

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.

For many years now, DGS has been fortunate enough to attract top overseas university representatives to visit our campus and talk to our students and parents. These representatives are eager to recruit top-notch students for their university classes. Several institutions, professors and representatives came to our school this year including from the UK, USA, Canada, Singapore and China. Examples include representatives from University of Cambridge, UCL (University College London), LSE (London School of Economics), Harvard University, University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins University, University of Toronto, Tsinghua University, Yale-NUS and many others. We were also privileged to welcome Professors from prestigious universities who gave taster lectures to our students on wide-ranging topics such as globalization and psychology.

Local universities continue to be an attractive destination for our students. We were privileged to host visitors this year from local institutions and we also arranged for a group of girls to attend mock lectures and classes at University of Hong Kong (HKU) in their Social Sciences, Arts and Medicine faculties. Several of the local universities also sent representatives to participate in our second Summer School Fair held on 8th February 2018 at DGS, and presented a range of exciting summer courses that our girls could enrol in.

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 admissions.

Our alumni association, the DOGA, has always been a great supporter of our department and continue to share their knowledge and experiences. We are most appreciative of the many alumnae who are willing to come back to DGS to speak to our students formally and informally. This year, with the DOGA's support, we managed to hold our second Careers Fair on 21st April 2018 that attracted over 350 students and 80 representatives from a diverse range of professions. Students had the opportunity to interact with these professionals, most of them Old Girls, and learn about their industry, job duties and what it is like to work in their organization.

The Job Shadowing Programme successfully ran once again for all S5 students. Each student took the initiative to organize a work experience opportunity with a mentor in an industry or field they were interested in. We believe this job-shadowing programme will enable the girls to develop a whole range of skills outside of the classroom that will better prepare them for tertiary education and beyond. A special note of thanks must be given to the DOGA for all their hard work. Ms. Diana Ting, Ms. Connie Lung and Ms. Shirley Ping have been especially helpful coordinating the efforts of the DOGA and ensuring that the Careers Fair and Job Shadowing Programme were a success. We are grateful for the DOGA's support and look forward to continuing to grow our relationship next year.

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. Much effort has also been put into supporting the girls with their application process for universities, such as through writing recommendations, guiding students with their essays and preparing them for interviews through a series of mock interviews. It should also be highlighted that the school is eager to assist our girls with external scholarship applications.

The student Careers Committee this year was ably led by Gabriella Sung, and supported by Jocelyn Ho and Stephanie Ng, all in S5. The Committee this year helped organize and run the successful Careers and Summer School Fair and were also reliable in organizing and coordinating other related activities in our school.

Careers Teachers have 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 – Mr. MH Au, Mr. D. Hyam, Ms. V. Chan, Mr. H.C. Chan, Miss P. Sun, Ms. K. Tengvall, Ms. Y Chan, Mr. P. Cortes, Miss G. Yu and Miss C. Lau, - who have given their 100%, to support the Careers Department. Many other teachers have also given their time assisting students with interview practise, essay advice and writing reference letters. Miss 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 organizing and implementing events. Miss J. Tsoi, our full-time Careers Counselor, has invested her invaluable expertise and efforts into enhancing the quality of our mentoring and guidance for 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 organizations 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

Ms. K. Suthiphongchai

The Guidance and Counselling Team believes that an effective supportive network that caters to the needs of our students is a result of the collective efforts of caring individuals: our Headmistress, school social worker, teachers and parents who have the interest of our students at the forefront of their hearts and minds. We work together to nurture their social, emotional and psychological well-being as well as their character development in these areas, namely developmental, preventive and remedial. We partner with our parents in building closer, healthier parent-daughter relationships through various informative events and interactive activities. We equip our senior students to be mental and emotional health ambassadors to their peers and mentors to our new S1 students. We also support our frontline teachers with relevant training and resources so that they, in turn, can offer appropriate help and support to their students.

This year, one of our primary efforts in supporting our students' mental and emotional well-being was the launch of *Wellness For Youth*, a tailored whole-form programme sponsored by the Quality Education Fund. The purpose of this new initiative is to cultivate wholesome attitudes and perception towards mental, emotional and physical health among S2 students. With the help of social workers from the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, two workshops titled *Understanding Your Emotions* were held to enhance our students' awareness of and engagement with their emotions through interactive activities and small group discussions. In addition, a whole-form event to promote more positivity and a higher happiness quotient among our S2 students was conducted during the Mini-Summer term. Various station games were set up to help our students identify their strengths, discover their interests and abilities in hopes that they would derive joy from pursuing things in life that mattered to them. Besides that, twenty-four S2 students took part in the *Wellness for Youth Leadership Programme* to learn the importance of mental, emotional and physical health to their overall well-being and ways to improve their own wellness as well as that of their peers.

Apart from a specially tailored, whole-form programme for our S2 students, we also organized camps, workshops and activities for various year groups throughout the academic year. Our school social worker, Ms Carrie Leung, as well as professional bodies helped to equip our students with the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for their intellectual, social, emotional and character growth.

In the beginning of the school year, our S1 and S2 students took part in the two-day self-management camp and teambuilding camp respectively to learn important life skills, attitudes, values and discipline. Our S4 students also had their share of camp experience. Theirs focused on building unity and camaraderie in light of the academic and relational transitions in their first year of senior secondary. Interactive and informative workshops to address social issues such as sexual harassment for S1 students and ways to develop healthy relationships for S2 students were conducted to engage our junior students in thinking through life's challenges and expressing their thoughts and feelings about them. To help our senior students deal with academic stress, mental and emotional wellness workshops titled *Mindfulness Through Art and Tea Drinking* created the much-needed space and time for our S5 and S6 girls to quiet their hearts and minds through repetitive line drawing over a cup of hot tea. In the end, the students reaped the dual benefits of relaxed bodies and minds as well as crafting beautiful art pieces. Our S4 students were given the opportunity to reflect on their school life in the first half of the academic year through journaling and drawing self-portraits. This was followed by an afternoon tea session with their teachers and schoolmates. We hope that by creating a congenial, reflective environment for our students to be retrospective as well as opportunities to interact with their peers and teachers, the school can better support their academic and non-academic needs.

To help our students make wise and informed choices in life amid the challenges and temptations they face, we invited speakers knowledgeable in a particular area to address pressing issues that concern today's youth during the course of the year. For our S1 students, a talk on suicide news and its impacts on youth given by the Society of Truth and Light helped to shed light on this worrying trend and how our students could view such news in a positive, constructive way. Our S3 students were educated by a Christian counsellor from New Creation Association on the social evil of pornography. By raising awareness of this pervasive problem and its pitfalls, we hope our students would stay clear of this sexual trap. Our S4 girls were introduced to various concepts and perspectives on life and death and were given an overview of hospice care in Hong Kong through a talk given by the Hospice Care Center of Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The talk inspired our students to embrace and live life with a renewed sense of meaning and purpose.

