

Stories of Excellence Winter 2024

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In WFJLPS, we encourage students to pursue excellence. Excellence is more than just achieving good grades or winning competitions; we aim to nurture our students to become Beacons of Light – individuals who shine and positively impact their surroundings, serving as guiding lights and reliable presences.

Therefore, we dedicate great effort to help each student explore and cultivate their unique potentials, guiding them to develop a holistic personality that encompasses a variety of character traits. Our "Beacons of Light" possess the power to influence others positively; they achieve remarkable academic success while embodying the principles of pushing boundaries, motivating peers, taking on leadership responsibilities, and caring for others with humility.

We are proud to launch the latest edition of "Beacons of Light," which shares the stories of seven exceptional students: Charlotte, Benson, Hazel, Kyle, Bethany, Thetis and Jasmine. Each of them possesses unique talents, and over their six years of primary school, they have consistently persevered in the pursuit of excellence. They are not satisfied with small achievements; instead, they continually set their goals higher and strive for greater success. Simultaneously, they encourage their classmates to work together to foster a more positive campus atmosphere.

Reading these stories once again moves me. Education is never a one-way endeavour. While the school makes every effort to cultivate bright minds, each "Beacon of Light" inspires us to continually reevaluate the true meaning of education.

Ms. Victoria K.S. Poon Principal W F Joseph Lee Primary School

Make sure every task has a clear purpose and goal

Charlotte Lee, the recipient of the Outstanding Leadership Award, is passionate about teamwork and perseverance, which have shaped her academic and personal growth. As a student, Charlotte has demonstrated that success is not just about individual achievement but about inspiring and leading others toward a common goal.

When asked about the secrets to her success. Charlotte emphasizes the importance of having clear ideals and goals for every task. She believes in staying committed to these goals until they are accomplished while recognizing the significance of effective communication within a team. "First, I make sure every task has a clear purpose and goal," she says. "Then, I stick to my objectives until the task is completed. Communicating well with the

team is also very important, as I must clearly convey every goal to the members." She believes in setting a good example as a leader: "I need to be punctual and dedicated to completing every task. When challenges come, I motivate my team to overcome difficulties together, so that each member can show their best."

One pivotal moment in Charlotte's journey was a challenging orienteering event at Shing Mun Reservoir during her third year of school. Despite the intense heat, Charlotte and her parents worked together to navigate the course, overcoming numerous obstacles to finish first. This experience instilled in her the value of teamwork and perseverance in the face of adversity.

Me



School Teachers gave her many opportunities to showcase her abilities

Charlotte attributes much of her development to the support and guidance she received at school. "The school provided a great learning environment with excellent facilities like the swimming pool, wellequipped computer labs, and activity rooms in the new wing," she says. She credits teachers such as Ms. Connie Leung, who "gave me many opportunities to showcase my abilities" and always "helped me when I had difficulties." She also thanks Mr. Li from the ICT department, who "allowed me to participate in various competitions."

Charlotte's parents have played a key role in her growth outside the classroom. "My parents have always given me a lot of freedom and encouraged me to try new challenges," she explains. "Whenever I face difficulties, they help and encourage me to solve them." Her trips abroad, including to the United States and Dubai, have profoundly impacted her. "Traveling has taught me that seeing and experiencing different cultures firsthand is far more valuable than reading about them."

As a member of various extracurricular activities, including the cheerleading team and the innovation team, Charlotte has learnt the importance of collaboration and strategic planning. Her success in these events has reinforced the belief that determination, preparation, and teamwork are essential for overcoming challenges.

"Preparation is key," she says. "When facing difficulties, I stay optimistic and focus on finding solutions"

Charlotte's resilience and positive outlook are evident in her approach to failure. Reflecting on a setback during an ICT competition in her fourth year, she learned the importance of clear communication and proper planning within a team. "Preparation is key," she says. "When facing difficulties, I stay optimistic and focus on finding solutions."





"Embrace your passion and seize every opportunity that comes your way."

Her favourite motto, "Perseverance is the key to success-nothing is impossible if you persist," continues to guide her as she looks ahead to new challenges and opportunities.

