



Thai Field Trip

On Thursday, November 5, the Grade 2 classes embarked on a wonderful bus trip around our very own community of Minburi! Khun Rujapa was excited about the trip two weeks after it took place and said, “We wanted the students to understand important places in this community. It’s important to see Minburi because many students don’t know this district very much.”

Students traveled in two buses and were treated to views of Minburi, Nong-chok and Bangchan. While traveling through the communities, students encountered “real” places they have been studying in class like Fire Stations, Police Stations and Hospitals.

“It’s also important to see how other cultures and religions live,” said Khun Rujapa. “There are so many important things like the Muslim village, mosques and the first industrial estate in Thailand. If the school didn’t take the students to these places, they might not have any idea that mosques, temples and churches could exist so peacefully so close together.”

Shortly after the Grade 2’s returned from their bus trip, the Grade 3’s embarked on a bus trip to the Tab Chang Plant Market on November 9. The Thai department organized the Grade 3 trip in conjunction with the Grade 3 unit on Environment.

Grade 3 students were told, “Ask everything about the plants and trees... ask what is useful and how you can use it,” said elementary Thai teacher Khun Ja. “It is important to know about the plants and how they relate to the environment – because the students are concerned about global warming and the ozone.”

The grade level field trips with the Thai department are important links to our school community and our environment. As Khun Rujapa summarized, “It is very important that we take advantage of our local wisdom.”

Khop Khun Khrub, Thai Department!

Welcome Ms. Christina

You might have seen a new face in the hallways of the elementary section – and particularly on the 5th floor. Ms. Christina Opie is the newest addition to the elementary teaching team while Ms. Diana is away with her new baby boy.

Ms. Christina has lived in Thailand for three years, and came with her husband Andy – who is here on missionary work.

“RIS is a great environment,” said Ms. Christina in her classroom, “the kids are fun and have great personalities.” Because the students in Grade 5

rotate between subjects, Ms. Christina teaches Social Studies. “Mapping has been a lot of fun,” she says, “The other thing I love is reading – and seeing how the students interact with the books.”

Ms. Christina is originally from California, so she isn’t too surprised by the weather in Bangkok.

“I’m excited to be here for Ms. Diana – and I hope people will stop by and say hello. I’d like to get to know everyone before I go.”

Welcome to the RIS community, Ms. Christina!

