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Parents' Newsletter

Issue 13/November 2001 Delia Memorial School (Hip Wo)



Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to have this chance to relay the developments and the changes that our school is both pursuing and undergoing this year. As a school we are always developing and implementing new ideas and programs into our curriculum and school community. This is to ensure that we are moving with the times and giving our students the best possible education.

Our world is always changing and we have to move with those changes. The September 11th terrorist attack in New York proves to us that the world is always susceptible and vulnerable to sudden and inconceivable change. We as a school must ensure that our students are socially and educationally prepared for these kinds of changes. Furthermore, we must ensure that they have a quality education so they can understand that peace and cultural understanding can overcome these kinds of attacks.

We as a school must integrate different cultural ideals and values into our school community to promote mutual understanding. Integration is more than just acceptance. It is an understanding and celebration of the uniqueness of all cultures. Indeed in our ever shrinking world we are having more experiences with other cultures. It is imperative that we begin to integrate all cultural ideals and values into our understanding of our own world. This can and will avoid misunderstandings and promote harmony among all cultures.

In our school we have this unique opportunity to integrate with each other. Our students have the ability to learn and understand each other on a daily basis. Moreover, they get to share their ideas and cultural values with each other in a safe and secure place. This is integration at its best.

I wrote an article some years ago that stated that even though we live on a small planet and we often feel alienated from each other, which sometimes results in disapproval, harsh words or even war. We as educators must believe that we can change these adversities from misunderstanding into understanding and segregation into integration.

This past summer our school took steps to start this process. We took students from several cultural backgrounds to Nanhai China. This gave our students an opportunity to experience not only China, which is quite different from Hong Kong, but each other. We set up the students into groups with mixed cultural backgrounds. They had to both work together using different languages and ideas and come to solutions together. Furthermore, they had to start to really communicate with each other. They started to understand each other. All the students returned with a new understanding and experience with each other. They were upset that the trip had to come to an end but the integration and understanding process keeps on developing.



School Improvements

The school has made a great effort to improve our school facilities this past summer.

- 1 million was spent to improve and install a mini assembly hall to accommodate 100 students. Plus two multi-purpose rooms were built for meetings, functions and clubs.
- The tuck shop was renovated to provide better eating environment
- 1.8 million was spent to facilitate IT learning in our classrooms. We installed a stationary computer in each of the 46 class rooms that both students and teachers can use. Each computer has a permanent mounted projector and screen to enable the entire class to view. Each computer has the ability to use the internet and intranet, use a variety of programs, and many multimedia options like playing educational videos and music.
- 1.5 million was spent on a Multi-Media Learning Centre (MMLC) and will be completed by January 2002



Expatriate Staff

This year we have seen significant expansion of our expatriate staff. The school now enjoys eight Canadian Teachers. These teachers bring with them particular advantages. They first bring new ideas and teaching styles. This is valuable to our school because of local staff get to share their teaching experiences with Canadian ones. This fosters a introspective and sharing teaching community with a shared goals. The Canadian teachers also bring the advantage the ability to speak native English and French. This is a significant advantage for our students. It gives our school an International teaching staff and experience. Moreover, it further develops our school commitment to an integrated and multicultural community.





Gratification of Excellent Achievement

HKCEE

Our school and the School Management Committee has awarded the following students for their outstanding academic achievement made in the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) 2001:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>
Wong Yim Chung	32	Fung Kowk Lam	30
Chik Shuk Mei	27	Leung Sau Kam	27
Lam Lau Ching	25	Chow Ho Cheong	24
Yip Wing Fa	24	Li Wai Yee	23
Ting Wing Piu	21	Chan Chiu Hung	20
Pasapula Rashmi Ram	20	Ngan Pik Fa	20

(The total points of 7 subjects based on the point scale: A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, E=1)

The 8th Hong Kong Interschool Western Painting Competition

(Held by the Chinese University of Hong Kong Art Faculty)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Award</u>
Khan Abu Shayan (4A3)	Champion – Senior Section
Eraes Darny Bautista (4A4)	Champion – Junior Section
Lomat II Salvador A (4A4)	2 nd Runners Up – Junior Section
Rana Nirbik (3A1)	Merit – Junior Section

Hong Kong Cricket Association

Skhawat Ali (3A1) obtained a Scholarship awarded by the Hong Kong Cricket Association

The Hong Kong Interschool Hockey League

(Held by the Hong Kong Chinese Hockey Association)

Our hockey teams participated in the league and obtained very good results:

- 1st Runner Up – Boys Junior Team
- 2nd Runner Up – Boys Senior Team



Applications for the “2002-03 S.1 Discretionary Places” are now open

In accordance with the Education Department’s regulations, our school will accept applications for Secondary One admission (2002-03 S.1 Discretionary Places) from 3 December 2001 to 22 February 2002. Applicants please note the following procedure:

- (1) obtain an application form from our General Office or through mail, fax and email;
- (2) return the duly completed application form to our General Office in person or through mail, fax or email;
- (3) each applicant should be accompanied by a parent and attend an interview (details about the appointment will be mailed to the applicants)



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