

Monday the 7th to Friday the 11th of June 2021

Dear WeLearn Community:

**Hua Hin Center:** I spent the last three days in Hua Hin with our Marketing Director, Kim Anderson working toward opening our new center there by early July. We visited a progressive primary school called Halio <http://www.halio.org/> which has a very similar core philosophy to that of WeLearn. Halio will start referring their students to join our program once they complete primary school at Halio.

We are planning to have an open house at the new center on June 28 and formally start our program on July 5 (Covid-19 regulations permitting).

**Register at WeLearn.Org:** Parents, please all register on [www.welearn.org](http://www.welearn.org) so you can get access to your learner's dashboard and see their progress.

**Key New Leadership Team Members:** We are very pleased to introduce you to two new members of our Leadership Team: Tony Atkinson (Learning System) and Peter Rachada Monthienvichienchai (Platform and Funding). See below for more information.

**Reopening:** Our Leadership Team will be discussing when we should reopen WeLearn's Bangkok Center on Monday and let our community know what we have decided. Parent input is very welcome.

Wishing all of you a wonderful weekend.

As always, Upward and Onwards!!

CEO and Founder,  
David Doran

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## TWO NEW MEMBERS OF WELEARN'S LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Tony Atkinson** will bring his twenty years of experience in Education and Leadership to help develop our learning ecosystem. Tony was the Head of School at St. John's International School, Founder and CEO of Pensmith (a STEM school based in Bangkok where he wrote the curriculum) and MBA lecturer at St. John's University. He will be in charge of WeLearn's ever-growing learning ecosystem, which means making sure all the moving parts in our system run smoothly and seamlessly across platforms, departments and locations: in our Bangkok center, online, virtually, and in other centers.

<https://www.linkedin.com/mwlite/in/tony-atkinson>

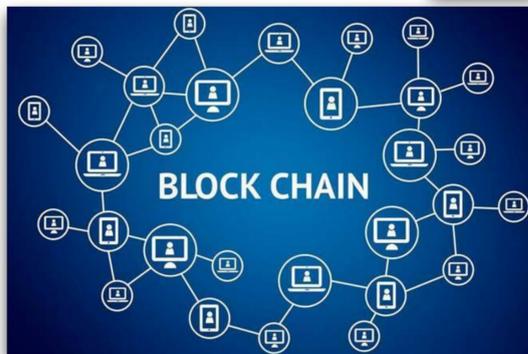


**Peter Rachada Monthienvichienchai** was briefly introduced to you earlier as lead PBL coach for our cryptocurrency group. He has now joined WeLearn's Leadership Team and will focus on platform development ([www.welearn.org](http://www.welearn.org)) and funding for expansion (in addition to his coaching roles). Peter has a PH.D. in Computer Science from University College of London as well as an M.A in Education. Before joining WeLearn, he worked with Tony at St. John's International School, then Ananda Development as Chief Learning Officer.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/petermonthienvichienchai>

## Secondary PBL - Crypto & AI

Bitcoin has **NEVER** been hacked since its inception



- Peer to peer
- Verifiable
- Immutable
- Secure
- PAYMENT SYSTEM**
- Governed by people
- Made for people
- Decentralized
- Hated by Central Banks

The Crypto PBL groups took their first tentative steps to make their ideas a reality by checking the viability of their solutions against a backdrop of products that are already out on the market. Most critically, they received real-world tips from our guest speaker, Professor Edward Roy, who has experience in launching his own blockchain project in an educational setting. After the talk, the students evaluated their current approach and strategies and will make revisions as per the Design Thinking process that they are following for their PBL projects.

## Primary PBL: Ready for Anything

The Learners are on Milestone 3. This is the stage where the Learners are working on researching and gathering information about their chosen Natural Hazard. The goal of MS 3 is to gather information about the disaster as much as we can. On Wednesday, the Learners got to research the causes and locations of their disaster. In the Friday session, the goal was to research the features of their hazard. This information is necessary to help in preparing prevention guidelines.

## STEM Innovation Program

We continue to grow both our learners-led libraries of projects at Scratch and GlideApps. Our Learners are keen to learn and make more creative projects.

