



Academy Of Innovation (Confucius Hall) Newsletter I

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1. Principal's Sharing

27th November, 2023

Dear parents and students,

Hong Kong's declining birth rate and insufficient student numbers are undeniable. The government sees this as a structural issue that can't be quickly resolved. Amidst these turbulent conditions, several schools have already announced their closure. Despite this challenge, our school has managed student enrollment effectively over the past two years, prioritizing student's conduct in admission selection, a unique approach admired by other schools.

Since the border reopening, our school's exchange activities have increased. We visited Xiamen Foreign Language School Shishi Branch and Xiamen Experimental Middle School to establish sister school relationships. Upon request by the Xiamen municipal government, I gave a public lecture on Hong Kong's DSE application and examination methods, which was live-streamed and attended by hundreds. Following this, Mr. Chan Shu-chun and Mr. Lam Kwok-ming received numerous inquiries from parents about studying in Hong Kong. We're also exploring admission channels with Shantou University for our students.

From June 17-21, our school revisited Wenchuan Middle School in Chengdu, focusing on student interaction and teaching exchanges. After establishing a sister school relationship, I invited Principal Long Shao-ming of Wenchuan Middle School to our 70th anniversary celebration in December. During the visit, I was surprised at how quickly students became fast friends at their first meeting and found farewells difficult. We were deeply moved by a memorial service at Xuankou Middle School. Their solemn and serious expressions are still unforgettable, and I feel that even after fifteen years, the pain is still there.

In mid-August, our Shandong Study Tour was warmly received, with Mr. Chan Shu-chun giving a lecture on Confucianism. We were honored by the presence of high-level officials, including the Deputy Governor of Shandong Province. The experience was transformative for our students.

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From August 22-29, our staff and students visited Chengdu to study modern scientific and technological advancements and modernization, high-end technology, famous industrial organizations, and were astounded by the ancient Dujiangyan project from thousands of years ago.

On September 5, our school honored Mr. Hui Yeung-shing, the school's founder, by unveiling his bronze statue. Mr. Hui established Confucius Hall Secondary School in the 1950s with his own resources, despite societal poverty and lack of government support to private schools. Following many hardships and extensive fundraising efforts, the school was founded in 1953, but the current building was not finished until the early 1960s. The ceremony was moving, especially when Mr. Hui's grandson, Mr. Hui Yiu-kwan, delivered a touching speech that even brought him to tears.

Our Sports Day on September 29, featuring a 400-meter run, was a prelude to our 70th anniversary celebration. Almost all students and teachers participated, each receiving a commemorative gold medal. Students donned various costumes, adding to the festive atmosphere. Regrettably, the awards ceremony was relocated to school due to high temperatures. That evening, I attended the Harbour Chill event in Wanchai to watch a spectacular drone show co-organized by Confucius Hall. The night was accompanied by a symphony orchestra and decorative lights, creating a memorable experience.

On October 21, to commemorate our school's 70th anniversary, we co-hosted a "Confucianism Forum" with Qufu Kongzi College. I was joined by esteemed speakers including Dr. Ling You-shi from the National People's Congress; Mr. Kong Hai-qin, Dean of Fuzhou Wenru College; Dr. Au Wing-chiu, Deputy Dean of The New Asia Arts and Business College. We performed the "three offerings" tribute to the statue of Confucius and hosted approximately 200 guests, including Councillor Cheng Wing-shun, Councillor Leung Hei, descendants of Confucius, famous movie stars, etc. Future celebrations will involve directors, teachers, students, and staff representatives to participate in the 70th anniversary tree planting ceremony, keynote lectures from alumni and celebrities, dinners, fundraising, and facility improvements.

Also, our students performed excellently, winning the top two spots in a cross-country race on November 5, and securing second place in a city-wide non-Chinese debate competition.

From the launch of the current school year, our school has been actively building relationships with primary and secondary schools across various regions in mainland China, such as Beijing, Jinan, and Weihai. This initiative aims to enhance our connections with the mainland and broaden our students' understanding of it.

