about the different learning styles of the students, a survey was conducted to know more about how AIMS students learn best. We separated grades 1-6, and grades 7-12 to have a better view of how different or similar their learning preferences are.

Based on the graphs, hands-on learning and visual learning are the most common ways that AIMS students learn. This shows that most of them use their frontal cortex.

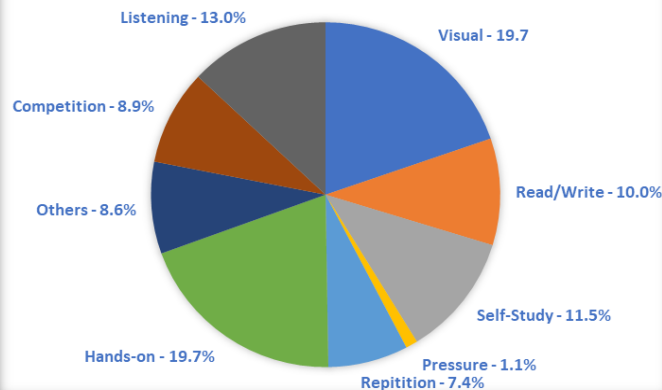
The frontal cortex is considered to be the center of creativity - responsible for creative thinking. AIMS students tend to think more creatively even in the way they learn. Most of them try to adjust to any given situation that they face each day at school.

If you are aiming to be an A student, the answer is very simple. To be one, you just have to understand yourself and your learning style and preferences. If the teachers use more of a listening or reading/writing method, you could always turn it around to match the way you like to learn.

### GRADES 1 - 6 LEARNING STYLES



### GRADES 7 - 12 LEARNING STYLES



Ignacio Estrada - the manager of Grants Administration for the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation once said in a symposium for teachers, "If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn." Education is not a one-size-fits-all system, so teachers continue to find ways to meet the students learning needs in the way they learn.



## Health Updates

- Jesada Sattayavaksakul

These past few weeks Thailand has been experiencing rain in varying amounts. This is normal since the months of September to October are known to be the wettest months in Thailand. Temperatures continue to decline gradually and thunder storms are not unusual as the humidity reaches its peak (SelectiveAsia).

During the rainy season, flu and colds are common illnesses often brought on by temperature changes. Body temperatures can decrease in cold, and wet weather, possibly to the point where hypothermia develops. Hypothermia occurs when your body loses heat faster than it can produce the heat, causing a dangerously low body temperature. The effects of hypothermia on the body and immune system can really be harmful.

One other common disease brought about by the rainy season is dengue fever. Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral disease that is transmitted by female mosquitoes mainly of the species *Aedes aegypti* and, to a lesser extent, *A. albopictus*. The disease is widespread throughout the tropics, with local variations in risks influenced by rainfall, temperature and unplanned rapid urbanization (Outbreak News).

The Thai Department of Livestock and Development published several notices in July 2022 that temporarily banned the importation of poultry into Thailand. These restrictions apply to imports from Indonesia, Vietnam, and South Africa.

The highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), a strain of H5N1, has been discovered in these areas by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH). From July 16, 2022, onwards, the commercial importation of birds, chickens, ducks, and geese into Thailand was prohibited for 90 days. These steps are being taken to avoid adverse effects on both human health and the domestic poultry breeding sector (Mahanakornpartners).

### Bird flu and danger to humans

Bird flu, or avian flu, has a high mortality rate in humans, but as of yet, ~~can not~~ be transmitted from person to person.

... WHO, February 20th, 2006: "Human infections remain a rare event."

#### Infection with type A virus H5N1

**1** Most virulent bird flu virus; mutates rapidly, altering its genetic material

**2** Humans infected by close contact with live infected poultry

**3** Birds carry virus and excrete it in feces, which dries, becomes pulverized and then can be inhaled or taken in by touch

**4** Humans have no immunity against this virus

#### Reason for concern

Humans infected with bird flu could serve as a host for a new genetic subtype that can be transmitted from person to person

#### Symptoms

Similar to common influenza

Fatigue  
Fever  
Conjunctivitis

Sore throat

Cough

Muscle aches

**When untreated**  
Rapid deterioration; viral pneumonia leading to respiratory distress, kidney failure, multi-organ failure, death

Might start influenza pandemic



Source: World Health Organization Graphic: Julia Scheibe, Morten Lyhne

© 2004 KRT

There is a need to safeguard ourselves from these diseases and avoid being ill. Though we cannot protect ourselves entirely from different forms of illnesses, and this is particularly true if our immune system is already weak. Increasing our intake of Vitamin C, washing our hands, drinking plenty of water, eating of healthy and nutritious food, getting enough sleep, can help strengthen our immune system to fight off these diseases. (BangkokPattayaHospital).



