



PATTAYA GAZETTE

Pattaya Orphanage & School for the Deaf

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TO:

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Merry Christmas 2009

Happy New Year 2010



Annual Christmas & New Year Celebration for the orphaned and deaf children is scheduled for Friday, 25th December 2009 between 16:00 and 22:00 hours at the Pattaya Orphanage. Do join the children in their fun-filled afternoon with presents, lucky draws, inflatable kingdom, food and beverages, stage performances, and reunion of former residents. All is free of charge.

Please mark your calendar and let us know if you wish to be part of the children's special day.



Every year the deaf and the orphaned children at the Pattaya Orphanage feel the warmth and concern of Khun Panga Vathanakul, Managing Director of the Royal Cliff Beach Resort and her management team. Once again, accompanied by Mr. Joachim Grill, General Manager, as well as her Management Team, Khun Panga generously made donation of 980 kilograms of rice grains, 400 packs of instant noodles and 100 kilograms of biscuits. Apart from spending time with the children, our kind visitors made cash contribution of 200,000 Baht in support to the foundation. Your constant support and sincere concern for us are very meaningful. Wishing you all happiness and progress in life. Thank you very much indeed!



Once again, the deaf and orphaned children as well as the management of the Pattaya Orphanage welcomed Khun Somsak Photpatinya, Director of Customs Office, Laemchabang International Port and his staff members, during their annual visit on the occasion of Khun Somsak's birthday anniversary (August 26). Apart from making donations of necessities, including sport equipment, and 10,000 Baht cash in support to the children, the party kindly hosted a wonderful lunch for all the residents of the Orphanage. With great appreciation for your generosity and for being with us, we wish you all happiness, good health, and fulfillment. "Happy Birthday" kha/khrap, Khun Somsak..

In-house Tuition: While on semester break, the school-age children who study in over 20 institutions around the country return home to the Pattaya Orphanage and enjoy their vacation. Apart from having a few weeks of relaxation with group outings, sports, and games, the children also have in-house tuition which is scheduled for several children who need to brush up their skills in English and Computer. With the help of five dedicated expatriate volunteers, children by age group enjoy their morning English sessions. They also learn and practice typing and necessary computer program applications with the help of their supervising teachers. While Khun Suwanna becomes a stand-by tutor for a few sessions, Blue and Faay also introduce basic Chinese language to their juniors.

Message from the Director

PRAISE THE BRIDGE THAT CARRIED YOU OVER

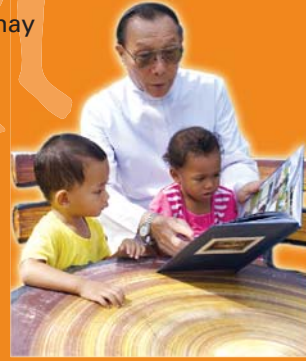
During the month of October the orphanage is noisy and lively because it's the half academic year's break. Children stay home even those studying in the various universities come back and join our big family. I take this opportunity to talk to them especially before they go to bed. The topic varies from basic human needs to intellectual and ethical formation necessary for every matured person to know and be formed in life.

One of the topics I like to stress very often is the gratitude that every child should have. Normally we hardly thank the bridge that helps us to be transferred from one side of the river to the other. We usually take it for granted. But here in our big family we can not do like that. There are many generous people who help us in one way or another to carry us over the life channel. Many sponsors and volunteers give up their

comfortable lives and time helping each child to grow from babyhood to adulthood year after year. The staff, sisters, nurses, teachers, nannies and people of good will who take care of the children day and night are all worthy of praise and love.

Every child should learn that his or her life depends so much on the love and care from many loving people. Being a good child and trying hard in daily study is a way of rendering gratitude to those who help carry us over the bridge of life. I do hope after talking to them patiently most of the nights, many of my children may still remember at least the morning after. I hope they will gradually understand the importance of the bridge

Fr. Michael Weera Phangrak
Director



In loving memory of the late Father Ray Brennan CSsR, who constantly dwells in the hearts of his children, the Pattaya Orphanage and Sotpattana School for the Deaf organized a special event on the occasion of his 6th Memorial Day. The programme titled "Cherishing Fr. Ray's Vision", held on the Orphanage ground on Saturday, 1st August 2009, with about 630 Thai and non-Thai attendants, including underprivileged children and young adults from different charity organizations around Pattaya City. It was a special day for the children with lots of food, games, and entertainment. The objectives of the programme, being 1) to promote the uplift of morale and inspiration of the children and staff personnel of charity organizations, as well as the participants of the children's fair, as we cherish the vision of Fr. Ray Brennan; 2) to express deep gratitude towards Fr. Ray Brennan on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of his departure; and 3) to strengthen good relationship and collaboration among charity organizations, have well been achieved.



