

Episodes

ANNUAL SPEECH DAY 2009/2010

The morning of December 10, 2010 was a momentous one for everyone at Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) especially for those successful students who were honoured at the school's Annual Speech Day.

The ceremony began with the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a comprehensive school report by the school Principal, Mr Fung Kam-cheung.

The Principal also informed the gathering that in keeping with the multicultural nature of the school and the characteristics of the students, the school endeavored to meet the educational needs and aspirations of the students through a well-defined curriculum and multi-faceted extracurricular activities. Among the variety of developmental, preventive and remedial programmes that were organized for all round development of students some of the most noteworthy were The 'Real Friends' Project and 'Enhanced Smart Teen Project', which were held in collaboration with the police and helped students understand themselves better and boosted their self-confidence. There was the 'Fully Human Fully Alive', adventure-based training program, which helped to inculcate positive values and attitudes in students. The school also held programmes like 'Steps to Success', 'Steps to Harmony', 'Making a Rainbow Life' and

'Making a Fruitful Life' to help integrate non-Chinese speaking and other newly-arrived students into the local culture.

There were talks, exhibitions and workshops on moral, civic and national education, which also helped to instill positive values in students. Students were also made aware of environmental issues through various programmes and the school was once again awarded the 'Green School Award' for the year 2009-2011.

The guest-of-honour, Dr. Gill Harinder Sing, an illustrious alumnus and a Medical Officer in the Division of Haematology, Medical Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplantation in the Department of Medicine in the University of Hong Kong and in Queen Mary Hospital, addressed the gathering and presented the prizes. Dr. Gill, through his exemplary life story inspired and motivated the students to work hard and improve both academically and non-academically. Quoting Edmund Hilary, he said "It's not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves" and urged students to seize every opportunity to realize their dreams.

Adding to the jubilant mood was an enthralling programme of entertainment, which included Solo Verse Speaking in English, French and Putonghua, Western and Oriental dance performances, and a delightful rendition of a song 'Stand As One' by the school choir.

The eventful evening rounded off with the school song, followed by hearty refreshments.

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Annual Speech Day



Parents' Night cum 19th Parents-Teachers' Association (PTA) Annual General Meeting

On 19th November 2010– Parents' Night cum 19th Parents-Teachers' Association (PTA) AGM, amendment to Article 5(F) of the PTA Constitution was approved unanimously. Thereafter, two rounds of voting were conducted to elect Parent Representatives of the PTA Executive Committee (2010-2011) and School Management Committee (SMC, 2010-211). Our enthusiastic parents turned up on time to participate, support and witness this event.

At about 7:00 pm, our principal, Mr. Fung Kam Cheung, welcomed the parents in the school hall for this important event and thanked them for their enthusiasm and support. Then our outgoing PTA Chairman, Mr. Fok Chun Hung, Eddy highlighted PTA's work and contribution to the school. Certificates were presented to last year's members of the PTA Executive Committee.

Eight candidates contested for the PTA Executive Committee and three candidates for SMC. The candidates were introduced and voters cast their votes by secret ballot. At 8.45 pm, the results were announced. Ms. Sharma Kusum and Mr. Nachiappan Thirupathi were elected as Chairperson and Vice-chairperson respectively of the PTA 2010-2011. As for SMC, Mr. Khimding Ran Bahadur was re-elected and Mr. Nachiappan Thirupathi was newly elected parent representatives of the SMC 2010-2011.


It was truly an enjoyable night as it allowed parents to freely mingle with teachers to share their views. It was a wonderful evening with snacks and drinks sponsored by the PTA. Parents also got to meet their children's class teachers and collect report-sheets. A donation drive by the PTA raised a total sum of HK\$4, 271/- .



PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2010-2011	
Post	Name of Parent / Teacher
Chair-person	Ms. Kusum Sharma (Parent)
Vice Chairman	Nachiappan Thirupathi (Parent)
Vice Chairman	Mr. Fung Kam Cheung (Principal)
Honorary Treasurer	Mr. Gurung Asho Kumar (Parent) Ms. Hung Fei Kei (Teacher) Mr. G.S. Batra
Honorary Secretary	Mrs. Nicomedes Rosalie V.(Parent) Mr. Gaur Anil (Teacher)
Committee Members	Ms. Angelica I. Ang (Parent) Mr. Khimding Ran Bahadur (Parent) Ms. Leung Lai Chun (Parent) Ms. Mariamma Varughese (Parent) Mr. G.S. Batra (Parent) Ms. Ho Yuk Yee (Asst. Principal) Mr. Lo Kwing Hang (Asst. Principal) Mr. Prasad Manoj Kumar (Teacher) Ms. Chan Kwai Yin (Teacher)

ICAC Drama Performance

Our students enjoyed a fantastic interactive drama on anti-corruption produced by Hong Kong Repertory Theatre on 18th November 2010. About 150 students learned the Anti-corruption Law through two love stories and the discussion held after the show. After enjoying this wonderful drama, they knew more about anti-corruption and the 4As (Agent, No Approval, Advantage and Act) involved in corruption.




OXFAM RICH & POOR BANQUET - ENGAGE CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES AND REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Our Principal Mr. Fung and about 60 students and teachers joined Oxfam Rich & Poor Banquet held by the Moral, Civic & National Education Committee and the Guidance and Counselling Committee on the 16 December, 2010. The participants not only donated money for charity, but also experienced hunger due to unfair distribution of wealth and food. Through games and a film show,

they became aware of the adversities people in some countries were facing because of drastic climate changes. The activity has aroused the awareness of environmental protection and helped students learn to treasure everything we have in Hong Kong. They understood the importance of conservation and felt that people of Hong Kong should act promptly to reduce their carbon footprint.



3A HUANG Li Hua



3A HUI Eviann Clifford



Oxfarm Rich and Poor Banquet



S.1 AND S.4 TRAINING CAMPS (2010-11)

This year the S.1 and S.4 Training Camps, which took place from 6th to 8th October and 17th to 19th November respectively, were successfully completed. During the three days, the students took part in a variety of training ranging from individual challenges to group tasks which aimed at developing students' self-management skills and leadership, enhancing their collaboration and building up their confidence.

ENHANCED SMART TEEN PROJECT 2010/2011

Our school is very keen on providing different learning experiences for our students. We believe that our students will be more versatile and all-rounded through joining different kinds of programmes which aim at equipping them with the necessary skills to counter adversity. The Enhanced Smart Teen Project co-organized by the EDB, the Hong Kong Police and the School Discipline Committee can serve to attain all these objectives. The Enhanced Smart Teen project is a year-long project that aims to help students become more confident, self-disciplined and sociable. Besides, students' leadership and collaboration skills are also enhanced through highly structured training and activities.

Twenty-five students, ten boys and fifteen girls of different ethnic backgrounds from S.2 and S.3 have joined the project and become Smart Teens this academic year. In December 2010, they went on a five-day training camp organized by the Hong Kong Police at the Hong Kong Police College, which is the most important function in the year-long programme. At the training camp, the Smart Teens participated in a series of team building and discipline training activities, such as abseiling, rafting, and orienteering. At the beginning, most of them were not used to such strict and disciplined training which was similar to that of the police cadets. With support and encouragement from teachers and coaches, they soon became accustomed to the rigorous training and developed excellent collaboration skills, which enabled them to become the champion of the adventure game competition. The Smart Teens' success was recognised and celebrated at a graduation ceremony witnessed by parents and teachers.

After graduating from the training camp, the Smart Teens will participate in a series of post-camp activities to consolidate what they have learned, to bring positive values and to serve their fellow school-mates. All in all, the Enhanced Smart Teen Project has not only trained some student leaders but also promoted racial harmony in our school.



