

Spring 2023

Stories of Excellence

We Made WONDERS with LOVE

Foreword



Stemming from a dream of our School Supervisor Dr. Joseph Lee and a mission to provide quality education to children in the Tin Shui Wai district, W F Joseph Lee Primary School was founded in 2002. Over 20 years have sailed by and with the continued efforts and supports from our teachers and students, we have nurtured over 2,000 graduates with both good moral characters and academic excellence, and the school is also known as one of the top primary schools in the district.

Among our numerous number of graduates and students, whilst all of them are bright, kind-hearted and hardworking, some of them went the extra mile and embodied a spirit of excellence, be it in academics, sports, arts, music or any other aspects where their interests lay. They all had walked a different path and overcome different hurdles to become who they are now.

These former and current students served as the role models and beacons of lights for others to learn from their resilience, concentration and relentless efforts, and we were beyond proud to produce our fourth issue of <Beacons of Lights>, which not only allowed the school to share our aspiration and expectation with fellow students and parents through the inspiring and encouraging stories from our selected students, but also served as a special publication that built a permanent and ever-growing record of WFJLPS students' outstanding achievements throughout their learning journey.

These years we were very honoured to have interviewed five former and current students namely Arthur Leung, Elise Wong, Ranok Hui, Jeanne Yuen and Sam Pang, and their achievements spanned across a broad range of spectrum. Nonetheless, despite their success in different areas, their secrets to success all lay on finding your goal in life, putting in unparalleled determination and everyday efforts, and persisting in the face of setbacks. They were also extremely grateful for all the supports and guidance from their peers and parents.

"Building good moral characters and academic excellence" is not a slogan, but more of an education aspiration, and also an actual outcome of our dedications and hard work. It is our school mission to envision and nurture our students as Beacons of Light. Adhering to the belief of "Harmony brings a family prosperity, cohesion makes a nation wealthy", we believe the essence of education lies on nourishing a child's virtues and spirits so that they are capable of bearing responsibility, finding their own passion in life, developing their potentials to the fullest and being the light to their friends, family or even to the entire society, thus ultimately contributing to the world.

Let's be a beacon of light for one another, shine on one another and guide our way together.

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Ms. Victoria K.S. Poon Principal

Arthur Leung

"Don't be afraid. Just try."

"START WORKING HARD TODAY AND GET READY FOR AN AVALANCHE OF OPPORTUNITIES."

LEADERSHIP

AWARD

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"Don't be Afraid. Just try."

Being the awardee of the WFJLPS Leadership Award, Arthur shows strong leadership skills in his school life. He has outstanding performance in both academic and non-academic areas, such as being the house captain of the Orange House and one of the principal trumpeters of the Orchestra. He shows curiosity and diversity in his interests. "As the house captain of the Orange House, I have to gather schoolmates for different activities and unite my housemates. I see many teachers as my role models, what every student needs to be a better future leader. How they talk to and lead students sets us an excellent example and inspires me a lot." When asked what qualities a leader should possess, he continues, "A leader should work together with his fellows, make his teammates cooperate and unite them to achieve a target."

"IT ALL LOOKS SIMPLE ON THE SURFACE, BUT IT TAKES HARD WORK TO DIG DEEP."

Arthur is also a member of the Orchestra and plays the trumpet. "I think it is cool. Imagine just using three keys, and you can play full-scale music with numerous possibilities. The epicness and powerfulness from the sound of the trumpet make me fall in love with it." However, it was not easy for Arthur to master the musical instrument. "At first, it took me a long time to learn to control the airflow and my breath. It was challenging initially, but I was determined, I did not give up and continued practising. It all looks simple on the surface, but it takes hard work to dig deep."





"With my parents' constant support and encouragement, I can keep trying new things during my primary school years. I want to express my gratitude to my parents, who always support me and encourage me to try new things and accept new challenges."

Arthur enjoyed his life in the Orchestra and various activities. "Joining the Orchestra has given me the courage to present in front of people. We travelled to other places and exchanged ideas with students overseas. These are the experiences provided by WFJLPS, building the stepping stones for my personal development."

"Start working hard today and get ready for an avalanche of opportunities."

Arthur leaves a special remark to his fellow schoolmates that one should embrace different possibilities and experiences. "Don't be afraid to try. There will always be something you can take if you try. If you are afraid to try or refuse to try new things, you will be giving up numerous opportunities, and who knows what you will miss!" Arthur believes only working hard and being prepared can lead to success. "Start working hard today and get ready for an avalanche of opportunities - opportunities are only for those who start preparing now."





TEACHER'S MESSAGES

MR SUEN LUNG

Arthur Leung is strict to disciplining himself but kind to others. He is a passionate learner and is often praised by various subject teachers. Arthur is willing to help others and answer any questions his peer classmates may have. He is always the first to raise his hand when his teachers ask for help, and he is one of the most enthusiastic participants of school events. As his class teacher, I am blessed to have Arthur in my class!

