



Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon)

Episodes

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Annual Speech Day 2006-2007

Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) held its Annual Speech Day (2006-2007) on Wednesday 7 December, celebrating a hugely successful year of scholarship and wide-ranging achievements.

Parents, honoured guests, staff and students were treated to rousing speeches by our Principal, Mr Fung Kam-cheung and the Guest of Honour, Dr Leung Wing-tai in addition to a variety of scintillating performances by the students.

The proceedings started with the Official Party taking their place on the stage and the playing of the National Anthem. Mr Fung then delivered the Annual Report which included highlights about our School achieving positive value-addedness in the best six HKCEE subjects for the sixth consecutive year, the development of all-roundedness and multiple intelligences of students and the continued growth and success in extra-curricular activities. He also outlined the numerous education and enhancement programmes that the School has put in place to enhance the whole person development of our students. The close cooperation between the staff, the Parents-Teachers' Association and stakeholders as well as their dedication to the students' welfare were also singled out for praise by Mr Fung.

Dr Leung Wing-tai stepped up to the podium and delivered what turned out to be one of the most inspiring and electric speeches heard at our School. His speech, entitled "To Become A Bridge-builder Or Remain An Alien?", was thought-provoking and uplifting as it hit at the heart of our School's unique cultural heritage and was a sort of "call to arms" for our students to embrace the opportunities presented to them.

The entertainment portion of the day kicked off with a well-choreographed Nepali dance by our award-winning School Oriental Dance Team. The dance was followed by an English Dramatic Duologue, which was performed by two prize-winning students from 3F. Next up was a Chinese Choral Speaking performance by the S1-2 Basic Chinese and Putonghua students. The Urdu speaking students then rendered a song entitled *We are One*. It was a French Role Play performed by a quartet from 4E that continued the festivities. The finale was an angelic rendition of the Frank Sinatra classic *My Way* by the School Choir. The whole Hall then sang the School Song signalling the end of another exciting Speech Day.

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The Oriental Dance Team performing



Mr Fung at the podium



School Choir singing

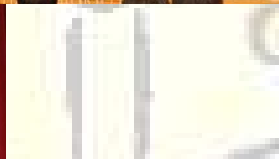


Dr Leung presenting his speech

Christmas Talent Show



Ms Yuen poses with “Leja leja re” girls



Judges Deepa and Alex with Shrijana (2D) (middle)



The School Hall was the place to be in on 21 December as it was the venue for our Christmas Talent Show. This year's event showcased a wide range of talented students who put in long hours and intense practice to prepare for the spectacle that was on display.

The junior students performed in the first session with songs and dances and bands all vying to be the best. Tam Ching-ching from 3F got the vote in the song category and Shrijana of 2D won the dance contest. In the band contest there were two winners, one playing a version of *Until the day I die* and the other with a flute recital by Chan Yiu-hong Johann (1E).

The senior section continued in the same spirit with heavy metal, dances and ballads. The band section winner was the one fronted by Jean Paul (5D) with their take on the *Counting Crows'* hit *Accidentally in Love*. Competition was extremely keen in the song section but Raymarc's (4D) version of *O Holy Night* put everyone in the Christmas mood and the judges (Deepa and Alex) concurred. The highlight of the proceedings was the Oriental Dance competition with very polished performances by the S4 and S5 girls and the “Leja leja re” group edged out the “Dhoom Girls”.

All in all, the Talent Show was a smashing success and we all look forward to next year's show.

“Awareness”—Exhibition of students’ artwork

In the afternoon of 5 October 2007, some 30 students and several teachers, led by our Art teacher, Mr Chan Chi-pang, excitedly boarded a coach and headed for Wan Chai—they were going to attend the opening ceremony of a mini-exhibition of our students’ artwork!

Titled “Awareness”, the exhibition was the first of its kind held by our school in recent years. A simple yet solemn ribbon-cutting ceremony presided by our Principal and Assistant Principals was held in front of the big, centrepiece painting by 4C student Wong Chun-man, who was awarded “Outstanding Students Award—Student Artist” on Speech Day. 3E student Christina Danielle Liu was the student MC, who gave a vote of thanks to all those present and introduced the exhibits briefly.

