



EKAMAI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of Ekamai International School

Heart for Service: Student Council 2023-2024

and more!

- 04 Meet and Greet
- 06 American Educational
Opportunity Fair
- 07 Pathfinder Leadership Camp
- 09 Disaster Preparedness
Training
- 16 Mental Health Day

ISSUE 2 | NOVEMBER 2023

EDITOR'S NOTE



Partner with us in building a community of well-rounded learners with shared values and desire for godliness and godlikeness.


Evangeline Tan-Alvez
Editor-in-Chief

Welcome to the first unified and campus-wide issue of the EIS Newsletter for the school year 2023-2024. **We are back as one!**

We are thrilled to share a curated plethora of campus updates and events, student feats, engagements with various sections of the campus, and a whole lot more that hopefully will bring blessings and bliss to you.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, talent, and testimonies, adding meaningful content relevant to our needs.

We desire that you engage with us by sharing inspiring stories, updates, and achievements through info@eis.ac.th.

Blessings!

EDITORIAL STAFF

Publisher | Ekamai International School
Editorial Director | Saowanee Kiatyanyong
Editor-in-Chief | Evangeline Tan-Alvez
Managing Editors | Section Principals
Creative Director | Evangeline Tan-Alvez
Photographer | Bovorn Molkeaw & Lin Tan-Alvez

CONNECT WITH US!



www.eis.ac.th



info@eis.ac.th



Ekamai International School
of Seventh-day Adventist



EIS Official



+66 2 3913593
+66 2 381 4622



57 Ekamai 12 (Soi Charoenjai) Sukhumvit 63,
Klongtan Nua, Wattana
Bangkok, 10110, Thailand

C O N T E N T S



FROM THE DIRECTOR

03 A Message of Gratitude

CAMPUS NEWS

04 Meet and Greet
06 American University Opportunity
08 Pathfinder Leadership Camp
12 Unity Week
13 Book Fair
14 Child Protection Seminar

STUDENT FEATS

16 Wall of Achievers

CAMPUS MINISTRY

19 God Answers Our Prayers
20 A Better Life
22 Joy of Service

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

26 Mental Health Day
27 Early Years Connect

QUALITY EDUCATION

29 Understanding Year 1 of WASC

DIRECTOR'S *Message*



director@eis.ac.th

Train up a child
in the way he
should go; even
when he is old
he will not
depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Dear EIS Family,

Warmest greetings!

I praise God for your unwavering support and confidence in our dynamic and vibrant learning community. I am honored to serve alongside each of you to ensure that every student who enters our campus receives a quality and holistic Adventist Christian international education.

I wish to convey my deepest gratitude to each of you for contributing to the exceptional values, principles, and culture of Ekamai International School. Your collective passion and commitment to education continue to inspire us all. Unitedly, we create an environment where excellence is not merely a goal but a standard we continually strive to uphold.

I am immensely grateful to be the bearer of good news and growth that EIS is continually achieving through the shared efforts of everyone. I am delighted to witness our students excelling in various disciplines, such as the arts, sports, academics, and others.

As a family, I encourage everyone to foster a culture of love, service, and unity. Moreover, may we strive to uphold the culture of heaven that would propel not just Ekamai International School to greater heights but the entire community we serve.

May God bless you.

Sincerely Yours,

Saowanee Kiatyanyong

School Director

MEET AND GREET WITH PARENTS



By | **Verlinda Quimba**
5E Homeroom & Values Teacher

Ekamai International School was delighted to welcome the very excited and enthusiastic parents during the Meet and Greet session last August 30 through 31 and September 1, 2023. Seeing so many parents show up and new friendships and connections formed was wonderful. It opened with grades three to twelve on the first day, grades one and two on the second day, and pre-kindergarten and kindergartens 1 to 3 on the last day.

Every school year, EIS schedules a day for parents to come and meet their child's classroom and subject teachers. This is an opportunity for the teachers to meet the parents and present their teaching methods, management, and grading policies. The five to ten minutes meeting up is not enough, especially for the new teachers who have not done this event before. It was also a challenge because some parents raised different issues regarding their child's learning, curriculum, and safety.

Miss Spinicah Mochache, the new G4E teacher, shared that she is honored to experience the meet and greet for the first time in EIS. According to her, she was in a panic mode while preparing what to and how to present to the all-eyed parents. She was relieved and thankful that during the visit, the parents were kind, patient, understanding, and ready to support the teachers to have their children improve academically. Furthermore, she would like to acknowledge the team effort of her fellow G4 teachers for being helpful in the whole preparation.

Thank God for the wisdom, strength, and good health He has provided to everyone involved in preparing and administering this event—hats off to our hardworking teachers and ever-supportive parents.



TRIBUTE TO TEACHERS: WAN WAI KRU



By | **Theerakul Chitgresorn**
Vice President, Student Council

Dear Administrators, Teachers, and Students, throughout our adolescence and developing years, we are always in a state of discovery to discover who we are and truly navigate our lives toward adulthood. Throughout this journey, one main driving force that drives us educates us, and guides us in the right direction is teachers. A teacher is more than an educator. A teacher encapsulates different roles and aspects of a person's life.

A teacher is a friend (a person we can always rely on), a mentor (a person who will always advise us to the best of our interest, to the right path), an instructor (a person who will pass on their everlasting knowledge), and lastly a parent (a person who we can always depend on).

A teacher will be the person who will scoop us up, dust us off, and get us back on our feet whenever

we fall. A teacher will be the one who will lift us and cheer us up whenever we are down.