In celebration of our school's 70th anniversary and the first year under our new name—Academy of Innovation (Confucius Hall), we have planned a grand banquet at Maxim's Palace in Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan. We anticipate a significant turnout, with confirmations from Hong Kong celebrities, university professors, principals from various districts, and retired teachers. As a special incentive, students who have made significant contributions can attend for free, while others are offered a half-price rate of

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HK\$300. We encourage enthusiastic participation from all parents and students.

Finally, I'd like to point out that surveys from recent years consistently show that over 95% or more of our students have a strong affection for our school. This is a testament to our teachers' genuine care, and it's felt deeply by the students. We're committed to perpetuating the benevolent ethos of Confucius Hall.

2. The Analects

- A. What the gentleman seeks, he seeks within himself; what the small man seeks, he seeks in others.
- B. The gentleman is ashamed when the words he utters outstrip his deeds.
- C. Someone who is aware every day of what he lacks, and every month does not forget what he has developed, can be called 'a lover of learning.'
- D. What passes away is, perhaps, like this. Day and night is never lets up.
- E. Only after it turns winter are we aware of the survival of the Pine and Cypress.
- F. Is benevolence really far away? No sooner do I desire it than it is here.

3. Good News

3.1 28th Teacher Commendation Scheme

Congratulations to Mr Chan Chun Yiu who have been awarded the certificate of merit by the Committee on Respect Our Teachers Campaign under the 28th Teacher Commendation Scheme.

3.2 "A Great Eye-Opening View of the Greater Bay Area" in "A Great View of China from a Wanderer's Perspective, Volume 1".

Congratulations to the four students who have completed the filming of "Wandering the Land and Seeing God's Country, Part 1" - "Eyes Wide Open Bay Area" directed by Mr. Sin Kee Yin, the participants include: Chan Yu Fei (6B), Chan Chak Hei (5B), Ung Ho Shi (5B) and Tse Ka Wing (5B). They traveled around Macao and Hengqin in Zhuhai in three days, interviewing famous Hong Kong and Macao entrepreneurs, researchers and young writers.

Coordinator: Mr. Lo Yiu Fong, Ms. Mok Yuk Ling

3.3 Norton inter-school cross-country running competition

On 5th November morning, two teachers and six students from our school represented the school and went to Shing Mun Country Park to participate in the Norton inter-school cross-country running competition. With perseverance and hard work, they stood out among many teams and won the Champions and 1st runners-up prize, each participant will receive individual and group trophies, awarded by the Awarded, a cash coupon \$300 per person, sports sunglasses and other gifts.

1st runner up, Mr Sze Nin Fung, 4B LoLok Fung, Lau Bao Han, 5B Lou Jia Qi (Team B)

Champion, Mr Lam Kwok Ming , 5A Brishen, 2A Kumar, 6A Samee (Team A)

Coordinator: Mr. Lam Kwok Ming, Mr. Sze Nin Fung

3.4 **The 2nd Hong Kong Non-Chinese Speaking Debate Competition**

Our NCS Debate Team participated in the 2nd Hong Kong NCS Debate Competition organized by the University of Hong Kong and Link Center. After three rounds of competition, the team finally won the first runner-up, among which 5A Ahssan won the "Best Debater" in both competitions, and the list of the Debate Teams is as follows:

5A Ahssan, 5A Brishen, 5A Aaliyan, 5A Timothy, 5A Mannat, 5A Pawanpreet.

Coordinator: All Chinese Language Teachers

3.5 **The alternate Parent Manager election**

As the alternate Parent Manager of the school Incorporated Management Committee (IMC) has resigned on August 31, 2023. Our school would like to set 19th December, 2023 as the voting day for the alternate Parent Manager election. The Parent-Teacher Association will appoint Vice Principal Mok Yuk-ling as the Returning Officer for this alternate Parent Manager election. Parents are now notified that the alternate Parent Manager election process has been initiated. Parent notice will be issued to parents later. Parents are hereby encouraged to self-nominate or recommend to stand for election to the Incorporated Management Committee of Academy of Innovation (Confucius Hall). Parents can take the place of school manager and seek the welfare of the school and students.

