



Li Cheng Uk Government Primary School

**Newsletter
2023-2024
1st Issue**

Lcu Newsflash



*"Learn everything you can, anytime you can,
from anyone you can - there will always come
a time when you will be grateful you did."*

~Sarah Caldwell

Upcoming Activities (Tentative)



February	Games Day
April	P.6 SSPA Talk Parents' Day Sports Day
May	Gala Performance
June	Graduation Day
July	Prize-giving Day



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(Tentative)

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Message from the Headmistress

Dear Parents and Students,

I extend a warm welcome back to the year since normal school life resumed after what has been a challenging time for all of us. It is truly heartwarming to see our school filled with energy and enthusiasm once again.

This year, the school has an exciting lineup of activities planned, and I encourage each and every one of you to actively participate and make the most of these opportunities. One of the highlights of the upcoming events is the Gala Performance, where our students will showcase their talents and creativity. From singing and dancing to acting and many performances, our students will take the stage and bring their dreams to life.

In the spirit of fostering connections and embracing diversity, this year we are thrilled to introduce more activities with our sister school – Shenzhen Nanshan Foreign Language School – Keyuan Primary School. With an exchange programme with our sister school on 18 January 2024, students of both school get to visit Tai Kwan – a legacy architecture of Hong Kong, followed with a series of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) experiences, to share thoughts and exchange values in this meaningful event, providing our students with a chance to connect with students from other parts of the country and cultivating rapport that transcend borders and cultures. The Sister School Programme aims to create a sense of unity and understanding among different cultures and backgrounds. Through these interactions, our students will have the opportunity to broaden their horizons, learn from one another, and build up lifelong friendships.

In a world that sometimes feels vast and divided, it is crucial to remember that we are all interconnected. Every individual, regardless of their background or aspirations, contributes to the rich tapestry of our school community, for we all come together as one.

As we embark on this new school year, let us embrace the spirit of unity and cooperation; celebrate our differences and find strength in our shared goals. Together, we can create a nurturing environment where every student feels valued and supported in pursuing their dreams.

So, let us all treasure this opportunity to make lasting memories, to learn from one another, and to dream big. The connections we establish, the experiences we encounter and the dreams we chase are what truly make our journey meaningful.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to our supportive parents, dedicated teachers, and enthusiastic students for your commitment and passion that create remarkable memories day after day. Together, let us make this year a wonderful one, filled with laughter, growth, and unforgettable experiences.

Warmest regards,


CHUI Sau-man
Headmistress



Prize-giving Day 2022-2023

Prize-giving Day (2022-2023) was held on July 11 to celebrate students' efforts and encourage them to get greater achievements.

There was a simple yet grand ceremony in the morning to celebrate the parents' support and students' hard work. The head of the school, Ms. Chui, gave a motivational speech to launch the ceremony and gave students advice on how to pursue excellence in LCU. She noted the keys to success are self-discipline, resilience, strong resolve and diligence. The guests of honour at the event were PTA committee members.



Everest (P.6A)

Prize-giving Day is a cherished and important occasion in the school year, celebrating academic excellence and personal growth. On that day, I was grateful to be able to express my appreciation and gratitude to my teachers, family, and schoolmates, who have encouraged and supported me to achieve my goals.



Sze Chit (P.3B)

Prize-giving Day was an incredibly important day for many reasons. I like giving performance and receiving awards. I got a lot of certificates and perform verse speaking on that day. Being awarded in the ceremony is not just winning, but also a sign of joyful ending to the academic year.

Salif (P.5A)

Prize-giving Day was very important to me. On that day, I was presented with the "Best Academic Performance of the Class Award". I worked very hard every day. My mom helped me a lot. She was very glad that I got the award. She even went up to the stage to receive the award with me. I promised her to continue to study hard. I want to receive prizes again this year.



2022-2023 Graduation Day



Dr Rizwan Ullah and Ms Chick Fung Yee as our honourable guests.



Demonstrating artistic talent of Sand Art.



Paying tribute to the teachers with wonderful singing - "You Are the Reason".



Fantastic performance of Martial Arts Group and Rope Skipping Group.



Li Cheng Uk Government Primary School
Graduation Ceremony



Graduates shared the joyfulness with one another on this "Big Day".

