

September 25, 2009

Dear Parents, Faculty and Staff:

"Your continuing support of progressive educational civic engagement has contributed greatly to the knowledge of the RIS community, the region, and the world. While International Ozone Day, 16 September, is celebrated by all countries around the world, Ruamrudee International School was the sole host of this event in Thailand."

This was a great compliment sent to Ruamrudee by the United Nations. Once again, my deepest appreciation goes to all those who worked diligently to make September 16, International Ozone Day 2009, a great success.

The United Nations was founded on the belief that the nations of the world could solve their problems together. Franklin Roosevelt, who died before he could see his vision for this institution become a reality, once said, "The structure of world peace cannot be the work of one man, or one party, or one nation.... It cannot be a peace of large nations -- or of small nations. It must be a peace which rests on the cooperative effort of the whole world."

We now must realize that in the 21st century, there will be no peace unless we take responsibility for the preservation of our planet. We all have important jobs to do. The danger posed by climate change cannot be denied. Climate change is an issue on every global leader's agenda. We, as individuals, our children and everyone in the community can play a role in helping to preserve our planet.

Whether in the school or at home, simple acts like switching off lights when you don't need them, replacing light bulbs in your home with energy-saving bulbs, raising the temperature of your air-conditioning units by a few degrees, routinely checking your mobile air conditioning systems (MAC) in your car and refrigerators that use the R-12 (CFC-12) refrigerant to prevent leakages into the atmosphere, and simply turning off the tap while brushing your teeth, can all help towards protecting our precious environment.

We at RIS will continue to work with non-governmental organizations and our faculty in creating awareness of this important issue and teach viable steps necessary for action in controlling climate change, which is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity today. We don't want future generations to look back and wonder why we refused to act; why we failed to pass on an environment that was worthy of our inheritance.

On another note, our campus was buzzing with activity this week as we had many university representatives on campus for students around Thailand to explore options for their higher educational opportunities once they graduate. I want to thank all the Counselors in each section who work hard in bringing the College Fair to our campus each year.



My sincere congratulation goes out to all the Vertical Marathon 2009 participants last Sunday at the Banyan Tree. This is a wonderful charity event where participants wake up very early to run up 1,093 steps to the top of the Banyan Tree, Bangkok! We had many students and teachers join from RIS and all money raised went to "HIV Formula Feeding Fund," a Thai Red Cross initiative under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Soamsawali

RIS will be celebrating International Week from October 12-16, 2009 and the International Food Sale will take place on Tuesday, October 13. It's going to be a fun day. Please contact the Parent Auxiliary if you'd like to help out on this day, and be sure to mark your calendars to attend.

This afternoon I am looking forward to attend the literacy seminar with one of Thailand's famous authors and SEA award winning writers, Mr. Chart Kobjitti, in the Griffith Library. We are very happy to be able to provide opportunities such as this for our students to learn from experienced and successful people in our community.



That's enough for this week. Have a terrific weekend.

Peace,

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