

# SIR ELLIS KADOORIE SECONDARY SCHOOL (WEST KOWLOON)



## PARENTS-TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION 2016-2017 PTA Newsletter No.25

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### Message from the PTA Chairperson, Mrs. Asha Rai

#### My dear sons and daughters,

In my experience, as a busy mother or a working mother or a student, it's not difficult to feel overwhelmed, and maybe at those times I want to give up goals that are most precious to me but seem so far out of reach. Life always seems to present us with innumerable challenges and problems on a daily basis.

There have been a lot of challenges along the way. There were times when doubt cast a gloomy shadow over my aspirations and goals. Sometimes I thought it would be a lot easier to give up on my dreams and go back to a career in finance. It certainly would have been easier – but I wouldn't have been fully fulfilled. I vowed I would never, ever give up on my dreams.

Despite all this, it is not so much what happens to us that actually makes a difference, it is rather what we do with what happens to us that determines where we will end up, what we will have, and how we will be transformed by our experiences.

I have come up with some ways to have a great school year. These suggestions have really helped me and maybe they'll be helpful to you too.

#### • Smile and say Hello

One thing you can do at school is smile and say "Hi!". Smiling can instantly change your mood, if you allow it. It not only makes you more attractive, but people will notice and want to be around you! Smiling is contagious. I know that when people smile at me, it usually makes me smile back.

#### • Be Confident

Confidence in school is vital. You don't have to be popular or fashionable or athletic to be confident. Confidence simply means believing in yourself and understanding your sense of worth.

#### • Get Involved

School is such a great part of life! Be involved! Go to dances, sporting events, join clubs, try out for plays and musicals, run for a student office, etc. There is something for everyone. Find something that interests you.

#### • Check Your Attitude

Your attitude determines the main valve for your own happiness. If you are always finding the positive and bright side of things, you will be happy. I have noticed that when I look for the negative, I quickly find it. When I focus on the positive I see that it is always there right in front of me, I just have to choose to see it.

#### • Share with your friends

If you have something on your mind, share it with a friend. Getting things off your chest really helps, especially if you're sharing them with a friend or teacher you feel comfortable with.

#### • Don't take everything so seriously

There are always going to be some bad days or problems you have to deal with. Try to not take every single one really seriously and you'll have an easier time getting through them.



### Message from the Principal Mrs. Yeung Kwong Mong Ha

With the dedicated support from our parents throughout the year, Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School has been progressing as the positive school culture is reinforced through a series of specially designed school improvement plans. The past year has been a fruitful one with students receiving various prizes and awards during the year, and more importantly, seven of our S.6 students were admitted to degree courses in the University of Hong Kong.

Building on our well-established multicultural learning environment, various new programmes will be arranged for our students this year.

- For S1, ECA & Chinese Culture Appreciation and Sports Training are arranged for students after school on Mondays and Wednesdays respectively. Through the programmes, the newcomers are able to enjoy school life and their sense of belonging can definitely be enhanced. Mathematics tutorial class will be arranged in small groups for them during lunch time every Friday to consolidate their understanding in Mathematics.
- STEM lessons (STEM is the combination of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education) are incorporated into the S2 curriculum. Students will have project work in which their creativity and problem-solving skills can be enriched.
- We have joined the EDB Sister School Program. Our sister school is a foreign language school in Shenzhen (Shenzhen Pingshan New Area Tongxin Foreign Language School). We are planning to arrange a visit for all S3 students to the school in April 2018.
- Career and multiple pathways are always our main focus for senior form students. The school keeps on exposing students to various career opportunities and providing students with work experiences via immersion programmes with non-government organizations and corporations.

With the joint effort of teachers and parents, I am confident that we can create the best learning environment for our students.

## A positive attitude helps improve learning experience!

For some students, going to school is a routine. Some students don't like getting up early for classes or going back home to do homework. Many people would rather stay home, play computer games, or sleep. As a result, sometimes students develop negative attitude towards school and in their interactions with classmates or teachers.

