

Ying Wa Girls' School
Annual School Report (2023-2024)

Themes: Enlighten, Empower, Embrace, Engage

Major Concern 1: Enlighten – To explore new learning opportunities for students

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate students' learning of STEM knowledge 	<p>Continue promoting STEM Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate between the STEM Department and the Computer Department to enhance the AI curriculum Implement the STEM Enrichment Programme, a series of STEM training workshops conducted throughout the year Organize educational trips outside of Hong Kong, offering students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in STEM-related fields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This year, we have integrated the learning of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our STEAM curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), in alignment to the requirements set out by the Education Bureau. To ensure successful implementation, we joined AI programmes developed by esteemed institutions such as CUHK and VTC. Through these experiences, students could benefit from the collaborations to enhance their understanding of the different aspects on AI and learn the relevant skills. Besides the curriculum enhancements, we introduced a STEM Enrichment Programme to provide students with in-depth learning opportunities. Modules in Aviation & Flight Simulation, Robotics, Aerial Filming and Drone Coding were offered. These enrichments aim to foster a deeper understanding of STEM subjects and provide hands-on experiences for students to explore their interests. The STEM team has also actively participated in inter-school competitions and achieved remarkable results in a robotics competition. Such participations have widened students' horizons and empowered their problem-solving abilities. They were also precious chances to showcase their talents and diligence. On the artistic front, 12 S1 students collaborated to create a mosaic mural titled The Ten Virgins located outside the Art Room by applying AR technology. This beautiful artwork demonstrates the cross-disciplinary potentials of STEAM and Religious Studies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To optimize the school curriculum and setting to align with the latest education trends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of Tourism and Hospitality Studies (THS) in S4 as a new elective subject Pilot the implementation of 1 GSP lesson in S1 to trial Citizenship, Economics and Society (CES) Review the minimum quota for S4 elective subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THS was successfully provided as a new DSE elective for students. Students enjoyed this new subject with more students choosing it in the coming academic year. S1 GSP lessons were well-attempted as a trial for the upcoming CES lessons in the new academic year. Minimum quota for each S4 elective was cut down to 3 students.

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop cross-curricular mindset and activities 	<p>Implementation of cross-curricular / co-curricular learning and teaching activities to cater for students' different interests, abilities and aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English and History History, Chinese, Chinese History, Civic Education Committee and SAC RE and STEM <p>National Security Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of National Security Education, Basic Law education in different subjects Promotion of values of respectfulness and responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project-based Learning Centre successfully carried out 12 projects in collaboration with subject departments and interest clubs. These included Wonders of Mathematics, Film AppreciACTION, English and Chinese writing contests, and publication of students' outstanding works. As in previous years, the Chinese Culture Quiz was much enjoyed by both participants and audience, and the Ying Wa Good Show continued to be the ideal platform to unveil students' performing talents. On 1 May, we had the privilege to host a campus visit for 80 mainland students and teachers from four Shanghai schools, namely, Yangpu Senior High School, Affiliated High School of the University of Science and Technology, Shanghai Anshan Experimental Junior High School and Shanghai Kunming School. At one of the school assemblies, four students from S2 to S5 delivered a creative presentation, contextualizing Ying Wa's heritage in the larger realm of Chinese history. Other school-based activities such as the Chinese Culture Quiz and Basic Law Quiz were held to help strengthen students' sense of national identity and to educate them on national security and the Basic Law.