Teacher's Messages

Charlotte Lee: a Future Leader

Charlotte stands out as an exceptional student with outstanding leadership qualities. Her dedication and positive attitude inspire those around her, while her excellent communication skills enable her to guide groups efficiently. Charlotte's collaborative nature and adeptness at delegating responsibilities make her an invaluable team asset, fostering harmony. Notably humble, she leads by example and uplifts her peers.

What truly sets Charlotte apart is her fearless acceptance of challenges. She approaches obstacles with determination, adapting and thriving in unfamiliar situations, showcasing her strength of character. As Charlotte continues to grow, it is evident that she possesses the qualities of a future leader. Her character values make her a beacon of light in our school community.

Miss Leung Wing Sze





While others are studying, I train. When they enjoy themselves, I study.

Hazel Lai, an exemplary student and athlete, was awarded the Student of the Year. Known for her unwavering commitment to excellence, Hazel attributes her success to a combination of perseverance, hard work, and setting high personal standards.

Success isn't an instant achievement; it requires hard work, sweat, and tears.

"I try to do everything to the best of my ability, setting high standards for myself. Whether it's something small or large, I aim for perfection, as it's a sign of respect for myself and others." Her drive for excellence is evident in her academic work and her dedication to sports. Hazel has managed to strike a perfect balance between her studies and athletic pursuits, maintaining discipline and focus at all times. "While others are studying, I train; when they enjoy themselves, I study." Her dedication to academic and athletic achievements highlights her belief that success is a long, challenging journey requiring mental and physical endurance. "Success isn't an instant achievement; it requires hard work, sweat, and tears."

A significant source of inspiration for Hazel has been Hong Kong swimmer Siobhan Haughey, whose determination to succeed at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics left a lasting impression on her. "Her spirit and attitude deeply inspired me," Hazel explains. "She once said, 'I train and compete not for the awards but to challenge myself and see where my limits are.' She trains over ten times weekly, giving her best effort every time. Her relentless drive to improve and push her limits motivated me to pursue my goals with the same vigor." For Hazel, Haughey's story is a perfect example of how hard work and determination can lead to remarkable success, even in adversity.



School offered a rich and diverse learning experience.

The school environment has also been crucial in Hazel's academic and personal development. She credits her school for offering a rich and diverse learning experience, particularly in language education. "We have many nonlocal teachers, which allows us to interact with them and learn from different perspectives. This exposure has given me a solid foundation in mastering multiple languages."



Hazel acknowledges that her school has provided her various opportunities to grow beyond academics, such as extracurricular activities and competitions. "These opportunities have broadened my horizons and helped me develop skills I otherwise wouldn't have had the chance to explore." Hazel appreciates the supportive learning environment and the encouragement from teachers, which has motivated her to keep pushing herself. "Whenever I encounter difficulties, I can always rely on my teachers for positive advice and support."

Enjoying the challenges from sports

Sports have always been integral to Hazel's life, and she enjoys the challenges they provide. "Sports teach you that no matter how much talent you have, hard work is essential," Hazel reflects. Her love for sports, especially athletics, is fueled by the challenges they present and the satisfaction from pushing past one's limits. Her admiration for her former basketball player father also motivates her to embrace sports as a path for personal growth. "My father continues to train even after sustaining injuries, and his perseverance is something I look up to."

No pain, no gain.

Hazel lives by the motto, "No pain, no gain," which she believes encapsulates the essence of success. "Success doesn't come easily," she says. "It's about the effort you put in and the persistence you show, even when things get tough." This mindset has helped her overcome obstacles, face challenges head-on, and achieve excellence in her academic and athletic pursuits.



encouragement, I wouldn't be

Family support has also played a pivotal role in Hazel's journey. She shares that her parents, especially her mother, have been her most significant source of encouragement. "My mother has always been there for me, no matter the time of day or season. She's always ready to offer support, whether it's during my studies or training sessions." Hazel recalls how her mother's presence during her training, regardless of the weather, has constantly reminded her of the importance of dedication and resilience. "Without my mother's encouragement, I wouldn't be where I am today."



