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ESF News (June 2016)

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20 June 2016

Dear Parents and Colleagues

Another productive and successful academic year draws to an end. This year, we launched the new Strategic Plan: A vision for 2015-2020, which sets out a clear direction for our work. The new strategy builds on our strong foundation and responds to potential changes, challenges and opportunities in the Hong Kong educational landscape.

We are excited that our fifth kindergarten will open in August, enabling us to welcome more children into the ESF family. Our students in Year 13, who formed the ESF 2016 cohort have graduated. To recognise the outstanding achievements of the 2016 cohort, the ESF Chairman's Awards of Excellence ceremony will be held on 25 August 2016 at Island School.

For a number of teachers and staff this will be their final term with ESF. To acknowledge and thank long serving staff for the contribution they have made to their schools and to ESF. A leavers' party was held on Tuesday, 14 June 2016.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for the support to ESF throughout the year and to wish everyone a good summer break.

ESF welcomes new Board member

We would like to welcome our new Board member and Treasurer – Mr Samuel Houston. Sam is replacing Mr Robert Gazzi, who has recently stepped down after serving six years on the Board, as an Independent Member and Treasurer. Sam has been a co-opted member of ESF Finance Committee since 2014.

We wish Sam the best in his new term of office. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Robert for his support over the years.

Click [HERE](#) to see the latest composition of the ESF Board of Governors.

Thank you and goodbye

As the end of term draws near, it is time for us to bid farewell and express our sincere gratitude to colleagues who are retiring or moving on to new challenges. The contribution they have made is highly recognised. Several senior leaders are amongst the leavers this year and we thank them for their leadership which has

helped ESF strengthen its position as a world-leader in education. Thank you to all staff leaving ESF for their positive contribution during their time with us.

Jane Foxcroft, Principal, West Island School (WIS): Jane joined ESF in 1985 as an English Teacher at Island School and moved to WIS in 1991. Jane was appointed Deputy Principal of WIS in 2001, Acting Principal in 2006, and Principal in 2007. Jane joined WIS when the school first started with 60 students and has seen it grow to over 1,200 today. Including Jane, WIS has nurtured thirteen Principals who are spread around the globe, many of whom were personally mentored by Jane. Jane was a member of the ESF Board of Governors for several years including as the Principal representative on the search panel that appointed the current CEO. Jane has had an extraordinarily and successful career at ESF. We wish her well as Jane steps into the next season of her life.



Chris Durbin, ESF School Development Adviser, Secondary: Chris joined ESF in 2004 as School Improvement Officer, Secondary and took up his role as School Development Adviser, Secondary in 2006. Chris has spearheaded the journey of ESF secondary schools' continuous improvement: with the external evaluation framework provided by CIS/WASC, the stakeholder survey. Chris has led the design and implementation of a systemic framework to support environmental education across ESF, naturally finds its deep roots in Chris' early teaching career, Geography, more than 30 years ago in the UK. We wish Chris the best as he joins the Council of International Schools (CIS).

David Kirby, Student Attainment Manager and VLE Project Manager, ESF Centre: Dave Kirby joined ESF in 2002, first teaching at KGV before moving to WIS as Head of Faculty and then Vice Principal. In 2009, Dave joined the ESFC Education team and initially oversaw the introduction of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) across schools. More recently Dave's role has involved supporting schools with their use of data and also a brief return to his roots as a classroom teacher. Dave and his family will leave Hong Kong in July and do some travelling before settling down in Perth, Australia later this year.

Samantha Rodgers, Learning and Teaching Advisor (ESFC): Sam joined ESF in 2002 as an English Teacher at South Island School. Sam was promoted to KS5 Coordinator in the English Department in 2004, Leading Teacher of English in 2006, and was appointed Head of English in 2008. Sam was then appointed Learning and Teaching Advisor at ESF Centre in 2012. Sam will be returning to Australia with her family to settle on the outskirts of Melbourne, where she and her husband hope to live more simply and sustainably, and truly enjoy living in the 'wide open spaces' of Australia.

Tania Martin, Vice Principal, Renaissance College (RC): Tania joined RCHK as PYP Teacher in 2006 and was appointed Vice Principal in 2012. She will be moving back to Gold Coast in Australia to finish off the Master of Applied Leadership in Positive Education programme. She considers herself very lucky to have been part of such a professional, dedicated and caring community which cares so much for students and also for one another. She will miss her students and will remember this wonderful community forever. She recently became engaged and is planning her wedding. Congratulations, Tania!

