



◎ 校長心聲 / Principal's Message

在學生用心、老師慧心、義工盡心及家長熱心的努力下，2009 瑞谷新學年就這樣在大家的愛心關懷中，慢慢的就緒成長，正如我們滿懷希望看著我們的小孩長大一樣。

今年語文課老師的名單有稍許的變動：中二語班由羅聖雯老師出任；進修甲由林千仞老師出任；其他各班老師均與去年相同。

文化課老師陣容變動較多：中國結班由馬維萱老師出任；象棋麻將班由李秋星及楊雅婷老師共同擔任；舞蹈班與西洋棋班老師仍與去年相同。值得欣慰的是：孫子涵（舞蹈班）、馬維萱（中國結班）及楊雅婷（象棋麻將班）都是由學校高年級同學擔任指導老師。

我們的成人班仍然非常討好，請大家趁機利用星期天早上給自己充電的機會，我們目前有：成人太極班，排舞班，插花班及養生班。

其他有關學校及各班學生與老師的詳細資料，請參考 2009 年度學校通訊錄。

今年我們的學生總人數比去年減少六位，註冊人數總共一百零七人；家庭總數也由去年七十七家減少為七十三家。

學校到目前為止已舉辦或參與的活動有：4H Fair、教師節座談會、桑郡多元文化活動、中國節日介紹中秋節、雙十節升旗典禮、凱文骨髓捐贈活動、消防演習、班級照相、萬聖節派對、家長會。

下面是到年底前，學校有關重要事項，請費心在您的記事簿中註明一下：

十一月十五日：瑞谷小吃義賣/賑災

十一月二十二日：校內講演初賽

十二月十二日：校內講演決賽

十二月十三日：領取聖誕花圈

十二月二十日：聖誕節派對

同時，從 11/8 起至新年晚會止，我們每週都將在 H111 前的走廊上設有一張桌子，專門介紹及解釋新教材，讓大家參閱及討論。在新年晚會晚餐前，將舉行投票表決是否同意更換教材。

由於今年學校人數不增反減，鼓勵大家能時常擔當學校的親善大使，趁機會向親朋好友多多介紹子女到本校就讀的好處。在此，也要特別感謝所有的老師及工作人員，在煩忙的生活中能為學校付出心力；沒有義工，就沒有這個學校，道理淺顯，但似乎知易行難的困惑仍然不時絆倒身為父母的行為。如果學校有任何需要改進之處，請大家能隨時提出討論，合力加以改善，只因為，這個學校不但是您子女的學校，也是您所擁有的學校。父母的使命是提供孩子一個優良的學習環境，也希望將來他們自己成為父母時，還能永遠珍惜與懷念那一段成長的學習過程。

捫心三問：我如何幫助大家共同珍惜這所中文學校？我如何幫助小孩以恆心用心的觀念學習中文？我如何以甘心關心的態度來幫助學校？

預祝我們一起平順的渡過另一個愉快的新學年！

金鉉
校長



◎ Principal's Message

With our diligent students, sagacious teachers, devoted staffs and ardent parents, 2009 Raritan Valley Chinese School is now in full swing.

This year we have some new faces in our teachers. They are:

Language class: CSL teacher – Sharon Tung;

Advanced A teacher – ChenRen Lin

Culture class: Chinese Knotting – Michelle Ma;

Chinese Chess/Mahjong – Dixon Lee & Sophia Young

It is grateful to note that our Culture class instructors: Kaitlyn (Chinese Dance), Michelle (Chinese Knotting) and Sophia (Chinese Chess/Mahjong) are all high school students in our current Advanced classes.

Our adult classes continue drawing many parents' attention and interests. It is a great opportunity to give yourself a chance to learn some new things while your little ones are in class. This year, we have: Tai-Chi, line dance, flower arrangement and self-care.

Details about students, teacher and home room parent of each class, family contact information and school rules and policies can all be found in 2009 RVCS School Directory.

This year we have total of 107 students enrolled, which is a drop from 113 last year; with 73 families listed in this year's directory, that's also a small drop of 4 families from last year.

