



Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon)

Episodes

SPEECH DAY

On December 15th 2005, Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School in West Kowloon conducted its annual Speech Day. This year the ceremony was especially fortunate to have a very special guest of honour, a man who was instrumental in helping the city through the SARS epidemic in 2003. The school was proud to welcome Hong Kong's very own, Professor Joseph J.Y. Sung, from the Faculty of Medicine at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Also included were a number of honoured guests including members from the PTA and various community leaders from many of the various ethnic communities that play an integral part in helping the school throughout the years. In his address to the audience, Professor Sung talked about the traits of a leader – intelligence, toughness, determination and vision but added that other important ingredients



such as self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation and empathy were by all means necessary to make somebody great. Quoting the example of Mahatma Gandhi, he also challenged students not to waver in their quest for success. For a school so rich in both history and cultural diversity, it is perhaps not surprising at

the number and depth of the awards that were handed out this year. As one of the few government English Medium of Instruction schools in Hong Kong that can truly be called a cultural mosaic, awards were handed out in a wide spectrum of subjects and disciplines. The student population is a rich mix of nationalities (Indian, Pakistani, Filipino, Nepalese, Chinese, and many others). The Speech Day ceremony included awards of achievement for excellence in five different languages: English, Chinese, French, Hindi and Urdu, all of which are taught (and heard) at the school. In addition to linguistic awards, there were many other presentations recognizing academic achievements in a wide variety of subjects. It was evident



Inside this issue:	
• Speech Day	1
• Parents' Night cum 14th PTA Annual General Meeting	2
• Sports Days	3
• School Picnic	3
• Project Rapport	4
• Orientation Day	4
• HK Schools Speech Festival (English & Chinese)	5
• Textes en Fête - French Speech Festival	5
• First Staff Development Day	5
• Christmas Talent Show	6
• Dress Casual Day for Operation Santa Claus 2005	6
• Special Events or Activities	7
• Mid Autumn Festival (Lantern Riddles)	8
• Diwali - Deepawali - Deepavali - Depawali (Festival of Lights)	8
• Eid	8

from the ceremony that this is a school which focuses on a whole school approach towards student development, one that fosters the tolerance of cultural diversity and harmony.

Following the award ceremony, there were entertaining performances presented by the students, which reflect both the talent and diversity of the school. There were many interesting routines including a French role-play, an English dramatic duologue, a Nepalese dance, a Hindi song, Chinese solo and choral speaking and an Urdu song. The last performance was a lovely song done by the Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) Choir.

Parents' Night cum 14th PTA Annual General Meeting, 18 November 2005

The time was fast approaching 6.30 p.m. and many parents and guardians were filing into the school hall to register their attendance for the Parents' Night cum PTA AGM. Many others were already seated, chatting with one another as they waited for the function to start. This was the first important school function of the new academic year and there was a very enthusiastic turnout.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you are kindly requested to take your seats and to turn off your mobile phones," requested the master of ceremony. Audience members complied, the chatter ceased and the evening was underway. Happy to see so many participants, the Principal, Mr. Fung Kam-cheung, welcomed the parents and guardians present. Their support and concern were pivotal in developing home-school cooperation and he was extremely appreciative of the PTA's role in this domain.

The PTA Chairman, Mr. Syed Jamil Raghbi, then presented the PTA Annual Report for the year 2004-2005.

This had been a very fruitful and productive year with the PTA sponsoring many prizes and activities for the students. The PTA had also organised a number of activities to foster home-school cooperation and to develop parental education.

The minutes of the 13th AGM were confirmed and Mr. Prasad Kumar Manoj, Honorary Treasurer, reported on the statement of accounts. This was followed by a presentation ceremony during which certificates of appreciation were presented to PTA Executive Committee members for the year 2004-2005. Executive Committee members for the year 2005-2006 were then introduced to the assembly.

