

# The EIS Newsletter

Ekamai International School

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 12

Empowers, Inspires & Serves

Volume 15, No. 2

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**Adventurer Club Activities**

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## Ekamai International School

The Christian School that Empowers, Inspires and Serves

### Philosophy

True education involves the whole person and promotes the harmonious development of the physical, mental, social and spiritual dimensions of human nature.

### Vision

An international Seventh-Day Adventist institution providing a state-of-the-art education, in a Christian environment, to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century.

### Mission Statement

We offer a challenging, Christ-centered academic program and the opportunity for students to exercise and expand their varied abilities and potential. We endeavor to create a climate marked by a sense of God’s presence and action in the world, love for one’s neighbor and concern for social justice and equality for all people.



(Cover Page) Adventurer Club members doing activities during Adventurer Week. See Page 6. (Photos by Anusit Laulee)

# Message from the Principals



Mrs. Edith Chu  
Principal for Elementary School  
Pre-K - Grade 5

Dear Students, Parents, Alumni and Friends,

Greetings for the Year 2013. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the new members of our growing elementary family. Our Grade Level Leaders, together with our teachers, are happy to take on the challenging task of meeting the needs of each child entrusted to our care.

We also recognize the important role of parents in the success of their children at school which begins at home. Our EIS family has always been blessed with your support in various activities through the Parent Council. We want to continue building this partnership for the best interest of our students.

The second component of the children's success is their reading skills. Reading is an adventure for children. It opens doors to all kinds of new experiences which cannot be achieved in one's lifetime. It spurs the children's acquisition of new words, vivid expressions of thoughts to help improve their language skills, and enhances their academic achievement.

EIS has an excellent library and qualified teachers to help them develop the joy of reading for their lifelong accomplishment.

It is our hope that we will find the joy of working together towards our common goal, the success of our children.

May God bless you as we venture into the Year 2013 together.

Sincerely,

Edith Chu, MEd  
Principal for Elementary School  
Pre-K - Grade 5



Mr. Edwin Cotto  
Principal for Middle and High School  
Grades 6 - 12

Dear Students, Parents, Alumni and Friends,

At the end of each year, we at EIS might consider the last 12 months as if it were a photo album that shows the events of our lives. No snapshot will ever get taken again, but our little 'album' is a record of how well we have lived up to our own expectations.

Indeed, each of us has a right to make choices. Make sure to set goals, organize, prioritize, schedule and make plans based on your own personal needs. As Winston Churchill said, "He who fails to plan is planning to fail."

I live each day with the firm conviction that God will make the EIS community prosper according to His will. But we must help by making plans and formulating objectives, remembering always that He will have the last word.

Behind every apparent mishap there is a God who directs our steps. His plan is always better than ours. I trust He will provide the best for my family and yours.

May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Edwin Cotto, MA Ed  
Principal for Middle and High School  
Grade 6 - 12



# Moving Towards Quality Education

An interview with Mr. Edwin Cotto, Principal for Middle and High School

By Nandita Banik 10G  
and Farheen Asim 9C

**Please tell us about your background.**

I obtained my Bachelor degree in Education – I majored in High School Social Studies – from the University of Puerto Rico in 1982, but I completed my two senior degrees from universities in the United States. Both Master’s degrees focused on education; one was from Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois (Curriculum and Instruction) and the other from Concordia University-Chicago (Educational Leadership). I have a principal’s license from the state of Illinois. I have called Chicago home since 1991.

**What did you do before coming to EIS?**

I was the Dean of Students for the Joyce Kilmer Elementary School for eight years in Chicago. Earlier, I was Dean of Students for Theodore Roosevelt High School for six years. I have had a total of 21 years of experience with the Chicago Public Schools system.

**How do you feel coming to Thailand?**

My wife and I were very excited to come to Thailand and work for EIS. This is our first experience in an Asian country. We were very happy to leave the cold of the Chicago winter and come to a country with weather similar to Puerto Rico.

**How has the EIS experience been so far?**

My EIS experience has been one that I consider unique. I have had good and ‘not so good’ experiences. I am still making adjustments to the school culture. However, I hope I will have an experience that I will never forget.



Mr. Edwin Cotto, MA Ed

**A good school should have core values that work for the benefit and well-being of all students.**

**What are your future plans for EIS?**

I think this school should continue to provide quality education. I see many areas in which we could improve as a service-based organization. Such changes are not the job of one person but the work of the entire EIS community.

**How do you define a good school?**

I could make a long list of characteristics of a good school, but generally it should have core values that work for the benefit of students. Are we doing our best to help students be successful in their future lives?

**What are some of your current professional concerns?**

Accountability and performance. I will need all my coaching skills to help others grow and work together.

**What has been your greatest joy on your journey as a teacher and an administrator?**

Oh, many. One was teaching English as second language to adults. I had the opportunity to work for the City Colleges of Chicago. During eight years, I met many highly motivated Hispanics who were eager to improve their lives.

**What advice would you give students who want to achieve success in their studies?**

Set realistic goals. If your goals are too high, it will only lead to disappointment and frustration. Too low and they will lead to underachievement and unhappiness. After the selection of your goals, make an action plan that will help you to achieve those goals. Stay organized and work hard to make your dreams a reality.

# “To Serve Others”

## Care Quest Club Community Service

### A Visit to Baan Pee Sorn Nong

By Ornpapar Limkijcharoen 11B &  
Prin Laomanutsak 10E

On October 14, 2012, Care Quest Club members visited a small community school at Baan Pee Sorn Nong, a small village in Kanchanaburi Province. The main objective of the visit was to give donations and bring fun and joy to the students and children in the village.

On arrival, villagers greeted us with hearty welcomes and warm smiles along with a delicious lunch which instantly pacified our rumbling stomachs. One club member remarked “The place is very peaceful and beautiful. We can see paddy fields stretching out towards the never-ending horizon and the river snaking its way through.”

At the school we taught students how to say simple English words and sing English songs. Pandaree Tailungkah 11E said, “I’m glad I was able to go to help these students. It gave me a feeling of satisfaction and joy to see how eager these village students were to learn something new.”

Alina Kunattanond 11B said, “The two monks who were acting as teachers in the school must have done an amazing job teaching these children. I’m sure they did not teach only book knowledge, but also equally important values on how to grow to become responsible people.”

Later, club members were taken on a tour. They visited a museum, the Kanchanaburi War Memorial and other attractions.

The villagers were grateful that we were able to visit the school. One of the monks gave a blessing as we departed and said, “Thank you for coming, you have brought joy to our students. May the peace of God be with you as you go back to Bangkok.”