Some say that leadership is inherent but others believe that leadership can be inculcated through structured training. To train our students to be leaders, the Discipline Committee and the Hong Kong Youth Outreach, with sponsorship from HSBC, co-organized a leadership and adventure-based training project: the Fully Human Fully Alive Project which comprises of two training camps and more than 30 workshops.

The project drew 35 participants from S.4 and S.5 in May 2010. The first training camp was held in Cheung Chau in July 2010 and the second training camp was held in November 2010 in Sai Wan Ho. At the camps, students learnt leadership skills, collaboration, cooperation and teamwork through interactive activities. Each of the workshops had a particular focus enhancing the communication skills, decision making ability and problem solving techniques of students. The fun fair organised by the students marked the end of the project in December 2010.

FULLY HUMAN FULLY ALIVE PROJECT

Venus (S. 4B)

"I was with all my classmates. We faced all the challenges at the camp. 4B was named 'Bravo' in the camp. I still remember how I felt when the boys surrounded and supported the girls shouting 'Bravo! Girls! Bravo! Girls!'. I felt we were all in one."

Christian (S.4A)

"The training camp was well prepared by the teachers and instructors who helped us to train our discipline and our manners. I really think it can help us a lot in our adulthood. We've learned to be mature to think in different situations."

Winnie (S.4B)

"I was not happy at first. I thought that the camp was boring, but after spending a night in the camp, I changed my opinion about it. It was fun! My friends and I worked as a big family there, we helped each other :) We've become more disciplined."

Terrance (S.4B)

"It is very meaningful! It makes me know that our classmates are very cooperative and we have teamwork which I didn't think about before. It was fun. I will take similar training again if I have another chance."

Anita (S.1D)

"Well, it was fun, a lot fun ... ^__^. I love the High Event very much, but I didn't think I would get a prize. It was wonderful. =] Thank you. =]"

Tino (S.4D)

"This was the first time I participated in this kind of training camp and I felt that I've become more confident and I wanna share my experience with everyone. At the camp, I did my best and I tried hard all the time. I learned to be responsible and especially self-discipline. I encourage my schoolmates to do well. If you try hard with all your heart, I am sure you will be the winners".



Puja (S.1E)

"It was a memorable experience. I learned a lot from it. We needed a lot of teamwork to co-operate well with our teammates. As it was a training camp, we needed to show our good self-discipline. I learned to be responsible and that the given tasks could be finished on time. We needed our full confidence to overcome all the difficulties. Everyone showed their courage and hard work and made their every effort towards the tasks given. All in all, I enjoyed this camp a lot. Although it was strict, it was fun."

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This year, Sports Day heats and finals of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) took place on 3rd and 8th November 2010, respectively. Enthusiastic athletes from four different houses showed their talents in a number of different track and field events, which demanded strength, stamina and agility.

Kicking off the day was the flag-raising ceremony, followed by the singing of the National Anthem. Then it was time for the athletes to demonstrate their skills and power.

As always, the deafening din from throngs of their peers spurred the athletes on to perform their best, whilst the plethora of colourful banners decorating the spectator stand served as a reminder of the zestful school spirit of the students.

Topping the list of winners this year was Blue House, emerging as overall Champion and bagging 18 gold medals, whilst Yellow House was awarded the accolade of Best Cheering Team.

Among the Individual Champions were Szeto Yuen Shan of S1E (Girls C Grade), Nastasia Kristin Flores of S4A (Girls B Grade), Mak Lai Fai of S5B (Girls A Grade), Singh Gurwinder of S3C (Boys C Grade), Cruz Gerald Angelo of S2C (Boys B Grade) and Fok Brian of S4B (Boys A Grade).

As with any event, a lot of hard work went into ensuring the Sports Days would be a resounding success. The Principal, Mr Fung Kam-cheung, emphasized participation more than winning and thanked the P. E department, all participating athletes, students, members of staff and parents, without whose efforts the event would not have been possible.

