



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2024 | VOL 2

IMPORTANT DATES:

1ST AND 2ND NOVEMBER 2024

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
(NO CLASSES)

21ST NOVEMBER 2024

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE
(NO CLASS FOR PN, N, LK/UK)

22ND NOVEMBER 2024

ANNUAL FAMILY OUTING

18TH DECEMBER 2024

WINTER FESTIVITIES

**19TH DECEMBER 2024 -
3RD JANUARY 2024**

WINTER BREAK

HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

by Ms Kitty Ho

Hello all!

After the mid-term break, we appear to have been blessed with some lovely, cool weather to welcome the season of Autumn. Our classrooms have been buzzing with excitement as the children settle in again, ready to explore their new units of inquiry with their teachers and friends.

Last week, we had a wonderful parent workshop focused on inquiry-based learning. It was fantastic to see many of you there! Led by our Curriculum Manager and PYP Coordinators, we discussed how parents can play a role in fostering children's curiosity at home, and we look forward to hosting more workshops to inform and strengthen the wider PIPS community in the near future.

With the beautiful weather outside, it's the perfect time to embrace outdoor learning! Our annual family outing is just around the corner, and we hope you're excited as we are. Details will be shared shortly, so get ready for a memorable day filled with fun outside the classroom.

In the coming months, our children will be busy engaging in many learning activities, such as our Winter celebrations. You will also be invited to join our parent-teacher conferences, where our teachers will discuss your child's progress with you. Stay tuned for more details coming your way.

Lastly, it's important to take extra precautions and stay healthy as the flu season is at its peak. Stay well and take care!

Power of Storytelling by Ms Indira

Storytelling is a powerful tool for learning and teaching, and at PIPS, as well as an essential teaching and learning strategy across all year levels. It invites exploration, sparks creativity, and deepens understanding of concepts.

Social-emotional connection

- **Building relationships:** Stories create a shared experience that helps children connect with their peers and teachers. Listening to a story together fosters a sense of community.
- **Understanding emotions & Emotional regulation:** Through characters and their experiences, children learn to recognise and express their feelings and empathise with others' emotions. Listening to stories about characters facing challenges helps children learn about emotional responses and self-regulation. They can identify feelings and explore appropriate ways to cope.
- **Validation of experiences:** Stories can validate children's feelings and experiences, showing them that they are not alone in their emotions or challenges.
- **Conflict resolution:** Stories often present conflicts and resolutions, providing a framework for children to discuss and navigate their own social challenges.

Inspiration & reflection

- **Role models:** Stories often feature characters who overcome challenges or exhibit positive traits, inspiring children to emulate these behaviours in their own lives.
- **Encouraging creativity:** Storytelling stimulates imagination, encouraging children to develop their own stories. This nurtures creativity and innovative thinking.
- **Personal connection & cultural identity:** When children relate stories to their own experiences, it promotes self-reflection. Sharing stories from their own cultures allows children to celebrate their heritage, reinforcing their sense of identity and belonging.
- **Diversity appreciation:** Storytelling introduces children to diverse cultures and traditions. It broadens their understanding of the world and fosters appreciation for different backgrounds.

Power of Storytelling by Ms Indira

Developmental perspective

- **Cognitive development:** Engaging with stories helps develop critical thinking and comprehension skills. Children learn to predict outcomes, make inferences, and understand cause-and-effect relationships.
- **Foundation for literacy:** Early exposure to storytelling builds a foundation for literacy. Children learn narrative structure, which is essential for reading and writing skills. Storytelling enhances vocabulary and language skills. Children learn new words and sentence structures through exposure to rich narratives, improving their communication abilities.

Learning complex ideas or concepts

- **Simplifying abstract concepts:** Storytelling transforms complex ideas into relatable narratives. For example, a story about sharing can help children understand the concept of cooperation.
- **Engagement through imagination:** Narratives captivate young minds, making it easier for them to absorb information. This engagement enhances memory retention and understanding.

By considering these varied learning opportunities, we see that storytelling in kindergarten is not just an enjoyable activity but a multifaceted tool supporting emotional, social, cognitive, and cultural development. This holistic approach enriches the learning environment and prepares children for a diverse and interconnected world.



PIPS OPEN HOUSE 2024



Thank you to everyone who came to our 35th Anniversary Open Day celebrations. We had a wonderful time hosting all of you and we hope that you had as much fun as we did. Here are some of our favourite photos of the day. We look forward to seeing you all again soon!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

School Uniform

Winter uniforms are now available for purchase at the school office. Please contact our School Office if you would like to arrange a time for uniform fitting. Each order will take approximately a week to process.

As the weather in Hong Kong is quite unpredictable, parents can make their own decision regarding when to let their child put on the winter uniform when the weather is getting cooler. Please be reminded that all items of students clothing should be clearly labelled with their name and class.

Annual Family Outing

We are excited to invite you to join our annual family outing to the Deep Water Bay on **Friday 22nd November**. This will be a great opportunity for our families and children to enjoy an experience outside of school. Our teachers will set up a variety of activities for everyone to participate in.

Parent-Teacher Conference for PN to KG class

You are invited to come and meet with your child's teacher on **Thursday 21st November** to discuss your child's progress. Each meeting will last for 10 minutes and the meeting is for parents only. There will be no school for children from PN to KG classes on that day. Please note that Under 2's classes will continue as normal.

Winter Festivities

Our Under 2's Christmas parties are scheduled for **17th & 18th December**. The Parties for Pre-Nursery and Kindergarten classes are scheduled for **Wednesday 18th December**. Parents will be invited to join our children for a Christmas party before the Winter break begins!