Today, we celebrate, honor, and show gratitude to the teachers who have guided us through this journey, for educating us, and for always being there through difficult times. Today, with the support from all the students, we thank you for always being there and supporting us, being a guide, a mentor, an educator, a parent, and a friend. You have given us and shown us a good example that we can embody and lead our lives and continue this journey. We thank you once again for all you have done for us for giving us the motivation to dream, learn, and constantly improve as the students continue to grow and morph their path to success, all from your help. God bless.



I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
| Psalm 32:8

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FAIR



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

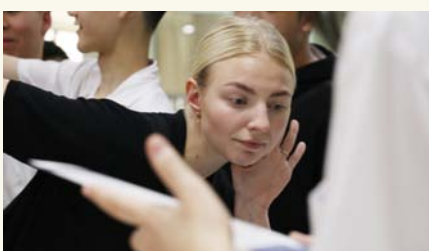
Seventeen universities coming from different states of America participated in the American Educational Opportunities (AEO) University Fair held on September 26, 2023, at the Milne Auditorium and organized by the Guidance and Counselling Department of Ekamai International School.

California Baptist University, Dallas Baptist University, Edmonds College, George Mason University Korea, Indiana University Indianapolis, Lawrence University, Marymount Manhattan

College, Messiah University Oklahoma State University, Purdue University, San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley, Savannah College of Art and Design, The University of Iowa, University of New Hampshire, The University of New Mexico, Wichita State University, and Winona State University showcased their respective universities amongst a sea of prospective enrollees coming from the high school section and who will soon be pursuing higher educational goals.

“The primary objective of this event is to provide high school students and their parents with the invaluable opportunity to meet face-to-face with college representatives from the US. Through these interactions, attendees can gain crucial insights into a wide range of topics, including different diploma programs, available scholarships, admission requirements, financial details, and more. This firsthand information equips them to make well-informed decisions and plan effectively for their future educational pursuits,” shared Mr. Deepak Lopchang Tamang, the Career Counselor for grades eleven and twelve.

Students taking advanced placement (AP) courses in EIS have higher possibilities of exploring and pursuing further studies in America since most US universities accept these as college credit courses. The AEO University Fair is likewise the school’s way of bringing the universities from overseas closer to home.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY FAIR 2023



By | **Deepak Lopchan Tamang**
Career Counselor, Grades 11 & 12

Through the Guidance Department and the KIC UnivAssist, Ekamai International School hosted the University Fair on Monday, September 11, 2023, at the Milne Auditorium for the high school section.

Nineteen universities flew from the United States of America and Canada to participate in the said gathering. This annual event is an important platform to aid prospective students and parents in exploring various academic opportunities and

choices. This also helps parents and students gather relevant information about the universities and colleges they wish to pursue.

KIC UnivAssist supports higher education institutions and high school counselors worldwide through unique programs geared toward developing and implementing international engagement so that students worldwide can find the right-fit higher education institution.

“We are grateful for opportunities such as this one, since we don’t need to travel all the way to the US or Canada to inquire about certain universities that we are interested in joining. It helps us save time and money for basic information and application requirements since they can answer our questions right away,” shared one parent who came to participate the event.

Ekamai International School is grateful to those who came to actively join us in helping our students find the perfect university for their higher learning pursuit.



PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP CAMP IGNITES PASSION



By | **Brian Murillo**
Pathfinder Director

One hundred eighty Pathfinder leaders composed of class commanders, deputy class commanders, unit captains, and guidon bearers from grades 5 to 8 attended the Pathfinder Leadership Camp on September 2-3, 2023 held inside the EIS campus.

This camp intends to prepare and orient the leaders of each unit for a significant role they will take on this school year for the Pathfinder Club.

A pool of Master Guides assisted them in all the activities such as first aid and carry, monkey bridge, marching and drill, tent pitching, fire building, and camp cookery.

In Pathfinder Club, the volunteer leadership, skilled in a myriad of unusual abilities and interests are, first and foremost, strong believers in Jesus Christ and are sure of the road they are taking towards eternal life. They consider the Pathfinder Club an experimental laboratory where growth and learning are synonymous with fun. Failure is not expected, but rather all activity becomes a tool for learning.

Enlarging their windows on the world and building a relationship with God are the dual objectives of this club, which is designed for children ages 10-15. With nearly 2 million members around the world, this Seventh-day Adventist Church-sponsored club accepts any youth who promises to abide by the Pathfinder Pledge and Law regardless of their church affiliation.



PLEDGE

By the grace of God,
I will be pure and kind and true.
I will keep the Pathfinder Law.
I will be a servant of God
and a friend to man.

LAW

The Pathfinder Law is for me to:

1. Keep the morning watch.
2. Do my honest part.
3. Care for my body.
4. Keep a level eye.
5. Be courteous and obedient.
6. Walk softly in the sanctuary.
7. Keep a song in my heart.
8. Go on God's errands.

SENIOR CLASS '24 RECOGNIZED FOR ACT OF SERVICE



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

Ekamai International School lauded the outstanding service of its Senior Class when it partnered with the Thai Department and the Admission office to help out in a month-long campus tour for parents visiting the school on September 15, 2023, at the EIS Covered Court right after the flag raising ceremony.

On a sunny Friday morning, seventy-one seniors were awarded a certificate of appreciation by the school director, Ajarn Saowanee Kiatyanyong, amongst the sea of high school and middle school students attending the flag-raising ceremony.

The seniors were recognized for their selfless service in assisting the admission office touring parents and students who came to the campus to inquire about possible educational partnerships. Ms. Chomthisa Jaekajud, the Admission Coordinator, and Ms. Thalika Khakai of the Thai Department conveyed their unified gratitude to the senior class for this first-ever service-driven initiative.

Well done, EIS Senior Class of 2024!



