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23rd September 2014

Dear Parents,

**FCD Returns to Bangkok Patana**

We are pleased to announce that two trainers from the Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD) organisation will return to BPS from **Tuesday 30th September - Friday 3rd October**.  Ms. Kari Yuen and Mr. Rodney Poole will be working mainly with Year 9 students, meeting with them every day, but will also give presentations to Years 8, 11,12 & 13.

FCD is a non-profit organisation that provides substance abuse prevention education for schools. Since 1976, they have taught over a million students of all ages. Their mission is to:

* Encourage and support the non-use of alcohol and other illegal or illicit drugs during the growing years.
* Empower young people to make healthy, responsible choices regarding alcohol and other drug use
* Teach students and adults how to recognize the early warning signs of substance abuse and to intervene appropriately Educate students, parents, teachers, and administrators on the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol and other drugs
* Promote awareness of drug addiction, including alcoholism, as a progressive, chronic, and often fatal disease
* Provide educational communities with the guidance and training necessary to implement comprehensive, effective approaches to substance abuse prevention

The partnership between Patana and parents has always been a vital and crucial element in the pastoral care we provide.  To this end an FCD session will be offered to all parents to meet and discuss common concerns about substance abuse prevention for their children in Bangkok.  Some of the topics to be addressed include:

* Effective ways to communicate with your child about drugs and drug use
* Up-to-date facts about current drug use and trends
* What to say about your own experiences with alcohol and/or drug experimentation
* How to spot early warning signs of trouble and effective ways to respond.

This meeting will take place on **Wednesday 1st October at 6.00 p.m. here at Patana in the Conference Centre (Con 304 / 305)** and is open to parents from any year group within Secondary. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with the FCD educators and to hear their stories.

If you would like to attend the evening session with the FCD educators we kindly request that you **RSVP** to Khun Bee at the Secondary Office beap@patana.ac.th

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 1st October.

Helen Thew,

Assistant Principal - Student Welfare.