



August 15, 2008

Dear Parents of RIS:

I welcome you all for another exciting and fruitful academic year at Ruamrudee. I also extend a warm welcome to the new parents and students who will become an integral part of our *Union of Hearts* theme here at our school, aiming to foster a spirit of family love and caring the best we can.

If you've had a chance to walk around the campus, you may have noticed several new additions to our existing buildings, including a new changing room near the swimming pool. The pool is also undergoing repairs. This is just one element of our ongoing commitment to improve our facilities to accommodate the needs of our students.

As you know, we give important priority to academic excellence at RIS, so we have recruited more than 40 new teachers from around the world this year to further enhance the existing faculty at RIS and RIST. We are extremely proud of the expertise and talent they bring with them. You will have an opportunity to meet all the new members during the parent/teacher conferences in the near future.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all the parents to a special mass on Friday, August 22 at 7:15 a.m. in Phoenix Hall in memory of our late Father Tom Griffith, the founder of our Ruamrudee International School campus at Minburi. Father Tom took over the management of RIS in 1981 and served the community with true heart and soul until August 24, 1993. The whole campus stands as a memorial to Father Tom Griffith, whose picture is reverently stationed above the entrance door in the Administrative Building.

If anyone is watching the Olympics closely, you may already know that one of our alumni and teenage shooter, Tanyaport Prucksakorn, wrote a new chapter in Thai sporting history. Tanya finished seventh in the women's 25m pistol – the best-ever Olympic placing by a Thai sharpshooter. Congratulations, Tanya!

We will continue to celebrate the *Union of Hearts* theme at RIS throughout the year. As part of our appreciation, please collect your *Union of Hearts* car sticker at Gate 6 when you come to the school during your next trip.

Well, that's all for this week. Have a great weekend.

Peace,

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