



THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2021-2022

School life has inevitably been affected over this past academic year while the shadow of COVID-19 lingers. Nonetheless, riding on the valuable experiences gained earlier, we are able to brave the challenges by planning well ahead and responding proactively.

In September, we had a smooth opening of the school year. Students resumed learning at school for half-day classes. Then in early 2022, face-to-face lessons came to a sudden halt when Hong Kong plunged into its "fifth wave of COVID-19". During the period of on-site class suspension, our teaching staff continued to display their professionalism by adopting new strategies to engage students in online lessons. I am glad to report that a large majority of our students have caught up well on their learning.

I am happy to share with you a few highlights before proceeding to the overview report of the School.

• Education initiatives

In the realm of education initiatives, we place efforts not only into mainstream academic studies but also students' all-round development.



To enhance students' STEM education in S1 and S2, we have collaborated with a number of institutes. An Education Bureau's school-based support service offered by the Education University of Hong Kong has given us technical and hardware support for students' self-directed learning. In a partnership scheme with the VTC, instructors from the institute came to teach our students with robotics. As one of the affiliate

schools of the CUHK's *Jockey Club AI for the Future Project*, we enjoyed the use of various teaching resources, including an online learning platform.

In addition to our existing Junior and Senior Choirs and the String Orchestra, a Wind Band was inceptioned this year to enrich our students' music education. A programme of chamber music was also pioneered with the forming of several chamber groups that include piano duet, piano quartet and percussion duet. Our students are looking forward to showing their talent in the recital and concert held after the examination. Parents of the performing students are most welcome to join.



At the height of the pandemic (March to April) the Physical Education Department launched the *Let's Workout Together* programme to encourage students to maintain a healthy lifestyle while staying at home. Students teamed up voluntarily with fellow schoolmates to engage one another online in various kinds of exercises, such as jogging, yoga, walking and stretching.

- **Fundraising Movie Gala *To My 19-year-old Self***

The fundraising premiere of *To My 19-year-old Self* in December at the Grand Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, was no doubt a highlight of the year. The decade-long documentary chronicles the growth of a group of Ying Wa students from their time in the old Robinson Road campus to the decanting school in Sham Shui Po. An up-close and honest account of the coming of age of these youngsters, the film was warmly received by the audience, comprising mainly friends of the Ying Wa community. The event raised more than \$7 million in support of our long-term school development.



- **Final tribute to two most treasured members of the family**



In October 2021, we were sad to lose an important member of the Ying Wa family, our beloved former headmistress Miss Evelyn Griffin Jenkins. A missionary from the London Missionary Society, Miss Jenkins started her education career in Ying Wa where she served for 16 years, first as a teacher, then vice principal and finally Principal (1967-1972). A memorial service was held in the Silcocks Hall. A good number of friends came to pay our final tribute to Miss Jenkins.

In May 2022, we learnt of the passing away of Miss Kwan Yeuk Laan at the age of 101. A life deeply intertwined with Ying Wa, Miss Kwan entered our school in 1932 before graduating to university studies. Her love for education and her alma mater brought her back to serve as a Geography, Mathematics and Chinese teacher in 1951. She became vice-principal in 1977 and retired in 1980. A memorial ceremony was held on 18 June in the Silcocks Hall where many old friends and students came to celebrate her rich and blessed life.



- **The 1926 Heritage Block project**

Friends of Ying Wa are probably familiar with a one-storey structure situated in the school compound near the Bonham Road entrance, fondly referred to as “the kindergarten block”. First used in 1926, it was home to the school’s pioneering early childhood education. The structure has been preserved during the School Redevelopment. Currently, we are working on a project to transform the heritage block into a miniature exhibition gallery to tell the story of Ying Wa. I am optimistic that it will be ready to receive visitors in the last quarter of 2022.

The Incorporated Management Committee

This year we have welcomed four members to the IMC. Ms Man Sze Wan and Mr Leung Hok Sau joined respectively in the capacity of Teacher Manager and Alternate Teacher Manager. Ms Lam Ching Karrie and Mr Wong Sai Kay Ricky were re-elected for another term to be Parent Manager and Alternate Parent Manager.





At the end of the school year, Rev. Wong Chun Ting will be retiring after completing his current term of office. Rev. Wong has had a long-standing relationship with Ying Wa. Even before his service in the IMC since inception, Rev. Wong has taught our S2 girls Religious Education for a number of years. His dedicated service to Ying Wa is gratefully appreciated.