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING ENCOURAGES INVOLVEMENT



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

As a proactive response to a constantly changing and evolving educational and operational needs, Ekamai International School conducted disaster preparedness training for its faculty and staff on October 6, 2023, at the Student Center of Building with Dr. Nick Walters, a medical doctor from Bangkok Adventist Hospital as the resource speaker.

This professional development upgrade was organized to educate the EIS community on effectively planning, responding

to, and recovering from various disasters or emergencies. It aims to enhance the ability of the EIS faculty and staff to mitigate the impact of disasters, illnesses, and other eventualities, thereby saving lives, protecting property, and minimizing the disruption caused by such occurrences.

Among those who attended were the primary and elementary sections teachers, teacher assistants, and nannies. Other attendees included campus supervisors, security guards, clinic staff, and other frontline staff.

Four key topics were cascaded to the participants during the training: Respiratory Infections, Dengue Prevention, Common School Injuries, and Disaster Preparedness. Methods and ways to mitigate the same were likewise discussed.

“As a Christian Adventist institution, we are unique among others because we have a God that we can run to for help in whatever disaster we encounter,” conveyed Dr. Nick as he wrapped up his presentation, encouraging the participants to pray during emergencies.



INDONESIA EDUCATIONAL LEADERS CAMPUS TOUR



By | **Sarita Arora**
Public Relations Officer

Sixty educators, administrators, and educational leaders from Indonesia flew to the capital of Thailand for exchange practices with Ekamai International School on October 2, 2023.

This school tour fosters learning, sharing, and collaborating academic best practices across regional schools to serve the student body better. Kinderfield and Highfield schools' Headquarters are in Jakarta, with twenty other branches nationwide.

"We are grateful for the warm hospitality and efforts given to us during this school tour, and we would love to return the favor if anyone from Ekamai International School visits any of our campuses in Indonesia in the future. We appreciate your selflessness in sharing your best practices with us, and thank you for accommodating this request to visit your lovely campus," said Deasy Ria Santy, Executive Director of Kinderfield-Highfield Headquarters and head of the visiting delegation.



FIRST EVER UNITY DAY FOSTERED ONENESS



By | **Athicha Malhotra**
Religious Vice, Student Council

Cheers to another successful event hosted by the Student Council, Unity Day! On September 29, 2023, the EIS community came together in a vibrant display of unity and team spirit. Not only did the students participate, but also the teachers and staff. Everyone proudly wore their favorite jerseys to school to celebrate this special day.

Unity Day is a new event in EIS, revolutionized from the long-lasting event Unity Week. It is a one-day event where students can dress up in any attire appropriate to the chosen theme. The theme for this year was dressing up in their favorite jerseys. During flag line-up in the covered court, a diverse range of jerseys could be seen in every class. The school grounds and hallways were filled with a sea of colors and logos, representing various sports teams and athletes, from football, basketball, and volleyball to sports day shirts and grade jerseys.

Unity Day at EIS this year was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on everyone participating. It was a day of fun and enjoyment and one with significant meaning. This event was a great opportunity for students to have a break from wearing their school uniforms. Furthermore, it fostered unity among students, teachers, and staff, as all wore their favorite jerseys to show their team spirit and sportsmanship. As our school year proceeds, let us carry on this spirit of unity and teamwork!



CARNIVAL THEMED BOOK FAIR A SUCCESS



By | **Phornphen Trakoonlakkana**
Learning Resources Head

Bookworms flocked to the High School and Middle School Library for the first of two book fairs of the school year held from October 24 to 27, 2023.

Students had a blast searching for their favorite authors and books in a fun-filled carnival themed book fair that excites them even more.

Thousands of titles from various book vendors such as Kinokuniya, Thailand Publishing House, Bookfarm and a lot more came to showcase their books ranging from children's storybooks, picture books, references, novels, bestsellers, and many others.

It was a great experience to witness our students engaged into reading and rekindled the love for books.



CHILD PROTECTION IN SCHOOL A VITAL NEED



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

In its continuing effort to uphold safety and security on campus, EIS conducted a child protection training on October 18, 2023, at the Milne Auditorium with Ms. Thongpairam Puytrakool from the Center for the Protection of Children's Rights Foundation (CPCR) as the resource speaker.



"This seminar will focus on child protection within the school, specifically addressing the importance of and the response to child abuse. The purpose is to ensure all teachers and staff understand and correctly handle preliminary problem-solving procedures," conveyed Ms. Monjai Chansuwan, Ekamai International School's child protection officer.

Attendees actively listened as Ms. Puytrakool presented cases of child safety issues on campus and how the teachers, staff, and other stakeholders can come together to protect the best interest of every student on campus. She likewise provided systematic and practical measures for handling issues of bullying, physical threats, and even emotional and psychological support.

She also encouraged the teachers and staff in attendance to work with organizations or government offices such as theirs that can provide support in complicated child protection issues to mitigate further harm.



CLASSROOM WITHOUT WALLS: AN EARLY EXPLORATION



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

Learning in EIS is not confined to the four walls of the classroom. Teachers creatively craft their lessons in a unique and interesting way incorporating strategies that would spark learners' analytical thought process even at an early stage.

In kindergarten where attention span of students are the most challenging, a collective effort to fuse fun in the learning process is necessary.

The Pre-Kindergarten teacher, teacher assistants, and nanny recently brought the entire class outside of their usual learning habitat to explore on the environment outside. They were also challenged to do simple to complex tasks that would enrich their learning experience. They were asked to identify withered leaves from a fully alive ones and gathering them into a container. Most of the students were able to follow the instructions and even expressing their joy in being able to pick up dried leaves.



