



# PUN WITH WORDS



Why did the banana go to the doctor?



It was

Where do fish keep their money?



What is a Tornado 's favorite game to play?



twister



What kind of music do mummies listen to?



wrap music

How does a scientist freshen his/her breath?



with experi-mints

What do you call a cheese that is not yours?



nacho cheese

"There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor."

- Charles Dickens



"

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

"

Western Association  
of Schools and Colleges

Office of Nation  
Education Standards  
and Quality Assessment



# FOOTPRINTS

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## QUOTABLE QUOTES

In a world where you can be anything - **BE KIND.**

- Unknown

**N**othing is impossible when God is on your side.

- Unknown

**S**tart by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

- St. Francis of Assisi

**P**ain and **P**ositivity both begin with **P**. Be positive even when you are in pain.

**I**f you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.

- Napoleon Hill

**R**adiate boundless love throughout the entire world.

- Buddha

**E**njoy every single moment. The good, the bad, the ugly, the beautiful, the inspiring, the not so glamorous, and thank God through it all.

- Megan Matt

## INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED

- Gevanya Franklene Mantiri

This month's issue is focused on giving inspiration. We are hoping that through the various past experiences of the people featured in Footprints, We can encourage positivity in AIMS. Inspiration gives people hope to do which seemed impossible for them to do. We can look up to another person as our role model, so that we too can be like them. Inspiring stories of struggles and survival can help us face challenges in life. This month's issue is filled with great stories. Stories about how people faced difficulties in their lives and overcame them through perseverance and lots of prayers.

With these stories we aim to inspire those who might have the same problems, or going through seemingly insurmountable trials. To give them hope and to make them feel that they too can overcome the hardships that they are experiencing at the moment. We should inspire others with the actions that we do and the words that we say. We may feel like we don't have any inspiring experience to encourage others, but we can still give hope by being kind. Even the smallest deed we do every day which may seem nothing to us, but that might have a major impact on someone's life.

We hope that this issue will uplift the spirit of the students, teachers and everyone who is a part of the AIMS community. Everyone can always have a chance to be better.

## THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERISM

- Footprints Editorial Staff

Oftentimes we wonder what our purpose in life is. In the search for the meaning and purpose of life, we often find ourselves caught up with the rat race of life and wanting to be happy. We have heard of people giving testimonies of how volunteerism has given them a better way of looking at things. That by serving and making others happy, they found a certain kind of joy that money can't buy.

Here are some of the things that you can get from volunteering:

- Enhance or learn new skills.
- Connect your community to the world.
- Changes your perspective of the world.
- It can bring fun and fulfillment in your life.
- Gives community members hope and happiness.

Read pages 4-5 more about volunteerism.

# Work in Progress

- Glyzel Kate Belnas

I pulled out my notebook from my small, purple backpack that contained all the questions I am about to ask my classmate since Pre-School right in front of me. It made me happy to know that I was part of his journey in growing up as a classmate and as a friend. He looked very responsible but just by observing the small details, I can tell that there was something bothering him. I gave him a moment to gather his thoughts and as I watched him intently, he gave me a reassuring smile showing that he finally got himself together.

I started to ask, "How do you feel today?"

He opened his mouth like he was about to say something but quickly closed it again, swallowing his words. I looked elsewhere, avoiding his eyes, so that he won't feel pressured.

"I think I'm feeling fine." I nodded and glanced down at my notebook to review the set of questions I had jotted down days ago. My eyes went back up to his and I then asked.



"Who or what inspires you to become the person you are now?"

His face lit up and his lips started to twitch into a smile that I hadn't expected to see from my beloved classmate.

"My parents," he said. They inspire me most of all", he paused for a moment and took a deep breath.

He continued, "they inspire me in a good way. Through all the things that happened and all the problems I have caused them, they never left my side. Their kindness and love make me think about my actions more than once."

He sighed and confidently looked straight in my eyes. "They make me think more about my future than just playing games all day."

I smiled at him and noted down everything he said. My heart melted in his words because he grew up into a mature man and finally understood how the world works. Fame cleared his throat to get my attention and out of nowhere, he continued to tell his story without me asking any questions.



even allowed at my age. It ruined my reputation and image in the school."

