

NING PO COLLEGE
37th Annual Speech Day, 16th January 2009 (Friday)
Annual Report (2007 –08)

Introduction

Ning Po College is in its 37th year of operation. The School has continued to function smoothly and effectively under the direction of the School Management Committee. All programmes planned for the school year 2007-08 have been carried out to the satisfaction of the School Management Committee, teachers and parents.

The success of an organization depends greatly on its tradition and culture. It is our strong traditional belief in bringing up children with high standards of discipline and care 「嚴謹與關懷」。 Due to the committed efforts of the Parent-Teacher Association in promoting our goal, the School has successfully built up a high reputation in the Kwun Tong district. Last year, more than 200 applicants competed for our Secondary One discretionary places.

The School has strived for all-round education. In addition to emphasizing academic achievements, the School has also attached much importance to non-academic disciplines such as civic, moral and physical education. Activities were arranged within the School to promote students' sense of belonging to the School and to cultivate their moral values and physique. Students were also encouraged to participate in activities organized outside of the School in order to obtain other learning experience.

Class Structure

Secondary 1	:	5 classes
Secondary 2	:	5 classes
Secondary 3	:	5 classes
Secondary 4	:	4 classes
Secondary 5	:	4 classes
Secondary 6	:	2 classes
Secondary 7	:	<u>2 classes</u>
		27 classes

Enrolment

The school year started with an enrolment of 1,015 students. There were 472 boys and 543 girls. In the course of the school year, 12 students left and 9 new students were enrolled so that in July 2008, the enrolment stood at 1,012.

Staff

The total number of staff was 87, namely:

- 1 Principal
- 56 Teachers
- 2 Laboratory Technicians
- 6 Clerical Staff
- 2 Computer Technicians
- 2 Information Technology Technicians
- 6 Teaching Assistants
- 12 Menial Staff

Miss Fung Yuen-yan was appointed by the Christian Family Service Centre as the School Social Worker. We are grateful for her professional service and unfailing support to

the School throughout the year.

Scholarships and Aid Fund (2007 – 08)

Ning Po Residents Association (Hong Kong) Limited Education Foundation Scholarships	HK\$ 78,440
Li Yen Tseu Scholarship, Mrs. Li Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Sally Leung Scholarship	10,000
S. C. Chiu Memorial Scholarship	34,500
S. S. Wong Memorial Scholarship	10,000
Jordan Scholarship	2,500
Li Shi Yi Memorial Prizes	1,000
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	HK\$ 137,440

Orientation for New Students

New students, together with their parents, were introduced to the School in a one-week Induction Programme in mid-August to familiarize them with the common routines of the School. It was a very successful event and the overall attendance was over 95%.

Within the week, 14 of our alumni played the role of mentors. With the assistance of 40 Secondary 2-4 'Big Brothers and Big Sisters', they conducted the whole series of class-based activities. A Closing Ceremony was held on the last day of the Induction Week. All the parents of Secondary 1 students were invited to attend the ceremony. They enjoyed their wards' performance on the stage. Many of the students were also awarded for their outstanding performance throughout the week. The 14 alumni and the 40 'Big Brothers and Big Sisters' were thanked for their leadership and effort at the ceremony.

The Induction Week provided a valuable opportunity for the students to get to know their classmates before they began their new school life in Ning Po College. It also helped them develop a sense of belonging and team spirit.

Home-School Cooperation

Experience tells us that the healthy development of a child depends heavily on the cooperation between parents and the school. Parents were encouraged to maintain regular contact with teachers and gain a better understanding of their children. To facilitate better understanding between parents and teachers, three Parent-Teacher meetings were held last year.

The first meeting, which was held in October, was mainly for the parents of Secondary 1 and 2 pupils. For the parents of other forms who would like to meet their class teachers, they were also welcomed to join. Through mutual communication and collaboration, students' problems, if any, could be identified at an early stage.

The second meeting was held in January for all the parents of the School. During the meeting, students' performance was reviewed thoroughly and constructively. Health assessment services were also arranged for the parents that day.

The third meeting was held in May for the parents of Secondary 1-4. They met the class teachers and the Uniform Test reports were distributed.

In addition, the Principal continued to meet parents regularly to exchange views on school policies. The activity 'Meeting Parents' 「我和家長有個約會」 was held several times

over the year.

