



Christmas and the festive season are often associated with gatherings of family and friends to reflect on the year passed and to express our hopes and aspirations for the coming year. Although some of our friends and family, like mine, may be in distant lands with technology we can still gather together and share our festive season together.

For new students, their families and our new staff, we will celebrate our first Festive Season at Creative Secondary School through a Christmas Assembly online and then begin our two weeks holiday. Although this Christmas may be very different from our last, I hope that a few things will remain the same: our thoughts for those less fortunate than ourselves, our commitment to action to make our lives, and those around us, a little happier and brighter and most importantly a resolve to keep ourselves and those around us as safe and healthy as possible. Bless you all and trust you will have a restorative Festive Season together.

The school office hours will change to allow our support staff to enjoy the Festive Season from their safe and warm home environments. We will have general office staff on duty and on-campus throughout every school holiday.

School Holidays Office Opening and Closing Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9am – 4pm

Friday: 9am – 12:30pm

Saturday and Sunday will be closed

NB: The office will close at 12:30 pm on Thursday 24 & 31 Dec

However, please remember we will be closed on Friday 25 December and 1 January 2020 as they are public holidays. I will also inform you of the arrangements for learning on 31 December 2020 so you will know if students need to come back to campus for classes or whether we will continue with online arrangements. Please keep an eye out for the email.

Meanwhile, let me take this moment to wish you all a very happy Festive Season and a happy New Year, to Christians a very Merry Christmas and to Jewish members of our community, Happy Hanukkah!

Dr. Anthony Adames
Principal

Happy
Holidays

Student Union 2020-21

Many Congratulations to the cabinet Althea for having been elected as the Student Union 2020-21. The Executive Committee members include,

Mahina Wong (Ju5)

Chairperson

Jack Young (Ba5)

Vice Chairperson (Internal Affairs)

Yannick Yam (Bo4)

Vice Chairperson (External Affairs)

Lance Barcelona (Ba4)

Treasurer

Smey Muskaan (Bo5)

Secretary

Isaac Chan (Bo4)

Executive (Social Media Relations)

Maxine Fu (Ja5)

Executive (Creative Marketing)



We take this opportunity to thank Alastair (Student Union 2019-20) led by Damien Filleul (Ba5) and his team for a year of fantastic work last year. We look forward to Althea working with the student body and the school together for this year.

Student Leaders

We would like to thank the existing team of Student Leaders for their contribution to the school, particularly their working with Student Leaders from Law Ting Pong Secondary School for the Youthnity event (student-led conference) in July-August 2020. The team members include,

Chan Shun (Ca6)

Head Student Leader

Amogha Sudhakar (Ju6)

Deputy Head Student Leader

Derek Zheng (De6)

Deputy Head Student Leader

Alison Li (Ba6)

Student Leader

Sam Cheng (Ca6)

Student Leader

Felicia Yap (De6)

Student Leader

Kenneth Ho (Ja6)

Student Leader

Khunsha Dar (Ju6)

Student Leader

We shall be electing the new team of Student Leaders in January 2021.



House Updates

1. House Committee Election

As part of the House Committee Election process, each cabinet created a promotion video and posters to introduce themselves and their goals to their own houses. Many Congratulations to the winning committees.

Bauhinia

House Captain: Lana Wearne (Ba5)
House Vice-Captain (Sports): Janine Castor (Ba5)
House Vice-Captain (Cultural): Ameerah Khadijah Binit Ashrafswadi (Ba5)

Bombax

House Captain: Smey Muskaan Kaur (Bo5)
House Vice-Captain (Sports): Sehansa Nadunu Wijewardena (Bo5)
House Vice-Captain (Cultural): Harry Cheung (Bo5)

Cassia

House Captain: Shannon Hoo (Ca5)
House Vice-Captain (Sports): Quinn Li (Ca5)
House Vice-Captain (Cultural): Stephanie Poon (Ca5)

Delonix

House Captain: Jessie Fung (De5)
House Vice-Captain (Sports): Shirley Chan (De4)
House Vice-Captain (Cultural): Lleyhan Tsui (De5)

Jacaranda

House Captain: Sandra Nasayao (Ja5)
House Vice-Captain (Sports): Yoyo Chan (Ja5)
House Vice-Captain (Cultural): Kelli Wu (Ja5)

Juniper

House Captain: Kiren Bibi (Ju5)
House Vice-Captain (Sports): Lam Shan Hang (Ju4)
House Vice-Captain (Cultural): Tania Wu (Ju4)



2. "One Person One Flower" Inter-house planting Competition

To promote awareness of greening among students, to cultivate their interest in growing plants and to nurture their care for the community, the Student Development Team in collaboration with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) have organised the "One Person One Flower" Programme and Competition. Our MY1, F1 & F2 students have the opportunity to plant *Dianthus chinensis* and to join this inter-house planting competition this school year.

Planting promotes our health and well-being positively and we look forward to sharing their learning experiences and insights with them during the process of planting.



Creative Week Updates

Due to the uncertainties brought on by COVID-19, local full-day programmes have been planned to offer to students for Creative Week. We are exploring various options including day camps, service learning opportunities, and sporting activities such as mountaineering, yoga and creative arts workshops. We acknowledge that the current COVID-19 restrictions and possibly prolonged class suspension may lead to the postponement of Creative Week. We will follow the guidelines from the Education Bureau when arranging various programmes. Students' and teachers' safety and well-being are always our top priorities.

Updates from our Social Workers

This year, despite the pandemic, we have taken the opportunity to start a **HKFYG x CSS Volunteer Group** as a CCA, to connect students who would love to serve. We have continually organised a wide range of activities and volunteer opportunities for our students. First, the **Beach Cleansing Day** - students collected 450kg of trash (which was startling!) from Tap Mun Island in a day. Also, students learned to make

cookies for children in the **Halloween Party**, and designed fun games for them. Besides, a group of senior students initiated a tutoring programme for the junior form students (**S.T.A.G. - Student Taught Academic Group**), to provide 1 to 1 tutoring sessions for new students with the subjects they are strong at. Furthermore, We launched the **U-Kitchen Project**, several Form 4 to 5 students organised events and cooked food for the elderly and low income families in the TKO community. It was a blessing to have numerous parents and students supporting and donating food to make the programme a success. Lastly, CCA volunteers and the HKFYG LOHAS Youth S.P.O.T. are organising various online events and activities for kids and teens to enjoy a special Christmas - **Online Christmas x Wellness Events** on 19 Dec, e.g. Human Library, Zentangle & Calligraphy workshops and Music Concert, in order to show their caring and raise the awareness of mental wellness for youths in Hong Kong.



Updates from the Counseling Team

Our counselling team offers a range of programmes, activities and counselling services to build up a caring and supportive atmosphere in school and to encourage students to enhance their social and psychological well-being. We also value our partner and provide support to our parents and staff. On 30 September 2020, we ran counselling training for the staff team in order to promote the importance of one's well-being and to share strategies on handling students with emotional needs.

On 12 and 19 November 2020, we conducted a seminar - <It is okay to be not okay!> for F6 and F5 students respectively. The seminar's objective was to increase students' awareness to their mental well-being and explore strategic ways to cope with challenges in their daily lives. Moreover, we are currently running a programme called <CSS x HKU Mind-shift> for F3 and F4 students this year. Students have the opportunity to equip themselves with skills and knowledge to deal with mental health concerns, as well as to enhance students' empathy towards people with mental illnesses throughout the programme led by a group of professionals. On 3 December 2020, it was a great honor and pleasure to invite the psychiatrist, Dr Jessie Lin, as our guest speaker to share some stress management skills and mindfulness skills with our F2 and F3 students in our PGP. It is hoped that our

students can get as much support as we can offer during the pandemic.

We are always here to support students and to address students' concerns when they need help.

Meet the team:

Mr. Nike Kwong

Hangout: Nike Kwong

Email: nike.kwong@css.edu.hk

Ms. Callas Kwok

Hangout: Callas Kwok

Email: callas.kwok@css.edu.hk



Higher Education Updates

The Careers Team are excited to share with you our Higher Education progress this term. Despite school closures, many F6 online careers seminars have taken place including information sharing on Hong Kong, UK, US, Canada, Australian university applications and our successful art portfolio workshop. Our annual University Fair went virtual, with forty-five local and overseas universities providing videos to introduce their campuses, admission requirements and course content. A big thank you goes to HKUST for their live event designed especially for our Form 5/6 CSS students. Alumni joined in the event to share university experiences and it was exciting to see familiar faces and hear their stories.

Hong Kong and the UK remain our two most popular university destinations and we are now in the position where students are receiving conditional offers from the UK, in particular from Bristol, Durham and Manchester Universities. We have seven F6 students who are preparing enthusiastically for their HKU, HKUST and City U interviews this week. Applicants to the US, Canada and Australia also have ongoing online applications and we eagerly await the results. We are proud of students' adaptability in these times of uncertainty and we feel optimistic about future undergraduate offers.

Careers Education is an important part of our preparation for future careers pathways at CSS and we are excited that even Form 1 are involved this year. In the PGP programme, they are identifying their personal achievements and qualities, interviewing adults about their job roles and creating a simple career plan. It's never too young to start! Both F4 and F5 complete careers activities in our PGP sessions to assist their decision making and are looking ahead for 2021 summer internships.

HKDSE 2019/2020 Past Papers available to all students in the library



Upon our return to school in January, past papers from the 2019 and 2020 HKDSE public examinations are available for students to browse through and learn from. These are available from the library. Past papers - the gift that keeps on giving!

F6 HKDSE Pre-mock Exams

Despite challenging times, F6 HKDSE students showed their commitment to the public exam by undertaking externally arranged and marked exams in the DSE core subjects of English, Chinese, Maths and Liberal Studies in November and December 2020. Students balanced an already heavy workload with the need to gain meaningful exam practice, before they head into the crucial next few months.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) - Extended Essay (EE)



Form 5 - The EE is one of the three compulsory components of the IBDP core. Our Form 5 IBDP students have now firmly begun their EE journey, having attended the online launch of their EE process at the end of November where Ms Guevara and Mr O'Leary briefed the students about the exciting work ahead. This is a great opportunity for IBDP students to work independently on a research topic chosen by themselves and all students this week submitted their top three preferred topics linked to a subject studied at IBDP. We are pleased to confirm that nearly all students were allocated their first choice and have had a specialist supervisor allocated to them for guidance in the year to come.

Form 6 - Our Form 6 IBDP students should feel not only proud, but also relieved, that they have now reached the end of their EE journey. This has culminated with the submission of their final essay, a viva voce (interview) with their subject supervisor and the completion of three mandatory reflection sessions on their progress throughout the last year. A wide range of topics and foci were covered by students researching into their own areas of interest and passion. Well done everyone.

Business & Entrepreneurship @CSS

November 2020 CSS entered four teams to the Jumpstarter HK Entrepreneur competition sponsored by Alibaba. The teams were required to create a pitch deck (business plan) of a product or service for students or school centered around one or more of the following themes:

Mental Wellness Energy consumption
Waste reduction Smart home or Smart School

Tool-er

(manages students health in a supportive smart school community)

created by

Katherine Chan F5 Ju (HKDSE) **Vico Chong** F5 Ju (HKDSE)
Evangelina Lau F5 De (HKDSE) **Beth Wang** F5 Ju (IBDP)

The Tool-er team has been announced as a Top 25 finalist on the Jumpstarter website <https://www.jumpstarter.hk/en/secondary/finalists>. In January 2021 the team will do a live pitch in front of an esteemed panel of judges alongside the 24 other teams to determine which teams will make it to the quarter finals! The enterprising young ladies have worked exceedingly hard, showing determination, collaboration, creativity and innovation throughout the first round. Please join me to wish them good luck for round two.

F3 & F4 Reports, Options and Parent Conference Updates

As part of the ongoing process of supporting parents and students in making the right subject choices for

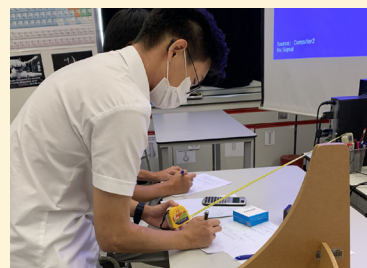
next year, we are delighted to confirm that we are very much moving forwards with a range of events and mechanisms that offer efficient information sharing and resources.

This week saw the successful launch of a new platform within our CSS school system that allows F4 and F3 parents to access, read and download pdf copies of their child's Semester 1 report. The F4 parent conference this week also offered the opportunity to discuss student subject strengths and interests online with teachers and hopefully helped to inform the important option decisions being made. We look forward to engaging with F3 parents and students alike at their F3 parent conference in January. We are inviting F3 and F4 students to submit their options from 17th December but would remind everyone that it is not first come first serve so please reflect carefully before confirming choices ahead of the deadlines.

Life in the Laboratory during restrictions

The Physics Laboratory became alive again, once the students returned to school

in September. Within the boundaries of social distancing and other safety precautions, we were able to provide opportunities to the students to explore the wonders of science. While the curious F5 students investigated projectile motion, F4 students demonstrated collaborative skills through group presentations. The F3 students showed excellent research skills through their investigation on effect of catalase on rate of reaction, while the ever-enthusiastic F1s had a fantastic time sliding cars down ramps and creating foam with detergents.



In other parts of the school laboratories, F4 Biology students completed the unit of reproduction in flowering plants by dissecting Stargazer lilies (*Lilium orientalis*) while identifying and annotating the parts of the reproductive system.

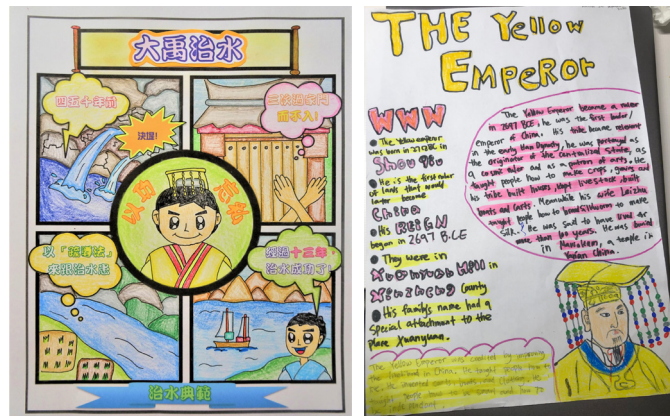


Chinese History

In its third year of development, the Chinese History curriculum is developed in F1 and F2. To support students' learning and stimulate their interests in Chinese history, some teaching materials were showcased for students to see the inventions and arts in historical China. Students enjoyed learning about the history and culture of China through creative and interactive activities such as poster design and role play. During school closure, learning tools such as Jamboard and Padlet were used to maintain the interactiveness in class.



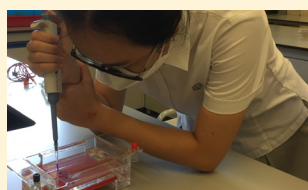
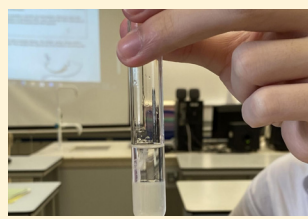
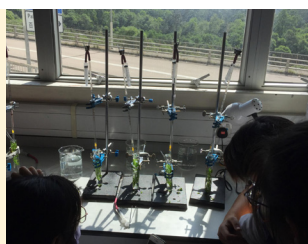
Teaching materials: A painting of "Along the River During the Qingming Festival" and a model of "Ancient Earthquake Detector"



Poster design done by F1 students (left), Poster design done by F2 students (right)



Meanwhile F5 Biology students counted oxygen bubbles when investigating factors that affect photosynthesis. They completed an SBA on the effects of light intensity and carbon dioxide concentration on the rate of photosynthesis.



In F6, Biology students successfully extracted DNA from bananas and ran a gel to determine the most likely offspring in a parentage case.

HKUST Underwater Robot Competition 2021

For the first year, Creative Secondary School will participate in the HKUST underwater robotics competition. The team made up of Kaushiki Chaturvedi (F2De), Shreyaan Vashishtha (F2Ja), Nikolas Fung (F1Ca), Stanson Chan (F1Ju) and Sharlene Hui (F1Ba) were selected from a field of application where the students needed to write why robotics will be important in the future. The team will be set a challenge in the qualifying round in January 2021 to see if they can make it into the main competition.

Physical Education during online learning and teaching

Despite going back to working online, students have been making sure that they are staying active by exercising. Some class activities have included home workouts with students designing their own fitness challenges and sharing some of their creative ideas with their friends.



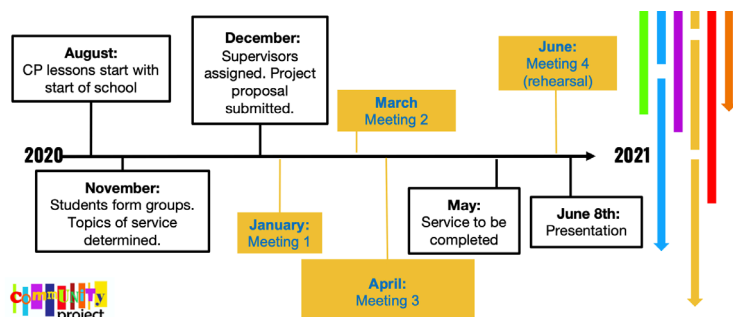
Pictured: Anson Cheung F1Ba and Anson Kwan F1Bo

National Constitution Day



On 4 December 2020, the School commemorated the National Constitution Day as the nation celebrates the promulgation of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China on 4 December 1982 by the 5th National People's Congress. To mark this event during the face-to-face class suspension, at Creative Secondary School the National Flag, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's Flag and the School Flag were raised by the Principal, Director of Administration and the Director of Student Development and Wellbeing in the presence of staff on campus. As an IB World School, we seek to fulfill the IB Mission statement of aiming to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Community Project for Form 3 students has started at CSS: Supporting the community during the COVID-19 pandemic

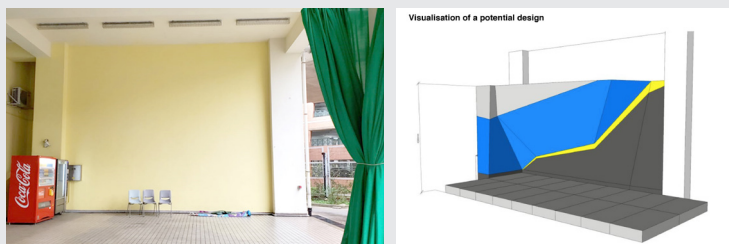


The MYP team is happy to announce that the Community Project has started for Form 3 students and will last until June 2021. As the culminating experience in the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), Form 3 students will identify a need in a community, perform research, develop a plan to meet the need, and carry it out by providing the service.

During these challenging times, we have all come to understand and appreciate the role that community service plays within our society. Students have already decided on their groups and future service ideas considering the current situation with COVID19. Here are some good examples shared with us by students: raising awareness about mental health issues of secondary school students and methods to cope with such issues; making an animated film short to spread awareness about certain issues in the community such as the dangers of drugs, or how to protect the environment; making online lessons for little children to advocate a healthy lifestyle and doing sport in the era of COVID19. Now it is the supervisors' turn to choose a CP to supervise.

After the action has taken place, students will then present their experiences and outcomes and reflect on what impact their service made on the community as well as on themselves. Research and planning experiences that took place during the project will also be shared, as well as reflections upon their own personal growth in collaboration, communication, critical and creative thinking skills.

Bouldering Wall



Bouldering is a branch of sports climbing in which climbers would climb on a wall no taller than 5 metres without ropes or harnesses. We have successfully applied for QEF funding to build a bouldering wall near Court C. If everything goes well, the wall will start to be built in the summer of 2021. By the beginning of the school year 2021-2022.

Students should be able to make use of the wall, through which students can develop problem solving, planning and decision making abilities. In addition, they can build confidence and self-esteem.

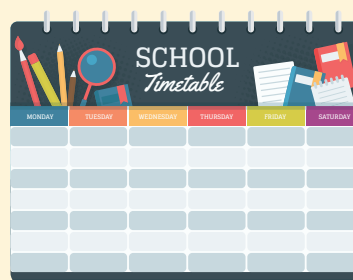
Solar Harvest

Solar Harvest is a Government programme to promote the development of local renewable energy. It provides subsidy and one-stop service to help eligible schools to install small-scale solar PV systems at their premises. We have joined the project and the Solar PV Systems is expected to be installed in the coming month. After the completion of the project, we will give students a better understanding of renewable energy and we will make use of the system to enrich the teaching of STEM and environmental education.



Student Portal

During the age of pandemics, we need to have a new way to distribute information to our students and parents. We have made a head start already to develop our student Portal to distribute timetables and report cards. As the year progresses, we will continue to update our portal to provide more information to the students and parents - including a central store for school notices and useful learning resources for students.



Canteen

To protect our students while they are eating in the canteen, we have installed transparent acrylic sheets in the canteen and we have regular disinfection to make the canteen safe.



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