



The Principal's Report

2023-2024

As I reflect on the past school year, I am filled with an immeasurable sense of gratitude and pride for the Ying Wa community. Against the backdrop of an ever-changing social landscape, we have once again demonstrated our resilience, adaptability and commitment to excellence.

The highlight of the year must surely be the Homecoming Day held on 16 March 2024. The entire campus was filled with fun and laughter as more than 7,000 enthusiastic alumnae and friends of Ying Wa gathered, creating a truly memorable day. It was the first large-scale homecoming for our alumnae since the prayer meeting five years ago in April 2019, shortly after our return to the brand-new redeveloped campus. It was also truly heartwarming to see our former students bringing their spouses and children, families and friends to reconnect with their alma mater.



While everyone was amazed at the modern hardware and facilities of the new campus, I strongly believe and humbly pray that the longstanding spirit of Ying Wa will remain, and be passed on to future generations. Just as we have carefully preserved our 1926 Heritage Block, previously our kindergarten block, Ying Wa will forever cherish our history and heritage.



Below I will gladly share with you an overview of the school affairs in this past year, marked with many commendable achievements.

The Incorporated Management Committee

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all IMC managers who have generously and faithfully given their time, advice and support to the school throughout the year.

At the beginning of the school year, we welcomed five new colleagues. They are: Ms Chow Siu Fung (Teacher Manager), Ms Chung Wai Chi Janet (Alumni Manager), Ms Xu Cuirong (Parent Manager), Mr Hui Man Chung (Alternative Parent Manager), and Mr Lau Tin Shing (Independent Manager). Furthermore, Ms Tsang Enian and Ms Lo Ching Kwan Amy, both alumnae of Ying Wa, were invited to fill the vacancies of Honorary Managers left by Mrs Li Sin Lai Wah (resigned) and Ms Chung Wai Chi Janet (became Alumni Manager).





Staff

There were altogether 105 on the staff roll, with 77 teachers (including the Principal), 3 Laboratory Technicians, 2 Technical Support Staff, 1 Project Coordinator, 1 Campus Management Assistant, 1 Executive Officer, 6 Clerical Staff, 13 Janitors and 1 Technician.

New Appointments

This school year, we welcomed the following new staff members into our teaching faculty.

Ms Leung Hui Wun

Bachelor of Arts, CUHK

Ms Chan King Lun Michel

Bachelor of Science, CUHK

Master of Philosophy in Biochemistry, CUHK

Postgraduate Diploma in Education, HKU

Ms Chau Ka Ling

Bachelor of Arts, Shue Yan University

Master of Arts, City University of Hong Kong

Mr Shum Ching Marvin

Bachelor of Business Administration, CUHK

Non-teaching Staff

Ms Yan Pui Kuen (Janitor)

Mr Li Weimin (Janitor - Campus Security)

Ms Chung San Tan (Janitor)

Mr Yau Chung Leung (Janitor)

Ms Sze Pik Yuk (Janitor)

Farewell

At the end of the school year, we will bid farewell to several long-serving, esteemed teachers who have made immense contributions to Ying Wa over their distinguished careers.

Mr Cho Kong Sang, through his tireless dedication and loyalty, has left an indelible mark on the school during his tenure as Vice-principal and panel head of Chemistry. His steadfast commitment and exemplary professionalism is much appreciated.

Mr Huen Kwong Cheuk, panel head of Economics, has been part of our teaching faculty since 1991. He was also advisor to the Table Tennis Team. Quietly, yet passionately, he has been inspiring generations of students through his teaching.

Mr Lee Tad Ming, an integral part of Ying Wa since 1994, has made great contributions to our school as both panel head of Physics and IT Convenor. His ability to ignite a love for physics in our students is a testament to his zeal for teaching and subject expertise.

Ms Yeung Ming Wai has dedicated 36 years of service to our institution, leaving an enduring impact as panel head of Geography and Head Guidance Mistress. Her love and care for students is evident, greatly benefiting Ying Wa through her commitment to student well-being.





We also bid farewell to two colleagues who have made significant contributions to our school. Ms Kwong Ka Man Catherine, a valued member of the English Department for 33 years, and Mr Li Wai Hin, who has been part of the Mathematics Department for the past 3 years. Their dedication and expertise will be greatly missed as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Our deepest gratitude goes to these beloved teachers who have contributed so much to the growth and success of Ying Wa. May I wish each one of them a happy and fulfilling future ahead.

Staff Development

The Staff Development Committee is dedicated to organising training sessions and various activities to support the professional growth and well-being of our colleagues.

