



STIC

ON POINT



STIC NURSING'S CAPPING CEREMONY 2021

By: Piyathida Banprom, Education English, Year 3

The annual capping ceremony of the 2nd year nursing students was held on December 3, 2021 at Joseph Marie Building, St. Theresa International College.

During the ceremony, 2nd year nursing students received their nurse's caps and nightingale lamps supported by the teachers and staffs of Nursing Faculty.

Mr. Saranphong Wongboonsri, a 2nd year nursing student, was interviewed for our newspaper. He said, before the ceremony began, the 2nd year nursing students did not have enough time to prepare and practice for the ceremony, but it finished successfully and this ceremony shall be most memorable. Moreover, he wanted to thank the teachers, the staffs, and his friends for their support in making this ceremony successful and unforgettable.



WHO SAYS “OMICRON IS SPREADING RAPIDLY IN MANY COUNTRIES”

By: Rattawisa Butsan, Education English, Year 3



World Health Organization (WHO) informed the public that the Omicron strain of COVID-19 is spreading at an unprecedented rate in almost 77 countries.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director of the World Health Organization, mentioned that more and more countries may have been infected with Omicron, but still not detectable.

Tedros also said that up to this moment, measures were insufficient to fight the mutated virus.

The Omicron variant was first identified in South Africa in November and has spread so fast that even South African President Cyril Ramposa himself got infected.

Since the alarming news was heard, many countries around the world have banned people of South Africa from entering their land, sadly, this has not stopped the Omicron epidemic.

Mr. Ghebreyesus pointed out his thoughts about the not so organized distribution of the vaccine after many countries have turned to require their citizens to get vaccinated in order to deal with the outbreak of Omicron.

From the recent news reports about Omicron on December 22-23, 2021, there were 122,245 cases with 18 cumulative deaths and with outbreaks in 96 countries around the world.



CONFLICT BETWEEN CHINA AND USA ON WINTER OLYMPICS 2022

By: Thanawut Saengsee and Wichitta Hwaikhe, Education English, Year 3



The 2022 Winter Olympics is scheduled to be held in Beijing, China on February 4 - 20, 2022. Beijing was chosen as the host city at the 128th session of the International Olympic Committee in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia defeating Almaty, Kazakhstan.

But before commencing the most-anticipated competition, the Chinese government has expressed its concerns about human rights violations in China. These countries will still send athletes to compete as usual but will not send diplomatic and government officials to watch the event.





ATC GRAD FLIES

By: Phubordin Pornthong, ATC Graduate and Praewa Duangchu, Education English, Year 3

Before, I wanted to be a soldier or a pilot, but I didn't really like being a commercial pilot because of the high competition and other difficulties. When I consulted my father, he told me that he wanted to be a pilot but didn't want to be a commercial pilot too. Having such an answer, a question came to my mind, "What should I do?" After some time, my father advised me to become an army pilot. But before that happens, I had to pass the military service exam first. My father used to be an army pilot at the Royal Thai Army Aviation Center, 9th Aviation Battalion, formerly known as the 9th Rotary Wing Wing.

I asked my father again if I could do an internship there because I wanted to gain experiences and receive some smart guidance from the professionals there. Not long ago, I was accepted to do my internship at Sa Phran Nak Air Base Aviation Control Tower at the Royal Thai Army Aviation Center in Lopburi Province. I was able to take the military entrance exam and ranked as a sergeant major.

Now, I'm preparing to take the army pilot exam. Soon after completing my 2 years of doing some civil service, I'll be so much ready to pass this exam.



VACCINE COMBO

By: Phichamon Mingkhwan, Education English, Year 3

Many people would be asking if they could mix and match different vaccine brands or not. If possible, as per advice of a number of health professionals, get your second or third dose with the same vaccine you received for your first dose. There isn't sufficient information whether COVID-19 vaccines can be mixed -and-matched. More research is being done to understand this better to inform the public and for future recommendations.

In situations where a second dose of AstraZeneca is yet not available, health officials have stated that a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna can administered instead. There is a large number of individuals who received one dose of AstraZeneca then by a second dose of either Pfizer or Moderna for their second dose with evidence that they had a higher likelihood of mild side effects.



1st Dose	2nd Dose	Booster
Pfizer	Pfizer	Pfizer
Pfizer	Pfizer	Moderna
Moderna	Moderna	Moderna
Moderna	Moderna	Pfizer
Sinovac	Sinovac	Pfizer
Sinovac	Sinovac	Moderna

COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE


Clarke County Hospital
 An Affiliate of  UnityPoint Health

COVID-19 VACCINE MIX-AND-MATCH

People over 60 who have received two doses of Sinovac and Sinopharm are suggested to be given a third dose to help boost their immunity. SAGE has stated that Pfizer or AstraZeneca can also be used for the third dose, if the original vaccine is not available.

Now, many countries are also widening the reach of COVID-19 vaccines to young individuals and but as expected, parents were alarmed of the possible effects of the vaccines on their children.

