



FOOTPRINTS

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From the Administrator's Desk



Dear Parents,

The first quarter of school year 2012-1013 has ended. The students are getting used to the new school year and are adjusting well. For those of you who were not able to attend the Parent Teacher Acquaintance day I would like to let you know what is new at AIMS.

Our new teachers and staff are: Teacher Ariel, grade 5; Teacher Clint, art, grades K3 to 9; Teacher Kwangaika, general and advanced chemistry, biology 2 and physics; Teacher Marie-Mai, high school English; Teacher Joe-ann, high school literature; Teacher Henry Wong, general business, business management, economics; Teacher Claudia, assistant teacher for K2; Teacher Kathleen, assistant teacher for the multi-grades and Khun Jintana, cashier.

Teacher Arlyn begins her first year as the director of our Pathfinder club. We would like to express our sincerest appreciation to Teacher Tranqui for his faithful and conscientious leadership for 8 years as Pathfinder director. We are thankful that he is still very much a part of the Pathfinder Club as the deputy director.

New clubs: cooking, Thai dancing, go chess, have been added to our co-curricular activities for this school year. If you would like a list of all the co-curricular activities, please contact Khun Niramat, our school secretary.

Dzidzornya Dzuali (Teacher DJ) has done an excellent job in developing the school's guidance and counseling program. This year we initiated Student Study Teams (SST) for any student experiencing learning or social challenges. Parents, teachers and students may request a team to map out a program of assistance. Team members are: the guidance counselor, relevant teachers, administrators and parents. Students may also be invited upon the advice of the guidance counselor.

The guidance and counseling program includes career counseling classes, SAT preparatory classes, career days and Individual Educational Plans (IEP) for high school students.

High school assembly programs are now a part of our co-curricular activities and include topics on drug awareness, graduation requirements, Thai culture, universities in Thailand and abroad and their requirements, time management and co-curricular club presentations. Assemblies are held on Fridays at 8:30 A.M. in

Kevin and Max, G8, bag gold in regional science contest; go to the national

Kevin Teenakul and Max Tan Zheyuan, Grade 8

Kevin Teenakul and Max Tan Zheyuan, Grade 8, won gold medals and cash awards during the National Young Scientist Competition (NYSC), regional level in BITEC in Bangkok. Their entry, the Hydrogen Rocket, was also judged the best project. The two young budding scientists qualified for the national level in Changmai.

Out of 39 groups coming from private and government schools in Central Thailand, Kevin and Max's group earned one of the only two gold medals given during the regional contest.

From the time Kevin and Max were in the sixth grade, they have always enjoyed doing science projects together. Both enjoy reading, especially science books. The partners found making a hydrogen rocket very interesting. For almost four years now, the two have been experimenting, improving, and polishing their project. They first entered their project in the AIMS Science Fair. Teacher Ida, AIMS Science teacher, motivated the two to continue working on the hydrogen rocket project.

Kevin and Max experimented with the hydrogen rocket in an attempt to find alternative fuel for cars and other vehicles. They researched and learned that hy-

drogen is cheaper and cleaner than any other gases that are used today.



The two applied what they learned in their science classes as they experimented with their project. They experimented with electrolysis and making a flashback arrestor to prevent explosion and combustion.

Kevin and Max say, "Joining the regional science contest was a very wonderful learning experience. We did not expect to reach the national level. We made the hydrogen rocket out of curiosity and for fun. But the most interesting part of our Changmai experience was meeting many of young people who also have interests in trying and experimenting with something new, exciting, and useful."

to request everyone to participate. It will be done electronically and we will inform you when it will be given. We also continue with our ESLG Parent, teacher and Student Teams, who examine how effectively we as teachers are teaching our students the Expected School-wide Learning Goals.

I would like to thank all of you for being such an integral part of AIMS. Welcome to the new school year 2012-13.

We will continue our parent surveys this year. This is a way for you to share your opinions about your child's school. We would like

AIMS celebrates mothers

Warut Im-erb (Earth), Grade 8



Every year, AIMS observes Mother's Day to show children's love and respect for their mothers. This day is celebrated on the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, the queen of Thailand, because the queen herself is a mother. On the Queen's birthday, all schools in Thailand honor the queen and all the mothers.

A special program is prepared for mothers on Mother's Day. We celebrated ours at AIMS on August 15 at the basketball court right after the flag ceremony. All students and mothers beamed with joy that day.