The momentous Graduation Day took place in our school hall on 27 June 2023. It was a day filled with pride, joy and the celebration of countless achievements of our graduates.

The event was graced by the presence of our guest of honour, Dr. Rizwan Ullah, distinguished alumnus and Vice Principal of Law Ting Pong Secondary School, who delivered an inspiring speech and presented certificates to our P.6 graduates. Dr. Rizwan encouraged our graduates to embrace the challenges that lie ahead and reminded them of the limitless possibilities that await them in the days ahead.

After the presentation of graduation certificates by Dr. Rizwan and various awards by Ms Chick Fung Yee (Senior School Development Officer) and our PTA parent members, our P.6 graduates showcased their talents with performances of sand art, martial art and rope skipping. The ceremony climaxed with the graduates paying tribute to the teachers by singing - "You Are the Reason".



Congratulations to all the graduates!



Introduction of New Teachers

Ms. Cheung-sin

Hello, everyone! I am Ms Cheung. It is an honour to be a member of the LCU family this year. I used to teach language subjects in another government primary school. I like travelling, hiking and listening to music. Travelling can broaden your horizons and allow you to know the people and customs of different regions. When you travel, you will be more grateful and have more courage to overcome the difficulties encountered in life, thus loving life even more.



Ms. LI Kok-fong

Hello, everyone. I am Ms. Li. I am glad to join the LCU family this year. It is very interesting to meet students with so many different nationalities here.

I teach Chinese, Putonghua and Visual Arts. I have different kinds of hobbies. Firstly, I like cycling because I can see the beautiful scenery while cycling. I also like travelling to different countries as I can learn a lot of new things and explore different cultures, languages, food, art and architectures. I hope we can share our cultures with each other in the school.



Mr. LI Yiu-sum

Hi, I am Mr Li. For the past two years, I have been working in this school. The campus, the colleagues, the students and the school facilities are not new to me. I am inspired by the teachers' endeavour to teach the diverse students. Teachers will try their very best to accomplish their mission. In my spare time, I like mountain hiking and yachting. I would like to share with you the joy of engaging in these joyful and healthy activities.



Mr. CHEUNG Sai-kit

Hello everyone! I am Mr. Cheung. I am glad to join the LCU family this year. I like to play all kinds of sports in my spare time, especially hiking and cycling.

I highly encourage everyone to do more physical exercise. Exercise not only makes us stronger and healthier, but also helps us to be more persistent. When I go hiking and persevere until the end, I can finally reach the destination and enjoy the beautiful landscape. I'm looking forward to getting to know all of you.



P.1 Orientation Day and Transition Programme

The purpose of the P.1 Orientation Day and Transition Programme are to help ease the transition of students from kindergarten to primary school. It is a structured programme designed to prepare students for the changes and challenges they may encounter as they move to a new school environment.