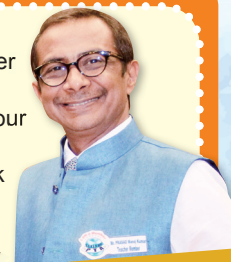
A bad attitude towards school can negatively affect your learning, grades, and interactions with others. You make it harder for yourself and others to learn. A negative attitude may even cause a tense relationship with your teacher.

However, if you approach your studies with a positive attitude, you could make your school experience enjoyable!

#### Think positively

- Think and act positively throughout the day. Don't ever let anybody tell you that you're not good enough.
  - Think positively about your learning routines and your skills. And remember, practice makes you perfect.
- We all need is to be in a positive mind-set and work harder to achieve our goals.

Lastly, I take this opportunity to thank each and every member of our school and parents for taking part in all the varied activities and events organized by the PTA Committee over the past years.



Mr. Prasad Manoj Kumar  
PTA Teacher Co-ic

# The 25<sup>th</sup> PTA Annual General Meeting and Executive Committee Election

The 25<sup>th</sup> PTA Annual General meeting (AGM) of Parents-Teachers' Association was held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016 in the school hall. The Mistresses of Ceremony, Ms. Josephine Chung and Ms. Dunn Ling, opened the AGM by welcoming the assembly. The student performers' presented a group Nepali dance, a modern dance and Bhangra dance, which kicked off the ceremony.

Our Principal, Mrs. Yeung Kwong Mong Ha, welcomed the parents in the school hall for this important event and thanked them for their enthusiasm and support. Our PTA Chairperson, Mr. Nachiappan Thirupathi, gave his chairperson's report with a PowerPoint presentation and placed great emphasis on enhancing our students' and parents' sense of belonging to the school. The detailed statement of accounts and the annual report of the PTA were presented by Ms. Dunn Ling and Mr. Kumar. To

show our appreciation, certificates were presented to the outgoing members of the PTA Executive Committee, and the teacher members appointed to the committee were introduced. Four new members were elected as parent-members of the PTA Executive Committee based on the voting. Ms. Stefania Gabriel was chosen as the SMC Parent Representative for year 2016-2018. Mr. G. S. Batra was re-elected as the PTA Honorary Auditor for the year 2016-2017.

Similar to the previous years, the AGM was the occasion for the PTA to show their gratitude towards parents, teachers and committee members.

It was a very enjoyable night as it allowed parents to freely mingle with teachers to share their views. It was a wonderful evening with delightful refreshments sponsored by the PTA.



## Principal's Meetings With Parents

We arranged seven meetings of which five coincided with school function days and two took place after school hours.



## Summary of Meetings

	Date	Event
1	14 Oct 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Development</li> <li>School Intranet / Homework</li> <li>Discipline / Late-comer</li> <li>Students Absence</li> <li>Q &amp; A Session / AGM</li> </ul>
2	11 Nov 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTA AGM</li> </ul>
3	09 Dec 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speech Day</li> <li>Sharing Session</li> </ul>
4	25 Feb 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents' Day</li> </ul>
5	01 Mar 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>S.6 Graduation Day</li> </ul>
6	17 Mar 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prize Giving Day and PTA Night</li> <li>Recent Development of the School &amp; Talks</li> </ul>
7	26 May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance &amp; Counseling</li> <li>After School Tutorials</li> <li>Sharing Session / Promotion Criteria</li> <li>New School Developments 2017-2018</li> <li>Q &amp; A Session</li> </ul>

## PTA Fun Day BBQ

It was organized by the PTA after the prize-giving ceremony of the Learning Celebrations on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at our school campus. There were around 59 parents along with students and the rest of their families, as well as 60 teachers.