My gratitude also goes to all IMC managers who have faithfully given so generously their time, advice and support all along.

Staff

There were altogether 104 on the staff roll, with 75 teachers (including the Principal), 3 Laboratory Technicians, 2 Technical Support Staff, 1 Project Coordinator, 1 Campus Management Assistant, 1 Executive Officer, 6 Clerical Staff, 14 Janitors and 1 Technician.

New Appointments

During the year, we have welcomed various new members to our staff team.

Teaching Staff

Ms Chen Ze Jun Alisa

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education in Language Education, HKU

Ms Chun Sau Fa

Postgraduate Diploma in Education, CUHK

Master of Arts in Cultural Management, CUHK

Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language and Literature, CUHK

Ms Hui Wan Wan

Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) in Economics, The University of Auckland

Teacher Certificate, Northcote College of Education

Ms Kwok Hin Kwan

Bachelor of Arts, HKU

Ms Lau Kai Yan Lydia

Bachelor of Education in English Language Education, CUHK

Bachelor of Arts in English Studies, CUHK

Ms Lee Cheuk Man

Master of Arts, University of Bamberg & University Paris Diderot

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education in Language Education, HKU

Mr Leung Sing Yan Matthew

Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Teaching of Music), HKBU

Bachelor of Arts in Music, CUHK

Master of Music in Advanced Performance, Royal College of Music

Mr Li Wai Hin

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, HKUST

Ms Li Yee Tung

Postgraduate Diploma in Education, HKU

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, CUHK

Mr Sit Chi Lam Jayden

Bachelor of Social Science in Geography and Resources Management, CUHK

Non-teaching Staff

Mr Chen Genshen (Laboratory Technician)

Ms Lee Chau Yee (STEM Project Assistant)

Ms Cheng Hiu Lung (Clerical Officer)

Ms Tam Sau Fong Novel (Campus Management Assistant)

Ms Kam Siu Lin (Janitor)



Ms Tse Chak Lam (Janitor)
Ms Wu Pik Lan (Janitor)
Mr Lo Chi Wa (Janitor)
Ms Wu Shaogu (Janitor)

Farewell

At the end of the school year, we will bid farewell to a number of staff, two of them our long-serving teachers.

Ms Cheung Po Ling Carrie, panel head of English Language and Literature in English, joined Ying Wa in September 1994. She has been a pillar of strength to our continuous efforts, as an EMI school, in up-keeping and raising the English standard of students. She has introduced and led various language enriching programmes for students, such as debating, public speaking and language arts. Pleasing results have been evidenced in the outstanding achievements of our students over the years. Ms Cheung also wrote and directed two of our anniversary musicals, *Alice* in 2010 and *The Nightingale* in 2015.



Ms Man Sze Wan Alice, panel head of Mathematics, is an old girl of Ying Wa. She has served her alma mater for 22 years. Her passion to arouse and raise the interest of students in Mathematics was shown in her many innovative and educational programmes brought to students both inside and outside the classroom. A new teaching venue, the Mathematics Room, came into operation at the start of this school year. Ms Man will be fondly remembered for her devotion to mathematics education.



Both Ms Cheung and Ms Man have served in the School Executive Committee, having made valuable contribution to the School's senior management. We will certainly miss them.

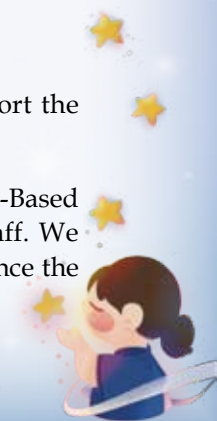
Some of our young teachers will leave us at the end of the school year upon completion of their contracts. They included Ms Chun Sau Fa (Chinese Language & Chinese History), Ms Lau Kai Yan Lydia (English Language), Ms Li Yee Tung (Mathematics), Mr Sit Chi Lam Jayden (Geography), Ms Lim King Chi (BAFS & ICT) and Ms Kwok Hin Kwan (Teaching Assistant, NCS). Though a short time with us, we appreciated greatly their dedication to teaching and care for the students.

We wish our departing colleagues good health, happiness and fulfillment in their future endeavours.

Staff Development

The Staff Development Committee organises regular training activities to support the professional development of colleagues.