The highlight of the AGM was the election of parents to fill the five vacancies on the Executive Committee. Nominations were received and the candidates introduced themselves. Members deliberated about whom to vote for before casting their votes by secret ballot. When all the ballots had been cast, the sealed ballot box was opened

and emptied of all ballot papers. As the ballots were counted, silence reigned in the school hall with many people sitting on the edge of their seats with their eyes fixed on the white board as the votes were being tallied. After what seemed like an age, the results of the election were declared:

Candidate's Name	Number of votes received
Patricia Bernadette Mein Smith	116
Raghbi Syed Jamil	106
Jenny Cheng Lai Ling	92
Gemma M. Oconer	89
Ong Eng Hock	75
Eddy Fok	65
Yip Ngok Wan	59

Receiving the first highest number of votes, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Raghbi, Ms. Cheng, Mrs. Oconer and Mr. Ong were elected as parent members to the Executive Committee. The audience applauded their success. Mr. Eddy Fok was then appointed Honorary Auditor for the coming year. The 14th PTA AGM was declared successfully concluded.

Parents and guardians were invited to proceed to the designated venues for light refreshments and meetings with class teachers. During this time, parents were able to learn more about their child's performance and progress at school. Both parents and teachers cherished this opportunity for discussion. The results sheets for the first term tests were distributed. To enable students to strive for academic improvement, the school has implemented a formal system of term test administration with a student's scores in different subject recorded on a results sheet.

Time flew and soon it was 9.00 p.m. It had been a long but worthwhile evening.



Executive Committee Members, PTA 2005-2006

SIR ELLIS KADOORIE SECONDARY SCHOOL (WEST KOWLOON)

PARENTS-TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman: Syed Jamil RAGHBI

Parent Members		Teacher Members	
Vice-chairman	G. S. BATRA	Vice-chairman	FUNG Kam-cheung (Principal)
Honorary Secretary	Patricia Bernadette MEIN SMITH	Committee Member	YUEN Ka-chung (Assistant Principal)
Honorary Treasurer	GOPALAKRISHNAN Kanaklatha	Committee Member	YAU KWONG Tse-wai (Assistant Principal)
Committee Member	Gemma M. OCONER	Honorary Secretary	CHUNG Josephine
Committee Member	BAUTISTA Joann C	Honorary Treasurer	HUNG Fei-kei
Committee Member	CHENG Lai Ling	Committee Member	SHAM Suk-ye
Committee Member	ONG Eng Hock	Committee Member	PRASAD Manoj Kumar

Sports Days

On the two fine days of 21st and 30th November 2005, the Sham Shui Po Sportsground was filled with cheers and excitement as we held our annual Sports Days there. After the solemn hoisting of the School flag by the Air Cadet Corps with the singing of the School Song by all staff and students, and a high-spirited march around the sportsground by representatives of the four Houses, the athletic meet began.



Competitors put in their best efforts as they ran, jumped or threw in respective events, while their fellow House members cheered for them on the grandstand. 'Hurray! Hurray!' was often heard as names of winners of various events were

being announced throughout the day.

Cheers became the loudest towards the end of the Finals, when the 1500m race (Open class), the Inter-school Invitational Relay race and the Inter-House Cheering Competition took place. Students and even members of the staff cheered enthusiastically for the Principal, Mr Fung, and other teachers such as Maths teacher Mr Tong, Geography teacher Mr Lai and Science teacher Mr Chan, as they joined student competitors on the running track in the 1500m race, only to see the new young teacher Mr Man leading effortlessly all the way from beginning to end.



The spirit of friendship is evident here as cheerleaders, regardless of House, posed together after the Cheering Competition.

Afterwards, the guest of honour of the day, Mrs Lui Chien Yiu-chu Joyce, Chief School Development Officer, Yau Tsim and Mong Kok District, School Development Section of the EMB, joined the Principal, the Assistant Principals and the whole School community in the prize presentation ceremony, which marked the end of the two-day competitions.

