

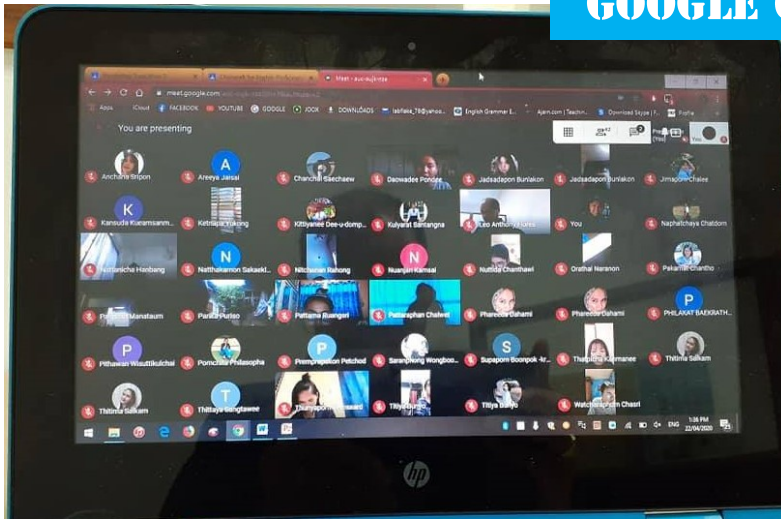


STIC

ON POINT

#NEWNORMALLEARNING

GOOGLE CLASSROOM AND MEET



understand much about homework assignments. When I continued my studies, I began to adjust more. There are still a lot of vocabulary words that I don't know, and when I see them, I will write them down and find their meaning later. I can understand what the teacher is trying to convey, although not all, but I understand the importance of it. I started to adapt more and what made me feel better and not too stressed was when the teacher had games for us to play together. I feel that it can make me and my friends feel more relaxed with my studies and I like it a lot. (Boonyalak Phokliang, Tourism and Hotel, Y1)

The Summer Intensive English Program 2020 was offered in the most unique way from all the other past intensive classes. Why? It's all because of the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Education of Thailand had announced that physical classes are not allowed for a certain time period. Following the announcement, St. Theresa International College conducted all the classes ONLINE. The college adapted to online learning resources: GOOGLE CLASSROOM and MEET to continue its vision on giving language practice and learning to the freshmen to be for the new academic year (2020-2021).

This #NewNormalLearning is not that famous to many. Both lecturers and students needed to undergo some training to be familiar with the new teaching and learning platforms. As days, weeks, months passed, both parties have developed a palsy walsy relationship with GOOGLE CLASSROOM and MEET.

Having this kind of teaching-learning platform, we asked some of our students about their opinion. Here are some of the responses:

I have a lot of concerns about studying online because I'm not good at English. On my first day of learning and my first assignment, I still didn't

It's the first time I've studied online. Of course, I am very excited to study with our teachers, but online learning will prevent me from meeting teachers and classmates in the real classroom. It's difficult to discuss various lessons and I think we will meet soon. (Anupab Jaikuson, Airline Bbusiness, Y1)

Online classes are good because we can go in and out all the time, like to go see the content of study, but it is not good when sending work or when the teacher teaches because sometimes the signal is not good. If I had to choose between studying in the room and online, I choose studying in the room because it would be more convenient and easier to understand. (Rawicha Akkaramingmongkol, Airline Bbusiness, Y1)

What I like about online learning is that it doesn't have any geographical barriers. I don't need to be physically present in class. I can study anywhere and access all learning materials from the online platform. However, there were times that I could not concentrate on the lessons while studying at home. I have realized two things. Online learning teaches students to become independent learners, and to be a successful online learner, I have to be responsible, self-disciplined and able to work well on my own. (Boodsayamat Sansuriwong, Airline Bbusiness, Y1)



Even though there are internet problems, teachers still teach us with patience and kindness. We are so thankful for that. I think the online class initiative of St Theresa International College is very successful. Sometimes, it makes us feel bored but I saw that many of my friends were motivated to learn. They love their teachers and enjoy learning with them. (Sittichai Thongsuk & Thanaporn Wongwilaikun, Business English Y1)