The PTA and our school social worker, Ms Carrie Leung, had been instrumental in helping our students and their parents develop better understanding and stronger ties through various events and activities held at different times throughout the academic year. On Parents' Day, Ms. C. Leung and her co-worker gave an informative seminar to S2 and S4 parents, highlighting the importance of understanding their daughters' emotions in their adolescent years as they face developmental changes and academic challenges. At the Parent-Teacher Breakfast Meeting, Ms. C. Leung spoke to S1 to S3 parents on the importance of attending to their daughters' emotional needs. Similarly, the PTA hosted several seminars for parents on topics of varying interests and concerns in raising children and teenagers, one of which was *How to Raise Gender-Confident Children* given by Dr. Hong Kwai-wah, a psychiatrist and expert in the field of psychosexual development in children and youths. Weekly breakfast gatherings for DGJS and DGS fathers and mothers were launched to provide a platform for them to support and encourage one another through informal discussions, interaction and sharing. Every Thursday morning, around 60 DGJS and DGS Christian mothers, led by Mrs. Diana Barnett, a pastoral worker from St. Andrews Church, met for bible study to learn and live out biblical truths and principles on developing healthy relationships in the midst of Christian fellowship and support.

In an effort to promote peer support among our students, we launched the Student Ambassador for Mental and Emotional Health Programme this academic year. The aim of the programme is to educate and train our student leaders on the importance of mental and emotional health among today's youth. Spearheaded by Ms. C. Leung and her co-workers from the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, 23 counselling committee members underwent training to gain an understanding of their own mental and emotional health through seminars, workshops and services. In the end, they conducted a whole-school activity to promote mental and emotional wellness among the student body. The Big Sister Mentoring Programme provided another conduit for peer support. Around 100 S4 students took part in the mentoring programme, which aims at instilling compassion and selflessness as well as equipping them with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes in caring for their little sisters.

To provide support for our frontline teachers, a workshop titled *How to Identify and Support Students with Emotional Distress* was held for all teaching staff on Staff Development Day in December. Ms Angela Cheng, a social worker from the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, led teachers in a session on mindful line drawing, a relaxation technique to help them experience quietness of heart and mind. This was followed by a session on real-life cases of students with various emotional problems and measures that were employed by the schools, social workers and police to deal with the crises.

Throughout the academic year, we offered pastoral care and counselling to individual students who needed our care and attention. I am indebted to our school social worker, Ms. C. Leung and my colleagues in the Guidance and Counselling Team: Miss C. Au, Mrs. A. Chung, Mrs. M. Fong, Mrs. S. Kun, Mrs. K. Y. Lam, Miss V. Ngan, Mrs. K. Tsang, Mrs. L. Wong and Miss T.S. Wun, who graciously gave of their time and heart to care for the mental and emotional well-being of our girls. Our athletes were cared for and overseen by Mrs. P. Hui and Mrs. R. Santos as they faced the challenges of balancing rigorous trainings with academic work. I am very blessed indeed to be working with such a caring and supportive team.

The Counselling Committee, under the leadership and dedication of our Chairladies, Patricia Lam and Wing Huang, and Vice-Chairladies, Katrina Law and Katrina Tse, did a superb job of serving the school and their peers in various capacities throughout the school year. They worked tirelessly in organizing the New Student Orientation Programme, overseeing the Big Sister Mentoring Programme as well as planning and organizing various activities during Friendship Week. They also participated in and completed the Student Ambassador for Mental and Emotional Health Programme with eagerness and diligence.

Our efforts to meet the emotional and psychological needs of our students as well as develop character qualities of empathy and compassion would be in vain if it were not for our Heavenly Father's continued grace and guidance. I am always reminded by Him that the work of the Guidance and Counselling Team can only be accomplished first and foremost on our knees. Only our Almighty God can change human hearts to be like His own. Lastly, I would like to thank Mrs. Lau for always supporting and encouraging us.

11.3 Other Learning Experiences

1. Other Learning Experiences Team (OLE Team)

Mr. J. Ng

At the end of the school year, about two weeks after the Final Exam, from 2nd to 10th July, around 70 DGS choristers, accompanied by teachers and Old Girls, travelled to the African continent to participate in the World Choir Games, the largest international choir competition held biannually at different venues around the globe. Our girls' choir participated in the category of Youth Choir of Equal Voices, capturing the Championship and the Gold Medal with a score of 95. They joined the choir from Diocesan Boys' School to participate in the Mixed Choir competition, where they captured the second Champion title and Gold Medal.

This is another year when we continued to collaborate with different departments to implement the OLE Curricula for the levels from S4 to S6 so that every S6 graduate has good exposure in various components of OLE. They included the Aesthetic Development lessons, Career-related experience, Physical Education, Civic and Moral Education as well as Community Service. Thanks must be given to the members from the Art Department, Careers Team, Civic Education Team, Guidance and Counselling Team, Literature Appreciation Programme Team, Music Department, Mini-bazaar Team, Physical Education Department, Religious Education Department, Technology and Living Department and OLE Team as well as the drama teachers, for their dedication and contributions.

ECA activities in School

We organized the ECA Orientation Programme before the start of the term in late August to welcome our new members and introduced to them all the ECAs at DGS. On the day, every ECA group set up a booth in either the Gymnasium or the Assembly Hall. Through the programme, our new members were introduced to the activities of different ECA groups organized in the past and in the coming year. It was hoped that after having a glimpse of the ECA life at DGS, they can start to plan theirs.

To cater to the specific learning needs of students in the non-academic domain, this year, we further enhanced the Other Learning Programme (OLP) system. Each OLP session was refined and was shortened to about two hours. The course contents of many OLPs were refined and new courses were introduced to cater to the needs of the students.

A series of OLP Courses were introduced with the aim of laying a solid foundation on a topic for students. University staff and experts were invited to bring their professional expertise into the classroom to enhance the quality of learning. This year, the courses on offer were as follows:

COURSES BY UNIVERSITIES/ Professional instructors
An introduction to Stage Audio-visual effects
Drama Production and Performance Course
Archery Course
Dance Course
Dodgeball Course
Cricket Course
Squash Course
Bowling Course
Climbing Course
MicroFilm Production
Fun with Fashion & Textiles
The art of Brewing Coffee in a Professional Way and understanding Hotel Beverage Operations
Going Green – Sustainable Practices in the Hospitality Industry

Numerous new courses were introduced this year. They were “Fun with Fashion & Textiles”, “The art of Brewing Coffee in a Professional Way and understanding Hotel Beverage Operations” and “Going Green – Sustainable Practices in the Hospitality Industry”. Students taking part in the programmes all benefitted a great deal from the professionals in the respective fields during the few sessions.

