

February 27, 2009

Dear Parents, Faculty and Staff:

Our Administrators are all back from trips abroad attending job fairs and recruiting new teachers for our next school year. At RIS, we recognize that in order to fulfill our vision of academic excellence for all students, we need to recruit and retain the very best teachers and staff. The good news is that we have recruited some highly qualified teachers who will join us beginning next term, adding to our top-notch current faculty. With the new additions, we are committed to ensuring educational excellence for all our students.

Speaking of excellence, we have some great news to celebrate. Our Vice Principal of the Elementary Section, Jim Gerhart, recently received the "Earnest Mannino Scholarship Award 2009" by the Association of Advancement of International Education (AAIE) for his outstanding contribution to international education. It is a tremendous honor and we are very proud of Jim. He was in the US recently to receive this prestigious award.



You may think out teachers are pure academicians. Jeff Ryback proved us wrong. Jeff is not only our highly qualified AP English and technology teacher in the High School, but he is also a talented screenwriter. He is so good at it, in fact, that he has been honored as an Official Finalist in the Honolulu International Film Festival. His screenplay, "The Wind Riders," was one among ten screenplays chosen from over a thousand entries from around the world. Congratulations and good luck, Jeff!

Next week, a world renowned Classical Music and Ballet Dance Troupe are coming to RIS from Japan. They are bringing excellence to our school. It will be a fantastic cultural performance. The Japanese group will perform at the PAC to RIST students on March 4 and to RIS HS students on March 5. Both performances are from 1:15 to 2:35 p.m. Parents are most welcome to come to either show.

As always, our campus is buzzing with activities...clubs, student council activities, performing arts, and sports programs provide many opportunities that encourage the development of social skills for all students. One of the activities - the popular Talent Show by the Elementary School - which I am looking forward to, will take place next Friday, March 6, at 12:30 p.m. in Godbout Hall. Please mark your calendars. It will be loads of fun watching the little ones prove their talents on stage.

Have a terrific weekend!

Peace,

Fr. Pattarapong Srivorkaul, C.Ss.R.

Head of School