Scratch! Create Explore Ideas About Search

Welearn for the Super Talented

Projects ( 63 ) Comments ( 16 ) Curators Activity

Add projects  Allow anyone to add projects

Updated 2 Jun 2021

WeLearn Studio for the super talented

Projects shown include: About Me (ASK FOR Q...), All about MEEEEEEEE, About me, about me, If The Wreck It Ralph Vi..., Superhero Blast!, 10 BLOCKS CHALLENGE!, The Scratch Contest!

WeLearn Secondary

WeLearn Talented Learners

Apps 3

Members 9

Billing

New Team...

Free Rows 500 / 2,000

Welearn Talented Learners

+ Invite Members

Apps

New App

Planner No users

Ayden's App No users

Meal Planner No users

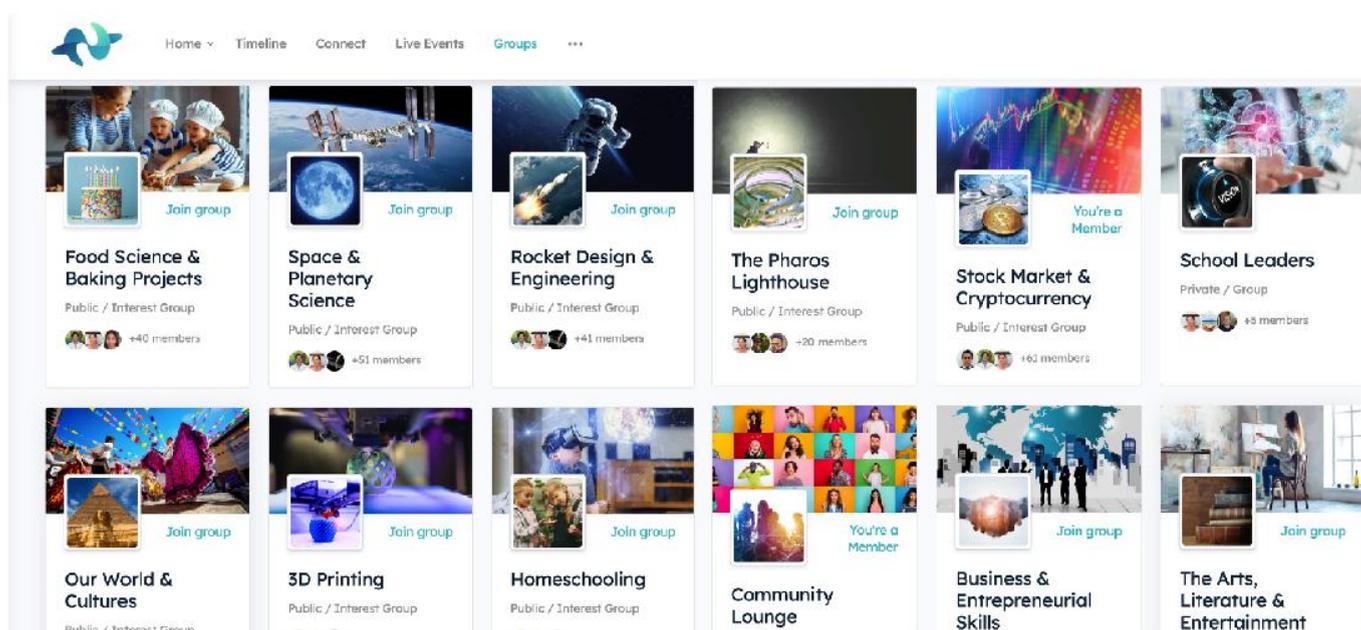
Thanks to all our Learners' parents for helping us protect our learners and to meet the legal requirements needed for our primary students to use Canva education. We are hoping to start using Canva next week once we receive all the signed consent forms for each learner.

