Dear Parents and Students,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our students and parents who attended the Mother’s Day celebrations. Our students worked tirelessly on their performances and made our staff proud. Our mothers are precious to us and it was an honor to celebrate the mothers of our school in a joint effort with the Thai Program.

Our Program Changes

This month has seen a number of changes in our scheduling of classes and a restructuring of management in the EP department. Our school always puts the students first and it is our belief that the new changes will only strengthen our teaching staff and help us to provide the best possible education.

Teacher Faith is now the homeroom teacher for pratom 1/2. She will teach all Core subjects as well as continue as the ESL teacher for Thai Prohram P3 to P6.

Important Announcement

We would like to remind parents to check their children’s health regularly and keep them home if they are feverish. There is an unpleasant strain of flu going through Khon Kaen at this time and it is highly contagious.

Additionally, please be aware that head-lice are very easily spread through primary schools. A safe precaution is for girls to keep their hair tied up and to be checked when reporting any itching.

Upcoming Events

August 21-25
Academic Competition Day

September 8
Kindergarten Camp

October 2-6
Final Exams

October 13
Final Day of Term 1
Teacher Natashia has combined P1-6 for bi-weekly art and craft classes, allowing WEPA to become an activity based around socialization and games to give the students a chance to prepare themselves mentally for a relaxing weekend.

We will be inviting classes from the Thai Program to participate in the WEPA to give all students the opportunity to enjoy the activities and interact with each other.

More Important News

Reading A-Z

Our reading A-Z is going to be provided through printable books rather than online. The goal is to help students to work together in their reading classes through a book-club style. We would like to see the students reading more books at home too, and physical books help to separate the enjoyment of reading from the addiction of tablets. To this end, students will start borrowing books from the school library to take home for reading practice.

We are often asked by parents how they can best help their children at home. Reading is the most important skill for English Language Learners because all of their studies require the ability to read, comprehend, and discover context clues in their texts. Therefore, in this newsletter we have included two flyers that will guide parents to help their children become more confident and independent readers.
Reading at Home

Purpose
To build fluency, comprehension, word-solving and a love for reading in a supportive, loving environment using text at an independent-level.

Guidelines
☑ Sit next to your child while s/he reads so you can see the words & illustrations.
☑ Expect it to be on the easy side.
☑ Make it your child’s responsibility to return it school every single day. (Assist as needed ☑)

Parents, please make a point to...

support & Compliment

Word-Solving
When an error is made WAIT to give your child a chance to work on it independently.
When you are certain they are going to keep going, stop them saying something like, "Try that again," or "Make it match."

Comprehension
Ask questions that invite recall AND thinking, such as, “Why do you think ___ happened?” or “What do you think ___ means?” Urge re-reading to build comprehension as needed.

Fluency
Model expressive reading & have your child echo read. Encourage just-right pacing (not too fast, not too slow). Demonstrate how to attend to the punctuation (pausing at the end of sentences, adding expression based on the punctuation mark).

Comprehension: Word-solving
☑ You used the first letter & checked the picture!!
☑ You tried more than one strategy on your own!!
☑ Nice job trying a different vowel sound!!
☑ Super work making your eyes go through the beginning, middle & end of that word!!
☑ Lovely job sticking with it to work on solving!!

Comprehension: Comprehension
☑ You are self-monitoring & working on it when it does not make sense!!
☑ Your expression is showing that you understand what you’re reading.
☑ Wonderful job stopping to think about the text instead of reading to just get to the next page!!
☑ You remember the details beautifully!!

Fluency: Fluency
☑ You sounded just like the character would sound!!
☑ I could hear you take a break after the punctuation marks!!
☑ You are reading in phrases, not word-by-word!!
☑ Your speed is just right! Not too fast or too slow!!
WORD SOLVING STRATEGIES

Ways to Take Action & Solve Words
ALWAYS...
- Make Sense
- Sound Right
- Look Right

Eagle Eye
Look at the picture.
Think “What is in the picture that starts with the beginning letter?”

Lips the Fish
Get your mouth ready!
Say the beginning sound.

Stretchy Snake
Slowly stretch each letter sound to make the word.
ship = sh ill p.

Chunky Monkey
Break the word into chunks you already know.
mat = flat splat ter

Tryin’ Lion
Try to re-read the sentence.
Think “What makes sense?”

Skippy Frog
Skip the tricky word.
Read to the end.
Go back & try it again.

Flippy Dolphin
Flip the vowel sound.
Try the long & short sounds.

Careful Caterpillar
Carefully read the whole word.
Think about what makes sense.

Fluent Reading Sounds Like...
- Phrased like talk
- Expression matches meaning
- Paused at punctuation
- Pace is just right…not too fast or too slow

READ LIKE A STAR
- Study
- Think
- Ask
- Respond