Teacher's Messages

Mr Chan Long Ting

Hazel is an elite student and athlete. She is enthusiastic about her studies and she never hesitates to push herself to learn more. Her active participation in class motivates the classmates a lot. Also, she demonstrates great perseverance in various kinds of sports training, including running, volleyball and swimming. Even with numerous prizes in running, she stays humble and focuses on how to perform better and achieve higher every single time. Apart from her all-round achievement, she is exceptional in leadership. She is a responsible Prefect Leader and PE Ambassador who displays care and guidance to other schoolmates. I believe that her amazing character traits will lead her to keep succeeding in the future.



A Passion for Learning, Leadership, and Giving Back

Benson Lam, a student with a passion for science, has been recognised with the WFJLPS Student of the Year award and the Wofoo Hong Kong Outstanding Citizen Student Award. When asked about the secret to his success, Benson emphasises hard work and time management. "Success is not guaranteed, but effort is a must. If you don't put in the effort, nothing will be achieved," he says, recalling his mother's advice.

"Success is not guaranteed, but effort is a must."

To balance academics and extracurricular activities, Benson strategically manages his time. "I complete my homework during breaks and lunch so I have more time to study and rest at home," he shares. He believes that broadening one's knowledge through extensive reading is essential, spanning topics from astronomy to geography.

Benson attributes his motivation to his parents and teachers, who have continuously supported him. However, his journey wasn't without struggles. In primary five, as a class monitor, he faced challenges in leadership due to his rigid approach. "I used to strictly record the names of classmates who talked in class, which made them unhappy. That experience taught me the importance of forgiveness," he recalls. He also struggled with self-doubt but overcame it with the guidance of his parents and teachers.



School played a significant role in his growth

His school played a significant role in his growth. "When I first entered primary school, my grades were below average. But thanks to my teachers' encouragement, I improved significantly," Benson says. Beyond academics, he appreciates his teachers for teaching him life lessons and for being open to students' suggestions. As a flagraising team leader, he proposed training younger students to carry on the tradition, a suggestion welcomed by his teachers. As a Math Ambassador, he initiated a mental math competition, which was successfully executed with his teachers' support.

One of Benson's most cherished experiences was participating in a singing competition. "My classmates



and teachers created banners and cheered for me. Our class even won the Best Cheering Award!" he recalls fondly. His love for music extends to classic Hong Kong songs, with inspirations like Beyond's Wong Ka Kui and Roman Tam. "Beyond's lyrics are meaningful and inspire social contribution. The line 'If you abandon your dreams, anyone can do it' from 'Boundless Oceans, Vast Skies' reminds me to always chase my dreams," he shares.

Expresses deep gratitude to his parents

Looking ahead, Benson hopes to contribute to society, just as his role models have. He expresses deep gratitude to his parents. "My mom always says, 'Home will always be your safest harbour.' No matter what happens outside, my parents will always support me," he says. His father, despite a busy work schedule, has always prioritised spending time with him and his younger brother, a gesture Benson deeply values.

Benson's love for science was sparked in primary school. "I wasn't interested in math or science at first, but after being selected as an ambassador, I gradually developed a passion," he explains. He found science fascinating and enjoyed performing experiments that revealed the scientific wonders in everyday life. His biggest academic inspiration is his cousin, who excelled in studies while being a devoted family member.



For younger students, Benson offers words of encouragement: "Efforts don't always guarantee success, but without efforts, success is impossible. The world offers no free lunch. If you want good grades, you must study hard. Intelligence alone isn't enough. Just do your best, and no matter the outcome, you'll have no regrets." His story is a testament to perseverance, lifelong learning, and the power of resilience.

Teacher's Messages

Miss Leung Wing Sze

Benson shines as an academic beacon, a testament to his unwavering commitment to learning and personal growth. With an insatiable thirst for knowledge, he consistently exceeds expectations, setting a high standard for his peers. His integrity and dedication embody the spirit of a lifelong learner, always seeking opportunities to broaden his horizons. Benson's empathy, compassion, and selfless contributions make him a true role model,



reminding us of the profound impact one person can have. In our school magazine, 'Beacons of Light,' Benson's inspiring journey motivates us to become beacons ourselves. Together, we can illuminate the path to success and make a positive impact on our community. Let Benson's story guide us toward a brighter future.