These exhibits included paintings in bold, contrasting colours and eye-catching designs, classic black and white sketches, creative Indian mehndi designs and even photographs of old public housing estates. One would marvel at the artistic sense and creativity of our students.

To share the fruits of these budding artists, the school printed over 1000 pocket calendars out of 7 of the paintings, enough for all teachers and students to take home to appreciate. The “Awareness” exhibition was held on 5-11 October 2007, hosted free of charge by Artland Gallery.



Amarin Ninchinda (4A)



Teresa Hitchin (4A)



Ho Sze-yui (3F)

“Real Friends” Project 2007-08

Well attended and received by students last year, the “Real Friends” Project is running again this year. This Project is a collaboration between the school Counselling and Discipline Committees and volunteers from the Hong Kong Police Force—Mong Kok District.

The Project this year was officially kicked off on 30 October 2007 with an Opening Ceremony, in which speeches were delivered by one of the guests, Mong Kok District Commander, Chief Superintendent, Mr Sham Wai-kin, and our Principal, Mr Fung.

Following this was an exciting basketball friendly match between the police and our students. Our side did not win, but still deserved praise for their great effort and good team spirit. Teachers and students watching at the basketball court and along corridors often cheered and clapped loudly for both sides when they had made an attack or scored a basket. The atmosphere was warm and exciting despite the drizzle and cool wind that afternoon.

“Real Friends” Project will be run throughout the school year with a wide variety of activities aimed at fostering students’ self-confidence, problem-solving skills, awareness of helping people in need, and much more. The activities include hiking, a canoeing challenge day, a visit to an elderly centre, an anti-drugs carnival and a war game.



School Picnic

Good weather is an important element for a pleasurable picnic. On Thursday 20 December 2007, the students of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) had their School Picnic Day. Early in the morning, with the coaches arranged by the school, the students of each form set off to different picnic sites to enjoy their day out in nature.



A balance between study and activities is crucial to students. By taking a day out in the country parks, students can enjoy themselves while getting some fresh air and exercise. Also, by participating in this kind of group activity, not only can students learn social skills such as team working, they can also learn to appreciate nature more.

They had prepared different activities to do at the picnic sites, such as having a barbecue, playing ball games with their friends, and walking along the nature trails in the countryside. Most of the students had great fun and enjoyed themselves a lot on the day.



FORM	PICNIC LOCATION
S1	Aberdeen Country Park
S2	Shek O Beach
S3	Tai Mo Shan Country Park
S4	Sai Kung Tai Au Mun
S5	Tai Tam Country Park

ECA Promotion Days

Learning is not just confined to books. Students today have to learn to be resourceful and versatile in facing adversity and getting around obstacles in life. It has been a long-established policy of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) to focus not just on the academic development of students but also on extra-curricular activities (ECA) with the aim of cultivating students in an all-round manner. Extra-curricular activities have been generally recognized as fundamental to leadership training and multiple intelligence development. To cater for students' diversified interests, the ECA Committee offers a wide range of club activities to students again this year.



Come and join the 601 Squadron



Recruitment of Little Gardeners

Currently the school has 38 clubs or teams, which can be divided into 4 categories: academic, interests, sports and service. The academic clubs are geared particularly to give students knowledge supplemental to their study in particular subject areas. Students who are more energetic can participate in sports clubs or dance teams to burn off their boundless energy. For students who like to devote themselves to serving the community, the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps or Social Service Club is perfectly tailored for them. Other clubs teach real-world skills such as photography, handicraft and cookery, all of which might develop into lifelong interests or even future careers.

From 19-21 September 2007, students were scheduled to go to the School Hall, where the committee members of various clubs and societies were busily promoting their activities to other students. Undoubtedly, the ECA Promotion Days served a twofold purpose by giving all club committee members a chance to develop their leadership skills, and encouraging the enrollment of new members. The club committees tried their very best to respond to enquiries, and students listened to their fellow students' experiences to find an activity that would suit their needs, interests, abilities and schedule. They were keen to enroll themselves into their favourite choices and some clubs were even over-enrolled. It is hoped that all students can strike a balance between their academic studies and extra-curricular activities and stick with their favourite club(s) to tap into their potential and multiple intelligences.