The day came to an end with the prize presentation and speech by the guest-of-honour, Ms Yuen Ka-chung, Principal of Sheung Shui Government Secondary School and former Assistant Principal of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon). While addressing the students, Ms Yuen expressed her joy on seeing the students again. She encouraged the students to explore their potential, to nurture their determination and enhance their effort to work harder.

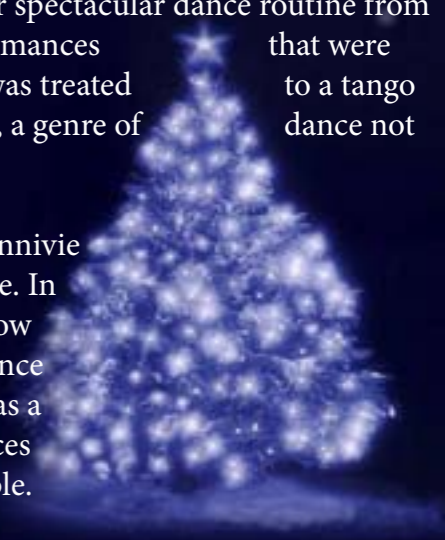


2010 Christmas Talent Show

This year's Christmas Talent show provided a wide variety of entertainment and we had over 20 different acts that took to the stage to showcase their talents in singing, dancing and musical ability. The first of the performances were the bands with well-rehearsed renditions of the latest rock and pop songs. Following the bands were solo singing and duets by some of our talented performers who sang their hearts out to the delight of all in attendance in the school hall.



Next up were the dance performances and this year we had traditional dance routines from different groups of students who dazzled the audience with their beautiful costumes and choreographed moves. There were Nepali dances from our Oriental Dance Team and Indian dances from a trio led by Sabu Rose Maria (5C) with Naz Misha (5D) and Naz Mehak (4D). Riddhi Sharma (3E) followed up on her spectacular dance routine from last year to huge cheers from the hall. There were several hip hop dance performances that were definite crowd pleasers and for the first time in the talent show, the audience was treated to a tango dance performance by Jefferson Capinpin (2E) and Gurung Jyoti Kumari (5E), a genre of dance not previously seen but thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.



In addition to the singers and dancers, Joaquin Jasmine Jennivie Sandoval (3E) gave a memorable piano solo performance. In addition to the performances, the Christmas Talent Show also included lucky draws for the students in the audience to get a chance to win prizes. This year's talent show was a truly remarkable one with so many diverse performances that next year's show will surely be even more memorable.

Hosts and ghouls abounded at SEKSS's annual Halloween party this year. Shrieks of laughter echoed throughout the first floor corridor as bubbly students thronged to the party venue, decked out in thrilling costumes. Dressed as vampires and witches, skeletons and werewolves, students jostled and jostled as they competed against one another in various Halloween activities that had been lined up for them. Onlookers got in on the action, cheering their peers on, whilst munching on scrumptious goodies that were being handed out. All in all it was yet another successful event, thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

The awareness of Halloween demonstrated by our students is testament to the rising trend in acceptance and celebration of this once Western festival, which is steadily integrating itself into Hong Kong's social calendar, becoming yet another stained-glass fragment in the city's cultural kaleidoscope.

HKSSF Inter-School Hockey Competition

Our school joined the inter-school hockey competition organised by the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation. This year we were allocated to Division Three and we had to cope with stiff competition from 6 other schools in our group. Our first match was against Chan Shu Kui Memorial School in King's Park. Our team put up a great display by scoring 3 goals and our first victory was sealed.

Our second match was against California School at Happy Valley Recreation Ground and we managed to beat them easily by a score of 9-0 because they were unable to play with a full squad. Our third match was also held at Happy Valley Recreation Ground and it proved to be our toughest match as we had to face a very determined and well-trained The South Island School team. It was a tense affair and in the end we had to share the spoils as we both ended up with 2 goals apiece.

