

BORDER NEWS

NEWS FROM THE CHRIST CHURCH BORDER KAREN MINISTRY



This Issue:

- Impact of COVID 19
- Keeping the students safe
- Irish Embassy Grant
- Australian Aid and Sustainability
- How to donate

We need your help!!

We have had No volunteers and very little funding this year, so we need your help!!

Sadly, the impact of COVID 19 means we have had no visitors venturing to the campus as yet, but we hope that in the not too distant future, folks will be inspired and called to serve there. The effect of COVID has left us with very few donations coming in and we are desperately short of funds!!!



The Impact of COVID 19!!!!

The challenges of the virus have truly been worldwide, even reaching the extremities of Thailand and our dear friends at Noh Boh and the 3 Nurseries in the camp. Thailand went into semi lockdown. Even though the Thai borders are still closed the schools have now opened with many safety measures

The 'Fruits of the Spirit' There was an inevitable delay in the school reopening, but now it has love, joy and hope back in abundance, as before. Some new staff and new students, but the 'old' team continues their endeavours, with patience and kindness to all in their charge. Thankfully our team of painters went up in early March, just before the lockdown, and brightened up the bare concrete walls which now, with their various pastel shades, brighten up the learning experience amid challenging times.

With your continued prayer and support, the goals may be met and the harvest reaped.

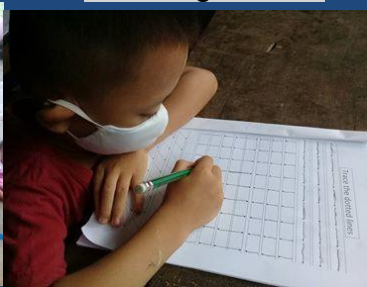


Caring for the student during COVID 19

Ensuring Social Distance



Wearing a Mask



Class Room is spread out ensuring social distance!



Regular Handwashing



Training for the teachers !

The teachers attended BMWEC (Burmese Migrant Worker Education Committee) meeting and MECC, (Migrant Education Coordination Center) meeting, at Mae Sot. The principle and teachers attended the Distance learning and Child protection training at BMWEC. On the 29th of May, five teachers attended the Subject training (English, Maths, and Burmese) for distance learning and preparation for home teaching. BMWEC, the teachers' focus group visited Noh Bo Academy in May, to assess and survey for COVID 19. They gave additional recommendations on how the school should be prepared and planned for social distance learning and lessons at home.



Keeping the students in our care safe



CCB KAREN MINISTRY MISSION

“To provide spiritual and practical support working towards a greater degree of self-reliance to the Karen community living in the Thai- Myanmar borders”

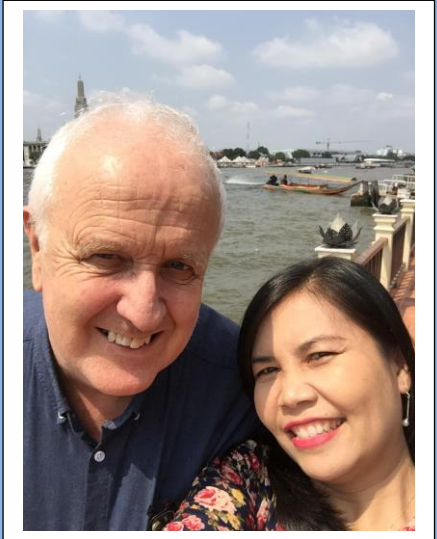


Irish Aid

Thank you to the Irish Embassy for their 2019 grant. This paid for the new uniforms in the three nurseries, the new roof in Noh Bo Academy and paint for the dining room roof.



See you soon.....



Sadly, Fon and Chris who have been regular committed volunteers of Noh Bo are returning to the UK in September.

The Karen team is very sorry to see them go and we would like to thank them for their dedication, love and care for the students in Noh Bo. We hope to see you in April 2021

Australian Aid and sustainability



Our Australian friends in the Anglican Church have continued to support Noh Bo. This year they helped to feed the children for one month. They are keen to work on some sustainability projects with the teachers and student to promote self-reliance.



Caring for the environment

As part of our mission, we are keen to educate the students on the need to look after the environment and recycle their waste. Ongoing maintenance is also the key to taking pride in their home and environment. We are planning to implement some sustainability and recycling initiatives.

AS PART OF OUR SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT AND TO PROMOTE GREATER SELF-RELIENCE, CCB SELLS ITEMS MADE BY THE NOH BO STUDENTS AND LADIES IN THE CAMP



What your donations can do

The work of our Karen Ministry continues, and we have a full budget for 2020. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Here is a picture of how your donations can help.

Mae La Camp Support for a Nursery

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| School student | 1,600 baht per year |
| Support for a nursery school teacher | 6,000 baht per year |
| Nursery School food supplement | 2,200 baht per month |
| Caring for an orphanage child | 5,120 baht per year |

Noh Bo Academy Students and Staff

| | |
|--|--|
| Day Student | 8,000 baht per term |
| Boarding Students | 12,000 baht per year |
| Teachers (13, including Principal) | Average salary 3,500 baht (\$75) per month |
| Staff (1 office – 3 cooks - 2 supervisors) | Average salary 2,500 baht (\$46) per month |

Noh Bo Food and Nourishment

The largest portion of the budget is food - essential in a boarding school for refugees. We need 65 large bags of rice each month for 10 months, at about 850 baht per bag.

The school also spends about 46,000 baht a month on fresh produce, giving an annual food bill of approximately 927,500 baht (\$31,000).

Education Materials

Each year supplies of paper, exercise books, text books, pens, markers, etc. are 40,000 baht (\$1,333). Arts, crafts and sewing materials are extras and depends on special donations

Uniforms

Noh Bo students take great pride in their uniform.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Annual cost for students is | 18,000 baht (\$600) |
| Teachers uniforms per year | 9,000 baht (\$300) |
| Sport kits per year | 10,350 baht (\$350) |



Utilities

Electricity approx 4,700 baht (\$156) per month
 Gas bottles at 300 baht (\$6) per month.
 Water at 300 baht (\$6) per month
 Internet provision is expensive – 2,675 baht (\$93) per month

Health and Wellness

Toiletries for students cost about 40,000 baht (\$1,333) a year.
 Medicines, dental and hospital bills average 3,000 baht (\$100) per month.
 Blankets are needed in the cool season – 100 baht each for 100 students – 10,000 baht (\$333)

Dreams may come true!

The next challenge will be a volunteer house with 'ensuite' facilities so the night time torch-lit trek in the dark to the loo will become a thing of the past, and the whole experience up there will be less basic and more 'home from home', for the long term volunteers.

Needless to say, your continued prayers and financial support are needed more than ever! We send a hearty 'thank you' for the past efforts and hopefully, for your future support, as we struggle to reach the levels of funds we had pre virus.

We need your help!!!



HOW TO MAKE A DONATION:

Cheques made out in foreign currency attract very high transfer fees in Thailand (\$60).

Cheques in Thai Baht are no problem.

Electronic transfer is best!

Please email Rev Andy Smith on karenministry@christchurchbangkok.org to let us know when you make a payment, so that we can ensure that it arrives and issue a receipt.

Bank Account for Karen (New) A/C:

Siam Commercial Bank

A/C Name: Christ Church
English

Branch: CP Tower

A/C No: 168-225-876-6

A/C Tape: Saving A/C

SWIFT code: SICOTHBK

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!