(Left and Above) Care Quest Club members with school children at the Baan Pee Sorn Nong.

### A Visit to Our Lady of Fatima Church

By Poonyarak Cheerawanichkun 11B

Care Quest Club visited Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church on Wednesday, December 19, 2012. The church was home to girls who have been abused or have no home.

Dressed in the Christmas spirit of red and green and with hearts lighted up and ready for caroling, the club members were greeted warmly as soon as they stepped out. With the church’s supervisors as guides, the club split into two groups—one went to the “mother and infant room” while the others went to sing for the other girls.

Rosalin Herman 11D said, “The most touching part was that the fact that the mothers were just our age. Our hearts were filled with feelings of empathy and sympathy that we could not explain. I’m grateful that my parents are still taking care of me.”

Inthu Engpornsin 11B expressed surprised, “The girls in the home were all very good singers, and everyone joined in the singing. It turned out they knew every Christmas song we had prepared, even more than we did, and they understood English very well too.”

“It was a wonderful experience,” said Napath Kosolsuparat 11B, club president. “I am glad Enju Kang taught us some Korean songs with the Korean dance moves. There were smiles and laughter, joy and cheerfulness, and it couldn’t have felt more like Christmas.”

Blessing Thomas 11C also said, “If possible I want to come back to visit this home. I want to bring cheer and encouragement to the unfortunate.”

“Care Quest Club provided us with many experiences that helped us realize how blessed we are and feel grateful for what we have. It also greatly motivated us to help people who are in need,” said Chanakan Sirisukhodom 11A. “Considering their unfortunate circumstances, it surprised me that they were happy,” added Ornpapar Limkijcharoen 11B. “I learned that happiness does not depend on material things or money.”





# Adventurer Week Gets Everybody Working

Above: Pornchanok Vasinsittisuk (left) and Santinath Tangmanuswong K2B collect dry leaves around the football field. Below: Adventures in action: collecting donations, painting walls, planting shrubs and trees and performing in the Adventurer Band.

*By Maria Ejurango,  
Adventurer Club Coordinator*

**A**dventurer Week, held from November 19-23, 2012, saw a small army of students adding color to the EIS community.

Grade 1 (Busy Bees) and Grade 2 (Sunbeams) worked together to beautify the front of the Music Building while Grade 3 (Builders) and Grade 4 (Helping Hands) joined forces to paint the back wall of the school. Not to be undone, K-2 (Little Lambs) and K-3 (Eager Beavers) happily picked up trash around the campus.

Adventurers also raised 118,553.50 Baht for their "Numjai for the Needy" Fund. The money will be donated to Akha hill tribe village at Mae Ka, Fang District, Chiangmai.

"Thank you parents, teachers, administrators and students of Grade 5-12," said Mrs. Beatrice Kootanasan, Principal for Student Administration. "You helped our Adventurers reach their ESLO objective of being a responsible citizen."

"I appreciate the Adventurer program," said one parent. "Our children need to become good citizens of this country."





# Adventurers Go Camping



(Above) Students from Grade 4 enjoy camping at the Pines Resort in Pathumthani. (Below) Students are enjoying various activities at the camp.

*By Mrs. Mariavic Ejurango,  
Adventurer Club Coordinator*

**O**n November 1 - 2, 2012, the Adventurers went to Pines Resort in Pathumtani Province for their annual camp-out. There were 62 campers from Grade 4 who went to enjoy as well as to learn to take risks, challenge fears, change behavior patterns, and learn to work together as a team.

The goals and objectives of this camp-out were to help students develop and apply life skills in emergencies, develop confidence, and to learn to trust and respect each other.

Jim Carado 4B said, "I'm happy that I was able to join this camp. I learned to take care of myself and to work as a team. I made many close friends."

Amy Angelo 4A said, "I liked the place very much as we were very close to nature. The activities were very challenging and required alertness and strength. Most of all I enjoyed being with my friends."

Pichya Anutassanakul 4B vividly recalled the catwalk activity. "I had to climb really high and walk like a cat. It was a scary experience, but it helped me to be strong and brave."

Parinda Srisarakham and Khankamol Kongrukreatiyos 4D agreed that water-rafting was their favorite activity. "We had to work together as a team, otherwise the raft would not move forward. It was a very challenging and exciting experience."

Nicha Meenaphant 4C expressed, "I liked the balancing activity the most. This camp was so much fun. I wish it could have been held longer than two days."







# Prince & Princess Pageant

Pornchanok Vasinsittisuk K2B (L)  
Natnicha Singh K3C (R)

*By Tanat Boozayaangool 10C*

The Student Council organized the “Prince & Princess Pageant” on October 25, 2012 for the primary students. The event attracted more than 30 participants. The Student Council hoped that by participating in the pageant, students would develop self-confidence, poise, and social skills.

One parent exclaimed, “I have never seen an event like this! Our children walked like royalties. They were awesome, and I enjoyed the show!”

Another parent agreed, “I saw lots of talent and glamor. Our children were so adorable!”

Mrs. Deena Das, K3B teacher also exclaimed, “I was amazed by my students! They displayed such confidence! I think many of them will become superstars of tomorrow.”



Pictures at right:  
1st Row: Janice K3A, Wadwalai K3C,  
Amira K2B

2nd Row: Thammatara K3B, Ployrung  
Pre-K, Sornhanon K2B

3rd Row: Krisanaporn K2A, Naiyarat  
K3A, Dylan K2A





# Father's Day Celebration

(Above) Tin Jindasakchai 3C is hugged warmly by his father. (Below) Traditional Thai Dance. Children show their respect and appreciation to their fathers.

*By Akanksha Sehgal 12C*

Father's Day was celebrated at the Ekamai International School on December 4, 2012. Father's Day gave children a chance to show their fathers how much they love and appreciate what they have done and sacrificed for them. Father's Day was also organized to celebrate and honor the 85th birthday anniversary of His Majesty the King on December 5, 2012

Many parents were present on this auspicious day. The ceremony started with the school paying respect to the King of Thailand, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyade the Great.

Then, we had speakers coming up and giving tributes to the King and all the fathers present. The speakers spoke about how it is important for all of us to remember the importance of our fathers, as they lead us and shaped us into what we are now.

Students from the Primary School then performed a traditional Thai dance as a tribute to all the fathers present.

Students were then given a chance to present flowers to their respective fathers. There was happiness in the air as children showed their love and appreciation. Tears were present in some of the parents' eyes.