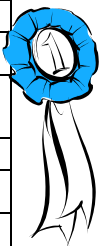


Results of Sports Days 2005-06 were:

Overall Champion: Green House

Champions of Cheering Competition: Blue House and Red House

Boys	A grade	Hark Bahadur Limbu (5B)	Blue House
	B grade	Jean Paul Clarito (3D)	Yellow House
	C grade	Fang Yuen Hung (2F) Francis Ryan Danganan (3C)	Blue House Yellow House
Girls	A grade	Kristine April Wong (4C)	Blue House
	B grade	Chan Tak Lan (2E)	Red House
	C grade	Cinderella Lai (1A)	Green House



School Picnic

December 20th, 2005- what a lovely day for a picnic! The weather was nice and the staff and students of Sir Ellis Kadoorie were ready to enjoy a lovely day on the school picnic. Different classes went to different parks around Hong Kong, but one thing was common- student having fun, good food, fresh air and lots of interesting outdoor activities.

Each class had its own picnic location but all students left the school by coach at 8:30 to head off to their picnic site and then were dismissed at 3:15, enjoying a full day in the great outdoors. The school picnic sites were as follows:

S1	Tai Tam (HK Parkview)
S2	Aberdeen Country Park
S3	St. Stephen's Beach (Stanley)
S4	Hok Tau (Sheung Shui)
S5	Hok Tau (Sheung Shui)



Whether they were talking and playing with their friends, cooking great food over a hot fire, hiking in the woods or playing various games, the students and staff of the school were certainly kept busy. In addition to regular academic study, Sir Ellis Kadoorie encourages students to participate in extra curricular activities like clubs and school outings. Students can help supplement their school learning experience by engaging in social and group activities, as well as getting exercise on physical outings in the fresh air, while seeing some of the beautiful and interesting places in Hong Kong.

Project Rapport

One may remember how thrilled our students got on one November afternoon last year, as they saw police detection dogs appearing on our School's basketball court, following their master's instructions to look for drugs or explosives inside briefcases, or to sit and leap just to amuse the audience. This was one of the first programmes of the newly launched 'Project Rapport'.

Named 'Rapport', the Project is a year-round programme jointly organised by the Hong Kong Police Force and our School, aiming to build up a friendly relationship and understanding between the police and our students. It is also hoped that, through different kinds of activities, the programme will enhance some important qualities of our students, such as self-confidence, leadership, communication



and problem-solving skills.

To mark the commencement of the Project, a Launching Ceremony was held in our School on 17th November 2005. Mr Jawaid Khan, Chief Superintendent of Police, District



Excited and curious, some students could not help patting one of the cute detection dogs from the Hong Kong Police Force.

Commander of Tuen Mun District, who can speak fluent Cantonese, gave an inspiring speech by sharing with us his own success story—how he failed his HKCEE, but later earned his Masters degree through studying part-time, and worked up to the highest rank that non-Chinese police officers have had reached in the Police

Force. Following Mr Khan's address was the climax of the day: the performance by detection dogs, a cheering performance by our students, as well as basketball and table-tennis friendly matches between the police and our students. They were all well-received by the audience, many of whom staying behind to watch the matches and not willing to go home even after the dismissal bell rang at 3:30pm.

Around 60 students are currently taking part in Project Rapport, which will run until May 2006. They will take part in a series of activities, including foot drill training, hiking, visits, voluntary service and sharing sessions with police officers.



Orientation Day 2005/2006

Every year, before the new academic year commences, the school organizes an Orientation Day to help new students cope with their new school life and to let their parents know more about the school. This year, the Orientation Day was held on 30 August 2005.

As new faces swarmed into the school, they were greeted warmly by current students and teachers. Since there is a considerable number of local Chinese students again this year, the school has specially arranged a Chinese-speaking session in the Student Activity Centre while the usual English-speaking session took place in the School Hall.

The morning programme began after the Principal's welcoming speech. Useful information about the school including school facilities, class structure, subjects offered, extra-curricular activities and the new policy

of S1 lunch arrangements etc. was delivered through a PowerPoint presentation by the Assistant Principals while the Discipline Master and the Discipline Mistress explained to parents and new students the school's disciplinary measures. The Guidance Mistress and the School Social Worker briefed students and parents about student guidance programmes and supporting services while PTA representatives, Mr. G.S. Batra and Ms. Cheng Lai-ling gave a short speech to solicit parental support.

