



KENNEDY SCHOOL



Newsletter No. 34, 20 May 2016



Dear Parents,

Another full week at Kennedy School with 1R and 3C class assemblies, Year 4 trips to Ark Eden, a friendly netball match against ISF and a friendly cricket match against GSIS. Our biathlon team and cricket team are busy training for their upcoming tournaments and 18 Kennedy students will be representing Kennedy School at the Kellett School Orchestra next weekend. Busy times!

ESF Stakeholder Survey 2016

Below is a summary of the KS ESF stakeholder survey results. 31% of our parent population completed the survey and the results from our parent body, staff and students are extremely positive about our school. The table shows KS results in 2016 compared with 2014 and also against ESF as a whole. The parent feedback comments were welcomed and help us recognise areas that we are doing well in but more importantly, constructive suggestions of how we can improve what we do. We have analysed these responses closely.

A few comments from our students about enjoying Kennedy School:

“KS is amazing”

“I love coming to school because I get to learn new things. I also like making new friends and interacting with people. I feel safe and happy in school.”

“I enjoy making new friends, learning new things and trying my hardest to do the best that I can.”

“School is super fun as we do some real fun stuff and I look forward to every new day at school.”

“I really enjoy school and I am very sad when I am sick because I enjoy school.”

Parents	% agree or strongly agree		
	2016	2016	2014
	All ESF	KS	KS
I understand the school’s stated philosophy. (These might be part of the school’s goals, values, objectives, vision and/or mission statements).	97%	97%	94%
The programmes offered by the school are preparing my child for the future.	96%	92%	91%
I am informed about my child’s progress, including areas that my child can improve.	88%	90%	80%
I am satisfied with the progress that my child is making at school.	91%	89%	84%
Teachers at school are enthusiastic and committed.	92%	96%	95%
I am informed about what is happening in this school.	92%	97%	96%
I am satisfied with the leadership of this school.	94%	98%	96%
My child enjoys school.	97%	97%	97%

Teachers and Classroom-Based Support Staff	% agree or strongly agree		
	2016	2016	2014
	All ESF	KS	KS
I understand the school's stated philosophy. (These might be part of the school's goals, values, objectives, vision and/or mission statements).	97%	100%	96%
The programmes offered by the school are preparing students for the future.	96%	100%	94%
Students at this school make good progress, regardless of ability.	95%	100%	87%
I am satisfied with the levels of pastoral care that students receive at this school.	94%	100%	92%
Teachers and educational assistants (EAs) at this school are enthusiastic and committed. (This refers to the teaching body, as opposed to you as an individual teacher).	98%	100%	100%
I have opportunities to develop myself professionally, in a way that will have a positive impact on students' learning.	93%	100%	83%
I am informed about what is happening in this school.	91%	100%	85%
I am satisfied with the leadership of this school	91%	100%	71%

Students	% agree or strongly agree		
	2016	2016	2014
	All ESF	KS	KS
My school has clear goals/aims for the students in the school. (These might be part of the values, visions and/or mission statements).	94%	100%	100%
The programmes offered by my school are preparing me for the future.	92%	99%	95%
My school is a welcoming and friendly place.	93%	96%	96%
I am making good progress at school.	95%	99%	99%
My teachers know my individual strengths and weaknesses.	83%	95%	96%
Teachers and educational assistants (EAs) at my school are enthusiastic and committed.	90%	99%	95%
I am informed about what is happening in my school.	83%	91%	94%
The school's leaders (Principal and Vice Principal) listen when students suggest ways to improve my school.	79%	93%	93%
I enjoy school.	90%	95%	97%

John Brewster
Principal

3C Class Assembly

3C held the last class assembly of the year for Years 3 and 4 on Tuesday. The theme of the assembly was related to their current learning about the Earth's physical geography and the impact on human interactions and settlements. The assembly started with Martians on Mars discussing finding another planet to live on - they headed in their spaceship to Earth. 3C sang a great song 'Martians flew to Planet Earth'.