WALL OF ACHIEVERS

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully achieved awards and recognitions in local and international competitions. The EIS family is so proud of you. Well done!



**Narach
Nalinthangkurn**

- Bronze Medal and Certificate, Thailand National Youth Contest 2023, Piano Category for Grade 1



**Warissara
Rujataronjai**

- 1st place for body skill 9-10 yrs 2nd place for freehand 9-10 yrs, 6th PK Gymnastics Competition



**Rinrada
Maruen**

- Silver Award, Ballet Solo category Silver Award, Ballet Duo category International Arts Festival 2023



**Punn & Poon
Charusakulariyakul
Jirath
Nimsanticharoen**

- Champions Cup and Gold Medal for Division 1, 1st Runner Up & Silver Medal for Elite Division, 4th place for Division 1



**Thanontas &
Thanuntas
Sornvaneeyarak**

- 1st runner-up for U10 Top Division, 2nd runner-up for U12 Top Division, & MVP for U10 Division, Thailand Ice Hockey Tournament 2023



**Pannapat
Thammakornbunjut**

- Silver Trophy and Certificate, Pop Singing Category Age 8-12, Bangkok Youth Singing Competition



**Thaninpong
Thaivutinukul**

- Champion, Piano Juvenile B (12-13 years old) Asia Student Arts Festival, Preliminary Thailand



**Chaiyaapong
Thaivutinukul**

- Silver Prize for Piano Category J, Young Artist Music Competition 2023

WALL OF ACHIEVERS

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully achieved awards and recognitions in local and international competitions. The EIS family is so proud of you. Well done!



**ALIN
CHARUSAKULARIYAKUL**

- Champions Cup Gold Medal, Thailand Women Ice Hockey League 2023



**Venissa
Maturunyanon**

- Ball - 1st Runner-up Club - 3rd Runner-up All-Around - 3rd Runner-up, Team - 1st Runner-up, Group Ball - Champion Group Gym Dance - 1st Runner-up, 6th Asia Pacific Cup International Rhythmic Gymnastics



**Jaytipat
Chatratnamalai**

- Silver Medal & Certificate Philippine International Mathematical Olympiad (PHIMO)



**Warissara
Rujataronjai**

- 1st Runner Up Award Third Chinese Bridge, Chinese show for Foreign Primary School students



**Ama
Angkasith**

- Silver Award, 1-4 category, Rockscool Voice Thailand Competition 2023



**Kawinthida
Mee-asa**

- - 25m Freestyle, 2nd Place, Silver Medal
- 25m Breaststroke, 2nd Place, Silver Medal
- 25m Backstroke, 2nd Place, Silver Medal
- 25m Butterfly, 3rd Place, Bronze Medal
- 50m Freestyle, 3rd Place, Bronze Medal



**Kasarin
Kaewkanokvijit**

- 8th place for girls' single category, age 12-14 years Inter-school aerobic gymnastics competition



**Namon
Sutthikeeree**

- 5th place for ball for 10-12 yrs. 6th place for freehand for 10-12 yrs. 8th place for all around for 10-12 yrs. Rhythmic Gymnastic

WALL OF ACHIEVERS

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully achieved awards and recognitions in local and international competitions. The EIS family is so proud of you. Well done!



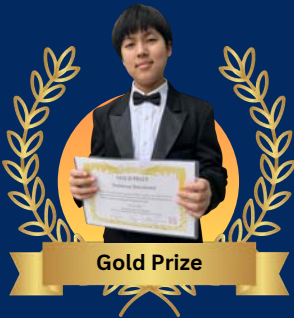
**Punn & Poon
Charusakulariyakul**

- 1st runner up and silver Medal for the Division 1 4th Place for the ELITE Division, Bangkok Ice Hockey League 2023



**Kulyada
Tawsopar Yangyuen**

- Silver Medal Certificate, Wordsmith Crossword Game Grand Prix, M.3 Division Jooze Crossword Game Grand Prix Thailand Championship 2023



**Thaninpong
Thaivutinukul**

- Gold Prize for Section III, Junior Free Program 24th Osaka International Music Competition, Bangkok Regional Round 2023



**Rinrada
Maruen**

- Bronze Medal Ballet Solo Bronze Medal Ballet demi character Bronze Medal Ballet Duo, Thailand Challenge Cup Dance Competition 2023

Delight yourself in the
Lord, and he will give you
the desires of your heart.

| Psalm 37:4

Therefore I tell you,
whatever you ask in
prayer, believe that
you have received it,
and it will be yours.

| MARK 11:24



GOD ANSWERS OUR PRAYERS



By | **Tieu Thi Thien An**
Chaplain, Kindergarten

Twice each school year, Ekamai International School students from all Pre-kindergarten to High School gather at the Milne Auditorium for a week of spiritual emphasis popularly known in EIS as the week of prayer.

Mr. Christian Sorensen from the United States of America and Ms. Charity Buga-ay from the Philippines, both seasoned servants of God, were invited to share on the theme, “God Answers Prayers.”

The lower grades were introduced to the five fingers prayers, where they were encouraged to pray for their family and friends, teachers, leaders, weak and in need, and lastly, for themselves. On the other hand, the higher sections of middle and high schools were encouraged to make their prayer experiential and intentional, like they are talking to a friend to make every time with God a meaningful experience.

Students were likewise encouraged to wait when their prayers are taking longer to happen, to be grateful when it is answered, and to accept when God says no to prayer because He knows what is best for each of us.



