

Ancient History

In ancient times, there was nothing. Only some fields, forests, animals, and a few people that lived without the kind of knowledge we have today. They just found some food and learned to survive in the wide world.

When they had children, the communes grew much bigger. They started to create their own language, and later when the communes became a nation they created laws.

"Why do we study ancient history?" This is a big question that was asked from generation to generation. "Nothing related to our lives, is it?" But it is the opposite. Ancient History really, really means a lot to us. Many people have made mistakes that the ancient people had already done before, and it keeps going on again and again.

This year, we realised the relationship between history and us, and to learn with Mrs. Allysen Caris was very brilliant for us. She could change history from something boring to become interesting and exciting by the way she taught. For example, when she was telling us about the Greek wars, we could feel that we were there, in the same place that she was talking about. We didn't feel that we were pressed too much when she was here, even if she gave us lots of work, this was very enjoyable for us.

Back to the ancient history! So now we know why we learn history. From right now, we have to choose which way we want to go. We can change the whole world with our hands, or we can carry on the way which people have built already.

"The play is being played here, but the characters are changing all the time!"

It's the first achievements we have made,

It's the first obstacles and hard work we all faced,

It's the first success that we can show,

But they aren't the first problems, we know.

We just need to get through,

To fight, to learn, to make it true!

Then when later we look back and wonder,

Every week on Thursday afternoon, we went to learn **Archery** at Ratchamangkara Hua Mak stadium.

For the first step our teacher taught us about the archery rules and when we use the bow, how to stand and hold the bow in the right way. Secondly, we learned and practiced how to pull and release with a rubber band in order to prevent a real bow string flick on our hand. (It's very painful when we are flicked, but everyone has done it now!)

When we used a real bow and grew more skilled, every month we would have a contest one time. The highest score was 10, that was in the middle of the target and it counted down from the middle reducing the points. But if we shot outside the target they would write "m" in the points sheet (it means miss). Then the teacher would check who shot the highest points and pair off such as number 1 with number 6. Finally, the winner didn't have a reward.....but the loser would have to walk like a duck around the archery field!

Every time the arrow was released and stuck into the target it showed the level of our concentration. The points were not important, but it was important before the arrows stuck into the target. How did it look when we shot? Was it straight? That told us to concentrate all the time on the things we do, to focus on the things we do, the actions and not just the purpose.

Joy is found not in finishing an activity but in doing it.

Work Experience

During October 2008, class 10 went on work experience.

Everybody went to work for 2 weeks in 2 places, and could go to any place they chose. It was up to their decision, but they had to work hard, because they had to take their work back to school. Some of them went far away from Bangkok, and sometimes it was very complicated to communicate with teachers, because of the language. But everything was fine in the end.

After work experience, class 10 also had to present their work to parents, as a group. They had to prepare a speech and tell parents what they had done, step by step. This meant that they had to work with each other, to argue about what they were going to say or not. It was a very good point that sometimes they didn't agree with somebody else, but they listened and thought carefully, so this taught them how to have good communication with each other and find the destination of the group together.

It was fun and exciting!!! Sometimes I was bored with the work because I had to do the same thing again and again, and I didn't like the food in Nakhon Ratchasima because it was very strong. But I knew that all these experiences could teach me something.

I understand much more about pottery now and I have something in my heart that I will keep forever! (Baitong)

Every part of making a samurai sword was difficult, from cutting the steel to decorating with a machine. Using the machines was very dangerous and I felt very excited. Now I know how to make it, I think it's more interesting—because it's not easy, it's very difficult! (Seal)

"I'VE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT HOW TO GET THROUGH PROBLEMS AND DO THINGS THAT I DON'T WANT TO DO. BECAUSE LIFE IS NOT ALWAYS THE WAY YOU WANT!" (PUTTER)

Types of work that we did:

Blacksmithing (Ayudhdhaya)
Making a cowboy hat (Saraburi)
Umbrella making (Chiang Mai)
Silversmithing (Chiang Mai)
Batik (Nakhon Sri Tummaraja)
Khon Head (Suphan Buri)
Pottery (Nakhon Ratchasima)

"To choose the way when we don't know what will happen is not an easy decision to make ... but our work experiences and life experiences can help us to choose more easily ... (Ai)

It was very difficult to do what I was not good at! I was not good at weaving when I learned it at school last year, but I decided to do weaving for work experience anyway. I thought it would be impossible when I decided to go there and learn how to weave a cowboy hat.