Building a Better LEU

NEW MURALS

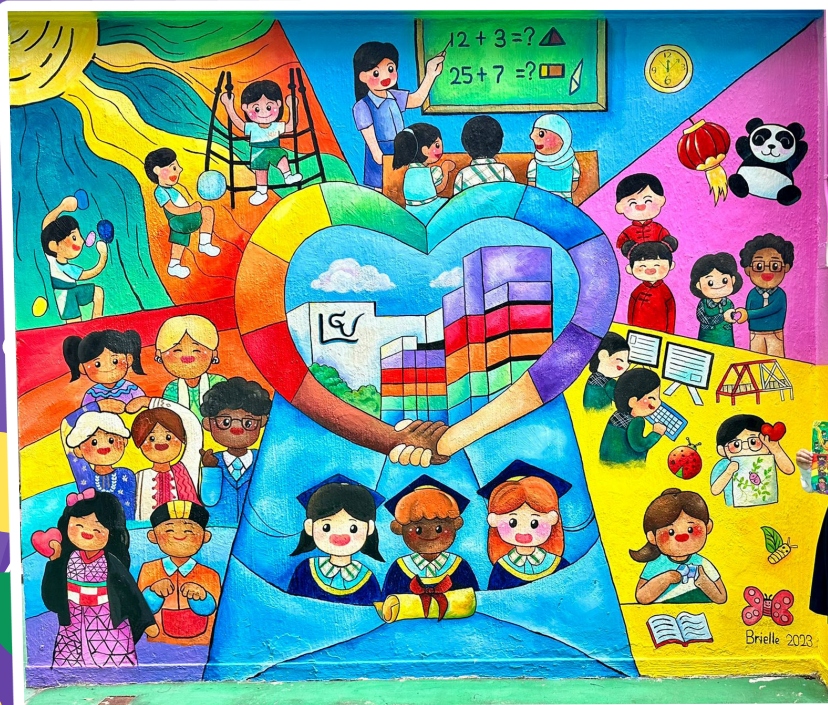
2nd Floor



3rd Floor



BACKYARD



OUR NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM

Summer School Uniform



We will all
be in our new
uniforms by the
year 2026!



Winter School Uniform



Look! Our ties
are not the
same!



P.4-6



P.1-3

P.E. Uniform



School Jacket



Fleece jacket and vest



Two-in-one jacket

LCU Sports Teams



Our School Sports Teams are participating in the Inter-Schools Sports Competitions from November 2023 to April 2024. All our athletes have been working hard during training to achieve the best results in the competitions.

Athletic Team

We participated in the Kowloon West Inter-Primary School Athletics Meet on 7 December 2023. We developed confidence to face challenges when participating in competitions. We also demonstrated sportsmanship and the application of team spirit in our daily lives.



Futsal Team

We participated in the Kowloon West Inter-Primary School Futsal Competition in November 2023. This was the first time for us to join the Futsal Competition. It was a great experience and we strived for improvement in every match. We enjoyed practicing with teammates and building lasting friendships.



Basketball Team

We are LCU basketball team! We learnt how to communicate with teammates and respect others. Everyone in the team is very important and the cooperative effort of team members is essential to succeed.



Volleyball Team

As the only girls' team in LCU, we would like to show others that girls can also play sports. We enjoy practicing volleyball and treasure the time we practice. We have a common goal to try our best in the upcoming competition in April 2024.



Junior Cricket Team

Hello! We are Junior Cricket Team members. Although this is the first year our school had a Junior Cricket Team, we aspire to join the Senior Cricket Team in the coming year. We are ready!



Senior Cricket Team

Cricket is not a common sport in Hong Kong. We are glad that we are able to share our love of cricket and be part of the LCU Team.



National Education

The school organizes various national education activities to deepen students' understanding of the country, the Constitution and the Basic Law. Students appreciate their national identity through the weekly flag-raising ceremony and learn about the country's history and development through the school-based curriculum, speeches under the flag and board displays. Students also cultivate self-discipline and perseverance in the flag-raising team's foot drill training. The school nominates students to participate in the Constitution and Basic Law Student Ambassador Programme to enhance students' leadership skills. Students also participate in colouring competitions, territory-wide inter-school National Security Knowledge Challenge and cartoon design competitions about the Constitution and Basic Law to broaden students' horizons.

Flag-raising and Foot Drill Training



Students learn the important values of respect, self-discipline and national identity by preparing for the flag-raising ceremony.



Constitution and Basic Law Student Ambassador Scheme



National Day Celebrations



Happy P.1 and P.2 students are showing off their paper dragons.

Students proudly show off their various ethnic costumes.

Territory-wide Inter-school National Security Knowledge Challenge

Completing the National Security Knowledge Challenge allows students to demonstrate their hard work and perseverance.



VALUES Education

Comprehensive and proper sexuality education helps young learners develop positive values, knowledge and skills to make respectful and healthy choices about relationships and sex.

We are implementing a series of sex education programmes from P.1 to P.6 students in Values Education Lessons this year. Our main focus is on developing proper attitudes towards sex and providing information and instructions on ways for protecting oneself from sexual abuse. To make these learning programmes an interesting learning experience for students, we make use of a variety of multimedia equipments, animations and games, so as to provide students with a process of self-actualization and individual's mental, physical, social, emotional and spiritual growth.



We deliver sexual abuse preventive messages to P.1 - P.3 students through puppet shows and interactive games.



We also provide sex education programmes to P.4 - P.6 students to raise their awareness on the need for protecting one's own body and respecting that of others.



Values Education is an essential element of whole-person education which aims to foster students' positive values and attitudes through the learning and teaching of various Key Learning Areas/Subjects, the provision of relevant learning experiences and our school-based Values Education (VE).