Therefore do not be
anxious about
tomorrow, for
tomorrow will be
anxious for itself.
Sufficient for the day
is its own trouble.

| Matthew 6:34



CARING FOR MENTAL HEALTH



By | **Asher Salvan, Jr.**
Chaplain, High School

Last October 20-23, 2023, a chaplaincy training was held at Mission Health Promotion Hospital, Muak Lek, Saraburi, Thailand, with the theme, “Caring for Mental Health.” Led by the Chaplaincy Department of Thailand Adventist Mission. There were more than eighty individuals represented by the different Adventist institutions all over Thailand, and a good number of attendees were from Cambodia who attended the training as well. EIS sent all three chaplains plus two administrators.

We were privileged to have Dr. Torben Bergland, a Psychiatrist who is our General Conference Health Department Director, as our main guest speaker. Dr. Bergland talked about two main topics. The first was “Mentally Healthy Spirituality,” where he discussed the difference between healthy and unhealthy mentality and spirituality. He further emphasized the distinction between mentally and spiritually healthy individuals’ intrinsic and extrinsic motivation.

Extrinsic are those who would see religion as a means, while intrinsic are those who see religion as an end. He also emphasized that there is a huge poverty of loneliness and spirituality in the world today, especially in the West; there is a hunger for love and a hunger for God. The second topic was “Changing Your Mind, Changes Your Life,” he discussed the importance of having the right mentality and spirituality as it will change how you see meaning in life. Dr. Bergland also introduced a new website that discusses trauma, depression, and anxiety from an Adventist perspective. The website is called (reminded.org).

We were also blessed with the presence of Dr. Siroj Sorrajjakol, who discussed the difference between a pastor and a chaplain. A pastor loves to fix people and bring people to God, while a chaplain brings God to people. The pastor will pull you up while the chaplains go down with the patients.



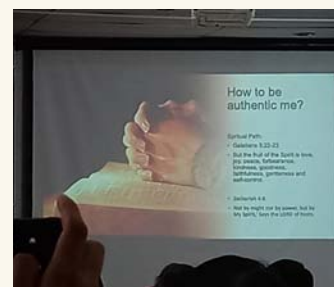
A pastor or a psychologist will intervene while the chaplain will walk with the patient's darkest hours. He further shared a quote, "You can take all the madness when there is meaning, but you can't take any difficulty if there is no meaning." He further emphasized that most of us would like to move people from point A to point B while chaplains stay with the person in A, walk with them, and journey until they reach point B. The more you stay with the person in point A, the more they will have the strength to process to move to point B.

Dr. Surapee Sorajjakol, our SEUM Education Department Director, also contributed to our training. She discussed **"Chaplaincy Services that Enhance Students' Holistic Development."** She emphasized the importance of chaplaincy in an educational setup; a chaplain must be safe for young learners to connect with at school—additional support for school committees to assist with the student's social, emotional, and spiritual well-being.

Other essential speakers were Pastor Ervin Karau D. Ismael of AIU Chaplaincy and Sister Ivetta Inaray, Content Creative and Video Manager of AWR Asia-Pacific. Pastor Ervin talked about how to process our emotions and why we must be able to process them. While Sister Ivy discussed the importance of "Digital Ministry."

She further explained these three things: advantages, warnings, and recommendations for digital ministry.

Overall, it was a meaningful experience, a needed training not only for our chaplains but also for our teachers and administrators who attended the said training. Moreover, the bible reminded us in John 13:34-35, **"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."** Caring for one another and understanding each other is paramount in maintaining a healthy mind and spirituality.



So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

| GENESIS 2:3



A BETTER LIFE



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

There is no better life than a life lived for Christ. One that is deeply rooted in for, with, and through Jesus. This was the resounding collective truth that emerged in the EIS Sabbath Worship on October 28, 2023, at the Student Center of the campus.

When God's people come together in one desire to honor and obey the will of God, a life-changing experience ensues. On very rare occasions, Adventist Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, other Christian denominations, and even agnostics were unified in singing, sacredness, and spirit. Powerful testimonies of God's mercy and amazing grace overflowed, making even those skeptical about God wonder how miracles unfolded in such exceptional ways. Pastor Christie Perera's message about the "Woman on the Wheel" hammered home not the better life but the best life in Christ. One that is devoid of judgment from our past or present sins and living water that we need to experience life eternal.

"We are grateful for your presence in this EIS Sabbath Worship, and we praise God for this opportunity to worship Him together as a family today," said Chaplain Pimpa Pitchaya-adison, the lead organizer of the gathering.





The EIS Worship is a brainchild of the school director Ajarn Saowanee Kiatyanyong, who was strongly convicted of sharing God's love and salvation with its employees, students, parents, and the entire school community. ***"My aim is to open the door for EIS teachers and staff to receive a personal experience of God's love and grace. I imagine a warm and welcoming Sabbath worship where we unite as a big family to share the blessings from God,"*** she conveyed during the planning stage of the event.



HEART FOR SERVICE STUDENT COUNCIL '24



By | **Ivy Lou Dagaojes**
Student Council, Head Sponsor



The heartbeat of any school lies within its student body, but it's the Student Council that adds the rhythm and the melody to the collective experience. At Ekamai International School, we are proud to introduce our new set of Student Council officers, a group of passionate and dedicated students who have taken on the noble role of serving their peers, parents, and the school itself.

These remarkable people have not only accepted their obligations but have done it with boundless passion and selflessness. Despite their hectic academic schedules, they have made the decision to give their

valuable time and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of their fellow students.

The willingness of our Student Council officers to serve without pay is proof of their true commitment to the well-being of the school community. The hard work of these students deserves recognition and applause. They tirelessly dedicate themselves to various activities and initiatives that enhance the student experience. From organizing events, creating support systems, and promoting community involvement, the Student Council officers have proven that they are not just leaders on paper, but in practice.