Just before the start of the new school year, Ms Tsang Enian, former principal of Pui To Middle School, was invited to speak on the professional development of teachers. During her talk, Ms Tsang made use of real case studies to take us on an in-depth journey to explore the professional role of a teacher. We were much inspired by her insightful sharing as a veteran educator.

In March, professionals from the Asia Academy of Family Therapy (AAFT) came to conduct a seminar-cum-workshop to help us better understand the problems faced by teenagers from a family perspective, particularly how family dynamics impact the growth of children. As teachers, we had the chance to reflect on how the school can join hands with families to work towards healthy personal development in our students.



In June, the *Teacher Wellness MED Programme* from the Polytechnic University returned to conduct well-being talks and workshops for staff, covering such topics as psychological health, exercise and nutrition. Colleagues participated actively and gained valuable practical knowledge to enhance well-being, which will in turn enhance effective teaching for the benefit of our students.

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

Ms Ng Cheuk Yee

Postgraduate Diploma of Education, CUHK

Ms Lam Yan Wing

Master of Education, HKU

Student Enrolment and Class Structure

A total of 160 new students were admitted to Secondary 1 this year. The total school enrolment is 862 in the 30 classes from S1 to S6, five classes in each level.

Language Learning

In line with the direction of curriculum optimization, the Chinese Department has revised both the junior and senior secondary curriculum.



To help senior form students better prepare for public examinations, we continued to arrange special enhancement classes, and invited fresh graduates back to share their study skills and exam tips. For junior forms, an online learning platform designed to facilitate self-learning and practice after school continues to be used.

Extracurricular activities were introduced to raise the interest of students in language learning. Of the various external programmes that the school has joined, the Central and Western District joint-school literature project was popular among our students. Some of them took part in the Little Author Scheme and won high recognition by having their works published.

Within the school, students participated actively in writing contests. As for the fun-filled Chinese Culture Quiz, a new feature was added to enable whole-school participation – senior form students could now join as members of the “Think Tank”.



The English Department is dedicated to providing students with exposure opportunities and training to excel in writing, public speaking, and debating. This year, we are excited to complete the rollout of the junior form debate curriculum. We believe that by integrating debating in our English language education, students will be able to sharpen their critical mind and become knowledgeable, confident communicators.

To enhance students’ language exposure, a trip to the Hong Kong History Museum was arranged for a special exhibit. Students also went on theatre visits to watch the renowned Shakespearean play *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Strategy*, an English adaptation of the famous Chinese classical novel, *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*.



We also invited individuals from diverse fields to share their knowledge and life experiences with our students. Three guests have been invited this year. Passionate trail runners and open-water swimmers, Ms Cathy Cole and Ms Charmian Woodhouse, shared their experiences of coastering on Lantau Island and how one can bring change through their hobbies and interests. Father John Wotherspoon, founder of local charitable organization *MercyHK*, inspired our students

with his extraordinary journey of compassionate service for the underprivileged.

Lastly, we must mention the long-standing English *Toastmasters International Youth Leadership Programme*, reaching its 20th year running. Not only has it provided an opportunity for students to learn public speaking skills, it has also been an arena to nurture future leaders. For enabling this programme to thrive, we are particularly grateful to our coordinators, guest speakers, and teacher advisors for their support throughout the years.





STEAM Education

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 STEAM 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 STEAM 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.



Project-based Learning

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.



School Library

The library continues its mission to promote and cultivate students' interest in reading and writing through a variety of activities. Regular programmes included the Online Reading Award Scheme, book fairs and book quiz. Online e-books and the Britannica database have been introduced to provide wider reading choices for students and staff.



Examination Results

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination 2023

1.	No. of candidates	:	125
	No. of students awarded the minimum entrance requirement for local degree courses, i.e. Level 3 in Chinese and English, Level 2 in Mathematics and Liberal Studies, and Level 2 in one of the electives	:	121 (96.8%)
	Level (5**)	:	50
	Level (5* or 5)	:	296
2.	Admission to tertiary institutes and other courses		
	Local tertiary and post-secondary institutions		90.4%
	Overseas studies		8.8%
	Others		0.8%
	Total		<u>100.0%</u>
3.	Best results		
		<u>Level</u>	<u>Subject</u>
	Hung Hiu Tung (6C)	5**	Chinese Language English Language Mathematics (Compulsory Part) Mathematics (Extended Part) Physics Chemistry Biology
		5*	Liberal Studies
	Wong Sum Yi (6C)	5**	Mathematics (Compulsory Part) Liberal Studies Chemistry Business, Accounting and Financial Studies Information and Communication Technology
		5*	Chinese Language Mathematics (Extended Part)
	Lam Kwan Tung (6D)	5**	Chinese Language Liberal Studies Business, Accounting and Financial Studies Biology Physics
		5*	English Language Mathematics (Compulsory Part) Mathematics (Extended Part)



Religious Activities

Religious services to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, Founder's Day, and Easter were held in the Silcocks Hall with whole school participating. A new initiative was introduced this year to encourage students' involvement. The worship teams of Christian Fellowship led hymn singing at the Founder's Day and Easter services, significantly lifting the pious spirit of the services.





