

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

The school has already started for two months since September. I am really pleased to see students adjusting to school life and its daily routine, e.g., the lunch routine, recess rules and daily classroom learning so well in such a short period of time. They exhibit qualities of self-reliance, independence and confidence which were the key focus areas in the school's last developmental stage. We believe that students will be able to do well and make progress with the appropriate expectations, right training, parents' efforts and students' extended learning at home.

The school has just undergone the External School Review conducted by Education Bureau (EDB) at the end of October. Through meeting with representatives of school managers, staff members and parents, observing students' learning and reading the documents, the EDB team confirmed the direction and effectiveness of the school's policy in the last developmental stage. Feedback from the team said that the school's good team spirit and hard work in catering for the variety of abilities of learners were much appreciated. The inspectors also rated highly the trust, support and active collaboration between home and school in fostering students' development. I would like to thank all parents for your unwavering support to the school.

It is very sad to learn of the recent incident of suspected abuse at a nursing home for the mentally disabled in Hong Kong. In fact, the school's emphasis on developing students' self-reliance, independence and self-confidence is to help them lead a dignified and quality life for the rest of their lives. The school is going to further integrate Life Planning Education into the formal curriculum, and establish the framework for the school-based student development mechanism to enhance the planning of and support for students' personal growth and enable a smooth transition to adult life.

To go a step further promoting communication between home and school, the school has introduced the SMS mobile communication since the beginning of the term to replace the previous communication system. The current system is in its trial period and most parents should have received earlier a SMS message from the school concerning class arrangements under severe weather conditions. The new system is expected to be in service in the coming term. If parents have enquiries about the system, please speak to the teachers during home visits and we will refer your questions to our IT staff members for follow-up.

The annual school picnic will take place in late November. As autumn is a perfect season to watch nature at its best, I would very much like to join the picnic and enjoy the countryside together with our students. What is more is that to cultivate students' self-reliance, independence and self-confidence, high functioning senior secondary students are now planning and preparing for their own picnic. They have to decide on their own where to go for picnic, what to do at the picnic spot and how to get to the picnic spot. This experiential learning allows students to attain learning goals of developing self-reliance, independence and self-confidence in real contexts and authentic settings. We hope that parents, students and staff members will have a memorable picnic day.

Wishing you good health and happiness!

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Ho Ngau Tin

Principal

The Jockey Club Hong Chi School

9 November 2016