

## **Importance of Creativity in Hong Kong Curriculum (Principals' Words --- Islander 8)**

Creativity is often highlighted as an essential element for success in the 21st century. Daniel Pink, a famous scholar and educationalist remarks that creative thinking is necessary to achieve goals in our interconnected world, and creative abilities benefit our social, emotional, cognitive, vocational and professional development. All schools have undergone their own school-based curriculum to nurture and support creativity in current classroom contexts. Our teachers have been working hard to look for ways to adjust their curriculum to promote creativity in the classroom contexts so that the students will be equipped with deeper and varied knowledge so that they can stand out from the competitive edge and come up with new ideas for the advancement of our world.

Our teachers are so innovative that they actively look for ways to improve their professional practice. Teachers of the Key Learning Areas like Technology and Arts incorporate design activities into teaching in which our students are encouraged to integrate photography, design, computer skills and visual arts together and this can create a kind of excitement among the students who will develop a sense of understanding that those subjects are closely related to their realistic and authentic world. What they have learnt can be applied to practicality and such kind of teaching will be a kind of promotion or advertisement to stimulate our students to develop interests in subjects like Home Economics, Design and Technology, Visual Arts and Finance Education.

Our teachers are so bright that they are able to promote creativity by using crossover where two or three different subjects collaborate with one another to require the students to design a creative project. For instance, in Form 3, our creative DT teachers lead all the students to design music boxes with the support of HE subject in which the same group of students will sew and produce wrapping bags for the boxes. After that, VA teachers motivate the students to design the banners or posters for the promotion of the packages of the music boxes and the wrapping bags in a simulated trading fair managed by the Finance teachers who require the students to do persuasive presentations and analysis of marketing supported by Computer Literacy teachers. Collaboration is the key element to promote creativity in the school and the students are buried in the learning process of creative minds.

We believe in life-wide learning since it is the way to broaden the horizons of the

students with more different sorts of knowledge, which is the effective strategy to foster the students to explore, experiment and elaborate all the learned knowledge to be new resource in a composite and fabricated manner. In other words, the knowledge gained from Science, Liberal Studies and Visual Arts can be applied to extra-curricular activities and leadership programs. Learning has become more resonant and reinforced. We are taking every opportunity to unleash the students' creativity so that they can be more adventurous and resourceful in the challenging world.

It is my aspiration to use this edition as a window to let all of you understand how creative our students are in this school.