We promote Values Education by nurturing our students in the twelve priority values and attitudes: "Perseverance", "Respect for Others", "Responsibility", "National Identity", "Commitment", "Integrity", "Care for Others", "Law-abidingness", "Empathy" and "Diligence", "Empathy" and "Self-discipline".



We aim to develop students' ability to identify these values, analyze different issues objectively and make reasonable judgements when they encounter them at different developmental stages. This will help them take proper action when facing challenges in their future life.



Taking cultivation of positive values and attitudes as the direction, we make use of everyday life events to strengthen the coordination of learning activities.



School-based learning and teaching materials and activities are developed to foster students' whole-person development.

PTA AGM



2023-2024 PTA Committee Members.

The PTA Annual General Meeting 2023-2024 was held on 28 October 2023. The AGM commenced with the Headmistress' welcoming speech. After that, Ms Ireen, our PTA Chairperson, delivered the annual report on the PTA's activities in 2022-2023. This was followed by Ms Yau, our Treasurer, presenting the Annual Financial Report. After the presentation of the six candidates' election statements, our PTA members cast their votes. Witnessed by our parent members, the votes were carefully counted. Two SMC Parent Managers and four PTA Committee Members were elected. Afterwards, packed refreshments were distributed to our parents to mark the end of the pleasant occasion.



SMC Parent Managers (2023-2025)

Dr Sheheryar Khan

Mrs Ghale, Mina Kumari



Parents cast their votes for their desired candidates.



PTA Executive Committee (2023-24)

Post	Parent Committee	Teacher Committee
Advisor	-	Ms Chui Sau Man
Chairperson	Ms Rose Complido Rasco	-
Vice-chairperson	Ms Subba Sucheetra	Ms Lee Kwong Yung
Secretary	Ms Yolanda Marquez	Ms Devneer
Treasurer	Ms Rani Rama	Ms Yau Shuk Ling
Welfare and Activities Coordinators	Ms Mina Sohana Akter Ms Shah Bindi Atit	Ms Wong Yuen Kwan Ms Sung Yi Tim, Angela
Liaison Officer	Ms Sajila Gulfareed	Ms Hung Yin Yee Ms Chan Ka Yi



Certificates of Appreciation presented to PTA Committee Members 2022-2023.



Unlocking the ballot box for SMC Parent Managers.



Witnessed by parents, the votes were carefully counted.

Messages from Graduates

Hello everyone! My name is Chan Chak Wing and I am studying in Tsang Shiu Tim Secondary School now.

I am very excited about my secondary school because it has lots of new subjects which are very different from the ones we have in primary school, for example, Home Economics, Science and Chinese History. There are also some other differences, like going outside the school to have lunch and having club rooms to play games or make movies. Fortunately, I don't feel like there's as much homework as what other people say. Although secondary school life is interesting, I miss my primary school life very much.



Chan Chak Wing

Hello! I am Niyara, I am currently studying in Po Leung Kuk Ngan Po Ling College. My first day here was quite enjoyable although I was a bit nervous. It took me a day or two to get along with my new classmates.

The school campus here is larger than that of LCUGPS. I even had a hard time figuring out where the room was for my French lesson. Secondary school life is more stressful than the Primary One. One thing I've learnt here is time management, which is very important. You may have to limit your free time as well.



Limbu Niyara

My new life may sound hard and stressful but in the blink of an eye, you will get comfortable with it. I still miss my LCUGPS friends and teachers a lot.

Hello everyone! I am Bidkar and I'm currently studying in Wah Yan College (Kowloon). On my first day at Wah Yan, I felt a little bit nervous but I was excited to meet everyone and I've made a lot of friends already. When I entered the school, I was surprised to see a vast green campus with many facilities. There were a lot of beautiful paintings and monuments. When I went up to my classroom, I saw some Wahyanites (that's what we call our brothers at school) playing some games and chatting happily. Next, my friendly class teacher explained the rules and regulations to us. I

have to study a variety of new subjects and do lots of homework so it is a bit difficult to catch up, but I will try my best.

Although secondary school life is full of challenges and it seems hard at first, once you get used to the new environment, you will see how enjoyable it is.

I wish you all the best and I would like to thank all the teachers of LCU once again. Good Luck to all of you and I hope you have a bright future!