Under the new system, existing ECA groups continue to enjoy the flexibility of conducting their activities inside or outside the school campus and the feedback from our stakeholders was encouraging.

OLP Days in March and April

On March 16th and April 20th, various programmes have been arranged for our students from S1 to S5 during the OLP afternoons. Details are as follows:

For Secondary One, STEM taster programmes were arranged for every student. They could choose two out of five. The five programmes were, Taster Programme in Robotics, Drones, Graphic Design Using Adobe Illustrator, Python Programming as well as building a Roller-Coaster. Among them, two programmes were in fact hosted by our own students from the Computer Club and the DGS Programming Team.

For Secondary Two, two workshops under the theme of “Getting to know your Emotions” were arranged. For Secondary Three, four Sports taster programmes were organized. They were Taster Programmes in K-Pop Dance, Fencing, Skipping and Dodgebee.

For Secondary Four, a “Reflective drawing and Journaling” session followed by a tea session with a teacher were organized for the students to reflect on the past 6 months of their school life to see how they have adapted to the transition, challenges and struggles they are facing. They then formed into small groups and chose to share their challenges with a teacher during the tea session scheduled in April.

Finally, for Secondary Five, two Emotional Wellness Workshops have been arranged to meet the needs of the students.

ECA Participation in School

The students’ participation rate in ECAs was similar to the previous year. On average, about 87% of Secondary One to Five students had participated in at least two ECA groups and about 59% of them had participated in at least three ECA groups. More than 91% of Secondary Five students were given at least one post to develop their leadership skills whereas over 72% of them took up two or more posts of responsibility. In the lower forms, about 79% of Secondary Four students and 51% of Secondary Three students had taken up at least one post of responsibility. The OLE Team will continue to provide opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills through participation in ECA groups.

Throughout the year, a total of fourteen theme weeks/days have been organized by different ECA groups. Activities of different kinds were arranged by the respective ECA groups with the aim to share with the whole school their domain of learning. They were Gospel Week (by the Youth Fellowship), Science Week (organized by the Science Club), Friendship Week (by the Counselling Committee), Chinese Music Week (Guzhang Ensemble & Chinese Orchestra), Library Week (by the Library Committee), Horseshoe Crab Conservation Week, Mathematics Theme Week (by the Mathematics Team), Current Affairs Week (organized by the Current Affairs Club), Drama Week (by the Drama Ensemble) as well as Dance Week (by the Dance Team).

Other special programmes include the Teachers’ Day (by the School Prefect), Dress Casual Day (by the School Prefects’ Board), Inter-class Orienteering Competition (the Orienteering Team), Chinese Calligraphy Competition (by the Chinese Literacy Club), Flower Arrangement Competition (by the Image Design Club), Inter-class Cake Decoration Competition (by the Hospitality Committee), Inter-class Quiz on Chinese Language and Culture (by the Chinese Literacy Club), Health Check Station (by the Red Cross), inter-class Cooking Competition (by the Hospitality Committee) as well as Dance Performance (by the Dance Team). As part of the tradition of the School, the Chinese Literary Club continued to organize the annual event, 團圓會, shortly before the Chinese New Year. Youth Fellowship organized several whole school religious activities. They included the Harvest Festival as well as the Gospel Week in October and Famine Lunch in March. On 27th April, our S5 AD students showcased four original drama pieces written, directed, and performed by them as part of their Aesthetic Development course while our Drama Ensemble staged a piece titled "The Frame", delivering a stark reminder to audiences on the bondage of finding identity and self-worth in our social media personas. In this academic year, twelve inter-house competitions have been organized and we would like to congratulate Hurrell House for capturing the overall championships.

Mini-summer Term

The mini-summer term programme was held on 28th June, 4th – 6th July and 9th July. It offered a wide variety of activities for students from Secondary One to Four. This year, the Mini-summer Term Programme has been scaled down to make room and time for the construction work of the boarding facilities to start in early July. Overall, there were about 9 hours of activities for Secondary One, 20

hours of activities for Secondary Two, 12 hours of activities for Secondary Three and 7 hours of activities for Secondary Four.

A variety of activities were organized for students after their final exams to provide them with a wide range of learning experiences. These were aimed at cultivating in our students a sense of volunteerism, instilling into them proper attitude towards community service and equipping them with necessary skills in participating in voluntary work. Through the activities, we hope that their leadership, problem-solving and collaborative skills will be enhanced.

This year, every Secondary One student had the chance to take part in four programmes, namely, a talk on “Suicide news and its impact on Youth”, a workshop on Sexual Harassment, a visit to ICAC as well as a Programme on “Fight Crime Campaign”. They all had fun and benefited from the programmes.

As for Secondary Two, all students took part in the Service Learning Project, which comprised three components, namely, a preparatory workshop, 3-day service experience programs and an experience-sharing session. An experienced social worker from S.K.H. Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre was invited to conduct the workshop on community service, which aimed at instilling into our girls the right attitude towards community service. This year, five service programmes were organized to serve three different groups of the community. They were the elderly, mentally challenged and those who suffer from dementia. The service programme for the elderly afflicted with dementia allowed students to gain a better understanding of the dementia as a condition and to experience the wide prevalence of this illness within our society. Other service programmes were offered through the Elderly Academy. They included “Cooking basics”, “Guzheng Basics”, “A Course on 3D Model Construction” and “A Course on the Mysteries of the Microscopic World”. On the last day of the programme, there was a sharing session during which each S2 class had an opportunity to share their learning and service experience with other classes. We wish to thank the organizations, S.K.H. Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre, the Circle of Care Community Support Centre for the Elderly, TWGHs as well as Fu Hong Society (Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Centre) for allowing our students to take part in their service programmes. In addition to the Service Learning Project, two programmes, namely, “Healthy Relationship Programme” and “Exploring Emotion” were organized for S.2 students.

Every Secondary Three student had the opportunity to visit the Jockey Club “Life Journey Centre”. Through the visit, students were able to experience the challenges they may face at different stages of their life. Activities were arranged to guide the students to reflect on the meaning of life. To prepare our S3 students for future leadership roles, a leadership training workshop with a focus on resilience development was arranged. In the six-hour workshop, students were introduced to the importance of developing a mindset that doesn’t crack under pressure but responds positively, creatively or even cheerfully so as to survive and bounce back from tough times. Other programmes included a talk on Pornography as well as a “big sister mentor training” workshop.