# IT Security Updates

- Kanade Areepoonsiri

As our civilization grows with better facilities, our society becomes more dangerous because of the inequalities in life and financial problems. This results to people needing money, which causes people to steal and become negligent of the law. This is primarily due to the lack of discipline in our society. As a result, people have become too cautious of others and feel insecure in public.

To solve this, people need to be more mindful and respectful of the laws of the land. As for schools, discipline and manners need to be taught and advocated for, along with intensifying security systems to ensure the safety of the students, teachers, and all employees. AIMS has updated its security measures for the safety of everyone. The use of barcoded IDs, fingerprint system, installation of better CCTVs, and QR-code dismissal protocols.

To make the students and teachers feel secure and to ease the worries of the parents, the school now has a barcode on each student's ID for them to get access to the school.

As for teachers, their fingerprints are scanned and used for both attendance and permission to access and use the facilities in the building. This is also to block those who are not related to the school from entering the building. For those who have appointments or business transactions with the school, they would need to ring the bell for the guards to open the door for them, and they will be given a guest identification card for them to use while they are in the school.

CCTVs were installed in different access points which are being monitored by the administrative and IT personnel. Generally, the CCTVs are used to monitor the classrooms and to watch out for any unwelcome and suspicious individuals who may come within the school's premises.



Students' and teachers actions are also being monitored by the administrators through the CCTVs. This helps reduce the possibility of bullying and cheating in school.

The school has come up with a QR-code system for students' dismissal. Common school problems, like traffic jams, late pick ups, are being solved by the QR-code protocol. The QR-code system is for the school to verify the identity of the parents, drivers, or guardians who will pick the students up.



The dismissal plan also emphasizes that students who are not walking or driving home cannot leave the building until somebody comes to pick them up. Those who walk home will need their parents' consent to do so. This regulation allows the school to watch over the students thoroughly, and to ensure their safety.

Parents can put their trust in AIMS to look over their children, more so now that the school has better security measures in place. With these added facilities, chances of any danger can be minimized.

The school cares about the safety of everyone, especially of its students, and will do everything to guarantee that every child is safe as they continue to learn, grow, and play each day at AIMS.

Students will not always have teachers who can match your learning styles. Plus, not all teachers will spoon feed their students. So, it is basically up to each student to turn all the information they are given into the way they learn best. It will not be easy, but it is worth a try.

We asked a few teachers about the strategies that they employ to teach their students, and their responses are stated below:



**Nelson Acosta**  
Grades 3,4,5 Math

When teaching math, I change my strategies every now and then. It mostly depends on my students' receptiveness and mood that day. I have to get them engaged first, activate their senses by playing games.

Then, I follow it up with direct instructions. Showing or modelling how to find solutions to mathematical problems is an effective way of helping them improve their math skills. Students usually follow what they can see. Sometimes I group them, so they can work together. After that, they make reflections on the things that they have learned. This allows them to absorb and understand the lessons well.

**Marlene Pasco Cortes**  
Grade 2 Homeroom

Teachers' choice of strategies mostly depend on the learning capacity or ability of the students. I usually introduce the lesson to the student and give them exercises. When I see that the students understand the concepts of a lesson, and are able to work on their skills, I move on to the next lesson. If there are some students who are having difficulty understanding a lesson, I evaluate my strategy and then reteach it. If they still cannot get it, then I find another way to make sure that everyone could learn. Whenever time allows, I also do one-on-one teaching to make sure that those who are struggling can catch up. I prepare all the necessary learning materials to make sure my students can learn in a given time, and this is something that I love doing. For my students to get to where they are supposed to be, I am always willing to go the extra mile to make that possible for them.



**Deepa Perera**  
Grade 4 Homeroom

Lecturing can get boring for my students sometimes, so I like to have a mix of both interactive activities and lecture. My students like to be active when learning. I give them competitive games, hands-on activities, projects to work on, doing presentations, and a lot more. This shows me how well they learned and how well they are learning. My students like to learn by being able to use their senses. As long as they learn and understand their lessons well, I am more than willing to continue planning and preparing fun-filled activities to help them learn.