Angela Lowe, Vice Principal, Sha Tin Junior School (SJS): Angela joined SJS in 2006 as a Teacher, and promoted to Assistant Principal in 2006. Angela was appointed Vice Principal of SJS in 2008. Angela has left ESF to become the Head of Primary at Canberra Girls Grammar School in Australia.

Rachael Dewhurst, Vice Principal, Beacon Hill School (BHS): Rachael joined ESF in 2003 when she began at Sha Tin Junior School as a teacher, shortly thereafter joining the senior leadership team as the English Coordinator and PYP Coordinator. In April 2012 she became a Vice Principal and PYP Coordinator at Beacon Hill School and among other projects has been involved in whole school curriculum. A great friend and colleague to many, Rachael has brought great experience, talent and sense of humor to her roles. We wish Rachael well in her new role at Bethany School in Melbourne, Australia.

Long Service Awards for staff leaving ESF

Staff who are leaving at the end of this academic year and have served for ten years or more are recognised for their long service with ESF. We thank them for their loyal service to ESF. They have contributed significantly to making ESF the successful organisation that it is today.

Thank you the following teachers and support staff for their long service:



ESF CEO Mrs Belinda Greer presents award to Mr Ng Wah Sun, who is leaving Beacon Hill School after 47 years of service.

<u>School</u>	<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Beacon Hill School	Ng Wah Sun	47
	Rachael Dewhurst	13
ESF Centre	Samantha Rodgers	13
	Chris Durbin	12
	Dave Kirby	14
	KY Lee	29
Island School	Derek Bailey	35
	Jon Clarke	17
	Jo-Anne Trevenna	17
	Mike Turnbull	15
	Jo Rickards	12
Jockey Club Sarah Roe School	Floria Siu	20
	Mimi Kong	18
	Nancy Chin	23
King George V School	Simon Sheridan	15
	Margaret Kirby	14
	Sara Young	11
	Gary Horner	10
	James Gillis	15
Renaissance College	Aletha Rossiter	15
	Angela Liu	10
	Tania Martin	10
	David Hooper	10
Sha Tin College	David Hooper	10
South Island School	Ming Law	27
	Jeanne Thornton	16
	Karen Hartcher	11
	Alan Chow	33
Sha Tin Junior School	Chau Lai Ning	27
	Mui Lo	13
	Katie Keenan	14
West Island School	Jane Foxcroft	31
	Cheung Hao Wah	32
	Gong Zhi Quan	12
	Tony Rodgers	10

ESF opens new kindergarten in August



ESF will be opening the fifth and largest international kindergarten at THE VISIONARY in Tung Chung. Building on the experience and success of the four existing ESF kindergartens, it will provide a high-quality, English medium early years education for children aged 3 to 5. Children who attend the school will receive priority for interview at ESF primary and ESF private independent schools.

“We are excited to have broken ground in our new space and look forward to watching our vision for this kindergarten come to life,” said Sandra Hite, Principal of ESF International Kindergarten, Tung Chung. “Opening our kindergarten allows us to serve the local community and gives parents the opportunity to secure a quality ESF play-based education.” Read full story [HERE](#).

Successful accreditation review at Sha Tin Junior School



The Council of International Schools (CIS) conducted a five-year review visit at Sha Tin Junior School in March 2016. A very positive report has been received and shared with the community.

Some of the key strengths identified include:

- a positive school climate based on a strong sense of trust within the community,
- a successful focus on positive education; and
- school vision and mission which is easily accessed, widely understood and provides direction for the school.

The report also contains recommendations for improvement for the school to consider. The full report is available at SJS' website: www.sjs.edu.hk

PYP Exhibitions

Throughout term two and three, all Year 6 students have engaged in a collaborative, inquiry approach to learning which has involved identifying, investigating and offering solutions to real-life issues and problems. The PYP Exhibition brings together the essential elements of the PYP and shares the evidence of learning with the whole school community.

ESF is extremely proud of the achievement of our Year 6 students who have taken action around important local and global issues. All students have confidently and creatively shared their learning with the wider ESF community through their advocacy campaigns and the exhibition.