The PTA sponsored coal, barbecue pits, fish balls, bread, corn, sweet potatoes, halal sausages and meat. Some food was prepared in the school Home Economic room and also brought by some of our PTA members for the BBQ. Our Principal Mrs. Yeung Kwong Mong-ha sponsored the fruit for our BBQ and all the teachers participated actively with full enthusiasm. The BBQ was very well organized and plenty of food was available throughout the evening. It was a well attended evening with every participating member having fun.



## PTA Interest Classes

A lot of enthusiastic students participated in the Nail Art and Make up Class by Ms. Stefania Gabriel and Shanghai Wonton Cooking Class by Ms. Karen Chow. These activities gave students a chance to do things outside the classroom environment, helping them to be independent and responsible.

	Interest Class	Dates
1	Nail Art & Make up Class	4 July 2017
2	Shanghai Wonton Cooking Class	5 July 2017



## National Costume Day (4 July 2017)



## 20<sup>th</sup> Parents Also Appreciate Teachers Drive

Date	Activity	Participant
March – Jun 2017	Writing Postcards of Appreciation to Teachers	350 parents & students
20 March 2017	Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Teachers	PTA Executive Committee (parent-members)

## PTA Involvement in School Functions

Dates	Activity	Participants
30 Aug 2016	Orientation Day for New Students and Parents	150 new students and parents
11 Nov 2016	PTA AGM & Parents' Night	parents and teachers
9 Dec 2016	Speech Day	Executive Committee members
25 Feb 2017	Parents' Day	240 parents and guests
17 Mar 2017	Prize Giving Day and PTA Night	Executive Committee members

## Sponsoring / Subsidizing Student Participation in Various Activities

Date	Event / Prize / Award
29 Aug 2016	• Refreshments for Orientation Day
18 Nov 2016	• Refreshments for guests on P6 Information Day • Trophies and Medals for Inter-Primary School Story Telling Competition • Transportation arrangements for primary school visit • Hire of candy and pan-cake machines on P6 Information Day for students
9 Dec 2016	• Refreshments for Speech Day
Nov – Dec 2016	• 68 <sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival
1 March 2017	• Graduation Gown for S6 students • Refreshments for parents on Graduation Day
17 March 2017	• Academically Most Improved Students Award • Book coupons for students
14 June 2017	• DELF Junior French Exam
Sept 2016 – June 2017	• School dance and sport teams

# Exchange Tours

## Beijing Hong Kong and Macau students exchange summer camp



Date: 21-27 July 2017  
 Participants: Four S.5 students, Mr. Leung Wai Kwong and Mr. Lau Yik Hong  
 Objectives: To provide opportunities for students in Beijing, Hong Kong and Macau to exchange, and deepen their understanding of the history, culture and development of the three places.

## An Exploration into the Ethnic Culture, Natural Landscape and Astronomy of Guizhou



Date: 26-30 June 2017  
 Participants: Ten senior form students and Miss Ng Mei Lan  
 Objectives: To enhance students' understanding of the natural landscape and the development of astronomy in Guizhou; to explore the life and customs of ethnic minorities in Guizhou.

## Mainland Exchange Programme for Senior Secondary School Students



Date: 8-12 April 2017  
 Participants: Twenty senior form students, Miss Yip Wing Kwan and Mr. Law Ho Lam  
 Objectives: To enhance students' understanding of the history of Beijing and China's latest development in science.

## Mainland Exchange Programme for Student Leaders



Date: 27-31 December 2016  
 Participants: Two S.5 students, Miss Wong Shun Wan and Mr. Leung Wai Kwong  
 Objective: To enhance students' understanding of recent technological development in China.

## Exchange Program to Belilios Public School



Date: 13-15 March 2017  
 Participants: Four S.4 students  
 Objective: To enhance cultural exchange between our students and students in a local Chinese girls' secondary school.

