



FOOTPRINTS

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



January - February 2011

Volume 8, Number 2

From the Administrator's Desk

We are well into our second semester. Soon the students will be participating in the Sports Day games and taking third quarter examinations. The school year really flies by quickly, but much has been accomplished in the past few years. Having already received the Adventist Accreditation Association and SorMorSor accreditation in 2010, administrators and teachers have recently completed and submitted the Self-study for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). In addition, AIMS has been awarded first place for best private school out of sixteen private schools in the Saraburi, Area 2, education district. We are honored to receive this award.

A fully aligned standards-based curriculum for the Preparatory Center to grade 12 is in place. Curriculum Scope and Sequence for all grades are available upon request. Requirements for high school, such as a guidance counselor and science laboratory, are being accomplished. The majority of teachers hold Thai license (a few have temporary licenses) and are certified.

This year physics and general business courses were added to the curriculum. As the enrollment increases and consequently, teachers are added to the roster, a choice of elective courses will be available.

Presently, a college preparatory diploma which includes the following courses is offered: Language Arts (English I-IV, Journalism and Composition, Speech, and Reading), Literature, Foreign Language (Spanish), Thai Language and Culture, Science (Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Conceptual Physics) History (History of the 19th Century and Renaissance, History of the 20th Century and Current Events, and Comparative Governments), Math (Algebra I and II, Geometry and Pre-Calculus) Fine Arts (Chorale), Commercial Arts, (General Business Principles), Computer, PE.

The Vice-President of Academic Affairs at AIU and I have discussed students taking freshman college level science and business courses which would be high school Advanced Placement (AP) studies for AIMS seniors who qualify.

While the space in the present school building is limited, currently, we still have sufficient room. Plans have been approved by the AIMS Board of Directors and ratified by the AIU Board of Directors to expand the present building. God has provided the resources in the past for our advancement and we will continue to do so in the future. We honor Him for His continued guidance and look forward to the future as we set goals and reach them for all of our AIMS stakeholders.

SC reaches out to teach English

Shea Arpana Sundaresan (Shea), Grade 7



We, the Student Council (SC) members go to tutor students in Thai schools. We go every Friday after school. Our main objective is to teach the students English and second, to teach them other subjects that will help them improve their learning. We instruct them with the help of Teacher Dj and Teacher Djuen, our sponsors, using different teaching methods such as playing educational games and giving various worksheets. We also teach the children songs and try not to make our teaching dull.

Every Friday if you see the SC members hurrying after school, you will be pleasantly surprised to know that they are not headed home but they are off to Muak-lek to do community service! As one of their important duties in being part of the SC, the members are involved in this very important academic activity every week.



Spiritual Emphasis Week spiritualizes students

Ruchika Tudu (Ruchi), Grade 10

Spiritual Emphasis Week (SEW) has always been a week of connecting with God and enjoying melodious music during song service and special music. Our SEW themed, "Fun Time with God," took place from September 13-17, 2010 in the kindergarten assembly hall.

On Monday, September 13, SEW was opened by song service in which we learned the theme song, taught by Grade 5. Then the special music was done by Grade 6. T.Djeun presented to us "Fun Time with God in the Classroom". He talked about "Loving to learn and Learning to love" from the eyes of Joseph, the boy with the multi-colored coat. He spoke about true education in seven points, first was trusting in God, never giving up, honesty, choosing to be cheerful even through sad times come (Pain is a gift to let us know we are still alive), then constant communication to the true source of wisdom, knowing what is right and standing up for it, loving, and forgiving.

The following day, September 14, we first enjoyed music from Grade 7 and 8 then we listened to T.Darrin, our speaker. He spoke on the theme "Fun Time with God on the Playground." In an animated voice he narrated to us stories from his childhood. He told us about his love for camping and all the things needed for a camping trip. Then he related this trip to the story of our own lives and how each of us is prepar-

ing for our trip to heaven, the best playground.

The next day, September 15, special music was performed by Grade 9 and the Multigrade. Our guest speaker for that day was T. Nelson. His topic was "Fun Time with God at Home and in the Family." He expressed the importance of putting God and others in our family first to have a loving and happy home. He talked on the little or big things we can do to make home a more pleasant place, for example. do our chores, be respectful, and obey house rules. The lesson to be learned was if God is first in the family home will be a fun place.

