

Newsletter Issue No.26 (January 2022)



ESTABLISHED 1860

#### DIOCESAN GIRLS' SCHOOL

School Council

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Vice-chairman: Revd Alex McCov

Supervisor: Mrs Doris Ho, JP Ms Benita Yu (effective January 2022)

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Josephine Chang

#### Members:

Mrs Stella Lau, SBS, JP (Headmistress, DGS)
Mrs Annie Lee (Headmistress, DGJS)
Mrs Sheilah Chatjaval
Ms Stephanie Cheung
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Mrs Susanna Wong
Mr Marco Wu, GBS, SBS
The Hon Madam Justice Yuen, JA
Ms Yvonne Chan (DOGA President)
Mrs Christine Nip (PTA Chairman)

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## A Speech Day Like No Other -12 November 2021





The ceremony commenced with an opening prayer from Reverend McCoy.

Our Headmistress, Mrs. Lau, ensued with her heartfelt appreciation for the steadfast achievements of DGS girls in academics as well as in sports, music, technology, and community service through the troubling waters of the pandemic. She also highlighted pioneering programmes in the DGS's STEM education, such as the AI Lab, Blockchain Club and Mathematical Modelling.

Mrs. Lau's speech ended with a moving tribute to our Supervisor whose wise counsel over the past 37 years saw the transformation of a good school into the exceptional campus it is today. Mrs. Lau led the school in a standing ovation for our beloved Supervisor.

We were privileged to hear the call to 'take the lead in kindness' when the esteemed Professor A. Lin Goodwin, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Hong Kong, took the

stage as our guest of honour. She shared her experience in an all-girls school similar to DGS in Singapore, and prompted us to appreciate the rich resources and supportive environment in which girls can cultivate their interests and passions with confidence. Though students, especially those about to embark on the next leg of their journeys, might find their future undirected and overwhelming, she encouraged everyone to embrace the world nonetheless, and to incorporate those we admire and respect into our aspirations.

After the prize presentation, in which students shared with the audience their joy in receiving accolades for their hard work, our Valedictorians presented, on behalf of the graduates, their Vote of Thanks in English, Cantonese and Putonghua, expressing their gratitude towards the Headmistress, teachers, parents and classmates for their

unconditional support and dedication over the years.

Professor Goodwin

The lights of the Auditorium then dimmed to reveal a surprise prepared by the Computer Club on behalf of all DGS girls: carefully programmed drones whirred in a special formation of '10' and 'X'. The drone swarm performance drew gasps of astonishment from the audience, which turned into delight when everyone understood the formation was a pun for the word, 'thanks'.

The evening concluded with a benediction from the Most Reverend Andrew Chan, praying for our Father's guidance and protection as we strive for excellence.



# In Praise of God's Manifold Gifts: Gospel Week & Harvest Festival 2021

Amidst the full swing of schoolwork and assessments in the middle of the first term, members of the school community were given the opportunity to pause and reflect on the blessings of God in the months of October and November through the annual Gospel Week and Harvest Festival.

#### **Gospel Week**

A longstanding tradition of the School and faithfully led by generations of girls from the Youth Fellowship since the 1990s, the Gospel Week this year was held from 19-22 October. Having observed the uncertainty brought about by recent social issues, the anxiety associated with the current public health situation, and the everyday stress from school life, the Youth Fellowship committee members shared on the very relatable theme: "It's OK to be not OK: God is in control".

Through an original animation story of a two-legged fox, a skit dealing with questions of our purpose as students, as well as a worship session on songs of finding lasting joy in the Lord, the Youth Fellowship explored in three morning assemblies how God not only understands us in our struggles, but also comes near to comfort, encourage, and point us to His good plan for us in Christ.

The Gospel Week culminated in the evangelistic meeting, held on Friday afternoon. Our recent graduate, Mercy Wong, shared a moving testimony of her struggles and encounters with God in her S6 year leading up to the HKDSEs, which resonated with many. Coupled with the meaningful sharing by Pastor Zung from Yan Fook Church, as well as the songs of faith led by their youth worship team, many were reminded of God's unchanging faithfulness and loving pursuit of an intimate relationship with His children.



God knows my name-

#### **Harvest Festival**

Having reflected on God's blessings in our lives throughout Gospel Week, the school came together a few weeks later to share in the joy of giving through the Harvest Festival on 10 November. In this much-loved event that was temporarily suspended in the last school year, students and staff alike joined together in donating food and money to the needy. During the assembly, the Youth Fellowship sang a worship song on how God's love can make an impact on our community, and displayed the food items on the Auditorium stage in celebration of the joy of sharing the provisions received from God.