Once they landed on Earth they then proceeded to travel to different countries - Hong Kong, Indonesia, Alaska, Austria and England and heard from the people who lived in those places the pros and cons of living there. Before making a decision they considered the geographical features of each location and the class did a very creative dance to illustrate these. They eventually decided to live in Hong Kong!! 3C did an amazing job - they created their own costumes, sang and danced beautifully and should be proud of a wonderful assembly!

Well done 3C, Ms Woodall and Mrs Lai.

Thank you to all those parents who attended - I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Emma Navin
Vice Principal

Sharing the Planet--One carrot at a time

1R graced the stage twice this week to share their understandings around their current Unit of Inquiry about plants and their needs--once for the Year 1 and 2s and once for the Year 5 and 6s. They shared their masterpieces which represented a world without plants. This led into a lovely rendition of *Farmer in the Dell*, followed by the world-premiere of *We're Going on a Plant Hunt*. This adaptation of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* had us going through grass, across a river and through mud in



order for us to find the fruits and vegetables (plants) for the picnic lunch. Every child had a role to play and a huge smile on their face. The children in 1R really brought their unit to life and ended with a quiz for parents and a slideshow from their recent trip to an organic farm. A big thank you to the students of 1R, Mr. Richardson and Mrs. Wong and the families and friends of 1R who came out to support them!

Josh Blue
Vice Principal

Year 5 Market Day

The Year 5s 'Enterprise' unit came to a climax on Tuesday with their very own Market Day. The rest of the Kennedy School community were invited to shop for a wonderful array of handmade, personalised products. The excited shoppers were given a choice of colourful arts & craft, stationery, jewellery, origami, sweet treats, toys, plants and much, much more! The weather was kind to us and the market created a real buzz throughout the school.



Following the Market Day the children then spent time calculating their profits and reflecting on their experiences over the 6 week process. We are pleased to announce that the Year 5s raised a grand total of **\$12,397.80!**

All of the money raised will be donated to our school house charities.

A **BIG thank you** to everyone who attended the Market Day, the Year 5 parents for their support throughout the unit and congratulations to the Year 5 students for all their efforts and achievements throughout the process.

Year 5 student reflections:

1. "I am most proud of getting my \$50 back because it was hard giving in the money I made by helping around the house." (Maggie 5A)
2. "My favourite part of the experience was seeing our money box full and seeing smiles on the customer's faces. My least favourite part was when it ended". (Adrian 5K)
3. "I am most proud of selling all our stock and earning money to give to the four House Charities." (Emily 5B)
4. The enterprise process "helped me understand that teamwork is actually really hard and so is running a business." (Darren 5S)
5. "I am most proud of how much we sold. We made our products with love and care and the money will go to someone who needs love and care" (Dhriti 5D)



We're all EARS! — Artist in Residence



On Monday morning, May 23rd, sculptor and artist Monica On Yau Tai will be sharing her work, her inspiration and her latest project with our Year 6 students as part of their upcoming Exhibition on How We Express Ourselves.

Even better Monica will be with us Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week (and possibly the following week as well) to give the children in Year 6 and across the school the chance to contribute to her latest project.

Monica does a lot of work with 'casting'. Think of going to the dentist to have a mould made but instead think outside of the mouth. Monica's latest project involves ear casting. A safe, organic alginate material is pressed into the ear to capture its natural curves, wrinkles and grooves. This is then used later to make ceramic or plaster casts of the ear to be used as part of a bigger project.

Monica's work focuses on the subject and their choice to participate or not. The opportunity will be available, primarily, for our Year 6 students to have an ear cast done to be used in a project to be completed by Monica in 2017. If time permits, Monica may be able to cast other interested students as well.

If you **do not** wish to have your child volunteer themselves, please speak to them before Monday.