Our next speaker, Teacher Alvyn, husband of T. Shibli, spoke on the fourth day of SEW, September 16. Before his talk, song service and special music was done by Grade 10. Teacher Alvyn started by showing pictures of what things fascinate him about children. His list of amusing pictures included everything from ingeniousness to adventuresome. Then he shared two stories. The first one was on a young boy entitled, "The Boy Shares His Lunch" by Jill Kemp. The second story was about A blind boy entitled "Heart of Gratitude". T.Alvyn drew these conclusions from his stories: the Lord provides us with opportunities, the opportunities will always be well within our capability, He (God) expects our willingness, He can multiply our little beyond our imagination, and He expects us to serve not only few

individuals, but his entire creation.

The last and final day of our spiritual journey was graced by music from Grade 11 and 12. The theme "Fun Time with God in Heaven," was presented by T. Mariju. She described New Jerusalem with its city made of pure gold and God's glory replacing the need of light from the sun, moon, and stars. She painted heaven with its river of life, and the tree of life producing fruit twelve times a year, once each month. She showed pictures of the precious gems that we will see and told us about the promise in Revelation 22:8 when in heaven there will be no more tears, sorrows, crying, pain, death, but only fun time with God.

God is not dull or serious. He is majestic, creative and fun! This SEW helped all teachers and students glimpse this wonderful side of God.



AIMS Adventurer Club welcomes new members

Nuttida Sirimongkhanurak (Jan), Elysia Iris Taylor (Ellie), and Pusin Puriwatthanapong (Camp), Grade 4

It was the AIMS Adventurer Club ceremony. The induction was from 10 – 11:25 A.M. The induction started with a club assembly at the basketball court. Then followed by a parade. The AIMS band was played by the grade 4 class. Then was followed by the national anthem by Panachok Kaewrahan (Jack) and Prunwarit Watthanachai (PunPun). The Adventurer pledge was led by Kristine Charm Encapas (KC). The adventurer law was led by Sun. The Adventurer song was lead by Nopparat Thamwiwat (Jul) and Rinnara Sangsirit (Tonwan). Opening prayer was given by Edgar Walemba. We went to the cafeteria to have our induction ceremony. The welcome remarks were held by Nuttida (Jan) and Pusin (Camp). After the welcome remarks we had special music which was, The Anklongs played by the Helping Hands. Then Teacher Darren introduced the speaker to us. The speaker was Master Guide Manuel Alamo, Junior (Teacher Djeun). Master Guide, Arlyn C. Lubay, Adventurer Club director declared the introduction Ceremony. The Deputy Director is Teacher Mallen and she lit candle of "Spirit of adventuring." After Master Guide Nopparat accepted the new members of the club, we sang the consecration song, followed by the prayer. Last, we had our mispah and we were all dismissed.



Teachers mimic students and students mimic teachers

Munthana Charikanonda (Im), Grade 8

The Impersonation Day was created by the AIMS Student Council (SC). Usually the SC always has a Spirit Day every month. This month, which was September, the SC decided to create a day called "Impersonation Day." The purpose of having this day was because the Student Council wanted the teachers and the students to feel the spirit of relationship with each other. According to the Impersonation Day, the students had to dress up like a teacher, and the teachers had to wear uniforms like students. In my

opinion, I think it was a great idea, because it made me feel different and feel the spirit of relationship between me and my teachers. Also, I think the teachers felt the same. On this day, I felt good about the school and I am sure I became closer to teachers especially when I saw them in students' school uniforms. May God bless all of us and I would like to thank Him for the Impersonation Day.



AIMS joins the 2nd Thailand-wide Pathfinder Camporee

Suttamon Pattarabodee (Fah), Grade 9

AIMS students joined the 2nd Thailand-wide Pathfinder Camporee with excitement under the theme, "Youth: Hope of the Nation," meaning, we young pathfinders will be the hope and leaders of the future. The program was held on November 9-12, 2010, at Vajaravudh National Camp, Sircha, Chonburi, Thailand. It was the union of Pathfinders from all parts of Thailand. We got a chance to know God better and make friends with Pathfinders from other schools.

There were seven schools, Adventist International Mission School (AIMS); Bangkok Adventist International School (BAIS); Trinity International School (TRIS); Ekamai International School (EIS); Chiangmai Adventist Academy (CAA); Ramkhamhaeng Advent International School (RAIS); and Phuket International Academy (PIA), joining the 2nd Thailand-wide Pathfinder Camporee. Hundreds of pathfinders were there with exhilaration from all parts of Thailand.

