



# FOOTPRINTS

*The official newsletter of the Adventist International Mission School (AIMS)*



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## From the Administrator's Desk

We would like to welcome you back to AIMS in our first newsletter of the new school year 2010-11. And a special welcome to new parents. The school year is well under way and your children have settled in.

The first issue of Footprints will make you aware of some of the new things happening at AIMS. There have been so many interesting activities so far this year that the writers in Grades 7 – 12 have too many articles for one edition. So Footprints will be published in November and December. The students have done an excellent job writing these articles for their Language Arts class. While not all of them could be chosen, nonetheless, we are proud of all the writers.

We are happy to announce this year that AIMS has been accredited by the Adventist Accrediting Association, SorMorSor, the national educational department of Thailand, and Saraburi Area 2 Education Department. WASC is scheduled for early next year.

Thank you, parents for your loyal support and assistance in helping AIMS meet its mission and expected school-wide learning goals.



WE'RE READY, TOO! These excited high schoolers say! "Aren't you joining the wagon of excitement, too?" So they seem to ask.

## First day of school excites students

Natnicha Watanodon (Eve), Grade 9



READY ALL. Grade 1 students happily say, "We're ready!" for the school year 2010-2011. "We can't contain our excitement!"

School Year 2010-2011 opened with new exciting experiences. Students, teachers, and staff came to school to begin new things. Friends welcomed friends. New experiences to be explored awaited AIMS students.

The thrilled students showed their excitement after seeing the school's improvement, classes, teachers, equipment, etc. The administration rearranged classrooms for the upper grades. The teachers' office moved to the last year's Grades 10-12 classroom, and the last year's Grade 6- B's became the Grades 11 and 12 classroom. The

overflow room turned into Grade 10's. The rest of the classrooms remained the same.

This new school year, new teachers include Teacher Edan, Teacher Nelson, Teacher Darrin, Teacher Mariju, and Teacher Shibi. Teacher Edan handles the IT classes; Teacher Nelson, the multigrade school; Teacher Darrin, History, Mathematics, and Language Arts; Teacher Mariju, Language Arts and Reading; and Teacher Shibi, Language Arts and Reading.

What indeed a great change at AIMS! The changes will surely improve AIMS in better ways. Great things will come with happiness and fun. AIMS will shine brighter this school year 2010-2011.



## Grades Five to Twelve visit the National Science and Technology Fair

Suprawee Meelab (Jarb), Grade 9

**A** field trip to the National Science and Technology Fair took place on just the fourth day of school. What an excitement for Grades Five to Twelve!

Before the day of the trip, students did their research on topics which will be featured at the Fair. Our Science teacher, Teacher Ida, assigned the research to prepare the students with the basic facts they should know before coming to the exhibits.

On the day of the field trip, students arrived at school so early in the morning – all filled with curiosity and excitement. Students got to their assigned vans or buses and all headed out for BITEC (Bangkok International Trade and Exhibit Center), the place of the Fair.

At the National Science and Technology Fair, thousands of students from various schools flooded the huge hall. And the exhibits really amazed us! Booths about newly invented technologies attracted curious students who were really eager to learn. Display booths about power saving technologies, nanotechnology, laser, bioplastics, environment facts, and many more abounded. One of the inventions showcased a method that can reduce the release of greenhouse gases created by global warming. Knowledge, as well as fun, filled the air.

Held annually, the Fair aimed at educating students about today's global usefulness and relevant technology.

Soon it was time for lunch. Hungry students crowded down to the basement where stands of various food and drinks were orderly put up. Korean and Japanese food caught our appetite.

After we finished our food, we made another quick visit of the booths. When it was time to leave, we all gathered together to make sure no one was left behind. We went to our own vehicles and finally, we headed back to school.

The trip really gave us the knowledge as it intended. But we did not only receive knowledge. We also learned cooperation and caring among us, students and teachers. The activity has been really very valuable to us. Studying outside of school is equally important as studying in school!



**FIGHT CANCER!** Nanotechnology, another new scientific invention which is the engineering of functional systems at the molecular scale, can help cure cancer and save lives when used in medicine. NSTF featured this modern-day miracle too.



**THE NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FAIR.** Held annually at BITEC, Bangna, Bangkok, the government-sponsored fair musters an attendance of 1,200,000 visitors yearly and sits on a 42,000-square meter area.

## Mother's Day touches hearts

Thitipanchaya Panya (York), Grade 9

**M**other's day is the day that children will go and hug, kiss, wai, and show their love to their moms. It is also during this important day that children who have done wrong and hurt their mothers say "sorry" and "forgive me."

On August 17, 2010, our school observed the first Mother's Day ceremony. We selected Bill and his mother to represent our class for this significant event. A mother-and-child team represented each class, from Prep-Center to Grade 12. Before the representative children showed respect and love to their mothers, a song that told how mothers love children was played. After the



**I LOVE YOU, MOM.** Students, behaved and naughty alike, were one in expressing their pure love to their dear moms on that sweet Mother's day.

emotional song, Teacher Som instructed the representative children to wai to their moms. All the children did the wai, and hugged and kissed their moms. How this scene touched mothers. And everyone. Some of the representative mothers even cried because of the respect and love their children showed them. Some of our friends cried, too. After the ceremony ended, we all went back to class.

Indeed, we cannot thank our moms enough for their love and care shown to us. Just even think that they gave birth to us!



**WE RESPECT YOU.** Aside from saying I love you, students also showed respect to their moms by kneeling during the emotional Mother's Day.

# Wai Khru Day

## confirms respect to teachers

Suttamon Pattarabodee (Fah), Grade 9



**WE LOVE AND RESPECT YOU, DEAR TEACHERS.** On Wai Khru Day, students expressed their love and respect to teachers by giving them flowers and telling them, "We love and respect you, our beloved teachers."