Our next game was against CCC Tam Lee Lai Fun Memorial School at King's Park and this was a hard-fought match with both of us tied until nearly the last minutes of the game. The tie was finally broken as we were awarded a penalty flick in the dying moments of the match, which was converted expertly by Raminder Singh of 3B giving us a 3-2 victory.

Next up was Delia Memorial School (Hip Wo) and their team scored first against us early in the match. In the second half we were able to level the score and the game looked destined for a draw. However, luck was on our side as we were able to snatch victory from them with a well-worked goal scored by our team again seconds before the full time whistle.

We are currently unbeaten in the competition and sitting on top of the table in Division Three and we have one more match against Chinese International School on the 17th of January. Irrespective of the result we are through to the semi-finals which will be held in March and we are looking forward to either a silver or gold medal. Stay tuned during the morning assemblies for further updates on our progress.



PICNIC DAY

Picnic Day at Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School is a time when students are taken out of the classroom and exposed to a different, rather unconventional form of learning. On that day, students do not attend your standard English, Science or Mathematics lessons, rather; they learn by doing; building on their social skills and other basic life and practical skills.



As always, Picnic Day is much anticipated and eagerly awaited by all students and this year was no exception.

Held on Friday 26th November 2010, students were given the privilege of choosing their picnic destination and mapping out the day's events with their classmates.

The destinations varied, from tourist hotspots on Hong Kong Island such as Stanley Market and Repulse Bay beach, to ones tickling the fancy of those with an affinity for nature and chic relaxation such as Tai Po and Gold Coast.

Given the liberties flaunted by the outdoor locations, the activities were as varied as the destinations and encompassed hiking, getting in touch with nature, ball games on the beach and in country parks, smoky barbeques and even the occasional game of cards to offer solace to their tired bodies.

On the whole, students had a lovely time frolicking about in the great outdoors, building and strengthening their relationships with not only their classmates but also their teachers and accompanying schoolmates, walking away at the end of the day endowed with knowledge that reaches far beyond the confines of the classroom walls.



Visit to SCAD

SCAD stands for Savannah College of Art and Design and it is a prestigious U.S. University based in Georgia specializing in art and design education. Our school recently had a staff development day visit to the campus, which is located in the old North Kowloon Magistracy in Sham Shui Po. The facilities and equipment that were on display were impressive and SCAD certainly seems a viable option for our students if they are interested in further education in the art and design field. SCAD offers bachelor's and master's courses in 8 different areas related to art and design: Advertising, Animation, Graphic Design, Illustration, Interactive Design and Game Development, Motion Media Design, Photography and Visual Effects. Students who have an interest in pursuing a degree in one of the above fields should log on to their website to read more about SCAD so that they can get more information on an alternative educational path for their careers. The website is www.scad.edu/hong-kong/



Animated Version of the Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival

On the 18th November, 2010, a total of 300 students from S.3 to S.5 and teachers went to the The AsiaWorld Expo at Chak Lap Kok to appreciate the "Animated Version of the Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival" (電子動態版《清明上河圖》) The fusion of advanced multimedia technology and traditional Chinese painting of the star exhibit in the China Pavilion in Shanghai World Expo 2010 amazed all its visitors, especially our students from different nations. During the one-hour trip, our students experienced different day-time and night-time activities of an ancient Chinese city including bustling markets, a wedding parade and life at restaurants. This was a good opportunity for our students to have a taste of Chinese culture and they enjoyed viewing activities at the riverside scene shown on the animated version of the painting.



Be a leader – with passion Mr. Nachiappan Thirupathi

Mr. Thirupathi is an alumnus of the school and his son, Adityanaach Thirupathi, is a student of our school. Mr. Thirupathi is also the Vice-chairperson of the Parent-Teacher Association and one of the parent representatives of the School Management Committee.



Mr. Thirupathi and his family visited Beijing in December 2010.