My online classes are a convenience for me. They allow me to stay home with my family. They save time and saving time is important to me. The extra time makes a big difference for me as I can do my hobbies and develop other skills. The only downfall to my online classes was poor internet connection. I think this problem should be considered when studying online. (Thidaporn Suksawang, Logistics, Y1)

At first, I thought studying online would be difficult for me since I was used to the traditional way of attending classes but as times went by, I was happy about it. I was able to learn my lessons well. My teacher has used engaging and challenging activities. I was also able to save money because I didn't have to travel to college. Although there were fewer opportunities for socializing with friends, online learning is a good option for studying. (Attapol Jarearnpol, Education Math, Y1)

In my opinion, the online classroom can be stressful in some ways. There's less communication between teachers and students. Minimal participation in most of the learning activities provided by teachers resulted in less understanding for some students. In classroom learning, I learn more by doing, seeing and interacting with the teacher and peers. Along with that, I meet new friends and spend time with them to discuss homework with the help of the teacher. Everyone learns and creates learning paths and knowledge differently. (Natthakamon Sakaeklang, Nursing, Y1)

For me online class is something new but it's so exciting to learn how to use the technology. It's very convenient and fun to use because we can still study and talk with teachers and friends at home. We can do homework and get our scores, too. However, we are still unable to see other friends face-to-face and do some college activities. Some of my friends have been struggling with poor

connections so they missed classes and that's a significant problem about online learning. Anyway, during COVID-19 outbreak, students can still study online so I feel thankful for this technology. (Saranphong Wongboonsri, Nursing, Y1)

In my opinion, online class is very comfortable. You can study anywhere. You just need a strong internet connection. If you don't understand something, you can just come back to watch if it was recorded. But there are some problems: first, if you don't have a decent internet connection, you'll have a hard time figuring out what the teacher is teaching. Second, if you're staring at the screen too long, it can be bad for your eyes. Overall, I think online class is just one of the many ways of studying. (Ittikorn Hongcharoen, Hotel and Tourism, Y1)

Online Class is convenient and encourages privacy/anonymity. Students can learn wherever they want, but the study pacing is slower when there is an internet problem. Too much convenience makes students get up late and feel lazy. Some do not take their morning showers and remain in pajamas while not studying actively. But for me, I like to study online because I do not want to have the risk of getting COVID-19, and I like to have my own privacy. (Pensiri Suktongsa, Education English Y1)



WAI KRU 2020 IN THE MIDST OF COVID-19 IS UNSTOPPABLE



Though the country is still fighting to stop the spread of COVID-19, by observing some protocols (Social Distancing, NO to Social Gatherings, Wearing of Face Masks/Shields), the college was unstoppable in giving much appreciation to their beloved deans and lecturers. A day before the actual Teacher's Appreciation Day, each faculty/department was tasked to display students' creativity by making pretty flower trays. The victorious groups were: Creativity Category – Airline Business (winner), Public Health (1st) and Hotel and Tourism (2nd) and for Beauty Category – Airline Business

(winner), International Business, Logistics Management and Accounting (1st) and Public Health (2nd).

After the awarding, students' representatives from each team proceeded to their dean's office to express their warmest appreciation to their second parents here at STIC. The dean's office was filled with much gratitude from the students towards their dean and some of their lecturers. In return, the dean and some lecturers conveyed their parental wishes and blessings to their so-called children. Such scenarios brought goose bumps to the spectators.

BOSOM CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

One Friday luncheon time (June 26) spotlighted the life celebration of our beloved Madam Dr. Theresa V. Phromsuntron. The intimate get-together was attended by her sweet family members and thoughtful STIC family members. Wishes, blessings and gifts were bestowed to our most hardworking Madam which made her natal day extra special. One of the highlights of the luncheon party was when her loved ones expressed their deepest appreciation for her dedication in pursuing the success of the institution. Later, all the birthday wishers shared the pleasant-tasting dishes. This memorable event ended with the blowing of birthday candles and giving of souvenirs.