Three programmes were arranged for Secondary Four students. First, the “Struggle for Survival” Poverty Simulation Programme” was organized by the Crossroads Foundation. The simulations enabled students to step into the shoes of those in poverty and experience the challenges of life in the slum. It was hoped that students can emerge from this experience with a deepened understanding of the plight of the underprivileged in our community and around the world. Other programmes included a University Application Workshop and a Talk on “Life and Death – an introduction to Hospice Care”.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Mini-summer Term Organising Team 2018, the group of Secondary Six facilitators and all the Staff for their dedication without which the Mini-summer Term could not be held as successfully.

External Competitions

It was another fruitful year in external competitions. In the Music Festival, the following groups were winners in their respective categories of competitions: Intermediate Choir (First Division - Singing in Chinese), Junior Choir (First Division) in both languages, Senior Choir (First division – Singing in Chinese), Concert Band (Intermediate) and the Junior String Quartet.

In Inter-school sports events, out of the twenty-three sports that the School had competed in, we managed to capture eleven overall champions and six runner-ups either in the top division or open events. Both our Athletics and Swimming Team continued to excel in the inter-school competitions by capturing the Division I Overall Champion.

Other teams that managed to capture the Overall Champions included Dragon Boat, Fencing, Indoor Rowing, Orienteering, Squash, Table-tennis, Tennis, Tenpin Bowling and Volleyball. Our School was, for the ninth year, the champion school of the BOCHK Rising Star Award (Girls School section), which is awarded to the school achieving the best-all-round performance from the four development sports, including Archery, Beach Volleyball, Indoor Rowing and Tenpin Bowling in Inter-school events. In the BOCHK Bauhinia Bowl Award 2017-2018, our school was the first runner-up in the Girls Schools Section. This year, our student, Wong Sze Ting was awarded the BOCHK Rising Star Athlete Award. Five athletes, Chan Lok Yan, Fan Linna, Lee Wing Yeung, Look Avril and Ho Chiu Yee Phoebe were awarded the Outstanding Athlete Awards in Cross-country, Hockey, Fencing, Tennis and Tenpin Bowling respectively.

Our Drama Ensemble took part in the Hong Kong School Drama Festival organized by Education Bureau and achieved splendid results. They captured the Adjudicators' Award, Award for Outstanding Stage Effect, Award for Outstanding Cooperation, Award for Outstanding Director, Award for Outstanding Performer and Award for Outstanding Script. The following girls captured the award for Outstanding Director and Award for Outstanding Performer: Maxine Law and Peko Chan. The Script writers, Danielle Hung and Nicol Tsang have captured the Award for Outstanding Script whilst another group of girls were awarded the Award for Outstanding Performer. They are Janice Chak, Hilton Chen and Maggie Barnett.

Our debaters took part in public speaking events and were duly recognized. They were one of the top two teams in The International Competition for Young Debaters (ICYD) 2018 as well as Oxford Schools Debating Competition (OSDC) -- Hong Kong Regional Round 2018. They were also one of the Top Debate Teams and Top Writing Teams in the World Scholar Cup 2018 Hong Kong Round.

Last but not least, we must thank the School Council, the P.T.A., the Headmistress, all the teachers-in-charge, chairladies, captains, committee members and members of the School for their support and contribution.

2. Cultural Interest Classes and Intensive Classes

Miss N. Kitchell

At DGS, language courses continue to thrive with increasing interest from students who wish to become linguists and participate in the range of language courses we are able to offer. Over 200 students took Spanish, Japanese and Putonghua at different levels spanning from cultural interest to academic qualifications, such as HKDSE 4th elective - a real testament to the strength of our linguists at our school.

This year, our accomplishment in the HKDSE 4th elective continued to build on the successes of previous years. The results were outstanding, with 100% of students gaining A grades in the Japanese examinations. In addition, the students completed the Putonghua course with a 100% pass rate in the Putonghua Shuiping Ceshi (Putonghua Proficiency Test) attaining Grade 2 or above.

Many students took part in our yearly visits to Japan. Once again, they thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Japanese culture, traditions and while honing their language skills in an authentic environment. This has become one of the highlights of the year.

The School continues to provide a supportive, carefully-structured and well-resourced learning environment to 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 conclude, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our 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 once again look forward to another exciting and enjoyable year.

3. Overseas and Exchange Programmes Team

Mrs. R.L. Wong

“We have learnt valuable lessons to step out of our comfort zones and to accept and respect the differences of people with different cultures.”

The above quote from an S3 student who visited Australia for an immersion programme captures the fundamental value of organizing exchange programmes for our students. Different programmes offered may serve to accomplish different objectives, yet they all enable our school to enhance the education of our students and develop them as open-minded and globally-aware citizens.

This year, thirteen inbound student exchange programmes were organized as we played host to a total of 168 guest students, coming from Mainland China, Singapore, New Zealand and other local schools of Hong Kong. The duration of their visits ranges from a week to a month-long immersion programme. Through attending classes and extra-curricular activities with their school buddies, our young foreign guests got a taste of school life at DGS including the academic curriculum and pedagogy, as well as an introduction to Chinese culture and arts through music, dance, and visual arts.

Twenty-four outbound trips and study tours were organized in 2017-18 to Australia, Mainland China, New Zealand, South Africa, Singapore, Taiwan and U.S.A., involving 480 student participants. New partnerships with schools in Mainland China and Taiwan were established, thus expanding the S4 whole-form outbound exchange programme to a total of eight different destinations this year. The expansion allowed a greater number of students to experience school life outside Hong Kong. The sister schools include Affiliated High School of Peking University and Tsinghua University High School in Beijing, Zhixin High School in Guangzhou, High School Affiliated to Fudan University in Shanghai, Hangzhou Foreign Languages School in Zhejiang, Zhuhai No. 1 High School in Zhuhai, Zhenjiang Chongshi Girls' High School in Zhenjiang and National Tainan Girls' Senior High School in Tainan.

The school continues to encourage students to enhance skill-specific mutual learning with students of different parts of the world through participating in international competitions and conferences.

In March 2018, our team comprising ten members of the DGS Electronics & Robotics Team participated in the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Hong Kong Tournament 2017. Over 6000 teams competed in the FTC tournament worldwide and our girls were bestowed with the Inspire Award, the top achievement in the Hong Kong Tournament, as well as the honour of representing Hong Kong in this year's FIRST Championship in Houston, Texas. The FIRST Championship is a celebration of student innovation and creativity, and is one of the largest student robotics competitions in the world. Teams are challenged to design, build, program, and operate robots to compete in an alliance format, as well as to present to judges the documentation of their development and strategies.