In the end, this event changed me and I am more confident now! (Tow)

Travelling as a child helps us learn some things,
But the travel now we're growing up, gives us experiences to keep forever. (Pann)

We cannot always choose the way we want to go, but the way we don't want to choose is always full of important lessons. So let's think positive! (Som)



POETRY The lesson that awakens our spirits!

During November of 2008, class 10 spent 3 weeks studying and working on "Ballads" with Noela Maletz, a teacher from Mount Barker Waldorf School in Australia. They looked at different ballads from the old time to the contemporary period.

Ballads usually come from stories about love, tragedy, murder, or supernatural happenings that have been told from place to place. Some ballads are mixed with music to be sung.

Class 10 did a lot of work throughout this lesson. They wrote some ballads from their imagination, ballads about love and friendship, ballads about their work experiences, also ballads of their lives and much more. They did some exercises in relation to the stories of those ballads they studied. These exercises helped them express their feelings and ideas clearly through their poems. They also helped them learn to enter into other characters and situations. All the way through this lesson, class 10 worked both individually, in groups and sometimes in pairs.

This lesson with Ms. Maletz made class 10 realise that poetry is not just a story or idea that is written in a special way, it is so full of passion! "When you try to write something that is quite difficult," said one of the class 10 students, "you will really think and put your heart into it. Maybe the poems are full of passion because it is just hard."

Writing poetry also makes you look at things around more clearly and makes you "really see what you see". (Most people today just see because their eyes are open. They don't really see what they see properly.) And doesn't that mean that poetry awakens us?

Yes, it is the lesson that awakens our spirits!

BELIEF

Some say it was Krishna
Who come to help and save us.
Some think that it was Zarathustra,
But some believe it was Jesus.
Maybe it was Muhammad,
Or it could be Yehovah?

"What is religion?"

We spent 2 weeks finding out what religion is and we also learned about:

- Hinduism - The Hindu scriptures and the four stages of life in Hindu tradition.
- Zoroastrianism - Zarathustra's wisdom
- Judaism - The Psalms
- Christianity - The Old Testament and New Testament
- Islam - Rituals of Islam

There are many arguments about religions and it's important to know why it causes so many conflicts. But you have to know what religion is first.

Religion is someone's belief, therefore they feel strongly about it. Then when it is argued, we often do anything to make our religion right first. Sometimes by not looking at other reasons.

Every religion teaches people to be good but the way they teach is different. So we can not say other religions are wrong or bad.

After this lesson was finished it changed the way we think about other religions.

Painting

In 'Painting' Noela showed us how to use different colours in different ways.

For example, when we painted lots of plants and flowers together we used pale yellow first and then we put the colour that we liked, but we had to be very careful because Noela doesn't like some colours that are not natural, (such as very bright, ugly purple or pink ('~')).

She taught us how to paint tulips using red and orange, views of islands and the sea. We painted a blue sky full of birds and finally, we learnt how to paint a

human face. (If you want more details, you can ask the students in CLASS 10!!!!)

It was a long journey with her. At first, some students felt very stressed and thought that it would be difficult, but everyone knew that she had good intentions to teach us.

She helped us learn that all our efforts will lead us on the way to success.

Class 10 spent a long time preparing for a grand performance in **Eurythmy** - "The Magic Flute". Everyone worked very hard on this project. No one in our class had ever done this before so, all of us were quite nervous. Mr. Kenya was very serious about this; he trained us very hard to get everything on the line.

Why do we need to learn **Eurythmy**? What does **Eurythmy** help us do? These questions have been being asked for a long time and they will be reviewed here.

Eurythmy helps us to be awake all the time and to focus better in activities that we do. It also helps children that are too awake to be balanced and relaxed at the same time too.

Eurythmy expresses words in gestures. In the play "The Magic Flute" we needed to do things over and over again to remember all of the movements and posture. Everybody was really focused and we all did our best.



Lessons for Life

Hello, dear readers! Welcome to this "News-Letter" by Class 10 students of *Panyotai Waldorf School*!

First of all, we would like you to think about this question before you read on:

Can you call those lessons you studied when you were in class 10 the "Lessons for Life?"

Your answer may be YES or NO. For us, the answer is "Absolutely Yes!" We have experienced so many new things that we hadn't known before, both in the class room and in real-life experience. And we are sure that they will be useful for us and everyone in the future. So we would like to share with you some interesting and unforgettable lessons we have learned throughout this wonderful year.....

Continue reading, and you will find out what some of our "Lessons for Life" are!

Enjoy reading!!

Class 10 of 2008/2009