Pastoral care for students has continued through partnerships with local churches. Mr Yu Chin Tung of China Congregation Church Bridges Street taught Religious Education to all S2 classes. He is also advisor to the Christian Fellowship. Ms Carina Siu of North Point Methodist Church and Ms Nicola Lee of Hop Yat Church continued to render support to the Senior Christian Fellowship and Junior Christian Fellowship. We would also like to show appreciation for the support of three external advisors, namely, Rev Chow Shuk Man and Ms Esther Kwok of the Hong Kong Baptist Church, and Ms Pantene Poon, an alumna of Ying Wa.

The “Famine Lunch” was held before Easter, allowing students to learn the importance of sharing and caring. In June, a gospel camp with one hundred participating students was held after the examinations, enabling them to strengthen their spiritual connections with one another and enjoy fellowship in the love of Christ.

Student Support

The Guidance Committee comprises a dedicated team of 9 teachers and 2 social workers, and is assisted by external professionals that include an educational psychologist, a clinical psychologist and psychiatric nurses from the Student Mental Health Supporting Scheme. Alongside the Learning Diversity Team, we take care of students’ learning development.

In line with the school goal – *Enlighten, Empower, Embrace, Engage* – the Guidance Committee provides support services and developmental programmes to facilitate students’ holistic growth. This year, our focus was on mental wellness and healthy interpersonal relationships.



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.

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*. Another group of students were empowered with social skills training to better their interaction with peers. The *High Event Challenges* taught S1 students the valuable lesson of embracing “failures” as part of everyday life. All in all, the programmes helped engage students in school life with a greater sense of belonging.



The Discipline Committee, assisted by the Prefect Board, is responsible for maintaining discipline in school and promoting a harmonious school environment. A new initiative was introduced this year. To address the issue of cyberbullying and doxing, a seminar was jointly conducted with the IT Committee to educate students on the importance of responsible use of technology and potential harms of unauthorized disclosure of personal information.





Regular programmes held included the adjustment programme for S1 newcomers to help them adapt to new school life and understand the importance of contributing to a caring community, and education programmes for S1 to S4 on anti-corruption (jointly held with ICAC) and smoking and drug abuse (jointly held with LEAP).

The Careers Committee is dedicated to helping students acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to prepare for future studies, guiding them through scholarships and external study programme applications, and individual guidance on JUPAS for S6 students. In recent years, the committee has introduced interest tests to help students gain insight into their personal aptitudes for life planning.

To meet the apparent rising demand of careers guidance, joint-school online talks, career fairs and preparation workshops on overseas studies ran for a second year. Well-received initiatives such as the S6 Mock Interview Workshop, S5 Mock DSE Day and job shadowing programmes also continued.

This year, our Career Assistants took an active role in organising a career conference and a career quiz for fellow S3 and S2 students respectively and initiated two teacher sharing sessions on Career Pathways.

We also partner with external bodies to enrich our student programmes. Currently, we are in a partnership with the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society (HKFWS) in a Home and Youth Affairs Bureau funded youth life planning programme. Students passionate about health science and medicine took part in the *New Town Medical Group Experiential Programme* while graduating students learnt about new career development opportunities through *The Greater Bay Area Internship Program for DSE Graduates* run by the Hong Kong Arts and Culture Development Centre.



The long-standing Mentorship Programme co-organised with the Alumnae Association has been a valued initiative for 20 years. Each year, participating students benefited from the mentorship bonding with their alumnae seniors. This year, over 140 students attended the annual *Careers Expo* to gain insightful knowledge shared by alumna guest speakers from different professions.

Global Exposure

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 to 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.

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 experiences growing up 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.

Exchange Programmes with Mainland Schools

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.



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.





We shall look forward to more of these exchanges in the future under the Sister School Scheme to forge closer ties between our students and their counterparts in the mainland and to promote global citizenship.

Civic and Moral Education

The Civic Education Committee continued its mission to enhance students' social awareness, national identity, and sense of global citizenship.

