

11. Student Support Services

11.1 Careers Guidance

Mr. A. Ebrahim

The Careers Team aims to help students in their acquisition of relevant knowledge, values and skills to prepare them for their further studies and personal development.

DGS has been fortunate enough to attract top overseas university representatives to talk to our students and parents. These representatives are eager to recruit top-notch students for their university classes. This past year saw the resumption of overseas representatives travelling to Hong Kong and we were able to welcome guests from various universities such as from Cambridge University, UCL, King's College London, Imperial College London and Durham University. We look forward to hosting more overseas visitors in the next academic year.

Local universities continue to be an attractive destination for our students. We helped girls with their applications for university courses this year through both JUPAS and non-JUPAS. This year, we invited a professor and representatives from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) to speak to our girls at school, and we organised outbound visits to both The University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong for various specific programmes.

DGS girls this year received an admirable range of university offers from around the world, including prestigious scholarships such as the Hong Kong Excellence Scholarship and the Jardine Scholarship. We owe a big debt of gratitude to all the representatives from overseas and local universities who have given their time and effort to speak to and advise our girls, and for reviewing their applications and giving offers of admission.

Our alumni association, the DOGA, and all our former graduates, have always been a great supporter of our department and continued to share their knowledge and experiences. We are most appreciative of the many alumnae who are willing to speak to our students formally and informally. This year, we held a Careers Fair which saw over 450 of our students come back on a Saturday afternoon to speak to over 100 representatives, mostly old girls, from a wide range of careers and industries. This event enabled our students to interact with old girls and to learn from their experiences. We look forward to more of these invaluable types of events in the future. I wish to thank the DOGA as well as Ms. Yvonne Chan, Ms. Diana Ting and Ms. Connie Lung for their continued support.

Our annual Job Shadowing Programme for all S5 students continued this year, with all of our girls participating, and enjoying a few days at various companies or organizations around the city. We will continue to run this job shadowing programme next year, as well as to support girls for summer programmes and other career-related opportunities.

Within the school, the careers teachers continue to guide our students with their career and university choices. Different workshops were held, enabling students to identify their career interests and skills and to inform them of the application process for different universities. Additionally, much effort has also been put into supporting the girls such as through writing recommendation letters for them, guiding them with their essays and preparing them for interviews through a series of mock interviews.

The Student Careers Committee this year was ably led by Ashley Tong in S5, who worked tirelessly to support the department, especially when organising the Careers Fair. Careers Teachers have also steadfastly put in a lot of effort throughout the school year to help students across the school. I wish to extend my sincerest of thanks to team members – Mrs. RL Wong, Mrs. M Lam, Ms. O Ho, Mr. D Hyam, Mr. HC Chan, Mr. YC Fok, Ms. Y Chan, Ms. C Ng, Miss W Cheng, Miss N Kitchell and Miss S Li - who have given their 100%, to support the Careers Department. Many other teachers have also given their time assisting students with interview practice, essay advice and writing reference letters. Miss Sum Man Hin, an old girl, ably stepped in to support the Careers team in the first part of the year;

she quickly built a rapport with the girls and handled all her tasks efficiently. Ms. C Ma is an important member of the Careers Team and has efficiently and ably assisted with a large range of administrative issues, and with organising and implementing events. Ms. J Tsoi, our full-time Careers Counsellor, has invested her invaluable expertise and efforts into mentoring and guiding our students. Also, while their work may go unseen, the DGS Office Staff have been essential to the success of the Department through their handling of many responsibilities.

Finally, my appreciation must be extended to Mrs. Lau, who has taken the lead in building our relationships with universities, scholarship organisations and other careers-related partners. She offers her wealth of experience and advice so that the Careers Teachers are in the best possible position to ably assist our girls.

11.2 Guidance and Counselling

Mrs. M. Fong

This year, the Guidance and Counselling Team continued to play an invaluable role in building an effective supportive network that enhances the overall mental and emotional wellness of our students. With the belief that our students' holistic wellbeing is intricately tied to loving, healthy relationships with parents, peers and teachers, we have focused on providing various programmes and services not only to our students, but also to their parents, peers and teachers to equip them with the necessary tools to support student wellbeing.

In preparation for the start of the school year, our S1 students took part in the New Student Orientation Programme, which helped them get to know each other and become familiar with the school life, culture and campus. For the transfer students who joined us in September and January, two tailor-made orientation programmes were organised to cater to their specific needs, and our school social workers met with them regularly to offer guidance and support as needed. We are pleased that these programmes have proved to be very useful to new students, enabling most of them to adapt well academically, socially and emotionally.

Our Form Teachers continued to play a significant role in enhancing student wellbeing and providing individual guidance to students under their care. In September, Form Teachers led their students to prepare for the Inter-class Display Board Competition on the theme "Blessings Received, Blessings To Give" in the first term. This activity encouraged students to reflect on and creatively express their gratitude towards the positive aspects of life, as well as think of ways to offer what they have for the good of others. Throughout the year, Form Teachers also addressed the individual needs of students through mentoring and providing support to those who might need help.

Over the course of the year, our school social workers implemented various activities to foster a lifestyle of healthy and holistic wellness among students, and strengthen the relationships between parents and their daughters. During the S1 co-curricular enrichment lessons, a tailor-made wellness programme was conducted for each S1 class to enhance students' social and emotional wellbeing. In December and May, "Chocolate and Greeting Card Making" DIY workshops were organised for transfer students who joined us in September and January respectively, enabling them to create their own chocolates and greeting cards as tokens of appreciation for their buddies or teachers. In March, a talk on "Understanding Emotions" was conducted for all S1-5 students during the Mental Health Awareness Week. In February, Ms. C. Leung gave informative seminars to S1 and S4 parents on Parents' Day, helping them understand the developmental and academic challenges faced by their daughters, how parents' attitudes could impact students' adaptation, and what parents could do when their daughters face adversity. In May, the DGS Parent-Daughter Fun Day was organised to provide interested parents with a glimpse of their daughter's school life and strengthen parent-child relationships through a variety of bonding activities.

To enhance students' awareness of mental health and provide tips for maintaining good mental health, Mr. Stephen Yip, a counsellor from Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service, gave a talk on "Understanding Mental Health" to our S1 and S2 students in July. Moreover, professional trainers from the Mental Health Wellbeing Team of KELY Support Group conducted two Coolminds Youth Mental Health Workshops for our S4 and S5 students in July, providing them with practical tips for maintaining good mental health as well as promoting self-care and help-seeking behaviours among them. In addition, student leaders on the Counselling Committee rolled out the "Mind Matters" programme for S3 students in September and S4 students in May, aiming to raise students' awareness of mental health and suicidal risks, and help them become empathetic and caring peer supporters.

With the help of youth work officers from the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (HKFYG), a talk on peer support was held for our S2 students in June, enabling them to acquire methods of providing emotional support and establishing emotional boundaries, as well as develop skills to support their peers and family members in emotional distress. In June, a talk on future professions was conducted for our S4 students, helping them to explore how current technological advancements impact future job prospects, and to embrace innovation and technology as part of their future careers for a more holistic approach to life planning.

To facilitate our students in making wise and informed choices in life, experienced speakers were invited to address pressing issues that concern today's youth. In October, our S1 students attended a workshop on "Say No to Cyberbullying" co-organised by Zonta Club of Hong Kong East and HKFYG Jockey Club Media 21, aiming to empower them to recognise signs of cyberbullying, promote responsible online behavior, and take appropriate action to prevent cyberbullying incidents. In June, our S2 students were educated about healthy perspectives towards sex by a Christian counsellor from the New Creation Association.