4. School News

4.1 **School SMS**

To strengthen parent-school communication, the school will continue to send SMS messages to your mobile phones. We hope that parents can provide their mobile phone numbers for our future communication.

4.2 **Tuition Fees for S1 to S6 Students**

- HK\$5,370 annually in ten installments (HK\$537 monthly) for S.1 students
- HK\$5,370 annually in ten installments (HK\$537 monthly) for S.2 students
- HK\$5,370 annually in ten installments (HK\$537 monthly) for S.3 students
- HK\$5,370 annually in ten installments (HK\$537 monthly) for S.4 students
- HK\$5,370 annually in ten installments (HK\$537 monthly) for S.5 students
- HK\$5,370 annually in ten installments (HK\$537 monthly) for S.6 students
- The adjustments of tuition fees are subject to students' admission to our school for the year.
- The tuition fees from October 2023 to June 2024 should be settled via direct debit from banks. The transaction is scheduled for the first working day of each month. The Direct Debit Authorization Form should be completed and returned to the Class Teacher for handling.

4.3 **Tuition Fee Grant**

In order to help students with financial burdens focus on their studies and join different activities, the school has established the Tuition Fee Grant to help students in need. This grant is open to application all year round. Students may obtain the application form at the General Office.

4.4 **Collection of Students' Information for Participation in Activities or Competitions**

The personal data collected or filled in by the school for students' application to participate in activities or competitions will only be used for the purpose of applying for the relevant activities or competitions, while the school will receive relevant supporting documents for verification purposes if necessary.

4.5 **Use of Students' and Parents' Works, Photos and Videos**

Schools or partner organizations may take photographs or videos in the course of organizing activities and learning processes. This will enable parents or the public to know more about the school through the school website, school publications, exhibitions or information from the partner organizations and encourage students to actively participate in the activities and learning process. If parents do not agree, they can write to the principal before 31st December to follow up.

4.6 **Policies for Handling of Students' Cell Phones 2023-24**

- Students are not allowed to bring cell phones to school
- Upon entering the school, all cell phones must be handed in to be kept by the school and returned by class teachers after school.
- Teachers should follow the procedure below in case students are found to have displayed, switched on, or used a cell phone on campus:
 1. The cell phone concerned will be confiscated and passed to the corresponding class teacher
 2. Students found displaying or using cell phones on campus, or that their cell phones ring during class or exams will be penalized according to the school rules
 3. Cell phones temporarily kept by the class teacher will only be returned upon receiving a guarantee letter from parents; however, parents may come to school in person to retrieve the students' cell phones from the class teacher.

Remarks:

As for the cell phones temporarily kept by the class teachers, in case of theft, natural or man-made disasters, etc. The school does not take any responsibilities or is not held liable for compensation.

4.6 **PE Uniform Rules in School**

Students are prohibited from wearing PE uniforms on days without PE lessons. Students violating the rule may be demanded to return home to get changed before they are allowed to enter the school.

4.7 **Lunch arrangements**

To keep junior form students safe from bad social influences, S.1 – S.3 students must stay at school for lunch. Parents please notice the following items:

- 1) Parents can let students bring their lunch to school using a thermos, or use heat-resistant glass lunch boxes to store food in the refrigerator and let school staff use the steamer to reheat it.
- 2) Parents can bring the lunch to school. Our staff will distribute the lunch boxes to the corresponding students.

Time for lunch collection: 12:15 p.m. – 12:35 p.m.

(Please state clearly the student's name and class.)

4.8 **Arrangements for school social workers in schools**

Two social workers from the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services are stationed at the school to provide appropriate counselling to students.

