

# PIPS NEWS

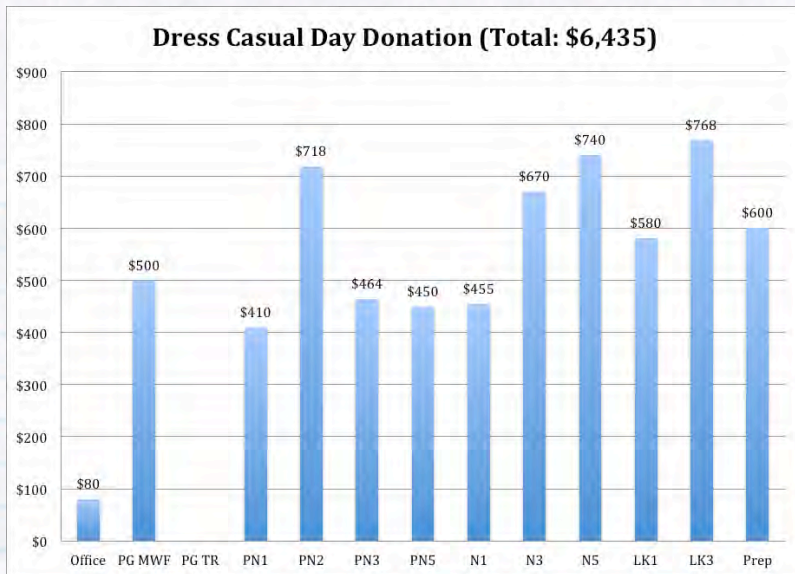
## Community Participation

PIPS is trying to foster a stronger sense of community in our young students by participating in more community events. The first event of this school year was Dress Casual Day 2011. Fund raising events can raise children's awareness of both local and global issues.

Parents can facilitate by discussing local and global issues that are significant to your child, as well as participating in community events! Document your child's attitude towards helping in and their action in the community. Pass it onto the teachers and we will place it in your child's portfolio to share his achievements! There will be more community events in the school year, so stay tuned and be ready to give back to the community.



DRESS CASUAL DAY 2011



## Dress Casual Day 2011

Dress Casual Day has been a tradition at the Community Chest of Hong Kong since 1993, where 100% of funds raised will be used to aid social welfare services in Hong Kong. All administrative costs are covered by other means, including the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

PIPS has designated the funds raised to Family and Child Welfare Services supported by the Community Chest. These services are most relevant and significant to our young

students, and we hope to instill the concept of 'children helping children'.

The classes had discussions on why they did not wear their uniform to school and how their donations can help less fortunate families with young children. Some of the students recalled their experience from the Japan Earthquake Dress Down Day! Thank you for your generous donations, we raised \$6,435 for the Community Chest!



"Why are we bringing in money?" Ms Gill from Prep Class asked. "Poor people don't have any money and they are hungry, so they have to buy stuff for their tummy," Henry said.



Joao and Benjamin putting their donations into the donation box.



LK1 class with the sticker they received for the Dress Casual Day, proudly holding their donation box.

## TRIP TO



## CHINA

While the English teachers worked on promoting English reading skills, the Chinese teachers went on an excursion to Guang Zhou in Mainland China to learn how the Chinese philosophies and Confucian morality are taught there.

“Three Character Classic” is one of the Chinese classic texts which was widely recited in Chinese families for Chinese vocabulary building and the promotion of Confucian morality.

Our Chinese teachers observed how the teaching of “Three Character Classic” is implemented in a Mainland child care centre, interviewed the teachers there, and discussed practices that are appropriate for international students at PIPS.

After review, we have decided to introduce the “Three Character Classic” to students at PIPS, so look out for information about this.



# Professional Development Day

September 26th



### SOUND AWARENESS IS THE BEGINNING OF READING.

Ms Mary, our school principal, shared her expertise in phonetic awareness and reading with all English teaching staff on this day. Teachers started with a rich discussion about their view on reading, then looked at theoretical documents and other teachers' practices, reflected on our own practices, which was followed by hands-on pre-reading / reading activities suitable for students at PIPS.

Teachers found the workshop both informative and practical, where they can implement most of the activity ideas immediately in the classroom, from sound awareness in our youngest Playgroup students, to independent reading in our older Lower Kindergarten and Preparatory students.

