



# FOOTPRINTS:

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

March - May 2011

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## From the Administrator's Desk

Soon our 2010-2011 school year will come to a close. Administrators, teachers, staff and students have worked hard and much has been accomplished. We would like to express our appreciation for your consistent participation and support as stakeholders in our school community. Many of you stop and talk with me and Ajarn Noparat. We appreciate your ideas and visits and continue to let you know that our offices are always open to all of our parents.

Summer school begins June 13, 2011. Registration dates are May 23 to June 10. This year the summer school committee has planned a more stringent curriculum. While there will be co-curricular activities, the emphasis will be on learning new concepts, practicing and cementing core subject skills. The curriculum includes English and Thai vocabulary building, English conjugation, pronunciation drills, lots of composition writing to improve writing skills in Thai and English classes, reading comprehension in Thai and English, and drilling in mathematical concepts using word problem and critical thinking tasks. Pre and post testing will be done in the classes. The summer school course objectives, assessments and activities will be included with this issue of Footprints. Summer school hours are 9:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. After-school activities are planned for those students whose parents cannot pick them up until 3:30 P.M.

## Science Fair educates and amuses everyone

By Pooh and Wipada, Grade 9



Science Fair Day is the day where every student in Science Class shows his experiment on a display board and explains it to a viewer. The display board contains basic and important information about the experiment such as the introduction, problem, hypothesis, biblical application, materials, procedures, and conclusion. The experiment should be conducted two weeks before the Fair.

This year's event however, called for groups of threes or pairs to do the experiment. And unlike the previous years where the Fair was held in one spot only which was the basketball court, this year's Science Fair was done in every grade's classroom. This needed each class to decorate its classroom and display boards which would be exhibited in every classroom. Each grade also did different and interesting experiments. Teacher Ida, our Science teacher, assigned all grades to think of their themes and match the decoration to the classrooms. The themes were Science in Our World, G1; Life Science Sanctuary, G2; Infinity and Beyond, G3; Dream World, G4; A Practical Fun Science, G5; Antarctica, G6; Blown Up Lab, G8; Wonderland, G9; and Exploring Life, G10.

We started decorating our classroom, grade 9, on Wednesday. We first decided to assign sections for each experiment. The locker room served as the entrance with the right door as the exit. We also changed the color of the lights to red and put balloons on the ceiling. Arrows were prepared and stuck on walls so visitors could be guided to our experiments.

Then we set our exhibits. Partners Jee and Ian's experiment probably attracted the most number of viewers because of their exciting display. Eve and York's followed closely. The rest was also interesting.

Whenever there were no visitors visiting our experiments, we could go to other classrooms to see their exhibits. Other classes also had nice displays and performed various, exciting experiments. But some of us stayed in the class most of the time since we wanted to finish our evaluation sheets.

We are sure that all of the AIMS students enjoyed this year's science fair. It was tiring, but educational and amusing. We have learned a great deal. We wish there would be extra day for the science fair so we could learn more. We are looking forward to the next science fair.

# Science Fair 2011



# AIMS enjoys Sports Day

By Anavin and Mink, Grade 9

Sports develops our fitness and discourages us from taking prohibited drugs. It also creates teamwork, friendship, and fellowship. This is why we have Sports Day at AIMS every year.

Fun, enjoyment and unity happened at AIMS on its Sports Day on March 3 to 4. Grades 1 to 11 were assigned to teams of three colors – green, blue and maroon. Students from Grade 12 served as members of the Sports Committee together with the teachers. Kindergarten students had their own teams of red, green, and blue.

In the morning of March 3, we all witnessed the opening ceremony where leaders from the three teams ran round the soccer field as if to show the Olympic spirit. The cheering event filled with excitement and creative ideas from cheerleader participants followed shortly.

The real fun came as the games for the day started. The first was basketball matches for boys and girls. Softball was also played at the soccer field at the same time. The volleyball event

followed the basketball games. Table tennis was also fun to watch.

All the games continued on the second day, March 4. Then, there were some more games like tug-of-war, running, and leg racing. During noontime, basketball friendship games between students and teachers and teachers and parents were played. It was really fun!

Then the most awaited time came – the announcement of winners and the awarding. The Green team got the first place while the blue team bagged the second. Maroon was declared third. The winning teams got a cash prize and each player received a certificate of participation. Everyone

was happy and satisfied.

This year's Sports Day was the best! We learned teamwork and experienced sportsmanship and unity. And of course, there's the fun!



# Grade 9 serves Sub Kradarn School

On February 17, our Grade 9 class went to Sub Kradarn Elementary School in Muak Lek for one-day outreach missionary service learning. Sub Kradarn Elementary School has 69 students and 4 teachers. The school is big but it has few facilities.

Our Grade 9 class planned a trip to this school to teach English to students, play with them, give them school supplies and snacks and experience serving the children in our little way.

The day we went to the Sub Kradarn School, we took with us plenty of food stuff like biscuits, milk in packs, and much more to be given away. It took us 30 minutes to go to the place. And when we got there, smiling teachers welcomed us.

The students started to come to meet us. All of them were active but polite, nice and friendly, and they treated us like we were their teachers. We began to introduce ourselves and ask their names. Then we played games. We also taught them children's songs like Father Abra-

ham and many more in between games. We played until lunch.