Another Friday luncheon time (July 17) gave prominence to the life celebration of STIC's dearly loved Rector, Dr. Piyada Wattanasan. JMB Hall was filled with people who shared their utmost time to be with her. Some family members expressed their warmest birthday greetings to the celebrator. Her birthday celebration would never be complete if her lovable mother, Madam Dr. Theresa V. Phromsuntron won't say her love utterance to her only daughter. And as anticipated, a mom's word to her daughter touched everybody's heart. Candles were blown and souvenirs were given to the attendees later on.



STIC CELEBRATED THAI NATION'S

KING AND QUEEN'S NATAL DAYS



Photo: <http://keehuachee.blogspot.com>



Photo: Richard Barrow

Very simple yet noteworthy birthday ceremonies were celebrated to give honor and respect to Their Majesties King Rama X, King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindebajavarangkun (July 23) and Queen Suthida Bajrasudhabimalalakshana (June 2). The intimate ceremonies were attended by our College President, Dr. Piyada Wattanasana, together with the administrators, deans, lecturers and students. The attendees displayed their warmhearted affection to Their Majesties by singing enthusiastically the songs dedicated to Their Majesties. Also, the attendees were invited to write their birthday greetings to Their Majesties.



COVID WAR 2020



Many parts of the world were in a state of war not with another country, but with the deadly virus called COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Business firms were shut down, classes in different educational institutions were temporarily ceased, the world's economy went broke, Mother Earth lost her children and became hopeless. The once epidemic has turned to pandemic because of the rising cases affecting almost all parts of the world. Some powerful countries felt helpless with the unyielding spread of the virus. Some nationals chose to disobey the protocols that their governments are implementing to halt the increasing number of cases due to boredom and the need to earn and live normally.



World Health Organization published some information online about COVID-19: "*Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.*"



Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.



The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face.





The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it's important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

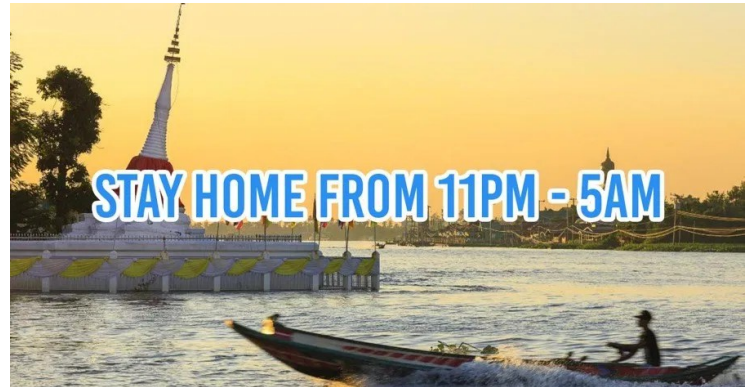
At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. WHO will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings become available."



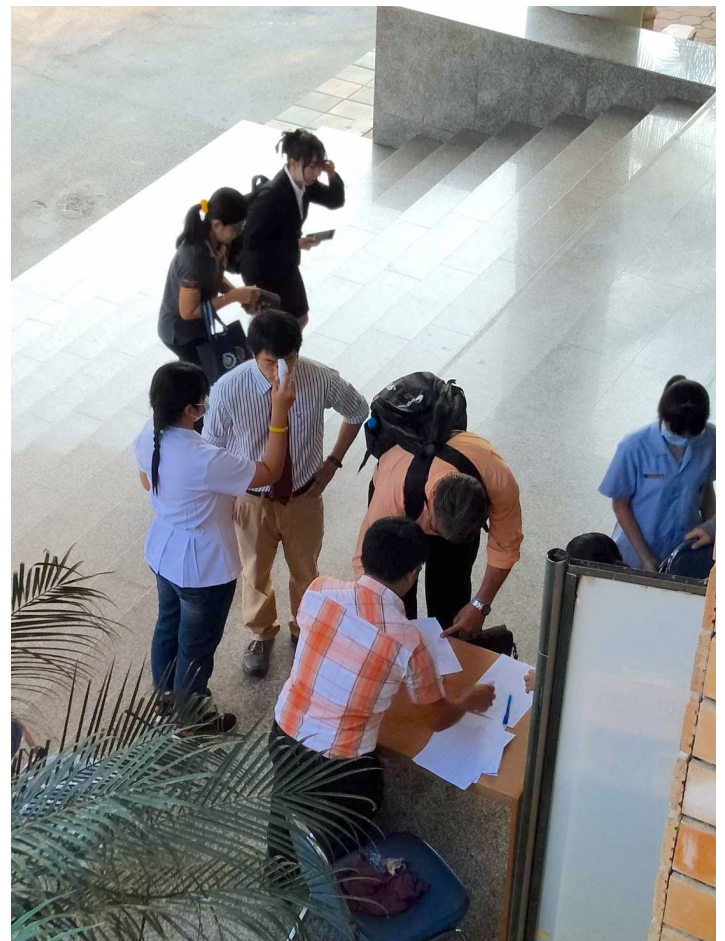
Thailand has no escape from the monstrous COVID-19. The Royal Thai Government implemented "Community Quarantine" which refrained people from organizing and attending social events. "Staying at Home" became a habit of every household as directed by the government. Curfew, "Social Distancing" and "Only Take-away" were some of the not so convenient practices that they have to observe.

