A VIRTUAL CLASSMATE?

STUDENT'S CHATBOT IS A NEW FORM OF TOOL HELPING EVERYONE IN A CLASSROOM

"…In fact, I don't even know how I ended up creating a chatbot. All I know is that I am seeking a way to fix problems…" — *Papop*
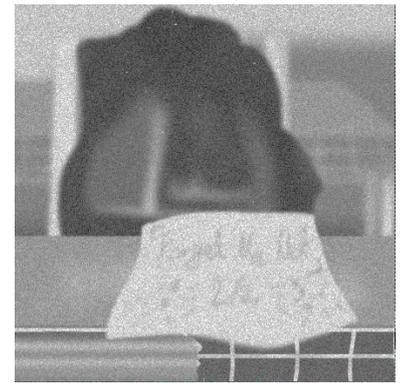
NAKHONSAWAN, 2019 — Today, A student at Nakhonsawan School has built a system that is trying to solve communication problems, and it is a chatbot that looks like a cat.

The project was initiated when Papop — the class leader was seeking the best way to ensure that everyone in the class received the same information about homework. Many ways passed, none of them shows the best efficiency but to notify everyone with LINE. However, lacking of knowledge as an 8th grade, he ended up building a chatbot instead. All the systems were designed using Dialogflow, a messaging agent builder from Google, along with LINE Messaging API which are free, Moreover, the drawing were done by one of his classmates in a cute-looking artstyle portraying a curious catboy who is attentive and enthusiastic in helping others.

The concept marked a departure from conventional communication practices within the classroom, introducing an automated intermediary to manage and distribute information. Recognizing its potential impact on students' daily routines, the creator named the system **Papop-bot**, derived from the Thai word of its creator name: *Papop*, meaning "leader."

Its function is to notify homeworks; listing all homeworks in each day which updates after all the classes end, play jokes via its continuous conversation and be your companion in assisting everyday life like BMI calculation, deciding on a topic or recommending lunch. Moreover, it also has an Instagram account @papopbot to act like it is a being, acting as a student in the class.

In the future, Papop, the creator, mentioned that he had already planned the expansion of this chatbot into something big. He will continue collaborating with friends and other classes, not only for the class 2/2, but also on a bigger scale.

"I am so proud of this creation, and I hope that one day, this boy will gain more recognition not as my invention, but as someone who has influences in the studying field and technology of Nakhonsawan School". He said to the reporter with a confident smile.

While still in its early stage, Papop-bot represents an experimental approach to integrating automation into everyday communication, and its future development will be observed with interest.