

親愛的家長和老師們：

從開始停課至今已有兩個多月了，勾起了17年前的回憶，還記得當年家長要回校取教材和功課呢，今天全用網上的學習了。

在開始停課的二月初，我們即時提供全校網上的學習資料，然後馬不停蹄地為九至12年級的學生編排網上上課時間表，讓他們可以按時上課，一星期後再開動其他班級網上的課室，只有一至三年級，因他們年紀還小，我們用錄影教學讓孩子們可以隨時收看，還有老師們的講故事和電話問好，我覺得最重要的是老師和同學間的聯繫和溝通，教授多少內容並不太重要，愉快的學習態度才是最重要的，這段日子老師們預備各種網上教材和錄影並主持網上課堂，也是一大挑戰呢！老師由戰戰兢兢到從容熟練，也是一大進步！

看到孩子們見到老師們的雀躍，還有線上課堂的新奇吸引，雖然未能真正的面對面，但所啟發的主動積極，還有自律自主，是這次網上學習的意外收穫，希望老師和孩子們都能獲得啟發，享受共渡的時光和辛勞的成果。

十幾年來，我每周都會在集會講話和講故事，大禮堂成了我的課室，故事是我和孩子間的默契，我決定也延續我的故事時間，每周在禮堂錄影故事，希望大小孩子們都愛聽，也有所反思。

樂器課也不想落於人後，樂器導師們也上網了，看到低年級也能應付，所以我們又再改時間表了，從四月起二、三年級也開始網上教室，一年級老師們覺得孩子們還小，家裏不一定有成人可以定時幫忙，所以一年級仍然用錄影教學，孩子們也很開心，特別班主任們都愛分小組和他們在網上見面聊天，就讓孩子們說說笑笑，過一個愉快的童年吧！

今年對我們10年級和12年級的孩子來說，確實是一個意想不到的際遇，因為IGCSE和IBDP都因疫情而取消了考試，他們或者會覺得沮喪、不幸和不公，甚至有其他負面的情緒，他們需要鼓勵和幫助，我想老師和家長們先要樂觀積極地面對，然後才能和他們攜手同行，學校一定會全力協助，不要憂慮，只要勇敢前行，加油！

因為學校的經費全靠學生的學費支持，因要保持優良師資和設施，學校每年的財政都非常緊絀，但在這艱難時刻，不想再引起一些衝擊，所以本來預備要因應需要而加的學費，也擱置下來了，好和大家共渡時艱，這一年老師的補薪和工資數字龐大，而且10年的校舍維修項目很多，針對防疫的設施等支出也不少，只有運用一些儲備和基金，渡過難關，迎向未來！

我們發出了老師和家長的問卷，多謝大家的回應，我們收集了你們寶貴的意見再作出調整，大家繼續保持溝通，以維繫校園的和諧合作氛圍。

祝願各位平安快樂，孩子們健康成長，疫情早日受控制！

總校長 劉筱玲博士

二零二零年三月三十一日

31st March 2020

Dear Parents and Teachers,

It has been more than two months since the suspension of classes in school. This reminded me of a time 17 years ago, when parents had to go back to school to retrieve learning materials and homework. In today's world, we are all able to engage in e-learning instead.

When the school was first suspended in the beginning of February, we provided online learning materials and resources at that time, and promptly arranged the online class timetable for students in Years 9 to 12, so they could attend classes according to a regular schedule. A week later, we started online classes for other year levels as well. However, as the Year 1 to 3 students are rather young, we utilised the idea of video recordings so they could watch and learn anytime. I believe that the most important consideration is the close communication and relationship between teachers and students, and the happy learning environment this creates, rather than the amount of content that is taught. Our primary teachers have maintained this connection through storytelling sessions and phone calls with our students. During such challenging times, our teachers managed to prepare various online teaching materials and engaging videos, while improving their professional skills in conducting online classes. From being rather unfamiliar to becoming more experienced practitioners in this new teaching mode, our teachers have certainly broadened their skills in managing the virtual classroom.

Although our students could not physically see their teachers in person; their eagerness to see their teachers, curiosity towards the novelty of online classes, active engagement and self-discipline are all unexpected results and benefits of this new approach to learning. I hope that both teachers and students are inspired by the possibilities of remote learning and fully enjoy these times together in collaborative work.

Throughout the years, I have spoken and told stories at our school assembly every week. The auditorium has become my classroom. Storytelling has created an unspoken bond between me and our students. I therefore decided to continue my storytime, and have recorded them in the auditorium every week. I do hope that all our students will enjoy listening, and will reflect upon the moral of each story told.

Instrument classes have also been included in the timetable and our instrument instructors likewise engage in online teaching. As the lower year levels could also manage online classes, we have now amended their timetable. From April onwards, Year 2 and Year 3 students will also enjoy online classes. However, our Year 1 teachers believe that their students are still too young, and there might not be adults at home to help frequently; therefore our Year 1 students will continue to use video teaching. Some class teachers love to chat and laugh with them online in small groups, and it is clear that the children are very happy!

This has been an unexpected year for our Year 10 and 12 students, to say the least. With both the IGCSE and IB DP exams having been cancelled due to the pandemic, they may feel disheartened and insecure about the future. They might experience various negative emotions, and will certainly need our encouragement and guidance. I strongly believe that teachers and parents must face this situation first in a positive manner, then they will rise to this challenge united with our students. With the full support of the school, we encourage everyone to cast aside any anxiety, while continuing to move forward confidently.

As the school's finances are fully funded by students' tuition fees, our annual budget for maintaining high quality teaching and campus facilities is constrained. But in these uncertain times, we wish to avoid causing any additional concerns. The original plan to increase tuition fees next year has therefore been postponed. This year has been an especially tough year financially, as teachers' salaries are a substantial expenditure, our 10-year old campus required numerous repairs, and the costs of investing in disease prevention facilities were considerable. Only a portion of our funds and reserves were used to overcome this obstacle.

Thank you for your feedback in the Survey on e-learning. The feedback from our community of teachers and parents is deeply valued and appreciated. We adapt certain aspects in response to your comments, and keep communicating to maintain an atmosphere of harmonious cooperation in the school.

I wish that you are all safe and happy, for our students to grow up healthily, and for the global pandemic to be under control as quickly as possible.

Warm regards

Dr LAU, Siu-Ling
Head Principal