

Rockville Chinese School
洛城中文學校通訊

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教材不斷改進之中 Curriculum Continuing

Review The curriculum continues to undergo continuous review to provide improvements as the year progresses. In order to provide the parents an opportunity to provide feedback about the curriculum from the standpoint of the individual students, the RCSPA held a series of open meetings during which comments and suggestions regarding the individual classes were made. These comments were recorded and relayed to Principal Chow, which, in turn, were forwarded to the individual teachers. Be assured that your comments are being taken very seriously, and that every effort is being made to incorporate them into curriculum development.

We will continue to have these meetings as the year goes on, and parents are encouraged to convey any suggestions to the individual teachers as well. Feel free also to convey any comments or suggestions to either Principal Chow or any of the RCS PA members.

In addition to the teaching format in the individual classes, much work is being done to evaluate textbooks for each of the classes. Because of the unique needs of each class level (for example, identifying pinyin vs. zhuyin textbooks), finding materials appropriate for each involves much research, taking into account such factors as content and cost. Parents have been extremely helpful in providing suggestions for materials as well. In addition to printed materials, there are Chinese language learning resources available online, one of which, www.BetterChinese.com, is a good example. Parents are welcome to review Internet sites such as these and share their comments to the teachers and the school administration.

說話比賽表現學生說話能力 Speech Competitions Provide an Opportunity for Students to Showcase Speaking Skills

On November 5th and 12th, RCS held a Speech Competition for all of the classes. This was a great opportunity for the students to show off their public speaking skills. All of the students' performances

were outstanding, and are a testament to their hard work as well as the efforts of their parents and teachers! An attempt was made to minimize the competitive part of this competition, and rather to universally recognize the students' efforts. As such, every student who participated is a winner!

錄音輔導教材 CDs Are Now the Official Audio Medium of the RCS Curriculum

After much effort (and a few false starts!), we have now begun to distribute CDs as the primary audio format for language tapes and songs. The CDs will allow students to listen to individual lessons much more easily, and the quality of the recordings is much better than in the past. Special thanks to Dan Donahoe for taking extraordinary efforts to implement the change from cassette tapes to CDs!

In addition to language recordings, the school has also begun to offer songs recorded on CD, complete with an accompanying pamphlet containing the lyrics. The songs form a great complement to existing learning materials. Please contact Principal Chow to inquire on additional availability of these materials.

各班班母組成 RCSPA Classroom Parents

The RCS Parents Association has recruited classroom parents to serve as liaisons between the individual classes and the School administration. In addition to their duties as liaisons between the parents and the administration, the room parents are responsible for organizing class-specific activities, such as holiday gift-giving activities for the teachers and helping to organize the school holiday pot-luck.

假期停課 Holiday Closings RCS will be closed on December 24 & 31 for the holidays. Classes will resume on January 7, 2007. Although the fall semester ends on January 14, the spring semester continues on January 21. There will be no breaks in between the two semesters.

編者的話 Editor's Notes This is the second newsletter of the 2006-2007 academic year. We will be presenting news and views from the RCS community on a monthly basis. If you have any news or information to share with the RCS community, please feel free to forward them to Wayne Chu WuChu2@comcast.net or to any of the RCSPA members. Thanks in advance for all of your contributions! ■