Major concern 2: Empower – To facilitate teachers, students and parents to excel

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the emotional, mental and physical wellbeing of students and teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host a workshop focused on raising awareness about common mental disorders among adolescents, including autism, depression, anxiety, and ADHD Organize a Wellness Week dedicated to promoting positive mental health and providing strategies for managing emotions Enhance support for S1 students Continue the use of <i>Growth Mindset</i> materials Participate in the <i>Power T.A.G. – Boosting Inner Strength Project</i> by partnering with HKFWS Conduct Healthy Mind-Body-Spirit programmes through the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special OLE programmes - Collaboration with neighboring churches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External specialists were brought in to enlighten our students on various aspects of their personal development. For instance, students had the chance to learn about topics such as the intrinsic influence of social media on their perception of body image, people struggling with sexual identity, and social interactions, especially that between the opposite sexes. To broaden students' knowledge on physical wellness, we invited physiotherapist Ms Kong Man Wing, a Ying Wa alumna, to come and share her expertise by demonstrating how to exercise in compact spaces. 35 Guidance Assistants received knowledge about mental illness common among adolescents and SEN (autism, anxiety, ADHD). Guidance Assistants also underwent training about mental illnesses among adolescents. Empowered with the relevant knowledge, they took charge of caring for their S1 juniors and running the Wellness Week. 3 Game booths were put up in the Wellness Week to deliver messages of positiveness and ways to manage emotion. Ms Patricia Chan, a Clinical Psychologist, delivered an engaging talk on "The Power of Believing You Can Improve" during the whole school morning assembly on November 15. She emphasized the significance of embracing failures and discussed how labeling individuals as 'smart' can hinder improvement. She encouraged students to view themselves as hardworking, fostering faith in improvement and fearlessly facing challenges. Though disappointment might arise, cultivating a growth mindset ultimately leads to greater personal growth and resilience. A total of 1,472 participants took part in the Power T.A.G. activities, which aimed to foster personal growth and empowerment. Those involved in the programmes found that it not only provided them with valuable skills and knowledge but also empowered their inner strength. Students reported that the various special OLE programs held throughout the year, such as the volunteer training workshop, the Small Angels Wellness Program, insightful sharing sessions led by alumnae, neighboring church representatives and guest speakers on the theme of embracing failure, had a profoundly positive impact on their lives. These programs not only provided valuable insights and skills but also fostered a supportive community where students felt encouraged to learn from their setbacks and grow personally and academically.

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the social skills of students who have difficulties in communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with the Learning Diversity Team to organize and conduct social skills training sessions for students facing challenges in peer relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A group of students were empowered with social skills training to enhance their interaction with peers. The High Event Challenges taught S1 students the valuable lesson of embracing “failures” as part of everyday life.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To unleash the potential and creativity of students and parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of a customized Chinese curriculum specifically designed for NCS in S1 and S2 Continuation of the New Parent Education programmes with the support of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customized Chinese curriculum and pull-out classes provided for NCS students in S1 and S2. Both students and teachers found these arrangements beneficial for learning Chinese. In collaboration with the Asian Academy of Family Therapy (AAFT), the Ying Wa Parent Academy (YWPA) organised three seminars and three workshops for parents, aiming to promote healthy parent-children and family relationships, with a focus on the mental health of young people. One of YWPA’s objective is to instill the idea of self-care among parents as effective parenting hinges much on the quality of the body, mind and spirit of parents themselves. To this end, various programmes were organised that included parents’ prayer time, an acupressure workshop, an animal voluntary service and a dessert-making lesson. Many parents reported that the activities fostered a strong sense of community and support among them. By prioritizing their own mental and physical health, parents found themselves better equipped to nurture their children's development, ultimately contributing to a more harmonious family environment.

Major concern 3: Embrace – To understand one self, the school, the surroundings, the society, the nation and the globe