"Yes, I may be good in sports, and many of the younger students look up to me because of my skills, but they also follow my actions. I get along with the younger ones pretty well and they see me as an older brother, but being the older one, it's hard to redeem the image which I ruined years back."

He gave me a sad smile and stared at the ground for at least two minutes. I gave him some time to process his thoughts and feelings. I smiled at him to show that it was okay to open up. He let out a shaky breath and shook his head to clear it from negative flashbacks, then in a bit he continued to share.

"I've been sent to the principal's office since my elementary days, and even not too long ago. The younger I was, the less guilty I felt. As I grew older, I began to understand how life works. Through the help and guidance of my parents, I was able to reflect on what I've done and felt more guilty for every bad thing that I did. This time I am truly sorry."

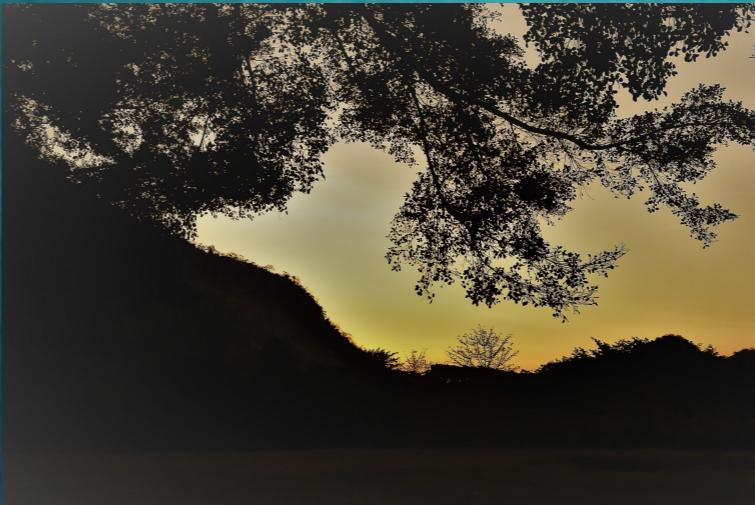
"From being the problematic boy to a more toned-down and composed man, I can only give all the credit to my parents. They taught me the difference between right and wrong. I learned it all the hard way and I suffered the consequences." He fixed his collar and sat up straight in his chair, showing pride in his parents. My heart had this overwhelming feeling of happiness because it became clear to me that people do change only if they put the effort into it. We both stood up from our chairs and I politely thanked him for his time and we bid each other goodbye.

"Thank you so much for sharing your story with me, Fame. Not only did it make you realize your life choices and choice of relationships, but it also made me realize mine. Keep it up Fame and I hope to see you succeed in the future." I said it genuinely to him. He smiled and nodded contently, knowing not only did his parents inspire him, but also me, the one who listened.

# Images and Inspirations

- AIMS Photography Club

These are photos taken by the students in the photography club. They were assigned to capture images that may spark inspiration amidst this pandemic that we are all experiencing now. We hope that you - the readers of Footprints will be inspired by these images too.



**SUNSET, RESET**

- Pat "Pat" Intamart (Grade 10)



**HONESTY IN HANDIWORK**

- Chayanan "Boss" Junprasert (Grade 8)



**HEALTH IS WEALTH**

- Parattakorn "PunPun" Preecha (Grade 9)



**GETTING THINGS DONE**

- Panida "Fern" Kanya (Grade 10)



**CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD**

- Kavira "Sherik" Kazimoto (Grade 10)

# PULLOUT TO STANDOUT

- Faridah Lausin

Interviewed by: Gevanya Franklene Mantiri



I used almost as often as I breathed! Gradually what I read in my textbooks and what the teachers were saying in class were making sense.

With all the self-studying I was doing, I was getting some correct answers in my tests and I started to feel the joy of understanding and learning. I wish I could say, I was getting A's for all my subjects after that. I wasn't. But my grades improved drastically. My English teacher was so impressed with my "Green Ribbons" poem, it was featured in the school newsletter. My Geography teacher held up my "Spectacular City of Moscow" mini poster to show to the whole class, and my Chemistry teacher announced in class that I topped the Stoichiometry test.