"LEARN FROM YESTERDAY, LIVE FOR TODAY. HOPE FOR TOMORROW.

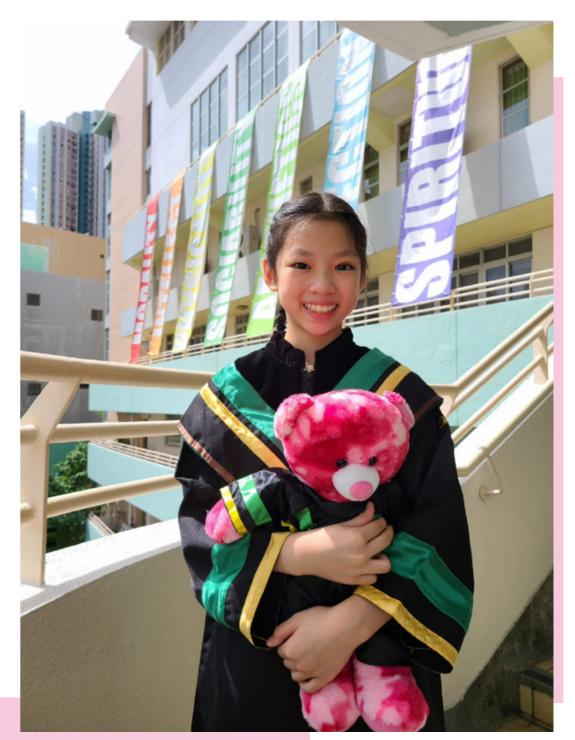
CHARACTER AWARD

"WFJLPS BUILDS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR THOUGHTS."

"I BELIEVE LEARNING FROM THE PAST AND NEVER GIVING UP ARE THE KEYS TO SUCCESS."

"LEARN FROM YESTERDAY, LIVE FOR TODAY, HOPE FOR TOMORROW."

Elise Wong, the winner of the Character Award, has consistently demonstrated a willingness to listen to others and to cooperate. W F Joseph Lee Primary School founded the award to recognise students with good moral character and a sense of care, respect, integrity, responsibility, commitment and perseverance.



"YOU MUST LEARN NOT TO GIVE UP EVEN THOUGH IT IS HARD."

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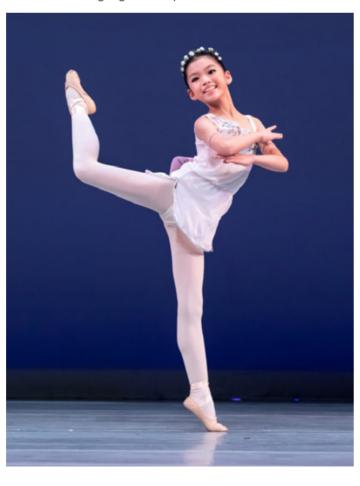
"Maybe it's because I love listening to others and communicating with my classmates. For me, I will listen to others' opinions before taking any action. I think this is one of the reasons why I got this award." Besides her willingness to communicate, not giving up is another key to her success in getting the award. Many dancers start training at a very young age, and those who didn't begin their training until later may feel like they're behind their peers, and so does Elise. "I started ballet dancing four years ago, and it was not easy at first. While others began their practice in early childhood, say in kindergarten, I was a little late to learn ballet. As I recall, some posture and stretching were tedious and challenging. But I didn't give up. Instead, I tried to overcome all the hard times practising. You must learn not to give up even though it is hard."

"I BELIEVE LEARNING FROM THE PAST AND NEVER GIVING UP ARE THE KEYS TO SUCCESS."

Despite Elise's devotion to ballet, there have been ups and downs. "There were a few times I didn't perform well in competitions. Although I was disappointed, I learnt to review my skills and practise more. The only way is to work hard, improve, and wait for the next competition." Elise highlights in a particular motto that she finds

inspiring. "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. Try to learn from yesterday's failure or success and start to change for tomorrow. I believe learning from the past and never giving up are the keys to success."







"WFJLPS BUILDS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR THOUGHTS."

Speaking of her primary school life, Elise is grateful to WFJLPS for giving so much to her. "The school emphasises personal development in our studies, and we have been given different opportunities and guidance especially in the Character Building lesson. These lessons help build core values and develop our good character. Teachers and schoolmates give me support and companionship in my school life."



TEACHER'S MESSAGES

Ms Wong Sau Man

Elise is a smart and humble student. She is keen on learning and is curious about the world. She is willing to help others without asking for anything in return. That's why she can get along well with anyone in the class.