We will continue to provide opportunities for DGS students to interact with and learn from other students from around the world. While existing programmes will continue in the coming year, we will keep exploring more exchange opportunities through establishing partnerships with institutions in different parts of the world in order to enhance international exposure of our students.

The individuals who contribute to our exchange programmes are numerous. Mrs. Lau has lent tremendous support to the team and has been at the forefront of cultivating relationships with our partner schools. Miss N. Kitchell, Ms. Y. Leung, Ms. M. Cheung, Ms. O. Ho and Mrs. F. Adamson have given countless hours of their time in making our visiting students feel at home. Finally, I would also like to express my sincerest appreciation to my fellow colleagues who have accompanied our students abroad.

4. Service Team

Miss C Au, Ms. A. Sy, Mrs. J. Tang

The Service Team, comprising teachers in charge of the Citizens' Club, Girl Guide, Red Cross and various service projects and programmes, continues its mission to nurture and encourage students to be involved in services 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 in our students empathy and compassion for the underprivileged and less fortunate.

Service Programmes and Projects

The following service programmes were newly introduced this year to provide more service opportunities and exposure to our students, and to allow more students to apply their diverse interest and talents to serve the needy in our community.

Comprehensive Health Advocacy and Mentorship Programme (CHAMP) is a service-learning programme designed to provide Secondary 4 to 5 school students with the opportunity to experience health needs in the community with students and healthcare professionals from the Faculty of Medicine, the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). 19 of our Secondary 4 to 5 girls were recruited in March for the CHAMP 2018. They then attended five training workshops from March to June before they participated in the Spring and Summer outreach service sessions all over Hong Kong from May to August. This ongoing service-learning programme received very positive feedback from student participants and the Service Organizer.

The Youth ImpAct Award (YIAA) is another new Programme launched this year. Jointly presented by The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association Hong Kong and The D. H. Chen Foundation, and supported by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and The Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund (SIE Fund), the YIAA aims at empower young people to participate in building a better society, through offering experiential learning activities to student participants 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 organizations (NGOs). This year, the social problems introduced under the YIAA were the aging population, child poverty issue and the plight of people with disabilities in Hong Kong. A team of our Secondary 3 to 4 girls participated in this programme. Through the experiential learning activities, our girls were given the opportunities to deepen their understanding about the aging population problem in Hong Kong, designed and made exercise equipment tailor-made to other pieces of home furniture. Such equipment were made for the elderly, especially those who are physically disabled or impaired, to encourage them to do more exercise at home. Their innovative ideas were recognized and were awarded the Gold Prize in YIAA 2017-2018.

Apart from the new schemes mentioned above, our Team continued to offer a wide range of service opportunities inside and outside school for girls from all forms.

The Big Sister Programme has been in effect for over 10 years, serving as a platform for our senior students to build relationships with students who were new to our School, and to help the School in supporting, encouraging and guiding our new Secondary 1 students in their transition to secondary school life. This year, over 100 of our S4 students volunteered to take part in this peer mentoring programme. Through this sisterly relationship, our newest family members benefited from the love and care of their big sisters, and an inherently caring school culture was in turn cultivated.

The 'Best Buddies' Hong Kong (BBHK) Movement is an international friendship movement organized by Fu Hong Society. It aims at enhancing social inclusion through 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 chances for students from the two schools to cultivate friendship through various activities. This year, 11 DGS girls from Secondary 2 to 5 were involved in the programme. Together with students from MRS, they took part in a series of activities like Fu Hong Fun Day, celebration of Chinese Lunar New Year, visit to Fu Hong Ngai Shing Workshop in Aberdeen and the Annual Gala 2018. Through these activities, our girls gained more understanding about the strengths and limitations of people with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, learnt to be more appreciative of the uniqueness of individuals, and cultivated genuine friendship with students from MRS.

Our School again collaborated with the Hospice Care Centre of Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) and the Child and Family Bereavement Centre of Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH) to organize the Palliative Care Programme for Terminally-ill Patients and the EQ Ambassador Programme for Bereaved Children respectively this year. More than 10 senior form girls participated in the two Programs and they were all equipped with necessary skills before conducting service sessions with their respective service targets. These two ongoing service programmes have enabled our students to understand how families of terminally-ill patients and bereaved children of deceased parents face and cope with the imminent death of their loved ones, equipped our students with some of the qualities and skills needed to provide emotional support to the families in need, such as empathy and compassion, and shaped their attitude towards life and death.

15 Secondary 3 girls were recruited to participate in the Poverty Experiential Workshop organized by the Mission to New Arrivals Limited after an introductory talk on poverty was conducted for Secondary 3 to 4 students this year. Our students had a half-hour street sleeping experience in a subway in Tai Kok Tsui. After that, staff from the Mission to New Arrivals gave a brief introduction about the poverty problem in Hong Kong, and conducted an in-depth post-activity sharing session with our girls. Our girls' understanding towards poverty issue in Hong Kong was enriched and they completed the whole activity with commendable attitude.

El Sistema HK, previously known as the 'Music for the Growing Mind (MGM)', is a charitable organization that provides music training free of charge to individuals in difficult social and economic conditions, and uses music as a vehicle to promote their self-esteem, confidence, and health. Through music-making experience, El Sistema HK aims to provide mentorship and instill values to combat poverty, foster happiness, positive thinking, decision making and strengthen inner-city education. This year, 5 girls from Secondary 3 to 5 volunteered to serve as violin, cello & percussion teaching assistants in a music class for children from low-income families in Tin Shui Wai on Sunday mornings. Through these service opportunities, our girls got the chance to utilize and enhance their musical skills, as well as their communication skills since they had to help facilitate the communication between the children and the Venezuelan teacher.

22 girls from Secondary 1 to 5 participated in the 'Sharing Music, Sharing Love' Service Project to spread the joy of music and to introduce different musical instruments to kindergarten kids who might not have many opportunities to learn music this year. They took turns to serve as performers and game organizers in different service sessions, and showed good commitment in the Project. Their service was very well received by the kindergartens.

22 girls from Secondary 2 to 5 took part in the Kids4Kids Buddy Reading Program this year. The Program aims to bring the enjoyment and benefits of storytelling to children who would otherwise not have the experience at home or school. During the service sessions, our volunteers read English stories to the students at Lok Sin Tong Lau Tak Primary School. They were also given the opportunity to plan, design, and lead fun ice-breaking games as well as lead in activities that aim at engaging the primary students. Through preparing and leading various activities in the programme, our students demonstrated incredible patience for the young children, and also sharpened their organizational and presentation skills.