This event shows us that no matter what age our generation lives in, fathers will always be there and so will their hard work and goodwill.







Wipada Wanlopsiri 12G donates her blood happily.

**By Akanksha Sehgal 12C & Sarun Songpehmongkol 11D**

Friday, October 26, 2012 was a historical day for EIS since it marked the first time the Student Council and the Thai Red Cross staged a blood donor drive at the school. “We did not need a special reason to give blood” said SC president Suhail Prasathong 12A, “but I know we felt good knowing we helped save lives.”

The event was set up on the ground floor of Building 9 with equipment and personnel provided by the Red Cross Society. Students needed to be 17 years or older to participate in the drive. “Before donating my blood I was quite nervous,” said Narisa Luthra 12C. “Thanks to the encouraging words from my friends I was able to accomplish my goal.”

“I have just turned 17 this year,” said Ploy Boonnitipat 12B. “The thought that I could save someone’s life helped me overcome my fear.”

“The needle looked intimidating at first, but it was not actually that bad,” said Amlaan Bhoi 12E, the first student who volunteered to donate blood. “I hope this activity will become a yearly tradition at EIS.”



Mr. James Lawson, teacher, also donates his blood.

With encouragement from friends, many students donate their blood to the Red Cross.





# Adventist Health Expo

## Volunteering for Service

(Above) Seol Hee Baik 11B distributes leaflets to passersby. (Below) EIS volunteers assist in health evaluations.

By Chanikan Rattanakan 12E

From October 12 - 14, 2012, 40 EIS students participated in the Adventist Health Expo at the MBK Shopping Center.

The Health Expo was organized by the Thailand Adventist Mission with cooperation from Mission Hospital. The Health Expo focuses mainly on helping people learn how to feel better and live longer.

Thana Kunadirekwong 12B said, "I am glad I came as a volunteer. This year's Adventist Health Expo was a huge success."

The program started at 8 am and ended at 4 pm. Doctors from Mission Hospital were available to answer questions from visitors.

Many of those who came were found to be unfit and were benefited by the expo. Many more people took the opportunity to learn how to live a healthy lifestyle.

Nattaya Woralertpicharn 12B said, "I want to encourage EIS students to volunteer in the next Health Expo. It was not only fun, but also felt good to be appreciated by the visitors who came as we did the promotions and demonstrations."

Samita Natiladdanon 12C also expressed, "I want to be a doctor when I graduate, and the Health Expo has given me an opportunity to keep my interest going."

EIS volunteers assisted in the doing the health age check-up, distribution of brochures, blood pressure and weight measurements, and health evaluation.



Seol Hee Baik 11B summed up the experiences of the EIS students. "Through the Adventist Health Expo we were able to see and experience total health. I think that to be successful, we should live the life we teach others. Good health is not only for those who came to the Health Expo. It should be a real experience for all of us."





# General Business Sale



(Above) Chef Panjitra Sooksriwong 10B is frying French fries while Kang Hoon Park 10G (L) looks on. (Below) Students are busy buying and selling food during the GB sale.

*By Ayaka Suzuki 12C*

The General Business Sale was organized by General Business teachers Miss Sarita Arora and Mrs. Hazel Ilao on November 26, 2012. The purpose of the sale was to give students a taste on how to manage a business. The students were divided into groups and set up various booths. Each group decided what they want to sell.

Nattanon Ruangsubvilai 10D said, “My group had to spend a lot of time planning and preparing for our booth, but we were lucky to make a lot of profit.”

Park Kang Hoon 10G also said, “I am glad to have this experience, as I want to become a businessman when I grow up.” He added, “I did not realize that we have to really work hard to earn money.”

Areeya Jongjitaree 10C said, “I think honesty is the best policy. I did not earn very much, but I am satisfied, because I was fair with everyone that came to my booth.”

Sittikorn Khorvanichakit 10G, however, said, “I don’t think I want to be a businessman. Doing business is hard work. I would rather become a skin doctor or a dentist like my dad.”

Miss Sarita Arora concluded, “Though some made more profit than others, all students had a wonderful experience learning how to manage a business. They also learned the importance of teamwork and cooperation.”







(Above) Prapada Chulapamornsri 11B, one of the cheer leading participants from the Purple House. (Below) Students are actively participating in various events.

By Gerardo Simonetto 12A

One of the biggest events at EIS is the annual Sports Day, which lasted for two days from December 6 – 7, 2012. The theme was “We shall either find a way, or make one,” a quote by Hannibal, the great military commander of ancient Carthage.

Students were divided into teams of four colors: orange, pink, purple, and blue. One student said, “Students had great fun participating, watching, cheering and encouraging their friends who participated. It was fun all the way through.”

On the first day, conflicts developed between the competing teams, but the spirit of sportsmanship prevailed. Many games were won by all four teams. The primary students had their own separate competitions. One parent said, “It was fun to see the little ones running and doing their best.”

On the second day, the tug of war between teachers and students was held, followed by the long-awaited cheer-leading competition. One new student said, “The cheer-leading competition was really amazing. The performances were awesome and very professional!”

One of the judges said, “It was a magnificent show. I think everybody is a winner.”