Social workers	Service date and time	Contact Number
Ms. TAM On Wing	Every Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	2895 2023
Ms. CHOI Ka Ip	Every Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri	2895 1969

4.9 **Lockers**

We provide a locker for each student in the hope to cultivate their self-care ability and to reduce janitors' workload on afterschool cleaning routine. Students should keep their locker keys in a safe place. Parents are advised to keep one or two sets of the locker keys in case of loss. The Department of Students Affairs Management will no longer store a set of spare keys for students. Students will lose their right to use the lockers if they lose their keys, damage the lockers or violate the user guidelines.

4.10 **Health Education Information**

Arrangements of 2023-2024 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine by Department of Health

Department of Health will arrange for students to receive the quadrivalent inactivated seasonal influenza vaccine at 10:00 a.m. on 4th December, 2023. The list of participants will be posted on the classroom poster later for reference. Students are required to wear sports attire and bring their ID cards and needle cards (if applicable) on the day of the screening to facilitate verification of identity by medical staff.

4.11 **The Prevention of the Outbreak of Infectious Diseases**

Due to the increasing numbers of the outbreak of infectious diseases like coronavirus, influenza, dengue fever, scarlet fever, hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD), chickenpox, enterovirus, etc., parents are recommended to closely communicate and co-operate with the school to remind students to observe their personal hygiene and keep the school campus clean in avoidance of the outbreak of the aforementioned infectious diseases.

4.12 **Joyful Fruit Day 2024**

The School has joined the “*Joyful Fruit Day 2024*” organized by the Department of Health (DH) and other organizations (go to <http://school.eatsmart.gov.hk> for details). The activity aims at enhancing school-parent collaboration and fostering a fruit-eating atmosphere on campus and at home. Parents should introduce their child to balanced diets with a daily consumption of at least two portions of fruits and three portions of vegetables, coupled with regular exercise to maintain good health. Besides, our Health Education Team has successfully applied for a subsidy of HK\$2,000 from the Hong Kong College of Cardiology, which will be used to hold a series of health education event between December and April. Further details will be announced at the morning assemblies. Students are encourage to actively participate in these events.

4.13 **70th Anniversary Dinner with school name change**

A 50-seat banquet will be held at Maxim's Palace Restaurant, Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan on 16th December, 2023 (Saturday) for teachers, students, alumni, alumnae and friends to gather together to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of our school. Parents and their children are welcome to attend the dinner at a price of HK\$600 per person, or \$300 for students of the school, and if you need to purchase a dinner ticket, please contact the staff of the School Affairs Office before 8th December, 2013 for details.

4.14 **Inter-House Singing Contest & Christmas Party**

The Inter-House Singing Contest & Christmas Party is scheduled for 21st December (Wed) with details below:

Time	Programme Rundown
10:00	Rolling
10:15 – 11:30	Inter-House Singing Contest
11:30 – 13:00	Class Reunion

4.15 **60th Graduation Ceremony and Awards Presentation Day**

The 60th Graduation Ceremony and Awards Presentation Day is scheduled for 16th December 2023(Sat) at the school hall. I now cordially invite parents to attend the ceremony and to share the joy of your children. Please see below for the programme rundown:

Time	Programme Rundown
2:30 pm	Reception at Room 204
2:45 pm	Entering into school Hall 進入禮堂
3:00 pm	Welcoming Guest of Honor and Other Guests (Hall) 主禮人及嘉賓進場(禮堂)
3:00 – 3:05 pm	Playing of National Anthem 奏國歌
3:05 – 3:15 pm	Welcoming Speech from Supervisor 校監致歡迎辭
3:15 – 3:30 pm	School Affairs Report by Principal 校長報告校務
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Awards Presentation from Honorable Guest 嘉賓頒發獎項
4:00 – 4:15 pm	Speech from Honorable Guest 主禮嘉賓致辭
4:15 – 4:20 pm	Speech from Student Representative 學生代表致辭
4:20 – 4:25 pm	Presenting Souvenirs from Principal to Honorable Guests and Performing Guests 校長向主禮嘉賓、表演嘉賓致送紀念品
4:25 – 4:35 pm	Student Performance 學生表演
4:35 – 4:40 pm	Singing School Song 唱孔聖頌
4:40 – 4:45 pm	Recession 主禮人及嘉賓離場
4:45 – 5:00 pm	Tea Party