As we continue to uphold the fifth and foundational pillar of the DGS education – spiritual nurturing, as well as the school motto "Daily Giving Service", we pray that our school will continue to grow as a community abiding in the love of God as we, in turn, share this love with those around us.

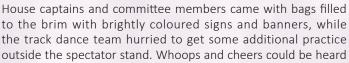




## **Spirits High at Athletics Meet 2021**



After a 2-year hiatus, the heats of our long-awaited Athletics Meet finally took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November at Wan Chai Sports Ground. Athletes and spectators alike joined in the fun, with the exhilaration of competition filling the air, despite the restraints brought by social distancing measures.



all across the field whenever someone raced past the finish line. It was great to see that our spirits were not dampened by the pandemic.

could be heard Long jump

Winners



High iump

Despite the recent resumption of sports training at school, and the limited external competitions in the past 18 months, our athletes still performed to a high standard. Two DGS records were broken and another athlete equalled a meet record. Our athletes could finally reap the fruits of their labour.





Our Athletics Meet is not only for record breakers, but also for seniors who want to celebrate their last school year together by participating in events just for fun. Groups of friends leapt over hurdles, one after another, while holding hands and savouring the thrill of the day. Another memorable scene was when all the competitors for one of the 100m heats dressed up in Disney costumes.

All in all, despite the tricky weather and uncertainty at the start of the day, everyone would undoubtedly agree that the Athletics Meet was a rousing success.

Anticipation and energy abound for the Interhouse Athletics Finals, which turned out to be remarkable! The event highlight was the teacher-student relay: finally, a chance for the teachers to showcase their athleticism. Excitement filled the entire sports ground as they dashed neck and neck toward the finish line. Pride of place, however, was taken by a relay team comprising DGS Old Girls who represented Hong Kong in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. All four exerted Olympian effort, even if sprinting was not their sport. The Athletics Finals was the perfect opportunity to enjoy sports, and a great way to lower our stress levels as we approached our mid-year examinations.

### DGS Whizz-kids at InnoCarnival 2021





Last summer, a team of DGS innovators was awarded the Gold Prize in the 16<sup>th</sup> Soong Ching Ling Award for Children's Invention national competition. Their remarkable accomplishment was highly recognized by the Education Bureau and Innovation and Technology Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR which chose their invention, Asthemeter, to be one

of the premier exhibitions in the InnoCarnival 2021. At the opening ceremony on 23 October 2021, Mr. Paul Chan Mo-po, GBM, GBS, MH, JP, Financial Secretary, and Mr. Alfred Sit Wing-hang, JP, Secretary for Innovation and Technology, visited DGS' booth. Our team's experience in the InnoCarnival 2021 and the journey of their invention were documented in the TV show "Innovation GPS" broadcast by TVB on 8 December 2021. If you miss the broadcast, click on this link. https://youtu.be/MIuKhqV3MGU







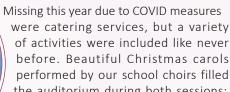


## "Mini" Mini Bazaar

This year's Mini Bazaar was successfully held on 17 December.

In line with the Centre for Health Protection guidelines, the scale of our event was reduced to 8 game stalls and 24 sales stalls, and the number of family members each student could invite was lowered from four to one. Guests were allotted two separate sessions: the visitors from session A would leave the premises before the campus was thoroughly sanitized to prepare for the guests in session B. Classes and clubs teamed up in innovative ways to run the game or sales stalls, and do their bit for charity. Online group preordering of merchandise made sure shoppers were able to fill their Christmas stockings with an assortment of gifts, no less impressive than in past years. The proceeds of this "mini" Mini Bazaar meant our charities would have a delightful Christmas too.

The day commenced with the Opening Ceremony when our current and our succeeding school supervisors, Mrs. Doris Ho and Ms Benita Yu respectively, and Reverend McCoy joined the headmistresses of Senior School and Junior School for the ribbon cutting. Excited parents and girls alike, thronged around stalls in different zones, queueing outside classrooms and in the DGS plaza. Intricately designed backpacks, convenient multipurpose folders and DGS fabric design tote bags sold like hot cakes. DOGA and New Sight Congo sales stalls were also set up for fundraising.



routine charmed visitors in the Plaza, in the upper floor corridors, who clapped to the music as they admired the cool moves of our talented dancers.

before. Beautiful Christmas carols performed by our school choirs filled the auditorium during both sessions; the carpark dance





Sorry, sold out