To promote peer support among students, various programmes were implemented during the year. In September, the S1 Ambassadors Training Programme was launched, with a group of trained S1 Ambassadors serving as supportive classmates to help fellow students integrate better into the new school environment, as well as to promote a caring and inclusive school culture among the S1 cohort throughout the year. In March, the S2-S4 Peer Counselling Training Programme was organised to help 48 students to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to support their own emotional wellbeing and that of their peers. In June, the "Student Ambassadors for Mental and Emotional Health" Programme was launched to empower 38 Counselling Committee members to serve as mental and emotional health ambassadors and gatekeepers to their peers as well as mentors to our incoming S1 students. In July, the S1-S4 Buddy Training Programme was held to equip 48 students with the necessary knowledge and skills to understand the needs of new students and play the role of a buddy for new students in the next academic year.

Furthermore, over the course of the year, 24 student leaders participated in the Peer Power – Student Gatekeeper Training Programme organised by the Education Bureau (EDB) and conducted a series of fun and meaningful mental health activities to promote students' awareness of self-care as well as spread love and encouragement to their peers, teachers and non-teaching staff in the school community. In addition, eight student leaders completed the S.H.I.E.L.D.S. Suicide Prevention Student Leadership Training Programme organised by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, University of Hong Kong, and rolled out suicide prevention and mental health promotion activities in all S3 and S4 classes in September and May respectively.

Throughout the entire school year, the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) had been actively helping our students and their parents cultivate stronger relationships and better mutual understanding through different events and activities. Every other Thursday morning from October to June, the PTA held the Christian Mothers' Group for DGJS and DGS Christian mothers to seek biblical guidance to strengthen their parenting skills. From October to June, monthly breakfast Zoom meetings for DGJS and DGS fathers and mothers on "Building Characters and Virtues" were conducted to equip parents with the knowledge and skills to help their daughters develop a strong and mature character, and to guide them

to lead virtuous lives. In November, the PTA hosted a webinar on “Health and Well-being of Adolescent Girls” to enhance parents’ understanding on how diet and nutrition affect puberty and growth. In May, a seminar on “Understanding Adolescents” was organised to enhance parents’ understanding on how to access the inner world of adolescents, guide them to share their thoughts, and help them cope with adolescent stress.

To enhance teachers’ expertise in discerning students’ emotional needs and providing appropriate and timely guidance and intervention when needed, teachers’ training workshops were organised during the year. In September, all staff joined a training session as part of the Peer Power – Student Gatekeeper Training Programme organised by the EDB, which facilitated a whole-school approach to implementing activities that promote mental health among students. In February, the Mental Health Literacy Training Workshop for Educators was conducted by trainers from Mind HK for all teachers, enhancing their understanding of common youth mental health needs, as well as equipping them with useful wellness tools and knowledge of available mental health resources for young people in Hong Kong.

The Counselling Committee, under the leadership of our chairladies, Hebe Lam and Winnie Wong, displayed remarkable dedication in their service to the school community throughout the academic year. They worked wholeheartedly in organising the S1 New Student Orientation Programme, the Inter-class Display Board Competition, and a presentation of encouragement and blessings for their S6 sisters upon their graduation. They conducted various fun and meaningful whole-school activities during the Mental Health Awareness Week, creating an inclusive environment and promoting wellbeing for all students.

During the entire academic year, we offered pastoral care and counselling to individual students who needed our help and attention. I am deeply grateful to our school social workers, Ms. C. Leung and Ms. K. Cheng, and my teammates: Dr. A. Cheung, Mr. J. Oddie, Miss C. Au, Mrs. M.P. Chow, Miss C. Ho, Mrs. H. Leung, and Miss T.S. Wun, for their steadfast dedication in nurturing the mental and emotional wellbeing of our students. Special thanks must also be given to Mrs. R. Santos, Mr. H.Y. Li and Miss M. Ng for overseeing and caring for our athletes as they faced the challenges of balancing rigorous training with academic work.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Mrs. Lau for her unfailing love and care for our students, as well as her invaluable guidance and support for the Team. Last but not least, my deepest gratitude goes to our Father in heaven for His generous provisions and continued protection over the school community throughout the year.

11.3 Other Learning Experiences

1. Other Learning Experiences Team (OLE Team)

Ms. A. Sy

Other Learning Experiences have once again flourished in school! Heavily stricken by the pandemic in the past three years, the School is determined to provide abundant opportunity for our students to catch up and resume their pre-pandemic normal OLE life. With the gradual resumption of normal life and the removal of social distancing measures, various ECA groups have stretched themselves fully to organise a large variety of activities, making school life colorful and enjoyable.

Offering a Wide Range of ECA

To celebrate the relaxation of pandemic-related restrictions, various activities were resumed and new activities were offered. For instance, art courses such as Chinese Art Painting, 3D Animation and Fluid Art workshops were organised for interested students. This not only helped students acquire skills that they may find useful in the future, but also allowed them to relax themselves in the course of the artwork.

In order to make sure our new students would also benefit from the expansion and resumption of ECA, they were invited to various events in the summer, such as sports team trainings, to help them have a taste of different kinds of sports and to explore their interest. An “Innovative Technology Experiential Day” was also organised in August, where new students were able to experience some new gadgets and even learn the basics of coding.

The school has strived hard to engage students in different activities. By offering new programmes to our students and resuming once-suspended activities, we ensure our girls are ready to explore the future and to grasp new insights outside their textbooks.

Adopting a Hybrid Mode of ECA

With the experience of organising virtual ECA during the past few years, ECA groups are now capable of adopting a hybrid mode conducting their activities. When situation allowed, face-to-face activities were conducted as much as possible, but where there were constraints, such as limitation of the venues, activities would be conducted online. For instance, to protect both students and the external participants, some service projects had to be switched to the online mode. However, to facilitate a more effective preparation, training sessions were often conducted face-to-face.

This hybrid mode has allowed much greater flexibility for ECA groups to organise their meetings and activities, and it has also facilitated the accommodation of many more participants, benefiting a bigger group of students. It is indeed an unexpected benefit.

Revamp of Timetable

The school understands that students may struggle between balancing academic work and involvement in ECA, after the past few years. The timetable was thus revamped to encourage a higher participation of ECA. A half-day timetable was adopted from Monday to Thursday, while a full day timetable was adopted on Friday. The afternoons of Friday were reserved for various whole-school or group activities, such as talks, training and workshops.

The change in the timetable allowed students to expand their participation and eagerness in ECA, with some even stretching themselves to join more than one activity on the same day. Students also reflected that they appreciated the change as they would still have time after ECA to complete their schoolwork or relax themselves. Students’ wellbeing was benefitted.

House Activities

House activities continued to be a highlight of OLE in school. With the relaxation of constraints, various popular House competitions in the past were resumed. Houses, under the leadership of House captains, strived hard to capture the championships in Athletics Meets and Swimming Gala, as well as other sports competitions such as basketball, indoor rowing and skipping. The Inter-House Programming Competition continued this year, but with students becoming more experienced in programming, the competition became more intense. The skills demonstrated by the contestants were fascinating. To add in some new elements and expand the scope of Inter-House Competition, a Mathematics Contest and a Science Contest were organised. House teachers were also involved in the competitions, where they were invited to represent their Houses to compete. Students enjoyed watching these competitions and their initiative in participation was also heightened.

After various rounds of competitions, the following are the results of the Inter-House activities:

Event	Gibbins	Hurrell	Sawyer	Skipton	Symons
Athletics					
A	2	7	3	4	5
B	4	5	2	7	3
C	7	4	2	3	5
Cheering	2	0	0.5	3	0.5
Basketball	2	5	7	3.5	3.5
Indoor Rowing	4	7	3	5	2
Mathematics	4	2	3	7	5
Programming	3	5	4	2	7
Science	4	2	5	3	7
Skipping	5	3.5	2	7	3.5
Swimming					
A	3	2	4	5	7
B	5	7	4	3	2
C	5	7	2	4	3
life-saving	2.5	2.5	0	0	1
Total	52.5	59	41.5	56.5	54.5

Congratulations Hurrell!

