

“Peace Bridges”

Eastern Star Bilingual School, Vientiane, Laos

The week after we came back from The Youth Peace Ambassador Training Workshop in Hiroshima we organized a Peace Club in the school. The 3 students who attended the training talked about the workshop and the action plan they had made. The students tried to raise awareness about the action plan among the students at the school.

On 6th November 2010: The school administration organized a parents meeting. The students as well as the director Mr. Engin talked about the Youth Peace Ambassador program and about Hiroshima, including the action plan. Our students explained the parents about our action plan and about the importance of peace and the young generation. Also we mentioned to the parents some ideas of peace and it's importance, emphasizing that if the future generations does not grow up by peace then we can not talk about peace in the future.

After the meeting with the parents we prepared a survey about identifying student's behaviors. After the survey we all got into small student groups, each group consisting of students whom face similar problem issues. Every Saturday we invited these groups to join different activities in the school. The Eastern Bilingual School have 9 clubs which are: Chemistry Club, Science Club, Photography Club, Peace Club, Cooking Club, Turkish Club, Sport Club, Art Club and Chess Club. Also the teachers helped with our action plan. Most of the teachers had a presentation each about peace and the dark sides of war.

Several picnics have been organized. During the picnics our students played enjoyable games together and shared their food and they learnt sharing something.

Most of our students have similar problems. Their families are working and they are not home before 8-9 pm. In these cases their best friends becomes PC games and television. Some cases suggest that the parents are not as interested in their children as much as they could be. The Peace Club invited some psychologists who talked about the risks of exposing their children to PC games and television.

Up until now we have followed our action plan. For the second term we plan to prepare an organization about national food day among other school and in this organization also our peace club we will talk about our action plan and workshop. At the end of the 2nd term we will try to organize a Peace Walk for Peaceful World in the city center. (If we get the permission from the government).

In this short time we have tried to establish small peace bridges between students and parents, parents and teachers, students and teachers. Perhaps in the future we can accomplish to establish a big peace bridge among all people.

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