Reflecting on past failures, Benson recalls a singing competition in primary five where he didn't make it to the finals due to a lack of preparation. However, he learnt from this setback. "Success has no shortcuts. In primary six, I practised more, made it to the finals, and won second place," he says.

Without effort, success is impossible.

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For Kyle Ng, reading is more than just a hobby—it is his way of life. "Some people are addicted to gaming, but I am addicted to books." he said with a smile. A student at WFJLPS and a recipient of the Student of the Year award, Kyle attributes his success to his love for reading, a habit deeply influenced by his family. "I carry a book with me

every day," he shared, noting his particular fondness for science fiction and English novels. Among his favourites is the "Wisely' series by Ni Kuang, which fuels his dream of becoming a physicist.

Kyle's journey at school was shaped by the support of teachers and his older sister. "Mr. Man, our discipline teacher, helped me a lot, giving me many opportunities, excellent English skills, also played a crucial role. "Whenever I had trouble with my homework, she was always there to help," he added. Her influence was especially strong during the secondary school application process, where he made an extra effort to improve his English.

A Passion for Learning, Music, and Martial Arts



Student of the Year



School's Reading Programmes encouraged his passion for reading.

The school's reading programmes helped nurture his passion for literature. "We had a challenge where we tracked our reading. I managed to read quite a few in a year—averaging about one book every couple of days," he reminisced with pride.

Apart from academics, music has been a significant part of Kyle's life. His mother exposed him to classical music from a young age, believing it would enhance intelligence. "I grew up listening to Mozart and other great composers, which made me fall in love with music," he said. By early childhood, he had already achieved Grade 8 in piano. At school, he also learnt the liugin (a Chinese plucked instrument) and served as an accompanist in the Chinese orchestra, passing his Grade 4 exam.





However, his musical journey was not without setbacks. During the pandemic, Kyle failed his Grade 5 piano exam due to a lack of preparation. "I felt very frustrated and almost gave up on piano," he admitted. It was his sister who encouraged him to continue by inviting him to accompany her violin performances. "Thanks to her, I regained my passion for music," he said. He looks up to Chinese pianist Lang Lang, admiring his skills and international

In addition to music, Kyle is passionate about martial arts. "Martial arts is not just about technique; the most important thing is character," he explained. He recalled how his understanding and ability improved quickly, leading to his first competition after just six lessons. Over time, he has trained in various weapons, including long knives and spears.

Even great minds faced many difficulties. If you don't progress, you will fall behind.

Reflecting on his journey, Kyle hopes to inspire others. "Even great minds like Einstein faced many difficulties. No matter how many opportunities you have or how good your grades are, if you give up when faced with challenges, success will always be out of reach," he said. He appreciates the supportive atmosphere at school, which encourages him to keep improving. "There will always be someone better than you. If you don't progress, you will fall behind."

With his love for learning, music, and martial arts, Kyle continues to strive for excellence, never losing sight of his goals.

Teacher's Messages

Miss Lee Yuan Ping

Kyle is an avid reader who delights in expanding his mind through the pages of books. His polite and charming demeanour, coupled with a subtle sense of humour, make him an engaging conversationalist. Kyle's intellectual curiosity drives him to regularly ponder the world around him, leading to insightful observations and a nuanced understanding of complex topics. This combination of intellectual curiosity, affable charm, and reflective tendencies makes Kyle a well-rounded and captivating individual. I am glad to be his class teacher.





Do my best without comparing myself to others.

Bethany Tang, recipient of the Outstanding Learner Award, is a student whose growth has been deeply influenced by her family support and dedication to self-improvement. Reflecting on her success, she humbly shares, "I believe that receiving this award is due to the guidance and encouragement from my teachers. I wouldn't say I'm successful—many classmates are more outstanding than me—but I always remind myself to do my best without comparing myself to others. My family often reminds me that if I'm going to compare, I should compare with yesterday's version of myself."

Outstanding Learner Award





Success requires perseverance and learning from mistakes.