We have shared some of our findings and ideas that may be used at home with parents participating in the parent meeting on 'Help My Child to Read'.

### 'HELP MY CHILD TO READ' MEETING



We had our first parent meeting on Friday, October 7th and it was a success! 33 parents joined Ms Mary, Ms Tammy and Ms Marie on a presentation about emergent

reading. We talked about the stages of emergent reading and the importance of pre-phonetic awareness, introduced the phonics and tricky word approach, and shared ideas on how parents can enhance their child's reading skills at home.

Parents found the workshop interesting, had all learnt some new things, and said they will try some of the techniques and games at home! There were some questions that were raised and discussed during the meeting as well. Thank you for your participation and we look forward to another great discussion at our next meeting. (See on the right.)

## UPCOMING PARENT MEETINGS

Inquiry-Based Learning

Dec 9th

Behaviour Management

Feb 10th

Primary School Information

Apr 20th

Pre-Nursery Orientation

Jun 20th

Dates to Remember  
Please reserve your  
time for the  
upcoming events!

## October

7

Parent Coffee Morning on  
'Help My Child to Read'

17-21

Mld-Term Break  
(School Holiday - All classes  
suspended)

31

Halloween Class Parties  
(Normal hours, parents may join  
the party)

## November

8

Parent-Teacher Conferences  
(All Classes Suspended, Except for  
PG)

17

Annual Family Outing  
(9:30 to 11:30 am, regular  
classes suspended)

25

Professional Development Day  
(All classes suspended)

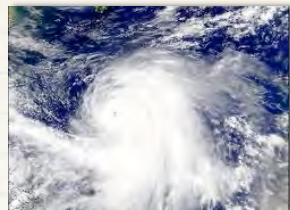
## EVENTS AROUND TOWN

National Geographic Little Kids Magazine Available for Order  
Samples available at PIPS for viewing!

HONG KONG PARKVIEW | SUNDAY 16TH  
CHARITY BAZAAR | OCTOBER, 2011  
10AM - 5PM



## TYPHOON / RAINSTORM: IS SCHOOL OPENED?



**All classes are suspended** when the **Typhoon Signal 3 or above**, the **Red or Black Rainstorm** warning is hoisted.

The Education Department will also make school closure announcements through local radio and television channels. Kindly check these sources before making your way to school.

### School Hours Reminder:

- \* School is opened from 8:15 to 11:45 am and from 12:15 to 3:45 pm. Only staff should be on premise outside of school hours.
- \* Kindly collect your child promptly at 11:30 am / 3:30 pm.
- \* Cleaning and preparation for the following session will take place immediately after each session, which may include the moving of large equipments and furniture, so we kindly ask parents to stay off the school premise. PIPS is not responsible for any accidents that occur after the children have been collected. Thank you.

# Green Committee News

OCTOBER 2011

ISSUE ONE



*Turtles, recycling centre and the compost.*

## PIPS is going green!

This year the PIPS staff are bringing nature into the school and creating more opportunities for the children to become global citizens by caring for the environment.

Hong Kong has a population of over 7,000,000, so it is no surprise that our landfill sites are filling up fast. A way to help manage this situation is to follow the '4 r-s' - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Replace. We now have recycling bins for children to use outside the LK classrooms and a compost in the garden to raise awareness and



encourage the students to take responsibility for their waste. You are welcome to use our recycling facilities.

**N e w additions to the school!** The PIPS garden is now home to 18 goldfish, 3 algae eaters, 3 water snails, 2 turtles and lots of little fish for the turtles to eat over the weekends! Each class will have an assigned time for feeding the

### 'The Green Scheme'

#### Ways to be green at home

- \* Recycle all your paper, plastic and cans. Let your child sort them into the correct categories and give them a real life math experience!
- \* Use flasks for drinks instead of disposable cartons
- \* Donate old clothes, books and toys to a charity shop instead of throwing in the bin.
- \* If you have time, try taking the bus, tram or MTR - your child will have so much fun!

'pets' and maintaining the garden by watering and weeding.

**If you would like to get involved, or if you have any ideas how we can improve our practice at PIPS, please speak to your class teacher.**

### Recycling Wall of Fame!

Send us a photo of your child being 'green' and we will display it on our Wall of Fame, which will be situated outside the LK classrooms.



Certificates will be issued to the children participating in this scheme.