The Thai teachers led the Mother's Day program. It was begun by an opening prayer by Mrs. Patricia Foster, school administrator. Some selected students came to the front to speak about the importance of mothers and why they love them. Then the most important part of the program began. This was the giving of flowers to mothers by their own children. Mothers from each class were asked to sit down in front. Then students knelt before their mothers, offered them flow-

ers, hugged and kissed them, and told them, "I love you." Mothers, in return, hugged and kissed their children. What a touching sight for all!

Teacher Luchie also spoke on mother's love for children and com-



pared that love to God's love for His people.

Truly, mother's love is the greatest love we can receive. Because our mothers love us, they take care of us every minute of the day. They do all the duties at home with a loving heart. They also teach us how to be good children. Mother's love is priceless and we must love our mothers not only on Mother's day, but every day.

AIMS honors teachers

Teerapat Sirimongkhanurak (Jack), Grade 8

AIMS shows its honor to teachers by conducting a Wai Khru Day, one of the school's most important events. Wai Khru Day is an occasion to express students' appreciation, gratitude, and respect to teachers. It is celebrated once a year in all Thailand schools at the beginning of the school year.

AIMS held its Wai Khru Day on August 23 at the basketball court. The students began the program by singing the song "Pra Kun Tee Sam," a song describing respect to teachers. The highlight of the ceremony was the offering of orchids to teachers by students, asking blessings from the teachers, and teachers' giving of blessings to students. This was done by requesting the teachers led by AIMS administrator Patricia Foster to sit in front. The students knelt before the teachers, asked for forgiveness for the wrongdoings they



have done to them, offered them orchids, and asked from them blessings. The teachers honored the students by receiving their orchids and praying for them to be obedient children of their parents and conscientious students of the school.

The program ended with the students' reciting of the pledge to honor teachers everyday by being obedient and respectful students at school and everywhere.

"Rays of Hope" spiritualizes AIMS

Sirikorn Chatsanguthai (Fah), Grade 10

Spiritual Emphasis Week is a week that everybody at AIMS enjoys the most. During this week, students get to know more about God and His goodness. Exciting stories and experiences with spiritual lessons that were shared by the speaker fascinated students.

The first semester's spiritual emphasis week themes were "Colors in the Bible" for



the kindergarten and elementary, and "Rays of Hope" for high school. Different speakers spoke on the day-to-day topics such as White symbolizing creation, Black for fall or sin, Red for Christ's Death, Green for Christ's Resurrection, and Gold for God's glory and heaven. Students learned that colors in the Bible represent events that center on God's saving plan and His gift of eternal life to people who have sinned.

I was personally helped by the spiritual truths I learned from the spiritual emphasis week. I learned that we can either be children of light or children of darkness. We are children of light if we obey the Light which is Jesus, and we are children of darkness if we obey the prince



of darkness, Satan. I also understood that God is so merciful that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross to save and forgive us from our sins and give us eternal life if we believe in Him. I was also inspired by Jesus' resurrection.

As a whole, I really had an amazing time listening to stories about God and knowing that He loves me so much. I am so grateful that AIMS held the Spiritual Emphasis Week. I am looking forward to hear more stories about God throughout the school year.

AIMS Pathfinders get inducted

Clifford Van Belnas, Grade 7

AIMS Pathfinder Club conducted its yearly Pathfinder Induction on September 21. Pathfinder Induction is a ceremony that welcomes and admits new members to the Pathfinder Club. Grade five students as well as the new ones are usually the new members admitted to the club.

The induction ceremony was simple but meaningful. It was started by the Pathfinders parade from the basketball court to the cafeteria where the program was to be held. The Pathfinder band led the parade. When the Pathfinders got inside the cafeteria, the national anthem was sung, and the Pathfinder Law and Pledge were recited. Six representatives from grades five to ten read the meaning of the six candles representing Pathfinder classes such as Friend, Companion, Explorer, Ranger, Guide, and Master Guide. After the six candles were lit, seven representatives from different classes explained the pledge, and another eight representatives read and explained the law. When all the candles were lit, new members were inducted to the club by putting Pathfinder sash on each one of them. The new members, in turn, lit their candles and placed them around the Pathfinder logo. As they were solemnly doing this ceremony, selected Pathfinders provided special music by playing different musical instruments. The music added meaning to the ceremony.

The message to the new Pathfinder members was delivered by Dr. Henry Bordes Saturne, Vice-president for Academic affairs at the Asia-Pacific International University. He spoke about the sacred duties and responsibilities of a Pathfinder and challenged the new members to be true Pathfinders for God.



PHOTONEWS