Monica could use a few parent volunteers next week to help with the process. The casting will take place outside the gym. We just need one volunteer for each of the following times on Monday: 9:30-11, 11-12:30 and 1:30-3:00pm. If you are available Tuesday or Wednesday times that help is needed is at 8:30-10:30, 11-12:30, 1:30-3:00. Please email me at jblue@kennedy.edu.hk if you'd like to lend a hand and make sure to tell me the day and time that suits you. (Parents across the school are welcome to volunteer!)



This is a really exciting opportunity for our students to work with a local artist and to serve as inspiration for a project in the future. We are all very excited to welcome Monica to Kennedy School.

Kind regards,
Josh Blue
Vice Principal



Reminder:



CLUB PHOTOS ORDERS



A reminder that we have samples of the club photos taken on 28th April available for viewing in the school office.

Each photo is 80HKD. If you would like to order any of the photos, please fill in an order form which is available at the school office.

Please attach a cheque payable to 'TECHNI PHOTO' and write your child's name, class and your telephone number on the back of the cheque. **NO CASH PLEASE.**

We will collect the orders in the office until next **Wednesday, 25th May**. After this date you can still place your orders directly with Techni Photo at photos@techni-photo.com or 2803 5988.

ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE



Parents and guardians are invited to attend their child's class assembly. This is an opportunity for a class to share the learning they have been doing in class. They may take the format of a science explanation, a reflection on a trip, a sharing of artwork, a multimedia display or even a simple story telling. For those parents who are unable to attend, all class assemblies are videoed and available for viewing on the VLE.

Class	Date	Time
May 2016		
1F	Wednesday, 25 May	8.30 – 9.00am
Yr 6 Chinese	Monday, 30 May	2.15 – 3.00pm
June 2016		
1S	Wednesday, 1 June	8.30 – 9.00am



STUDENT WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

To assist us with class planning for the 2016/17 school year, if you are intending to withdraw your child/children from Kennedy School, please complete the [Student Withdrawal Notice](#) and submit to Anne Adams, Admissions Manager: admissions@kennedy.edu.hk. Just a reminder, at least one month's notice is required.

PTA



Friday 27th May 2016, 6.00pm – 9.30 pm
Kennedy School Hall

Nothing gets people up and dancing like a ceilidh. A ceilidh is a traditional dance night where everyone joins in, regardless of age or ability, and it's a great way to meet lots of people in a fun, informal way.

Child ticket – HK\$125

Adult ticket – HK\$250

(includes pizza from Checkmate, Kennedy Town)

Come along and join in the fun! - [Booking form](#)

IN DEPARTMENT.....

Dear Parents

We, in the IN Department, are in the process of building up resources to incorporate more sensory play and therapy resources for our children at Kennedy School.

If you have any:

beanbags, large cushions, old duvet covers, play tunnels, swimming noodles, chalkboards, or any other indoor equipment in good condition that you no longer use and would be willing to donate to us, we would be very grateful.

If you can help, please could you contact me with details [at:](#)

jtait@kennedy.edu.hk

Many thanks!

Julie Tait

IN Coordinator

Kennedy School



News from Chinese Department

The 18th Hong Kong Schools Storytelling Competition

Here comes some good news for Kennedy School. For the first year, KS students participated in the Hong Kong Schools Storytelling Competition. Competing against 1984 students from 387 schools, our children achieved excellent results.