Before the start of school in August, we invited Mr Ricky Chan, an expert in Brain-Based Learning and "Brain-Mind" training to conduct a workshop for the teaching staff. We learned how understanding the mechanism of the brain could help teachers enhance the





effectiveness of teaching. Mr Chan's lively workshop demonstrated practical ways to enhance students' thinking and learning capacities. In June, a workshop on National Security Education was jointly-held with peers from the Ying Wa College.

We congratulated the following teachers on their successful completion of in-service training:



Ms Ho Chung Sang

Advanced Certificate in Food Science, HKU SPACE

Ms Kwok Mei Yan

Advanced Course on Catering for Diverse Learning Needs, EdUHK

Ms Lam Yan Wing

Postgraduate Diploma in Education, CUHK

Ms Lee So Ling

Certificate in Parenting Psychology, St James' Settlement Continued Education Centre

Diploma in Special Educational Needs, School of Continuing and Professional Studies, CUHK

Ms Lee Wai Ching

Professional Development Programme for SEN Coordinators, EdUHK

Student Enrolment and Class Structure

A total of 160 new students were admitted to Secondary 1 this year. The total school enrolment is 876 in the 30 classes from S1 to S6, five classes in each level.

Language Learning

The Chinese enhancement classes aiming to prepare Secondary 5 students for public examinations were launched online. A school talk was organised inviting fresh graduates to share study skills and exam tips for S6 students. Students were able to talk directly to the guest speakers in a cosy environment in the school hall.

For many years, we have organised the team novel writing contest in school. We are glad that one of the winning teams this year has attained an external award.

On the front of Putonghua learning, our students have achieved outstanding performance in external competitions.



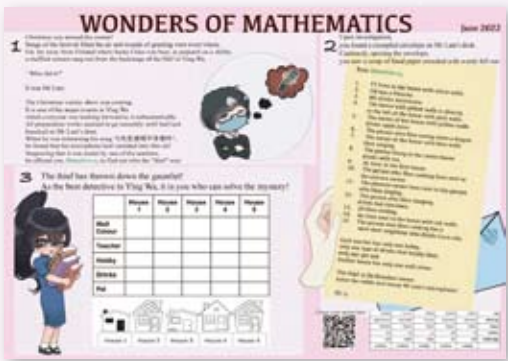
The English Toastmaster International Youth Leadership Programme entered its 18th year. Over the years some 300-strong students have benefitted from this training programme, with some garnering remarkable results in public speaking events. This year, one of our S3 students and a keen participant of the Toastmaster, Leung Tsoi Lam Phoebe, won Grand Champion of The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups English Speaking Contest. In another arena, our debating team

participated in numerous debating events throughout the year in order to hone their skills and receive helpful feedback from seasoned debaters and teachers.

We aim to broaden students' exposure by providing them the opportunities to listen to distinguished people from different fields. In November, Ms Natalie Chan, founder of OWN Academy and one of the 24 fellows of the 2021 *Cartier Women's Initiative*, spoke to our senior girls about her key to success. Mr Paul McKenzie, four-time *World Wildlife Photographer of the Year* and a member of the Royal Geographical Society, came to share with our S5 students his passionate and extraordinary stories of shooting in the remotest parts of the world.

Project-based Learning

The Project-based Learning Centre (PBLC) supports learning outside classrooms. Nine projects were conducted this year, such as *Wonders of Mathematics* and Chinese Culture Quiz. A new scheme was introduced this year to encourage students to make good use of the special collection of autographed books in the Library. The PBLC continued to organise writing contests and publish students' outstanding works.



The Self-Access Centre (SAC) provides audio-visual materials to support teaching and learning. The centre's advanced multimedia facilities have been well used by students for their publication and audio-visual productions.

School Library

The Library continued to promote and arouse students' interest in reading and writing by holding regular programmes such as the annual *On-line Reading Award Scheme*, the *Thematic Book Games* and the *Kindle Borrowing Scheme*.