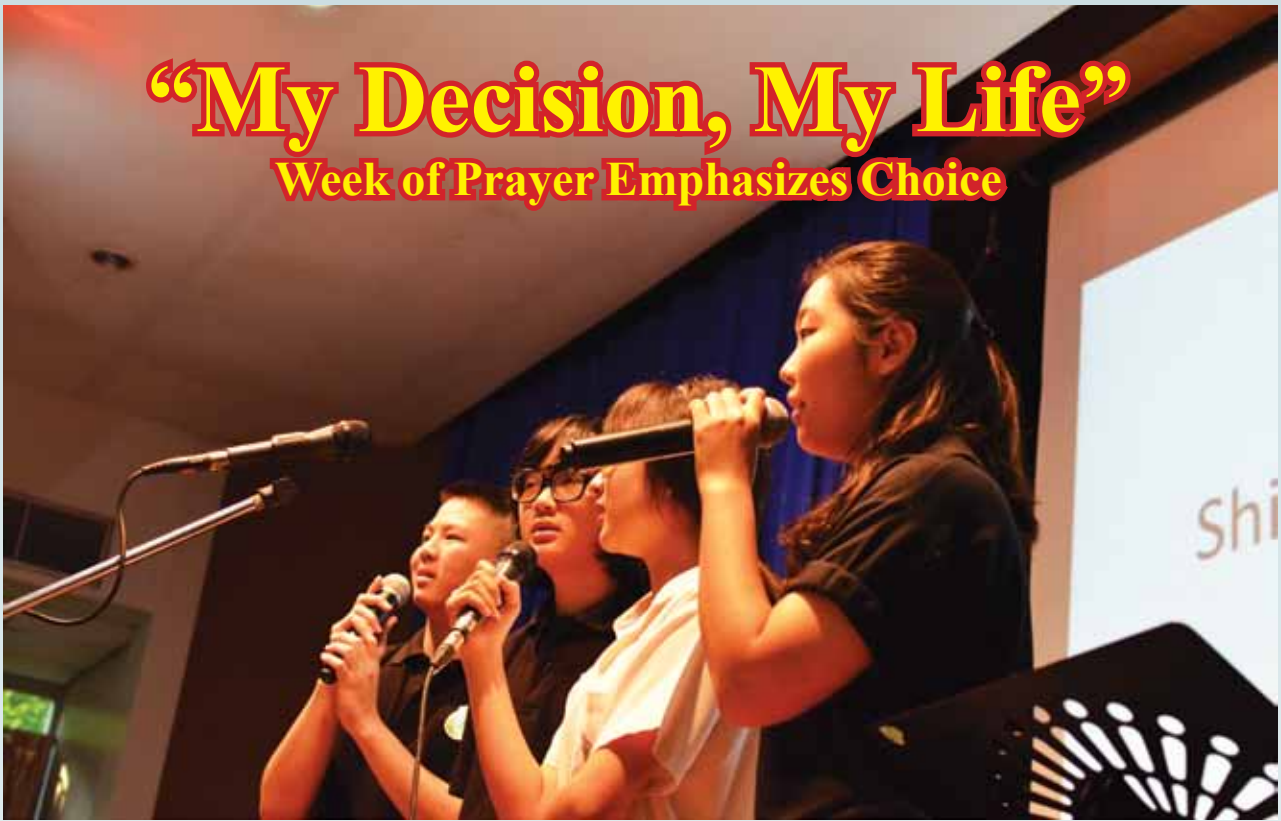
The trophies for the Cheer-leading competition and overall sports went to Orange House. Congratulations!





# “My Decision, My Life”

## Week of Prayer Emphasizes Choice



A group of students leads the song service.

By Ayaka Suzuki 12C & Zhanping Ling 12C

Our first Week of Prayer, held during November 5 – 9, 2012 had the Nathaniel Trio - Pastor Nathaniel Tan, Brandon Lye and Rendy Chan - from Singapore explore the theme, My Decision, My Life.

Pastor Nathaniel delivered a talk emphasizing freedom of choice. His sub-themes and titles included ‘We Have a Choice over Negativity,’ ‘Embracing Hope Is a Choice’ and ‘Choosing to Put Him (God) First.’

He told the story of the ‘Lost Son’ from many different perspectives and asked students to identify the most personally familiar character in the story.

On the last day, Kultida Keerikoolparn 11B won a guitar for her reflections on Pastor Nathaniel’s messages.

Every student had a great time during this event. One student said, “This is the best Week of Prayer ever.”

“I liked this year’s Week of Prayer,” said Motomi Fukui 12B. “It was personal and interactive. Students expressed their feelings directly to the speakers through networking websites and Facebook.”

“The Week of Prayer has ended but the Nathaniel Trio’s messages will always be with us,” said Wannisa Pianluprasit 12B. “I think they have had a good impact on my life, and will help me live in harmony with the teachings of the Bible.”

### Reflections by Kultida Keerikoolparn 11B

*First Day - The theme of the Week of Prayer, My Life, My Decision struck me a lot. I loved the story of the lost son. I want to know that there’s hope. Some goals are nearly impossible to pursue, and sometimes I feel like giving up, but I know everything is possible with God.*

*Second Day - Today’s topic was Standing in a Moment. I learned to think before I speak and to “move on.” When I’m angry, I tend to do things without thinking carefully and I regret some of my actions. Because of my anger, I lost two of my friends a few years ago. I realized my mistake, and right now I choose to listen to the voice of God whenever I was tempted to lose my temper.*

*Third Day - Today was another meaningful day for me. It’s a turning point for my life. I am now slowly letting God to come into my life. I’ve never done that before. But I realize that there’s nothing to lose. I know that it will benefit me if I embrace God and let him perform miracles in my life.*

*Fourth Day - I like today’s topic, Living the Dream, which helped me realize that we should seek God first in life and then we will be able to “live the dream.” The past four days has been amazing! It’s hard to believe that during these four days, my life has changed so much! I used to be unsure of what to believe or who I should turn to. I hope I’ll be able to live the life God has planned for me.*



Pastor Nathaniel Tan is delivering a message with the theme *My Decision, My Live*.



A High School student is accompanying the song service with her guitar.



High School students listening attentively to the speaker.





# Singspiration Contest Scores Spiritual Triumph

Vanantorn Suttikajornkijjakarn 10D inspires students with her violin rendition. (Below) Groups of students compete in the Singspiration contest.

By Wan Chen Yang 12C

On October 17, 2012, Mr. James Yoong, EIS math teacher, organized a Singspiration Chapel to encourage students to appreciate Christian music. “If students sing Christian songs their hearts will be inspired and their souls uplifted to God,” said Mr. James.

They clearly showed they were very serious,” said Mrs. Vernie Zulueta, Head of the Music Department. “I especially like the song *You Raise Me Up* sung by Nhopanon’s group. It is a very meaningful song.”

Fifteen groups participated and the top five winners were:

1st Place – “*Ocean will Part*”

By Regina, Julianne, Nareekarn, Vanantorn, Kang Hoon, Maneerat

2nd Place – “*Heart of Worship*”

By Duangkamon, Napasiree, Apichaya, Nut, Nandika, Sansanee, Sirirada

3rd Place – “*How Great is Our God*”

By Areeya, Nattagan, Thitapat, Kiett-  
hibhum, Soravee, Apiwat

4th Place – “*The Heart of Worship*”

By Regina, Saranya, Ting-wei, Ishita, Pantaree

5th Place – “*Prince of Peace*”

By On-uma, Gerardo, Petchfa, Sirinna, Chompunud, Tanat, Amlaan

Through this Singspiration Contest, students not only competed in singing, but they also praised God through music.





# EIS Students Win Readers' Theater Competition



(L-R) Kanis Dhanesuan 11D, Chananchida Sang-Aram 11A, Ornpapar Limkijchareon 11B, Pandita Watanachariya 11C and Chanakan Sirisukhodom 11A in action.

