

M A R C H & A P R I L 2 0 1 1

The

Schmidt's

Baan Jai Dee



In our last newsletter we told you about our new arrivals in which four of the children arrived on the same day. They each had a (very dirty and smelly) bag in which they had some very stained and torn clothing. Sam sorted their meagre supplies

and took stock of what was needed. The oldest girl, **Sarah** is **12 years** old. Her backpack contained a few mostly unsuitable (torn, shabby, dirty) clothes and that was it. I needed to go out and pick up some visitors so I asked if she wanted to come. She look horrified. It turned out she was embarrassed. She **doesn't own any shoes!** I assured her she could borrow some and that we'd buy her some when we went out. She visibly relaxed and happily came shopping. Pink seems to be her favourite colour. Nice to know something about our new daughter!

The little boy we have named Joshua, is wide eyed at everything, is a real "bruiser" – a solid little guy - and it has been to our observation he has been disciplined by being yelled at, hit and shamed. We are excited to show the children a different way – God's way – of treating people – with love, dignity and respect.

You'd think we get used to dealing with children who are poor, abused and neglected but we admit that sometimes we feel a little overwhelmed at the plight of each child, the grief they go through and their lack of basic necessities – not just materially but social skills and the sense that they **have worth!**

They are very **polite children but are overwhelmed** at all the changes.





Thailand consists of Thai people (funny thing that! J) and many Hill tribe people- all with their own distinct language, culture, style of dress, way of thinking. For Tribal children, living with Thai people is like immigrants feel when they move country. They are never really comfortable with their “host” culture.

Our children and staff speak to the new children in Thai (their second language) with the exception of Lulu and Jumpii who speak a similar dialect of the children’s native tongue.

Other big changes for them is that we all sit down together to eat and we eat at regular times (not at random times during the day which they are used to), we don’t eat lollies/ biscuits ALL day and we actually brush our teeth more than once a week.

So, let us introduce the children to you.

Sii – 10. A very cute smiley girl who told me today as she whirled around the kitchen “I could eat this and that and this and that!” Needs: Clothing and Toiletry Pack, shoes, some books, a doll, a bike.

Lii – 8 Makes our little introvert Tarni seem talkative! She misses her mother. Needs: everything! Clothing and Toiletry Pack, hair accessories (a must in Thailand!), shoes, some books, a bike.

Joshua – 5 Needs: Clothing and Toiletry Pack, shoes, some books, shoes, a bike, a soccer ball.

Nicki – 2 Needs: Clothing and Toiletry Pack, a doll.

Bang – 9 – Needs: Clothing and Toiletry Pack, a bike, a doll, some books.

Anni- 12: Needs: Clothing and Toiletry Pack, a bike, a doll, some books.



Meet Manee.

She arrived last month from a mountain village. Of all the children who we have cared for over the years, Manee took the longest to settle of all the older children. She was confused and sad at first but now is doing really well. Manee has a lovely laugh, which takes a little while to surface- in fact she makes us work for them! Manee is thankful that we took in her brother and cousin and this was the one thing that helped her to adjust. Her brother, Kirateep, is simply

delightful - and has a huge smile and happy attitude. He is a bit "casual" at times and needs a bit of a prod to do things properly but he is a quick learner and is happy to do what is asked of him. He adores his sister and is enjoying being the oldest of the four boys here.



Thank you all who have been praying for Jesse. He is a little "overbalanced" (see pic) and now has changed from a heavy plaster cast to one that will enable him to sit in a chair without toppling over!

JESSE

Jess was really happy to be able to have a live in "nurse" aka his brother Jai who flew in to spend a bit of time with him. We are grateful that Benj organised this little blessing for Jess and that Jess's girlfriend Nikita was so kind to him. Thankfully Jesse is a good patient and not too demanding!!



To our dear friends and family,

We are very excited that we will soon be leaving our growing Thai family to return to visit our Australian family, friends and supporters. We arrive at Avalon airport on Sat 11th June (in the wee small hours!). Preparations are well under way with lots to do – arranging meetings, accommodation and vehicle needs (with our return flight yet to be booked) - all the things that are important when you are no longer a resident in your sending country!

Thank you all for **partnering with us** to care for the wonderful children God has entrusted into our care. We have much to share with you as we **celebrate together** all that He is doing. We are only scratching the surface of all that needs doing and the opportunities we have to share God's love to the Thai people is very exciting but we need extra help to enable these opportunities to become a reality.

Below is part of our schedule. **We would LOVE to see you** so please let us know when suits you.

We are available to catch up for a meal or to speak at your home group/school.

Dates:

Geelong/Melbourne area 11th June until 4th July

Port Macquarie 4th July to 22nd July

Brisbane/other QLD 22nd July til ?

SPEAKING:

Vic: Available to speak 12th June

South Valley Baptist Church: 19th June

Meadowview Baptist Church: 26th June

Grace Baptist Church: 3rd July

International Baptist : TBA

NSW The Haven (Laurieton area) 10th July

Sovereign Church TBA ? 9th

Port Macquarie Baptist TBA ?17th

Available to speak 31st July

We have accommodation and a vehicle in Geelong

We have accommodation and a vehicle in Brisbane

We have just heard that we have accommodation and a vehicle in Port Macquarie. **Isn't God good?!**

If you are usually a "non-church" go-er, we want you to know that we are not intimidating (well... I'M not... ☺)and that we'd love you to attend and you'll have a much better insight into our lives and that of the children's.

Our Volunteers for the Month

We were blessed this month to have two wonderful volunteers from Australia, Hannah Terry and Jenny Parry (who returned for her second visit). Jenny took holidays in advance from work and both Hannah and Jenny were able to help for six weeks.

Hannah is very creative and has an Apple Mac (one day we might be able to have one of these creative little machines too!), and was instrumental in putting together our last newsletter as well as this one. A big thank you to Hannah. The children were delighted to see their dear Phii Jen return, and there were hugs all 'round (and many tears when she left). Jenny has a happy attitude and is a delight to work with. She is willing to try anything, is clear and open in her communication and is able to help us to minister to the children's needs. She will be sorely missed but STOP PRESS... Jenny is planning, Lord willing on returning next year to commence a full time Admin support role with us. We are very pleased with this development and can see God's leading in Jenny's life. We are in urgent need of administrative assistance and Jenny is willing and feels called to come and help.

Jen will need to raise her own support but we are confident that God, who began a good work in Jenny's life will continue to do so.



Left: Phii Jenny, Phii Hannah, Tarni and Hannah scrubbing the floor.



Middle: Hannah, Phii Hannah and Lulu.



Right: Jenny and Hannah and the cat.

Thank you for your prayers and support! With much love,
Allan, Sam and Jordy.



Donations in Australia

Orphanage Support:

Commonwealth Bank

A/S Schmidt

BSB 063504

A/C 10086740

Schmidt Support

BSB 062 648

A/C 10090035

Donations in USA

The Second Tunic

**314 Clay Road, Lititz,
PA., 17543**

**Note: "Project Baan Jai
Dee"**

