

7. Personal, Social and Humanities Education

7.1 Humanities

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Education in the Humanities at DGS aims to develop students in a social and humanistic perspective in studying Economics, History, and Geography. With sustained efforts and dedication of both teachers and students, we have maintained pleasing results in the public examinations.

Public examination results

Our students continued to show keen interest in humanities subjects and attained encouraging results in the public examinations. In the Hong Kong Diploma Secondary Examination (HKDSE), 40%, 33.3% and 47.4% of the students attained 5* or above in Economics, Geography and History respectively. In the Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) Examinations, 80% of the Economics students scored A or above, and in the Cambridge International Advanced Level (CIA) Examination, 100% and 80% of the students scored A or above in Geography and History respectively. The encouraging results are the fruits of the joint effort and hard work of the Humanities teachers and students over the past years.

Teaching and Learning

2021-22 was a challenging but fruitful year. Due to the pandemic, teaching and learning were conducted in a mixed mode. Teachers were actively involved in a wide range of face-to-face and online teaching and assessment work.

This year, more time was allocated for both Economics teachers and students to engage in in-depth revision. A few online revision sessions were conducted via Zoom regularly before the HKDSE examinations, allowing students to further consolidate their concepts and skills before the public examinations. More measures were also taken to cater for learning diversity. Based on students' performance in internal tests and exams, weaker students were invited to do retests and attend small group tutorials, in which they were required to complete assignments that were designed to cater for their needs.

Geography exists beyond the limits of classroom and it is an engaging subject, fieldwork is therefore an essential part of the students' geography journey. However, due to the pandemic situation, students' fieldwork opportunities were deprived. We were fortunate to have four courses of virtual fieldwork for different form levels this year. Such virtual fieldwork included redevelopment projects in Hong Kong, slope engineering measures in Hong Kong, Human activities in tropical rainforests and a field study on rivers organised by the Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre. Technology was widely used in these field trips. Various apps and types of software were used in data collection and interpretation, from data storage, measurement, maps and data presentation.

The History department offers both the HKDSE and A Level curriculum. Students studying history are encouraged to develop an understanding and appreciation of historical events, and to apply them to the world today and in the future. Through a wide range of educational activities, including the usage of IT tools, students are able to learn collaboratively, to critically analyse both the recording and interpretation of history from different perspectives and to form balanced judgments.

Enrichment Programmes

Economics

The Company Programme organised by the Junior Achievement Hong Kong is an annual event which offers precious learning opportunities for secondary students in Hong Kong. Last year, under the guidance of the business advisor, 29 S5 students participated in the programme by setting up their own

company “Mora”, designing and selling their products and eventually liquidating it in eight months' time. Through their hard work, they obtained the Social Buzz Award, the Best Offering Award, the Best Social Innovation Award and the Best Display Award.

Geography

Engagement with the world is a key aspect of studying geography. Experiential learning can provide enriching learning experiences for our students. With the growing importance of issues such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, spatial epidemiology and inequalities, our students participated in various competitions, programmes and community engagement activities, including Low-carbon Living Online Q&A Competition organised by the Environment Bureau, the Weather Fans Staycation organised by the Hong Kong Observatory and the Water Wise Student Ambassador School organised by the Jockey Club Water Initiative on Sustainability and Engagement and won the Bronze Award. We also joined the Geopark School Programme 2021-2022 to cultivate the interest of our students in earth science, the local ecology and culture.

History

The History department aims to foster students' awareness and interest in the historical development of the world, and to enhance their knowledge and skills in independent historical research. Through various classroom activities, the department hopes to cultivate a culture of “learning to learn”. Moreover, once conditions permit, the department targets resuming field trips to locations in Hong Kong that provide first-hand insights into history that directly impact the city. Overseas travel to noteworthy historical sites and museums is an invaluable complement to the study of history, and one which the department hopes can also resume in the coming year.

Last but not the least, we would like to express our sincere thanks to the Headmistress for all her support to Humanities education in the school, particularly in times of difficulty. Thanks must also go to our fellow teachers for their concerted effort and commitment in developing in our students' humanity studies.

7.2 Religious Education

Mrs. M. Fong

Praise be to God for His lovingkindness is great towards us and His truth is everlasting!
We were deeply grateful for the resumption of whole-school morning worship in the Auditorium and the opportunity to start each day with the morning assembly to worship God and be refreshed by His Word. Thanks must be given to Mrs. Lau and teachers for sparing their precious time to prepare the many enlightening assembly messages.

All year round, we were privileged to be nurtured by the team of pastors from St. Andrew's Church. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to Rev. Alex McCoy and Rev. Darren Pollock for their inspiring messages in the Friday assemblies. Special thanks must be given to Rev. McCoy for leading both Christmas Service in December and the End of Year Service in August, renewing the life of many.

The overall theme of this year's class assembly is “God Speaks.” During the whole year, we were blessed with the encouraging messages prepared by our S1-6 students who took turns to lead class assemblies. Through sharing with the whole school what they learnt about the manifold ways and the various situations in which God speaks to us, they inspired each other to grow in their personal lives as well as in their relationship with God and others.

The blessings of God in this year's Gospel Week were continually abundant. Many girls responded to God's love by praying to receive Christ into their lives or reconfirming their faith in Him. We were grateful to the Youth Fellowship committee members for their wholehearted service in leading three special morning assemblies on the theme “It's OK to be not OK: God is in control.” Special thanks

must be given to a team from Yan Fook Church for conducting the whole-school evangelistic meeting, in which the testimony of our recent graduate, together with the songs and message from the team, touched the hearts of many and reminded the school community of God's unfailing mercy and love for His children.

In response to God's bountiful blessings, students were encouraged to share the love of God with the less fortunate in society. During this year's Harvest Festival, students and teachers joined together to thank God for His continual provisions and shared the joy of giving through donating dried food and money to the needy. The donations collected were sent to the Light of Yung Shu Tau Christian Society Limited.

This year, we were again blessed with the love of a group of dedicated old girls who organised a most enjoyable retreat day camp for their S5 sisters. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to Ms. Fanny Leung, Ms. Mona Au and their team for preparing the various fun and meaningful activities, enabling the S5 girls to reflect on their lives from different perspectives. Special thanks must be given to Ms. Mona Au for her inspiring life stories, helping the girls understand how they could experience God's guidance and help to overcome different challenges in life.

In the course of the year, the Youth Fellowship played a significant role in the Christian life in school. We were greatly blessed with the joyful and dedicated service of the teachers-in-charge and committee members of the Youth Fellowship, who organised regular meetings every Monday for all students as well as various whole-school activities, such as the special morning assemblies in the Gospel Week, Harvest Festival, and the New Student Orientation Programme.

To end this report, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Headmistress for her trust, guidance, and full support throughout the year. To my teammates, Dr. A. Cheung, Mrs. H. Leung, Miss T.S. Wun and Miss S.A. Lee, I must thank them for their steadfast devotion and continued effort in bringing the love and truth of God to the girls. Special thanks must be given to Mrs. J. Fung and Mr. D. Pang for their continued guidance, encouragement, and support to the Youth Fellowship members. Last but not least, my deepest gratitude goes to my Father in Heaven for His countless provisions and unfailing guidance throughout the year. All glory be to Him!