



Writing Scripters

(15th anniversary edition)

The English Department, Tin Ka Ping Secondary School
website: <http://web.tkpss.edu.hk>
e-mail: writing_scripters@yahoo.com.hk

April 2010
Issue 11

Aim for the Stars and Shine - from CMI to EMI

4D Nathalie Leung Yan-chi, 4E Ruth Lai Lok-yan
and 1D Harry Wong Chin-lok



Dr Yuen said the successful transformation of the medium of instruction marks a milestone to the school's development.

Dr Yuen said that the successful transformation of the medium of instruction is a milestone of the school's development.

"I'm especially delighted to celebrate our school's 15th anniversary because the school embarks on a significant transformation to an EMI (English as the medium of instruction) school in this very remarkable year," said Dr Yuen Pong-yiu, our school principal.

Starting from the coming academic year, TKPSS will switch the medium of instruction from Chinese to English, which the school has pursued for a long time. This implies a new era of TKPSS. "I think such transformation is a milestone of our school's development," said Dr Yuen, "It is regarded as the school's greatest achievement in the past 15 years."

In 1998, the Education and Manpower Bureau issued a medium of instruction policy (MOI policy) which classified secondary schools into either an EMI or a CMI (Chinese as the medium of instruction) school. At that time, TKPSS was a CMI school.

Since then, TKPSS has strived to become an EMI school. “As our students are academically capable, they should be given more opportunities to study in English so that they can be better prepared for as well as more adapted to higher education and future career,” Dr Yuen said. In July 2009, TKPSS was approved to undergo a change in the medium of instruction to English under the MOI fine-tuning policy issued by the Education Bureau.

Dr Yuen also mentioned that the school has done a lot of work to create an English-rich learning environment over the years. It includes reforming the English curriculum, enhancing teaching and learning in English, and organising more English activities. “I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to all staff, students, together with parents, for

making this transformation successful,” said Dr Yuen.

Despite the major achievement, Dr Yuen has set another goal for the school. He stated that, in most traditional reputable schools, English is used extensively by students and teachers in daily activities. Aiming to transform TKPSS to such EMI schools, Dr Yuen is going to make various changes to strengthen the English culture at school, and to drive students’ motivation in English usage. “We hope that one day our students will speak English even when they make enquiries in the school office, or even when they are buying sandwiches or drinks in the tuck shop,” he said.

While we are celebrating our 15th anniversary, such target echoes the school theme this year — Aim for the Stars and Shine. “The theme aims to encourage students and teachers to have their own dreams and to pursue them,” Dr Yuen said. “Each of you is so special that you all have your unique talent. By having your own dreams, you would have enormous energy and driving force to excel. Build a dream today and the dream will build you.”



Celebrate for the Start of a New Era

4D Yuki Choi Nga-yu, 4D Ng Wing,
1D Fehgie Chan Tsz-ki and 1D Andrea Ke Chun-ngai

“Carrying forward yesterday’s strength in many 15 years ahead” – this echoes what our school has achieved in the past 15 years and the celebration of our school’s 15th anniversary embarks on a new era as well.

This year’s 15th anniversary celebration is especially significant to our school. With teachers and students’ strenuous effort to overcome numerous hurdles and create an English-rich learning environment over the past 15 years, TKPSS will switch the medium of instruction from Chinese to English starting from the coming academic year. This also signifies our school’s brilliant accomplishment over the past 15 years.

“There are a series of activities to celebrate the milestone of our school’s development. One of the highlights will be the Variety Performance,” said Mr Ip Sum-ming, our vice-principal, who is in charge of planning the celebration. The Variety Performance, which involves over 200 students in several performances on stage such as martial arts, instrumental ensemble and dance performance, will be held in Academic Community Hall, Hong Kong Baptist University, on April 29.

The English musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, which is about the biblical story of Joseph, who perseveres through wit and faith though encountering adversities, will be a highlight in the Variety Performance. The musical performance, in which over 200 students are involved in the casting and production, will be an enlightening and empowering experience for the students.

In the past 15 years, there were two other significant celebrations in our school, one of which was the grand opening in February, 1995. The other one was the 10th anniversary in 2004. Some activities were held successfully in the past few months like Academic Seminar and Writing Contest. Other upcoming events like Basketball and Volleyball Tournament will be held as well. Mr Ip hoped that all TKPSS students and staff will enjoy all activities in the 15th anniversary celebration.



The musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* is the highlight in the Variety Performance.



Charity Walk 2060 was held in December to raise fund for the school.



Mr Ip Sum-ming (middle) hoped students will enjoy all activities in the 15th anniversary celebration.



A Devotee to Education

6S Irene Lee Win-yan and 6S Rita Wong Chui-yan

Like his father Dr Tin Ka-ping, the founder of TKPSS, Mr Tin Wing-sin, our school's supervisor is a dedicated devotee to education.

Mr Tin, who has been the supervisor of our school since 1994, said that managing and administering a school can never be an easy task. "We are fostering intellectual and personal development of children instead of developing commercial products. In a business world, products are classified into different types under different standards," explained Mr Tin, "However, education is a completely different picture. We, as educators, spare no efforts in providing integrated, well-balanced and all-rounded education to students so that they do not only excel academically but also learn to behave as citizens responsibly. What is really crucial to our school is that students can cultivate their individual characters and personal strengths

so that they can become leaders of tomorrow under our quality education."