Questions that mainly circled

around lunch arrangements were raised during the Q & A Session when everybody gathered in the School Hall towards the end of the Programme.

Finally, students also had the opportunity to meet their new Class Teachers. Well begun is half done. It was hoped that through this meaningful session at the beginning of the school year, students would easily integrate into the new school environment and enjoy studying in the big family of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon).



Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival (English & Chinese)

In fall 2005, some 60 students of our School took part in the Speech Festival. As in previous years, competition in this annual inter-school event was keen; but with their hard work and talent, most of our students did well enough to get 75 marks or above, to qualify for a Certificate of Proficiency or even Merit. Six of them even won positions in their respective English categories:

Solo verse speaking	
Elaine-Ann Tan (5A)	2 nd
Leung Kwan Lan (5A)	2 nd
Mark Jason Baje (5A)	2 nd
Ngan Chung In (2F)	3 rd
Dramatic duologue	
Kamana Rai and Daniel Issac Jr Villa (5A)	2 nd

Well done and congratulations to all of them!



Daniel Issac Jr Villa of 5A mimed with classmate Kamana Rai in their award-winning play 'The man in the box' in the School Hall.

Textes en Fête – 26 November 2005 French Speech Festival

“Comment s'appelle le président français?” (What's the name of the French president?) All hands in the Sir E. K. team shot up, ready to offer the answer, “Jacques Chirac”, to the quiz master. Their answer was correct and Mr. Rey awarded them a point. Next question: “Comment s'appelle la femme du président français?” Nathaniel, Elaine and Mary deliberated momentarily and prepared to score another point by producing the answer, “Madame Chirac” (Mrs. Chirac)!



“Correct! Un point à Sir Ellis.” proclaimed Mr. Rey, and the quiz continued, with the Sir E. K. team getting more and more excited. The quiz

about French culture was a post-interval distraction during the French Speech Festival held on Saturday, 26 November 2005 at Baptist University in Kowloon Tong.

This was the fourth consecutive year that the school had entered the festival. This year, the school's French teachers, Ms. Koh and Ms. Chung, had prepared three teams of form 5 students, who contended keenly against teams from Diocesan Boys School, La Salle College and Marymount Convent School. Sir E. K. students performed three comic sketches with great pizzazz. Kwan Lan, Usha, Mareene, Mandy and Kamana kicked off with “La Rentrée des Classes” (Back to School) during which the teacher was trying not to lose her temper with her impossible students,

who are incapable of learning French! Mary and Elisabeth followed with their well-rehearsed rendition of “L'interrogatoire” (The Interrogation), during which a 30-year-old was interrogated by her mother!! Oh là là! The Sir Ellis performances culminated with “Les Bons Souvenirs” (Good Memories). Nathaniel and Elaine-Ann played a couple, married for 50 years, reminiscing about the first day they met. Unfortunately, the man's memory is not too good so many of the details are incorrect, much to his wife's dismay! All three performances earned great applause from an appreciative audience. The performers may have had butterflies in their stomachs but it certainly didn't show! During the interval, the director of Alliance Française de Hong Kong and officials from the French Consulate congratulated the students on their stellar performances. “Félicitations! C'était super!” (“Congratulations! It was great!”) The students had a great time seeing other French students perform and by being part of a francophone atmosphere.

First Staff Development Day

The First Staff Development Day, held on 23 November 2005, was an opportunity for all staff members to put aside teaching for a day and to reflect on important issues such as the curriculum, the progress of their work and how teaching and learning could be more effective.

In the morning, two co-workers from Kwun Tong Government Secondary School were invited to share their school's experience in implementing

the idea of ‘Peer Lesson Observation’. Their sharing was encouraging and inspired teachers of our school on how improvements could be further induced during a brainstorming and group discussion that followed.

The afternoon was equally interesting, with professors from the



Hong Kong Institute of Education conducting a survey on the cultural sensitivity of the teachers. Their professional sharing was also enlightening, allowing teachers to reflect on their personal views and attitudes.