The aims of the meetings are:

- (a) to elucidate the school policy and how it is enforced to parents
- (b) to answer parents' enquiries over the school policy
- (c) to build up mutual trust between parents and the School

Since the establishment of the Ning Po College Parent-Teacher Association, parents not only have shown great interest in the activities organized by the Association, but have also participated in the parental education programmes run for them. Moreover, nearly 100 enthusiastic parents were successfully recruited as volunteers. Throughout the year, they provided over 60 programmes of voluntary service for the School and the community. The Association, which has achieved a high reputation in Kwun Tong, also invited parents of other schools to join the education programmes.

Last year our dedicated team of volunteer parents provided an accumulation of over 3,000 service hours to both the School and the community. The Association was awarded 'Gold Certificate', which was signed jointly by Mrs. Selina TSANG, wife of the Chief Executive and the Director of Social Welfare. The Association also nominated 13 volunteers with outstanding service for the Gold Certificate, Silver Certificate and Bronze Certificate.

Twenty-one students were awarded the Bronze Certificate by the Steering Committee on Promotion of Volunteer Service and the Social Welfare Department. Ning Po College was also awarded 'Gold Certificate' for the high cumulative service hours by the student volunteers. They all helped to build a caring school and community.

Effective Enhancement of Learning and Teaching

To enhance continuous and effective learning and teaching, teachers have been advised to have their own plan of professional development. As the New Senior Secondary curriculum will be implemented in 2009, teachers are encouraged to attend relevant seminars and workshops to get themselves more familiar with the new syllabus and assessment methods. Teachers' development activities including school visits, sharing sessions, collaborative lesson planning, lesson observations and staff development days were held throughout the year. An innovative idea has been put forward this year to encourage our teachers to open their classes to visitors and parents of our students for viewing. All these led to improvements in teaching methodology, as well as achieving greater effectiveness in students' learning.

Continuous assessment was implemented in all subjects to monitor the formative development of students. To enhance good learning habits, students are encouraged to take notes during lessons. They are also required to keep a learning portfolio of every subject where they can keep all the learning materials systematically. This helps to facilitate their learning and revision for tests and examinations. In order to nurture students' self-learning habits, students are required to prepare for lessons like doing the assignments distributed by teachers beforehand. In addition, they are encouraged to enrich their knowledge through online learning and surfing the Internet.

This year 62 Form Seven students sat for the Advanced Level Examination. The overall passing percentage was 74.6%. Moreover, 154 Form Five students sat for the Certificate of Education Examination and the overall passing percentage was 81.5%. The passing percentage of Form Five students in most subjects was higher than the average passing rate of Hong Kong schools.

Ning Po College Parent-Teacher Association

Formed in 2004, Ning Po College Parent-Teacher Association has become a bridge between parents and the School. Under the leadership of the charismatic chairlady, Mrs. Chan, all the programmes planned for the school year 2007-08 were completed satisfactorily. The PTA has now become an invaluable asset of the School. In 2006, a Voluntary Parents Group with more than 100 enthusiastic parents was set up with an aim to promote the image of the School, to alleviate the workload of the teachers and participate in community services. Last year was another successful year for the PTA. Various activities were held as follows:

- (a) organizing workshops and seminars on child development, psychology of teenagers and parental skills of communication with their children
- (b) participating in fund-raising activities for the Community Chest
- (c) accompanying students to participate in activities outside of the School like the Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Festival
- (d) helping teachers supervise the pre-test and pre-examination revision classes
- (e) organizing a family picnic for fostering a better relationship between parents and children
- (f) participating in beautification of the school environment
- (g) raising money for the victims of the Sichuan earthquake

One of the meaningful activities was a charity visit to Zhaoqing (肇慶) held during Christmas. Before Christmas, the PTA participated in a fund-raising activity organized by the School to raise a sum of \$6,000 for buying food, stationery, clothing, toys, etc, for the poor and needy students in Zhaoqing (肇慶). On 26 Dec 2007, more than 31 parents, teachers and students brought the items raised to an orphanage, a home for the elderly and a primary school, and they shared their experience with the students there. These activities served to introduce students to the distress of the underprivileged class and showed students how they could help alleviate the suffering of the needy. The response of the students was very encouraging.

Undoubtedly, parents are indispensable to the development of the School and the Parent-Teacher Association is effective in boosting the spirit among parents. The efforts made by the Parent-Teacher Association have earned a high reputation in the Kwun Tong district. It was awarded 'Gold Certificate' by the Social Welfare Department after accumulating over 3,000 service hours to both the school and the community.