The official opening ceremony of 2nd Thailand-wide Pathfinder Camporee was held in the morning of the second day with all Pathfinders and Master Guides in their complete uniform. The guest of honor was Master Guide Simon Siew, Director of Southeast Asia Union Mission Youth Department. After the ceremony, AIMS students were said to be the best club during the parade by the teachers from other schools. The teachers were really satisfied with how well we did. The scrumptious food cooked by Khun Jim attracted all AIMS Pathfinders and Master Guides. After gaining strength from the food, there were plenty of activities such as candle making, batik painting, shirt screening, hand wax, hiking, etc., waiting for us each day. The activities were for us to make new friends and experience teamwork. Every evening, there was a campfire program followed by shows from

every school.

I would like to give special thanks to all AIMS medics, officers, and staff. Officers, staff, and teachers took turns being the security guards to make sure that the camp area was safe. Several medics missed some of the activities since they took care of injured and sick Pathfinders. Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to all teachers who made this camp possible.

The closing ceremony made pathfinders sad. On the other hand, we were happy to be back in our pleasant and clean houses.

Thailand-wide Pathfinder Camporee will be held every four years. The 3rd Thailand-wide Pathfinder Camporee will be held in Chiangmai. Be ready to go for the next adventurous camp!



AIMS students shine for the Star of the Ages

Suprawee Meelab (Jarb), Grade 9



Star! Oh that shining heavenly body that kindles our curiosity! So little to human eyes, yet so huge in reality! Our AIMS Christmas Program 2010 presents you, "Star of the Ages!"

As we know, our AIMS Christmas program was held at the Kiti Tasanee auditorium at the APIU on December 9. Excited parents and visitors filled the auditorium to see their beloved "stars" perform. By 7:00 P.M., the King's anthem was played, followed by opening prayer by Pastor Ryan Ashlock. A special Anklung ensemble was performed by the group "Precious Jewels", consisting of kids from AIMS and kids from Asia-Pacific International University (APIU).

In the first part of the program, representatives from grades 2 up to 5 gave the introduction about stars. Then, the performances were led by the multi-graders who related "What's in a Star". They acted and spoke about the Star of the Ages. After that, little angels from the preschool and kindergarten filled the stage, singing "Angel's Song" (so cute). Next, the third graders danced to the song "Christmas Star" with plenty of props. The second graders followed. The girls danced and the boys acted out to the song, "Mary, Did You Know?" Finally, the last performance for Part 1, "The First Noel", was performed by the first graders.

For the second part, selected students from Grade 7 went up on stage to give an introduction also about stars. But the one great Star that shines forever, unequaled and irreplaceable is God, the Creator of the whole universe. The second part of our program was about praising the best Star of All – Jesus! The first performance of this part was a very different one. The fifth graders including Teacher Djeun created shadows by doing gymnastics to the song "Amazing God".

Grade 6 came on stage with "stick" power to declare to everyone how God made light, and ended their performance with the song "Joy to the World." Grade 7 followed. Following Grade 6. The seventh graders used gestures that related to the song "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" and concluded their performance by arranging little stars into one word – Jesus. Grades 9-12, sang "Listen to the Stars" which



really impressed the audience. The fourth graders using nicely decorated objects, performed to the song "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Last, but not least - the eighth graders! They lit candles in the dark which seemed like bright stars in the dark sky. When the song "Oh Holy Night" came close to the end, they ordered their candles into the figure of a star. They got the loudest applause.

Now the peak of our program was our finale song "Star of the Ages", composed and written by Teacher Lynnie. Every student of AIMS participated in the singing. It was so powerful and so full of energy.

Mrs. Foster gave the closing remarks and the closing prayer was led by the president of Asia-Pacific International University. After the photographing, students and parents moved forward to the feast held in AIMS School. There were various kinds of foods. That was a joyful time.

Our Christmas program really gave us the happiness it intended. But we did not only receive the happiness. We also shared happiness.



AIMS celebrates International Loi Khratong Festival

Apinya Somphan (Nook) and Amporn Ngowchan (Aum), Grade 10

Loi Krathong takes place on the evening of the full moon of the 12th month in the traditional Thai lunar calendar. In the western calendar this usually falls in November. Loi Krathong is celebrated as a thanksgiving for the blessings of water. At AIMS, we celebrated International Loi Krathong, but it was held November 19. We had an International program at our Loi Krathong celebration for the first time at AIMS. The presentations came from Thailand, Philippines, America, and China.

