

# Alumni Connect

Alumni Association Newsletter





# Welcome from the CSSAA Preparatory Committee

Greetings to all members of the Creative Secondary School Alumni Association and current students of CSS. We hope you all had a fruitful April with continuous successes in all aspects of your daily life.

As an update, one of our recent focuses of work has been the CSSAA Election. The Sub-Committee of CSSAA Election is now designing the structure and the rules for the Election. It is expected the Election will be held in late-2018. If you are passionate to be the candidate of the Election, please contact the Preparatory Committee or the Sub-Committee on CSSAA Election. Meanwhile, CSSAA is excited to introduce to all members the upcoming event, the Mahjong Night, which will be held in late June. Stay tuned for the relevant updates and seize your chance to sign up by then!

Heading into the month of May, we would also like to congratulate the current batch of F.6 students (Class of 2018) on finishing their last day of school after six years of hard work, the Executive Committee of the CSSAA hopes you have had a meaningful and unforgettable experience with the CSS community, and that you have achieved all you wanted to achieve at school. While you are tackling the HKDSE and IB public examinations, we wish you nothing but the best in overcoming this final challenge of your high school career. More importantly, we would like to welcome you to the CSS alumni community, and we look forward to hear about your experiences and stories as you move ahead into the next key stage of your life!

CSSAA Preparatory Committee May 2018

# Recap Event – Poon Choi Dinner

The very first Alumni Poon Choi Dinner gathering was held successfully on the 9th February 2018 at our very CSS School Hall. The evening would not have been a success without the support of our Alumni Community, PTA, CSS staff, and our fellow student helpers. CSSAA Preparatory Committee would like to send our deepest thanks to all who came.

# Assistant Principal's Message

"This is my eleventh year teaching in CSS. Looking back, I have taken up many different posts:

MYP Technology teacher MYP Mathematics teacher IB DP Maths higher-level teacher Timetabler HKDSE coordinator Assistant principal

As an MYP teacher, I had to unlearn and relearn how to teach. As an IB DP Maths higher-level teacher, I had to teach things that I was not taught before. I had to learn faster than my students did. As an HKDSE coordinator, I had to learn how to coordinate and work with different people from different subject areas with different backgrounds. As the one who did the timetabling for each student and each teacher, I had to search for suitable tools, put them into proper use, and learn how to piece everything together. Of course, I learnt to be patient. Sometimes finding a usable school timetable could take days or even weeks. As an Assistant Principal, I learnt that I know nothing about administration. I need to ask others how to do certain things and why. This is a completely different experience as a teacher, as I was used to being asked questions.

For whatever I have said above, I just want to tell the graduates that 'one can never stop learning'. Learning something new is not a choice. It is the essence of life."



Ping Kwan joined CSS in 2008. He is now the Director of Administration as Assistant Principal while continuing to teach Mathematics.



# Introducing CSSAA Cohort Liaison Officers

What is a Cohort Liaison Officer?

Cohort Liaison Officer (CLO) facilitates as a bridge to enhance the communication between each batch of graduates and the Alumni Association Executive Committee. They play a key role in representing their cohort and contributing their liaison skills to the overall growth of our community. Their commitment and contribution are much appreciated.



Carman Lau Jacaranda (2006-2012)

Carman was a student ambassador and school prefect. In 2007 she was the Master of Ceremony at CSS Opening Ceremony, and in 2010 the Master of MYP Graduation Ceremony. She is now working as a Museum Programme Coordinator.



Tiffany Yu Bombax (2007-2013)

Tiffany was the internal Vice-Chairperson of the Student Council, and was the House Captain of Bombax. She is now a student at HKUST.



Janice Chui Bauhinia (2008-2014)

Janice was Vice House Captain, Vice Chairman of Student Council, Team Captain of Girls Basketball Team, Open day & Graduation Coordinator, and the Operation Team Stage Manager. She is now a final year student at HKU.



Connie Tang Cassia (2009-2015)

Connie was House Captain and Vice Captain of Cassia. She is now a student at PolyU.



#### Gabriel Lee Cassia (2010-2016)

Gabriel was a member of Cassia. He is now a student at HKUST Business School.



**Doris Wong** Bauhinia (2012-2017)

Doris was House captain, Chair person of student union, Event Executive Committee Leader of MYP and F6 Graduation. She is now a student at CUHK.



#### Michelle Kwong Bombax (2012-2018)

Michelle was the Yearbook Editor 2016-17, member of Student Union 2016-17, and F4 Graduation Coordinator. She is a current F6 student at CSS.

# Alumni Stories: Jonathan Yip (2012 Cohort)

In this section of our newsletter ALUMNI STORIES, we will feature the unique stories from former CSS students. If you want to be featured in our coming newsletters, or perhaps you would like to tell us your story, don't hesitate to get in touch with us!

Jonathan studied at CSS between 2006-2012, and was a member of Bauhinia. He was the first student to achieve full marks in the IB exams. He went on to study at Durham University (BSc Natural Sciences), and now working as a Research Assistant at The University of Hong Kong.

"I won't forget how surprised I felt on the night I received my IB results. I thought I didn't perform well on certain subjects, yet at the end, they didn't compromise my score – so I was genuinely thrilled that I got 45 points. Many people have asked about tips on how to perform well in their final exams – I'm grateful to have this opportunity to share with you my experiences and principles that have guided me through the IB exam.

Plan well, eat well and sleep well. Different people have different ways to study, but ultimately, I believe maintaining a balanced life and having good organisation is the key to success. As an IB student, we all know that time is our scarcest resource. We have to deal with assessments, exams, as well as Extended Essay and CAS in such limited period of time! Everything seems to be equally important, and it is easy to end up in chaos. Therefore, planning is critical. I found it very helpful to make a revision schedule, so I was able to be allocate different amount of time for different subjects according to my strengths and weaknesses. It's equally essential to give yourself some leisure time and have enough sleep, as giving your brain a rest helps you to consolidate the knowledge you've already absorbed!

I was very lucky that the teachers I met at CSS were very experienced in teaching. They gave me life-long advice that helped me to make important academic decisions after I graduate. I was also fortunate to have my friends' support along the way: just hanging out and talking with them made the hard days lighter and brighter. Without the encouragements from friends and teachers, I would not have been able to go through the most challenging period of my secondary school life.

IBDP / HKDSE is just one of the many challenges in life. Your grades do not solely define you, so don't forget to explore different possibilities, interests, and understand your strengths and weaknesses during your time at CSS – knowing ourselves gives us a clearer vision in marking out our life goals. Most importantly, enjoy the precious time with your friends and schoolmates at CSS!

Wish you all the best in your future endeavours!"

April 2018

# **Upcoming Events**

**CSSAA Election & AGM**\* To be held by the end of 2018 Alumni Social Activities\* Mahjong Night

\* Follow us on Facebook @creativessaa to get the updates on these events.

### Membership Registration

Why become a Member?

- •To maintain connections with CSSAA and CSS;
- •To join our events;
- •To receive our newsletter 'Alumni Connect'.

If you are a former CSS student, please take a moment to fill in the Registration Form for applying the membership, which can be found at:

http://www.css.edu.hk/index.php/school-life/alumni-association





Email: cssalumni@css.edu.hk



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