

April 9, 2010

Dear Parents, Faculty and Staff:

Happy Thai New Year! The traditional Songkran Festival is a very important time of year for people all over the country. Apart from marking a new beginning, Songkran is also a time for giving thanks. It is an important time for all of us to reflect upon the many acts of kindness, generosity and compassion we have towards each other.

Songkran is a Thai word which means "move" or "change place" as it is the day when the sun changes its position in the zodiac. It is the inherent nature of things on this earth to change, as we see around us the change of the seasons. Every spring is followed by a summer and every autumn brings a winter -- every day a night and every evening a morning. There is a sequence in all things.

I remember hearing somewhere that "change is inevitable, growth is intentional." Change happens everyday at Ruamrudee International School – it's inevitable, but with change comes the opportunity for learning new things and growth of not only an individual, but of an institution.

This is my last letter to you as Head of School of RIS, as I will be moving to Pattaya to head up the Redemptorist Foundation working with the children in need. I am looking forward to my new assignment with much anticipation and "intentional" growth. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to learn new things and be of a source of comfort to the children each and every day.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your most generous support and encouragement during my stay here at Ruamrudee. I could not have carried on with the day-to-day challenges without you. I recall the day I stood up to address all of you at Assembly on that first week of my assignment here, and I told you this was an opportunity for all of us to learn from each other. Thank you for providing that gift to me.

I wish you all much success in your future endeavors, and encourage you to continue to improve our thoughts, words, actions, deeds, and intentions for ourselves and others. Happy Songkran!

Peace,

Fr. Pattarapong Srivorakul, C.Ss.R.

Head of School