**Jeviel Acapulco Diaz**  
Grade 5 Homeroom

I find collaborative learning to be an effective way to engage my students in their learning, i.e. group work. There are times when I have to use direct teaching, like lectures, or PowerPoint presentations. Especially, in Science, I want them to explore. We make learning stations, experiments, and other hands-on activities. I also facilitate inquiry-based learning. I give them questions about the lessons, and this allows them to think and use their understanding of the lesson in answering the questions. The students like the different teaching methods that I use in the class. Every day is different and it makes it less boring for them.

Based on the graphs on the previous page, AIMS students are mostly visual and hands-on learners. With this information, teachers can have an even better idea on what kinds of strategies they can use to facilitate their students' learning needs. The students can also utilize these information, by using their teachers' methods to adjust to how they learn best.

The ability to adjust to any given situation is a useful life skill that students must have to succeed in life. We cannot always choose our circumstances, we need to play the cards we are dealt with every now and then. As long as teachers are determined for their students to learn, and students are driven to achieve greater things, getting an A will just be a piece of cake.



# AIMS Kindergarten Readiness Program

- Chanika Panyos and Napharada Yaibandit

English is a major language for people all over the world. Therefore, parents are enthusiastic to let their children learn it. The younger their children start, the more they will be fluent in the language.

This led many parents to decide on letting their children join in an international school program such as AIMS has, for their children to have a better experience in learning English, beginning from kindergarten.

On this page, we want our readers to know how AIMS' Kindergarten teachers work with their students to improve their skills, and what kinds of teaching strategies they are applying to help the tiniest members of AIMS reach their potentials.



**Q:** Do you consider sleeping time as part of Nursery education?

**A:** Yes, because while they are sleeping, they can grow taller and healthier. Sleeping time is the time for them to rest and improve their minds. Kindergarten students need to sleep at least 1 or 2 hours during the day.

**Q:** When kids get hurt, how do you make them willing to get treated?

**A:** We talk to the kids calmly. We tell them the reason why we have to clean their wounds.

**Q:** How do you get children to take their medicine?

**A:** Kindergarten teachers are not allowed to give medicine to children. The school nurse is in-charge of dispensing medicine to all students at school.

- Mrs. Supranee Ngamlord

**Q:** Why do you have to allot time for the kids to play at school?

**A:** Playtime is mostly a reward. It is also a time for us to see how they behave with their friends. When they are playing, they exhibit all kinds of behaviors. It is also a time for them to interact with each other, and for them to develop their creative skills, while playing with their friends.



**Q:** How do you deal with kids who cry non-stop?

**A:** There are designated places where these students can cry as much as they want. Usually it is inside the teachers' office, or in some instances they had to be brought outside of the classroom so that they cannot disturb their classmates. Sometimes the teachers tell them that if you want to play, they have to stop crying first. That usually works with kids.

**Q:** How do you handle students who are challenging to teach?

**A:** By repetition. Mostly the way to solve the problem is to repeat the instructions. Many times students find it difficult to catchup with the lessons because they could not understand the teachers' instructions right away. If some students cannot remember the previous lessons, teachers will have to repeat them. Repetition can help children build up their memory and also their skills.



- Ms. Kristel May Acosta

# CHANGE THE WORLD

- Emanuell Bingku

The Spiritual Emphasis Week reminds us of God's immeasurable grace. It helps us to learn valuable lessons and concepts from the Bible. This annual program helps students and teachers with their spiritual and personal journey. On the third week of September 2022, the Spiritual Committee, in cooperation with the Student Council, led the AIMS students in a 40 minute daily Bible study.

When the pandemic started, the SEW program was no longer done together by the whole school in one venue. It had to be done in individual homerooms as a preventive measure to ensure the safety of everyone at school. This made the students do pre-recordings of their songs and even their prayers for the SEW's daily worship.

The files were given to the I.T. department, for them to edit and broadcast to the entire school during the worship. The guest speaker had to divide his time between the two groups of students - the grades 1-6 and grades 7-12 for the entire duration of the Spiritual Emphasis Week.

The theme of the Spiritual Emphasis Week was, "Change the World". It was thoroughly and profoundly explained by the Spiritual committee's invited guest speaker Pastor Arnold Galvo, a pastor under the Thailand Adventist Mission (TAM) of Seventh-day Adventist. He served as a church Pastor of Bangkok International Church for a number of years prior to serving at his present post.

Pastor Galvo emphasized the need for young people to step up and be the change that the world needs. Each day the speaker spoke of different things that the students can do to effect changes in their lives and communities.

The Spiritual Emphasis Week continues to be true to its purpose of helping each member of the AIMS family grow spiritually strong and healthy.