Hindi Club



Science Club



Urdu Club

School Special Events / Activities

Events	Organizers	Date	Students
“Setting Smart Goals for Myself”	Guidance Team	Whole year	All students
“Self-evaluation Scheme” 2007-2008	Guidance Team	Whole year	All students
“Real Friends” Project	Guidance Team, Discipline Team, Hong Kong Police Force Police Community Relations Office — Mong Kok District	Whole year	All students
“Fostering Harmony” Variety Show	Yau Tsim Mong District Office and RTHK	23/9/ 2007	Modern Dance team members
Dress Casual Day for the Community Chest of Hong Kong	Guidance Team, Discipline Team	25/9/07	All students
“Making a Rainbow Life”— support program for non-Chinese speaking and returnee children	Guidance Team	8/10/07-17/12/07	Non-Chinese speaking students
Raising funds for the Ronald McDonald House	Guidance Team	13/10/2007	Volunteers
Visit to Lamma Power Station and Wind Power Station	Careers Committee, Geography Department Environmental Education Committee	30/10/2007	S4
Flag selling for the Community Chest of Hong Kong	Guidance Team	3/11/07	Volunteers
Field trip to Mai Po Marshes	Geography Department, Environmental Education Committee	19/11/2007	S3
Board exhibitions on sports & stress management, sports & nutrition, sports & weight control	PE Department	19/11/2007 – 6/12/2007	All students
One-day course at Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre	Biology Department	26/11/2007	S4
Annual Parade	Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	25/11/2007	601 Squadron



Biology field trip



Annual parade



Flag selling



Board exhibitions

School Special Events / Activities (Continued)



Events	Organizers	Date	Students
Inter-school Basketball Competition	Hong Kong Schools Sport Federation	10 – 12/2007	School team members
Inter-school Football Competition	Hong Kong Schools Sport Federation	10 – 11/2007	School team members
Inter-school Hockey Competition	Hong Kong Schools Sport Federation	11/2007 – 12/2008	School team members
Inter-school Volleyball Competition	Hong Kong Schools Sport Federation	11/2007 – 12/2008	School team members
First Aids Day	Health & Sex Education Committee	30/11/2007 – 3/12/2007	All students
Cathay Pacific "I can fly" Programme	Cathay Pacific	1/12/2007 – 4/ 2008	Selected students
Applied Learning Life Skills Education Camp – "Learn to Fly" Workshop	Vocational Training Centre Hong Kong Aviation Club Careers Committee	2/12/007	Selected S4 students
A Celebration of Racial Harmony	Urdu Club, Government Secretariat Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	9/12/2007	Urdu Club members
Ted Wilson Trophy Senior Inter-school Cricket Competition 2007-2008 — Champion	Hong Kong Cricket Association	11/12/2007	Senior Cricket Team



Parents' Gatherings

Parenting adolescents has been a vexation to many parents. Adolescents face big changes both physically and mentally. It seems that parents can never get to know what is deep down in their children's heart or get a chance to have a good chat with them. Although parents and children are living under the same roof, they seem to be following different life philosophies, and that can cause conflicts between them. Keeping close liaison with your child's school and sharing your experiences with other parents may be a good way to ameliorate the situation. In view of parents' needs, the Parents-Teachers' Association of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) planned a series of gatherings in which parents were invited to come to the school to talk to the Principal, Assistant Principals and the School Social Worker, to engage in sharing sessions with other parents and to take part in parenting talks and other information sessions. The following are some major points covered in the Parents' Gatherings held on 26 October 2007 and 23 November 2007.

13 Principles in Guiding a Child (26 October 2007)

1. A child needs your love.
2. Don't be indulgent or abusive.
3. Demanding too much is undesirable.
4. Take time to correct your child's mistakes.
5. Never tell your child off without thorough consideration.
6. A child will suffer if you're too strict, or too slack.
7. Communication nurtures a loving relationship.
8. Share your child's sorrow and joy.
9. Keep the child from running wild.
10. Always know the difference between rewarding and coaxing.
11. Be patient to reason with your child.
12. Be open to his thoughts.
13. Be a good example yourself.