Kindness Towards Residents of Phrabat Nampu Temple: Children from the Pattaya Orphanage visited and learned from HIV/AIDS patients at Wat Phrabat Nampu, Lopburi province. After the experiential sharing from the staff and residents of the Temple, reflecting the causes and harm of AIDS, the children extended their moral support to some patients on dying beds who showed their great strength to cope with the diseases. Our young orphans have learned to be open to the less fortunate people, conscious of the reality of the society, and promised to adapt this better understanding for use in their daily lives.



On 26th September 2009, staff members of the Pattaya Orphanage and School for the Deaf had a fire drill with theoretical and practical training. Each personnel had gained knowledge and skills that would be put in effective use in emergency. The drill and simulation involved all the orphaned and deaf children residing in the five-storey building. Using the recently installed fire escapes, they either made their own way or were carried by their carers to the ground - all safe and excited. All concerned have become aware of the importance of consciousness at all times.

Collections from School Bus



Episode 4: Semester Break at the Orphanage

Greetings to our dear readers.. After five months of transporting the children to and from their schools, the School Bus of the Pattaya Orphanage is resting for a few weeks during the semester break in October. Let's see what are the happenings and atmosphere during this vacation.

The Orphanage is exceptionally vibrant when all the children are at home. Seniors, who study in boarding schools and live in dormitories, come home and join their juniors for a couple of weeks.

Apart from having a lot of relaxed time with recreational activities, sports, outings, and computer games, the children have extra English and Computer tutoring sessions in the morning. Several expatriates volunteer as tutors and make English learning full of fun.

One of the special activities includes caroling practice. Our preschool children are energetic to join in. School-age children also went on a study tour to Phrabat Nampu Temple where HIV/AIDS patients are cared for. They learned about the causes and harm of the diseases, provided moral support to the patients and made a resolution to adapt what they have learned into use. Some children, together with their peer group, go to a nearby beach or department store with their visiting sponsors.

In the afternoons, older children play soccer or ride bicycles. The little ones can be found near a wall where some cats of the neighbors stroll. In the office of Father Michael, there are individual meetings to follow up on the studies and conducts of older children. Bright smiles and loving atmosphere between a father and his child can be witnessed in most cases, while occasional frowns appear on our director's caring face as he sees some of the young adults - probably demonstrating a deep reflection on certain teenage problems. Ha! Ha!

And after having necessary maintenance, the School Bus is ready to serve the children again for the coming semester. We hope for your continued moral support, so that the children would one day become proud graduates and happily learn from their life-time education.

with warmest regards,
Editor



While on vacation in Thailand, Mr. Yves Brown, a professional British football coach, together with his loving family, visited the children at the Pattaya Orphanage. He decided, after having a short discussion with our children's regular German coach, Mr. Heiko Klimanschewsky, that his 3 sons would play in a friendship match with the Orphanage team. The match on Sunday, 2nd August 2009 went very well and our children have learned several new techniques from our visiting coach.



A small market was set up at Sotpattana School for the Deaf for the children to learn to use cash in exchange of goods. As part of their learning, the deaf preschool children are given toy bank notes and taught how to exchange them with daily necessities. Their teachers took the role of traders, stationed at their booths to sell snacks, fruit juice, shakes, ice-cream, toys, and clothes. The little customers much enjoy shopping and the goods. Also benefited from this activity are the preschool children from the Pattaya Orphanage. Thanks to the teachers for making the market a great place to visit.



Weekend activity for Saturday 5th September 2009 was conducted in the small kitchen of the Pattaya Orphanage. Nine little chefs learned how to prepare "Hoy Tod" or Fried Sea Mussels, one of the Thai famous dishes for Thai people. They took part in all the process, going through the recipe, cleaning vegetables and mussels, preparing mixture, frying the mixture in vegetable oil, adding vegetables, and cooking until the portion became crispy and smelling great. Apart from learning the how-to, our proud cooks had fun working on individual assignment and as a team.



On the Thai Science Day, children at our School for the Deaf and Pattaya Orphanage attended the Science Week Programme at Burapha University in Chonburi where they found several interesting exhibitions and presentations on development of human baby in the womb, anatomy, microorganism, etc. Our young scientists marveled as they viewed enlarged picture of bacteria through microscopes. The underwater world at the Marine Aquarium in Bangsaen was also quite inspiring. Thanks to all who further encourage the little explorers who are very keen to learn Science and for this wonderful experience.