## 21 Ways to Build a Stronger Spiritual Life

- Victor M. Parachi

We live in a culture that increasingly leans toward commercialism, materialism, and secularism, and it is not always easy to keep the soul nourished. The challenge of these days, when times are not hospitable to spiritual growth, is how to nurture, feed, heal, restore, and renew the soul. Here are 21 practical suggestions for building a stronger spiritual life.

1. **Be a river, not a swamp** - let blessings flow through you and on to others.
2. **Identify blessings** - count your blessings one by one.
3. **Speak words of blessing** - encourage, uplift, hearten, and bless other people with your words.
4. **Nurture a shared prayer life** - increase the amount of time you spend in prayer by praying with others.
5. **Take a step of faith** - take a leap of faith from time to time.
6. **Restore someone's faith** - make time to heal a wounded heart, to extend kindness to someone.
7. **Be grateful** - start your day with a prayer of gratitude.
8. **Share the journey** - connect with another person who is seeking to grow spiritually.
9. **Serve** - look for ways to serve the community.
10. **Cultivate a little solitude** - spend some time away from the crowd and the noise of life.
11. **Fast and pray** - prayer linked with fasting was often done by people in the Bible.
12. **Turn worries over to God** - "give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you" (Psalm 55:22)
13. **Spread love wherever you go** - that is the advice of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.
14. **Keep your priorities straight** - know what is ultimately important and what is not.
15. **Strive for excellence** - The Bible tells us: "Whatever you do, do well" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).
16. **Use it or lose it** - "Use your gifts faithfully, and they shall be enlarged; practice what you know, and you shall attain to higher knowledge," noted 19th century poet Sir Edwin Arnold.
17. **Meditate on Scripture** - Make it a habit to read and study your Bible in a regular, disciplined way.
18. **Be reliable** - Do what you say you will do-whether it's convenient or not. Follow through on all of your commitments, large and small.
19. **Ask God to make you a blessing today** - ask God to turn your life into a blessing
20. **Spend time in nature** - This was something done by the psalm writers, and they gleaned spiritual lessons from their time in nature. Jesus did too!
21. **Exercise your power of choice** - You can select joy over despair. You can select love over hate. You can select forgiveness over revenge. You can select growth over stagnation.

- Vibrant Life - January 12, 2022



# Wai Khru Flowers

ดอกไม้วันไหว้ครู

- Pat Intamart

Wai Khru has been a custom in Thailand for more than 65 years, ever since Field Marshal Plaek Phibunsongkhram, who was the country's prime minister at that time, made a speech at a nationwide teachers' conference in 1957. The "Wai Kru" ceremony is the day on which students honor their teachers, ask for forgiveness, and work to strengthen their relationships with one another.

Due to the restrictions of the pandemic, Wai Khru was held by class at AIMS. Each class had a unique way of demonstrating their respect and humility in front of their teachers.



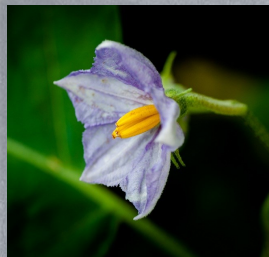
The Wai Kru ceremony may only be a simple giving of flowers and some small tokens by students, Ajarn Janejira Jaroonsang, AIMS' school director was greatly moved and impressed by the students' sincerity. She truly appreciated the student's effort in showing their respect for their teachers.

## Floral Symbolisms

Here is a list of flowers that serves as symbols of humility and respect for teachers.

**Dok Ma Khue** - Eggplant Flower (ดอกมะเขือ)

This flower always blooms downwards. It bends down as one would do when paying respect to someone, exactly in the same way that the students would pay their respects to their teachers. This symbolizes being humble and polite like an eggplant flower that always bends down when it bears fruit. It was designated as a flower for teachers on teachers day by tradition, whether they are music teachers, boxing coaches, or academic instructors.



**Ya Praek** - Bermuda grass (หญ้าแพรก)

This grass represents perseverance, tolerance, and patience. *Ya Praek* grows rapidly the whole-year-round. This stands the ability of human beings to learn, grow, and share their knowledge to others. According to tradition, if students pray with these for their teachers, a child's wisdom would blossom and grow like the *Ya Praek*.

**Khao Tok** - Popped Rice (ข้าวตอก)

These pounded rice stands for discipline. The white rice pops if roasted in a covered pan. Such is the way that students are molded into becoming good citizens. They will be subjected to rules and discipline for them to become more resilient and mindful of others. This is a symbolic expression of a promise to be a good person.