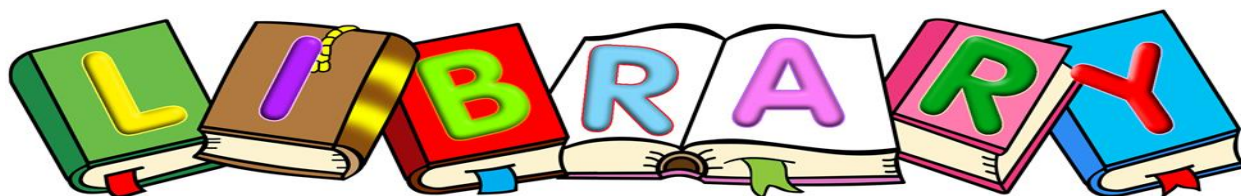
Congratulations to the following students:



Darren Tong (5S), received a Certificate of Excellent Star (trained by Ms. Judy Lee and Ms. Lucy Wong)

Roshan Relwani (5K), received Silver Award (trained by Ms. Judy Lee and Ms. Lucy Wong)





Hong Kong Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books (BoB) is a HK competition between approximately 30 primary schools in HK. The purpose of the competition is to encourage a love of reading and to introduce children to a variety of authors and genres. At Kennedy School we run BoB as a staff-led extra-curricular activity and it's held once a week at lunch time in the library for Y5 and Y6 only. The new list of books for 2016-2017 has just been released and is listed below. In the next few weeks we'll be talking to all the current Y4 & Y5 children about the club and the competition and encouraging them to begin reading the books. They need to read all 20 books by April 2017 so it's best if they get started over the holidays. You will find all of these titles at the Hong Kong Public Library and once school resumes in August, they can borrow our copies. We recommend this reading list to all children in those year groups, not just those that may be interested in joining BoB.

The Crow-Girl - Bodil Bredsdorff	Gossamer - Lois Lowry
The Wolf Wilder - Katherine Rundell	Poppy - Avi
Boy - Roald Dahl	Dash Kirby - Larson
Book Scavenger - Jennifer Chambliss Bertman	Absolutely Almost - Lisa Graff
Tofu Quilt - Ching Yeung Russell	Dumpling Days - Grace Lin
Emil and the Detectives - Erich Kästner	Dear Mr Henshaw - Beverly Cleary
Pie - Sarah Weeks	How to Catch a Bogle - Catherine Jinks
The Secret of Platform 13 - Eva Ibbotson	Circus Mirandus - Cassie Beasley
Crenshaw - Katherine Applegate	Shakespeare's Secret - Elise Broach
El Deafo - Cece Bell	Fuzzy Mud - Louis Sachar

Here is the link to the Battle of the Books website if you'd like to find out more. The list of books will also be listed on the Library page of the VLE as of next week.

<https://sites.google.com/site/hkbattleofthebooks/home>

Happy Reading.
Susan Mifsud and Nina Sehgal



GREEN NEWS



National Vegetarian Week

The UK are celebrating Vegetarian Week to show the benefits of a vegetarian diet on both your health and the climate.

'The Vegetarian Society is a charity that aims to influence, inspire and support people to embrace and maintain a vegetarian lifestyle. Being a vegetarian is a choice that is kinder to animals, to people and to our living planet. Established in 1847, The Vegetarian Society is the oldest vegetarian organisation in the world. Visit their [website](#) for more information.'

<http://www.national-awareness-days.com/national-vegetarian-week.html>



Perhaps you could begin a 'Meat Free Monday' in your home? Here's a link to lots of fabulous recipes:

[80 Hearty Vegetarian Meals Even Meat-Eaters Will Love](#)

End of Year Garden Sale

We have lots of new plants for sale in our Secret Garden. As we have some fabulous mums who help support our garden curriculum on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the Secret Garden will be open for sales from **8:15-8:40am every Tuesday and Thursday in May**. Please pop along to buy some delicious herbs and fruit/veg plants which are herbicide, pesticide and fungicide free!

Lesley Davies
ESD Coordinator

**Just a
reminder...**



Dr Tara Levinson Talk – How to Talk to Your Child About Loss and Death

A reminder that The Zubin Foundation will be holding a talk at Kennedy School next **Wednesday 25th May** from **6.30-7.30 pm** in the Hall. Please click [here](#) for more details.

Disclaimer Notice: Kennedy School (KS) and English Schools Foundation (ESF) do not recommend or endorse any external service provider. There is no contractual arrangement between KS/ESF and the service provider, any contractual arrangement that exists is between the parent and the service provider.



FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT



Kennedy Summer Swimming Programme

Swim Safety Week Monday 23rd May - Friday 27th May

The Swim Safety Week is a big safety component to our swimming programme and where we introduce the students to how it feels to be fully clothed when swimming. The children will also experience basic life saving techniques should they fall into a body of water.

The programme is designed to allow the students to experience how their swimming ability may change when in water with heavier clothes on. For the students to experience the change in the way they float, how much more tired they become, and survival techniques to use IF they were to be in water fully clothed, such as falling off a boat, being caught in a flash flood, accidentally falling into a pool etc.

The students need to bring in the following clothes IN ADDITION to their usual swim kit:

Y1&2: white t-shirt

Y3&4: light coloured baggy shorts and white long sleeved T-shirt

Y5&6: light coloured tracksuit/pyjama bottoms and white long sleeved T-shirt.

Only white or light coloured clothing will be permitted in the pool as dark colours react with the chlorine.

AT ALL TIMES THEY WILL BE UNDER STRICT SUPERVISION BY THE PLATYPUS EXPERIENCED AND FULLY ACCREDITED TEACHERS. The higher level swimmers will be with a very experienced teacher. Sharon Wrobel, the Director of Swimming will also be on deck.

Please refer to the swimming timetable to ensure your child is prepared on the correct day:

LESSONS IN RED ARE MAKE UP LESSONS WHICH WILL NOT BE AT THE USUAL TIME FOR THAT CLASS & WILL BE REGULAR RATHER THAN SAFETY LESSONS.				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23	24	25	26	27
	Y2 Science Day			
8:45 - 9:15 1A	8:45 - 9:15 5B	8:45 - 9:15 3T	8:45 - 9:15 4M	8:45 - 9:15 5K
9:15 - 9:45 2A	9:15 - 9:45 5A	9:15 - 9:45 3W	9:15 - 9:45 1M	9:15 - 9:45 4J
9:45 - 10:15 2P	9:45 - 10:15 6D	9:45 - 10:15 1F	9:45 - 10:15 1R	9:45 - 10:15 3O
10:30 Break	10:30 Break	10:30 Break	10:30 Break	10:30 Break
11:15 - 11:45 5S	11:15 - 11:45 4S	11:15 - 11:45 2J	11:15 - 11:45 3C	11:15 - 11:45 1S
11:45 - 12:15 5D	11:45 - 12:15 4D	11:45 - 12:15 2C	11:45 - 12:15 3R	11:45 - 12:15 2R
12:15 - 12:45 6M	12:15 - 12:45 6R	12:15 - 12:45 6P	12:15 - 12:45 6S	12:15 - 12:45 4C
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Y6 Rotations	HKU pool not available	13:45 - 14:15 6D	Y6 Chinese	13:45 - 14:15 6S

Match Report – Netball Friendly ISF

On Tuesday 17th May the Kennedy School netball team had a friendly netball match with ISF.

It was the first time that the new Year 4 and 5 squad played together in a match. ISF scored first and Kennedy equalised. ISF began to play really well, their team were fast, moved into spaces and they knew where they were going to pass. At the end of the third quarter the score was 14-1.

Kennedy didn't give up and tried their hardest. In the last quarter we worked better as a team, intercepted well, passed the ball accurately and were close to scoring. The final score was 14-1.

We have learnt how we work together as a team and help each other in different ways. With more practice we hope to improve our attacking and defending. Good luck to the other half of our squad who play against Kellett in another friendly in a fortnight. :-)



Match Report
By Tia Stearn 5K

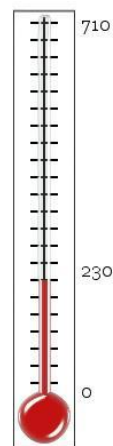
Upcycling - Laos Rugby Federation

As part of our ongoing support for grassroots rugby another batch of boots and rugby balls along with approximately 50 tag belts are about to wing their way to Laos.

