

President's Report (2009-2010)



Four council meetings have been held since last AGM to discuss the Association's plans and activities. We are very grateful to have the current principal and six advisors to sit in our meeting. Alumnae assistants were also invited to join our council meeting to contribute.

During the past year, we devoted our resources to the following major areas:

(I) Activities

Founder's Day Dinner

To celebrate the 110th Anniversary of Ying Wa, the Founder's Day Service, AGM and Anniversary Dinner will be held on 27 March 2010 (Sat) in school and in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

(II) Liaison

1. YWGSAA Newsletter

Two issues (October 2009 & Jan 2010) were published and distributed to members by post. Over 1219 alumnae, who responded to our "Go-Electronic" appeal, received an email message and read the version online. To maximize the publicity of the 110th celebration events, both issues were sent to every alumna in our database. A printed copy was displayed in each classroom at school. On-line versions of past issues are also available from the association's homepage.

2. YWGSAA Homepage (<http://www.ywgsaa.org.hk>)

The YWGSAA homepage is an effective channel for local and overseas alumnae to obtain the latest news and keep in touch with the Alumnae Association. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our council member, Ms Vivien CHIN and alumna Ms Rosa LAI, for their concerted efforts in revamping our website. The latest version of our website was completed and launched in January 2010.

3. Ambassador Scheme

The project is co-organized by the Fund-Raising sub-committee under the School Redevelopment Steering Committee and YWGSAA. Under the leadership of Ms Sonja CHAN, a working group was formed. 80 alumnae have been recruited to serve as ambassadors. The working group has also invited 16 former teachers to be the Honorary Advisors. A kick-off ceremony was held on 12 December 2009 right after the formal announcement of the School Redevelopment Project. The first mission of the ambassadors was to promote the 110th celebration events, i.e. Founder's Day Dinner on 27 March 2010 and the fund-raising performance, 'Alice' on 24 July 2010.

(III) Interest Group

Alumnae Choir

The Alumnae Choir had regular monthly practices in the school's Music Room on Saturday afternoons throughout the year and with external support, an audio CD was produced. They will perform in the forthcoming Founder's Day Dinner.

(IV) Projects

1. Mentorship Programme

The Mentorship Programme has been established with a view to facilitate the all-round development of Ying Wa girls by establishing a supportive relationship between alumnae (mentors) and students in the senior forms (mentees). Positive communication between mentors and mentees in areas of mutual interest are encouraged to broaden the latter's horizons. Apart from regular contact between individual mentors and mentees, group activities are organized to foster communication and continuous learning. Around 42 mentors and 89 mentees attended a group activity on 3 July 2009 to

enjoy a talk on aesthetic education followed by a dinner. A promotion talk was held on 2 October 2009 during the Other Learning Experience Session to recruit new mentees. As a result, 74 S4 and S6 students registered as mentees while 59 alumnae volunteered their service as mentors. They first met in an orientation session on 21 November 2009. The first group activity in 2010 was held on 16 January 2010 when over 87 participants visited the MTRC Tsing Yi station. This was followed by a lunch gathering joined by 97 mentors and mentees.

2. Bible Giving

At the beginning of the school year, each S1 student received a Bible as a welcoming gift from the Alumnae Association with names of the students hand-written on the Bible to add a personal touch.

3. YWGS Heritage DVD

The second DVD on Ying Wa Heritage has been produced. The theme is on the history of Ying Wa's contribution to women education in Hong Kong, and outlook for the future. This DVD will be released to commemorate the 110th anniversary of YWGS in March 2010.

4. Alumnae Database

Working closely with the Ambassador Scheme, the team has put efforts to upkeep and update the alumnae records in our database.

5. School Archives Collection

Many memoirs were collected over the years. We are improving the methods and procedures to better preserve, maintain and manage the thousands of records entrusted to us.

6. Caring Team

Two visits were organized by the Caring Team in December, 2009. Over 10 alumnae visited Rev. C.C. LEE at her home while a lunch gathering was held with Miss FOK Yu Hee. The caring team plans to arrange 1 to 2 visits and activities at every quarter.

(V) Charity Trust Fund Activities

1. Leadership Training Programme

We sponsored 43 S4 students to participate in a 5-day personal growth training programme from late March to mid April 2009. Participants experienced and learnt a lot from the courses organized by the Outward Bound Hong Kong.

2. Scholarships

The Alumnae Association Scholarships for academic merit and good conduct were awarded to 11 S1-S7 students on the Speech Day in July 2009.

3. CD production project

In 2008, we sponsored the production of a CD of students' performances. Around 200 members of the school choirs took part. Copies of the CD were distributed to staff, students, parents and alumnae.

4. Exchange Tour to Fujian, Cambodia, Shanghai and United Kingdom

Due to the heightening threat of swine flu, exchange tours to Fujian and Cambodia scheduled for summer 2009 were cancelled. 22 school volleyball team members joined an exchange tour to Shanghai in December 2009. A series of practices were arranged with local schools in Shanghai to sharpen students' techniques and to strengthen the bonds among team members. Four students from S3 were subsidized to join the International Gateway for Gifted Youth (IGGY) Summer University organized by the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom. This programme aimed to nurture students with academic potential and to breed future leaders with global perspectives and values.

5. Long-distance Running Team and the 'Beyond 110'

'Beyond 110' was a special initiative being organized to celebrate the 110th anniversary of Ying Wa. Students, staff, parents and alumnae joined together to make a breakthrough once in their life time by completing a 10 km race (1 生 1 次 0 的突破). The project was well received and more than 170 members, including 30 staff, 37 alumnae, 47 parents and 59 students joined the 10km race in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon held on 28 Feb 2010. The Charity Trust Fund has fully supported students and staff in the arrangement of weekly transport to Bowen Road for practice as well as their entry fees to the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2010.

6. End-term activities

In summer 2009, over 25 short courses were organized for students after their final examination. About 500 students participated in a variety of activities ranging from rock climbing, canoeing, rugby, ice-skating and bowling to cake-making, sign language, first-aid, Chinese calligraphy and make-up. Each student received a maximum of \$100 subsidy upon the completion of the course.

(VI) Other s

The following alumnae were appointed by the Council of the YWGSAAL as trustees of the Charity Trust Fund from 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2011:

Dr CHAU Ming Tak

Dr HUEN Kwai Fun

Ms LAM Lai Bing, Alison

M's CHAN Ping Kuen

Ms CHENG Yin Lee Francie

Ms LEUNG Man Ping Priscilla

Ms NG Yuk Che Regina

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude to all the advisors, teachers and school staff, council members, year coordinators, ambassadors, and alumnae assistants who contributed their time and effort in the past year. I would also like to thank every alumna who gave us your feedback, participated in the alumnae functions and supported us in many other ways.

Ms Chan Ping Kuen
President, Council of YWGSAAL
9 March 2010