I loved school and was getting excellent grades. But the latter changed drastically when I was in grade 10. I was awarded with a state scholarship to finish my high school at a Presbyterian Ladies College, in Armidale, New South Wales Australia. I thought my English was good enough to see me through an all-English high school in an English-speaking country. I was wrong.

For the first time in my school life I felt the sting of failing, not just one subject, but all my subjects! Sadly, in those days, teachers ranked their students based on their grades. At the end of the first semester I ranked the last! I was completely devastated! I used to be a top student back home. Now that I was a long away from my family, the people around me were different, and the way they spoke English was different from what I had learned in my English class back home, the English in the textbooks was too hard for me to understand. I was confused and discouraged. The rest of grade 10 was a mystery for me. At the end of grade 10, I ranked the second last in my class. I wanted to give up and go home. But my teachers did not give up on me. They smiled, they encouraged, they corrected my sentences, they befriended me and gradually I regained some confidence.



There was no overnight change but I started spending more time in the library reading. I started with children's books, large books with large prints. Often, I would rush to the library after gulping my lunch and sit in a corner to read, and read and read. Soon I was reading Science books and the encyclopedias. All the time I was carrying with me a small brown dictionary which



For me, a struggling pullout student, those were monumental accomplishments! I was never ranked the top in my class but I did receive one of the three much-coveted Senior awards when I graduated from high school. It was simply called the "Improvement" award. That's when I learned one of the most important lessons in life. When you work hard to better yourself and not to beat others, you will always succeed. No one, who puts forth effort, is a failure. And God promises us that if we do not give up, in due season we will reap success (Galatians 6:9).

After high school I sent out my university applications and was accepted at three Australian universities. But that is another roller-coaster story.



# HELD BY GOD'S GRACE

- Gabriela Kylene Mantiri



Around four years ago, my life changed drastically. I was diagnosed with leukemia and was sent to the hospital. That time, the doctors told me that I had to go through chemotherapy. After going through the whole diagnostic process, the doctors told us that I only had a fifty percent chance of either making it through or giving up along the way.



Knowing that I might not live for long greatly impacted my life. I needed to go through chemotherapy. During the first course, I noticed my hair started to fall off and I was glad that there were still no signs of bad effects. As I continued with the second course, I noticed that my eyesight started to deteriorate.

My right eye started to be a bit blurry and later on my eyesight started to fade. It felt like something was blocking my vision and I couldn't see clearly anymore. After going through those two courses, I felt bad seeing my body slowly weaken. I was just a young boy in school with a normal life until it all happened.

On the day when my vision started to worsen, my father and I went to the doctor to ask about how it can be remedied. The doctor said that the cancer cells had spread into the retina, which is a thin layer of tissue that lines the back of the eye on the inside. In addition to that, the doctor said that they don't have the right kind of equipment to treat my ailing eyes.

On my next hospital visit, the doctor wrote some letters and sent me to a different hospital - The Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health. There, they also couldn't do much for me, so they sent me back to Rama Hospital. My family and I stayed there for about three to four days and on the third day, they gave us the medical report and some medicines. After that, they sent us back to the hospital where I was getting my chemotherapy.

The doctor told my mother how strong the new chemo formula was. Normally they give children under 10 years old, between below and medium levels of the chemo drug.



That time, I was only 13 years old so the doctor gave me the dose that they usually give to an adult. It meant more side effects. It was a necessary evil that I must take and go through in order to get well.

The new formula I got from Rama hospital was higher and stronger, and it was supposed to destroy the cancer cells in the eyes. The doctor told my mom that my chance of survival will go down to only thirty percent. The doctor gave us some time to go home to decide whether I was to take the new formula or use the same one.

It was around the same time the Maker Heal group came to have their first seminar here in Thailand. I became a vegetarian from that time up until now. Since then, I became healthier and stronger. After attending the seminar, I decided to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. I gave back my life to God as He gave me a new one.



My parents decided not to bring me back to the hospital and instead follow God's way, through everyone's help, prayers, and the grace of Jesus Christ.

From then on, I became better and better until I could go

back and continue my studies.

By the grace of God, the loving support of my family, and through prayers I am still here, healthy and a living testimony of God's marvelous love to everyone around me.