## Teachers' babies



# New Teachers

## Ms. Poon So Man, THS teacher

Hello everyone, I'm Ms. Poon So Man. I graduated from SKESS(WK) and it is my great pleasure of coming back as a THS teacher in this school. As a former student here, I am eager to share my stories and former school life with all of you. Before I started teaching, I was a flight attendant in one of the renowned airline companies. I hope this work experience can enrich my teaching and I am glad to share my previous work experience with my students. Please feel free to talk and chat with me whenever you see me around the campus. Besides, I like playing basketball at my leisure time. I wish I could play basketball with you someday on the basketball court. Here I wish all my colleges and students a joyful year ahead.



## Ms. Lee Po Wing, Geography and LS teacher

Hi students, I am Ms. Lee Po Wing. I am glad to be your Geography and Liberal Studies teacher. It is a wonderful experience to work in this multi-cultural school. On the first day of the new school year, I found myself in the school hall filled with students from different ethnic minorities. I was pleasantly surprised that students can grow up together harmoniously in this wonderful school. I am looking forward to sharing my knowledge, experience, laughter and happiness with you. Besides teaching, I am also a travelholic. I like travelling a lot because I can see many beautiful places and peoples around the world. Do share with me your culture and special places in your country as I have strong curiosity in new things!



## Ms. Leung Ka Yee, BAFS and LS teacher

Hi. I am Ms. Leung Ka Yee. Before coming to SEKSS(WK), I worked in the marketing field for the Exhibition Industry. I liaised with businessmen to organize overseas delegations to visit trade fairs. My customers were from Africa, India, Pakistan, Turkey, etc. Everywhere I look, there is opportunity for people to set up their business. It does not matter where you come from. As long as you got the idea and you are persistent enough in carrying it out, you can achieve something. Let us work hard together and try our best this school year.



## Ms. Chan Mei Ting, Chinese (NCS) and Putonghua teacher



Hello, I am Ms. Chan Mei Ting, a new teacher in this school. I teach Chinese (NCS) and Putonghua. I believe that teaching is the act of sharing knowledge transmitted to me by others. I hope that someday in some ways, my students will pass on their knowledge and experience to their next generation. I hope both my students and I will enjoy our lessons this year. One of my hobbies is running. Not only does it make me healthy but it also helps me achieve a well-set goal. It's similar to learning. During every run, your mind struggles with your body. All you need is to believe in yourself and put one foot in front of the other consistently.

## Mr. Chan Ka Wai, Chemistry teacher

Hello, I am Mr. Chan Ka Wai. I am happy to be a Chemistry teacher in this school. I loved doing experiments when I studied in HKUST. I did my undergraduate research on Organic Chemistry with my professor. I believe that being a Chemistry teacher can facilitate students' learning in four ways: I can help them love learning, love figuring out scientific truths, love doing experiments and making predictions, and love cooperating with others through team work. To be a role model for my students and to demonstrate that learning never ends, I will keep enriching myself with professional knowledge and skills.



## Thapa Kushal

While there is no hidden "secret" to do well in the DSE there are a few tips and things to keep in mind.

First, the most important thing is not to lose hope. Have a little faith in yourself. Eventually dedication trumps talent, so even if you feel like you are not the best, don't give up, just work harder. Second, set a schedule and abide by it. Having a good habit and being consistent is very important because motivation only lasts for a while. Building up a proper habit is more permanent. That means no cheat days; it will mess up your habit. Third, get rid of distractions and temptations. Try to set up a quiet study area. You could go to a public study room for a change. Fourth, spend half of your time studying books and concepts and the other half doing past papers. The past papers are very helpful, don't undermine them. Fifth, time yourself while you're doing the past papers because during the real exam you will probably understand how to answer most of the questions but won't have enough time. You could lose a lot of marks due to this. Sixth, for maths multiple choice questions, program your calculator with extra equations to solve them faster.

That is all the advice I can think of, hope it helps and good luck for the DSE.



## Alumni

## Muhammad Sahara Parveen

I would like to share with you some useful tips to achieve good results in the HKDSE.