The International Loi Krathong was done on the AIMS Basketball Court. The program started at 10:00 A.M. Traditional folk dances from China, Philippines, and Thailand were presented. There was an American cowboy dance, too. A Filipino traditional folk song was sung by the Filipino teachers and students. A Thai martial arts performance, for show purposes only, was also presented by the students. All of the audience were very excited to see the martial arts performed by boys and girls.

After watching the show, there were many kinds of food like Thai, Indian, and Filipino foods sold to students. This year, we really enjoyed the International Loi Krathong Festival and hope that there will be an activity like this again. 



Father's Day inspires fathers and children

Sittichok Shifberg (Max 2), Grade 10

King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the current King of Thailand, is symbolized as the father of all Thais. This is why on every December 5, the King's birthday, the whole country of Thailand celebrates Father's Day. This is to honor the King on his birthday and all the fathers. On this special day, families enjoy being together and often they eat out together.

This school year, 2010, AIMS set up a simple program where students could show their respect to their King and their fathers.

The program began with the royal anthem and an opening prayer by Teacher

Ajay. Mrs. Foster gave a short talk about the importance of fathers. A poem dedicated to fathers was given. Speeches about fathers were heard from students coming from different countries: China, America, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, and India. Then, the finale of the program was when representatives from each grade level showed their love and respect to their fathers by giving them flowers.

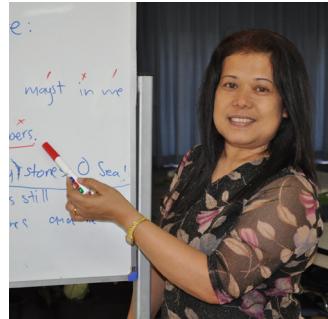
We, students, really enjoyed the program and seeing the love that the children have for their fathers. We also hope that next year there will be such that good activity like this again. 



Teacher Naomi finds AIMS

Prarinya Janrawangyot (Rain), Grade 11

AIMS has a new English Teacher named Naomi Yongson Jardiniano Manassian. After Teacher Naomi and her family prayed for the job at AIMS, the Manassian's prayer was answered. She now teaches the higher graders Language Arts with her principle of making students learn



by allowing them to enjoy class activities. Her approachable, friendly, and very open-minded characteristics enable her to love being with children and seeing them improve academically, spiritually, and mentally. Teacher Naomi believes that God put her here at AIMS to work for Him. With this very reason, she is very dedicated to her profession and thinks that dealing with young minds is a solemn responsibility.

Teacher Naomi is a Filipino and married to Raffy John Manassian. She has one son Jeremie who now studies in grade 10 at AIMS. Teacher Naomi completed her M.A. in English Education and has had much teaching experiences in the past. She likes children and young people because, "they give uplifting satisfaction when I see them improve and achieve."

We, students of AIMS, enjoy Teacher Naomi's English classes because we usually have entertaining scholastic activities and games. However, not all class times are for games and activities. Sometimes the class goes by the book and it provides time to achieve new lessons. Teacher Naomi's classes contain all the variety of study and fun which keeps one concentrated and occupied.

Teacher Naomi has been a blessing to us at AIMS and her working with everyone here has brought joy and happiness. AIMS is fortunate to have an English teacher who sees the academic needs of each student and who is eager to see each student improve. Her concept of allowing students to learn by fun activities helps each student to enjoy schooling and classes. We pray that Teacher Naomi would continue to be a teacher and a blessing to us. 



Teacher Nelson teaches the multigrade school



Teacher Nelson Acosta, a diligent Filipino teacher who taught in various Adventist elementary schools in the Philippines for 22 years, joins AIMS this school year to handle the multi-grade classes.

How does Teacher Nelson describe himself as a teacher? He says, "I am a father to my students, though sometimes I am strict with them because I care for them. But most of the times, I am considerate."

How does Teacher Nelson describe himself as a person?

"I'm a jolly person, slow to anger, and don't continue conflict or strife with anyone for a long time. I'm a type of a melancholy-sanguine individual. I am fun-loving and a sportsman, too."

When asked why he chose AIMS as his school of service, he smilingly explained, "I'm an adventurous teacher. I chose AIMS above all schools because it follows God's ideals and standards. I am free to keep my Sabbath here and I'm sure I'll be enriched spiritually. Besides, AIMS students are well-behaved and mannered."

Teacher Nelson chose teaching as his profession because he believes that teaching is the highest and noblest profession in the world. Why? It is because teachers are the builders of the "Ark," the refuge of all mankind. Teachers are the shapers of the mind and the builders of characters of the youth so they can have a brighter future.