Parenting an adolescent (23 November 2007)

1st support

Provide proper sex education so that your child will know how to handle his physical and psychological changes during puberty.

2nd support

Accept the adolescents' request of autonomy and urge for independence.

3rd support

Listen and accept.

4th support

Share opinions with children under "equal" circumstances. Parents should avoid lecturing.

Always bear in mind that your children are starting a new chapter in life in which your love, your patience, your tolerance and your understanding would mean a lot to them. Open up your mind to the new adventures they are taking and offer them assistance at the right moment. It is then through parents' guidance and support that they will mature gradually.



Parenting talk by the School Social Worker



Sharing with other parents



Mr Fung giving a talk

Parents' Night cum AGM of PTA

23 November 2007 was indeed a busy day! Events kicked off at 5:00p.m. when approximately 30 parents attended the 3rd Principal's meeting with parents. School Social Worker, Ms Wendy Wong, engaged parents in a mini workshop about "Parenting an Adolescent" during which parents were able to share and exchange opinions and ideas. The meeting rounded off with a very useful Q & A session involving parents, the Principal, Mr Fung Kam-cheung and the two Assistant Principals, Ms Yuen and Mrs Tsang.

Immediately after the Principal's meeting, participants filed to the School Hall where registration was underway for the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Parents-Teachers' Association. With the quorum attained shortly after 6:15p.m. proceedings for the AGM commenced.

Mr Fung extended a warm welcome to everyone present. This was followed by the Chairlady's annual report. In her report, Mrs Latha highlighted PTA involvement in school functions and events during the last school year and also mentioned the activities organized and conducted for parents, students and teachers, which included the annual outing to Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, a series of reading activities to promote reading amongst students and a variety of interest classes. The Chairlady thanked parents for their tremendous support during the past year and remarked that their generosity of both time and money had made it possible to organize, subsidize and sponsor many student programmes and awards. Mrs Latha invited members to participate in the voluntary donation drive and asked those who were interested to deposit their donations in the donation box. A total of \$2,468.50 was raised.



Mr Fung presenting Mrs Latha with a certificate of appreciation

After the report on the statement of accounts, certificates of appreciation were presented to members who had served on the Executive Committee in the year 2006-2007. Executive Committee teacher-members and parent-members for the year 2007-2008 were then introduced.

Quite remarkably, elections were not held because the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies on the PTA Executive Committee and the School Management Committee. PTA members endorsed the nominations of Mr Chan Kam-wing, Mr Chang-ching David, Ms Cheng Lai-ling, Mr Fok Chun-hung, Mrs Patricia Mein Smith and Mrs Eva Wong as parent-members of the PTA Executive Committee. Likewise, parents endorsed Mr Eddy Fok's nomination as parent representative on the SMC. Being the only candidate, the nomination of Mr G. S. Batra as the Honorary Auditor was endorsed by members.

After a spot of refreshments, parents dispersed to the various venues to meet Class Teachers and to check on the performance and progress of their respective children, who might or might not have been dreading the first term report sheets falling into their parents' hands!



PTA Executive Committee Members, 2007-2008

First Staff Development Day

Learning is not a priority for students only; “life-time learning” is for everyone, and it is the case for teachers as well. On Friday 16 November 2007, the teaching staff of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) had their 1st Staff Development Day.

Copyright has been a hot topic in recent years, hence, the school had invited Ms Asha Sharma to deliver a talk to the teachers so that they could learn more about the latest information on the infringement of copyright and the consequences of it. Ms Sharma is an attorney whose specializations include commercial litigation and disputes.

The main theme of the day was to help teachers in preparing for the New Senior Secondary Education. All the teachers sat in groups and had discussions on their related subjects, sharing opinions about the new curriculum and the preparations for it.

For the benefits of students, teachers need to obtain the most up-to-date information related to teaching. IT teacher, Mr Yip Hon-kei, introduced an IT platform. Through that platform, teachers can obtain all kinds of information related to education from other schools and the government.



Inter-school Oral Practice

In November 2007, a group of 4B and 4C students had an oral practice session with Lau Wong Fat Secondary School in Tai Kok Tsui in order to prepare us better for the public exam next year. Since the school was relatively close to ours, we decided to walk there with our English teacher, Mr Nair.