On November 22, 2012, EIS students won 2nd place in the Readers' Theater Competition which was organized by Asia Bookstore, held at Siam Paragon Department Store, Bangkok. They were awarded with books and 4,000 baht in coupons for buying more books to read. The purpose of this competition was to encourage young people to love reading and to enrich their knowledge. The participants were Kanis Dhanesuan 11D, Chananchida Sang-Aram 11A, Ornpapar Limkijchareon 11B, Pandita Watanachariya 11C and Chanakan Sirisukhodom 11A. One of the judges of the competition said, "Congratulations, you did very well. I appreciate your hard work. You have made us proud."

*By Mrs. Beatrice Kootanasan, Principal for Student Administration*

# EIS Wins Amazing Spaghetti Machine Competition

On September 21, 2012, EIS joined the International Amazing Spaghetti (Rube Goldberg) Machine competition organized by the School of Engineering at the University of Melbourne.

Our team, the EIS Flames, consisted of four Grade 10 students – Prin Laomanutsak, Tawin Kunattanond, Anucha Sakdsrinarang and Settavut Paradee – supervised by physics teacher Mr. Felix Nada.

On December 10, 2012, the university announced that EIS Flames was awarded as a runner up and received a Highly Commended place in the competition.

"I am proud of the accomplishment and honor received in this international engineering competition," said Mr. Prachack Jitbunjad, EIS Assistant Director. "Congratulations!"

"We spent countless hours on the project" said Settawut. "We needed to fix parts of the project that didn't turn out the way we wanted. We had to replace, rebuild, discard, and change some



Holding the certificates are (L-R) Prin Laomanutsak, Tawin Kunattanond, Mr. Felix Nada, Physics Teacher, Settavut Paradee and Anucha Sakdsrinarang

of the energy transitions we initially planned."

"We had to build a complex machine within a specified dimension using recycled and refurbished materials based on our creativity, novelty, resourcefulness, and team work," expressed Tawin. "It was a great experience for us."

"Indeed, this project tested our patience!" said Prin. "We encountered more than 70 incidents of failures yet we kept going."

He thanked Mr. Felix Nada for providing constant advice and encouragement needed to complete the project.

*By Anucha Sakdsrinarang, 10E*



# EIS Attends Model United Nations Conference



Front Row (L-R) Tanat Boozayaangool 10C, En Ju Kang 11B, Pakawan Ahkuputra 11D. Back Row (L-R) Atulit Kwatra 10G, Taeseong Jin 11B, Amlaan Bhoi 12E, Suhail Prasathong 12A, Sarun Songpechmongkol 11D, Chirag Lalwani 10A

Recently students from the EIS Model United Nations Club attended two Model United Nations Conferences in Bangkok. Model United Nations (MUN) is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about current events, topics in international relations, diplomacy and the United Nations agenda. The participants role-play as diplomats representing a nation in a simulated session of the United Nations such as the Security Council or the General Assembly.

The first conference EIS attended was the RISMUN conference hosted by Ruamrudee International School (RIS). EIS debated with the American School of Bangkok, KIS, International School of Eastern Seaboard and RIS. The second conference was BKKMUN hosted by Bangkok Patana School. EIS joined 20 other international schools from the ASEAN region.

MUN builds pride. It also teaches skills. “The EIS Model United Nations Club is a great platform,” said Sarun Songpechmongkol 11D. “During the conference, I had to employ a variety of communication and critical thinking skills such as public speaking, group communication, research, active listening, negotiating, conflict resolution, note taking and technical writing.” Another delegate added, “It was a great opportunity to meet people and make new friends.”

*By Suhail Prasathong 12A*

## Life Skill Students Go Camping

From November 16-18, 2012, students of the Life Skills Classes under teacher Mr. Samson Cometa, took a weekend off to go camping at a beautiful resort in Pak Chong, a three hour drive from Bangkok. He said, “Life skills are very important to a person’s survival as they need to develop their spiritual, physical and social aspects of their lives.”

Noh Hyun Jong 12A, a student from Korea added, “Life skills are something that we do every day. Every moment of our lives is all tied into life skills such as making friends, how to stay healthy and fit, and how to enrich our lives emotionally.”

James Wilson 12A summed up the whole experience. “The trip was nothing less than spectacular. It was not only fun, but we were able to ponder on the life skills that we have learned and how they can be applied in our lives. All teachers that accompanied us were awesome; we learned a lot from them. It was one of the best camps I have ever attended.”

*By Amlaan Bhoi 12A*





# ESP for AEC Readiness

## English Speaking Program

To promote the English proficiency among Thais prior to the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2016, the Ministry of Education recently launched a project dubbed 'English Speaking Year 2012.'

Education minister Woravat Auapinyakul stated his organization hoped at least 80% of Thai students will be fluent in English by 2016.

Luckily, EIS is well in front, having set up its own English Speaking Program (ESP) in 2007.

"Learning English is a game," said drama teacher Tom Sigurdson. "People get better by making it part of their lives. Student involvement is the key to success for any ESP program."

"Every student must realize that competence in English is a personal responsibility," said Academic Principal Harold Dawat.

English Teacher Bonnie Bol agreed. "EIS students should realize that using English only on campus must be a personal daily commitment."

Several activities planned for the current school year will keep speaking English a high student priority. Rewards, not punishments, will be the backbone of the revitalized English Speaking Program.

To earn ESP points, students can participate in Get Caught ESP, Talk 2 Teacher ESP, Announce ESP and ESP Hotspots. Students who are inclined towards reading and writing can also earn points from ESP Literathon and Billboard ESP.

In addition, a special ESP chapel program held on November 28, 2012 allowed many students to be more interactive with English. The Drama classes of Mr. Bronsen and Mr. Tom organized two skits and filmed three videos for this special chapel program.

Finally, Mr. Mayo's sophomore Values classes came up with a unique project called Student Guide. Student 'guides' moved around campus to talk about the benefits of speaking English and engaged their peers in linguistic-oriented conversations.

*By Ian Cordero, English Speaking Program Coordinator*



A group of students and Mr. Ian Cordero (middle with necktie) are having fun trying to get a lively conversation going. Mr. Ian Cordero said, "At EIS, teachers and students can stay connected by speaking a unifying language, which is English."



Student Guides are a group of 150 students taking Values classes with Mr. Mayo Ragui. They have taken a decision and responsibility to guide others to be effective communicators in English Language.