First of all keep reminding yourself that it's never too late to start revision. Never let anyone tell you otherwise. Your continuous hard work and determination is the key to success no matter what your goal is. Start off with doing DSE past papers, do as many past papers as you can, minimum 5 to 7 years, perhaps 5 to 7 times for each paper. Try to memorize the answer scripts to familiarize yourself with the answering techniques. Also, read former candidates' answer sheets on the HKDSE Website to learn their exam skills. Then you will become a more competitive candidate. There will be many questions that you have never come across and you do not know how to answer. You need to arrange a tutorial time with your teachers. You can ask your teachers to do past papers during the lessons and it will save you a lot of time doing them yourself. Make yourself a timetable and follow it strictly. It will take some time, but eventually you will get used to it. Take good care of your health. Eat healthy food and do some exercise because you do not want to fall sick in such a critical period.



## Manoj Kumar Karishma

DSE Exams sound scary for all of us. But they aren't that difficult if you're dedicated towards success. Use all the time you've got now so that you won't regret later. I wish I worked harder to attain better grades and I know I can't go back in time and change things now. So I hope you will strive harder now and be able to realize your dreams without any regrets in the future. I know how stressful it gets. Find ways to relax your mind. Don't worry too much. I wish you all a successful future. Good luck.



## Message from Counselling Team

A new Counselling Room has been in use since 25 September 2017. Junior form students are warmly welcomed to play board games in the room with their friends during lunchtime every school day except examination periods.

Guidance teachers are on duty there and grab the opportunity to build a relationship with students so as to nurture a better ground for guidance service in the future. Love and Care Ambassadors are responsible for lending board games and card games to their fellow schoolmates and cleaning up the room at the end of the lunch hour. Routine has been built and students always tidy up before leaving.

On average, about 28 students spend their precious lunch hour in the room every day. Once it accommodated 33 students who enjoyed themselves fully in this cosy room.



## From planning to implementation: Community Service by Moral and National Education Ambassadors

After a year of Leadership Training Programme, we and other S.3 and S.4 ambassadors applied what we had learnt and showed our love to the hearing impaired people. Through the training, planning and implementation, we have learnt to think from different perspectives. Our leadership skills have also further developed. We had a wonderful time with the members of the Hong Kong Association of the Deaf on 26 June and 6 July this year. On the first day, we learnt some greetings and introduced ourselves by sign language. We then fully understood the communication difficulties of the hearing impaired people. It was a very meaningful and memorable experience for us. We hope that we can visit them again soon.



## The 25<sup>th</sup> PTA Executive Committee Members (2016-2017)

Post	Parent Committee Members	Name(s) of Child(ren) at School
Chairperson	Mrs. Rai Asha	Rai Avinash S.6C (22)
Vice-Chairperson	Mrs. Leung Lai Chun (Annie)	Si Lai Ching Femy S.6B (25)
Secretary	Ms. Stefania Gabriel	Miguel Angelo Caya Gutierrez S.1A (19)
Treasurer	Mrs. Rachel C. Galang	Philippe Edward C. Galang S.2D (16)
Public Relations	Ms. Choy Wai Han	Lau Sze Nga, Winnie S.1C (3)
General Affairs	Ms. Mokand Sukhjit Kaur	Taranjot Singh S.4A (23)
Activity Co-ordinators	Mrs. Chan Violeta	Chan Pui Yin Gabrielle Jade S.2C (1) & Chan Pui Yi Frances Ysable S.3D (4)
	Ms. Karen Chow	Ma Theodore Demetrius S.2C (22)
Auditor	Mr. G.S. Batra	Ex-student member

Teacher Committee Members
Mrs. Yeung Kwong Mong Ha (Principal)
Ms. Poon Po Na / Ms. Wong Pik Wah (Assistant Principals)
Ms. Lam Ngai Ling (Secretary)
Ms. Dunn Ling (Treasurer)
Mr. Gaur Anil (Public Relations)
Ms. Wong Shun Wan (Teacher Co i/c)
Mr. Prasad Manoj Kumar (Teacher Co i/c)
Mr. Khan Zubair Ahmed (Activity Co-ordinator)



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