5 girls from Secondary 3 to 6 took part in the Sandy Bay Charity Fair, an annual event organized by the Society for the Relief of Disabled Children at the Duchess of Kent Children's Hospital at Sandy Bay. Our volunteers applied their interest and skills in drawing to run a face-painting booth at the Charity Fair to raise fund for the Hospital to support disabled children.

In the Mini-summer Term Service Learning Project, we have worked closely with the Sheng Kung Hui Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre, the co-organizer 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. This year, with the guidance of their teachers-in-charge and Secondary 6 facilitators, our Secondary 2 girls, serving as teaching assistants in the Cooking, Guzheng, 3D Model Construction, and Microscope courses, experienced a great sense of satisfaction through witnessing the elderlies 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 to offer 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 the elderly and the mentally challenged, they have also instilled in our students an attitude of selfless giving, compassion and empathy for these groups of people. Appreciation must be expressed to our Secondary 6 girls who acted as role models for their young sisters by willingly and selflessly giving themselves and their time in serving throughout the whole Project.

During the summer, our School again partnered with the Rainbow Foundation, Youth with a Mission Tuen Mun and Brown University in organizing a 5-day English camp called *Rainbow D.R.E.A.M. (Drama, Reading, English Arts and Movement) Camp 2018* for underprivileged primary students from various local schools in Hong Kong. The Camp took place in Noah's Ark Hong Kong this year. 5 of our Secondary 4 students volunteered as teacher assistants in the Camp, and worked alongside qualified ESL teachers and university students to instill a love for learning English among impoverished local students using language and performing arts.

We would like to express our congratulations to Janus Wong and Lam Patricia Dorothy, who were awarded the 2018 Kiwanis Community Service Award in recognition of their leadership in the school's community service programmes and sustained community service work.

Citizens' Club

With the keen participation of over 200 members throughout the year, the Citizens' Club, with the Community Youth Club (CYC) and the Zonta Club as its subsidiaries, continues to blossom and prosper this year.

In collaboration with various organizations, including Blind Union, Helping Hand Lok Fu Care Home for the Elderly, Po Leung Kuk Lo Yau Yuk Sheung Neighbourhood Elderly Centre, the 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, HKSKH Kowloon City Children and Youth Integrated Service Centre and Social Welfare Department, our Club has been able to organize a total of 19 regular services each week, targeting different groups in society such as children of ethnic minorities, the elderly and the blind.

Our girls also participated in various fund-raising activities for different charitable organizations such as selling flags for Shatin Emmanuel Church, Children's Thalassaemia Foundation, Centre for Restoration of Human Relationships, The Hong Kong Award for Young People and The End Child Sexual Abuse, and selling poppies for the Royal British Legion.

Service projects have always been the highlight of our Club. Two service projects were organized this year to provide opportunities for students to design and execute their own service plans. While working on the project, our students learned to cooperate with one another and evaluate their own performance. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Mother Club, Zonta Club of Hong Kong East, for financially supporting our two services projects.

Our Lunar New Year Service Project was held in collaboration with Integrated Brilliant Education Trust (iBET). A Chinese culture fun day for kids of ethnic minorities from iBET was held on the DGS campus during Lunar New Year holidays. Through station games and the highlight meal, Yum Cha, these ethnic minority children's perspectives on Chinese culture were widened, while at the same time our student volunteers were given the opportunity to look beyond the community they were so used to being in through serving children of different backgrounds. The Easter Service Project was organized in collaboration with the Hong Kong's Children Foundation. Similarly, the activity was held on DGS school grounds with the children of the Association visiting us to enjoy an Easter-themed fun day. Volunteers were able to share the hope and joy of the Easter season with the children, and they also learnt the importance of meticulous planning and execution. Overall, both service projects were successful in creating an enriching and fun-filled experience for both the volunteers and service targets.

This year, our DGS Z Club, an affiliate of Zonta International, gladly welcomed over 30 new members at its Induction and Installation Ceremony held in October 2017. Members of DGS Z Club were also invited to participate in special activities organized by the Zonta International. Three Secondary 3 students participated in the Mock Legislative Council Debate organized in April 2018. Our student, Cai Rui Zhe, won the Best Performance Award and the Most Popular Debater Award in the Competition. We must extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Zonta Club of Hong Kong East for granting our girls numerous enjoyable learning opportunities beyond normal classroom learning to broaden their horizons.

Our Community Youth Club (CYC) has again garnered great enthusiasm and generosity from our girls in the annual CYC Charity Plant Sale. With the keen support of more than 200 volunteers, our Club was awarded the Gold Award Cup 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 for their contributions to the community. Chan Lok Yan, Fong Sin Hang Jada, Luk Kei Suet Angela, Mak Chiu Ki Astor attained the Purple Badge (Level 3). Li Pui Yau Yoyo was also one of the recipients of 2018 CYC Outstanding Member Award.

Girl Guides (2nd West Kowloon Company)

This year, the School's Girl Guide unit continued to thrive as our guides were exposed to a wide range of activities that equipped them with different skills such as knotting, lashing, decoding and first aid.

Other than the weekly General Meetings held after school, our guides have also participated in activities organized by the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association, including the Annual Parade and various community services. The constant dedication and effort was well-recognized by the Association. This year marks the third consecutive year of our unit being awarded the Outstanding Unit Award. Individual guides have also attained different achievements such as The Outstanding Girl Guide Award and the Lady Jane's Guide Award, which is one of the highest honour awards in Girl Guides.

To expose our guides to more enriching experience and skills beyond guiding, we have co-organized activities with various parties. A joint-AYP day camp was organized, during which our guides and the School's AYP members spent a day in the Girl Guide campsite, acquiring skills such as tent-setting, cooking in the wild and orienteering. Another Joint-Unit day camp was organized with the 11th Kowloon Group Venture Air Scout Unit of Wah Yan College Kowloon, during which the guides came to know more about scouting and established friendship with the brothers in the guiding and scouting community.

Internally, our guides continued to serve the School in different activities, such as the Flag-Raising Ceremony and the annual Speech Day. A GM was also organized for the Brownies in Junior School to give them a taste of the guiding life in Senior School. It also served as a valuable opportunity for the guides to establish a stronger kinship with their younger sisters in Junior School.

To conclude, 2017-18 was yet another fruitful year for our unit. Apart from earning the recognition from external parties, we are also pleased that the School's Girl Guide unit was in effect a family unit where guides could learn and grow without pressure under the leadership of the more experienced members. It is very encouraging for us to witness the growth of our young recruits of previous years, who have eventually taken up posts of responsibilities such as Patrol Leader, Patrol Second or a member of the Girl Guides Committee. With the wide range of activities that the guides are exposed to, it is hoped that they will continue to benefit from all-rounded development.