**Dok Kem** - Ixora (ดอกเข็ม)

In the Thai language, "*Kem*" เข็ม just simply means - needle. This symbolizes sharp wit and intelligence. The pollen from this tiny flowers has a sweet taste, and it has a pointed tip just like a needle. This symbolizes one's wisdom and intellect that should be as sharp as a needle.



The beginning of the Wai Khru prayer for teachers (ปาณาจารย์ยา โหนติ คุณุตตรานสาสกา ปญญาพาณิกเร เต เต ทินโนวาเท นมามิหิ) which was derived from a Balinese text means, "*The teacher who educates is the most valued person...*" As Thai culture continues to foster respect for educators, the Wai Kru ceremony will be a constant reminder of how students must show their respect and gratitude towards their teachers.

**Q:** When kids refuse to eat their lunch, what do you do to make them eat, especially fruits and vegetables?

**A:** At the beginning of the school year, the homeroom teachers ask the parents about their child's food allergies and preferences. There are times when we have to make sure that they eat their food, so we come up with ways to make them eat. We try to explain to them the importance of eating healthy kinds of food. Or sometimes we have to make a deal with them. We tell them that if they will not eat, they cannot play with their friends. When kids hear these words, they automatically eat because they want to play.



**Q:** What do you do with kids who are not interested in what you are teaching?

**A:** Kindergarten teachers need to become all-around entertainers. They have to come up with different strategies to get the attention of their little learners. If the kids are not interested in what their teachers are teaching, it will be difficult to make them focus and learn. Students are encouraged to explore, with their teachers' guidance and supervision.

**Q:** In line with the previous question, what are your techniques in making little kids remember their lessons?

**A:** For the kindergartners, the best way to make them remember their lessons is to keep repeating it. Kindergartners' minds are not the same as adults, their brains are still developing, so repetition is the best way to make them learn.

**Q:** How do you manage your time in taking care of all your students?

**A:** The teachers assign the kids in groups. If the teacher is helping one group, the other groups will have to do and learn other things. Kindergarten teachers have assistant teachers also, who help them in taking care of the kids.



- Mrs. Mirma Naag

**Q:** What are your main objectives for the kindergarten 3 students?

**A:** They should know how to follow instructions. Our main priority is their safety and of course their academic development.



**Q:** What are the necessary skills that K3 kids must have before they move on to grade 1?

**A:** Kindergarten 3 is an introduction to grade 1. K3 students learn higher skills than other kindergarten kids. Mainly it is about preparing them for their elementary years.

**Q:** How do you talk to the kids who are being stubborn and don't want to listen to you?

**A:** Students review the classroom rules every day. We do this to refresh their memories. We emphasize the school's ESLGs so that they will be aware of are expected of them.

**Q:** How do you build relationships and communicate with the parents of your students?

**A:** AIMS teachers use Line to send announcements, give information, and even personal messages to the parents. Classdojo is also one of the ways teachers communicate with the parents. Teachers also send student remarks to their parents and more on their academic activities and progress.



- Mrs. Marizel Belnas

All I really need to know I learned from Kindergarten...

- Robert Fulghum



# TEACHING SCIENCE THINKING

- Catherina Nakka

Due to Science's importance in students' lives and the widely useful problem-solving and critical thinking abilities it fosters, science is considered one of the most significant subject in schools. This is where students obtain an opportunity to understand more about how and why things work. Adventist International Mission School's Science Department has undergone some changes. In addition to the new head of the department, it now has a new teachers in its line-up.



The new Science Department head - Mrs. Gloria Das' initial plan was to not change anything. Rather, she wants to see that all the Science teachers maintain the same level of standards in their teaching. Additionally, she aims to meet the needs of the students by assisting them in overcoming obstacles and developing a desire to pursue a career in science in the future. The Department adheres to the global program standard, namely the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which covers or orients the required courses/lessons for students to be at par with international standards.

Mr. Audri Das, the biology and chemistry teacher believes that there is something in store for everyone at AIMS' Science Department. If you want to have a brief overview of science, you can go for the integrated science courses.



If you want to get a head start for the university, there are also advanced science courses that the students can choose from.



Physics teacher - Ms. Idee Gabu, also added that science helps us understand the world and the things around us.

Science also plays a huge part in our day to day life. It contributes to better technological advancements, developing of new applications, that aid in perfecting the concepts that the quality of life for human beings.