We were met by some of the students at the school entrance and we were led to their activity centre. There were some S6 students, but most were like us in S4. They were quite open and nice to us and they treated us like we were their schoolmates. We had lots of fun during the practice and we really enjoyed talking to them. The students were interesting to talk to and they were really excited to talk to us.

At the start of the program, we had to introduce ourselves by giving 3 statements (1 false and 2 true) about ourselves and the others had to guess which were true or false. We then had three rounds of group discussions with them on a variety of useful topics. Their teacher, Ms Joanne Lawrence, was very friendly and provided us with snacks and refreshments. After all the activities, we took pictures together and talked about our school lives. We would like to do this kind of practice again with other schools as we found it enjoyable and educational.

Claire Villanueva (4C) & Rehana (4C)



Gearing up for group interaction



Our students deep in conversation

The 59th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

With their flair for language, expressiveness and creativity, many students in our school actively take part in the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival every year. This year, our school had a total of 80 entries in the competitions, with 63 in English and 17 in Chinese.

This was the first time that our students had entered competitions in Putonghua, English public speaking, and English solo verse speaking (Open), which is for native speakers.

The results this year were highly commendable and encouraging. Nearly all participants obtained a Certificate of Proficiency or even Merit. Some even got positions:

English solo verse speaking (Non open)

Athena Nicomedes (2E): 1st
Tsang Cheuk-sze (1B): 3rd
Gurung Barsha (3F): Co-3rd
Deniece Francisco (3F): Co-3rd

English solo verse speaking (Open)

Callum Chan (5D): 3rd
Carl Carabio (5A): 3rd

English public speaking

Haywel Ng (5A): 3rd
Carl Carabio (5A): 3rd

Chinese solo verse speaking

Kwan Chung-hang (1E): 1st



Deniece Francisco and Joy Bartido (3F) performing a dramatic duologue from *The Glass Menagerie* on the School Speech Day.

This could not have been achieved without weeks of hard work and practice from the students with the help of their teachers. Well done and congratulations to them! We look forward to seeing these students taking part in the Festival again next year!



Students' Buzz

It was the first time for me to enter an Open Class speech competition competing with the native students of other secondary schools. Although I found the poem quite difficult, I still understood the meaning it was trying to convey. The English Speech Festival was actually fun for me though the practice beforehand was quite demanding. It gave me the chance to practise my speaking skills and to give my confidence a boost in making public speeches. Whether I won or lost didn't really matter to me as long as I enjoyed the competition.

Callum Chan (5D)



Students' Buzz (continued)

I partnered with my classmate Joy to join the Dramatic Duologue for the first time! It was a new experience for me to act in front of an audience, so I was excited. The practice was fun because we worked together and helped each other improve on how we could better portray our characters. We weren't very nervous on the day of our competition because we had been doing it together over and over again. Unfortunately we didn't get any position, but we just thought of it as an experience gained. We will definitely join again next year.

Deniece Francisco (3F)



All the sacrifices and hard work I made for rehearsals paid off. I was utterly surprised and satisfied to know that I attained the 3rd place, but what I considered to be the most important was the enjoyment I felt throughout the process and the courage enabling me to face a crowd without butterflies fluttering in my stomach. I found joy in what I did and if I ever have the chance to participate again, I'll certainly grab that chance.

Carl Carabio (5A)



SEKSS(WK) student comes third in World Miss University Contest

Bushra Jamil, one of our former students, came third in an online poll during the 20th World Miss University held recently in Seoul, South Korea. Bushra, who represented Pakistan in the pageant, is currently pursuing a major in Psychology from Hartford Institute of Continuing Education.



Advisor

Mr FUNG Kam-cheung, Principal
Editorial Committee
 Mrs TSANG WU Yuk-kwan
 Mr Rajeev NAIR
 Ms HO See-mun
 Ms LI Po-chui
 Ms CHAN Pik-wah

The contest was held on 11 November 2007 in the Jangchung Gymnasium in Seoul and the eventual winner of the contest hailed from Germany. Bushra said it was a very exciting and challenging adventure for her and she relished the opportunity to take part in such a high profile event. We wish her all the best in her studies and future endeavours.