

Exchange activities with ICT model schools of the primary/high school affiliated to Renmin university of China on the first year(2005) & Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school on the second year(2006)

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Oesam elementary school was registered as ICT model school on May, 2006 with the theme of 'Method for activating exchange between ICT model school through ICT international understanding education'. We promoted exchange activities with the primary/high school affiliated to Renmin university of China on the first year(2005) and Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school on the second year(2006).

1. Preparation for the bases of ICT international understanding and international exchange

As preparation for the bases of ICT international understanding and international exchange, we executed the maintenance.expansion of ICT use utilities, construction and use of English homepage, ICT use education and training.

As the maintenance.expansion of ICT use utilities, for the promotion of teachers' ICT use education abilities and effective ICT use education for each subjects, we expanded up-to-date educational machineries and the second computer room. Besides, we established web cameras on computers for visual class and sent 5 web cameras to Thailand ICT model school.

And we constructed an English homepage to make the place for exchange and to share a lot of information between ICT model schools. We carried out cyber contests twice through English homepage. And we use English personal mini home pages for international exchange class students to share information between ICT model schools and to solve the mutual projects.

As ICT use education and training, we executed ICT use education for students for each grade discretion activity time. And we executed the training for teachers

to promote their ICT use abilities and to develop ICT international understanding educational program.

2. Development and application of ICT international understanding educational program

We execute the international understanding education once a month for each grade as the international understanding education part among discretion activity time. And we established the teaching contents system considering the grade of rank. And we developed discretion activity teaching .learning master plans for each grade as generalizing materials.

Besides, we developed web materials for international understanding education and for exchange materials between ICT model schools.

As the operation of special activity program, we executed traditional cultural experience activities, ICT on–line contests, research activities for foreign cultures, CCAP(Cross Cultural Awareness Program) about international understanding education, keeping the time of event activity.

We promoted the interests and understanding through the contest of regional research and traditional cultural experience study as traditional cultural experience activities.

We executed ICT on–line contests twice for giving meaning to the future education and future schools and for international understanding and promotion of international exchange.

We executed the contest of foreign cultural research project and the festival parade expressing outcomes of continental countries' research on spring sport day as foreign cultural research.

3. International exchange class

We operate international exchange class once a week with 5th, 6th grade students for promotion of exchange between ICT model schools.

We executed the international understanding education and the research of ICT model schools, CCAP activities, English personal home pages, visiting ICT model school and visual class with ICT model schools.

Students have kept exchanges through e-mails between Chinese and Thailand ICT model schools' students as international understanding education and the research of ICT model schools. Students could get to know and understand ICT model school and develop their English abilities through translating Thailand ICT model school's English home page.

And Students took a shot about Oesam elementary school in English and introduce that to ICT model school. And they did a presentation contest of ICT use foreign experiences reports and materials of ICT model school introductions and cultural comparisons.

As CCAP activities, we had Czech, Japan, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Brazil, China, Turkey, Thailand classes. We contacted foreign volunteers of regional university and did classes of foreign cultural understanding and various experiences like learning traditional dances, making traditional arts, making traditional teas with students. And we participated in 'Turkey cultural night' held by Turkey cultural center. We had a hard time to contact foreign volunteers and prepare the program but it were so meaningful things for students.

4. Exchange activities with ICT model schools

We had agreements with the primary/high school affiliated to Renmin university of China on the first year(2005) and Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school on the second year(2006).

We invited two teachers of ICT model school(the primary/high school affiliated to Renmin university of China) on the 1th APEC future education forum in Pusan(2005.9.8-9.11) to discuss the mutual projects.

And we invited them to my school to pay a visit of inspection to educational activities and they visited the Daejeon metropolitan city office of education, the Daejeon education science institute, the Daejeon education information office, the Electric communication research institute and the aerospace research institute.

As the execution of mutual project, we carried out the survey to both students with the theme-'the comparison of ICT model school's students' interests and preferences' and analyzed that for students to promote the understanding and interests more about ICT model school and to develop the understanding of other cultures and the affirmative attitudes. Through this mutual project, we got to know the differences of interests and preferences between both schools.

As the visiting exchange activities, 17 international exchange class students and 4 teachers visited the primary/high school affiliated to Renmin university of China and Beijing on 4 nights and 5 days(2006.1.12-16). We had a lot difficulties to teach students to perform Tae kwoon do(Korean traditional sport), Fan dance, Dan-so(Korean traditional flute), Jang-gu(Korean traditional music instrument) and sing Korean traditional songs to introduce Korean cultures. But we did our best to prepare that with the dignity and pride to be private diplomats and did a successful performance in china.