Ghale Bidkar

Hello I'm Ismail Jarif. I am currently studying in HKMA David Li Kwok Po College.

On my first Orientation Day, I entered my classroom where I didn't know a single person. But then, when the teacher led us to the large school hall, we did a lot of fun things like ice breaking games and group challenges that helped me get to know my schoolmates. I have made a lot of friends. My new teachers are so kind and supportive just like my LCU teachers. As for the facilities, there are football, basketball and volleyball courts. There are also a Science Room, Home Economics Room, Geography Room and many other special rooms. Incredibly, HKMA has 3 recesses in a day!

Unfortunately, we will have a lot of homework with different due dates in Secondary school. Therefore, we must have excellent time management skills. Good luck, everyone!



Ismail Jarif



Limbu Yojan Hang

Hello, my name is Limbu Yojan Hang. I graduated from LCU last year. I am currently studying at Ho Lap College. My new secondary school campus is much bigger than my primary school's. It has more facilities and special rooms like the laboratories, Physics Room, Chemistry Lab and Home Economics Room. Unlike primary school, I have a lot of homework now. If we fail an exam, we won't get promoted.

Finally, I would like to thank all the primary school teachers that have helped me, especially Ms. Cheung. Good luck to every student in LCU.

Hi everyone! I am Wing Yan. I am studying in Holy Trinity College now. I need to study many new subjects and the teaching style is new to me.

There are also a lot of dictations, so I need to allocate my time wisely. I can't play every day now as I need to study a lot so that I can keep up with the work.

Although my secondary school focuses on studies, it also pays attention to our physical, mental and spiritual well-being. There are a lot of clubs like Drama Club, Cooking Club and Art Club. I think some people will know that I was one of the volleyball team members in LCU and now I am also on the school's volleyball team.

My advice to all future graduates is that you should always trust yourself. When you are facing difficulties, you should not give up. You should trust yourself because only failure will lead to success! Last but not least, I hope all P.6 students can get to their dream secondary school.



Lu Wing Yan



Riju Ryan

Hello, my name is Ryan Riju. I graduated from LCUGPS last year. I am currently studying in St. Francis Xavier's College, a Catholic Boy's school.

Life here is very interesting, and you learn something new every day. The teachers here are very kind and explain all the difficult stuff in detail. At

first, I thought it would be very stressful studying in secondary school but this school is stress free and the teachers really care about the students.

I have tried participating in many activities in the school and so far I have been selected for the football team and the drone recording STEAM team. There are so many exciting clubs and teams to join. Good luck to all of you and I hope you have a bright future!

I am having a great time in my secondary school, St Margaret's Co-educational English Secondary & Primary School. The teachers

are really nice, just like those in LCU. My classmates are very energetic! I thought teachers would be very strict when I went to this school. But later I found out they are similar to LCU teachers! I love Spanish, ICT and even history lessons because the teachers are really nice. In particular, my history teacher, Mr. Lin, is a funny person and he always makes everyone laugh! I hope all the other new graduates are having a good time in their new school!



Wan Pok Yin

Dress Casual Day

To arouse the social consciousness of our students, our school participated in the "Dress Casual Day" which was held by the Community Chest on 30 October, 2023. All donations raised, were donated to support "Child Protection and Welfare Services" to provide support services

and establish support networks to single-parent families and victims of domestic violence.

Dress Casual Day is one of the school's most popular events. This fundraising activity gave students the opportunity to show their charitable spirit.

It is our pleasure to help the needy in our community to overcome the hard time.



School Picnic

Our green school picnic combined the concepts of environmental education and outdoor activities in a fun and engaging way. Such was the case when our students took part in the LCU annual school picnic on 27 November 2023.

P.1 Lady MacLehose Holiday Village

Our P.1 parents had a great bonding experience with their kids in Lady MacLehose Holiday Village. After arriving at the site, students and their parents attended a briefing session to get familiar with the campsite facilities. We then participated in two enjoyable parent-child games; rainbow umbrella and head shoulders, knee and candies. In addition to playing badminton and table tennis, sport climbing and seeing the beautiful scenery, our parents took lovely pictures displaying love and family bonding by joining our parent-child photography competition. Winners of the competition were announced on the LCU website.