Red Cross (Youth Unit 55)

Our members have always been enthusiastic in attending training courses offered by the Hong Kong Red Cross. These courses do not only equip our members with the necessary skills for social service but are also valuable for their whole-person development. Popular training courses among our members include training on first-aid of various levels, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, health check, knotting, humanitarian education and social service skills.

As in the previous year, our Unit continued to take up first aid and regular sick room duties in the school. We were also responsible for providing regular training to the Junior Unit of DGJS. Members also participated in different service projects during Easter and Summer holidays and took part in the Health Ambassador Scheme.

Joint unit visit provides an occasion for our members to socialize with other uniform units and facilitate exchange of experience as well. In March, a joint unit visit was organized with our school's Girl Guide and in April, another joint unit visit was held with the St. Mary's Canossian unit (YU10) and Ying Wa College (YU49) unit. The annual New Year Camp was held in February this year which provided opportunity to foster friendship among our members.

In addition, our unit participated in various competitions and achieved encouraging results. Two teams participated in the first aid competition organized by the Hong Kong Red Cross West Kowloon District and were awarded the first-runner-up and the second-runner-up respectively. One of the winning teams also captured the first-runner-up in the Hong Kong Red Cross First Aid Competition. In the Youth Humanitarian Moot Court Competition, our unit was awarded the first-runner up, the best team of humanitarian lawyers, the best team of lawyers. A team member was also awarded the best performing lawyer. Other awards that our unit received in recognition of the combined effort of all members include being the champion in the Best Service Project Award, the champion in the Best Performing Unit Award of the West Kowloon District, the Best Communication Award and the first-runner-up in the Training Shield Award of the West Kowloon District. We would also want to congratulate four senior members Joivia So, Stephanie Leung, Wu Yee and Pallas Wan for achieving the Youth Attainment Badge awarded by the Hong Kong Red Cross.

Our most sincere gratitude must be extended to Mrs. Lau for her valuable advice and support for the Team. Our heartfelt thanks also go to our colleagues, Miss A. Lai, Miss A. Pang, Miss C. Ho, Miss C. Lau, Miss C. Wong, Miss G. Chan, Miss P. Sun, Miss S. S. Tam, Mrs. K. Tsang, Mrs. L. Wong, Mrs. S.Y. To, Ms. A. Sy, Ms. D. Yeung, Ms. E. Lok, Ms J. Fong, Ms. K. Suthiphongchai, and our school social worker, Ms. Carrie Leung, for their contributions in supervising and accompanying our students in reaching out to their fellow schoolmates and people in the community.

11.4 Library Report

Ms. I. Kwok

With the help and support of the Chairladies of the Library Committee, Didia Pang and Renee Chan, members of the new committee were selected from over 40 applicants and trained at the beginning of the school year. The committee comprises 30 members, including 16 new members who were recruited to replace the retired S5 committee members. The new members from S3 and S4 attended a briefing session on library general duties, rules and regulations, and ways to maintain discipline. In order to speed up their acquisition of practical skills and techniques in handling library duties, they were given several training sessions on specific duties such as book shelving and wrapping, check-in and check-out of books and the way to serve users with general enquiries.

Through their efforts, we processed over 300 new items this year. The library collection has grown steadily to encompass over 15,000 items today. With the assistance of the committee members, hundreds of missing items were checked, so that most of the items could be traced back and placed in the right order. Moreover, old edition or unserviceable items were replaced with new editions.

The highlight of the year, the Library Theme Week, was held from 22nd to 26th January. The aim was to promote the School Library, as well as to encourage students to seek a broader source of knowledge through reading a variety of books. To this end, we launched an interesting activity by stationing the “mobile library” outside students’ classrooms. In this way we brought the library closer to students. A trolley was stationed on each floor of classrooms of S1 to S5 during break time and lunch period. The girls were eager to browse through the trolley of new arrivals and check them out. Also, a book recommendation competition was organized by the chairladies. They made use of the Facebook social media platform, posting entries on the page of the DGS Library Committee. The top five entries were selected according to the number of feedback received on the page.

Additionally, a workshop “與作家會面” organized by “Cosmos Books” was held on 21 January. The guest speaker, 李怡 (LEE BING YIU) held a talk on the topic 新世代的閱讀與人生 “Reading in new generation”. Being a writer of literary and artistic works over many decades, he shared his views of how to improve the reader’s appreciation of the good work. When he was asked how to write stories that resonate with the readers and exert a positive influence on others--- he stressed the importance of following one’s own path, caring for one’s country and society, and refusing to follow the crowd. He contended that these traits are essential elements of being a writer with personal characteristics.

Apart from reading activities, we also took part in the annual Mini Bazaar, one of the treasured events of the year, popular among current students and alumni. The Library Committee worked together with Conservancy Club, to sell over 300 notebooks designed by committee member. The committee members learnt from the process of asking for quotation and negotiating with manufacturers, and finally the product was by all accounts deemed aesthetically pleasing and sold well.

To conclude this report, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to our Headmistress, Mrs. Lau for the support that she has given throughout the year. I am also indebted to our Deputy Headmaster, Mr. J. Oddie for his advice and encouragement, as well as his generosity in spending time to help support the committee members. Lastly, I must explicitly thank our team members for their enthusiastic cooperation

and teamwork in organizing the yearlong library activities. The Library Committee and I look forward to another exciting and rewarding year ahead.

11.5 Prefects' Board

Wong Janus, Yeung Man Kei Helen

The academic year 2017-2018 was a fruitful year filled with blessings and challenges. Organizing various events through the year - from the Mini Bazaar to the Teachers' Day - we have gained so many inspiring experiences. The year-long collaboration among our members has fostered friendships, strengthened our cooperation, and cultivated a strong sense of shared responsibility in all members alike. Above all, we are truly honoured and grateful to be entrusted with the responsibility of serving the school community.

The Prefects' Board comprised two Head Girls (Wong Janus (5Z), Yeung Man Kei Helen (5W), four Deputy Head Girls (Chan Wing In Anson (5U), Lam Sze Yin Cecilia (5U), Tse Jessica Hei Wai (5W), Ho Yin Yee Jocelyn (5Z)), four Assistant Head Girls (Ko Sabrina Tsz Ki (5U), Lam Patricia Dorothy (5U), Chan Siu Ting (5X), Looi Nga Laam (5X)) and 30 prefects.

The opportunities granted for us to serve the School and our fellow schoolmates as a part of the Board were honours to us all. In the past year, we matured through confronting challenges and acquiring life-long practical skills, many of which we could only learn outside the classroom. For this, we feel deeply indebted to the School.

