



## Duang Prateep Foundation

### Monthly Newsletter for March 2023

#### *Japanese Volunteers Visit NLPK*

Khru Prateep, Khru Mingporn and the children of the New Life Project (Kanchanaburi) welcomed the president, deputy-president and their party from Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA) of Japan when they visited the project on 1-2 March. The visitors were also able to meet the abbot of Wat Sapan Temple who founded the Sampanta Meditation Center at the project. Thank you Mr. Katsumasa Yagisawa, senior consultant of SVA, for acting as interpreter.





## Correct Instruction for Future Care-Givers

From 7-24 March, three trainers from Fukui Prefecture in Japan are visiting Baan Kao Vitthaya school in Kanchanaburi province to train six high school and university students who will go to work in Japan in May this year. All six have already passed the Japanese language exam at the N4 level. Privy Councilor, Mr. Paiboon Kumchaya, kindly presided over the official opening of the training course. In addition, Khru Prateep and Mr. Katsuhiro Minowa joined the opening ceremony virtually, by Zoom. While in Kanchanaburi, the Japanese trainers will also begin instruction for another 15 high school students (grade 10-12) who are interested in joining the program.



## **Successful Students**

Congratulations to seven students from the New Life Project, Kanchanaburi, who successfully passed their school grade levels recently. Six students passed their grade 9 studies. One girl, nick-named ‘Ging,’ graduated from grade 12 and will leave to work in the ‘Care-Giver for Elderly in Japan’ program in May.



## **Korean Care Continues**

On 9 March, Khru Prateep welcomed Ms. Sung-eun Kim (Counselor) from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and party to the DPF. The visitors came to find out how they can become further involved in the foundation’s activities and offer support to the community. Thank you to the Korean diplomatic corps for their continued beneficial relations with the Duang Prateep Foundation.





## ***In-house Camp for Departing Kindies***

The Duang Prateep Kindergarten organized a one-day farewell camp on March 9, for 41 departing students of Kindergarten Level 3 prior to their graduation ceremony on 17 March. This was their last opportunity to get together for fun activities before they separate to various primary schools next academic year. Khru Prateep spoke to them about leaving kindergarten life and how to prepare themselves for the move to a higher-level school. During the day, various recreation activities were organized, such as performances, English lessons, outdoor activities and a campfire for their final year with us and for their happy memories.



### **Free to Go Abroad**

Two of our NLPK girls recently took the final step to apply for their passports. The two girls, their mothers and Khru Prateep met up at the Klong Toey District Office, where the mothers signed legal documents allowing their (underage) daughters to leave Thailand and travel overseas for study/work. Ms. Monthicha will study for one year at a high school in Switzerland, while Ms. Waranya will travel to Japan to study at Sendai Ikuei Gakuen Okinawa High School. Thank you to the Director of Klong Toey District Office who kindly facilitated the issuing of the documents to the girls.



### **Fire Drill for Kindergarten**

On 16 March, the DPF volunteer fire-fighting team organized a fire safety drill for teachers and students at the DPF Kindergarten. The fire-fighters instructed teachers how to deal with a small fire without panicking, and how to use a fire extinguisher. The children practiced an emergency evacuation, how to protect themselves during a big fire, and being rescued from an upper storey of the building. Khru Prateep oversaw this important safety activity.





## **Quantifying the Health Situation**

On 17 March, Ms. Areeya Nakwandee and Ms. Pichayaphan Thimklib – students at Naresuan University (Phitsanulok) in the faculty of Community Development – presented the findings of their thesis “Surveying the Life Quality and Health of Elderly People, Disabled People and Bed-Ridden People Living in the Lock 1-2-3 Community” to DPF section heads. The results of their four-month survey in Klong Toey will be useful information for our field-workers and local health centers.



## **Onwards and Upwards**

On March 17, the Duang Prateep Kindergarten organized a graduation ceremony for 41 departing students. All the proud parents and guardians came along to offer their congratulations. Khru Prateep gave helpful advice to the children about how to make good preparations for moving up to primary school. The younger remaining students presented flowers of congratulation to the older graduating students, and all in attendance, children and adults alike, beamed with pride.

