

ACSians-In-Action ; Phuket, Thailand



From 26 November to 2 December 2018, Team Beacon visited New Light Community Development Centre (CDC) in Baan Nam Kem, Thailand. CDC is a non-profit community centre committed to aiding the village's recovery and development after the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami. The centre provides free education and meals to underprivileged children, and our team was tasked to teach conversational English to the children in CDC, as well as carry out refurbishment projects.

The team spent three days in CDC taking turns to teach the children English and play sports with them. In addition, the team set up curtain dividers, painted two new toilets and removed the rust from the roof of a shed before painting it.

We then visited students in a public school nearby and taught them how to make *Som Tam*, or Papaya Salad, from scratch! We also prepared dance performances for the children in CDC and the public school. We then bid goodbye to CDC and travelled to Patong District in Phuket City for our rest and relaxation.

Throughout the trip, we were all humbled by the fact that despite their simple backgrounds, the children were always happy and energetic, and often showed gratitude for things that many of us in Singapore take for granted. Although there were a few bumps here and there, we definitely gained a lot from our experience at CDC, from interacting with the children to de-rusting and painting. The countless memories we made at CDC are precious and genuine, and the joyful nature of the children really made the trip a fulfilling and meaningful one. Till next time, CDC!