Mr. Isaiah Chitlay emphasized that beyond just the promise of scientific advancements, science can also offer personal advantages to everyone; such as improving our capacity to inquire, gather data, formulate, test hypotheses, address problems, and then apply what we have learned to solve these problems.



The world is increasingly being modified by research and technology; and science provides a tremendous platform for gaining self-assurance, enhancing communication capabilities, and understanding it. The department is envisioning for things to change in the next few years. They are looking forward to having a larger science laboratory and acquiring more advanced equipment. They are currently in the process of aligning their curriculum with the Next Generation Science Standards. Overall, the Science Department is planning to open up areas of application for science students to participate in any type of international virtual science forums, debates, competitions, and presentations.

Better teaching and learning strategies are needed for students to be more interested in science. Mrs. Das points out three strategies she employs for students to learn better:

1. Practice-oriented learning
2. Interactive Learning/Participatory Learning
3. Working with students' preconceptions & misconceptions



In Malaysia, Nexus International School requires all their teachers, students, and staff to observe all the

necessary health protocols, such as sanitizing their hands, having their temperatures taken, and observing social distancing. If their temperature is above 37.5 degrees, they will not be allowed to enter the school, and nurses are on standby to help the students.

All parents, learners, and staff must wear a mask when on-site. Nexus International School marked all their drinking fountains as refilling stations only. Spaces are marked where the students can walk and stay 1 meter apart. The school has a fully equipped infirmary and an isolation room if any of the students and teachers are tested positive.

Students need to have social interaction amongst each other, for them to grow holistically, and addressing this social need in time of a pandemic is quite challenging. Schools need to find the right balance to ensure the safety of everyone at school, and at the same time giving the students enough space to grow academically, emotionally, physically, and spiritually.

## KEY FACTORS IN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL



**Infrastructure preparedness**  
Health and sanitary measures take the centre stage



**School mapping**  
To assist in exploring various options for reorganising the school day, such as use of premises, double shifts and other options



**Availability of teachers**  
Also, the number of students allowed in each classroom



**Preparedness of teaching staff**  
Including the ability to offer psychosocial and academic support

This may require additional training, for example, where health specialists are not available

Training should also include approaches to deal with post-traumatic stress caused by Covid-19

**Pedagogical preparedness** | To assess progress during school closure, identifying learning loss and organising remedial courses

**Ensuring smooth transition from distance learning to classroom delivering**

**Student, family and society preparedness, including awareness and willingness to return to school and ability to continue learning**

Source: Covid-19 Education Response - Preparing the re-opening of schools by Unesco



- Countries where schools have reopened**
- 1 Denmark**
    - > First country to reopen schools in April
    - > Each group comes at different time slots
    - > Designated zones in playground
    - > Students wash their hands every two hours
    - > Face masks not made mandatory
    - > Classrooms rearranged
    - > All study materials sanitised twice a day
    - > Classes held whenever possible
    - > Parents not allowed on school property
    - > After investigation for five weeks, primary schoolchildren called in by May
  - 2 China**
    - > Students from hard-hit areas required to stay at home and monitor own health condition, ensuring no one has symptoms for at least 14 days before going to school
    - > Off-peak hours for schools
  - 3 Spain**
    - > Choice left with the parents
    - > By Sept-end, govt plans to open all schools
    - > Almost 11,000 additional teachers hired to monitor younger students
    - > Makeshift classrooms being staged in schoolyards
    - > Bubbles of 15 to 20 students made; they can mix within the bubble
  - 4 South Korea**
    - > Senior school students return first and then, of primary classes
    - > Within days, a spurt of infections prompt closure
    - > Phased reopening since then
    - > Hybrid lessons - online, offline



# n<sup>new</sup>ormal

## Re-opening in a Pandemic

- Nitipat Thanintantrakun

School is where students spend most of their waking hours, so it is a part of the school's responsibility to keep them safe. With the Covid-19 pandemic threatening students' health, protective measures must be enforced to prevent further spread of infection. The more rules a school has, the more limited the freedom of students will be. The school needs to find a balance between restriction and leniency.

Online schooling may be a great option for controlling the spread of the disease, but it strips one of the most important skills in childhood - social interaction. Also, some are unable to afford online schooling thus canceling school altogether. On-site schooling enables children to talk with each other, at the risk of spreading the virus. So, basic types of safety measures are a necessity such as masks, access to disinfectants, and thermometers. These are present in most schools, though some went further beyond these systems to ensure the safety of their students.