As the second year's exchange activities with Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school, we started visual classes using web cameras.

We did visual classes with the primary school affiliated to Renmin university of China, Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school, Seoul won dang elementary school and Incheon young hyen nam elementary school of domestic ICT model schools 10 times totally using web cameras, electronic blackboard, headsets for student and wireless headsets for teacher.

We used Microsoft Live messengers as communication program for students to register the free id in MSN web site. We decided the class time considering both schools' educational curriculum, schedule, the time difference. And we exchanged both students' mail id list so that students could meet each as 1:1 match on messenger. Before the visual class, both teachers set the theme of activities and prepared mutual works sheets so that students could try to solve mutual projects together in the class time.

One id for teachers was connected for students to take ICT model school's teachers' lectures or information through electronic blackboard.

As the contents of class, both teachers taught self-introductions, school introductions, drawing ICT model schools' logo, playing ICT model schools' song, monster projects.

And we execute the on-line agreement ceremony with Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school. We did the agreement ceremony using not fax or scanned documents with signatures in mail but web cameras so that we tried to use ICT utilities when we exchange with ICT model school.

And in next month 14th – 19th, Korea students are planning to visit Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school and than next year January, 12th – 16th, they will visit our school.

5. Difficulties and overcoming methods on exchanging with ICT model schools

The biggest difficult thing on exchanging activities with ICT model schools was the language. Especially, because my school is an elementary school, teacher's help and students' efforts were essential for my students to do exchange activities with ICT mod school(middle or high school) students from writing mails to visual classes. So students studied preparatory research for the theme before the class and teachers made mutual worksheets together before the class so that both students could solve the mutual projects using limited English words or expressions in the visual class.

We would like to help students through making the basic English languages for communication with ICT medel school students.

The second, the difference of school grade was difficult. It was not easy for us to decide the mutual projects and exchange activities with the high school affiliated to Renmin university of China. As not only was there the language problem, but also was there the contents, we could not exchange activities of subjects China ICT model school wanted to do. Finally, we exchanged activities with the primary school affiliated to Renmin university of China. And we executed the survey and analysis projects which had nothing to do with the grade. Besides we couldn't do visual classes with high school students.

The third thing was the difference of ICT maintenance and internet environment. In Korea, there were only utilities for using internet and up-to-date educational machineries each class but computer rooms. And students could use the internet for school homepage or personal mail not only in school but also in their home even in personal computer room outdoor. But at first time, the ICT environments were so different that we couldn't execute visual exchange classes easily. But all teachers tried to attempt visual exchange classes with the various conditions like the control of other computers, the contents of activities and the order of connecting messengers. And for both students to have more opportunities to connect each other through E-mails or English personal home pages, all teachers try to make the certain time for communication in computer room and do visual exchange classes with regular interval.

The fourth thing was the internet speed for visual exchange class as the results of having a few classes with various schools on the various conditions. The general chatting between both students with only text materials was so good. But the visual class with web cameras was not easy. It depends on different conditions like vacation or semester period, before or after the school class, the number of connected cameras, the contents of activities, the number of sending files, the size of contents. And the sound is more stable than the screen.

We got the outcome that 5 cameras were connected well with the present conditions. After improvement of the internet speed that can deliver stable sound and screen, more better camera-enhanced and the messenger program that people can meet in one screen, the visual class will be more improved.

Lastly, I really appreciate Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school teachers—especially Jirat and students to do their best to exchange activities with us step by step. Because the time difference of two hours, they had to come to school 7:00 am in the morning every Friday. And in even vacation period, they came to school to do visual classes with us a few times. They explains their traditional costumes, showed those things and performed Thailand traditional

dance for us. So we finished the research visual exchange class with the theme of both economies' traditional costumes successfully.

Our environments were not enough for active exchange activities as ICT model school and the research period was just 5 months with Thailand Suankularb wittayalai Nonthaburi school. But we accomplished the basement for active exchange activities with Jirat, Aoy, Toy teachers' passion even though we haven't met before.

We think the personal understanding, passion, concerns between ICT model school teachers was the biggest power and the first condition as there are so many problems of the difference of culture, ICT maintenance, educational curriculum, school grade with the huge title of international understanding education through ICT.