

Ying Wa Girls' School
Annual Report 2016-2017

The 2016-2017 school year has been another fruitful one for Ying Wa and we are deeply grateful for the blessings we have received and the encouraging support for our initiatives to raise the bar in education.

We have entered the final year of the five-year School Development Plan for 2012-2017, *Space for Transformation*, the major focus this past year being *Learning and Growing Together*.

Major Concern: **Learning and Growing Together**

1. To build on our strength to help diverse learners

1.1. Early Diagnosis and Intervention to help SEN and NCS students

- 1.1.1. A new teacher group was formed under the leadership of KS to focus on the support to SEN and NCS students.
- 1.1.2. SEN Cases were discussed with class teachers, Education Psychologist, Guidance Mistress and related subject teachers. Case conferences were held when necessary.
- 1.1.3. A series of support measures have been employed to facilitate NCS students' effective learning of Chinese and Chinese related subjects, The measures include: Pre-S1 Chinese private tuition, After school remedial class, Peer-tutoring by senior form students and Remedial courses conducted by University of Hong Kong.
- 1.1.4. Parents and students all appreciated the support from school. The NCS students were performing well with one achieving excellent results.

1.2. 'Health in Mind' project

- 1.2.1. The project has run for 2 consecutive years.
- 1.2.2. Students on 15/1/2017 joined with recovered psychiatric patients to conduct Lunar New Year activities at the Hall. Students also participated in a sports day with the recovered psychiatric patients on 11/2/2017 and one group got the championship title.
- 1.2.3. A joint-school talent show was held on 29/4/2017.
- 1.2.4. Students were keen to participate in activities and learned to care for people with mental illness.

1.3. Art Therapy Programme

- 1.3.1. The programme consisted of two parts: a workshop and a camp. Both activities were held successfully in the second term.
- 1.3.2. 11 S3-S5 students joined a 6 sessions workshops while 15 S1-S2 students joined a two-day camp. Very positive feedbacks were received.
- 1.3.3. Coached by social workers from HK Family Welfare Society, participants learned to treasure their own value and also appreciate the help from others.

1.4. Introduction of Guide Dog to help a visually impaired student

- 1.4.1. Our students warmly welcomed the guide dog of their visually impaired schoolmate into our campus, and Bene has become a much loved member of the family.
- 1.4.2. The introduction of guide dog has helped to promote an inclusive environment at school where the able-bodied and disabled students learn to accept and grow in respect for one another. Such an experience nurtures our students to live in a barrier-free society.

1.5. Extra manpower in the Chinese Language Department to help diverse learners

- 1.5.1. The school has employed a part-time Putonghua teacher so that Chinese teachers could focus more to help students prepare for the HKDSE Chinese Examination.
- 1.5.2. Chinese tutorial classes were offered to students. Good attendance were found and some have shown improvement in the language. However, students were quite busy after school and it was difficult to find a common time for all.

1.6. New course on Presentation Skills

- 1.6.1. An Etiquette course by Ms. Mary Cheung was conducted to teach social manners to S6 students.
- 1.6.2. Mr. Desmond So of the East-West Institute of Applied Etiquette came on 17/2/2017 and 3/3/2017 to train student leaders on public speaking and preparation of speeches.
- 1.6.3. Students appreciated the format of the training which was interactive, educational and useful in their ECA duties and daily lives.

1.7. Drama Performance

- 1.7.1. On 28 October 2016 Ying Wa was transported to Shakespeare's Italy when 18 students, including cast and managers, put on a performance of 'The Taming of the Shrew' for an enthralled audience. It was a great opportunity for both the performers and the audience to appreciate the Bard's relevance to the 21st century.
- 1.7.2. The atmosphere was set for the play with an introduction to Shakespearean music during the Ying Wa Good Show at lunchtime. It was a good collaboration between different committees to bring a refreshing cultural experience and a fine musical treat to the campus. Not only did students get to hone their dramatic skills, but they also became more sensitive to the English language.
- 1.7.3. A spin-off from this drama was a series of sharing on Shakespearean English in the morning assemblies.
- 1.7.4. All S4 classes participated in the From Page to Stage programme in which they attended workshops and watched the drama Franky. Our students were awarded Best Directing Prize in the Shakespeare Drama category in the Drama Fest 2017 hosted by the Association of English Medium Schools.

1.8. Public Speaking Contest for S4

- 1.8.1. The response to the public speaking contest was not as good as expected and the originally S.4 speaking contest was changed to a senior form speaking contest instead.
- 1.8.2. Mr. Lam Chi Fung, a debater from the Baptist University, came and trained the participants.
- 1.8.3. The contest took place on 1/3/2017 and students expressed that they have gained much confidence and realized that anything is possible and achievable.

2. To continue finding opportunities to serve others

2.1. More learning ambassadors to be recruited

- 2.1.1. 16 ambassadors from S2-S5 were recruited to help students in S1-S4. About 10 Guidance Assistants were added in the 2nd term to help students in need.
- 2.1.2. As the number of students in need has increased, the school is planning to work more closely with the Academic VP and rally more teacher helpers and resources in order to benefit more students.

