



# International Student Program Newsletter

Newsletter 2

CRICOS No 00608A DE TE

Term 2 2014

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## TESOL/ESL Help

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你好 (néih hóu)– hello in Cantonese). Yuet Chak (Jacky) Cheung and Yee Man (Cathy) Leung, both in Year 11 are from Hong Kong. Jacky has been with us since Year 10 (2013) and Cathy joined us this year. Both will complete Year 12 with us.

Term 2 was extremely busy – hence the newsletter coming out after the term has been completed. This term we welcomed Chiaki and Chizuru Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka), Franc Kalpana and Wave Seelsut (Thailand). The four young ladies are in Year 10.

We had a number of Agent visits as well as some Principals visiting to look at our school providing Study Tours for 2015. Many thanks to Mr Denner (Acting HOD Science) for his help with this. It is my great pleasure to announce that we have been successful with Junten High sending students to study with us in March and in August 2015.

We also said goodbye to Mook Wongsoontorn in Year 10. She returned to study in New Zealand.

Her father is a pilot for Thai Airlines and they live in New Zealand.

This term also saw us have a Level 2 Accreditation Review. I am very pleased to announce that we have now successfully achieved our full Level 2 Accreditation. Last year we had the initial Level 2 Accreditation and were awarded provisional accreditation. Prior to this we were Level 1. This means that we can now have over 20 international students.

The following day we had 30 International and Homestay Co-ordinators from around Brisbane for a meeting. EQI holds the meeting at a different school in the International Program in Brisbane once per term. Chris's IGA at Carina provided the catering.

Term 2 also saw us have 3 different Professional Visits from Pre-Service teachers from Hong Kong. They spent the day in various classes observing our teachers. Each group told me afterwards that was an excellent experience and very different from what they have experienced and seen in Hong Kong. A very big THANK YOU to all of the teachers involved.

## Birthdays this Term

Three birthdays were celebrated over this term.

14 April – Cathy Leung  
9 May – Wave  
30 May – Mrs Huxley

We combined the birthday party with the end of term party.

## Grammar Lessons

Mrs Sneddon has once again been providing ESL help for our international students for this term.

Unfortunately Mrs Sneddon is not able to continue her fine work with our students.

Next term Mrs Anne Carius will be returning on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3 – 4.30 pm to provide ESL help for our students. It is compulsory for them to attend 1 lesson per week.

Mrs Carius will also be helping prepare our Year 12 students for QCS.

## Students

Our students this term are:

### Year 12

Mario Ding (China)  
Dilan Hiralu (Sri Lanka)  
Jean Jang (Korea)  
Sherry Zang (China)

### Year 11

Miekal Al Zoubi (Germany)  
Jacky Cheung (Hong Kong)  
Harry Han (China)  
Cathy Leung (Hong Kong)  
Juan Martinez (Columbia)  
Nhi Truong (Vietnam)  
Grace Xian (China)  
Mia Zhang (China)

### Year 10

Vicky Chang (Taiwan)  
Mari Sekiguchi (Japan)  
Sukritta (Wave) Seelsut (Thailand)  
Paphawarint (Franc) Kalpana (Thailand)  
Chiaki Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka)  
Chizuru Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka)

### Year 8

Barbara Simon (Hungary)

Next term we will be joined by another 8 students.

## B22 International Office

Our office will be expanded during the June/July holidays – the wall will be removed to make the room larger.

Please feel free to drop in and see us at any time.

## Homestay News from Lesley

As a part of the Accreditation Review Lesley's hours have been increased from 12 to 15 hours per week.

Lesley will be working in the office on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. If you need to contact her please either come and see her, call her on 3394 0797 or send her an email on [lhuxl6@eq.edu.au](mailto:lhuxl6@eq.edu.au).

## Cultural Differences

Many cultural differences exist between different groups. Over the next year I will be including some of these differences in the newsletter.

In Japan and China it is considered to rude to point to something with your index finger. You need to use the whole hand.

The Asian students find it very difficult to complete assignments – they are used to rote learning. Critical thinking is not considered. It shows respect if you plagiarise.

**This newsletter is published 4 times a year at approximately mid-term**

## Hong Kong

Population **7.15 million**



**Size:** 1104 sq km  
Less than 25% of the land is developed

**Location:** South Eastern Tip of China.

**Climate:** The climate is sub-tropical. Temperatures can drop to 10 degrees C in Winter and over 31 in Summer.

Victoria is the Capital.

### Interesting Facts

- ✧ Currency is the Hong Kong Dollar.
  - ✧ The name Hong Kong translates to “fragrant harbour” and is derived from 2 Chinese characters – Heung and Gong.
  - ✧ With a population of more than 7 million occupying a small land mass makes it the most densely packed area in the world.
  - ✧ Lucky numbers are 2, 3, 6, 8 and 9. Avoid the number 4 (it sounds like the word for death). 1 and 7 are also not liked!
  - ✧ The Tsing Ma Bridge, which travellers pass by coming the airport to the city, is the world's longest road and rail suspension bridge.
  - ✧ There are more skyscrapers in Hong Kong than in any other city in the world.
  - ✧ There are over 8,000 buildings with 14+ floors. Almost twice the number found in New York.
  - ✧ Seven out of 10 people take the bus while 35% take taxis every week.
- ✧ Hong Kong drives on the left – unlike China which drives on the right.
  - ✧ The flag of Hong Kong features a white, stylised, five-petal Hong Kong orchid tree flower in the centre of a red field. It was adopted on 4 April 1990.
  - ✧ The Hong Kong flag was first officially hoisted on 1 July 1997 in the handover ceremony marking the transfer of sovereignty.
  - ✧ Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.
  - ✧ It was under British rule from 1842 – 1997.
  - ✧ Hong Kong's economy is characterised by free trade, low taxation.
  - ✧ It is the 9<sup>th</sup> largest trading economy in the world.
  - ✧ The domestic helpers have Sundays off and tend to get together to meet friends. Literally tens of thousands of maids gather in groups on the streets, beaches, and in parks. The nationalities never mix and there are customary areas for Filipinas, Indonesians, Nepalese, Thais etc.
  - ✧ Hong Kong is famous for its midnight market. Situated in Temple Street, the market opens at 6pm and closes after midnight 7 days a week.
  - ✧ Dai Pai Dongs are a fast food noodle shop found everywhere in Hong Kong. They are an inexpensive noodle store. The name means big signage stall which refers to the brash advertising signs used to attract customers.
  - ✧ The Noon Gun is fired every day at Causeway Bay

**再見 (joigin) 拜拜 (bāaibaai) – goodbye until next time.**