PYP Exhibition at Quarry Bay School

ESF Stakeholder Survey

Stakeholders from 21 ESF schools participated in the Stakeholder Survey at the end of last term. The survey is a key monitoring tool for ESF, providing principals and school councils with school stakeholders' views. Overall, the feedback is extremely positive. All questions across all stakeholder groups in all schools received

an overall positive response. The results are slightly better than the positive results from the 2014 survey. Schools have analysed their own results and will report the findings of the survey to school councils before the end of term. Thank you to all who took time to complete the survey and express their views. Please click [HERE](#) to view a summary of the survey report.

ESF student shines a light as journalist



Xaviera and Mr Andrew Work, Publisher of Harbour Times

Congratulations to Xaviera Artaza from West Island School who won the High School Journalism Prize at the Human Rights Press Awards. Her winning piece "[Disenfranchised: Education for Non-Chinese-Speaking Children in Hong Kong](#)", which went on the cover of Harbour Times last July, examines the struggles faced by non-ethnic Chinese in getting a quality education in Hong Kong leading to a lifetime of discrimination and disadvantage. Click [HERE](#) to see full story and [HERE](#) to read Xaviera's interview by Ming Pao Daily.

EScheF of the Year Finals

The annual EScheF of the Year Final was held on Friday, 27 May. This year's theme was "Street Food". Working in a pair, their brief was to make street food classics into fine dining dishes – with two hours to make and present a main course and dessert. 17 students from across ESF schools competed against each other in a culinary battle, cooking their dishes to perfection.

Shiena Nishimura from SIS won the champion for the senior section with her Takoyaki Style Gougere along with a tiramisu for dessert. Yash Anand and Alessandro Lucchini from Island School came first in the junior section. The Island School students looked to their heritage and made dishes from Italy and India. Their winning dish was Arancini with a Mango Kulfi as dessert.

Click [HERE](#) to view more photos of the event.

Runners up:

	<u>Senior</u>	<u>Junior</u>
1st	Shiena Nishimura (SIS)	Yash Anand & Alessandro Lucchini (IS)
2nd	Masanori Wong (KGV)	Danielle Mamom & Nishani Turner (KGV)
3rd	Man Lam Cheng (STC)	Maddie Kwan & Gabby Kwan (SIS)



Yash Anand & Alessandro Lucchini (IS)



Shiena Nishimura (SIS)

Clearwater Bay School crowned Battle of the Books Champion

Every year ESF, as well as international and local schools, participates in the Battle of the Books competition. The competition includes primary, secondary and modified sections. The ethos behind the competition is the passion for

reading quality literature and competing on the detail and knowledge of the books.

Over a hundred schools participated, 12 students from ESF Clearwater Bay School won the 2016 Primary Championship. They have displayed hard work, commitment, tenacity, great sportsmanship and self-control. Congratulations!



ESF wins 'Duty of Care' Awards 2016

ESF won the inaugural 'Duty of Care' Awards 2016 set up by the International SOS Foundation. This award is in recognition of the partnerships that have developed and the policy and processes we have in place to support due diligence.

ESF students showcase a wealth of marketing talent



ESF hosted the 10th annual ESF Marketing Competition at Renaissance College (RCHK) on Wednesday, 16 March 2016. This year we are excited to have Uber, one of the most game-changing app-based car-hailing companies in the world, to be our sponsor.

Each of the seven participating ESF schools sent two teams of Year 12 students to compete on a variety of marketing-related tasks throughout the day. Island School's Team 2 reigned supreme and RCHK's Team 2 came second. The annual contest is designed to encourage students to apply their business knowledge and skills to real life. Click [HERE](#) to see full story.

Learning Support Class students join career workshop to learn about the business world

15 students from South Island School, West Island School and King George V School Learning Support Classes (LSC) joined a career workshop jointly run by ESF Career Development Services and State Street, a global financial bank in April. Students learned from their mentors how to enhance their job readiness skills by improving their capabilities in CV writing and interview skills.

The students' feedback was highly positive and most of them expressed an interest to continue their connection by joining the virtual mentorship programme run by State Street.



ESF Kowloon Learning Campus Special Olympics 2016



The 2016 Kowloon Learning Campus Special Olympics was held with great success earlier this month where students demonstrated a passion for sport.

The games involved students from Jockey Club Sarah Roe School and King George V School (KGV)'s Learning Support Centre competing in a range of events, being ably supported and encouraged by BTEC students from KGV with assistance from students from Kowloon Junior School. Despite the heat, the level of competition was high with the sprinters in particular breaking all records.

