

## **Principal's Sharing (Nov 2013)**

Dear Parents and Students,

The School has been pretty busy these 2 months. In mid-October, more than 10 principals from the Direct Subsidy School Council and I visited Nanjing and Shanghai as more than 70 universities in mainland China were planning to recruit students in Hong Kong. Our aim was to look into the exam-free admission in mainland in order to pave better education paths for our students. The universities we visited include Nanjing University, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Tongji University and Fudan University. All these universities are elite tertiary institutes in mainland. I talked with the principals, vice-principals and the heads of admission to negotiate for a more flexible requirement of English proficiency. They promised to further discuss that matter and lowering the admission requirement with the Ministry of Education. Many mainland universities have attained the standard as international universities. Fudan even stands out from the others as it was the first mainland university which was allowed to accept oversea admission. At that time, only students with many As in HKCEE could have a chance to study there. Therefore, the flexibility offered this time is highly beneficial to Hong Kong students.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) was held on 19th October. Our parents were as involved as last year and we received far more applications to the PTA membership this year. We hereby thank all parents for your support as it would be very hard to keep improving our administration without your support. In the afternoon, we invited Professor Joseph S. P. Ting to give a talk about the difficulties Hong Kong encountered during the opening of the commercial port. The contents of the talk were eye-opening to our alumni, students and teachers.

On 31st October, a few principals from elite schools, including Dr. Michael Chan from G.T. College, Ms. Zareenah Ho from Kasim Tuet Memorial College, Mr. Ip Pak Lun from Kwun Tong Kung Kok Government Secondary School and Sr.Lim Lai Ling Amy from Our Lady's College, visited the School to discuss the development of the School. These 4 principals were very impressed by the traditional Chinese respect shown to guests.

On 2nd November, the Inter-Primary School Sinology General Knowledge Competition – Final was held with Dr. Zhang Wanmin, the Assistant Professor at City University being our Chief Judge. The 4 finalists, including Li Chi Ho Primary School, Marymount Primary School, Lam Man Chan English Primary School and Lui Ming Primary School had a very keen competition and Li Chi Ho Primary School became the Champion.

On 15th November, the School was invited by Radio DBC to record a broadcast. Apart of me, representatives of teachers, parents and students also joined that activity. They were Ms. Mok Yuk Ling, Ms. Ho Chung Wing, Ma Ming Hui Zahra, Tria Ariel Jr Gertos, Liang Weicong and Fang Jianmei. I understand how nervous they were as it was their first broadcast but all students performed excellently. Tria Ariel Jr Gertos did a very good job as he sang with a very beautiful and sweet voice. It is a great honor to have our students invited by the hosts, Ms. Mok Fung Yee, Emily, MH, JP and Ms. Cheuk Yan to participate in broadcasting promotion right after the recording.

The most significant event this month was the visit from the First Minister of Scotland, Alex Salmond. The School was informed to keep it a low profile. The School was pretty nervous about the security at the School while the Minister and his other officials visited the School, as it was the very first time for CHSS to have politicians to visit us. The Minister visited us on 16th November and we received calls from the police to ask for details. The Supervisor and members of the School Board welcomed the Minister. 2 of our students, Pandey Rajnandini from Secondary 1 and Lai Tin Long from Secondary 2 were the student ambassadors to welcome the Minister. They communicated very fluently with the guests. The flash bulbs did not stop at all while the Minister entered our campus. The Minister watched our students practicing rugby and shared his experience with our students in a classroom in a very nice and humorous way. He also chatted with some senior students. Interviews from the press were conducted before and after the visit. This truly was a lifetime experience for our teachers and students.

Some students told me ‘Our school has changed but I don’t know what the change is’. My reply is ‘The change is YOU! YOU now have confidence, responsibility and mission’.