The full resumption of ECA was not an easy task, but with the cooperation of teachers and students, the outcome was fruitful. It was truly satisfying to see how eager our students were in signing up for various activities. That motivated our Team to go beyond and further. We are also blessed to be given the resources and support from the School Council, the P.T.A. and the Headmistress for the implementation of ECA resumption. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the trust and support that we were given throughout the year.

2. Cultural Interest Classes and Intensive Classes

Miss N. Kitchell

The Cultural Interest Classes is designed to enable students to become independent language learners with good communication and interpersonal skills. Students are encouraged to think about grammatical structure and experiment with language, develop an awareness which may enhance their literacy skills and increase performance across the curriculum. Lessons focus on enabling students to communicate in the target language with increasing confidence and fluency.

With over 150 students across all year groups, they were engaged in a range of activities which focussed on linguistic diversity and cultural understanding. Through their hard work, perseverance and courage, they produced work of great creativity and skill.

The students showed great tenacity and independence in their learning, adapting to the different methods of lesson delivery. During the course of the year, the language instructors provided a variety of new challenges for students. Using different resources, students were given the opportunity enquiring into a range of cultural topics related to Spanish or Japanese culture.

Students worked tirelessly throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of their determination and dedication to have achieved so much. Our accomplishment in the internationally recognised academic qualifications continued to build on the successes of previous years. The results were encouraging, with 100% pass rate in the Spanish examinations. Earlier this year, some of our students sat for the

Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera (Spanish as a Foreign Language Diploma) examinations. Their hard work paid off, with 100% pass rate.

The school continues to provide a supportive, carefully-structured and well-resourced learning environment to the students who enrolled in the aforementioned language classes. As a form of encouragement, scholarships were awarded to students who did exceptionally well in these languages and at each level.

To end this report, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our selfless and committed language instructors for their hard work and patience, supporting staff and to all who have helped over the past year. Above all, none of this would be possible without the unwavering guidance, support and leadership of our Headmistress, Mrs. S Lau. Given the ability and commitment of our students, we are once again looking forward to another fruitful and enjoyable year.

3. Overseas and Exchange Programmes Team

Mrs. RL Wong

Understanding the value of student exchange programmes to DGS education, the Overseas and Exchange Programmes Team endeavors to look for various means that allow DGS students to interact with pupils from around the world. As international travel recovers, our exchange programme schedule with various partner schools has gradually resumed.

In 2022-23, our school arranged for more than 180 DGS students to travel abroad to participate in conferences, competitions and study tours held in Singapore, mainland China, Taichung, Germany and Australia. Our Model United Nations Team had the honour of being the first group to represent DGS abroad after the lifting of the pandemic restrictions. The girls flew to Singapore to participate in the Singapore Chinese Model United Nations (SCMUN) conference. In the conference, our students engaged in rigorous debate and simulations of diplomatic discussions with their peers from Singapore and Indonesia. Five of our DGS MUN Team members captured the Best Delegate Award and Outstanding Delegate Award.

The annual Humanities Research Symposium for Youth (HRSY) was held in Brisbane, Australia. The HRSY delegation consisting of 14 DGS students came together with their counterparts from Australia, South Korea and Singapore to engage in academic discussions and intellectually stimulating activities. Our students broadened their horizons by interacting with delegates from diverse backgrounds, allowing them to learn more about the unique cultures of the different countries.

This year, we continued to take part in online conventions and international conferences organised by our partner schools in the United States and Singapore. A total of 33 students participated in the Global Seminar organised by Miss Porter's School in the United States and the International Student Leadership Congress 2022-23 organised by Temasek Junior College in Singapore. Also, 22 students participated in the virtual cultural exchange programme with Methodist Ladies' College in Melbourne from June to July. Participating students from each school were paired up as virtual school buddies to conduct online dialogue at regular intervals to share their knowledge and cultural experiences.

In response to the enthusiastic interest from students towards local school exchanges, we resumed our programme with Wah Yan College Kowloon this academic year. This local exchange programme provided valuable opportunity for participants to experience different school cultures and learning styles through immersing themselves into each other's school environment. We also look forward to the resumption of this programme with other local partner schools in the upcoming academic year.

We would like to thank the School Council, the Supervisor and Mrs. Lau for their support in our work. I would also like to express my sincerest appreciation to my fellow colleagues who have helped in organising and running the exchange programmes. My heartfelt gratitude must be given to Miss N.

Kitchell, Ms. Y. Leung, Mrs. M. Galin, Ms. O. Ho, Miss C.R. Lau, Mrs. P. Kam and Mr. T. Bugaj for their support throughout the year.

4. Service Team

Miss C Au, Ms. A. Lai, Ms. S. S. Tam

The Service Team, comprising teachers in charge of the Citizens' Club, Girl Guide, Red Cross and various service projects and programmes, continues to nurture and encourage our students to be involved in community service programmes within and outside the school to live out the school motto, Daily Giving Service. Through the experience of caring for and serving others, we hope to instill a strong sense of social responsibility and commitment and to foster empathy and compassion for the underprivileged and less fortunate in our community among our students.

2022-2023 has been a challenging, yet exciting and fruitful year for the team. In the first term of the school year, most of our service programmes and projects were conducted online. With the announcement of whole-school resumption by the EDB in February 2023, the face-to-face operation mode was called back. The mode of operation for most of the service programmes and projects therefore had to switch from online to face-to-face in the second and third terms, which was something new to most teachers-in-charge and student leaders since the pandemic. Nevertheless, with guidance from the school, and support from all teachers-in-charge, partner organisations and students, the team managed to continue to offer a wide range of service opportunities for girls from all forms to apply their diverse interests and talents to serve the needy in our community in this special transitional school year.

Service Programmes and Projects inside DGS

This year, the following service programme was organized in response to the needs of our school community to facilitate the smooth running of the School.

During the pandemic, 29 girls from Secondary 2 to 5 were recruited to take part in the Balloon Twisting Service Project for DGS Mini Bazaar 2022, which took place on 20 December 2022. The balloon-twisting stall was very popular, especially among the kids, contributing to a fun-filled Mini Bazaar day. Students who volunteered in the programme shared they not only learned various balloon-twisting skills making balloons of various shapes of animals, swords, crowns, flowers, etc. in the training and service sessions, they also gained a strong sense of satisfaction when they could make good use of their talents to serve others.

Service Programmes and Projects outside DGS

CUHK Jockey Club Myopia Prevention Programme is one of the new programmes introduced to the Team in 2022-2023. It aims to provide proactive and preventive children's eye care to underprivileged communities, including the ethnic minorities, families with special needs kids and low income families, and advocate a "vision-friendly lifestyle" for children in Hong Kong. 29 girls from Secondary 4 to 5 were recruited to take part in the morning service sessions on 6 May and 13 May (Saturdays). During the service sessions, our girls were allowed to assist medical professionals in the Hong Kong Eye Hospital to conduct simple inspections for children and lead these children to different checkpoints in the hospital. Through the programme, our girls got to follow and closely observe the work of ophthalmologists. To serve in this programme, they also had to make good use of their previous community service experience of handling kids with special needs. They also gained a sense of satisfaction from the positive feedback from their service targets and our partner organisation on the day.

