

April 24, 2009

Dear Parents, Faculty and Staff:

We are back at our desks after the long Easter and Songkran holidays. I hope you all had a very peaceful time with your family. It is unfortunate that this year's Songkran was marred with violent confrontations between soliders and anti-government protesters. We pray that the situation will continue to improve and all of Thailand will be united as one family soon.

In our RIS/RIST community last week we were delivered the terrible news of the tragic death of a very dear family. Mr. & Mrs. Pathumwassana and their two children, Thanawat, Grade 7 at RIS and Sasima, Grade 10 at RIST were found in their home on April 11.



For those of you who knew the students personally, we request that you celebrate the time that you had with them and remember how they touched your souls with their charm, intellect, love and kindness. These two students brought joy and happiness to our lives and have affected the hearts of many. We must remember that true life, the life of the soul, occurs in this world for some only a brief time, but continues eternally in the other worlds of God.

For those of you who did not know them personally, we ask you to join us in our efforts to provide the necessary support and strength to our RIS/RIST family for this sudden loss. Our crisis team has already implemented a response plan to this tragic event which focuses on helping our faculty and students return to regular learning and other activities as early as possible.

Please join me and the rest of the RIS/RIST administrators, faculty, staff and students in extending our heartfelt sympathy to the Pathumwassana family.

Peace,

Fr. Pattarpong Srivorakul, C.Ss.R.
Head of School