Other than her alma mater, special thanks are given to her parents. "I am grateful for my parents' efforts in nurturing me. My mother quit her job and became a fulltime mother. She always supports me, and my father spends time with us." Having a supportive family, Elise further explains that her parents' teachings are rooted in her name. "Kwan means a person of noble character, and Shu contains the meaning of books and knowledge, reflecting my parents' expectation of me to be a knowledgeable person with a noble character."



"There's always more THAN ONE SOLUTION."

WFJLPS STUDENT OF THE YEAR

"THERE'S ALWAYS MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION."

Ranok Hui is one of the awardees of WFJLPS Student of the Year. He comes first in his form with outstanding academic performance. Given a solid educational background, Ranok believes there are no shortcuts to achieving good results. "Pay attention in class and practise more. I will make myself a worksheet to revise important concepts and topics. The teachers here all have patience and are willing to give me guidance and suggestions, be it personal development or academic studies."

"When you face difficulties, TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND BREATHE."

"THERE'S ALWAYS MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION."

"STAY HUMBLE IN LEARNING."







"WHEN YOU FACE DIFFICULTIES, TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND BREATHE."

Being first in form is no easy task. How does Ranok handle pressure when things get hard? "Yes, sometimes I feel stressed having to study, and I learnt from the teachers that I just need to take a deep breath and keep calm. When I am determined to do something, giving up is not an option, and perseverance is the key to success. I joined a programme for gifted students some years ago, and there was a project that involved writing an algorithm to generate a virtual maze. It was really hard and took me nearly three weeks to complete. With perseverance, I managed to complete the project."

"STAY HUMBLE IN LEARNING."

Besides his academic success, Ranok has also developed a love for the Chinese drum. "I joined the Chinese drum team when I discovered this instrument in the Multiple Intelligence Programme. It is interesting and fun, I work and play with my teammates during performances and training. I will definitely miss my days in the Chinese drum team, especially the exchange trip to China." Chinese drumming has taught Ranok more than just musical skills. It has also led him to remain humble in learning. "Always have a humble and open mind when exploring new talents or abilities. You can achieve more and reach new heights by staying open-minded to learning new things."

"THERE'S ALWAYS MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION."

When asked what guotes or mottos he would like to share with his fellow schoolmates, Ranok said, "Just like my mother told me, there's always more than one solution. When facing difficulties, there is always a temptation to procrastinate or give up. You have to try and find a way or a solution to tackle it."

Ranok addresses the guidance from his parents in particular. "I would like to express my gratitude to my parents in various aspects. They love to listen to me and help me with my studies and living. Their unconditional support forms the foundation of my hard work. I recall that one time when I was preparing for the speech festival, they gave me ideas and suggestions on my performance. All of these have given me the courage to be comfortable on stage."

What words of wisdom would he give himself in 10 years? "Personal character should be more important than academic performance. I believe good personal character is far more important than anything. I would like to leave a message here for myself to maintain my good character and be a better person."



TEACHER'S MESSAGES

Ms Cheung King Sin

Ranok is passionate in learning with perseverance, creativity and a reflective mind. His active participation in class fosters a positive learning climate that encourages not just himself but also his classmates to strive for the best. He is also a reliable and considerate leader who is always willing to show his love and care in serving others. This makes him the role model in class. I'm proud to be his Chinese and class teacher.

Jeanne Vuen

WFJLPS Student of the Year

"WFJLPS provides A diverse learning Environment." "GRATEFUL TO HAVE MY ENCOURAGING PARENTS."

LEARNER AWARD

"Do something worthy while you are young, for youth does not stay long."

"Responsibility and the willingness to help others are the keys to being a better student."

Being one of the awardees of the WFJLPS Student of the Year and the Learner Award, Jeanne believes having responsibility and the willingness to help others are the keys to being a better student. "The awards came as a bit of a surprise. There are so many students who are better than me." Jeanne says with a humble attitude, "maybe it was because of my performance at school, like helping others and having the responsibility to finish things when asked by teachers."





"WFJLPS provides a diverse learning environment."

Jeanne's school life is diverse and multi-faceted, both academically and non-academically. She is appointed as one of the school prefects and a Chinese drum team member, with performing experiences in the musical instrument Marimba. "Practising with the Chinese drum team has taught me how to cooperate with others, and I have enjoyed it." The epidemic has swept across the world, influencing every sector of society, and Jeanne's school life is not immune from it. "There were several waves of COVID-19, it was not possible to have face-toface classes and meetings of drum teams. We had to practise through Zoom. It was challenging. Still, we learnt how to communicate with others better."

"WFJLPS IS DIFFERENT."

In Jeanne's eyes, WFJLPS is different. "I think WFJLPS is different from other schools. It gives students numerous potentials and possibilities. We can try different things in different areas. For example, we can try different musical instruments in the Multiple Intelligence Programme. We are exposed to different learning opportunities, and it is up to us to decide if we want to dig deeper into any particular area. We learn and challenge ourselves to realise our full potential."