52 girls from Secondary 3 to 5 were recruited to serve as game booth helpers on 7 April 2023 in the 2023 Egg-cellent Hunt, another new programme introduced to the team in this school year. The charity programme was organised by Noah's Ark Hong Kong, Anchor House, Ark Life Education House and Rainbow Foundation to spread joy and love to the physically and mentally challenged in Hong Kong during Easter. On the service day, our girls ran 14 game booths, receiving around 500 participants, contributing to the success of the programme. Throughout the process, our girls learned how to be better team players and interact with people of different special needs. They also demonstrated a strong sense of responsibility and commitment to delivering their duty. Their willingness to serve the underprivileged through sharing their time and talents during school holidays was highly appreciated.

19 girls from Secondary 1 to 5 took part in the Kids4Kids Buddy Reading Programme in terms 2 and 3 this year. The programme aims to bring the enjoyment and benefits of storytelling to primary school children. During the five online service sessions via Zoom, our volunteers took turns to host meetings, manage breakout rooms and read English stories to the primary school students from Christian Pui Yan Primary School in a creative way. They planned, designed and led fun ice-breaking games as well as lead-in activities that aimed at engaging the primary school students. Through hosting, preparing and leading these online English story-telling activities, our students demonstrated incredible patience for the young children, and further developed a series of life skills, including communication, presentation, organisation, leadership skills as well as team spirit.

The 'Best Buddies' Hong Kong (BBHK) Movement is an international friendship movement organised by the Fu Hong Society. It aims at enhancing social inclusion through the promotion of friendship between people with intellectual disabilities and those without. After the formation of the BBHK Chapter by DGS and Mary Rose School (MRS) in May 2017, the programme continues to provide different chances for students from the two schools to cultivate friendships through various activities. This year, 16 DGS girls from Secondary 1 to 5 took part in the programme. Among them, four Secondary 2 to Secondary 5 DGS girls were appointed as student leaders to facilitate the smooth running of the programme by applying and practising the idea of "PIE" (planning, implementation and evaluation) in the preparation and service sessions of the programme. With support from our partner organisations, including Fu Hong Society and Mary Rose School, and the guidance of our teachers-in-charge, seven online meetings were successfully held via Zoom from October 2022 to June 2023, and one face-to-face meeting was organised on 11 July 2023. Each meeting lasted for around 1.5 hours. Surrounding the theme of the year, "footprints of growing up together" (共同成長的足跡), different activities, such as folding paper stars and writing Chinese couplets, were organised to allow students from the two schools to interact with one another in a very natural and comfortable manner. Through both online and face-to-face meetings, our girls gained more understanding of the strengths and limitations of people with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities. They also learned to be more empathetic and compassionate to one another and be more appreciative of the uniqueness of individuals. We are very grateful and happy to see genuine friendship was cultivated between our students and those from MRS, and the programme was very well received among our service targets, partner organisations, students and parents concerned.

The "Angel Clothes" Sewing Service Project, first introduced to DGS in 2021-2022, aims to sew "angel clothes" for stillborn babies in Hong Kong to show emotional support to parents concerned in Hong Kong. In collaboration with the Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the DGS T&L Department, starting this school year, the "Angel Clothes" Sewing Service Project was incorporated into the DGS S2 T&L Fashion, Clothing and Textile (FCT) curriculum. All S2 students were first educated about the latest developments in the social issue of miscarriage and stillbirth in Hong Kong in a face-to-face introduction session held in September 2022. After that, under the guidance of their subject teachers, S2 students were taught about the skills needed for sewing "angel clothes" in their FCT lessons and given the chance to sew "angel clothes" step-by-step. After sewing the "angel clothes", S2 students were invited to write a note to the parents of these unfortunate families to comfort them. The finished "angel clothes" and the completed note cards would then be presented to the parents concerned with help from the YWCA. Moreover, service sessions were organised for 31 girls from

Secondary 1 to 5 in March and April 2023, and Mini-summer Term in June 2023 to allow students from other levels to benefit from this meaningful education programme. Since we introduced the service programme at DGS, we have sewn 330 pieces of “angel clothes” for families in need in Hong Kong. In general, the programme was very well received among student participants, teachers and our partner organisation. It was successful in reminding important elements of life and moral education among our girls. Most of the student participants agreed it was a meaningful programme, reminding them of the importance of staying positive and resilient when facing life adversity, the need to cherish their precious life and the valuable relationship with their parents and siblings. They also became more compassionate and understanding towards the needs of those families, indicating their willingness to show care and support to people in need when they can. While some students offered to sew “angel clothes” for families in need, seven students from Secondary 2 to 5 volunteered as Student Designers to design and create a series of WhatsApp stickers to promote this service programme to the general public and their WhatsApp stickers were launched for the public to download in April 2023.

Our school continues to collaborate with the Child and Family Bereavement Centre of Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH) to organise the EQ Ambassador Programme for Bereaved Children this year. Eleven senior form girls participated in the Bronze Level, a four-hour programme focusing on self-understanding and team building. Student participants were all equipped with interpersonal and emotional management skills through different training sessions before conducting service programmes with their respective service targets during school holidays. The programme successfully enabled our students to understand how bereaved children of deceased parents face and cope with the imminent death of their loved ones. It equipped them with the means to provide emotional support to the families in need, such as empathy and compassion, and shaped their attitude towards life and death.

In the Secondary 2 Mini-summer Term Service Learning Project, before the pandemic, we had been working closely with the Sheng Kung Hui Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre, the co-organiser of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Yau Tsim District Elder Academy with our School, to offer three-day courses for the elderly for more than a decade. After the few years of suspension due to the pandemic, with the announcement of the whole-school resumption, the Service Learning Project was finally back in 2022-2023. With the guidance of their teachers-in-charge and Secondary 6 facilitators, our Secondary 2 girls, serving as teaching assistants in the Cooking, Creative Arts and Crafts, Electronic and Board Game and Golf courses, experienced a great sense of satisfaction through witnessing the elderly graduating from the four courses. We also collaborated with Tung Wah Group of Hospitals ‘Circle of Care – Community Support Network for Elders with Dementia’ and Fu Hong Society Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Center, offering opportunities to our Secondary 2 girls to serve the elderly with dementia and the mentally challenged. These service programmes have not only met the needs of our service targets, but they have also instilled in our students an attitude of selfless giving, compassion and empathy for these groups of people. Appreciation must be extended to our Secondary 6 girls who acted as role models for their young sisters by willingly and selflessly giving their time in serving throughout the whole project after their public examinations.

Our School continues to partner with Rainbow Foundation, and Youth with a Mission Tuen Mun (YWAM) in organising a four-day English camp, called Rainbow D.R.E.A.M. (Drama, Reading, English Arts and Movement) Camp for underprivileged primary students from various local schools at the Noah’s Ark Hong Kong from 16 to 18 August during summer 2023. Eight of our Secondary 3 to 4 students volunteered as Youth Leaders in the Camp, and worked alongside qualified ESL teachers to instill a love for learning English among impoverished local students using language and performing arts. A graduation ceremony was held on the last day of the Camp to allow all student participants to showcase their learning in the programme.

During summer, in collaboration with Po Leung Kuk Angela Leong On Kei Kindergarten-Cum-Nursery and Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau Kindergarten-Cum-Nursery, 21 girls from Secondary 1 to 5 were recruited to participate in the ‘Sharing Music, Sharing Love’ Service Project this year to spread the joy of music and introduce different musical instruments to kindergarten kids who might not have many opportunities to learn music at home. Student volunteers formed into teams of game organisers,

performers and student helpers, and were given valuable chances to apply and practise the idea of “PIE” (planning, implementation and evaluation) in the training and two service sessions in July and August. Through the project, students got to make new friends and learned how to better communicate and interact with younger kids, especially those with special educational needs. The programme was well received among our partner organisations.