Light a match in a dark room and watch as the light instantly overcomes the darkness. Observe the power and grace of that single, solitary flame dancing with life. Now light several candles or kindle a fire and experience the added warmth and comfort extending from that first, vulnerable flame through others. This is the heart and soul of leadership - the essence of inspiring others. It is about courageously casting off fear and doubt by giving people a sense of hope, optimism and accomplishment. It is about bringing light into a world of uncertainty and inspiring others to do the same. This is what we call passion, the fire within.

Passion is a heartfelt energy that flows through us, not from us. It fills our hearts and inspires others when we share it. It is like sunlight flowing through a doorway that we have just opened. It is always there. It just needs to be accepted and embraced. Under right conditions, this "flow" appears effortless, easy and graceful. It does what it is meant to do. It reminds us that we are meant to be purposeful. We are meant to be positive. We are meant to be passionate. We feel this when we listen to and accept the call in life. We feel it as inspiration when we open the door and let it in.

Inspiration springs forth when we allow ourselves to be "in-spirit," aligned with our true essence. Stop and think about it: When you feel truly passionate and inspired about someone or something, what frame of mind are you in? What are you willing to do? What kind of effort are you willing to put forth? How fearful are you? Chances are, you feel motivated to act whatever it takes, without fear or doubt, to turn your vision into reality. You grow in confidence. You believe you can do it. You are committed from the heart and soul.

I have been inspired by the message in the book 'Leading with Passion' written by John J. Murphy. The purpose of the book is to offer and clarify ten key factors for leading with passion. These "essentials" serve to guide and remind leaders how they can "open the door" and facilitate the flow. By practising these essentials, you will tap the extraordinary potential in yourself and others and realize results you may never have dreamed possible. Look at any inspiring leaders and you will see these key factors in action. Observe the best of the best and you will witness the power of passionate leadership. Make no mistake - leading with passion inspires world change.



62nd Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

A total of 56 students signed up to join the 62nd Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival, representing a 40% increase in enrolment from the previous year. With such a huge interest in the speech competition this year, we looked forward to excellent results again and our students rose to the challenge and performed exceptionally well. All of our students joined the solo verse speaking category and this year's results surpassed the achievements of the previous years with a total of THREE speech festival champions: Brian Li (5D), Gurung Shrijana (5E) and Nicodemus Athena (5B).



In addition to our three champions, three students won second place and they are: Lau Nga Wing, Ma Cho Shan and Chan Sam Yu who are all from 5A. We also had four students achieving third place in the competition and they are: Christina Montesclaros(4E), Zainab Mahmood (5C), Chan Ting Fong (5C) and Elsie Yu Kit Ying (5D).

Of the 56 students that participated in this year's competition, more than half of them attained merit and we are pleased to see such a good performance among our students in representing our school. Special thanks must be given to all the teachers who spent considerable amounts of their time to provide training to our students. We also need to acknowledge the efforts of the ECA and PTA Committees for fully subsidising the entry fees for the speech festival.

English Solo Verse Speaking (Non-open)	
Brian Li (5D)	1 st
Gurung Shrijana (5E)	1 st
Athena Margareth V. Nicomedes (5B)	1 st
Lau Nga Wing (5A)	2 nd
Ma Cho Shan (5A)	2 nd
Chan Sam Yu (5A)	2 nd
Christina Montesclaros (4E)	3 rd
Zainab Mahmood (5C)	3 rd
Chan Ting Fong (5C)	3 rd
Elsie Yu Kit Ying (5D)	3 rd



Award Presentation Ceremony for the 8th Green School Award

The Environmental Education Committee has striven to promote environmental education among students. Our effort was recognised by winning the accolade of Hong Kong Green School in the 8th Green School Award organized by the Environmental Campaign Committee, the Education Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department. Winning this accolade for two consecutive years indicates the continuous effort of our school in promoting environmental conservation. The Award Presentation Ceremony was held on 21 September, 2010 at the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Centre. The award is not only a great honour for our school but also a motivational force for our pursuit of environmental protection.



Teachers and Student Environmental Protection Ambassadors taking a photo with Ms Wong Sean Yee, Anissa, Director of Environmental Protection