

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2023 | VOL 3

HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school after a relaxing Winter Break. I hope you all had a lovely time with your families celebrating Christmas. During this time, many families went for a short trip or enjoyed some of the many festive activities happening in Hong Kong. Please share your experiences and photos with us via Seesaw!

In December, we held our first parent workshop of the school year about literacy at PIPS. Thank you to our Curriculum Manager, Ms. Indira, our PYP Coordinator Mr. Don and our Chinese Coordinator Ms. Shan Shan for their efforts in conducting the workshop. We truly appreciate parents taking valuable time out of their busy schedules to join this event. We are thrilled to see the level of participation throughout our discussions. We hope that this workshop has provided you with some valuable tips to foster reading at home with your child.

Chinese New Year is fast approaching us! With COVID measures being relaxed in Hong Kong, we are pleased to inform you that we will be inviting parents to join our Chinese New Year party! The school will be set up as a mini Flower Market where you and your child can play games and activities together, as well as shopping for something special to celebrate the upcoming Year of the Rabbit. Stay tuned for more details.

As the new year approaches, full of fresh hope, we wish you and your family a wonderful year of the rabbit.



IMPORTANT DATES:

3RD JANUARY 2023
SCHOOL RESUMES AFTER
WINTER BREAK

19TH JANUARY 2023
CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

20TH - 27TH JANUARY 2023
CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

30TH JANUARY 2023
SCHOOL RESUMES AFTER
CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

1ST FEBRUARY 2023
TERM 2 BEGINS

The importance of social interaction by Ms Indira

One of the key developments in early childhood is social and emotional. It may not seem as important as cognitive, but it is a crucial factor that shapes a child. From the moment babies are born, parents and caregivers start to interact with them, which is the beginning of social development for newborns.

Social, alongside emotional and cognitive development, is imperative in early childhood education. Happy children generally learn and understand concepts faster, as their physiological and psychological needs, including love, acceptance and belonging, are met. One of the main reasons we send our children to preschool is to enhance their social skills, to get along with others, and to develop their communication skills.

As parents and teachers, we want our children to function in society and be successful in whatever they choose to do or be. Throughout their lives, they will have to interact with different people and situations. We want our children to be open-minded communicators and thinkers who can effectively communicate and problem solve independently.

At PIPS, we understand the importance of positive social interactions. Throughout their years at PIPS, we plan and provide authentic opportunities for children to interact with peers and adults around the school to develop their social skills.

How can parents support social interactions outside school?

- Demonstrate and show affection and acceptance for your child / children every day. Let them know that their family still loves them for who they are, even if they have made some bad decisions.
- Modelling - we want to act as we want our children to behave.
- Provide your child with opportunities to interact with children outside school, such as play dates, joining various clubs or simply going to the playground
- Have conversations with your child, and ensure their voices are heard. Encourage your child to reflect and talk about exciting interactions they had in school. Opening questions can include;

'Who did you talk to today? What did you talk about? Was there anything interesting that happened during school?'

- Talk to your child about your own day, encourage them to ask you questions.
- Plan interactive hands-on experiences that have the opportunity to interact with different people in different situations, such as travelling to new places.
- Provide choices for your child whenever feasible, discuss the options with your child, weigh in the pros and cons of the various choices they have.

Christmas Party 2022



Our children sang and danced wonderfully during the Christmas Concert! They also collaborated to make some lovely, festive artwork.

Santa and Mrs Claus came to visit each of the classes. The older children wrote letters to Santa and delivered them using the PIPS Christmas postbox!



Parent Workshop

Our Parent Workshop about literacy provided a lot of information about language learning at PIPS, as well as suggestions for how parents can help their children at home.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS/ SCHOOL EVENTS

Chinese New Year Flower Market

We will celebrate Chinese New Year by organising a “Flower Market” for our students on **Thursday, 19th January 2023**. Our school will be opened from 9:00am to 12:00pm. There will be no regular morning or afternoon classes on the day. Parents and children can join us during this time to participate in a variety of festive activities and are most welcome to dress in traditional Chinese costumes on this special day, too. More details will be shared with you in due course.

Winter Uniform

Winter school uniform is now available for purchase at the school office. If you would like to make additional order as the weather can become quite unpredictable these days, please contact Ms. Tracy and Ms. Rebecca at the Reception to arrange a time for uniform fitting. Each order will take about a week to process.

Extra Curricular Activities (Term 2)

Our school offers a wide range of extra curricular activities on weekdays and Saturdays. Applications for classes starting after Chinese New Year (Term 2) are now open. Please collect a leaflet from our school office. All applications will be accepted on a “first-come, first-served” basis. We suggest that you apply as soon as possible while spaces are still available.



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR
2023
YEAR OF THE RABBIT