He says that the best way to make students learn is to make learning fun. But firm moral guidance should be given to the students, too. But it is love that should prevail in the class at all times.

Married to Mrs. Rosemarie Acosta, a Filipino and the current multi-grade class assistant teacher, Teacher Nelson finished his Education degree in the Philippines. The Acostas have two boys, Roneel and Elben, Grades 9 and 6 respectively, at AIMS. 



Pathfinders vow, "We will Serve You, Lord."

Pataraporn Leungrachanee (Rose), Grade 9

Pathfinders! Attennnnn-tion!" "Arise, Be smart, and Serve!" These words seem to be a maxim for all Pathfinders! On September 10, 2010, a boring Friday was aroused by the AIMS Pathfinder Club Induction Ceremony.

The Pathfinder Induction Ceremony is a dignified ceremony meant to inspire the Pathfinder candidates with the high ideals of the Pathfinder Club. Students from Grade 5 up came to school with excitement! Nice blue uniforms seem to flood the school. Students were interested in performing their induction ceremony. With excitement, and well prepared, AIMS Pathfinders were leaving their classrooms with great expectation. They were busy with dressing up their uniforms. We were all beautifully and smartly decorated with the blue shirts, pants, skirts, sashes with honors, shiny yellow handkerchiefs, and greatly honored pins.

Looking toward to the new school year, the main purpose for this induction ceremony was to officially welcome the 22 new Pathfinders into the worldwide fellowship of Pathfinder Clubs. For this school year's Pathfinder club, we have two new officers, Master Guides, Nelson Acosta and Honest Encapas. As in the previous years our Counselors are Teachers Tranqui, Djeun, Noel, Heidi, Ajay and Seema.

The ceremony is an important moment in the life of the Pathfinder. As seen by this special occasion, our Pathfinder family is getting bigger. Teachers and officers all have the same determination to train and teach all Pathfinder members to have positive views toward the Pathfinder community. This conforms to the school's vision to build good characters and good learners in us.

AIMS Pathfinder Induction



Ceremony began at the basketball court for the induction, then, finally in the cafeteria for lighting the Spiritual Pathfinder Candles. Pathfinder members arranged themselves in lines with their unit captains. They were categorized into various groups according to their positions. Boys were on one side, and girls were on one side. Rain was appointed to be the Boys' Division leader and May was appointed to be Girls' Division leader. Ten Staff were standing by at the back of the members. We invited Pastor Ryan Ashlock to lead the ceremony involving 120 Pathfinder members. Pastor Ryan was willing to take time from Asia-Pacific International University (AIU) to be part of our ceremony that day at AIMS. As the hand of the clock pointed to 10, all Pathfinders were at the basketball court for assembly. We all willingly waited for Pastor Ryan to come. While waiting, we practiced some significant procedures, too. We were trying to make it really perfect and the best we could.

Soon, the program got started as Pastor Ryan reached AIMS. The program was commanded by our Pathfinder Student Director, Golf. By his smartness, all of us followed his command strictly and sharply. We all proceeded orderly to the cafeteria after the assembly. The National An-

them was led by Golf, the Pathfinder Song by May, the Pledge and Law by Rain, and the Opening Prayer by Ajarn Noparat. The ceremony was then introduced by Pastor Ryan Ashlock. His speech was about the Lighting of the Spirit of Pathfinding Candle. These are some catchy messages I got: "The world that we live in is one filled with darkness, a world which the youth of today struggle to find meaning and purpose. Praise God, He sent His son Jesus, the Light of the world, into our world to give us Light. The Spirit of Pathfinding is the spirit of adventure, awakening, learning, exploration, comradely and above all a spirit of service to God and man."

Teacher Tranqui Vergara, our AIMS Pathfinder Club Director, talked about the six foundation candles. These candles include; the Friend Class, Companion Class, Explorer Class, Ranger Class, Voyager Class, and Guide Class. Then, Teacher Djeun Alamo, AIMS Pathfinder Deputy Director, led the seven Pledge Candles and eight Law Candles, followed by the lighting of the new Pathfinders Membership Candle, all 22 candles of the Induction Ceremony were lit and we admitted the new Pathfinders into the worldwide fellowship of Pathfinder Clubs. In the serenity that surrounded the cafeteria, each of them kindly marched forward in front and lit the candles one by one.

After all the procedures had been done, Pastor Ryan gave us some closing remarks. He then ended the message with a word of prayer.

As usual, we had picture taking after the ceremony. Each class came in front and took a picture for his or her memorable moment as it caught and touched their first feelings of that day.