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage students to pursue their dreams and embrace failure as part of their personal growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a series of talks on the topics of dream pursuit and student empowerment during morning assemblies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On October 11, three students shared their experiences during the morning assembly about their application for Mrs Katherine Chau's Scholarship. They discussed their goals, such as scheduling swimming sessions to improve their performance, creating watercolour paintings, and participating in service projects. These stories emphasized the significance of setting challenging goals, fostering confidence, perseverance, and problem-solving skills. All students are encouraged to pursue their dreams with determination and seize opportunities for personal growth through the application of the scholarship. The School hosted a talk by our alumna, Ms Beti Chung, during the morning assembly on October 25. Beti highlighted the engagement rate on Instagram and shared her experiences in operating the page, as well as her journey in writing books and winning public awards. She emphasized the importance of creativity, learning diverse skills such as photography and videography, effective communication, and the courage to explore new ventures. A talk by alumna Ms Yip Yuk Ying took place during the morning assembly on November 1. Yuk Ying candidly shared her experiences during secondary school and how she discovered her true passion and overcame academic challenges. The talk left a lasting impact on the students, inspiring them to embrace challenges and seize opportunities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage students to step out of their comfort zones and actively engage in meaningful connections with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resume the S1 High Events Hold an Adventure day for S3 students Introduce a week-long S4 Learning Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> S1 High Events resumed for S1. The programme taught S1 students the valuable lesson of embracing “failures” as part of everyday life. All S4 students participated in a learning project to nurture personal growth by stepping out of their comfort zone. They chose from one of the three courses offered, respectively run by the Outward Bound School (Personal Development), Hong Kong Discovery (Sustainable Leadership) and Inter Cultural Education (Global Leadership).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote diversity and an inclusive culture within our school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a Global Week from 19-23 January (a double lesson in S1-S3 classes) Organize a visit to a local mosque in January Arrange guest speakers to share their experiences and insights during CSD lessons throughout the academic year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After a long hiatus due to the pandemic, the Global Week made a return in February this year. Organized by the Global Exposure Committee (GEC) and partnering organization Inter Cultural Education (ICE), the event aims to bring a rich cultural atmosphere and energy into our campus. ICE representatives from diverse countries and cultures visited S1-S3 classes and our students got a precious chance to interact with guests from all over the world. Apart from interacting with foreign guests in the classrooms, students took part in such activities as the fun-filled Bollywood Mass Dance and lunch workshops to learn about the customs and cultures of different countries.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an extension of Global Week, the English Department held the Mini Global Week for S3. Students conducted research projects to explore the culture, history, and way of life of a country of their choice. They then designed and managed their own country stalls to share their findings with teachers and fellow students. The Citizenship & Social Development Department arranged interesting talks delivered by alumnae from diverse upbringings, aiming to promote cultural understanding and the importance of embracing one's own heritage. One of them talked about her identity as being a mixed-race while others shared their growing up experiences in the mainland. To foster inclusivity, GEC organised a visit to the Kowloon Mosque for students to learn about the Islamic faith and cultivate respect for other religions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To foster appreciation for YW's history and heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train heritage ambassadors to lead a heritage tour for parents in the Parent Academy and alumnae during Homecoming Day Organize the opening of the 1926 Heritage Block, featuring a sharing session by Dr. Ting on nearby heritage sites, during Homecoming Day Introduce the artifacts of the 1926 Heritage Block to the community through short videos produced by the Heritage Ambassadors team Introduce the significance and historical value of the 1926 Heritage Block to incoming S1 students in late August 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage Ambassadors were trainings as docents to lead heritage tours for alumnae and friends of YW. A group of 4 students has won the championship and the "Most Popular Award" in the "Hong Kong Young Tour Guides Competition." All four students received the "Excellent Tour Guide" award. The competition was organized by the Hong Kong Tour Guides Association, with participation from 101 schools. The students created short videos to introduce the school's history, artifacts and campus environment, deepening their understanding and sense of belonging to the school while promoting English and Chinese cultural education. All students will have a chance to visit the 1926 Heritage Block in the coming academic year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate a sustainability course as part of the S4 Learning Project Promote energy conservation and waste recycling via the efforts of the ECO AMIGOS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course successfully incorporated into S4 learning Project: Hong Kong Discovery (Sustainable Leadership) During the morning assembly on May 22, Eco Amigos, a group of 19 students dedicated to environmental action, addressed the theme "Save Our Earth in Action!" They shared their recent waste audit report, highlighting the detrimental impact of improper waste disposal on Hong Kong's beautiful beaches and countryside. The students raised awareness about the urgent need to address landfill expansion into urban areas. They also introduced various facilities, such as recycling shops and plastic bottle recycling machines, as well as the option of lunchbox borrowing at HK Station. Their presentation aimed to inspire fellow schoolmates to take a proactive role in protecting the environment.