Here are some key events happened around the school since July this year:

* 4H Fair * Teacher Day Party * Somerset Diversity Interfaith Festival * Chinese Festival Introduction (Mid-Autumn Festival) * Double Ten Flag Ceremony * Marrow Drive * Fire Drill * Class Picture

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming major events in RVCS this year:

11/15 - Bake Sale/Taiwan Disaster Relieve Fundraising

11/22 - School-wide Public Speech Preliminary

12/12 - School-wide Public Speech Final

12/13 - Christmas Wreath Pick-up

12/20 - Christmas Party

One special note: Starting from 11/8/09 till New Year Party, 2/6/10, there will be a text book evaluation table set up at the hallway in front of H111 to introduce and explain the alternative plan for the new text books. This is a necessary action for us to take proactively such that we could offset the impact by the to-be-implemented new recycle program and/or pay-by-user policy, contrary to the current practice, on the text books provision process from the Taiwanese Government Agency. The proposed text books are for your perusal and meant to provoke some insights and discussions. Families will have a chance to cast their vote at the New Year Party right before dinner starts.

Given the dwindled enrollment from 2009 data, I like to encourage everyone to act as bona fide "School Ambassador" to introduce or talk with your friends or relatives about the benefits and the funs that your sons or daughters are currently having in this school. I also like to thank



every one who devotes their time and efforts for the school. Without volunteers, school will falter, it's that simple, but, from time to time, the exact same trap – "easier said than done", just hinder our behavior. In any case, if there were something you think this school could improve upon, please don't hesitate to discuss with teachers, other parents, and especially staff members. This school is not just for your sons or daughters. Every family has a part of the ownership of the school. It is our duty and mission to provide our own kids with a learning environment they can relish even until they become parents.

Ask: How would I work with other parents to treasure the tradition of this school? How would I do to help my kids to learn and benefit from this school? How would I voluntarily help out for the school?

Thanks everyone and looking forward to another pleasant and fruitful school year!

Sincerely,

Jim King
Principal



◎ 體育活動 /
Recreation News



Ski and earn money for RVCS!

I am pleased to announce that we are working with Planning Tour Traveler, Inc. to secure discount lift tickets, equipment rentals, ski lessons and overnight lodging for this ski season. The tickets are for the Shawnee Ski Area in the Pocono Mountains of PA and the lodging is at Fernwood Resort. Since Shawnee is only about 1 ½ hours away, you can also opt for a day trip and get a discount on the lift ticket, lessons and/or rental. Planning Tour is very flexible and is offering these rates for basically the whole ski season. They are offering an additional discount off the posted rates and for every room sold the

school will get a few dollars in return. For example, every adult who books a 2 night stay will get \$10 off and \$5 will go to RVCS. Every villa that is booked will get \$20 off and \$10 will go to RVCS. And for an adult one night stay, there is \$5.00 off with \$2.50 rebate for RVCS. The school will also earn money if a minimum of 15 lift tickets are sold.

If you opt to stay over during the week of Christmas holiday (anytime between 12/24-1/3/2010) you can enjoy breakfast, dinner, shows and other social activities *après ski*, as they say. You can also choose to stay in the main hotel/lodge area or rent a separate 2 bedroom condo/villa if you have a larger party and you would like kitchen facilities, etc.

The savings are pretty substantial – for example, the regular weekend/holiday rate for an adult lift



ticket is \$50. We can get it for \$34. Packages that include equipment rental and an adult lesson are also discounted. For example, an adult lift and rental is \$49, which is \$7 lower than the group rate. The only thing that cannot be arranged through Planning Tour is the SkiWee School for kids 5 and younger. You would call Shawnee directly to arrange that. Kids 6 and older can do SkiWee School (3 hour lesson) or adult lessons (1 1/2 hours).

So if you plan to do any skiing this season, please consider Shawnee and making your arrangements through this company. While I'm sure many of you would like to go at the same time as your friends, you can also take advantage of these rates on any date you choose. If you contact Chris Tsai at Planning Tour Travel directly, just mention that you are with Raritan Valley Chinese School so we can get the credit. I am also happy to take your reservations and collect the checks as well. I have various price lists for the lodging and lift tickets so you are welcome to contact me for that, but if you have more specific questions, please contact Chris directly. His numbers are 732-662-1781 and his

cell is 732-822-9162. **Chris would like to get a count of the lodging reservations by December 2 so he knows how many rooms he has left. If you want to stay over, please try to book before December 2.** Day trips can be arranged any time.

I will also be holding copies of the information at Chinese School or you can email me with any questions. Happy Skiing!