Sha Tin College teacher publishes new IB Chinese textbook



Vivienne Fung, Teacher of Chinese at Sha Tin College, has written two IB textbooks for Language B Mandarin SL and HL (titled "Follow Me Through BSL" and "Follow Me Through BHL"). Her textbooks were published last month and are now available in bookstores.

The books provide guidance for students in terms of idea-forming, sentence structure, key vocabulary, references for oral expression, exam banks and model writing tests. It is also the very first IB text to be published by Sinolingua – one of the biggest publishers for teaching Chinese as a foreign language in China.

Sha Tin College presents at the bi-annual HK Association of Deputy Principals' Conference

The Hong Kong Association of Deputy Principals (HKADP) hosted its bi-annual conference at Chinese University Hong Kong (CUHK) on Tuesday, 24 May. The event was attended by around 350 school leaders across the city. The theme for this year's conference was 'Leadership in a rapid era of change'. Paul Hoang, Vice Principal at Sha Tin College, was invited as a keynote speaker. He spoke about the meaning of an ESF education, the ESF's leadership and teacher capability frameworks and the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum. He also highlighted the school's new motto – 'learning today for a better tomorrow'.



ESF sweeps victories at Asia-Pacific Chinese-English Bilingual Festival



The ESF teams faced bilingual challenges confidently and unflinchingly at the two-day event from 29 to 30 April. Renaissance College (RCHK) won glories for ESF, claiming three championships including Bilingual Speech by Natalie Law, Bilingual Poetry Recital by Jackie Tsoi and the Bilingual Debate by the RCHK Team. The whole ESF team won additional 12 individual places.

Julian Poon of Sha Tin College received a special award for consistent effort and Pui Yan Sham of Sha Tin Junior School won a place in each of her three events. Last but not least, both Michael Dai of South Island School and Natalie Law of RCHK were named the Best Debaters.

ESF Nicola Myers & Kenneth McBride Memorial Fund helps 101 local students in schooling

In the wake of the tragic deaths of two exceptional young Island School students in 1985, the Nicola Myers and Kenneth McBride Memorial Fund (NMKM), which was named after the two victims, was set up to benefit local students who have great financial needs in funding their education. This fund hopes to redeem that loss and help keep Nicola Myers' and Kenneth McBride's ideals and compassion for others alive in support of needy and exceptional local students.

This year, over 180 applications have been received and priority goes to those who are suffering through family misfortune. Approximately HK\$250,000 worth of sponsorships have been awarded to 101 Form 6 students from local schools, each with a fixed sum of HK\$2,500, enabling them to continue with their education. Click [HERE](#) to see full story.



1,500 ESF students pledge to make a greener world



To celebrate this year's Earth Day, over 1,500 students from across ESF schools pledged to live green and make the world a better place, starting from saving energy and water to refusing the use of straws and not wasting food.

The event was organised by Charged Hong Kong, a Hong Kong registered charity promoting electric vehicles and sustainable transportation. The organiser has collected a million pledges from children all over the world. The pledges, which were written on small cards, will then be taken to Geneva by electrical vehicles and displayed as part of a huge collage to influence world leaders and increase their commitment to reversing climate change. Click [HERE](#) to see full story.

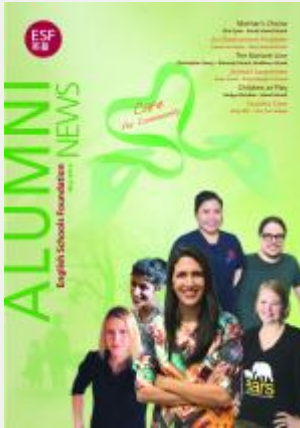
Happy Dragon Boat Festival!



The ESF Dragon Boat Team came 4th in the Stanley race at the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Carnival. Congratulations!



ESF Alumni News (May 2016) is published



In this issue, we are featuring alumni who care for and contribute to the community in different ways. We have interviewed Alia Eyres (South Island School), Carmel de Bedin (West Island School), Christopher Geary (Glenealy School and Bradbury School), Anne Chow (KGV), Naqiya Ebrahim (Island School) and Sally Wills (Sha Tin College).

Don't miss the "class notes" session which shares updates from alumni, and the "what's happening" session which shares alumni reunions and events.

The online copy is available on www.esf.edu.hk/alumni. Printed copies are available at all school offices.

Join ESF Summer Sports Camps and Language Camps

A number of Sports Camps and Language Camps are available this summer. Please check them out [HERE](#).

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The next ESF News will be published in September 2016

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