P.2 - P.3 Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre

Our P.2 and P.3 students went to Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre, a well facilitated campsite. Once we arrived, we took class photos and the students were free to enjoy the playground, basketball machine, air hockey, game room, table tennis room, arts and crafts room, roller

skating rink, pebble walking trail and energy bikes. Everyone was fully immersed in the fun games and green nature.

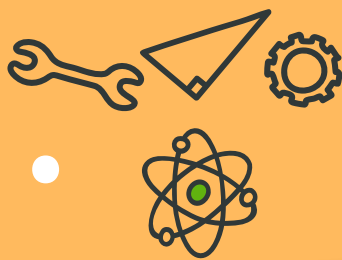




P.4 - P.6 Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre

Our P.4 to P.6 students went to Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre. It is a campsite with indoor rock climbing, badminton, snooker, indoor football games, class, basketball court, children play area, roller skating and archery. Students were able to spend the time relaxing with schoolmates in a harmonious environment. The school picnic also served to educate students about sustainability while allowing them to appreciate nature.





CoolThink@JC



Programme



Our school has joined the CoolThink@JC Programme, which is co-organized by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Education University of Hong Kong, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and City University of Hong Kong. The programme aims to inspire students in P.4-6 to embrace digital creativity in their daily lives. It provides a 3-year curriculum for these students to learn Scratch and App Inventor programming during their IT lessons.

Going beyond the confines of the classroom, a CoolThink@JC Parent Workshop was conducted in February 2023, offering parents an opportunity to learn Scratch programming alongside their children. In June 2023, thirty students from P.4-5 were selected to participate in a half-day camp held at the Education University of Hong Kong, aimed at building a stronger foundation in programming. Additionally, our school actively took part in an open exhibition at The Education University of Hong Kong in June 2023, where we set up booth games with STEAM elements to engage the public.

Students have created interesting stories by using Scratch programming.



Students are engaged in learning Scratch programming.



A parent workshop has been arranged to provide parents with a better understanding of the programme.



Thirty students participated in the CoolThink@JC Summer Camp in June 2023.



Students engaged in a virtual reality game to gain more exposure to technological products.



Other primary school students tried the Foil Ball Launcher created by our P.6 students.



Our students presented their year's learning outcomes at the Coding and STEAM Fair.

Christmas Celebration

The Christmas Celebration is one of the biggest events of the year. As always, we celebrated Christmas with enthusiasm and passion.

The event was successfully held on 20 December 2023. It brought the merriment to all the students, parents and teachers through the performance and activities.

This year, we had the Junior Choir Group to sing Christmas Carols, Juggling Magic Performance, Parents' Dance Performance, Fashion Show on colourful festive clothes and cultural costumes, parent volunteers set up the interesting game booths. In addition, there were the Christmas-themed decorations all around the school. It lighted up the joy of the festival.

Lastly, we have to thank the participation of the parents and students. The decoration and activities were carried out by them.

The students have showed their talents in the performance while the parents were whole-heartedly devoted to arrange the activities for the students. It has built up the spirit of love, consolidation and care in the school. No doubt, this is a successful Christmas Celebration event at LCU.



Students wore colourful festive clothes or cultural costumes in the fashion show.



What a wonderful Christmas Celebration!



P.3 Champion

Congratulations to the winners of the Parent-child Up-cycle Christmas Ornaments Design Competition.

Parent-child Up-cycle Christmas Ornaments Design Competition

Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.

Christmas

Many thanks to our devoted parent volunteers for designing interesting booth games and dancing to light up the festivals.

prepare for it today.

Christmas Wishes

New ECA Groups



The purpose of extracurricular activity groups is to provide students with opportunities to engage in activities outside of their regular academic curriculum. They allow them to focus on specific interests or hobbies with classes led by teachers and coaches.

Creative Art and Craft Group



Students learn a variety of skills and concepts related to artistic expression and craftsmanship. They explore different art forms and engage in hands-on activities involving various craft techniques. Students are encouraged to develop their creative thinking and imagination.



Putonghua Choral Speaking Group

It is a form of performance art in which 42 students recite a poem in unison, emphasizing rhythm, intonation, and coordination. Students develop their speaking, listening, and team spirit, as well as gain an appreciation for literature and language. Additionally, young learners in P.1 to P.3 learn to speak, understand and read for fun in Putonghua.