4.16 **Chinese Cultural Week**

To enhance students' awareness and interest in Chinese culture, the Chinese Department will hold a Chinese Culture Week from 31 January to 6 February, details are as follows,

Date	Time	Content	Venue	Remark
15 Jan	7 th to 10 th Lesson	Chinese opera education workshop	Ko Shan Theatre	For F1 to F5
29 Jan	5 th to 6 th Lesson	Shaolin Kung Fu Experience	Hall	All students
30 Jan	5 th to 6 th Lesson	Chinese opera	Hall	All students
31 Jan	Lunch period	International Food Carnival & Booth Games	Courtyard (tuck shop)	All students and teachers are welcome

1 to 2 Feb	Whole Day	Book Fair	TBD	All students
2 Feb	Chinese lessons	Chinese Cultural Knowledge Competition	Classroom	All students

5. School Events

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|------|---|---|
| 5.1 | 11 th November to 1 st December | First Term Exam Week (F.1-F.5) /
Pre-mock Exam (F.6) |
| 5.2 | 4 th December | Winter Uniform Required |
| 5.3 | 16 th December | Speech Day and 70 Anniversary |
| 5.4 | 20 th December | Inter-house Singing Contest & Christmas Party |
| 5.5 | 3 rd -11 th January | First Term Re-Examination |
| 5.6 | 11 th January | Elective Subjects Selection Briefing Session |
| 5.7 | 12 th January | School Picnic |
| 5.8 | 20 th January | 1 st Parents' Day |
| 5.9 | 29 th January to 2 nd February | Chinese Culture Week |
| 5.10 | 19 th February to 29 th March | S.6 Mock Examination |
| 5.11 | 4 th March | Summer Uniform Allowed |
| 5.12 | 12 th -15 th February | Second Term Uniform Test |
| 5.13 | 18 th -22 nd February | English and multi-cultural Week |
| 5.14 | 21 st April | 2 nd Parents' Day |
| 5.15 | 6 th May | Summer Uniform Required |
| 5.16 | 20 th -24 th May | STEAM Week |

6. School Holidays

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| 6.1 | 29 th November | 1 st Teacher Development Day |
| 6.2 | 11 th December | The day after District Council Ordinary Election |
| 6.3 | 21 st December to 1 st January | Christmas and New Year Holidays |
| 6.4 | 1 st January | The first day of January |
| 6.5 | 5 th -17 th February | Chinese New Year Holiday |
| 6.6 | 11 th March | 2 nd Teacher Development Day |
| 6.7 | 25 th March to 6 th April | Ching Ming Festival and Easter Holiday |
| 6.8 | 22 nd April | The day following 2 nd Parents' Day |
| 6.9 | 1 st May | Labour Day |
| 6.10 | 9 th May | The Birthday of Mencius |
| 6.11 | 15 th May | The Birthday of Buddha |

Regards

Dr. Yeung Wing Hon

Principal

Academy Of Innovation (Confucius Hall)

-----**Reply Slip**-----

Date: 27th November, 2023

To: Academy Of Innovation (Confucius Hall)

I have read and understood the content of Newsletter I (2023-2024). I *agree / disagree** to provide my contact information.

(Please tick the as appropriate)

Provide mobile phone number for contact and receiving school information by SMSs	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree Mobile Phone Number: _____ Name of the Contact Person: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree

Photographs of my child in school activities or public competitions are uploaded on the school website or published in the media.	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree
	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree

Name of student: _____

Class: _____ ()

Signature of parent/guardian: _____

**Please delete as appropriate*