"GRATEFUL TO HAVE MY ENCOURAGING PARENTS."

"I want to express my gratitude to my parents since they have supported me all the time in my life. When I was not doing well in school, be it academic or otherwise, they supported me and helped me find ways to tackle the difficulties. They would arrange teaching resources for me, giving me the strongest support to excel at school. I have nothing but gratitude for my parents' nurture."

"Do something worthy while you are young, for youth does not stay long."

Any words of wisdom to our fellow WFJLPS students? Jeanne shares a quote with us."There is a saying from Meng Jiao, a poet of the Tang Dynasty, 'do something worthy while you are young, for youth does not stay long.'" Time flies and six years of primary school life pass in the blink of an eye. Enjoy every moment and grab every opportunity to try new things.







TEACHER'S MESSAGES Ms Leung Wing Sze

Jeanne is an exemplary role model in school. She has shown extraordinary dedication and enthusiasm at various events at school. She is an active School Prefect Leader who is not simply maintaining good order at school and enforcing school rules but is also about helping schoolmates build positive characters.

Through the six-year primary studies, Jeanne quickly learnt to recognise the importance of responsibility, perseverance, and intellectual integrity in her personal and academic growth. She is an all-rounder who is self-motivated and well-mannered. I am so proud to be her class teacher in her last two school years in primary school.

Sam Pang

"I AM THANKFUL TO HAVE SUPPORTIVE PARENTS WHO FULLY SUPPORT MY DREAM." CLASS OF 2007







Going back to school after working for a few years, Sam is now studying Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Sydney University in Australia - one of the leading schools in veterinary education.

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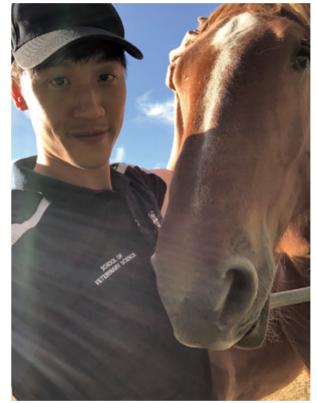
"Honestly, I didn't do well in secondary school, so I went into the job market right after graduation." Over those years, Sam worked many different jobs ranging from being a salesperson to an insurance agent. But none of those jobs lasted long. "There was a moment I said to myself, 'This is not the career I desire.' Therefore, I asked for my family's support in returning to school to study veterinary medicine in Australia. I had dreamt of studying veterinary medicine since I was a child, but it was a bit far from reality, given my performance in secondary school. I am thankful to have supportive parents who fully support my dream."





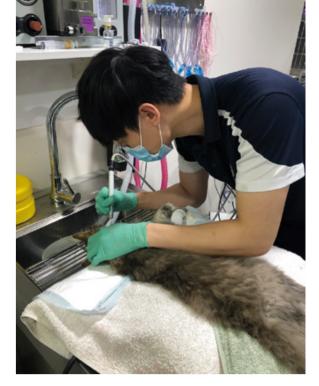
Studying veterinary medicine is no easy task, let alone returning to the school environment after a few years of work. Sam shares some of his obstacles and ways to overcome them. "The major difficulty for me is the language barrier. Being in a thoroughly English-speaking environment, I need to overcome this. Luckily, I think I developed a good foundation in WFJLPS. The veterinary education here includes a foundation course which requires students to get a high score to pass. During some of the more demanding days swamped by numerous deadlines and academic requirements - I couldn't help but think about giving up. But sometimes, you have to bite the bullet and carry on."

Despite graduating a long time ago, when the swimming pool wasn't there yet, Sam keeps a WhatsApp group to communicate with his classmates. "They have regular gatherings, and I know some classmates still stay in touch with the teachers. I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Wong and Miss Chan. Mr. Wong was my P.E. teacher, and Miss Chan was my English teacher in primary school. Primary school life in WFJLPS was a happy and enjoyable one."









Sam will continue his study in veterinary medicine in Australia. "I will continue to study and explore more in Australia." What words of advice would Sam give to his fellow WFJLPS students? "Work hard when you are young. Some subjects may not seem directly useful, but every effort counts, and you won't know when you will need to use them. Many subjects and knowledge at this stage are the building blocks for future studies. Like mathematics, I didn't realise it was essential to veterinary medicine in some aspects. Never underestimate the usefulness of every subject.

TEACHER'S MESSAGES MR WONG CHUN MAN

Sam graduated from our school in 2007. He was an energetic boy, and he was a member of the school's gymnastic team. He had a lot of ideas, and he was always willing to offer help to people around him. It is my honour to be Sam's teacher. I wish him every success in his studies and look forward to him getting a job that he loves.





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