

September 18, 2009

Dear Parents, Faculty and Staff:

“Universal Participation : Ozone Protection Unifies the World,” was the theme for International Ozone Day 2009. We commemorated the day on Wednesday, September 16, with officials from the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) here on our RIS campus, and I definitely felt the magic of unity and excitement in the air!



The entire campus was filled with activities to create awareness and to reflect on the progress that has been made in regards to the protection of the ozone layer, including educational workshops, booth displays from various environmental non-governmental agencies, and the *Phase-Out Concert at One*. The District Officer from Minburi, Mr. Krit Wacharasritham and high ranking officials from the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) honored us by attending the event and participating in the Tree Planting Ceremony. The highlight of the day was the superb performances of the Kaya Green Band who flew in from the Philippines specially for this occasion. They just electrified the audience with their passion for the protection of our environment.



Students from our elementary school captured the hearts of the UNEP officials with their pledge to save the environment during the Tree Planting Ceremony. Full of hope and enthusiasm, they truly believe they can save the world. At RIS, one of our goals is to bring in human values and virtues towards environmental stewardship and teach our students how to care for our precious environment.



My thanks and congratulations to all faculty, staff, students and parents who united together to make International Ozone Day a huge success!

I'm off this weekend to Kanchanaburi with 139 Grade 9 students as they unite together with their classmates in team-building activities, educational tours and great fun. This is an annual trip for our incoming Freshman class to the High School section in an effort to solidify them in their goals of making their high school experience the best it can be both academically and socially.

On another note, yesterday was College Night for parents of our graduating seniors. Our counsellors and HS administrators have already started the planning process to make sure college applications are sent on time to top universities around the world and in Thailand. Our staff will make every effort to guide our students for placement in universities and also obtain a generous amount of scholarships. As you are aware, the Class of 2009 Seniors received more than US\$6 million in scholarships alone from universities all over the world.

With this good news, let me end and wish you all a great weekend!

Peace,

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