Two of our senior form girls were nominated by the school to participate in the Hong Kong Young Ambassador Scheme 2022-2023, which was organised by the Hong Kong Tourism Commission and the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. This programme organised extensive training for its participants before inviting them to serve at major tourist spots and large-scale tourism promotion events and activities in Hong Kong to spread the message of hospitality and service excellence to tourists visiting Hong Kong. Through participating in these activities, our girls grasped the opportunities to serve the community in various positions and ways and, at the same time, broadened their horizons and sharpened their life skills.

Apart from offering different volunteering opportunities to our students through organising various community service programmes through collaborating with a range of organisations outside school, the team also encourages our students to participate in different community service awards/competitions throughout the year to broaden their horizons, and keep updated with the latest volunteering trend in our community.

This year, our school continues to participate in the Youth Impact Award (YIAA), a year-long competition and social ideation project in Hong Kong. Jointly presented by The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association Hong Kong and The D. H. Chen Foundation, and supported by the EDB, the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund (SIE Fund), Hong Kong Island School Heads Association, Kowloon Region School Heads Association and New Territories School Heads Association, the Youth ImpACT Award aims to gather and empower young people to bring solutions to social problems, such as population ageing, difficulties experienced by people with disabilities, challenges faced by children and challenges of sustainable development. Students are encouraged to participate in building a better society through experiential learning activities, and to develop an understanding of social problems, human-centered design thinking, the current landscape of social innovation in Hong Kong and the work by non-governmental organisations. Our girls were given the opportunities to deepen their understanding of social problems in Hong Kong and come up with innovative and viable service ideas to solve these problems.

We would like to also express our heartfelt congratulations to the following girls, who have been recognised for their contribution to community services in Hong Kong in 2022-2023:

Award	Recipient(s)
Kiwaniis Community Services Award 2023 organised by The Kiwanis Club of Hong Kong	Tong Hei Tung
Bronze Award of the HKFYG "Easy Volunteer" Volunteer --- Service Award (Individual) 2022 organised by The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (HKFYG)	Chau Yu Yiu Zabrina, Lam Kam Yan Grace, Leung Kam Yan Alvina, Chan Hoi Yan Rainbow, Lam Sze Kei Yuki, Wo Hoi Yiu Richelle, Chan Wing Hei Denise, Choi Pui Yan Valerie, Kwok Wing Tung Gianna, Ng Si Ting, Chan Hiu Tung, Lam Cheuk Yin Nicole, Lui Sum Yuet, Sum Yu Tung, Tong Hei Tung, Wu Sum Ching Charmaine, Chan Man Yan, Tsang Pok Hei, Lam Bernice Fon Ching, Yip Kathy, Miao Hoi Ching

The Citizens' Club

Established in 1963, the Citizens' Club is a student-led organisation at DGS, in which student volunteers are given numerous opportunities to initiate, organise and implement various community service programmes for students in DGS.

One of the unique characteristics of the Citizens' Club is the proactive leadership role taken up by its student volunteers. Under the guidance of the teachers-in-charge of the Citizens' Club, at the beginning of each school year in September, student leaders – comprising one Chairlady, two to three Vice-Chairladies, a Secretary, a Treasurer and other committee members – make plans for all the community service programmes to be rolled out that year at DGS, including regular and irregular ones. Throughout the school year, student leaders play an indispensable role in the running of the regular service programmes of the Citizens' Club, responsible for liaising with our partner organisations, reporting to teachers-in-charge of different service programmes regularly, preparing and supervising student volunteers under their care in respective service programmes, as well as compiling evaluation reports by the end of the school year. As for the service projects implemented during long school holidays, student leaders of the Citizens' Club take up opportunities to design, execute and evaluate their service plans under the guidance of different teachers-in-charge. In the process, DGS students are given numerous opportunities to apply and practise the idea of “PIE”, and understand the spirit of “sustainable volunteering”, that is a commitment to giving back without leaving a destructive footprint. Through the debriefing sessions they have with their teachers-in-charge and peers, all student volunteers are given the chance to share their views and reflect on the plans they have implemented, and come up with better plans for future programmes.

Up to the present day, the Citizens' Club has collaborated with various organisations in Hong Kong to hold a range of community service programmes, involving a significant proportion of the student body at DGS. Our partner organisations for the past decade include, but are not limited to, Po Leung Kuk Lo Yau Yuk Sheung Neighbourhood Elderly Centre, Mongkok Kai-Fong Association Limited Chan Hing Social Service Centre, Salvation Army Mongkok Integrated Service for Senior Citizens, Salvation Army Yaumatei Integrated Service for Young People and the Social Welfare Department. Regular service programmes, normally conducted after school from Mondays to Fridays and on Saturday mornings, include tuition classes for children from low-income families and ethnic minority children, interest classes for the elderly, and programmes for those with disabilities. To maximise the opportunity for students to take part in different community service programmes, especially those who are unable to participate in the regular service programmes, the Citizens' Club has also routinely organised flag-selling activities during weekends, raising funds for different NGOs in Hong Kong. Over the past 10 school years, the total number of service hours contributed by all student volunteers of the Citizens' Club on record has always exceeded 1,100 hours each school year. Its total number of service hours in 2022-2023 was 5838 hours. The Citizens' Club is one of the most popular student clubs at DGS, with the largest student membership.

In 2022-2023, with continued support from the School, guidance from all teachers-in-charge, the innovative spirit and strong determination to serve the community among our 33 student leaders and the keen participation of 175 members, the Citizens' Club successfully transformed herself in the time of uncertainty amidst the pandemic to continue her commitment to community service to uphold and live out the DGS school motto “Daily Giving Service”. Together with the Community Youth Club (CYC) and the Zonta Club as its subsidiaries, the Citizens' Club continues to blossom and proper in, echoing “generosity in service”, one of the key pillars of the DGS education.

The service programme Service Beyond Hong Kong was shelved this school year, however, with support from all parties, the following community service programmes organised by the Citizens' Club were implemented smoothly and successfully at DGS.

Regular Community Service Programmes

Term	Mode of Operation	Service Target	Programme	Partner Organisations	No. of Student Volunteers
One	Online	Low-income primary school students in Hong Kong	Tutorial Classes	Mong Kok Kai Fong Association Limited Chan Hing Social Service Center (CHC)	(70 girls from S.2 to S.5 in total) ○ Monday: 14 girls ○ Tuesday: 14 girls ○ Wednesday: 14 girls ○ Thursday: 14 girls ○ Friday: 14 girls
				Yau Ma Tei Salvation Army Integrated Service Center (YMTIS)	(20 girls from S.1 to s.5 in total) ○ Wednesday: 10 girls ○ Thursday: 10 girls
				Social Welfare Department for Ethnic Minority Students (EM)	(24 girls from S.1 to S.5 in total) ○ Tuesday: 12 girls ○ Friday: 12 girls
				Social Welfare Department Local Low-income kids (SWD)	(26 girls from S.1 to S.5 in total) ○ Wednesday: 13 girls ○ Thursday: 13 girls
		Senior citizens in Hong Kong	Interest Class	Yau Ma Tei Salvation Army (YMTSA)	○ Wednesday: 8 girls (S.1-S.5)
				Mong Kok Kai Fong Association Kowloon Chamber of Commerce Center for Elderly (KCCCE)	○ Saturday: 12 girls (S.1-S.5)
Two & Three	Face-to-face	Low-income primary school students in Hong Kong	Tutorial Classes	CHC	(58 girls from S.2 to S.5 in total) ○ Monday: 12 girls ○ Tuesday: 12 girls ○ Wednesday: 12 girls ○ Thursday: 10 girls ○ Friday: 12 girls
				YMTIS	(17 girls from S.1 to S.5 in total) ○ Wednesday: 9 girls ○ Thursday: 8 girls
				EM	(17 girls from S.1 to S.5 in total) ○ Tuesday: 8 girls

Term	Mode of Operation	Service Target	Programme	Partner Organisations	No. of Student Volunteers
					○ Friday: 9 girls
				SWD	(20 girls from S.1 to S.5 in total) ○ Wednesday: 10 girls ○ Thursday: 10 girls
		Senior citizens in Hong Kong	Interest Class	YMTSA	○ Wednesday: 8 girls from S.1 to S.5
				KCCCE	○ Saturday: 11 girls from S.1 to S.5

Flag-selling Activities

There were five flag-selling activities taking place on Saturday mornings (4 hours for each service session) and organised by the Citizens' Club in terms 2 & 3 in this school year.