Examination Results

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination 2021

1.	No. of candidates	:	144
	No. of students awarded the minimum entrance requirement	:	133
	for local degree courses, i.e. Level 3 in Chinese and English,		(92.4%)
	Level 2 in Mathematics and Liberal Studies, and Level 2 in one		
	of the electives		
	Level (5**)	:	35
	Level (5* or 5)	:	327
2.	Admission to tertiary institutes and other courses		
	Local tertiary and post-secondary institutions		83.3%
	Overseas studies		15.3%
	Retake HKDSE		0.7%
	Others		0.7%
	Total		<u>100.0%</u>





3. Best result

Name (class)	<u>Level</u>	Subjects
Tai Cheuk Wing (6B)	5**	English Language Mathematics (Compulsory Part) Biology Chemistry Liberal Studies Physics Chinese Language Mathematics (Extended Part)
	5*	
	5	

Religious Activities

Our religious services were mostly uninterrupted. Thanksgiving and Christmas services were held in the Silcocks Hall. The Founder's Day Service was re-scheduled to June (instead of the usual March). We participated in Hop Yat Church's online Easter service.



Pastoral care for students continued with partner churches. Rev. Yu Chin Tung of the China Congregation Church Bridges Street taught Religious Education to all S2 classes. He is also advisor to the Senior Christian Fellowship. Ms Carina Siu of the North Point Methodist Church and Ms Nicola Lee of Hop Yat Church have been rendering support to both the Senior and Junior Christian Fellowships. Joining them were passionate alumna Ms Lee Ho Kiu Coco.

Student Support

The Guidance Committee, comprising a dedicated team of 9 teachers and 2 school social workers, put together developmental and remedial programmes to bring holistic development to our students. Alongside the Learning Diversity Team, we support students' learning development. The team is assisted by external professionals that include an educational psychologist, a clinical psychologist, and psychiatric nurses from the Student Mental Health Supporting Scheme.

With the mental wellbeing of students as our priority, we organised programmes on mental health issues. Guest speakers shared their stories of healing and recovery. Messages carrying relevant information were delivered periodically to students to help remove the stigma associated with people suffering from mental problems.

The *High Event Challenges* continued to bring thrills to S1 students. Special groups for S2 students were run to promote self-care. Uninterrupted support was provided by our school social workers to students of different levels during the online lesson days and the "special break" by initiating online gatherings and psycho-educational programmes for the students.

Some of our students had the chance to meet the dog doctors from The Hong Kong Animal Assisted Therapy Association, and took part in Pastel Nagomi Art workshops.

The Discipline Committee, assisted by the Prefect Board, is responsible for maintaining school discipline. Adjustment programmes continued for S1 students at the beginning of the school year to help them cultivate a sense of responsibility and understanding of their role in building a caring school community. As in previous years, education programmes were jointly held with the ICAC and LEAP for S1 to S4 students. Topics included anti-corruption, the harm of smoking and drug abuse. A leadership training day was organised for prefects in each school term to sharpen their leadership skills.



Most activities run by the Careers Committee were moved online. For instance, the Pre-DSE Day Briefing was given in a pre-recorded video, and the HYC DSE Day Talk. For the S3 students' NSS subject selection, subject teachers prepared online materials to introduce the various electives to students and parents, and S5 students shared their experience with their S3 juniors in an interactive Zoom session.



We partner with external bodies to enrich our support for the students. Programmes that we have joined included the government-funded *Youth Life Planning Activities* run by the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society (HKFWS), the *Junior Achievement Hong Kong* programmes, and *The CUHK Jockey Club Children Eye Care Programme*. Meanwhile, the Mentorship programme coorganised with the Alumnae Association continued in its

18th year. Participating students had the chance to widen their life experience and gain career advice through their bonding with alumna mentors.

Global Exposure

At school, the Global Exposure Team collaborated with the English Department to bring the staple *Global Week* event to S3 students in December. Students formed into different groups to engage in a challenging research project – to explore the rich culture, history, and way of life of a country of their choice. Each group then created a stall and prepared pitches to showcase their chosen countries. More than 40+ countries were featured in the event, enabling students to learn a variety of interesting facts and trivia.





Civic and Moral Education

The Civic Education Committee continues its mission to enhance students' social awareness, and their national and global sense of identity by joint efforts with other departments.

During the year, the curricula of National Security Education and Basic Law Education were implemented. The national flag and regional flag were displayed on each school day while a national flag raising ceremony was conducted weekly. The curricula include a range of relevant concepts such as nationhood, national identity, "One Country, Two Systems", the rule of law, and rights and obligations.

This year, S4 students presented a talk on *The Reform and Opening-up of China*. Different creative approaches were also introduced to facilitate the study of Chinese history to consolidate the sense of national identity.