## Southern Luzon State University College of Teacher Education Visits EIS



On October 24, 2012 Dr. Teresita V. De La Cruz, Dean from Southern Luzon State University College of Teacher Education (SLU) and the teaching faculty visited Ekamai International School. SLU is a progressive institution providing quality education for promising teachers. Mr. Felix Nada, EIS Physics teacher (front row with striped necktie), is an alumnus from this university.

*By Karlton Keller, PR Coordinator*





During the latter half of October, 2012, the AUP Ambassadors Choir from the Philippines, sponsored by EIS, Yamaha Music Square, Superstar Academy, Bangkok Adventist Hospital and Nat Studio, performed a series of choral concerts for the school. Parents, administrators, teachers and students enjoyed listening to the world-renowned choir. Their willingness to pay for admission allowed EIS to move one step closer to buying a 1.2 million baht grand piano.

“By the grace of God we were able to raise 91,350.00 baht towards the purchase of our piano,” said Mrs. Joanne Magro, Music Teacher.

Persons interested in making a donation towards the purchase of the grand piano, please contact Mrs. Virnie Zulueta (085-188-7198).

*By Mrs. Virnie Zulueta, Head of Music Department*

## Thanksgiving More Than Just Turkey



Faculty and staff came together to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner on November 22, 2012 in the Elementary Building multi-purpose room.

It was time for everyone to do what they could. Mr. Welmer decorated the wooden stairs in the Kindergarten Department in an amazing Christmas style while Mrs. Dyan Kincaid created a Christmas tree for thank you notes made of paper cutouts of student’s hands. Mrs. Dyan, Miss Annet, and Mrs. Lin also helped the housing keeping crew decorate the room.

The cafeteria, of course, provided an outstanding Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner – tofu turkey for the vegetarians and real turkey plus trimmings. Mr. Prachack Jitbunyad, EIS Assistant Director, had the honor of slicing the turkey. Santa Clause disguised as Mr. Nopparin Seksantikul, EIS Finance Manager, with the help of the principals, handed out Christmas bonuses to everyone. What a great way for EIS to help everyone to get a head start on the Christmas holiday!

*By Mr. Karlton Keller, PR Coordinator*



# Students with GPA 3.70 and Above

## First Quarter 2012

By Mrs. Walaya Vatanasak, Registrar

<b>1A</b>		<b>2C</b>		Supreeya Srisarakham	3.75
Kris Luangpenthong	4.00	Jaturan Sachdev	4.00	Nusara Boonma	3.74
Praopundeun Boonprasong	3.92	Nonthakrit Sachdev	4.00	Rajarit Ramnarong	3.71
Mookmanee Boontaganon	3.89	Supachoke Srisukont	4.00	<b>5C</b>	
Prima Owaki Nikornnarong	3.87	Swasti Shrestha	4.00	Napatsorn Chadanuntakul	3.85
Karittha Sitkrongwong	3.85	Budsarin Mateedunsatits	3.98	Natwara Manitsirisuk	3.82
Variyaporn Weerayutvilai	3.79	Gyuri Park	3.98	Rachakorn Amornvuthikul	3.76
Thapanop Yingsakul	3.73	Nollawat Leangpanich	3.94	Vuthichai Sethi	3.71
Nopsirin Paisanratanakamol	3.70	Napin Srithongkul	3.86	<b>5D</b>	
<b>1B</b>		Jirandhanin Sirichaiyakul	3.85	Napassorn Rojbundit	3.97
Renika I. Gadaun	4.00	Alisha Honghimaphan	3.84	Napat Pheeraphan	3.91
Samantha Jawjong	4.00	Pratanporn Jindaprasert	3.84	Nichapatra Teerapatum	3.91
Tanat Jumnonpakdee	4.00	Nobalsri Aryal	3.83	Natt Sereerath	3.87
Titawarin Lapayanun	4.00	Nithiphark Praditporn	3.82	Marc Roy Ejurango	3.81
Aanchal Chand	3.98	Sirin Luckanasutin	3.82	Jantra Kanthatham	3.78
Henry Kim	3.96	<b>3A</b>		Miah Imduaikiat	3.74
Pattapon Ongarjphanchai	3.96	Nathavuth Gambhir	3.98	<b>6A</b>	
Chanokson Panpreecha	3.94	Yanisa Tantadsavd	3.95	Dachathorn Tharacheewin	4.00
Phurimas Ruangrattanametee	3.94	Anand Sethi	3.82	Pichaya Kovitsophon	3.92
Krittin Saisuk	3.92	Djem Kurt Gagatam	3.82	Thiti Thitipankul	3.92
Thanop Voraputhaporn	3.92	Alyssa Tingle	3.70	Chae Young Hyun	3.89
Pasu Leelahajiva	3.89	<b>3B</b>		Kavee Pairojtanachai	3.89
Thalakorn Benjapongwattana	3.89	Tanya Channara	3.96	Pimchanok Anukoolprasert	3.89
Natthanan Phasurakul	3.85	Thanatcha Kunadirekwong	3.93	Putthida Chalermhao	3.89
<b>1C</b>		Reyceee Jedd Acepcion	3.87	Nattakorn Shrestha	3.84
Jiratchaya Jiratthitinun	4.00	Voravit Srikuruwal	3.73	Olarn Likanasudh	3.81
Korneak Ngamchaiyaponkun	4.00	<b>3C</b>		Pattadon Khobunsongserm	3.81
Matilda Suriyayothin	4.00	Rei Kobayashi	3.94	Natasha Leenanuraksa	3.79
Suphakit Piulueangsawat	4.00	Praiya Woralertpicharn	3.91	<b>6B</b>	
Phuwadej Temkijrungrueng	3.99	Kati Pairojtanachai	3.90	Vorapon Kachapornkul	3.77
Wiranpat Suksanit	3.99	Matina Chaiwarut	3.88	<b>6C</b>	
Suvarnabhumi Sachaphimukh	3.96	<b>4A</b>		Dhanabordee Mekintharanggur	4.00
Athin Kittikun	3.92	Paphapin Pairojtanachai	3.98	Jirakit Yingyuenyong	3.92
Nathalie Vlieg	3.92	Na Kyung Lee	3.96	Modupe Thomas	3.92
Seo Yoon Moon	3.92	Pimtawan Jatupornpakdee	3.92	Nahnath Phasuphong	3.92
Suteemon Vararatsamenitikul	3.87	Do Hyun Kim	3.89	Bhavika Shrestha	3.91
Magga Fongsmut	3.85	Monsicha Rujiragonsgul	3.89	Kanta Sudsawad	3.87
Mayu Kobayashi	3.85	Ami Mori	3.76	Janine Charoonruk	3.82
Tanatat Chanacharoenchaikul	3.85	Teerapat Imamnuaysup	3.70	Punnalin Sriwongthai	3.73
Norrapat Nivespathomwat	3.84	<b>4B</b>		<b>7B</b>	
<b>2A</b>		Pichya Anutassanakul	3.90	Sitatham Puechkamut	4.00
Thanasorn Voraputhaporn	4.00	Harold Heys	3.75	Chernboon Suwansinpan	3.94
Tunsita Tumpunyawat	4.00	Maynaka Tanumathaya	3.71	Yaneesa Rattanathanmas	3.92
Nithipath Tangmanuswong	3.99	<b>4C</b>		Smith Sermsrisuwan	3.89
Peeranut Vattanorom	3.99	Tuntai Tumpunyawat	3.98	Pornsinee Wattanapramot	3.83
Napatthorn Assanaungsanakul	3.98	Nicha Songsilph	3.94	Anirudh Kwatra	3.74
Phasit Trakoonlakkana	3.98	Rhea Agarwal	3.94	Ye Jin Kim	3.71
Achirawit Zhang	3.96	Dippin Kukreja	3.90	<b>7C</b>	
Sirawich Phasurakul	3.77	Nattha Tantiyankul	3.83	Elena Narang	3.78
Yeajin Choi	3.70	<b>4D</b>		<b>7D</b>	
<b>2B</b>		Khankamol Kongrukreatiyos	3.92	Apapatra Teerapatum	3.96
Paraya Thanyawong	3.98	Sam Suvichagorn	3.92	Voraphon Srikuruwal	3.74
Seung Yeon Sheen	3.98	Pasika Taychaburapanone	3.82	<b>7E</b>	
Gwenneth Glennie Angus	3.96	Parinda Srisarakham	3.76	Tanya Rishi	4.00
Nano Suresettakul	3.96	Napat Tantadsavd	3.71	Kanoknan Tumpichart	3.92
Proud Lertprasertkul	3.96	<b>5A</b>		Chatchanok Chinchaicharoen	3.87
Kullasak Kanjanaphutk	3.94	Pipatra Tirapairojana	3.96	Thitirat Siripaiboolpong	3.81
Leilaani Hul	3.94	Thanattham Thospornvichai	3.93	Siri Thitipankul	3.71
Thanes Kunadirekwong	3.92	Jirapith Poonsuk	3.70	<b>7G</b>	
Ponpun Yuttakaichaisri	3.87	<b>5B</b>		Fathima Salam	3.80
Naphannop Basu	3.86	Vitsupa Hengnopparatkun	3.91		
Sirasit Wongtawewat	3.85	Dara Kanthatham	3.80		
Apiwich Sumeksri	3.83	Sittiporn Likanasudh	3.76		
Parnchewa Pimsomrudee	3.79				
Phongpon Tantiyankul	3.79				
Araya Prinsecchi	3.73				
Pannasa Varanyawatana	3.72				