2.2. A new UNICEF Club

- 2.2.1. The UNICEF club had a smooth year with the focus of promoting “Children’s rights” by 3 activities: Board design, Whole school assembly and a Joint-school school tracing activity with Hong Kong Tang King Po College.
- 2.2.2. All activities were held successfully. Schoolmates’ awareness to social issues were raised.

2.3. A more long-term service programme for S2 students in the Volunteer Training Programme

- 2.3.1. 11 students from S2 have signed up for a more long-term service programme. Guided by YWCA, two activities were held to serve the SEN students in the Sham Shui Po district.

3. To understand and appreciate different heritage and cultures

3.1. Integrating teaching of modules in LS lessons

- 3.1.1. To deepen students’ understanding of global issues, 2 workshops for senior form students were jointly organized with the CEDAR Fund. One was on ‘Human Trafficking’ and the other one, on ‘Hong Kong-China Conflicts’. Following the workshops, some students took part in a summer project to deepen their understanding of human trafficking victims in Hong Kong. It was an eye-opening opportunity for them to learn and reflect on such social and global issues.
- 3.1.2. Students’ attentiveness in S6 varied as the session was held relatively late this year (near mock exam).

3.2. Global Week

- 3.2.1. The Global Exposure Committee organized a new programme called the "Global Awareness Week", from 19th to 23rd January and invited 31 people from 21 different nationalities to share their cultural backgrounds in junior forms. S2 students participated in presentations on the theme "the rites of passage of different cultures" while S3 explored the "migrant experience".
- 3.2.2. During the week, two interesting activities, namely the "Global Picnic" and the "Global Village" were held to provide an opportunity for students of all forms to play games, sample different cuisines and interact with the foreigners.
- 3.2.3. Feedback was extremely positive. Student helpers and participants were engaged. The classroom encounter with foreigners were well-received as students were much willing to express their views and answer questions from guest speakers.
- 3.2.4. The organization ICE was praised for their effective interaction with students and has achieved the event's aim of raising students' global awareness, boost students' confidence, and in-line with the school's values.

3.3. Setting of Archival Policies

- 3.3.1. A special task group was formed to take care of the preservation and archive of the school's antiques and monuments, an existing building (built in 1926). An archive room in the new campus will be used for the exhibition and storage of such items.
- 3.3.2. Several alumnae, with one being a professional archivist, were recruited, to help oversee this matter. Such was deemed important for the school not only for historical value but educational purposes too.
- 3.3.3. The task group had paid visits to museums and archive rooms of various schools and organizations. A sub-committee has been formed to set up the relative archival policies.

3.4. Study tour to Guangdong

- 3.4.1. A talk for the whole school was delivered by Dr. Joseph Ting on 'Guangzhou Trade and Shamian Island'
- 3.4.2. Following the talk, a joint-school study tour to Shamian with Ying Wa College was held on 26-28 June 2017.

4. To continue building our new campus and prepare for our move back

4.1. A revamped school website to disseminate news to various stakeholders and outsiders

- 4.1.1. Compatible with both lap-top computers and mobile devices, a new website was launched in September 2016 to offer faster access and more content for alumnae and public viewers.
- 4.1.2. The mobile-friendly website also provides prospective students and their parents with an in-depth understanding of our school.

4.2. Preparation for the design and build of the AV, IT, PA and Security System of the New Campus

- 4.2.1. After thorough discussion by teachers and support by the Building Subcommittee, the school decided to adopt a new Fiber-to-Classroom system in the new campus which will combine the traditional AV, IT, PA and security systems.
- 4.2.2. Site-visits to different schools and consultation advices by different companies have been made, and a consultation meeting on 3 March 2017 was held with consultants.

4.3. A Concert to raise fund

- 4.3.1. With the massive support of a 500-strong audience, the first ever fundraising concert of Ying Wa Girls' School was held successfully on 22 April. Around 150 students and 80 alumnae performed a repertoire of over 20 works of varied genres and in different languages.
- 4.3.2. Initiated by our Music panel chairperson, the concert assembled Ying Wa musical talents of all ages to contribute to a new Robinson Road campus. It garnered overwhelming support from students, alumnae, parents, teachers and philanthropists, and added HK\$781,000 to the Redevelopment Fund.
- 4.3.3. Making its debut also in April was another initiative, the Crossover Souvenir Design Project with Chocolate Rain. This time it was our Visual Arts students guided by local entrepreneur and artist, Ms Prudence Mak, who brought out a new range of collectibles for sale and added \$323,000 to the Redevelopment Project.

4.4. “Fit-to-Learn” Programme by the Life Education Committee

- 4.4.1. A new programme, Fit-to-Learn, was organized to boost learning efficiency and the sense of belonging in class. Each class of students designed a set of exercises that they would do together in class and during the interval of lessons.
- 4.4.2. The small exercises aimed to relax the brain and the physical body so as to lighten the pressure that might have built up during the day. Classes videoed their brain exercises in class and shared them via Campus TV.
- 4.4.3. Various support groups continued to organize activities in the Life is a Marathon programme for students of different levels with the purpose of inculcating in them the spirit of positivity and resilience.

*** This report should be read in parallel with the Principal’s Report 2016-2017**

<http://www.ywgs.edu.hk/sites/default/files/report/P-report-2017-eng.pdf>