Extra-curricular Activities

The 73rd Student Association (SA), *Heipathy*, and the 31st Inter-house Committee, *Fluorescence*, were inaugurated in October 2021. The cabinets pledged to serve their fellow schoolmates with a humble heart.



The Sponsored Walk was held in the school compound this year. A total of HK\$263,179 was raised, of which \$254,000 was donated to 23 local charities, and the remainder to the School Redevelopment Fund. During the months of online learning, activities were held online, such as Farewell Assembly for S6, Inter-house trivia quiz competition, and the World Congress, to enriched fellow students' learning experiences while staying at home.

Social and Charity Services

This year the Interact Club has recruited about 50 interactors from S3 to S6. At the beginning of the academic year, training workshops of leadership and voluntary work were held for student leaders and S2 students respectively. Our regular service programmes, for instance, gift distribution to an elderly center and assistance to an animal kennel took place as planned. In the coming summer, a joint service programme with Ying Wa College for the homeless in Sham Shui Po will be organised.

The Parent-Teacher Association

Led by Chairperson Mr. Eric Hui, the Executive Committee of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) continued to render support to the School. Assisted by a team of parent volunteers, they have contributed to the general affairs of the school such as daily assistance in the library, and other regular initiatives such as the School Uniform Donation and photo-taking for students.

Two talks were organised in the *Fun-filled Family Activities Series* jointly hosted with the HKFWS. Dr Leung Wing Tai, President of Lumina College, spoke on "Decisions that make kids outstanding". The Cyber Youth Support Team (HKI) from St. James' Settlement enlightened parents on the young culture of "Generation Z". Parents also had the chance to engage in mental training in a SoulCollage workshop, and experience stress reduction in a Mindfulness meditation workshop. In addition, a "Market Leftover Food Recycling Experience Tour" was held to enhance the awareness of environmental protection and the issue of poverty.

The Alumnae Association

The Alumnae Association (AA) continued its mission to foster the spirit and heritage of Ying Wa under the leadership of chairperson Ms Chui Wai Shan Anita and the Council.

This year's main focus is helping with the Premiere of the documentary production *To My 19-year-old Self*. The AA was involved in the design, production and marketing of souvenirs for the event, and their efforts were warmly welcomed by fellow alumnae.

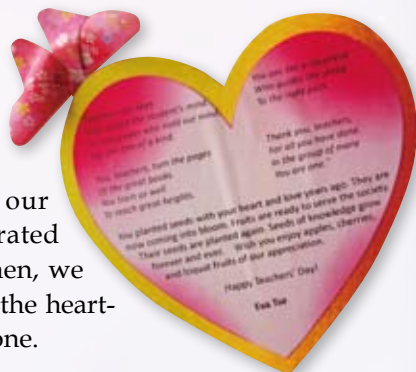


It brings us joy to have kept in touch with fellow graduates in cities across the globe. Alumnae in North Americas and Australia continued to support the overseas edition of the AA Newsletter by contributing articles to share their latest news. Despite the social distancing and lock-downs, the overseas chapters managed to reach out to one another by online reunions.

Appreciation

In closing the report, I would like to express my sincerest thanks to many parties, for without their unwavering support, my journey would have been even more difficult. Yet, I must say, it is often when facing seemingly insurmountable hurdles that one could muster the courage to break through. This past year especially made me reflect on the courage one needs to adapt to changes and the value of team work.

First of all, let me thank my dedicated team of staff. They are the underlying force that has made our advancement possible, especially in times of challenges. The unreserved appreciation of parents, manifested in their generous giving to the School (RAT kits, fruits, etc.) has meant a great deal to us. All along, our faithful education partner, the alumnae has demonstrated unwavering devotion to their alma mater. Now and then, we receive from them generous donations. These are often the heart-warming moments which reminds me that – I am not alone.



I would also like to thank our colleagues in the Education Bureau for their professional advice and good counsel, namely Ms Chiang Lam Connie, Ms Chan Hiu Ying Sarah and Mr Cheung Chun Lun Alan, School Development Officers of the Regional Education Office.

Last but not least, I must mention our class of 2022 graduates. They have trod an unusual path of adolescence in their three years of senior secondary education. In face of the uneasy times, they have learnt to trust and take things one step at a time, working their way forward diligently and conscientiously. I am so proud to see their gradual growth to adulthood, and have total confidence in them – that they will continue to mature into better persons who will shine and serve wherever they are, whatever they become.