While their efforts might often go unnoticed, it's important to acknowledge the important role they play in fostering a sense of togetherness and inclusivity within our school community. They are the driving force behind student involvement in various aspects, including sports, the arts, community service, and more.

Being a part of the Student Council is not easy. It requires a great deal of time, effort, and sacrifice. These individuals have willingly accepted this challenge, and their dedication deserves nothing less than our utmost respect and appreciation. Their commitment to improving the school experience for all students is a wonderful example of leadership and service that should be celebrated.

So, as we move forward with this new set of Student Council officers, let's remember to show our support and encouragement. Their dedication deserves our gratitude, and their willingness to work tirelessly for the betterment of our school community is a testament to their character. Let us offer them the encouragement and kind words they deserve, as the student body of Ekamai International School.

Our Student Council members are not just students; they are role models and strong supporters of a better school life. They show us what it means to help others, and we should appreciate, celebrate, and learn from their dedication. Let's thank them for their hard work and let their kindness inspire us to make our school better too.



Aaron Zhenyi Lee | Student Council President



Ms. Ivy Lou Dagaojes | Student Council Head Sponsor

He who sows sparingly
will also reap sparingly,
and he who sows
bountifully will also reap
bountifully.

| 2 Corinthians 9:6



THE JOY OF SERVICE FOR CHRIST



By | **Joanne Daphne Magro**
Music Department Head

Serving others is foundational to a life of discipleship. However, often we view serving others as a “should” in our lives. As a result, our service lacks joy. Jesus placed a high value on His followers serving others. He also told His disciples that even He, the very Son of God, did not come to be served but to serve others.

Ministry means service, and all of us have been called to the teaching ministry here at EIS as well as in various ministries in our church. God made us unique and each of us has gifts and strengths that God intends for us to use when serving others. Let’s not try to be someone else but be ourselves and serve out of our strengths and passions. No act of service is “better” than another. However, the key to finding joy in serving others is to serve them out of our own unique gift mix.

However humble our sphere or lowly our work, if we labor in harmony with the teachings of the Saviour, He will reveal Himself through us, and our influence will draw souls to Him.

He will honor the meek and lowly ones, who seek earnestly to do service for Him. Into all that we do, whether our work is at home, at church, inside the classroom, or in the office, we are to bring the endeavor to save souls. We are to keep our souls in the love of God, working together and using the means entrusted to us in the Master’s service. Whatever our hands find to do, we are to do it with cheerfulness; whatever sacrifice we are called upon to make, we are to make it cheerfully.

What present rewards do we get from serving others?

1. Happiness
2. Blessing
3. Health
4. Strength
5. Peace

When we feel undeserving or unworthy, let us remember that the Saviour takes those whom He finds will be molded, and uses them for His own name’s glory. when we feel our joy slipping, let’s ask God to fill us with renewed joy as we serve others.

HOW A STUDENT TAUGHT A TEACHER

A Tribute to Teerapak Thospornvichai



By | **Shireen Regina Bazliel**
Academic Principal

I am going to die soon, so what's the use," defiance, determination, despair, and depression would be the prelude to any task or work given to him in class. Then he would smile cheekily and take the work, saying you will remember me and my work when I am gone.

Four years earlier, Teerapak had been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer for which there was and still is no cure. He fought battles, but most of them he won hands down. For three years, Teerapak acted like a regular student. When the pain came, chemo left him exhausted, but he determinedly fought back. When depression hit, it hit hard, and the opening lines were one of those times. Yet he would get up and carry on.

He withdrew from the school this August 2023, as his condition deteriorated rapidly. Fast forward to October 12, Thursday, his parents called us and asked us to pray for him; as he was slipping and slipping fast, we did. Then, his dad told him his older brother would be by his side on Friday. The doctors saw him plateau out, and he held on even though he was unconscious. His brother arrived on Friday, and we got the dreaded news that he was gone on Saturday at 9:00 p.m.

The two most important lessons he taught me as a teacher were: If you smile long enough, you will not get better, but you will make others feel better, so smile for others. Life is not about you; only death is, so make life about others.

Thank you, Teerapak, for inspiring us, your teachers. You will always be in our lives; our prayers will be with your parents and family. We all thank you for the lessons you have taught us.

Rest without pain. Your teachers promise to smile no matter what.



"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

| John 14:1-3



The EIS Middle School and High School came together to celebrate World Mental Health Day for the very first time on October 10, 2023. The event, organized by the Guidance and Counseling Department, aimed to create awareness and emphasize the significance of mental health in our lives, growing an environment where discussions around mental struggles are encouraged and supported.

MENTAL HEALTH DAY



By | **Gabriella Anastashia Lifiarestha**
Guidance Counselor, Middle School

Most participants agreed that tending to our essential needs and having supportive family and friends are very important. Additionally, students and teachers commemorated the occasion with a photo session.

On October 10, we had the privilege of hosting Dr. Natalie Chantagul, a psychotherapist who is also an alumna of our school, as our guest speaker. Dr. Chantagul, accompanied by her expert team, delivered an insightful seminar. The seminar covered various aspects of mental health, including distinctions between mental distress, illness, and disorder, as well as valuable insights into healthy strategies for coping with life's challenges. They also offered fun and interactive activities for students to participate in.

This celebration signifies a significant step in promoting mental health awareness at our school. It encourages open conversations, reduces stigma, and equips students with essential life skills. Together, we prioritize mental health and support one another on this vital journey.

To kick off the event, on October 9, 2023 students and teachers engaged in a simple activity. They were asked to answer two fundamental questions, "What can you do today to take better care of yourself?" and "What is your favorite part of your life?".