Date	Partner Organisation	No. of Student Volunteers
4 March	Hong Kong Playground Association	41
18 March	Sheng Kung Hui St. Christopher's Home Limited	46
22 April	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, The Lutheran Church - Hong Kong Synod Limited	19
29 April	Apostolic Faith Church of Hong Kong Ltd	30
6 May	The Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service	25

Service Projects during Long School Holidays

Service projects have always been the highlight of the Citizens' Club. In collaboration with Yau Ma Tei Salvation Army Integrated Service for Young People (YMTIS), Social Welfare Department (SWD) and DGS Electronics and Robotics Club, the Lunar New Service Project (LNSP) 2023 was organised on 27 January 2023. 25 DGS girls from Secondary 1 to 5 were recruited to participate in this meaningful project to promote STEM education to 16 local primary school students from low-income families in Hong Kong. STEM activities emphasise the cultivation of student's interdisciplinary knowledge and aim to enhance student's skills in logical thinking, problem-solving, innovation, collaboration and creativity. STEM skills are regarded as essential and paramount education in preparing students for coping with changes and challenges in the future brought by rapid development in economic, scientific and technological areas in our society and the global community. The aim of LNSP 2023 was to offer opportunities for primary school students from low-income families to learn STEM knowledge via participating in a series of activities, including making Lego robotic arms, writing programmes on computers, and operating self-made robotic arms to perform fun activities. Both service targets and student volunteers had a good time in the LNSP. It was evident that service targets' interest in STEM was aroused, and their scientific literacy was enhanced. We truly hope our service targets will be motivated to explore more and engage in the STEM sector in the future and to solve the problems of tomorrow in our city.

During the Easter holidays this year, in collaboration with Yau Ma Tei Salvation Army, the DGS Zonta Club successfully organised the Easter Service Project (ESP) 2023, titled “復活節 Chill 級玩樂日”, for 20 senior citizens from Hong Kong on 15th April 2023. While the service targets were given numerous

opportunities to interact with their volunteers during different thoughtfully designed activities, including stretching exercises, an ice-breaking game, Easter artwork session and a campus tour at DGS, 36 DGS students were also given valuable chances to apply and practise the idea of “PIE” in the preparation, training and service sessions of the project. The project was well received among student volunteers and service targets, successfully enhancing the quality of life of the service targets, training student leaders for organising large-scale community service projects and motivating more young minds to have a higher level of participation in community service programmes targeting senior citizens in the future. We firmly believe that this will promote intergenerational harmony in Hong Kong in the long run.

Both the LNSP 2023 and ESP 2023 were very well received among our service targets, partner organisations and student participants. We would like to also express our heartfelt gratitude to our Mother Club, Zonta Club of Hong Kong East, for financially supporting these two service projects as always.

DGS Zonta Club

This year, our DGS Z Club, an affiliate of Zonta International and consisting of 32 officers and directors, gladly welcomed 27 new members at its Induction and Installation Ceremony held on 24 October 2022 in a hybrid mode. From time to time, members of the DGS Z Club were invited to participate in different activities organised by our Mother Club, the Zonta Club of Hong Kong East. We must extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Mother Club for granting our girls numerous enjoyable learning opportunities beyond normal classroom learning to broaden their horizons, as well as financially sponsoring our service projects over the past years.

DGS Community Youth Club

Our Community Youth Club (CYC) has again garnered great enthusiasm and generosity from our girls in the annual CYC Charity Plant Sale as always. This year, with the keen support of more than 200 volunteers, our Club was awarded the Bronze Award in the event, and the Gold Award in the Yau Tsim Mong District. We are also pleased to report that some of our members have gained recognition in the CYC Member Merit Award Scheme and other CYC awards for their valuable contributions to the community in 2022-2023. Details are as follows:

Category	Award	Recipient(s)
CYC Member Merit Award Scheme	Third Honour Level (Blue Star Badge)	Tong Hei Tung
	Level 3 (Purple Badge)	Tong Hei Tung
	Level 2 (Orange Badge)	Lui Sum Yuet, Wu Sum Ching Charmaine, Lam Bernice Fon Ching
	Level 1 (Green Badge)	Ng Si Ting, Chan Man Yan, Chau Yu Yiu Zabrina, Leung Kam Yan Alvina, Lee Leticia June, Wo Hoi Yiu Richelle, So Hoi Ting
	Foundation level (Yellow Badge)	Chau Yu Yiu Zabrina, Lam Kam Yan Grace, Hui Cheuk Yi, Wo Hoi Yiu Richelle, Chan Hiu Tung Heidi, Pak Hoi Man Chloe, Chan Hei, Tsang Mavis Olivia, Wong Wing Yin Audrey, Lee Tsz Wai, To Cheuk Kei Charlotte, Fang Samantha Guo Ling, Kwok Tsz Yau Jenna, Lam Kam Yan Grace
	Outstanding Member 2023 of Community Youth Club	Tong Hei Tung

Other CYC Awards	Community Youth Club Outstanding Member 2022- 2023	So Hoi Ting
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Girl Guides (Second West Kowloon Company)

This year, the School's Girl Guides Unit has been awarded the Outstanding Unit Award for the 6th year. Through exposing our guides to a wide variety of skills and activities, our unit continued to thrive and strive for excellence.

Individual guides engaged themselves in various guiding activities and committed themselves to community service. They performed outstandingly. Our chairlady has been awarded "The Outstanding Girl Guide Award", which recognises the Guides with outstanding performance in the unit.

In terms of regular activities, general meetings were held each week for the whole year. During these meetings, the guides were introduced to a variety of skills, such as knotting, lashing, first aid and decoding skills. Tasks and challenges were assigned to summarise and help them incorporate the skills into what they have learnt in their daily life. Station games and group challenges were used during general meetings. There were various badge assessment sessions to assess the guides on different areas of skills and knowledge, such as Writing, Etiquette, Hong Kong History, etc. Over a hundred certificates were given out to recognise their effort in picking up new guiding knowledge.

Other than general meetings at school, the guides arranged a few joint unit activities with the other service teams. Unit camps and campfires were held to foster a stronger bond among members of different units. These are all memorable experiences for the guides.

The guides were also engaged in services at school. During occasions such as the Speech Day, they served as the "Guard of Honour". The annual camp was held successfully after being suspended due to the pandemic for a few years. Our committee members were able to plan and arrange different games and tasks for fellow guides to accomplish, and everyone enjoyed the two-day camp a lot.

2022-23 was a fruitful year for our unit. With the support of the School, the guides were able to develop themselves in different areas and achieve whole-person development. It is hoped that the guiding experience that they have gained this year could help them better integrate into society and take up challenges that they may face in the future.

Red Cross (Youth Unit 55)

This year has been another fruitful year for the Red Cross. Members displayed excellent engagement in different types of services and training. Our unit continued to uphold the five objectives of the Red Cross, including protecting life and health, serving the community, enhancing friendship and mutual understanding, promoting the spirit of the Red Cross, and attaining personal growth.