After lunch, we went to the classrooms to teach English. We divided ourselves to three groups. We taught for three hours. We were glad that some of the students knew some English. When we finished teaching, we played with the children again. One interesting game was balloon word game.

When we were about to go home, we took photos with the children and gave them snacks. The children thanked us deeply. When we said goodbye, we were sad. As we were riding home, we realized that it is important to do something good for others. Another thing is, teaching is not an easy job!

By Bee and Wee, Grade 9



## Grade 10 reaches out to Baan Guerda

On 27 February, 2011, the tenth graders headed to Baan Guerda Orphanage in Lopburi province. Our mission was to make the 41 orphans affected with HIV happy.

We planned for this outreach very well. We even raised 9,000 baht from selling mangoes and soliciting donations for a month.

It took us two and a half hours to reach the place. When we got there, the kids were eagerly waiting for us.

We introduced ourselves to the kids and we taught them songs. We also played games with them. Then it was their turn to show their talents. Almost all of them sang and danced on the stage and they did very well. They even had heavy make-up on their faces just to entertain us. They were really active and animated.

After the games, we gave away snacks and pens to the kids. We also handed the money we collected to the orphanage officer. The children thanked us and we admired them for their warm spirit.

We were very happy to serve less fortunate people like the orphans with AIDS at the Baan Guerda Orphanage. Some of these orphans are very young – age 3 – and very innocent but they are already afflicted with the dreadful disease. But what was most touching was they are determined to live the best they can and they will not give up.

We look forward to noble service like this again and we will never forget how we brought smiles and laughter to the faces of the innocent children.



March - May 2011

# AIMS celebrates Songkran

By Beet, Grade 9

AIMS observed Songkran, the Thai New Year, on April 8. We celebrated this Thai festival by conducting a program.

We started the program by doing a "rot nam dum hua." This was done by making the respected administrators and elder teachers sit at the table in front of the students. Selected students lined up to pour fragrant water added with flowers on their hands. The administrators and teachers, in turn, gave blessings to them. Then came another set of teachers and parents who poured water. Their children and students poured water on them too and were given blessings.

After the program, our Thai teacher, Teacher Som, told our class to listen to the lecture on preparing Thai dessert, and other foods. We enjoyed learning how to prepare and cook Thai foods.

When two o'clock came, we were allowed to have water fights. Students and teachers really had fun pouring and splashing water on each other. I enjoyed this very much. Then we had a school break for ten days.



## Songkran is the best New Year

By Roneel Acosta, Grade 9

Songkran is the best New Year for me. It is actually the best New Year in the world for me. It's my first time to experience Songkran or Thai New Year because it's my first year in Thailand. I am a Filipino and was brought up in the Philippines for fifteen years until I came to the beautiful and peaceful country of Thailand.

Why Songkran is the best New Year in the world for me is because we play with water on this special day. I think no country in the whole world is playing water during New Year but Thailand. But not just plain water playing, Songkran is a sacred festival for Thai people. They honor water on this special occasion because it is a generous blessing from a Supreme Being and they thank Him for this abundant, life-giving gift. I also learned to appreciate God's blessing of water through this Songkran.

I really love Songkran and my first Songkran was awesome. It was because of the water play even though I'm afraid of water. I enjoyed playing water fights with my friends and we even pour pails of water over them, even cold water. I also loved putting scented powder on the faces of some girls.

My water playing experience was the best during Songkran. I can also say that Thai people are very kind and friendly.

I wish there would also be Songkran in the Philippines.

# AIMS students eat food for the brain

By Sharon Berger, Grade 9

AIMS celebrated Reading Weeks from March 21 to April 1 with the theme Reading: Food for the Brain. During the two weeks, we did plenty of activities such as tongue twisting, rhyme and poem reciting, word forming, crossword puzzles, storytelling, vocabulary building, trivia question answering, coloring, poster making, and on top of all that was reading. The librarian, Teacher Jane, and the assistant librarian, Teacher Cathy, prepared all these activities for the students to engage in.

There was also a Book Fair from March 21 to March 25. The students enjoyed reading almost all the displayed books. Some even bought books.

During recess, lunch time or any free time, the library was full of students reading books and doing different kinds of activities. There was something for everyone. Each student tried to get the most number of questions answered. Others made as many crossword puzzles as possible. Others made posters.

Even though we had lots of activities, reading was the main activity of the weeks. Students had to write a short book report after reading a book. Questions about the book had to be answered such as the author, the setting, the characters, short story summary and personal opinion about the book.

Students who have read the

most number of books and wrote book reports were called Bookworms of the Year. They were awarded certificates and received school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, pens, erasers, and stickers. This year's bookworms are Panachor Kaewrahan, G1; Lin Yii Ru, G2; Kornkamon Thamwiwat and Phataraporn Suaseenual, G3; Panot Siripattanakul, G4; Clifford Belnas, G5; Pernille Ruby Lauritsen and Kanockluck Thongkalya, G6; Picha Wareewarach, G7; Benya Wilson, G8; Sharon Berger, G9; Ruchika Tudu, G10; Tanida Ittiwat and Chalida Ittiwat, G11; and Kristel May Acosta, G12.

For each one of the students, "Reading Weeks" was a very nice time to enjoy reading stories and doing other fun activities. We especially want to thank Teacher Jane and Teacher Cathy for directing this event.