Bethany emphasises that success requires perseverance, a positive attitude, and learning from mistakes. "The key to success is not to give up. It's easy to feel discouraged when our grades drop or we compare ourselves to others, but my mother often encourages me to have confidence and reminds me that I should compare with my past self." Her mother's words resonated deeply with her, especially during a challenging period when she had difficulties adapting to online learning during the pandemic. "I was caught watching YouTube during a lesson, expecting a scolding, but instead, my mother calmly explained the importance of staying focused. I was moved to tears and decided to work harder," she recalls.



Drama performance sparked her interest in literature and history

Bethany's parents have been instrumental in her development, allowing her the freedom to explore her interests while providing steady support. "They encouraged me to choose learning paths that align with my passions and were always there for me. They instilled responsibility and self-discipline in me, which has been key to my success." she shares.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Bethany's desire to give back to her school led her to initiate a tutoring programme for younger students. She offered free lessons with three peers to help third graders transition into fourth grade. "I wanted to help them because I knew how difficult that transition could be," she says. Their weekly Zoom sessions helped the younger students and deepened their understanding of the material.

Learning is like rowing against the current

Bethany believes her greatest qualities are her leadership abilities and insatiable thirst for knowledge. "I never stop seeking improvement. I remind myself that learning is like rowing against the current: I fall behind if I'm not moving forward." Her drive for self-improvement inspires her classmates and pushes her toward new achievements.

Learning is endless, and knowledge has no boundaries

Her guiding philosophy, "Learning is endless, and knowledge has no boundaries," reflects her commitment to lifelong learning. "Our knowledge is just the tip of the iceberg; there's so much more to explore and discover. It motivates me to continue pushing myself and expanding my horizons," she concludes.

Teacher's Messages

Bethany is definitely a great learner that students should learn from. She has shown great dedication to her studies in all subjects. Her determination to strive for excellence and openness about feedback make her a vibrant learner. Her endeavours have been recognised consistently throughout her six-year primary education. She always pays attention in classes and her critical thinking enables her to showcase creative ideas in class discussions and writings. She is particularly interested and good at reading and Chinese. In addition, she knows quite well about Chinese culture and poems. The Outstanding Learner Award is well-deserved for her.



Miss Jiao Guiving

Every effort counts, and every small act of kindness or responsibility builds the path to a better future



For Thetis Ng, character and integrity are more than mere ideals-they are a way of life. "I believe that every small act of responsibility builds the foundation of who we are." she said with a warm smile. A graduate of WFJLPS and a recipient of the Character Award, Thetis attributes her strong moral compass to the values nurtured during her formative years at the school. "The lessons in respect, care, and accountability started from my very first day at WFJLPS," she shared, reflecting on her journey from Primary 1 to Primary 6.

Character Award

Every task matters and every detail counts

Reflecting on her time at WFJLPS, Thetis recalls how the school environment provided more than just academic lessons. "At WFJLPS, we were not only taught subjects but also life lessons," she explained. "Every small responsibility, whether it was managing exam papers or participating in school events, taught us the importance of being meticulous and



accountable." A particularly memorable incident involved a classmate's mishandling of exam papers that led to the entire batch being rechecked. "It might have been a trivial mistake, but it reinforced that every task matters and every detail counts," Thetis noted.

The holistic approach of WFJLPS, which combined rigorous academics with personal development, left a lasting impact on her. The school's annual themes and reflective activities played a significant role in her growth. "We had these yearly themes where we were encouraged to document our experiences and reflect on our actions," she recalled. "These activities allowed us to understand the value of empathy and respect while connecting with our inner selves." Such experiences, she believes, laid the groundwork for her character and helped build a strong moral foundation that continues to guide her today.

WFJLPS gave me a strong foundation—not just academically, but morally

Looking back on her journey, Thetis remains immensely grateful for the opportunities provided by WFJLPS. "WFJLPS gave me a strong foundation—not just academically, but morally," she stated. "The lessons I learnt there continue to inspire me to be responsible, to respect others, and to always strive for excellence."

Now, as she moves forward in her academic and personal life, Thetis Ng stands as a beacon of character and perseverance. "Every effort counts, and every small act of kindness or responsibility builds the path to a better future," she concluded, encouraging her fellow alumni and current students to remain true to their values. Her story serves as an inspiring reminder that the seeds of character planted in early education can blossom into lifelong virtues.