Major concern 4: Engage – To transform into better facilitators and learners

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To engage students in learning with the help of new technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of new teaching strategies, technologies and other e-resources to motivate and nurture self-motivated learners Implement BYOD in S3 and S4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All S3 and S4 students utilized iPads for learning in their lessons. According to the student survey, 91.5% of students agreed that BYOD programme strengthened teacher-student and student-student interaction, while 97.6% of students agreed that it enhanced collaboration among students. The Cyberbullying and Doxxing presentation conducted by the PCPD and collaborated with the Discipline Committee on 2nd November 2023 was a successful event. The purchase of the eClass AI Tool was met with positive feedback from the staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To engage students in experiential learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange a 5-day learning project for S4 students in the 2nd term Train Heritage Ambassadors in promoting Heritage Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 74 S.4 students participated in the personal development training organized by Outward Bound Hong Kong, 36 students participated in the leadership training organized by Hong Kong Discovery and 22 students joined the course of global education by Intercultural Education. Through experiential learning, students stepped out of their comfort zones and applied the knowledge learned in real-life situations. After the learning project, students reflected on their feelings and treasured the precious memories of their secondary school life. Heritage Ambassadors were trained as docents to lead guided tours to alumnae and visitors.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To widen students' exposure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host the Hong Kong Laureate Forum - Dialogue with Secondary Schools Organize a Global Week Introduce a Global Citizenship Scheme (GCS) Implement the Sister Schools Scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School had the privilege of hosting the Dialogue with Shaw Laureates as part of the prestigious Hong Kong Laureate Forum from November 13 to 18, 2023. This enlightening event provided a platform for our students, as well as students from other schools, to engage in inspiring dialogues with renowned Shaw Laureates. The dialogue sessions provided a unique opportunity for our students to directly interact with exemplary role models in their respective fields. These interactions not only fostered intellectual stimulation but also instilled the idea that personal and academic growth should not be limited to a specific career path. Under the Sister School Scheme, exchange visits with mainland schools have begun this year. Marked as the first student-based cultural exchange under the scheme, a group of S3 to S5 students participated in a joint school exchange tour with Ying Wa College to visit the Affiliated High School of Peking University during Easter. In the week-long exchange, students were actively engaged in illuminative discussions on various topics with their counterparts from the sister school, providing them precious opportunities to enhance their language skills and cultural appreciation.

Objectives	Strategies / Programmes	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To engage students in various Homecoming Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize various programmes in Homecoming Day cum Opening of 1926 Heritage Block in March 2023 Hold a Homecoming Concert on 18 May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 7000 alumnae and friends of the Ying Wa community came together for a day of celebrative joy during the Homecoming Day on 16 March. For many of them, it was their first visit to the new campus, and a long-awaited reunion with old school friends and former teachers. The campus came alive with an array of activities. Sports games were held on the newly refurbished fields, where alumnae from different graduating years showcased their competitive spirit and camaraderie. Meanwhile, the Heritage Garden became a stage for music and dance performances. The pinnacle of the day was the grand Opening Ceremony of the 1926 Heritage Block. Transformed into the School History Room, it stood as a testament to the school's enduring legacy. A Homecoming Concert was held on May 18 at the Silcocks Hall, which provided an opportunity for students and the Alumnae Choir to showcase their talents. The event was attended by teachers, parents, alumnae, and friends of Ying Wa, who were treated to a magnificent performance by the String Orchestra, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Alumnae Choir, Chamber String Orchestra, Piano Quintet, and Percussion Ensemble.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To commence planning for the School's 125th Anniversary celebrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergo brainstorming and preparation work for the 125th Anniversary celebrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As we eagerly anticipate our 125th anniversary in 2025, Ying Wa Girls' School is abuzz with excitement. The School has planned a series of events, including the 125th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service, Founder's Day Dinner, and the enchanting musical performance, A Stargazer's Fantasy. Through these vibrant gatherings, we aim to illuminate the promising horizons of Ying Wa and renew our unwavering commitment to girls' education in the 21st century. Additionally, look forward to our upcoming school magazine and the delightful souvenir sale, which will offer a wonderful opportunity to capture the essence of our 125-year legacy.

End of Annual School Report (2023-2024)