As in previous years, the School participated in the annual Dress Casual Day organized by the Community Chest in October, 2017. Students, teachers and staff donated money to live out our school motto "Daily Giving Service", and dressed according to the theme "Unity and Class Spirit". Students were encouraged to mull over the significance of the event- to reach out to the less privileged in society and learn to appreciate our numerous blessings; instead of focusing on dressing up. All donations from the event went to the Chest to support its services in providing care for underprivileged children.

Apart from exercising our daily duties, the Prefects' Board also organized the annual Mini Bazaar on 19th December 2017. Facing the challenge of a tight schedule, we eventually managed to put together a fun-filled Mini Bazaar by planning ahead meticulously and making sure all our preparatory work was done on time. The Prefects' Board took on tasks including, amongst others, selecting the symbolic Mini Bazaar logo and mascot, reviewing product proposals and providing feedback to stalls, placing orders for products and making logistic arrangements. To ensure the safety of our students and any visiting guests, we implemented the new measure of securing all sales stalls with strong cable ties and shorter bamboo sticks, which effectively prevented stalls from collapsing.

On the day of the event, our students set up a total of 47 sales and games stalls, featuring a wide variety of original DGS student-designed products and innovative and meticulously designed games. The cute mascot, Bella the Bunny, which could be won as a Grand Prize for game stalls, further fueled the students' enthusiasm for these stalls. In addition, P.6 students from DGJS, the PTA, new teachers, and charities such as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Patient Resource Centre, the Lutheran Church, the Fu Hong Society, the Helping Hand Association and St. Andrew's Church joined us in setting up booths to sell charitable products to raise money for the needy. We were extremely glad to have these external organisations join us in this joyous occasion.

The event welcomed an astonishing number of around 2765 visitors, including parents and guardians from both the junior and senior schools, as well as DOGA members and their family. The huge turnout contributed to a respectable profit of \$492,710. As per the usual practice, we donated all our profits to various charities, including St. Andrew's Church, Qinghai Orphanage, Our Daily Bread Ministries, New Sight Congo, Rain Lily, and many others. This act of giving was a manifestation of our school

motto “Daily Giving Service” and was blessed with another level of meaning during the Christmas season of giving. We hope that in doing so, DGS girls could honour the school spirit and reach out to people in need with love and care.

The entire preparation period spanned 4 months, and the event would not have been possible without the kind support and guidance of Mrs. P. Hui, Mrs. A. Chung, Mrs. L. Chan, Mrs. M. Cheng, Mr. E. Chan, Mr. S. Chu, Mrs. P. Kam, Ms. E. Lok, Miss S. Li, Miss C. Moy, Miss P.Y. Chan, Mr. A. Tsui, Miss J. Lau, Mr. M.H. Au, Mrs. R.L. Wong, Ms. P. Ho, Ms C. Yam, Miss B. Chen, Miss S.S. Tam, Miss A. Lai, Mr. R. Yeung, Mr. K.M. Leung, Mrs. S. Wong, Ms. Cherry Chan, Ms. Noel Chiu and Mr. Frank Tam of the Facility Management Office and the team of janitors.

The Teachers’ Day was successfully held on 27th February 2018, providing students with the opportunity to express their gratitude to teachers, non-teaching staff, office staff and janitors, who have all contributed immensely to the smooth and effective operation of the School. The Prefects’ Board designed personalized post-it sets for teachers, non-teaching staff and office staff on behalf of the student body. In addition, the Board presented microwave food containers to janitors and security guards as a token of thanks. During the Morning Assembly, the Board also prepared a presentation to further show the students’ appreciation towards teachers and other staff. The event serves as a good reminder for the school community that it is the unfailing support from staff members and their care for us that has made school life enriching. It is not just on the Teachers’ Day, but every single day, that our heartfelt gratitude goes to Mrs. Lau, our teachers, non-teaching staff, office staff and janitors.

Our annual School Forum, which allowed the School and students to discuss their concerns about school life at DGS through an orderly and open dialogue, was held on 28th March 2018. In response to the students’ requests, the School decided to install a brand new vending machine that offers a wider variety of products. Moreover, the School is looking into more exchange possibilities with other local schools due to popular demand. Other questions addressed included the eligibility of using our dormitories and that of other learning experiences. This year’s School Forum once again proved to be an effective platform for the facilitation of constructive discussion between the School and the student body, with the aim of enriching our learning experiences and making school life more enjoyable.

Moreover, the Prefects’ Board also assisted the School and represented the School in major school events including the Inter-house Swimming Gala and the Athletics Meet. During these mass activities, Prefects took up the important duty of maintaining order. On Speech Day, Parents’ Day and Interviews for S1 Applicants, Prefects also facilitated the events by welcoming and escorting guests. Through all these events, we have come to understand the complexity of putting together mass events, as well as our responsibility of representing the school with humility and dignity. These experiences have all helped prepare us better for our future developments, and are invaluable to all Prefects alike.

To ensure the smooth running of the school, another major duty of the Prefects’ Board was maintaining discipline. To prepare ourselves in becoming Women of Excellence, we see self-discipline and self-respect as two important aspects which have equal significance as academic achievements. Under the supervision of Mr. J. Oddie, the Discipline Board performed regular patrols. Detention sessions were held to help students understand the importance of abiding by community rules. Through our duty, we hope to encourage our fellow schoolmates to embrace the value of self-discipline and respect.

It has been a true privilege for us all to serve the school community as members of the Prefects’ Board. The badges entrusted to us have values beyond their titles -- they signified responsibility of serving the school community, which all Prefects behold. From student nominations to teachers’ endorsement, the Prefects’ Board have been given great honour and trust in serving the school. Among times of joy, there have also been times of difficulty. However, with the support of teachers and schoolmates, we have walked through another rewarding year filled with blessings. Overall, working with the Board members to make school life more enriching has been a true pleasure for us all.

The Prefects' Board would like to take this opportunity to express our most earnest and genuine gratitude to our Headmistress, Mrs. Stella Lau, for providing us with the invaluable learning opportunity to lead and serve the School; our Deputy Headmaster, Mr. J. Oddie, as well as Mrs. C. Chan, for guiding and accompanying us throughout this arduous but rewarding journey. We would also like to thank all members of the School Staff, especially our teachers, for their support and care all along.

In the past year, with the hardwork and dedication of all 45 of us, we have accomplished a lot together throughout our term of service. Most importantly, we have picked up important values along our journey, including that of compassion, determination and confidence. We have also matured a lot and have become more responsible and meticulous in our work. We would like to thank the school once again on behalf of the whole Prefects' Board for this invaluable learning opportunity. Without the kind support of all those around us, we would not have achieved this much. Therefore, we are pleased to wrap up this fruitful year with humility, joy, and appreciation.