STEAM and Micro:bit Learning Group

It focuses on providing children with knowledge and skills in critical thinking and problem-solving, inquiry and investigation as well as creativity and innovation. Students are trained to use coding to solve problems.



Cheering Dance Group



It combines elements of dance, gymnastics, and cheerleading to create energetic and synchronized performances.



Chinese Drum Group



It offers students a range of valuable skills and experiences including rhythm and timing. Students learn to develop a strong sense of timing, precision, and coordination. They become familiar with different beats, tempos, and patterns. They also gain an appreciation for Chinese traditions, music, and cultural practices as well as learn about the historical significance and symbolism of drums in Chinese culture.

Active Brain Workshop

It focuses on providing students with activities and exercises that stimulate their cognitive, physical, and social development. They learn to identify and manage their emotions, develop self-awareness, and understand the feelings of others. The workshop encourages empathy, self-regulation, and building positive relationships.



Juggling and Magic Group

Students focus on the skills and techniques involved in stage magic and entertainment. Students develop sleight of hand and performance skills. Some individuals may pursue magic as a hobby.





Social Skills Group

Students can develop various social skills including communication skills, collaboration and teamwork, empathy and understanding, as well as conflict resolution. They learn to express their thoughts and ideas clearly, actively listen to others, ask questions by engaging in meaningful games.



Fun in Putonghua

The P.1 to P.3 students take turns to attend the Putonghua workshop on Friday ECA lessons. They can develop their language foundation read and pronounce Putonghua accurately by using the Pinyin system. Through this Putonghua activities, students develop overall proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, they also learn to appreciate and understand Chinese culture.



Junior Cricket



This is our first time to recruit young players from P.3 to P.4 to form the junior cricket team. Students learn the fundamental skills and techniques of cricket in a simplified and age-appropriate manner. They learnt the basic rules, as well as batting, bowling and fielding skills. Additionally students found out about game awareness, fitness, sportsmanship and fair play which will help them step up to senior cricket in the future.

Fun and Games



Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is one of the most important holidays, not just in Hong Kong but around the world. How much do you know about this important festival? Try to complete the crossword below to find out.

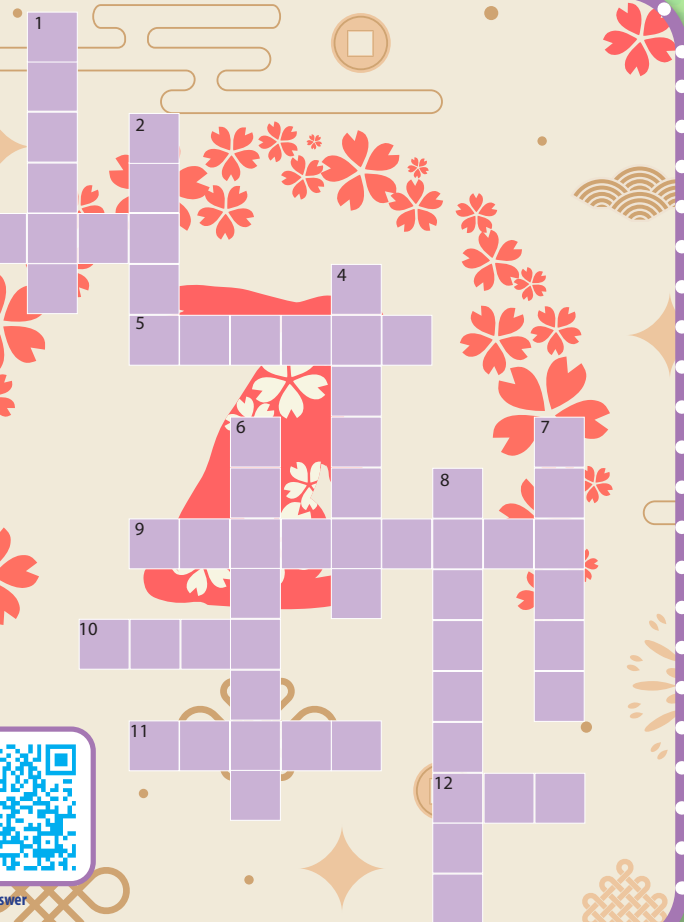


ACROSS →

3. If you find one of these in your dumpling, you will have a year of good luck.
5. 2023 was the year of what animal?
9. Which fruit represents luck and prosperity in China?
10. The _____ Emperor is credited with naming the years of the Chinese Zodiac after animals.
11. What children receive in red packets if they have been good.
12. A lucky colour in China.