<b>8A</b>	Sanya Singh	3.73	<b>10D</b>	Jung Yoo	3.95	<b>11E</b>	Narada Saingam	3.91
<b>8C</b>	Achiraya Petchdachai	3.92		Nattanon Ruangsubvilai	3.95		Matika Pornpattanasavai	3.81
	Nilar Myat Aung	3.83		Duangkamon Huangphattarakul	3.87	<b>12A</b>	Poompat Iamsamang	3.87
	Chatraporn Chatnithikul	3.78		Kanyarak Kunyawatyuwapong	3.87		Amlaan Bhoi	3.85
	Natthida Luthra	3.75		So-hyun Shin	3.87		Petchfa Wongngamlert	3.72
<b>8D</b>				Vanantorn Suttikajornkijjakarn	3.87		Samrat Lekhak	3.72
	Si Yang Wang	3.92		Nattaporn Lapitananuvat	3.85	<b>12B</b>	Pattaravadee Chintakawiphan	3.91
	Charissa Sukontasukkul	3.78		Chayanid Siripaiboolpong	3.81		Peeranon Vorakulsathien	3.91
	Pattham Puechkamut	3.77		Parima Chaiwarut	3.72		Sawinee Sachdev	3.91
	Chada Srihiran	3.73		Phairat Lin	3.71		I-Ju Lien	3.87
	Punnapa Pairojtanachai	3.73	<b>10E</b>	Tanat Boozayaangool	3.71		Piradee Tachanirut	3.87
	Suphaveer Keeratireungrit	3.71					Nutchai Sumonvarangkul	3.82
<b>8E</b>				Anucha Sakdsrinarang	4.00		Supakorn Kowathana	3.82
	Kacha Kunpalin	3.71		Apichaya Ketyungyoenwong	4.00		Chanitsara Sroithongrada	3.77
	Suphasuta Kittihut	3.75		Sirapob Mongkolpiyathana	3.95		Varinthorn Wongsawanporn	3.72
	Mintra Bunditanukul	3.71		Kietthibhum Boonchuay	3.82		Kanyapak Songmanee	3.71
<b>9A</b>			<b>10G</b>	Tawin Kunattanond	3.77			
	Vanda Taron	3.91		Nandita Banik	3.90	<b>12C</b>	Akanksha Sehgal	4.00
	Joshua Mey	3.72		Sittikorn Khorvanichakij	3.81		Krisda Chugh	3.95
<b>9C</b>				Natcha Sriwongthai	3.72		Arya Rishi	3.91
	Farheen Asim	3.95	<b>11A</b>				Samita Natiladdanon	3.91
	Linh Nhi Phan Minh	3.91		Chananchida Sang-Aram	3.95		Sherwin Ng	3.91
	Mataritta Sae-teo	3.91		Tzu-Yun Wang	3.91		Zhanping Ling	3.87
	Barama Suwansinpan	3.82		Vagisha Mishra	3.81		Jinvara Vesvijak	3.82
	Pornpat Siriphanporn	3.81		Chanakan Sirisukhodom	3.77		Seul Gi Kim	3.77
	Vichaya Truskamol	3.80		Gurtejal Sachdev	3.77		Wan-chen Yang	3.75
	Thanapat Vongchansathapat	3.72	<b>11B</b>				Pavida Intatisan	3.72
<b>9D</b>				Napath Kosolsuparat	3.85	<b>12D</b>	Hsiang-Yu Hsieh	3.95
	Rom Parnichkun	3.82		Kultida Keerikoolparn	3.77		Natsuda Denkijkul	3.81
	Noppanut Wangkicharoenkul	3.81		Ornpapar Limkijchareon	3.77	<b>12E</b>		
	Miri Kim	3.77		Sirirada Pattara-angkoon	3.72		Patrawut Imamnuausup	3.71
<b>9E</b>			<b>11C</b>			<b>12G</b>		
	Christina Marisa Bergsoe	3.85		Pandita Watanachariya	3.72		Sirinna Ruayrinsaowarot	3.87
	Praevaryn Sucharitachandra	3.81	<b>11D</b>					
<b>10B</b>				Kalpesh Sultan	3.87			
	Regina Elaine Uli Hutagalung	3.91		Tony Sermsrisuwan	3.87			
<b>10C</b>				Vaibhav Sultan	3.87			
	Saranya Sachdev	3.85		Kanis Dhanesuan	3.82			
	Patthita Mongkolrattawat	3.81		Hee TaeLee	3.81			
	Natcha Phutthisan	3.75		Pawanrat Koonprugsakul	3.81			
				Thanakorn Suppakarnpanich	3.81			

