A Passage on Trunami

- 1. A 10-year-old girl saved her family and 100 other tourists from the Asian tsunami because she had learnt about the giant waves in a geography lesson, it has emerged.
- 2. Tilly Smith, from Oxshott, Surrey, was holidaying with her parents and seven-year-old sister on Maikhao beach in Phuket, Thailand, when the tide rushed out.
- 3. As the other tourists watched in amazement, the water began to bubble and the boats on the horizon started to violently bob up and down.
- 4. Tilly, who had studied tsunamis in a geography class two weeks earlier, quickly realised they were in danger.
- 5. She told her mother they had to get off the beach immediately and warned that it could be a tsunami.
- 6. She explained she had just completed a school project on the huge waves and said they were seeing the warning signs that a tsunami was minutes away.
- 7. Her parents alerted the other holidaymakers and staff at their hotel, which was quickly evacuated. The wave crashed a few minutes later, but no one on the beach was killed or seriously injured.
- 8. In an interview with the Sun, Tilly gave the credit to her geography teacher, Andrew Kearney, at Oxshott's Danes Hill Prep School.
- 9. She said "Last term Mr Kearney taught us about earthquakes and how they can cause tsunamis.
- 10. "I was on the beach and the water started to go funny. There were bubbles and the tide went out all of a sudden.
- 11. "I recognised what was happening and had a feeling there was going to be a tsunami. I told mummy."