The cutest section in the EIS campus held its first-ever school-to-home connection via the Early Years Connect program initiated by Counselor Piangruthai Jittaseno of the Kindergarten to Grade Two section on October 31, 2023. Initially intended to be held at the Student Center of the Elementary Building, the event was transferred to the Milne Auditorium due to an overwhelming pre-registration.

The cutest section in the EIS campus held its first-ever school-to-home connection via the Early Years Connect program initiated by Counselor Piangruthai Jittaseno of the Kindergarten to Grade Two section on October 31, 2023. Initially intended to be held at the Student Center of the Elementary Building, the event was transferred to the Milne Auditorium due to an overwhelming pre-registration.

“The Early Years Connect is a classroom for parents to learn topics relevant to young children’s social-emotional well-being and their development



EARLY YEARS CONNECT



By | **Evangeline Tan-Alvez**
Media Officer

skills and growth. This first session focuses on Executive Functioning (EF) determining why children need them, how parents can help their development, and what systematic methods and interventions can be done to hone them,” explained Ms. Piangruthai as she laid down the purpose of the gathering. She continued to elaborate on the set of skills stemming from the coordination of three cognitive processes namely: cognitive flexibility, working memory, and inhibitory control. Ms. Piangruthai furthermore provided practical and impactful recommendations on how parents can support their children’s executive function growth.

It was an insightful presentation that actively involved the parents’ participation evident in their notetaking and personal follow-up inquiries with the counselor. Parents who came to grace the learning session were likewise requested to submit a feedback form via Google Forms.





THAILAND UNIVERSITY FAIR



By | **Danielle Elinore Ardeza**
Guidance Counselor, Grades 9-10

Management in Academic Association with Les Roches, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, British College by Sripatum University, and Ignite Education presented their respective universities to our high school students. The fair provided a platform for these institutions to showcase their academic programs, campus facilities, and extracurricular activities to prospective enrollees. Representatives from these universities engaged with the students, answering their questions and providing information.

“Since most of our students are Thai, our main objective for this event is to provide high school students and their parents an opportunity to meet with local college representatives in person. These interactions give attendees important insights into various topics such as diploma programs, available scholarships, admission requirements, financial details, and more. This firsthand information enables them to make well-informed decisions and plan effectively for their future educational pursuits.” shared Mr. Deepak Lopchang Tamang, the University Counselor for grades eleven and twelve. Overall, the event was a great success, with many students expressing interest in pursuing higher education at these universities.



On October 12, 2023, Ekamai International School organized the Thai University Fair for high school students through its Guidance Department. The Milne Auditorium hosted the event, which saw the participation of seventeen universities from Thailand.

Chulabhorn International (College of Medicine), Dusit Thani College, Chulalongkorn University, Mahidol University, Thammasat University, Silapakorn University (International College), Asia-Pacific International University, Bangkok University, Thai-Nichi International College, Kasetsart University, King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Mahidol University (International College), Assumption University, Asian Institute of Hospitality





UNDERSTANDING YEAR ONE OF WASC ACCREDITATION



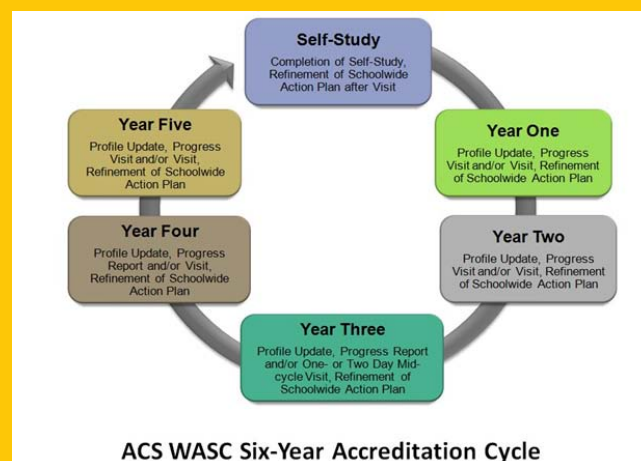
By | **Ian Cordero**
Accreditation Coordinator

“Quality is never an accident. It is always the result of intelligent effort.” – John Ruskin

The school improvement process is a result-driven approach focusing on quality student learning through accreditation. The learning quality that students experience at school will emerge from analyzing student achievement data, schoolwide learner / desired outcomes, and school programs and processes. The school utilizes multiple ways to analyze student achievement data, including perception data, examination of student work, and observation of students engaged in learning. Next, the schoolwide learner outcomes define what students need to know and understand and what it means to prepare them to be internationally minded or globally competent. Academic standards are also part of the desired outcomes that drive the school’s instructional program and support operations. Through the self-study using the WASC criteria, the school reflects on the effectiveness of the school processes and programs for students and their impact on student learning. Thus, the result of the accreditation process, regardless of where the school is in the perpetual cycle of self-reflection through assessment, action plan creation, implementation, and reassessment, should be anchored upon student achievement and quality learner outcomes.

After a scheduled visit, a call for celebration ensues for the success of the self-study. Then, the school moves forward, keeping these questions in the proper perspective: Where is the school headed now? Does the school possess a clear roadmap?

In preparation for the self-study in six years, EIS engages in ongoing processes yearly that focus



on student learning, well-being, and school improvement. For year one, the school prepares the annual update of the school profile, progress report with or without a special visit, and revision of the schoolwide action plan.