Our members received training and acquired skills in first aid, health care and community services. Many training courses like Youth Sign Language, Youth Disseminator, Youth Knotting, Youth Knotting Instruction, Youth Basic First Aid, Youth First Aid Proficiency, Youth Drill, Youth Drill Instructor, Youth Leadership Training and Youth Basic CPR were organised this year. Members were equipped with the appropriate skills and knowledge in different situations and cases of emergencies.

Different internal and external voluntary services were carried out to serve the needy. An Easter Service Project and a Summer Service Project were organised. During school events like the Swimming Gala and the Speech Day, members stationed at the first aid station and provided first aid service to injured students. Members also joined the School Health Ambassador Programme to promote health care and

services to the whole school. Game stores and displayed boards were set up during lunch, after school, and at the Mini Bazaar.

Members of our unit broadened their horizons and social circles through various recreational and inter-school functions. Friendships were built with members from other Red Cross units in the Christmas Party co-organised with St. Paul's College and the Easter Party co-organised with Ying Wa College. Members exchanged their experiences in the Red Cross and learnt to understand and accept others.

To promote the Red Cross spirit, topics of blood donation, first aid, and disaster preparedness were discussed in the general meetings. Games and lessons were designed to help members learn about the importance of these key principles. Upon passing the drill exams and training for leadership, cooperation, and self-discipline, many members successfully fulfilled the requirements of different levels of the Progressive Programme. Two members have completed all the stages and achieved the Youth Attainment Badge of the Hong Kong Red Cross. The Enrollment Ceremony was successfully held this year. We were beyond grateful to be able to invite friends from other schools to witness this big event for the first time after the pandemic. It was an emotional and memorable event for both the new and existing members to acknowledge and celebrate their achievements.

Overall, our members showed personal growth while advocating the key principles of the Red Cross. A high sense of belonging to the unit was also developed throughout the year. Our unit participated in various competitions and achieved pleasing results. In Red Cross Yau Mong Tournament and Red Cross West Kowloon Division First Aid Competition, our team came fourth in both competitions. In the Red Cross West Kowloon Division Best Service Project Competition, our team was chosen as the representative of the West Kowloon Division and competed in the Departmental competition. The Head Section Leader in 2021-2022, Gigi Lau, represented our unit to participate in the 2022 Hong Kong Red Cross Youth of the Year Election and was elected as the Youth of the Year. We would like to express our congratulations to all members for their outstanding achievements in the unit.

Conclusion

As shown in an online anonymous survey conducted in mid-July 2023 about DGS students' participation in community service programmes organised by DGS in 2022-2023, the vast majority of target respondents (92%) indicated that they benefitted from their participation in different ways. The statements that more than 50% of the target respondents agree with are summarised below:

%	Statements
92%	Participating in community service programmes organised by DGS was a rewarding experience for me in general.
89%	I benefitted from my participation in the service programme(s) above.
79%	I had a better understanding of my service targets after my participation.
78%	I gained a sense of achievement after my participation.
77%	My social skills were enhanced after my participation.
69%	I gained a sense of satisfaction after my participation.
67%	I became more patient after my participation.
66%	I became more compassionate after my participation.
64%	My problem-solving skills were enhanced after my participation.
61%	I became more empathetic after my participation.
59%	I learned to appreciate my strengths and values after my participation.
58%	I became a more thankful person after my participation.

58%	I learned how to better get along with people around me after my participation.
57%	I learnt more about Hong Kong society after my participation.
54%	I learnt how to organise and plan a service programme after my participation.
53%	I was given opportunities to cultivate bonding with my peers in programme(s).
50%	I made new friends after my participation.
50%	I felt a sense of belonging to the DGS community after my participation.
50%	My leadership skills were enhanced after I participated in the service program(s) above.

76% of these target respondents indicated that they would continue to participate in community service programmes in the future, while 61% of them would encourage their friends/family members to participate in community service programmes in the future.

To conclude, the DGS Service Team provides an important platform for DGS students to devote their time, energy and talents to offering concrete and long-term help to the underprivileged in our community, while at the same time being a breeding ground for future leaders, who are trained to plan, organise and implement large-scale community service programmes. It does not only benefit the personal growth of her student volunteers by equipping them with various important life skills, but also channels the love and care of DGS students to various social groups, promoting and enhancing the awareness towards positive values like altruism, volunteerism, sustainable volunteering among DGS students, and contributing to the cultivation of a caring, loving and inclusive society in Hong Kong and even in the world.

Lastly, we would like to take this opportunity to extend our most sincere gratitude to our school Principal, Mrs. Lau, for her valuable advice, and continual support and encouragement for the Team. Our heartfelt thanks also go to our colleagues, Dr. Y. W. Man, Miss C. Ho, Miss C. Wong, Miss C. R. Lau, Miss W. Y. Wong, Miss Y. M. Tsang, Miss Y.C. Chiu, Mr. A. Chu, Mr. C. Lam, Mrs. C. Ng, Mrs. H. Leung, Mrs. M. Galin, Mrs. S.Y. To, Ms. A. Sy, Ms. D. Yeung, Ms. W. Leung and our school social worker, Ms. Carrie Leung, for their support to the Team and contributions in supervising and accompanying our students in reaching out to their fellow schoolmates and people in the community throughout the year.

11.4 Library Report

Ms. I. Kwok

Upholding the spirit of “Daily Giving Service”, the Library Committee serves to promote healthy reading habits among all students and help to maintain a comfortable learning, reading and studying environment in the library. Last year, two S5 girls, Kubi Cheung and Olivia Ho, were selected to lead the committee as the Library Chairladies. Members of the new committee were selected from over 20 applicants and trained during the summer holidays. The team comprising 24 members, 15 of whom were new members, worked conscientiously, and maintained an average attendance record of over 80%.

The new members from S3, S4 and S5 attended a briefing session on mechanics and logistics of supervising and maintaining an efficient library. In order to speed up their practical techniques in handling library duties, some senior members took the role as mentors to assist the younger members, giving training sessions on specific duties such as book shelving and shelf-reading, check-in and check-out of books and the way to serve users with general enquiries. Last year, committee members helped to process hundreds of new books and replaced those unserviceable items.

Books for Display: Additionally, we selected two topics for Books for Display in the library during the first term of the school year. The topics are very popular and related to junior and senior topical issues, such as life ethics and STEAM.

Kindle and Kobo ebook reader: We have a mission to facilitate students' use of reliable resources for learning and reading. Therefore, we launched a plan to create a digital reading environment. In addition to our existing library ebook stock, we improved the accessibility of ebook reading materials for students. Two sets of Kindle ebook readers will be provided to students to make reading more convenient and more accessible.

To conclude, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to our Headmistress, Mrs. Lau, for her persistent support throughout the year. Thanks also go to our Deputy Headmistress, Dr A. Cheung, for her invaluable advice and encouragement, as well as her generosity in spending time to support the committee. Lastly, I would like to thank each and every one of our dedicated members, working hand in hand, for their enthusiastic cooperation and initiative.

11.5 Prefects' Board

Tong Hei Tung, Wu Sum Ching Charmaine

The Prefects' Board is committed to serving the school dutifully by assisting in the planning and execution of school events, bridging communication channels between teachers and students, and maintaining discipline in the school community. The Prefects' Board for the academic year consisted of two Head Girls (Tong Hei Tung (5W) and Wu Sum Ching Charmaine (5W)), four Deputy Head Girls (Pak Hoi Man Chloe (5U), Chan Hei (5W), So Hoi Ting (5W) and Fang Samantha Guo Ling (5Y)), four Assistant Head Girls (Chan Chun Yi (5W), Lee Tsz Wai (5W), Fung Sze Ching Evelyn (5Y) and Tsang Mavis Olivia (5Z)) and 24 other prefects.