During the year, we assisted the National Education Committee in implementing the Sister School Scheme. Other than the joint school exchange tour to Beijing which was successfully conducted during Easter (reported above), some of our teachers visited our sister schools in Shanghai that included Kongjiang High School and No. 2 High School of the East China Normal University. Going forward, we will continue to facilitate exchanges between our students and their mainland counterparts.



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.

Extra-curricular Activities

The 75th Student Association (SA), *Solidarite*, and the 33rd Inter-house Committee, *Chatoyant*, were inaugurated in October 2023. The cabinets pledged to serve their fellow schoolmates with a humble heart.



For the first time after COVID, the Annual Sponsored Walk resumed its usual walkathon route from the school to Peak and back. A total of \$263,286.10 was raised, of which \$240,000 was donated to 20 local charities, and the remainder going to the School Redevelopment Fund.

The school-wide grand event, *The Homecoming Day* held on 16 March, was one of the most cherished occasions for our girls to showcase their hospitality, talents and creativity. In addition to helping run various activities such as putting up exhibitions and being campus tour guides, they astounded our visiting guests from the Ying Wa community with performances of dance, choir and orchestra.

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).





In the upcoming summer vacation, several of our subject departments (Art and Music) and school teams (STEM, Interact Club) will go on overseas study and training tours (Basketball Team, Volleyball Team). Through such precious exposures, our students will have the opportunity to appreciate cultural diversity, polish their skills and forge team spirit.

Social and Charity Services

This year, the Interact Club successfully recruited 60 interactors from S3 to S6. To better prepare them for service, training workshops were conducted at the beginning of the school year, which included a leadership training programme for student leaders and a volunteer training programme for S2 students.

Several service programmes were also held this year. They included flag-selling, programmes for the elderly and a joint project with Ying Wa College for homeless people in Sham Shui Po. We were also able to resume the joint school activities for Ebenezer School.

In the upcoming summer, Ying Wa's spirit of serving will be extended to the continent of Africa. Ten students, accompanied by 2 teachers, will be travelling to Uganda for a fortnight to work with the Watoto mission.

The Parent-Teacher Association

Led by Chairperson Mr Webster Yeung, the Executive Committee of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) continued to provide support to the school. Assisted by a team of parent volunteers, they contributed to various school affairs, such daily assistance in the library, and other regular initiatives such as the School Uniform Collection and Donation, photo-taking for students and farewell lunch for S6.



The first post-COVID PTA picnic day was held where parents and their daughters enjoyed a fun-filled day of outdoor football led by coaches from Liverpool College, a visit to the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defense and a buffet lunch on a cruise.



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.

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 Olivian Wan and the Council.





In parallel with the school's annual Thanksgiving Sponsored Walk in November, AA organized the Peak-to-School (Robinson Road campus) walk for alumnae to participate in this Ying Wa tradition. Alumnae from Class of 1966 to 2022 joined the walk with their families and friends, raising funds that went to various charitable bodies.



With the aim to extend our global reach with alumnae now residing overseas, AA's UK-London Chapter was launched in January. A hundred alumnae and former teachers attended the ceremonial luncheon, joined by honorable guests, former school supervisor Rev Wu Ping Kit, Mr Francis Kwan (Principal) and Ms Chow Siu Fung (Vice Principal) who were then on an education tour in the UK.

AA also took an active part in running the Homecoming Day on 16 March, where over 7000 alumnae and friends of the Ying Wa community came together for a day of celebrative joy. 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.

Instead of hosting the customary dinner gathering, AA arranged a special lunch this year at ClubOne in Tsim Sha Tsui, attended by nearly 400, including former principals and teachers.

Appreciation

As I conclude this year's report, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Ms Chiang Lam Connie, Ms Ang Fan Ally and Ms Lo Chi Yin Maribel from the Education Bureau. Their dedication and tireless efforts to guide us through the challenges of the year have been invaluable.

I am also deeply indebted to all school managers of the IMC for their steadfast support and trust. Their unwavering backing has been instrumental to our continued success in delivering high quality education and nurturing the personal growth of our students.

To the Class of 2024, you hold a special place in the history of the school, as you are the last batch of students to have experienced the decanting years with us in Sham Shui Po, our temporary home for nearly 7 years. I hope this unique experience will equip you with the qualities of resilience and adaptability to embrace challenges in life. Remember to go through life with confidence while remaining humble and empathetic to others' needs.

As you set forth on this exciting new adventure, may you continue to shine and make meaningful accomplishments in your future endeavors. I wish you all the very best as you embark on a new chapter.