At AIMS, to limit contamination, many novel things were introduced with some of the old traditions taking a backseat. A few years back, a flag lineup was a part of the students' daily schedule; students of all grades except for the kindergartners lined up at the basketball court to sing the national anthem and the Lord's prayer. Because it poses a risk to everyone, this had to be done in each homeroom instead. AIMS needed to forgo some school activities such as the sports day, science fair, and Christmas program much to the students' dismay, as large gatherings may cause further viral infections.

To ensure the safety and security of everyone, the school refrains students from going out of the school after dismissal unless their guardians arrive. Those who walk or travel by themselves are dismissed immediately right

after school ends. Weekly check-ups are mandatory, requiring every student to submit their ATK test before school starts. Students who do not comply will have to pay 200 baht for an ATK test. With all these precautions in place, it is still inevitable that some students may get infected, but the school is ready to offer online classes if needed.

In Singapore, the Ministry of Education makes an effort to implement safety measures to ensure the students' safety. Although masks are optional in Singaporean schools, some schools could make it compulsory to wear them. Students are allowed to participate in co-curricular activities regardless of their vaccination status.



An ARTest (Antigen Rapid Test) is administered to those who are feeling unwell, especially those displaying respiratory symptoms. The test is taken several times to avoid false positives and negatives. In such cases, if a student's positive result is obtained, they must quarantine themselves until the results come back negative. These precautions apply to students, teachers, food vendors, co-curricular coaches, and school bus drivers. Safety measures in hygiene include frequent cleaning of commonly used objects and places, and students will continue to practice frequent handwashing and wiping down their tables and shared equipment after use.

Being a young science teacher, Mr. Audri Das gets the sense that he does not command the same amount of respect as a senior teacher does; but by the same token, he feels that he can relate to the students more. So, he supposes that he is just trading a good thing for another in building relationships and managing the classroom. Age is a limiting factor in the sense that he does not have as much experience in best strategies for content delivery and developing best learning practices. Meanwhile, Ms. Idee Gabu, believes that experience and expertise lead to becoming a better teacher and mentor, both of which typically come with time.

Some tips from AIMS' science teachers on how to get more out of their science classes:

When you learn a topic, try to connect it with as many topics or pieces of information as you already know. This reinforces your knowledge base and makes learning efficient.

- Mr. Audri Das

Be curious, and understand the concepts, and everything will fall into place easily.

- Ms. Idee Gabu

- **Elaboration** - Giving detailed explanations of the information learned.
- **Spaced practice** - Spacing out the study time over time.
- **Retrieval Practice** - Practicing recalling facts without the aid of any materials.

- Mr. Isaiah Chitlay

Science provides solutions to issues in human beings' daily life, and aids in the quest to unravel the cosmos' greatest mysteries. All of the information about the universe—from how trees grow to what constitutes an atom—is the result of scientific investigation and experimentation. Additionally, it is a lively topic that includes exercises like practical laboratories and experiments. All these and more make science an interesting subject for young, energetic students. Science plays a significant role in laying the groundwork for children's education. One of the most significant sources of information is science.

Science can be categorized as a challenging field of study. The science department, however, has made it their responsibility to improve the science education of AIMS students, by providing beneficial courses while adhering to the international quality standards. The department is made up of a variety of elements, including supportive leadership and motivated, competent team members. These essential components are acquired and will be achieved by the science department, putting it on the fast track to being a really great one.

## SCIENCE RIDDLES

**Direction:** Read the riddles and write your answers in the space provided.

💡 I am needed for flight but cannot fly on my own. What am I?

💡 I love to roam, but I always stay home. If you carried what I carried, you'd end up breaking your back! What am I?

💡 I can be good for you, but I can also be bad for you, and you will find me wherever you go. What am I?

💡 What has a mouth but can't chew?

💡 You can't see me, I can't be touched, you can't feel me - but I cook your lunch. What am I?

💡 You can find me in Mercury, Earth, Mars, and Jupiter. You can't find me in Neptune or Venus. What am I?

💡 Which concept in physics is the loneliest?

💡 What chemical doesn't like to follow?

💡 I am a god, I am a planet, and I can measure the temperature. What am I?

💡 What number do Nickel and Neon make when they're combined?

💡 Which is faster, hot or cold?

💡 What period of time is the lightest?





**Margie Cruzat Amparo**  
Grade 4 Amber

I am currently teaching Language Arts, Bible, Science, and Mathematics. I had to make some adjustments at first as I am now handling a bigger class size. The good thing is that the students are cooperative and are motivated to learn.