Christmas Talent Show

When asked what their favourite School function in the year is, many students may reply, ‘The annual Christmas Talent Show’, where students show off their talents in a variety of performances. Indeed, the Show held on 21st December 2005 was a most exuberant and creative way to end this last School day of the year.

Student MCs Kristine April Wong and Johnny Chan of 4C first welcomed teachers and fellow students to the School Hall, which was

beautifully decorated with a glittering 5-foot tall Christmas tree on the stage

and tinsels, Christmas stockings, etc hanging all around to enhance the festive atmosphere. They then wasted no time in introducing the first performance of the day.

Performances on that day included group singing, band show, ori-

ental dance, modern dance and even karate. All were enthusiastically received by the audience with loud applause; some students even stood up and danced in their seats to the rhythm of the bands.



With the 3 grand lucky draw presents and 3 grand prizes to the winning performing groups handed out, the Talent Show ended successfully in high spirit, leaving everyone’s heart warm for the winter break to come.

Everyone focused back on the MCs as they invited the Principal, Mr Fung, onto the stage to host the lucky draw. All students held their breath as class names and class numbers were slowly announced and wished that they would be one of the lucky ones to get the 24 handsome gifts, courtesy of the School ECA Committee.



The all-girl winning team, dressed in attractive red and white Santa Claus costumes, cheerfully showed their prize received from the Principal, Mr Fung.



Results of Christmas Talent Show 2005-06

Champion	Mandy Hung, Christina Mak, Cherry Lyn Tapaoan (5C), Kristine April Wong (4C), Diane Francisco (3C), Erica De Guzman, Leilanie Francois (3B)	Singing and dancing
1 st runner-up	Rapinder Kaur, Hardeep Kaur (5A), Dil Shad, Maryam (5B), Manjit Kaur (4C), Raminder Kaur (3C)	Oriental dance
2 nd runner-up	Samrit Bishwakarma, Subash Rai (4C), Ariel Canete (4A), Julian Chan (2C)	Band performance

Dress Casual Day for Operation Santa Claus 2005

Also held on 21st December 2005 was a Dress Casual Day, especially to raise fund for the local charity Operation Santa Claus. In earlier weeks, students worked hard to qual-



ify themselves for this special function: They had to wear

their uniform properly to pass the 70% benchmark. All classes except one fulfilled the requirement and were invited to dress casually on 21st December. All students participating in this event donated at least \$10; teachers were also welcome to join in the donation drive. At the end, a total sum of \$7,210.4 was collected. It had been duly donated to Operation Santa Claus.



Students enjoyed a day without School uniform on 21st December

Special Events / Activities

Events	Organizers	Date	Students
Dress Casual Day for the Community Chest of Hong Kong	School Guidance & Counselling Committee	30.9.2005	All students
Mathematics Lunchtime Q & A	Mathematics Department	20.9.2005-9.6.2006	All students
Day Camp at National Education Centre(國民教育中心)	Moral and Civic Education Committee	7.10.2005	S.1D and S.1E
“Making a Rainbow Life” A School-based Support Program for Non-Chinese Speaking and Returnee Students	School Guidance & Counselling Committee	3.10.2005-20.5.2006 (Every Monday)	Non-Chinese Speaking and Returnee Students
English Competence Improvement Programme	English Department, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong School Net and Panel Resources	Whole School Year	All students
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps Annual Parade 2005	Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	30/10/05	S1-5 Air Cadets
Visit to Indoor Recreation Centre	School Guidance & Counselling Committee	22.10.2005	Non-Chinese Speaking and Returnee Students
Gardening Class	S.1 After School Programme	27.10.2005	S.1 students
Volleyball Friendly Match with Christian International School	Volleyball Team	28.10.2005	Volleyball Team
Visit to Hong Kong Central Library and Hong Kong Park	School Guidance & Counselling Committee and the Hong Kong Playground Association	12.11.2005	Non-Chinese Speaking and Returnee Students
S.3 Day Camp	School Guidance & Counselling Committee	23.11.2005, 24.11.2005	S.3 students
Volleyball Friendly Match with American International School	Volleyball Team	24.11.2005	Volleyball Team
The Community Chest Flag-day Appeal	The Discipline Committee, the Guidance & Counselling Committee, and the Community Youth Club	26.11.2005	Volunteer of Prefect, Guidance Team and CYC members
Musical Instrument Class	Music Department	Whole School Year	All students
Ethnic Harmony Variety Show	Dance Club	3.12.2005	Oriental Dance Team
Project Rapport	The Discipline Committee, the Guidance & Counselling Committee	5.12.2005	60 Selected Students
Book Exhibition	School Library and Solomon Communication Co. Ltd.	6.12.2005, 7.12.2005	All students
Dress Casual Day for Operation Santa Claus	The South China Morning Post and RTHK	21.12.2005	All students