Think thrice before acting

Family values also played a crucial role in shaping Thetis's character. She fondly remembers the guidance of her parents, who consistently instilled in her the importance of thoughtfulness and compassion. "My parents always told me to 'think before you speak' and to consider how my words might affect others," she said. This timeless advice, reminiscent of the principle "think thrice before acting", reinforced the lessons she learned at school and has stayed with her throughout her life.

In addition to academic and personal development, Thetis's journey at WFJLPS was enriched by diverse extracurricular activities. "I vividly remember how the school organised events that encouraged us to take on responsibilities and work as a team," she noted. These experiences not only honed her leadership skills but also taught her that true success is built on a foundation of trust, respect, and hard work.

Teacher's Messages

Miss Jiao Guiying

Thetis is a role model for our students. She has always shown her determination to strive for excellence not only in studies but also in non-academic areas. She achieved the Academic Improvement Award, the Character Award and Outstanding Conduct Award in P.6. She possesses significantly impressive leadership and organisational qualities. She has taken the initiative and responsibility for many years, and would always offer support to assist any person in need around her, from administrative work, like distribution to the collection of documents within the classroom, to offer comfort and guidance to P.1 students. These qualities demonstrate her reliability, trustworthiness, and caring nature in supporting her teachers and peers alike. I am so proud to have her in my teaching life.





From WFJLPS Graduate to Future Lawyer

Jasmine Mok, a 2014 graduate of WFJLPS, has recently completed her Bachelor of Laws degree at City University of Hong Kong with First Class Honours. She is set to pursue her Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) and has already firm, starting next September. Looking ahead, she aspires to become a dedicated lawyer who contributes to society while

Outstanding Alumni

WFJLPS encouraged us to develop the habit of speaking English confidently

Reflecting on her time at WFJLPS, Jasmine credits her primary school experience for laying a strong foundation for her academic success, particularly in English. "The school provided many opportunities for us to use English daily. We had poetry recitations, storytelling activities, and an English-only rule in class. If we spoke in Cantonese, there would be small penalties, which encouraged us to develop the habit of speaking English confidently," she recalled. These early experiences played a crucial role in her later achievements, including scoring 5* in the English subject of the DSE examination.





Her solid English foundation was especially beneficial during her law studies, where most textbooks and legal terminology were in English. "Because of the strong English training in primary school, I was able to grasp legal concepts and terminology more quickly in university," she shared. This advantage helped her keep up with the rigorous coursework and excel in her studies.

Jasmine also fondly remembers the diverse activities WFJLPS offered, which enriched her learning experience. "The school had various programmes covering listening, speaking, reading, and writing. I encourage younger students to participate as much as possible. These activities help broaden your horizons and prepare you for future learning," she advised. She remembered participating in a writing activity centred around a theme designed to foster a sense of belonging within the school, which ultimately helped her uncover her passion for learning.

One of her most memorable moments in primary school was being selected to compete in the Yuen Long Outstanding Student Election, organised by the Heung Yee Kuk. Although she was not ranked among the top three academically, her maths teacher nominated her based on her overall performance, and she ultimately won the prize. She felt immensely grateful for the opportunity and experience.

Another cherished memory was attending an exhibition where she met Carrie Lam, who was then the Secretary for Development Bureau. "For a primary school student, such an event was a rare and eye-opening experience," she reminisced.

Be graceful, be humble.

Offering advice to current students, Jasmine shared her guiding principle: "Be graceful, be humble. Even the smallest opportunities can shape your future, so always be grateful and make the most of them. At the same time, remain humble—everyone has different strengths, and we should learn from each other."

Importance of previewing and reviewing in learning

She emphasised that primary school is the most critical stage for building a strong foundation. "These six years shaped who I am today. Secondary school and university just built upon that foundation," she noted. She also acknowledged the immense support from her parents. "My father taught me the importance of previewing and reviewing going through materials before learning and reflecting afterward. This helped me understand the true value of education."

With a bright future ahead, Jasmine remains deeply grateful for the formative years at WFJLPS that set her on the path to success.

Beacons of Light

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HONG KONG















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