**I can do all thing through Christ who strengthens me**

- Philippians 4:13

# COMMUNITY SERVICE

## ENGLISH CAMP

- Emanuell Darryl Bingku

Adventist International Mission School has been doing community service campaigns whenever they are able to. The teachers view it as an opportunity to help those who are in need, and to teach their children to care for others. It's a way of molding them into becoming an example to those around them. One of the most significant campaigns AIMS has done was the English Camp in Ubon Ratchathani province. Before the second lockdown was imposed in Thailand, AIMS was able to conduct an English Camp in Ubon Ratchathani. They did it during the Christmas break of 2020. The location of the English Camp was in an elementary school, in Sirindhorn, Ubon Ratchathani.



There were around 20 teachers and 20 students from AIMS who participated in the English camp. Students from Adventist International University were there to give a helping hand as well.



The group taught the children English, visited the sick, gave out food and relief goods to the poor. They even helped the small Seventh-day Adventist church in doing ministry.



The children were so happy to learn English. They learned to sing songs and play games in English. Parents brought their children to the Church to learn English and also to hear Bible stories.



The parents were glad that their children were introduced to an environment where they could learn English and receive instructions from God's people. The community of Ubon Ratchathani felt that the group didn't come just to spread God's word but to attend to their needs.



Two former students of AIMS - Rainy Chanikarn and Ezekiel Micheal Morley, participated in the English camp. They did different activities with the children, such as making hand waxes, giving health lectures, visiting homes, teaching English, telling Bible stories, singing, playing games and making crafts with the kids.

The most memorable part for Rainy was the gift giving. Seeing the happiness on the kids' faces gave her happiness as well. As for Ezekiel, it was about helping kids learn English, swimming in the lake after they finished teaching, and seeing the joy they brought to the families. They realized that in order to help and teach people about God, you must love them first.



When Sabbath came, the church was overflowing with parents and children. More than 300 people who attended the church service. Since it was Christmas, they handed out gifts to everyone, and they ate together before they left.



The teachers and students felt that what they did wasn't enough, and a lot of work still needs to be done for the people in Ubon. It wasn't just an ordinary English camp - it was a ministry. They saw first hand the realities that the community face each day. They also realized that doing ministry isn't just all about going house to house to preach about God, it is also about spending some time with the people in the community.

The English Camp Team would like to extend their sincerest and utmost gratitude to the people who gave their financial support, assistance, time, creativity, prayers and personal commitment. Their help made the community outreach and ministry possible. May God Bless you abundantly.



## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Footprints Editorial Staff

Institutions like AIMS think about more than just having a strong profit margin as a sign of financial stability and success; being socially responsible is part of the school's ethos. Just like any other institutions, AIMS is socially involved in caring for the communities around them, and because of that the school has earned the trust and respect of the community they serve. Here's a list of what any institution or company can do for their respective communities.

### Philanthropic Efforts

The biggest companies in the world are doing philanthropic efforts. Microsoft works closely with the Gates Foundation to bring technology to communities around the world. Even small companies benefit from aligning with philanthropic causes. These causes are also good for marketing, because the community will see the institution in a positive light.

### Environmental Conservation

Active recycling program, alternative energy sources like solar and wind can help provide sustainable energy to the school. "Green Cleaning" alternatives that can help reduce the use of harsh toxic cleaning chemicals. Proper garbage segregation. All these can contribute significantly to the environmental protection. By doing so, environmental commitments are multiplied in the school community.

### Company Diversity and Labor Practices

Diversity in the workplace is beneficial when everyone is getting along and working as a team. However, labor policies must apply to all employees, even those at the highest levels of the institution. Diversity issues in the workplace need attention, constant review of policies and protocols, and consistent action; this includes addressing any complaints and violations. This is not only good for the institution's image, it also helps build a positive culture with good morale and high productivity in the workplace.

### Supporting Volunteer Efforts

Local communities and charities always need help. Being involved in the community in a productive way is good for any institution. Giving employees the opportunity to help the community in planting trees, conducting an English camp, promoting environmental or health awareness, doing a clean-up drive, organizing a free clinic or blood-giving drive. The important thing is to choose a cause and contribute time and ensuring its success.

Source: [smallbusiness.chron.com](http://smallbusiness.chron.com)