No. 6 Parade of the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps was conducted on 4/12/05.



The Community Chest Flag-day Appeal on 26/11/2005



Book Exhibition on 6/12/2005 and 7/12/2005



A gardening class was held on 27/10/05 as an after school activity for S1

Mid Autumn Festival (Lantern Riddles)

Although the weather was a bit cold, the spirits were high and the atmosphere warm inside as the students and staff of Sir Ellis Kadoorie celebrated the Mid-autumn Festival with several fun-filled activities. The room was adorned with many beautiful lanterns, a pool of water, and various other seasonal decorations in celebration of this important festival. A challenging contest of wits was provided and it helped to keep even the smartest

participant wondering and thinking as they tried to solve the riddles (in Chinese and English) which hung from the beautiful lanterns. Students who managed to solve enough of the riddles received some prizes. There were a number of other interesting events and activities which helped stu-

dents and staff get into the spirit of the festival and meet other people while they enjoyed the celebration. An inflatable pool became

the center of attention as many floating boats with candles were released, making the activity room much brighter and more festive!



Diwali - Deepawali - Deepavali - Depawali *Festival of Lights*

Many students, whether he or she was an Indian, Nepalese or Pakistani got together and celebrated Deepawali at SEKSS by having a lunch gathering. They all wished each other happy Deepawali and a very festive mood was among the students. They were also excited



as it was a school holiday, so they could celebrate their festival with their families and friends.

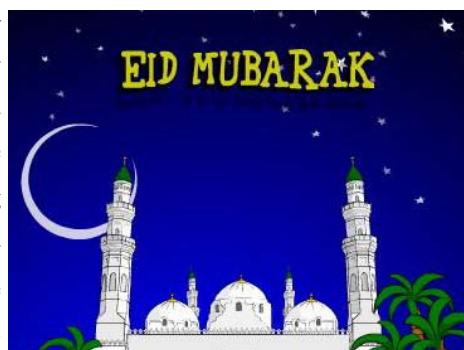
Diwali is perhaps the most well known of the Indian & Nepali festivals: it is celebrated throughout India & Nepal, as well as by Hindu communities throughout the world. Diwali symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and is also a festival of wealth and prosperity.

the festival is invariably accompanied by the exchange of sweets and the explosion of fireworks. As with other Indian festivals, Diwali signifies many different things to people across the country. The occasion of Deepawali sees the spring-cleaning and white-washing of houses; decorative designs or rangolis are painted on floors and walls. New clothes are bought and family members and relatives gather together to offer prayers, distribute sweets and to light up their homes.

The celebration of

Eid

This year we celebrated Eid on 4th November 2005, a school holiday. Eid-ul-fitar means to break and therefore symbolizes the breaking of the fasting period and of the evil habits. On the Eid day, the Muslim family gets up



early morning and attends special prayers held in the mosques. The festivities and merriment start after the prayers with visits to the homes of friends and relatives and thanking the Creator for all blessings.

Eid is a time to come together

as a community and to renew friendship and family ties. This is a time for peace for all muslims in the world to devote to prayers and mutual well-being.

Advisor

Mr. FUNG Kam-cheung, Principal
Editorial Committee
Mrs. YAU KWONG Tse-wai
Ms. HO See-mun
Mr. KORDYBAN Ronald John
Mr. YIP Hon-Kei