Before you throw out any old trainers or football boots please consider donating them to the Laos Rugby Federation courtesy of the school. Please place any unwanted trainers or boots into the blue bin inside the school office.

Thank you for all of your support. We are now approaching the half way point of our target. For this project we have currently donated **315** pairs of shoes towards our target of **710**.

Please click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) to discover about the long term impact your donations are having.



Kennedy School VLE Wall of Fame

Many of our students are achieving sporting success both at school with our teams and out of school either individually or as part of a club. The Kennedy School Sports Wall of Fame on our VLE is a forum where children can share their sporting achievements. Please encourage your child to share their success with the rest of the Kennedy Community through this format.

[Kennedy School Wall of Fame](#)

Click on "add a new discussion topic" to start a new thread about your event/sport. Then enter details of your event or sporting achievement along with a photo of you in action, if you have one. Don't forget to celebrate the successes of other children at Kennedy by reading their threads and writing positive comments for them.

Tim Luck
Head of PE and Swimming
tluck@kennedy.edu.hk

ACTIVITIES BY EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Click on the following links to view advertisements for after school activities provided by [external agencies](#) and [ESF Educational Services](#).

DAY	ACTIVITY	PROVIDER
Various	Football, Basketball, Tennis, Gymnastics, Kung Fu, Netball, Science, Writing Class, Japanese Class, Dance, Spanish	ESF Educational Services
Various	Science Adventures, Stormy Chefs, The Chess Academy	Active Kids
Various	Kip McGrath Tuition	Kip McGrath
Monday	Drama, Speech & Communication Classes	Starlit Voice
Monday	Chess Lessons	Hoyinping Chess
Monday	Fabric Art	Fabric Fun
Monday	Robotics & Technology for kids - DIY workshop makers projects 1	Brainchild Ltd.
Tuesday	Foundation's Orator	Foundation Academy
Wednesday	Foundation's Filmmaker	Foundation Academy
Wednesday	Lego & Robotics, Bricks 4 Kidz	Bricks 4 Kidz
Summer	Art Classes	Banana Art
Thursday	Foundation's Novelist	Foundation Academy

Disclaimer: Kennedy School and the English Schools Foundation do not recommend or endorse any external provider renting the school premises. There is no contractual arrangement between KS/ESF and the club providers, any contractual arrangement that exists is between the parent and the club provider.

UPCOMING EVENTS & DUE DATES



23 May	- 1S, 1F, 1A - Zen Organic Farm Trip
24 May	- Year 1 Parent Consultations with Chinese Teachers , 9:30am–4:30pm, Hall
25 May	- 1F Class Assembly, 8.30am, Hall -1F parents are invited to attend - 1A, 1S Bake Sale - E-safety workshop for parents, 6:30-8.00 pm – Staff Room - Parent Workshop – How to speak to your child about loss and death (Dr Lara Levinson), 6:30 – 7:30, Hall - Last Day for Club Photo Orders (to be returned to the office)
26 May	- Year 5 visit to Crossroads Village
27 May	- PTA Ceilidh
27 & 28 May	- Kellett Orchestra Weekend
3 June	- Year 1 Familiarisation Day, 8:30-11:30
8 June	- 2J Class Assembly, 8.30am, Hall -2J parents are invited to attend
9 June	- Public Holiday - Tuen Ng Festival
10 June	- Kennedy School CPD Day – No school for children
15 June	- Year 6 Show & Exhibition for parents
16 June	- Year 6 Show & Exhibition for parents
22 June	- Year 6 Graduation
24 June	- Term 3 ends at 12noon
Kennedy School Calendar 2016-2017 can be found here .	

Disclaimer Notice: Kennedy School does not endorse or represent the accuracy, truthfulness or reliability of these advertisements placed by outside agencies.

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