The community of St. Theresa International College complies with the government protocols. Coming in and out of the buildings, dormitories and the campus, students, lecturers and visitors must QR scan and check in and check out with their current body temperature as

checked by campus security and members of the Faculty of Public Health. Moreover, Social Distancing is observed inside the classroom and at the canteen. Each class must accommodate only 20 – 25 students as other students learn online. Students and lecturers doing face-to-face classes must wear face masks/shields. Even the college staff should wear protective gear as well. In addition, students who came from the provinces need to be on a 14 day quarantine (not allowed to go outside the college campus). Hand sanitizers, alcohols and the like are placed at door entrances.



Little by little, the situation is becoming better. The whole world is very hopeful that in the coming months, everything will be back to normal (the old normal) and the COVID War 2020 will be over and done.



COVID-19 EXPERIENCE ON PRINTS

As part of the Reading and Writing class last Summer Intensive English Program, sections 10 (Hotel and Tourism and Education majors) and 11 (Nursing Science major) students in small groups created reading materials with COVID-19 experience as the content. Each section produced 5 reading materials in different writing approaches and styles. Creativity and artistry were impressively visualized on their pieces of art.

This writing activity aimed to enrich the students' vocabulary through constant practice. They have to include the vocabulary words from the textbook's passages on their writing texts. In addition to vocabulary enrichment, working well with others (though online) was one of the targets. It was successfully manifested on their printed matter. Below are some of the samples of the students' excellent outputs:



EDITORIAL BOARD

Photo Journalist

Mr. Pichaphop Puangboonpluk

Layout Artist

Aj. Willard Jeff V. Pada

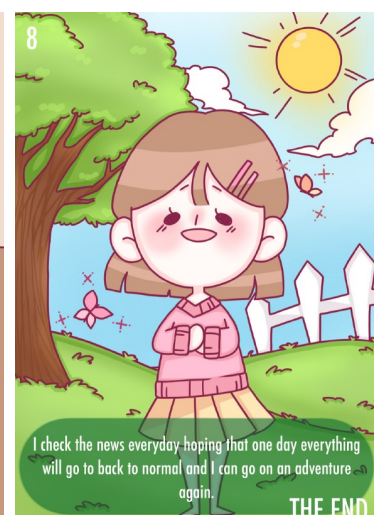
Editor-in-Chief

Aj. Leo Anthony B. Flores

Consultant

Mr. Kevin Hadji-rahim

MY COVID-19 EXPERIENCE



BTH20102 RAMIDA ONBANCHONG
BHT20103 ITTIKORN HONGCHAROEN
BHT20104 THARANAN NALAD
BHT20106 NICHAREE RATANAPATHANADECH

BHT20111 SUPANEE WANIKSAMBAN
BHT20114 PRAEWMANEE NINLA
BHT20115 PHITCHAPHA PHAKANAM
BHT20116 PLOYSUDA DAWRUANG

THE END