Ning Po College Alumni Association

Formed in 2006, the Ning Po College Alumni Association played a vital role in forging the link between the school and the graduates. Under the leadership of the current chairman, Mr. Choi Chi-fai, it worked closely with the Parent-Teacher Association to promote the image of the School and to alleviate the workload of the teachers. It also arranged graduates to participate in seminars organized by the Department of Careers to relieve the psychological pressure of the Secondary 5 and 7 students before the release of the public exam results.

To foster a close relationship with the teachers, a BBQ gathering was held in Sai Kung Recreational Centre in November last year. An education fund, financed by the graduates, is expected to be set up next year. The aims of the fund are

- (a) to support students with financial difficulties to participate in extra-curricular activities
- (b) to renovate the school premise and improve the study environment of the School
- (c) to support classes for remedial and talented students financially

Careers Talks and Visits

The Department of Careers helped students make suitable choices of streams and subjects in Form Four and Form Six. It provided students with useful information about the JUPAS. Various careers talks and visits were organized throughout the year to achieve the aims of assisting students to explore their further education and careers planning in respect to their personal development, values, interest and aptitude. Seminars on alleviating psychological pressure were also arranged for Secondary 5 and 7 before the release of public examination results.

Implementation of Life-wide Learning

To help create an English-rich environment to support life-wide language learning, English teachers interacted with students both in and outside of the classrooms. Our dedicated and dynamic teaching team provided numerous chances for students to interact with one another in English.

Throughout the academic year of 07/08, various festive activities have enabled students to use English meaningfully outside of the class. Relevant classroom activities were conducted to help students extend their English learning. School functions like Halloween Party, Christmas Card Design Competition, Valentine's Day Song Dedication as well as Easter Day Camp were the highlights of the English Department and the English Club. All of them proved to be effective in boosting students' interest and confidence in using English.

To maximize students' exposure to authentic use of English, students were involved in experiencing a Language Exchange Day with International Christian School students in Shatin. Meanwhile, a group of junior form students also gained invaluable English learning experience when they paid their regular visits to the Chinese International School in North Point.

Furthermore, over a hundred students from both junior and senior forms have moved beyond the confines of the classroom and made use of community resources to enrich their real-life experiences. They employed English to finish their task-based excursions namely 'Exploring Hong Kong Park' and 'Excursion to Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden' in the post-exam period in July 2008.

Last but not least, around a hundred junior form students joined our ELIC English Summer Immersion Camp. In the 4-week English Camp, students were introduced to an enriched English immersion environment. The Camp enabled them to extend their English learning experience beyond the classroom. Chatting with our American tutors any time meant that they could speak English out of class. Daily contact with tutors, either during lessons or in out-of-school activities like the Stanley tour, was refreshing and stimulating. All the participants grabbed the golden opportunity to motivate themselves to speak English in authentic situations during the summer holiday.

English Enhancement Scheme

The English Enhancement Scheme, which offers a total of \$2.56 million additional grant over a period of six years, has allowed our school to further improve our English learning environment.

More students have been given a wider exposure to authentic English through the drama workshops, phonics courses and creative writing workshops taught by professional native English-speaking teachers. Students are not only supported during the lessons but also after class through the strategic self-access online programs. The aforementioned additional resources given have created a greater capacity for us to cater for students of varied abilities.

Such essential financial support has also greatly enhanced the professional development of our team. Teaching approaches and curriculum preparation for the New Senior Secondary have further put us in a favorable position in equipping our students with essential language skills and enriching their learning with authentic and enjoyable learning experiences.

Together with the forthcoming programs funded by the scheme, we are confident that our students will be further prepared and will develop into competent language users.

Extra-curricular Activities

These activities were co-ordinated by the Department of Extra-Curricular Activities and were carried out through the following 4 channels:

- (a) Inter-house competitions and house activities - social, cultural and sport events
- (b) Inter-school competitions - sports, debates, games, choirs, dances, etc.
- (c) Activities organized by clubs and societies - dramas, debates, exhibitions, hiking, camping, field studies, visits, outings, etc.
- (d) Open competitions - matches and games, folk dances, sports, gymnastics, drawing, calligraphy, quizzes, essays, speeches, debates, etc.

In the school year under review, our students scored good results in Inter-School Competitions as well as Open Competitions.

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5. The Parent-Teacher Association and the Alumni Association for their constant and invaluable services rendered to the School.
6. The Christian Family Service Centre for the provision of school social work services.
7. Various institutions for their generous donations and assistance.
8. Finally, all the staff members of the School for their loyal and dedicated service throughout the school year.