Mr Tin displays his earnest gratitude to all teachers in TKPSS, who have never hesitated to devote their time and effort to teaching students in the previous 15 years. "There are tough times when the teachers feel frustrated and exhausted. There are also rough times when they are depressed and desperate. Yet, they persist and persevere. They have never given up any student. I'm so thankful and grateful to their unconditional love," he said.

In the previous 15 years, the most unforgettable moment for Mr Tin is the stay-or-leave result release day of Form Three students. Before the introduction of New Senior Secondary Curriculum, there were insufficient Form One places in North District to accommodate students. Our school was



Mr Tin puts a lot of emphasis on the value of Chinese culture as it makes our school unique and distinctive. He fully supports the Chinese Culture Award Scheme, which was brought by his father, Dr Tin Ka-ping.

instructed to open ten Form One classes in the first year although we realised three classes might finally be sorted out when they got to Form Four. However persistent and tenacious our school had been to appeal for the extension of Form Four classes, still our voice could not reach the Education Bureau.

“On that day, the whole campus was filled with tears and so were my eyes. You could hear students crying from every corner in our school. I was absolutely unwilling to see that some of our Form Three students were forced to leave because of insufficient places in Form Four. The scene was so vivid that I can never forget,” recalled Mr Tin.

When looking back how far our school has come, Mr Tin said our school has headed in the right direction. What he cherishes the most is the relationship with staff and students. The bond between us is so powerful that our school is like a big warm family.

He also encouraged students to pursue their dreams. “I believe everyone is precious and valuable, and does have his or her unique characteristics. I hope students can see the value in themselves and respect others. If you believe in



Mr Tin (dressed in white) ran in the 3000-metre race in our school's sports day.



Mr Tin (left) presented prizes to the winners of the annual distance running competition.

yourself, your goals are within your reach, then you can strive for the stars and shine,” he said.

When asked about the 15th anniversary of our school, he couldn't conceal his excitement and happiness. “Let's celebrate the momentous event and savor the joyful experience.”





Pave the way to your career in school days

4A Miki Man Mei-ki, 3D Christy Wong Ching-wun,
1D Gloria Siu Chui-ping and 1E Niki Hui Nga-ting

“Aim for the Stars and Shine” – the school theme this year encourages students and teachers to have their own dreams and pursue them. The story of our school alumna Joanne Mok Pui-ki, who is the Chairlady of the Alumni Association and plays an active role in TKPSS activities, is undoubtedly an inspiring one which encourages students to strive for excellence and achieve the unfulfilled potential which are very much consistent with our school theme.

Joanne pursued her accountancy degree after graduating from TKPSS. By the time she finished her studies at university, she had received an invitation for a one-year internship programme in Disney World Florida, USA. She was excited and enthusiastic about it, so she applied for it and finally won this precious offer.

“The thing that I enjoyed most was the customers whom I constantly met in the course of my work,” said Joanne, who provided various kinds of services for customers during her internship. She cultivated a deep passion for her job and loved it profoundly. The carnival atmosphere there, the smiling faces and delighted laughter were what she valued most. “The internship allowed me to face and

1. Joanne (middle) gave a present to the school on behalf of all students on our School Dedication Day.
2. Joanne (back, left) enjoyed her school days with other schoolmates and teachers.
3. As the chairperson of CYC, Joanne (front, right) organised a visit to the elderly home.
4. Joanne (middle, dressed in dark blue) took part in various co-curricular activities such as a cheering team member in Trail Walker in her secondary school days.



communicate with many people in Disney World every day, which I find most enjoyable. The experience also matched my personal goal and the company's slogan – creates magic for everyone,” she said.

Because of her profound love for her internship experience, she was resolutely determined to give up a career in the accounting industry and applied for a position in Hong Kong Disneyland after finishing her one-year internship in the USA. Now she is the Guest Service Manager of the company.

Joanne, who graduated from TKPSS in 2000, said she developed her passion for a serving profession in her secondary school days, thanks to the close teacher-student relationship and the love she found from her teachers who devoted themselves to nurturing the upcoming generations in TKPSS. These are also the core values of our school which



inspired her to participate in school services like Shining Heart and social service activities like Community Youth Club (CYC). The communication and interaction skills she learned from these co-curricular activities were crucial in building a good foundation in her job.

She encouraged students in TKPSS to open their eyes and take more initiative in participating in co-curricular activities. “Find your own goal and interests in your school life. Some people do not have a clear goal. Although they can achieve them eventually, they have to spend more time searching for their own targets and dreams,” she said, “Participating in co-curricular activities is very important for you to find your targets and dreams. For example, one of my classmates joined Shining Heart. She then developed her interest in the caring profession and now she is a social worker.” What she said echoes our school theme – Aim for the Stars and Shine.

CAN YOU RECOGNISE THEM?



Publisher

Advisors

Editor and Designer

Copy Editor

Reporters

The English Department, Tin Ka Ping Secondary School

Ms Lau Wai-man, Ms Chan Wing-shan, Ms Cheung Wing-ye

Ms Grace Yiu Ka-yan (from School of Journalism and Communication, Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Mr Joseph Wariner

Members of Writing Scripters

Writing Scripters is the English bulletin for all the members of Tin Ka Ping Secondary School.

Writing Scripters is available online at <http://web.tkpss.edu.hk/>

Contact email: writing_scripters@yahoo.com.hk