Sincerely,

Pamela Haviland, 陳碧姬
Recreation Administrator, 體育
pamchan@optonline.net

P.S. I am also one of the PTO coordinators so if you are a teacher in need of some assistance, please contact me and if you are a parent who doesn't mind volunteering at one of our activities, please also let me know. I have a rough list of volunteers to which I'd love to add more names!





◎ 四健會訊息 / 4-H Corner



Activities:

Thanks to the many students, parents, teachers, staff, relatives and friends who helped out at the 2009 Somerset County 4-H Fair and behind the scenes. They made the event a success!

Several students participated in the talent show each day to the delight of the audience; performing with the Yo-Yo, Er-Hu, flute, dizi, violins, and beautiful Chinese dances. The Friday evening performances by the Lion Dance group, Chinese dance group and musical instruments were amazing.

There was origami, Chinese knotting and Chinese calligraphy. The Bubble tea continues to be a hit with many repeated customers.

It was a wonderful and fun experience for the children.

Student Council:

The 2009 – 2010 Student Council members are:

President: Clarissa Chu

Vice-President: William King

Secretary: Kimberly Chan

Treasurer: Thomas Duh

Co-Editors: Melanie Tom and Kevin Hsieh

Membership Registration:

Submission of a 4-H Member registration form is required in order to become a 4-H member.

Attending the Raritan Valley Chinese School does not mean your child will automatically become a 4-H member. Please see Janet Chu (4-H Leader) or Robert Lonoff (4-H Assistant Leader) for the registration form.

Achievement and Awards:

19 people from the 4-H Chinese Culture Club recently attended the 2009 4-H Arts Achievement Dinner on Nov. 5, 2009 and cheered on our wonderful 4-H members who received the following awards:

Teen Leader Pins

Timothy Chan

Michelle Ma

Gold Certificate

Timothy Chan

William King

Silver Certificate

Ivy Kwan

Rachel Lin

Emily Ma

Evanna Wang

Sophia Young

Bronze Certificate

Sarah Ahmad

Kimberly Hwang

Angelina Lai

Edward Lai

Albert Lyou

Chris Shen

Abigail Shieh

Angeline Shieh



Country Project Medals

Achievement Medal

Thomas Duh

William King

Leadership Medal

Clarissa Chu

Patricia Lin

Community Service Medal

Kimberly Chan

Daryl Chen



Each club brought food to the event. The Chinese Culture Club's delicious menu consisted of:

- Beef with pepper & onion
- General Tso's chicken
- Ma Po tofu (mild)
- Chicken with broccoli
- Fried chicken wings
- Fried rice
- Fried noodles
- White rice

Entertainment was provided by the Secret Mystical Magicians. Many Chinese Culture Club members had wonderful luck and won many raffle gifts. It was a fun night enjoyed by all!

Future Event:

Attention: Parents of 6th - 8th graders

4-H Careers & County Government Day for Grades 6 – 8, February 4, Deadline to Apply, December 4

The Somerset County 4-H Youth Development Program and the Board of Chosen Freeholders are once again teaming up to sponsor a special

career program for 6-7-8 graders on Thursday, February 4, 2010. Since County Government performs many different functions, there are many types of careers represented by it. Therefore, participants do not have to be interested in a government job to take part. Participants will be matched with a County Division that matches a career interest. The students will then spend the day “shadowing” a high-level Division official to learn about that career type. The program is open to both Somerset County 4-H members and non-members who are county residents. Preference will be given to students who have not participated before. There is no charge. Students must provide their own transportation and lunch. Application forms are available at the 4-H Office, with the Night Center Manager or online at www.4HisTops.org. Completed applications are due December 4, 2009. For more information, call the 4-H Office at 908-526-6644.

Sincerely,

Janet Yu, 余鳳
4-H Leader, 4-H 幹事

◎ 行事預告 / Upcoming Events

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| 11/15 | 瑞谷小吃義賣/賑災 | Bake Sale/Taiwan Disaster Relieve Fundraising |
| 11/22 | 校內講演決賽 | School-wide Public Speech Preliminary |
| 12/12 | 校內講演決賽 | School-wide Public Speech Final |
| 12/13 | 領取聖誕花圈 | Christmas Wreath Pick-up |
| 12/20 | 聖誕節派對 | Christmas Party |