My students are not just learning from me, I am also learning from them, especially on how to be more patient and understanding. I love how well-behaved the students of AIMS are. They are respectful and obedient.

I want my students to make smart choices everyday, so I teach them how to listen and follow instructions carefully. It is my hope that they will become responsible members of their communities. One of the things that touched me the

most was when I saw the students closing their eyes while singing "The Lord's Prayer" during the flag ceremony. Not all of them are Christians, but they have learned to respect the beliefs of others.

**Emalie Grace Wilson**  
Grade 1

This is my first year as a homeroom teacher. I have been an assistant teacher for a few months after I graduated from the university. My initial plan was to gain some teaching experience for at least 3 years at AIMS. However, I had a change of heart because I like teaching my students here.

Seeing my students grow in wisdom makes me happy. So, now I am thinking of staying here much longer. It would be nice to see my first batch of students graduate from high school in the future.

For now, I must motivate my students to do their best in class everyday, so that they will become successful.



**Czarina Mae Celestre**  
Grade 6

I believe that God called me to be here at AIMS. He guided my journey, and provided everything I needed to come here.

I have been teaching in the Philippines for a few years already, but that did not prepare me to face the huge difference in terms of communication. When the students talk to each other in Thai, I do not understand anything. It was difficult at first, but I know that in time I will get the hang of it.

AIMS is also equipped in terms of technology. Computers are used in most classes. Connection to the internet is all over the school, and teachers can freely use them to make information more accessible to the students. I find this to be really useful and it gives us access to information whenever we need it.

I want to help my students succeed in life, so, aside from helping them with their can use someday.



## AIMS WELCOMES NEW TEACHERS FOR SY-2022-23

- Alisa Sin and Sivaporn Waleesila



**Audri Laurrier Das**  
Grade 9

A friend of mine - Teacher Sky (students prefer to use his nickname), was working here as the lab assistant. When he was about to leave, he recommended that I apply for the job. That's how I began my work here.

I really enjoyed teaching the grades 6 and 9 students, and now grades 7 and 10 respectively. The grade 6 class last years was super-energetic, and I felt 'recharged' every time I conducted their classes. Grade 9 on the other hand was very inquisitive and that really helped me think more deeply about the topics in biology, which I am deeply grateful for.

I am thinking of staying long enough to save up enough money to pursue a higher education, at the same time, I would also like to stay here until the current grade 10 graduates from AIMS.

I scarcely allow myself to expect anything from anyone. However, at the bare minimum, I would expect the students, for their own benefit, to do the coursework to the best of their ability to get through the course with a good grade.

Currently, I am researching different teaching strategies and I plan to integrate them into the coursework. I plan to have a good number of strategies lined up and develop the intuition of when to use which. I currently teach biology in grade 9, physical science in grade 10, advanced biology in grade 11, and health in grade 12.

**Carmencita Magnaye Mutya**  
Grade 3 Ruby

I have been hoping to teach in another country for some time now. So, when the opportunity to teach in Thailand came, I readily answered the call.

There is not much difference with the students in the Philippines and in Thailand. I handled 3rd graders back in my country for many years. The only difference is the place and culture. In just a few days the students and I were able to get in tune with each other. I imposed some rules so that we can maintain order in the class.

I want to teach at AIMS for a longer time. I hope that my students will learn to be more mature when it comes to their relationships with their parents, teachers, friends, and God. This school year, I will use all my years of teaching experience to come up with interesting strategies that could help my students learn better and become more productive.



**Jeviel Acapulco Diaz**  
Grade 1

I worked in Bangkok for three years as an assistant teacher at St. Andrews International School. When I came to AIMS, I liked how the other teachers supported me when I needed help.

I also love how the students here are so well-behaved in the class. They can be cheeky sometimes, but they always show their respect and proper manners towards their teachers, and even with each other. I have high expectations of my students. I want them to achieve their goals in life, and I will do my best to help them reach those goals that they have set for themselves.

**Gloria Luther Das**  
Grade 7

I expected to have difficulties managing and instructing the students when I moved here, but I was proven wrong as the students are very cooperative.

Since I'm from Bangladesh, my accent is what I'm having trouble with. I have to answer some questions more than once sometimes. My accent should get better being around people from so many different countries.

I would really like to organize a Science Fair for the current academic year, so that students can participate and showcase their projects, and hopefully some research works.

To support the content from the books and help students better comprehend the lessons, I often find additional information from the internet, and from other sources. AIMS has a lot more resources and better facilities than my previous school, which I can utilize in teaching the students.