**W**ai Khru Day" is a meaningful day to teachers and students. It is the time we express gratitude to all our beloved teachers. "Wai" is the way of greeting in Thai culture which has been used for hundreds of years. When one does the wai, it shows that he respects and honors the person, no matter how old or young he is.

On August 26, 2010, Thai teachers prepared a Wai Khru Day program for students and teachers at the AIMS Kindergarten building. Early that morning,

Kindergarten to Grade 4 students held their program first and was later followed by Grades 5 to 12.

In the Grades 5 to 12 program, hosts Mamiow and Pao Pao, both Grade 10, greeted the students and teachers. Teacher Lynnie offered the opening prayer. Then Mrs. Foster, school administrator, delivered the opening remarks. Nook, Grade 10, and Jan, Grade 4, recited poems about the greatness of their beloved teachers. Pemika, Grade 11, led in singing a lovely song to teachers. Then



**POIGNANT POSE.** Honored teachers really felt the respect and love accorded to them by their students during the significant Wai Khru Day.

Q, from Grade 7, led in reciting a poem that expressed a promise for the students to be good to their teachers. The highlight of the program featured two representatives from each class who went to the teachers to give honor and respect and ask for blessings. The teachers, in turn, blessed the students with blessings for a new school year. Ajarn Noparat offered the closing prayer. Smiling faces came out from the building as soon as the program ended.

It is an AIMS's tradition to conduct Wai Khru Day every first week of new school year. It is indeed an apt time for us to thank our teachers who act as our second parents. This is surely a time to show that we respect them and desire to be their students for this coming school year.



# Tie and Mask Day energizes school aura

Ruchika Tudu (Ruchi), Grade 10

**E**xcitement reached its pinnacle as the Tie and Mask Day transformed AIMS's atmosphere into one flooded with colorful masks and multi-designed ties. Tie and Mask Day was this month's theme for the Student Council-sponsored School Spirit Day. School Spirit day is an activity held monthly featuring interesting, cool, and fun-filled themes and activities aimed at fostering closer bonding and fellowship among students and teachers.

On August 31, 2010, the Tie and Mask Day metamorphosed students from normal, usual, uniform-wearing



**DO WE LOOK HANDSOME?** Rain, Grade 11, and Max, Grade 10, appear to ask fellow students during the fun-filled Mask and Tie day. "Yes, you do!" we say.



**WE'RE MASKED!** Thrilled and happy students couldn't help but pose for a souvenir photo of their Mask day. Who was not excited to have one anyway?

kids to funny masks and sporty tie-wearing students. To the delight of all students, masks invaded Prep-Center to Grade 4, and ties decorated Grades 5-12.

Boys, girls, and even teachers sported masks and ties. Students moved in fun all the while shooting photos, chatting loudly, and learning the art of tying

a tie. Through this unique day, students and teachers bonded through the relaxed, fun-filled spirit that the activity brought. In addition, the humble tie was again appreciated.

The Tie and Mask Day definitely energized the school spirit and gave spice to the start of new school year.



## Co-curricular activities attract students

Onnapat Kirdratanasak (On), Grade 10

**N**ew co-curricular clubs bring amusement to the AIMS community. Ten new extra-curricular clubs really caught the attention of all curious students this school year. Every student was filled with enthusiasm to sign up to join the club he was interested in. And through these co-curricular activities, students will become capable of discovering more about themselves and their potential.

All the sparkling new clubs really persuaded students to be interested in joining. Every student was privileged to select carefully the club he wanted to participate in. The clubs available for students to join included: Speech, Spelling, Chess and Scrabble, Chorale, Guitar, Photography and Video, Debate, AIMS Marching Band, Saltshakers, Student Council, and the last but not the least, Shop.

Although we do not receive grades for joining co-curricular activities, we thrill with the new learning and experiences we will gain. Besides, we, the club members, will be able to show our personal talents and abilities for everyone to see. Following is the schedule for club assemblies: October 29 and January 28, Speech Contest and Spelling Bee; November 5, Math, Scrabble and Chess Competitions; February 25, Chorale and Guitar Shows; March 25, Photocopy and Video Exhibits; April 22, Debate; and May 30, Saltshakers' Performance.

As we all know, although these clubs are not part of our academic courses, the activities can really provide us with practical experiences we will never ever find anywhere else.



**SPELLING, ANYONE?** "I am ready for the spelling bee," says Kevin, Grade 7. "Thanks, Teacher Shibee."



**WE'RE THE ANKLUNG PLAYERS.** We really enjoy how Teacher Lynnie teaches us the Anklung. You see, we can play the famous *You Raise Me Up* by Josh Groban with our Anklung. Unique, isn't it?



**HARDWORKING MEMBERS.** Scrabble enthusiasts start to play intelligently and have fun at the same time. Yes, they enjoy the club they joined in!



**WE SHOOT PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS.** What fun indeed to be a member of Photography and Video Club! We learn how to appreciate different subjects and themes of video and photography.



**WE PLAY GUITAR.** We excel in playing the guitar because we love it. Want to join us?



**WE PLAY PIANO TOO.** But it's not only the guitar that we play in Guitar Club. We play piano too. We make good music, you know.



**WE REPAIR EVERYTHING.** The Shop Club teaches us to fix and repair almost all kinds of broken or worn out objects, things or even appliances.



**ELECTRICITY TOO.** Yes, the Shop Club trains us to learn basic electricity too.



**WE'RE ACTORS AND ACTRESSES.** In Saltshakers, we act, sing and do plays on stage. We train that we excel.



**AIMS MARCHING BAND.** We will cheer you up with our lively music! Come, join us as we march and play songs!