Over the course of the year, we assisted the school in planning various events, with the biggest event being the annual Mini Bazaar on 20 December, 2022, the largest ever since the pandemic. Despite the tight schedule and new arrangements regarding crowd control, we were able to enjoy a memorable Mini Bazaar after meticulous planning and implementation. The Prefects' Board also led in preparing and ordering the iconic Mini Bazaar logo and mascot, overseeing the setting up of sales and game stalls whilst heading the overall venue arrangements. This year, we also invited New Sight Congo, a charity organisation to join us in setting up a sales stall to raise money for the charity. We were honoured to also have assisted in setting up the "Daily Giving Service – A History of the Diocesan Girls' School Hong Kong" History Book Counter, to showcase the book compiled by our alumna Professor Moira Chan-Yeung.

As per usual practice, we donated all our proceeds to a range of charities suggested by students and teachers, including St. Andrew's Church, New Sight Congo, Hong Kong Cancer Fund, and many others. We hope that by spreading the Christmas spirit of giving and joy at DGS, we were able to fulfil our school's motto of "Daily Giving Service" reminding DGS girls to reach out to the needy in society with love and care. We would like to especially thank the Mini Bazaar Organising Committee, especially Miss C. Wong and Mrs L. Chan, for providing unwavering guidance and support to us throughout this process. We are also deeply honoured to have had this precious opportunity to organise such a large-scale event, further honing our leadership and collaboration skills whilst challenging us to step out of our comfort zones.

This year, the Prefects' Board also proposed and organised 11 DSE Subject Talks for Form 3 students during lunchtime and after school. By inviting subject teachers and current elective students to introduce the curriculum and provide personal study advice, we hope to provide guidance to junior form students and ease their worries in their subject selection process. We were beyond pleased to have received very

positive feedback from the Form 3 students, and to learn that these subject talks have enabled them to understand the DSE curriculum comprehensively and make informed decisions when choosing their electives. We hope that communication channels between teachers, senior form students and junior form students were enhanced and strengthened by this event.

We are pleased to assist in the smooth running of the Secondary 1 Applicants Meeting with teachers on 26 November 2022. Prefects were stationed all around the campus and the corridors of different floors, where we guided applicants to different meeting rooms and escorted them according to the meeting plan. Prefects could communicate and coordinate well despite being located at different spots on the campus. We are thankful for Miss B Lee's guidance throughout the day, which enabled us to learn from this valuable experience and complete our duties dutifully. The Prefects' Board also helped in escorting and guiding parents and students in the Auditorium for the Parents' Briefing with Project M².

The Prefects' Board is grateful for the chance to greet new students and their parents at DGS during the New Student Orientation Day. We escorted students and parents to their destination and provided help to them whenever needed. Furthermore, Tong Hei Tung, our Head Girl and Chan Hei, our deputy Head Girl represented the student body to welcome the new students and share their own experiences at DGS with students and teachers while other prefects gave support during the Headmistress's briefing and QA session. It is our pleasure to assist new students as they acclimatise to the new learning environment, and we extend our heartfelt wishes for their success in their future endeavours. Thanks must be given to all the teachers who dedicated time and effort to ensure the smooth running of the New Student Orientation Day and for their guidance in enabling us to fulfil our responsibilities as prefects, including Mrs. M. Galin, Mrs. M. Fong, Mrs. J. Hau, Ms. P. Ho, Miss Z. Wang, Mrs. P.S. Tong, Miss T.S. Wun, Mrs. S.A. Leung, Miss S. Li, Mrs. H. Leung, Ms. G. Yau, Mrs. S.Y. To, Ms. A. Lai, Miss G. Chiang, Miss CM Yip, Ms. W. Leung and Mr. F. Lau.

On the significant occasion of Speech Day, prefects were privileged to be able to welcome the Most Reverend Andrew Chan, our guest of honour The Hon. Chief Justice Andrew Cheung Kui-nung, GBM, our Headmistress Mrs. Stella Lau and other honourable guests. Our team of prefects also helped to usher our guests and parents to their seats and provide them with refreshments.

With the relaxation of pandemic restrictions, we were fortunate to be able to hold the Swimming Gala in September. Prefects took up the important duty of planning and maintaining crowd control for the first Swimming Gala since the outbreak of the pandemic. Working as a team, our prefects maintained discipline and order by patrolling various areas of the swimming pool to create a safe and fun environment for students and teachers.

Moreover, we were beyond delighted to assist in the long-awaited Athletics Meet held at the Wan Chai Sports Ground. The Prefects' Board were in charge of crowd control and entrance security before and after the event as well as monitoring the discipline throughout the two days of the Athletics Meet. By planning ahead and designing a comprehensive crowd control plan, we were able to efficiently manage the crowd outside the entrance gates. Prefects also patrolled different areas of the sports ground such as the spectators' stands and tuck shop to ensure a safe and enjoyable Athletics Meets experience for all.

Outside of the campus, we were delighted to have served as student helpers for the DGS Swimming Team at the annual Inter-School Swimming Competition at Kowloon Park. Head Prefects, Deputy Prefects and Assistant Head Prefects were tasked with recording the completion time of DGS swimmers, as they reviewed and inputted data into Excel spreadsheets. By doing so, we ensured that the performance of our DGS swimmers was correctly recorded.

Apart from helping in organising school events, the Prefects' Board also performed patrols during breaks and lunches and enforced a two-week discipline policy in April to enhance students' discipline and maintain hygiene on campus. Prefects were stationed in various areas to ensure adherence to school rules and to maintain a positive environment by recording any instances that required attention. Through

this policy, we hope to encourage our fellow schoolmates to acknowledge the value of self-discipline and discover the intrinsic rewards that come from exercising self-control and maintaining integrity.

As in previous years, the school participated in the annual Dress Casual Day organised by the Community Chest in November 2022. Students, teachers and staff donated money to live out our school motto “Daily Giving Service”, and dressed according to the theme “we CARE we WEAR; Together for Good”. We introduced the event to our schoolmates during the assembly, presenting the objectives and the method of donation. Students were encouraged to ponder on the significance of the event — to reach out and show care to the less privileged in society. All donations from the event went to the Chest to support its services in providing care for underprivileged children.

This year, we decorated a display board outside the auditorium with a full name list of the Prefects' Board, as well as photos of prefects on duty during patrols and major school functions. We would like to extend our gratitude to Mrs. C. Chan for her guidance during the design process of the board.

The Prefects' Board would like to take this opportunity to extend our deepest gratitude to our Headmistress, Mrs. Stella Lau, for providing us with this precious learning opportunity to serve the school dutifully throughout the academic year, and our Deputy Headmaster, Mr. J. Oddie, for providing unfailing support and advice throughout this fruitful journey. Thanks must also be given to all members of the school staff, in particular, our teachers who have provided support and care to the Prefects' Board during mass school events.

It has been a privilege and our honour for all of us to serve the school community as members of the Prefects' Board. The badges entrusted to us have enabled us to carry out our responsibilities in promoting the school ethos throughout the school community, and to serve the school wholeheartedly. Through all the school events and duties that we have served over the year, we have come to understand the challenges and complexities of organising mass events, the importance of effective collaboration and communication, as well as our commitment towards representing the school with dignity and compassion. With the support from both teachers and schoolmates, we have journeyed through the academic year with much joy and blessings.

Through the cumulative effort and dedication from all 34 of us, we have accomplished far beyond what we expected of ourselves. Our deepest gratitude once again goes to the school for this once-in-a-lifetime learning experience. It is our pleasure to conclude this rewarding academic year with gratitude and appreciation.