DOWN ↓

1. Plant that brings happiness, wealth and longevity.
2. Type of calendar that the Chinese New Year is based on.
4. The number of days that the Chinese New Year festival traditionally lasts.
6. Paper decorations that are hung up around the house.
7. The number of animals in the Chinese Zodiac.
8. These are used to scare off evil spirits.



Answer

DID YOU KNOW?



While no one knows exactly how long people have been celebrating Chinese New Year, it is estimated that it is around 3,500 years old. It probably originated in the Shang Dynasty, when people held ceremonies in honour of gods and ancestors at the beginning of each year.

Do you know all of the animals in the Chinese Zodiac? Mnemonics are a good way to remember important information. If you can remember the mnemonic below then you will be able to remember the animals of the zodiac in order!

"Remember Our Terrible Rhyme, Dear Students: Happy Gentle Monsters Read Difficult Poetry."

The first letter of each word in the mnemonic represents another word, e.g. Remember = Rat, Our = Ox. What about the other words? (Answers at the bottom of the page)

What can these two mnemonics help you to remember?

Answers: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Dog, Pig



My Very Excellent
Mother Just Served Us
Noodles



Richard of York Gave
Battle in Vain

Unusual Festivals Around the World



Boryeong Mud Festival, South Korea

This muddy festival is celebrated for almost 2 weeks in July in the small town of Boryeong on the west coast of South Korea. Every year around 2 million people come to the town to get drenched in mud, and people take part in a lot of different muddy activities like mudslides, mud pools, and even mud skiing. The mud is supposed to have a lot of natural minerals that are good for the skin. Just make sure to have a good shower afterwards! Find out more here:



International Hair Freezing Contest, Canada

This unusual festival is celebrated in the town of Whitehorse in Northern Canada in February. You wouldn't want to step outside there in the middle of winter without your hat and scarf. In fact, it can get so cold (sometimes as low as -20°C) that your hair freezes if it is wet. That's why they have an entire festival dedicated to frozen hair sculptures. People soak their head in the freezing cold water and then sculpt their hair into super cool styles hoping to take home the \$2000 prize. Check out the winners from last year:



Underwater Music Festival, Florida, USA

Hundreds of snorkelers and divers gather off the coast of Florida every July to play ocean-themed songs at the Underwater Music Festival. For almost 40 years, music has been streamed from specially-designed underwater speakers with the aim of creating awareness about the preservation of the coral reefs. You can check out how this interesting festival started here:



Lopburi Monkey Banquet, Thailand

Every year in Lopburi in Northern Thailand, they have the annual Monkey Buffet Festival. The festival has been going for 35 years and was first set up as a unique way of showing gratitude to the monkeys as well as bring in tourism. The monkeys are thought to bring good luck to the area and its people and so in return they are given thousands of kilograms of fruit, vegetables, cakes and candies. More than 3,000 monkeys can be found roaming through the town. You can find out more here:



Baby Jumping Festival, Spain

For more than 400 years, people have been coming to the town of Sasamón in Northern Spain to take part in a very strange festival called Baby Jumping (or El Salto del Colacho in Spanish). Men dressed in red and yellow devil costumes jump over babies lying on mattresses in the street. This is supposed to bring the babies good fortune and protect them from evil spirits. Learn more here:



Battle of the Oranges, Italy

Every year in February, thousands of people come to the small Italian town of Ivrea to have a huge food fight. It's not only one of the juiciest festivals in the world (600 tonnes of oranges are used each year!) but also one of the oldest - people have been throwing citrus fruit here for more than 200 years!!! You can find out more about this unusual festival here:



Argungu Fishing Festival, Nigeria

The annual fishing festival is held every year in Northern Nigeria to mark the start of the fishing season. The highlight of this four-day festival happens on the last day when as many as 50,000 fishermen take part in the ultimate fishing competition. The rules are simple, whoever catches the largest fish in the 1-hour time limit is the winner, and can take home as much as 7,500 US dollars. Learn more about this fishy festival here:

