

平安福音堂幼稚園 (牛頭角)

Peace Evanglical Centre Kindergarten (Ngau Tau Kok)

2021-2022 Annual Publication

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All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten

Director, Christian Faith and Development Centre, The Education University of Hong Kong Rev. Benedict Shum Shu Kei

Since the last century, church-run schools in Hong Kong have cultivated many outstanding and talented students, and they have made great contributions to society and the country. Time flies, the world has changed a lot after going through all the histories. The material living conditions of the 21st century is much better than those of previous generations, and students are no longer just looking for literacy to earn a living. Individualism prevails, moral standard became diverse, coupled with imbalanced family functions, fragmented knowledge, and distorted values. If the church wants to continue adhere to the values of Christian faith in running schools and preaching services, there are great challenges.

In the past, God inspired many missionaries to come to China, they work very hard, run newspapers, set up schools, and introduce Western education models, which had a profound impact on the education reform in the late Qing Dynasty and the early Republic of China. Hong Kong is located in the southern part of mainland China. It is more convenient for missionaries to set up schools here. They can change the society through education, and many families have the opportunity to learn about the gospel through their children's education. Today, more than half of the public sector primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong are founded by Christian groups, many of which are highly appreciated after by parents due to their profound schooling history and fine traditions.

In terms of early childhood education, there are now more than 1,000 kindergartens, nursery schools and child care centers in Hong Kong. Nearly 400 of those schools are Christian-based. Looking back at the history of Hong Kong, it was mentioned for the first time in an education report in 1894 that the Basel Mission (now the Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong) established the first kindergarten in Sai Ying Pun to teach impoverished Chinese children and provide life skills such as hand-eye training. By the beginning of the 20th century, schools run by missionaries had successively opened kindergartens to provide a more complete curriculum so that children could learn through play. Ying Wa Girls' School was established as a kindergarten (two-year curriculum) in 1911, and the former site of its school building is still preserved in the rebuilt Ying Wa Girls' School.

Christian education in schools should be God-centered— to let people know about our loving Creator, and to develop a Christian personality. "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6).

The way to walk is to fear and respect the way of the Lord. The church has established schools with the intention of preaching, but more importantly, it is to understand the impact of education on a young child. High-quality pre-school education activities can strike a balance between the three main areas: Play, skill and affective development, and the academics. Children nurtured in a loving and dynamic community will know about God, have a good character, and be capable.

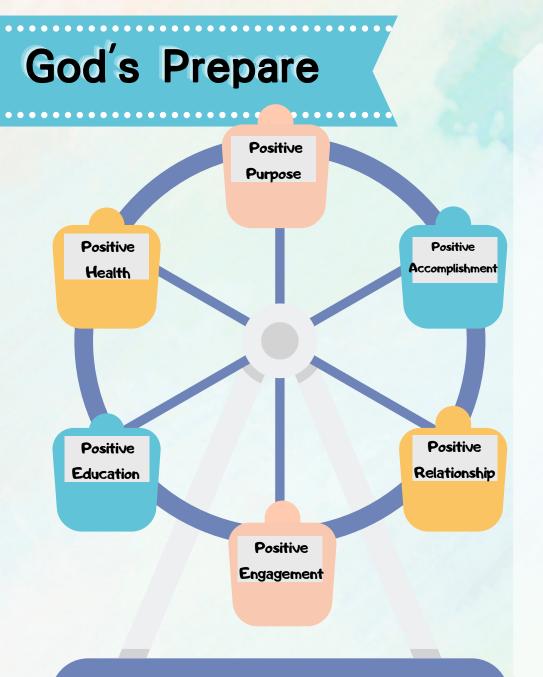
American author Robert Fulghum has written a best-selling essay "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" more than 30 years ago. The title of this book is taken from the most classic essay within that book, we translated it as "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten". It turns out that most of the things we really need to know in life, such as how to live, take good care of ourselves, be kind to one another, live a balanced life, appreciate the sacredness and mystery of life, and even how to look at life and death, etc., have been taught in kindergarten!

Therefore, preschool education is very important in giving us foundation knowledge and skills. What is being taught in kindergartens nowadays? Is its aim still helping parents to achieve their wish to let children "win at the starting line"? Unlike in secondary or primary schools, kindergarten students don't have that much unhealthy competition of chasing value-added performances, academic competitions. Will kindergartens be able to "touch a bit" of "moral, cognitive, physical, social and aesthetic" values in a balanced manner every day in the curriculum? Can our children learn about the basic wisdom of being a person through games? Can students discover the goodness of God and experience the presence of God?

"To have life abundantly" is inherited from the work of Jesus Christ on earth. Nowadays, churches in Hong Kong are working very hard in running schools. I hope that our children, with the nurture of teachers, will learn and practice the "most important little things" in kindergarten every day!

Retrospect & Prospect (2021-2022)

Walk on a positive path



Thank you to our Heavenly Father, who is in charge of all things in the world. Before the epidemic began, he knew our future needs. For two consecutive years, the kindergarten has participated in the "Positive Education for Whole-child Development' with Foci on 'Caring School and Love of Learning" program, held by the Centre for University & School Partnership (CUSP), the Chinese University of Hong Kong. During the epidemic, it is inevitable that parents, children or even teachers will have negative emotions. When implementing the program, it helps us to start from six major directions: positive positive meaning, accomplishment, positive relationships, positive engagement, and health.



Principal Koo Mei Sze

This experience helps us understand what the Bible says in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10: "But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

towards life and learning

Heavenly Father has given us a mission, which is to raise children according to the Bible, so that they may grow up with love and wisdom. In this school year, we have unified the learning content of each unit, trying to add games to different Bible theme, giving children small challenges, enhancing children's curiosity. We wish to help them to enter a state of heart flow, so as to establish a growth mindset, not to be afraid of difficulties. We wish that they can have a positive attitude of "I can do it". In addition, we strengthened our moral education to cultivate children's kindness and gratitude, hope that they can enjoy growing up in love and happiness.





Prospect and direction for the new academic year





In past months, children were unable to have face-to-face classes every day due to the epidemic, which limited the form and strategy of classroom teachings. Teachers needed to change the prepared teaching materials and activities to PowerPoint slides or screen games immediately. It is hoped that in the new school year, we can have more personal contact with children, conduct Montessori teaching and exploratory learning with them. Starting from the children's interests, through their personal experience using five senses, we can deepen and enhance the learning effect, and enhance their sense of happiness and success.



Co-enrolment Education Programme



SLCO Community Resources Mr. Chung

Since 2019, the SLCO Community Resources has undertaken the the Centre for Sign Linguistics and Deaf Studies (CSLDS) of the Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and cooperate with the Peace Evangelical Centre Kindergarten (Ngau Tau Kok) to implement the "Sign Bilingualism and Co-enrolment Education Program" in the kindergarten. We allow students with or without hearing difficulties to learn together in sign language and oral language, provide equal learning opportunities for them, and students with hearing difficulties to develop and grow effectively in mainstream schools.

In the 16 years since the establishment of the programme in 2006, the programme team and the kindergarten have made continuous exploration and practice, so that the sign bilingualism teaching model has become much more mature. Through the collaborative teaching of our teachers (including sign language teachers) and the conduction of different sign language activities, so that no matter students with hearing difficulties or normal hearing can have equal learning opportunities in this bilingual environment, they can develop and grow effectively. As wished, children are able to get along well, sign language has become their medium of communication, and allow them to learn about caring and respect. This helps in their social and language development.

In addition to their daily teaching work, teacher from SLCO Community Resources also regularly conduct individual training classes with students who have hearing difficulties, to supplement their learning stages affected by hearing loss, so that they can continue to develop their cognitive, speaking, reading and writing skills.



Grateful Sharings

Kindergarten Social Worker Mrs. Wang

I have been a social worker at the Peace Evangelical Centre Kindergarten for nine years, but I never feel bored! Because new children and parents join in every year, in the past days, I was able to communicate with everyone, build relationships, share joys and sorrows... It was you who allowed me to keep my passion for work!

In the past, I have always had the opportunity to meet children who need support in their studies, and in the process, I have come to appreciate the importance of education. Education is happening every day, educators can be teachers or elders, and parents are be called educators in children's daily lives. Educators are not only imparting knowledge, I personally believe that it is especially important to cultivate children's motivation and make children fall in love with learning. Even if children learn slower than others, as long as they are given a little more time and space, they will be able to fly high one day.

Therefore, I decided to join into the field of kindergarten education, and successfully completed the two-year early pre-school education teacher training. In the new school year, I am fortunate stay in the Peace Evangelical Centre Kindergarten, in the role of a kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Wang has changed from a social worker to a teacher. I hope that when children and parents enter the kindergarten, they can greet me like this: "Ms. Lee, good morning!"

I thank the Heavenly Father for the grace that allows us to get to know each other in this loving kindergarten, and I also sincerely thank you for your continued trust in me. I look forward to walk with you continuously and grow with your children in the future!

K1 Activities Photos



Float & Sink Experiment







Visit Jordan Valley Park







Observe cars and boats







K2 Activities Photos

Visit the Brighter Smiles Playland







Get close to tortoises and lizards







Vist & take MTR









K3 Activities Photos



Visit Food Angel

















Make a Rocket









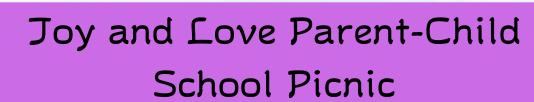
Whole School Activities Photos

One Person,
One Flower Scheme















Jockey Club Children Oral Health Project







Church Group

Parents' Voices



K1 麥樽希母親

After participating in the "Building a Beautiful Family Together" parent-child workshop, it has made me no longer panic or chaotic when dealing with children's tantrums; because I know that there are many reasons behind children's unhappiness and tantrums. In the times before, I can only see my child's temper, but ignoring the various reasons behind his tantrums, as well as their feelings and emotions!

The parent-child workshop made me realize that children are always growing and learning, and I have to continue learning and growing together with them! Parent-child workshop allows me to learn more about how to take care of children, and also get more support and encouragement on the way of raising children!

Thanks God for giving Hei Lok the opportunity to study in the Peace Evangelical Center Kindergarten, and to meet a group of very enthusiastic church staffs. When I was most helpless, they gave me a lot of support and methods to accompany me through the most difficult and "dark" period when my child was in K1.

Although the whole kindergarten stage has passed under the epidemic, the care of staffs has never stopped because of this, and parents are still connected and we communicate with each other in many ways.

We not only talk about the way of parenting, but also on the spiritual aspects of children and parents. We can grow together in the love of the Lord, tobuild and maintain a wonderful family.

Thank God for letting me meet all of you!

God bless you.



K3 Mother of Pang Hei Lok

Campus Facilities Updates



The kindergarten focuses on the multi-directional development of children. We have added a STEM activity learning wall and a spiritual garden on the campus. The accessories of the STEM Wall include different styles of tools such as screws, drills, gears, chains, hard pipes, etc., providing opportunities for young children to learn about how to use the tools, recognize the rotation of gear sets, and the skills of designing the transport pipe, etc. We wish to train children's abilities in different areas such as mathematics, engineering and art. They are more able to cooperate with each other, use their creativity to make beautiful pictures, and become little artists who beautify the campus.

In addition, this school year, a spiritual garden has been added to promote campus planting activities. We wish that children can learn the relevant knowledge of planting plants, and let them experience the wonders of nature, to appreciate the creation of Heavenly Father!





Evangelism

Full of God's love

Acting righteous

Our belief:

- We firmly believe that every child is unique, precious and priceless, and has the potential to develop a better self.
- God grants parents the responsibility of raising their children, and the kindergarten is here to assist parents based on the Bible teachings.
- The Bible is the word of God and the criterion for our behaviour.

Mission:

Establish a kindergarten that delights both God and man based on Biblical truth and standpoints.

Course Features:

- Develop self-care ability
- Develop creative thinking
- · Children's Bible Basic Course
- Building a literacy base
- Adopt the Montessori Teaching Method

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