Whatever vaccine brand it is, how young or old someone may be, whatever life status someone may be in, the world has only one prayer, which is to end the war with COVID-19.



BOOSTER VACCINE

By: Thida Thisum and Areeya Khamphapuk, Education English, Year 3



World Health Organization (WHO) has reported the newest Variants of Concern (VOC) strain is the B.1.1.529 strain, or Omicron, which was initially reported in South Africa.

Omicron was first detected in Thailand from the results of the first sampling examination on 30 November from an American tourist, 35 years old male, who came to Thailand after traveling from Spain.

With such fear, the Ministry of Public Health Thailand announced that those who have received the first 2 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine can receive the third dose to boost the body's immunity.

Furthermore, the United Kingdom has faced a new wave of COVID-19 outbreaks. Boris Johnson, the UK's prime minister, announced that the country was facing the new strain of Covid-19, Omicron. He raised the alert level to level 4, which is almost the highest severity of multiple cases of the strain.

Students, lecturers and staff of St. Theresa International College have made their way to the nearest vaccination centers and receive their booster vaccine. The booster vaccine has added in some ways, confidence to STICians with the safety and protection that the third dose could give them.

Each passing day, hospitals are again becoming busy-as-a-bee providing jabs to Thai nationals desiring to boost their immune system.

COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOTS

SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus Variant

OMICRON

(B.1.1.529)

New worry | The newly discovered B.1.1.529 variant of SARS-CoV-2 in South Africa has been named **Omicron** and classified as a variant of concern

Country	Cases
SOUTH AFRICA	AROUND 100
BOTSWANA	4
HONG KONG	2
BELGIUM	1
ISRAEL	1
DENMARK	1

CASES ATTRIBUTED TO NEW VARIANT

According to the WHO, preliminary evidence suggests an increased risk of reinfection with this variant, compared to others

Masks-up: People at a shopping mall in Johannesburg in South Africa. • AP

SOURCE: AP, AFP, REUTERS

HOSPITEL AT YOUR SERVICE

By: Wayupak Sritho and Kornkanok Paratang, Education English, Year 3



You might think that the word used in the title of this news story is misspelled. Your visions aren't blurred, the word "hospitel" is spelled right. You might ask what this new vocabulary word means. Hospitel is a combination of two words: hospital and hotel. With the very limited spaces in most of the hospitals across the country, some establishments offer their spaces for Hospitel Services to accommodate patients diagnosed with COVID-19. Hospitel Services are applicable for green group patients who are presenting with mild or no signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and aged below 60, self-dependent without mental health issues.

To make things clearer for you, let me put in here more details with regards to COVID-19 color groups:

Green Group

Patients with no or mild signs and symptoms e.g. fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes and skin rash.

Yellow Group

Patients with mild to moderate signs and symptoms, shortness of breath (dyspnea) and fast breathing (tachypnea).

Patients with at least one of the following risk factors for poor outcomes:

1. Age > 60-year-old
2. Lung and respiratory diseases, e.g. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
3. Chronic Kidney Diseases (CKD)
4. Cardiovascular diseases (including Congenital Heart Disease)
5. Neurovascular diseases e.g. stroke
6. Poorly-controlled diabetes
7. Obesity (weight greater than 90 kg and/or Body Mass Index (BMI) > 30 kg/m²)
8. Liver diseases
9. Immunodeficiency disorders (defined as low white blood cell counts, less than 1,000 cells/mm³)

Red Group

Patients with severe respiratory symptoms, e.g. shortness of breath and trouble breathing. Chest x-ray shows signs of severe pneumonia.

Patients with pneumonia (Fingertip oxygen saturation at rest < 96% or post-exercise fingertip oxygen saturation drops ≥ 3%).

<https://www.bangkokhospital.com/en/content/hospitel-services>

On a lighter note, COVID-19 pandemic has coined vocabulary words and improves some peoples' language stock.

BBC

Leo has got his new voice in time for Christmas.

A MORE FITTED VOICE WAS HEARD ONCE AGAIN

By: Nuengluechai Kokaphan and

Aichaya Khaisaeng, Education English, Year 3



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Leo Carstensen has relied on using a sound-assisting device because of his cerebral palsy. He has been using this device for years but because an old man-like voice comes out from the device, he thinks that this kind of voice does not suit his age.

After a long search for a voice that would fit Leo's age, Thor Jones, a staff from National Star College, found a voice from a voice donor, Dan Lazenbe, 24 years old, male.

Dan Lazenbe has stayed in recording room at High Wycombe City, Buckinghamshire, England and has recorded 1,200 phrases.

Because of their help, Leo got a new voice before Christmas Day. After Leo got his new voice, he met Dan and said, "He is very surprised and excited of his new voice because it can express his generosity to others". Dan said that he felt a bit weird at first but he was also happy to Leo and happy for being a giver.