### WLA Essay Writing & Mini Debate

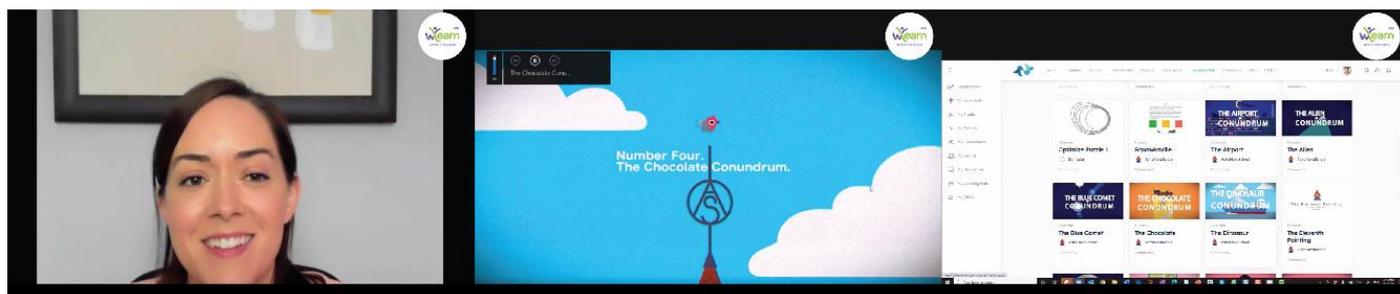
The Primary Learners participated in the Chocolate Conundrum Session with Dr. Kate Jackson on Wednesday. They got to think critically about some real-life situations. We were very impressed with the Learners' opinions and their reasoning! The Friday session focused more on the imaginative side. They were given a chance to write on the topic, "Waking Up as Your Favorite Animal".

The Secondary Learners participated in a mini-debate session on "Can War be Ethical?" The topic was controversial and it challenged the teams to support their reasoning. The teams did a great job of searching for evidence to support their claims. We appreciate their efforts!

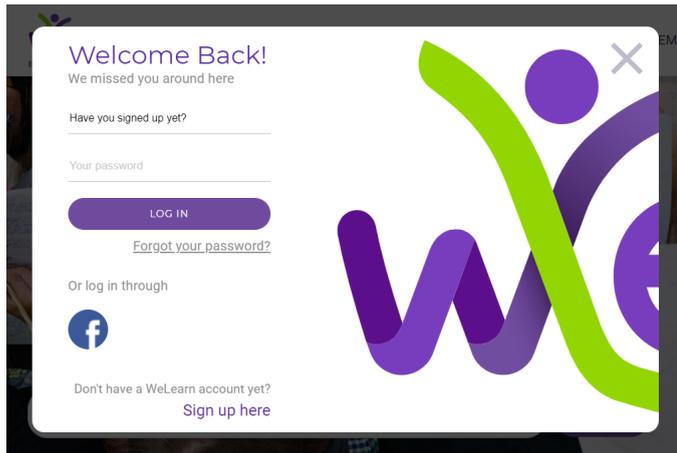
### The Network (Astra Nova)



Dr. Kate Jackson, the Founder and Administrator of The Network of Astra Nova has extended the invitation to our WeLearn parents and students to join The Network. It is the aim of The Network to share the best practices in education, new educational resources, and connect with others. This will also allow your children to join interest groups that provide free learning sessions for the members of The Network. Please click the link to register. <https://tothenetwork.com/apply/>



## PARENTS PLEASE SIGN UP AT [Welearn.org](https://welearn.org)



Many parents have already signed up and accessed their child's dashboards. If you haven't, please do sign up as soon as possible so you can see your children's progress on all WeLearn courses:

1. Log on to [welearn.org](https://welearn.org)
2. Hover over your name in the top right corner, see the menu appear, and click on settings
3. Then please add the information: Given Name, Surname, Display name, your Location and your Phone Number

## Welfare and Wellbeing of our Learners

### A Community of Allies: Why is This so Important?

Beyond the importance of understanding and respecting each other for our differences overall, there are some important reasons that so many professionals who work with young people focus on making sure a visible support network exists.

A recently published U.S. study of over 35,000 LGBTQ youth showed that 42% seriously considered attempting suicide (over 50% of transgender/nonbinary youth). When they had access to accepting environments (online and/or physical) that rate was reduced.



In addition to being the right thing to do, knowing that we are doing something that can help our learners value their lives more than they might and learn to genuinely respect others will only make our community stronger.

Let us know if you have any questions/ideas about how to keep WeLearn a place of acceptance for all students. We can have a conversation about that or anything else that might be on your mind.