The first crucial preliminary task revolves around the student/community profile update, ongoing analysis, and stakeholder discussion. The updated profile relates to significant accomplishments and may link to specific sections in the schoolwide action plan. The effective presentation of the profile data requires ongoing analyses useful for evidence-based decision-making as part of the school’s commitment to providing quality education. A critical factor in preparing the updated profile would be the discussion among key stakeholder groups as they examine three-year trends and patterns. Ideally, the school summarizes the extent to which all students have accomplished the schoolwide learner outcomes and the academic standards. The review of the school profile supports school leadership in effectively using essential information about



student learning and programs in dialogues to identify other growth areas for remediation in the upcoming months or even years and refine the existing action plan. As part of the ongoing school improvement, a system for efficient collection, analysis, and presentation of school profile data will be worth the investment to enhance the school's credibility based on the report.

Another critical element in the school improvement process is the yearly progress summary on the schoolwide action plan sections about student achievement. This summary entails the active involvement of stakeholders in the analysis of progress on the identified school and learner needs. These analytical comments highlight the impact on student learning and the continuous improvement initiatives with supporting evidence that leads to the school's conclusion on progress and impact on student learning. The progress summary will reach the attention of the school leadership and other appropriate governing authorities for review, approval, and celebration. The annual progress on the critical areas for follow-up depends largely on stakeholder involvement in the revision, implementation, and process for monitoring the progress on each aspect of the schoolwide action plan and realignment of school goals toward continuous improvement and student success in response to the clear and condensed analysis.

The final step entails necessary refinements on the school's clear roadmap, referring to a quality schoolwide action plan, a product of targeted modifications, purposeful dialogues, and stakeholder commitment. Feedback from the Visiting Committee report informs the changes in the action plan, including the critical areas for follow-up and other key issues identified in the report. The Leadership Team then engages in meaningful conversations to gather input

from stakeholder groups and ensure understanding and agreement on the school's ongoing work. After all the necessary modifications, the schoolwide action plan is ready to go with guidance from the Leadership Team during its implementation. Keep in mind that while monitoring the progress and documenting results, all stakeholders will focus on collecting and analyzing data as evidence of quality student learning. The school's roadmap serves as a concise and user-friendly action plan that engages stakeholders' efforts and outlines appropriate steps that create a lasting difference toward improved student achievement.

As we reflect on strategic planning and ongoing initiatives to support student learning and well-being, let the light of divine wisdom illumine our thinking processes. The words of Ellen G. White point us to the conditions of success for Adventist schools in urban areas. As our work has extended and institutions have multiplied, God's purpose in their establishment remains the same (Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 6, p. 224). Success in education depends on fidelity in carrying out the Creator's plan. Adherence to the principles of God's work will bring as great blessings to us as it would have brought the Hebrew people (Education, p. 50).

In summary, the first year of the six-year accreditation cycle necessitates significant tasks concerning the school profile update, progress summary, and revision of the action plan. The school leadership plays a crucial role in creating a support system that stimulates collaboration among key stakeholder groups to work toward improved student achievement. Thus, supporting student learning through the WASC accreditation process is possible in a strong school culture of learning, assessing, reassessing, analyzing data and progress, planning and implementing action steps, and periodically reflecting on what it takes to support quality learning.

References/Suggested Readings:

- George, Marilyn S. (2011). "Continuing the Improvement Journey After the WASC Visit: The Now What?," WW 2011, Vol. 23, Issue 1.
- Groves, Barry R. (2023). "Streamlining WASC Accreditation Reports: Enhancing Educational Excellence," WW Fall 2023.
- Taylor, John Wesley V. (2017). "Becoming the Head - Priorities in Adventist Education," The Journal of Adventist Education / Editorial 2017, Issue 1.
- White, Ellen G. Education, p. 50.
- White, Ellen G. Testimonies for the Church, Vol 6, p. 224.
- Accrediting Commission for Schools. (2020). Focus on Learning International Edition.



EIS GAMES



TEDxEIS



DECEMBER 2023

4,6,8	MS Pre-Exam Week
5	Father's Day Holiday
11	Substitution Constitution Day
6-13	2nd Quarter Examination
12	Kindergarten SPTC
13	Christmas Party
14-15	EIS Games
18-Jan 5	1st Semester Break
18-20	Office Open (7 AM-2PM)
18-22	Senior Community Service

JANUARY 2024

5	Office Open (7AM-2PM)
8	3rd Quarter Begins
10	Science Day
11	2nd Quarter Report Card (G12)
16	Teachers Day Holiday
17	Thai Field Trip (High School)
18	2nd Quarter Report Card (G1-G11)
17-19	Grade 5 Camping
19	General Business Sale
	Grade 8 Pre-TOEFL
22-26	Week of Prayer (Students)
28	TEDxEIS by SC
29-30	Grade 11 IELTS Speaking Test
30	Grade 10 IELTS Practice Test
31	Grade 11 IELTS Written Test



**EKAMAI
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**

VISION

EIS aspires to
create moral
character
development.

MISSION

EIS offers
Christ-centered
academic
program.

PHILOSOPHY

EIS recognizes God, our creator,
as the ultimate source of
knowledge, wisdom, and truth.

EIS believes in harmonious
development of the body,
mind, social, and spiritual
aspect of its students.

IDENTITY

Empowers
Inspires
Serves



EKAMAI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Empowers. Inspires. Serves



Founded in 1946, Ekamai International School continues to offer an unparalleled quality Adventist Christian education. We adhere to solid American curriculum with Thai language and culture instruction. Our shared goal is to educate and inspire our students to be moral, responsible, and caring individuals in a global community.

OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

Pre-kindergarten to High School



www.eis.ac.th



02-391-3593, 02-391-3596



info@eis.ac.th



57 Ekamai 12 Sukhumvit 63, Klongtan Nua,
Wattana, Bangkok 10110 Thailand