

March 13, 2009

Dear Parents, Faculty and Staff:

Every time I walk into Fr. Travis's office, I am reminded of how each of us can play a key role in saving energy and cost. He switches off the lights in the daytime to save energy and gets his light source from the sunlight coming through the windows. It's the little things we all can do together that can have a big effect on the reduction of energy and costs in a time of economic difficulties at home and worldwide.



The latest economic news will cause many of us some concern. Factory jobs are disappearing in many countries, including Thailand. Inflation is soaring. Unemployment is climbing to alarming levels. The U.S. unemployment rate surged in February to 8.1 percent, the highest level in more than 25 years.

We need to be prepared for the worst. We need to be prepared if the economic environment in Thailand turns worse than expected. As I write, every country in the world is cutting forecasts. We have no idea how bad it might get.

Caution is the watchword and we need to prioritize our spending. At RIS, our team is taking a close look at our expenses and finding ways to be more cost effective while at the same time providing the best for our students to excel academically. When the economy starts dipping downward, schools too often cut back on benefits and hiring, hoping to simply weather the storm. But at RIS, we plan to continue with our programs and activities, maintaining highly qualified faculty and staff to provide the best academic programs for our students. You can be assured of this.

Just a reminder - next Friday, March 20, is the All School Parents Teachers Conferences. As always, this is an opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and discuss their child's progress and also visit our campus. While you are here, please drop by St. Luke's Art Gallery to see the latest production from our talented students!

Have a terrific weekend.

Peace,

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