# Top of the Class!

## Students with GPA 4.00 for 2nd Quarter 2012-13

*By Mrs. Walaya Vatanasak,  
Registrar*

<b>1A</b>	Kris Luangpenthong	4.00	<b>2A</b>	Nithipath Tangmanuswong	4.00	<b>7E</b>	Tanya Rishi	4.00
<b>1B</b>	Henry Kim	4.00		Peeranut Vattanorom	4.00	<b>9E</b>	Praevaryn Sucharitachandra	4.00
	Krittin Saisuk	4.00		Thanasorn Voraputhaporn	4.00			
	Pattapon Ongarjphanchai	4.00	<b>2C</b>	Tunsita Tumpunyawat	4.00	<b>11A</b>	Chananchida Sang-Aram	4.00
	Renika I. Gadaun	4.00					Tzu-Yun Wang	4.00
	Tanat Jumnonpakdee	4.00	<b>4C</b>			<b>11D</b>	Tony Sermsrisuwan	4.00
	Thanop Voraputhaporn	4.00		Nicha Songsilph	4.00			
	Titawarin Lapayanun	4.00	<b>4D</b>	Tuntai Tumpunyawat	4.00	<b>12B</b>	Peeranon Vorakulsathien	4.00
<b>1C</b>								
	Kon-ek Ngamchaiyaponkun	4.00	<b>5D</b>	Sam Suvichagorn	4.00			
	Seo Yoon Moon	4.00		Napat Pheeraphan	4.00			



# Alumnotes

By Mrs. Hazel Ilao, Teacher



**Paiboon Plookvongpanit (1974)** received his Bachelor of Science from La Sierra College, California, U.S.A. He has worked as a Cardiovascular Perfusionist for 22 years with Inland Cardiothoracic Surgical Associates based in Bernardino, California. He is the one and only Thai who was awarded as a Certified Clinical Perfusionist by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion. Paiboon's most memorable experiences at our school include being the first Student Association President in 1973, and his baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist church in the same year. He is married to Elsa Plookvongpanit, an RN (registered nurse) working at Loma Linda University Medical Center in the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit). They have two grown-up children, Ella and Jason.

paiboonccp@gmail.com



**Yuttadech Pasuriyakun (at right)** (Class of 1997) graduated with a Bachelor Degree in British and American Studies from Thammasat University. He has experience as an Apple Presenter at the iStudio in IT Mall Fortune Town, and is also a Store Manager for iStudio at Central Plaza Rama 9. As an Apple Product presenter he works at presenting and demonstrating new Apple products to customers. He is also a Tech Specialist and gives technical support on Apple hardware and software products. He remembers EIS for its supportive teachers and great staff, and recalls how much he loved the EIS Sports Day that was held every year. Valentine's Day was also another memorable experience preparing the flowers and gifts for everyone in school. Yuttadech has a big happy family with his parents, one younger sister, one younger brother.

yuthadech@spvi.co.th



**Chidchanok Sakdapanichkul (2011)** is a medical student in the Joint Medical Programme - Srinakharinwirot University and the University of Nottingham, the United Kingdom's most popular university. When she graduates she will receive a Bachelor Degree of Medical Science (B.Med. Sci) from the University of Nottingham and a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree from Srinakharinwirot University. Presently she is a high-achieving second year student at the University of Nottingham in England. She likes living in England because there is little traffic and air pollution, but she does miss Thai food very much.  
bell.chidchanok@me.com  
bell.chidchanok@gmail.com



**Kobchart Jaraswimol (Class of 2012)** also known as Boon is one of our recent graduates who is currently a freshmen studying at Thammasat University here in Thailand. Just recently Boon got the opportunity to participate in the University of Pennsylvania Model United Nations Conference (UPMUNC) at Philadelphia, USA. He was selected to be a representative of Thailand for Thammasat University Model United Nations (TUMUN).

He was also selected to join ECOFIN (Economics and Finance Committee), which took place from November 8-11, 2012.

Boon considers this one of the biggest achievements that he has ever received apart from graduating from Ekamai International School.

There are many teachers that have motivated and influenced Boon's life in various ways, but in terms of extra-curricular activities, it was Mr. James Lawson, the club's adviser, that taught him a lot who while he was the President of the Evergreeners Club.

Boon added that good experiences with friends and his participation as a Student Council Officer will never be forgotten.

His advice for any future students who would like to enter Thammasat University is to work hard on the SAT and take more challenging classes in high school because those are the ones that will give a greater foundation for higher competition at the university level.

boon\_kobchart@hotmail.com



# Alumni Visiting EIS



Alumni gathering with Ma'am Chai Sew Moi (left picture, front row in blue). Ma'am Chai was a teacher and librarian at EIS in the late 1970s.



Alumni 2011 came to visit EIS during the EIS Sports Day, December 7, 2012. With them are (back row third from left) Mr. Samson Cometa, Life Skills Teacher, and (middle in white) Mr. James Yoong, Math Teacher and Mrs. Beatrice Kootanasan, Principal for Student Administration. Welcome back Alumni! We are glad to see you again.





# Ekamai International School

Empowers, Inspires & Serves



Founded in 1946, Ekamai International School (EIS) continues to offer an unparalleled education. We adhere to solid American curriculum with Thai language and culture instruction. Our goals are to educate and inspire our students to be moral, thoughtful and caring individuals in a global community.

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