



Lantern Festival Celebration

It was a special evening to see so many of our families on Repulse Bay Beach for the celebration of the mid autumn festival. The evening was very warm (!) and we were so lucky to see such a beautiful sunset. We made a wish with the rose petals, the lanterns were lit and the procession of children following the kindergarten teachers down the beach began. We then all managed to form a circle of sorts – quite a feat to gather us all back together – and we ended the evening with the children’s favourite songs in both English and Mandarin from the mid Autumn circle time that we had been practicing in school.

Nursery Fee Revision

We are adjusting the fees for children taking both a three day and two day nursery class to be the same amount as a five day nursery class.



Ongoing Protests in Hong Kong

It is really good to now have everyone back in school following the disruption caused during the Education Department closure and to get back to our regular rhythm. The children have settled in again quickly and we are all very pleased to be back together.

Unfortunately, although we referred our families to the Edb website on the first day of the enforced closure, it was not very clear or regularly updated and as a consequence, some parents were very confused. We would like to clarify once again that, as a registered school, we are not able to take an independent decision to either close or reopen classes, and can only follow the instructions of the Education Department as we receive them. We have, as a result of the confusion, already reviewed our communication system for any sudden enforced closure in the future. This should ensure we are able to contact all parents by both SMS and email as soon as we hear any news or updates from the Education Department. Thank you all for your understanding.

New Workshops

On 23rd September we held a workshop on Children's Nutrition with Louise Buckley, discussing the benefits of healthy probiotics, approaches to enjoyable mealtimes, building immunity and more. We are planning another workshop with Louise after half term - see details below. We are also planning the following workshops after the half term break: To register for any of the workshops below please email info@highgatehouse.edu.hk.



The Enormous Turnip (Cost for 3 sessions \$600)

Amy Punton

Monday 3rd, Monday 10th, Monday 17th November

9.00am – 10.30 am

Learn to tell the wonderful story of the Enormous Turnip, making and using your own puppets and props to take home and keep. We will also be discussing how to support the development of imagination, creativity as well as literacy and numeracy in children by telling age appropriate stories, and encouraging our children into meaningful play using simple, natural materials of their own.

The Magic of Storytelling (cost \$400)

Lynne Kirk

Saturday 15th November

11am – 1pm

A workshop for parents to look at the differences of telling and reading stories to our children and to learn how to learn and tell healing stories for well being. We will talk about useful techniques for bedtimes or various challenging situations as well as help you pick out stories that enrich your child's vocabulary, strengthen the foundations of literacy and creativity as well as provide a tool to create strong, trusting relationships within the family for children of preschool and primary school ages.

The Amazing Health Benefits of Kefir (cost \$450)
Louise Buckley
Tuesday 18th November
2pm – 4pm

How to make it at home, discussion on the wide range of uses of water and milk kefir, for juices, cheese, breads, cocktails, cosmetics and more!!

You will also receive a supply of kefir grains to take home and get you started!

Methods of Guiding Children - Workshop for Helpers/Caregivers (cost for 2 sessions \$600)

Monday 24th November and Monday 1st December

9.00am – 10.30am

Amy Punton

We will be looking at ways of understanding children and supporting their healthy development in the role of caregiver. We will see how to provide consistency and security in the family environment and nurture children's independence and imagination.



Children are NOT a distraction from more important work. They are THE MOST important work.
- C.S. Lewis



Simplicity Parenting (cost \$400)

Julie Lam

Wednesday 19th November

10am – 12pm

A workshop to support parents of children from birth to seven. This is a chance to bring and share our challenges and look at ways that we can become confident and effective in the parenting of our children. Our goal is to raise calmer, happier and more secure children.

Here are two links about "Time Ins" as opposed to "Time Outs".

On November 12th from 11am - 12pm Julie Lam will be in the Parents Area if you would like to join us for an informal discussion.

<http://time.com/3404701/discipline-time-out-is-not-good/>

<http://empoweredtoconnect.org/using-time-in-instead-of-time->



Saturday Gardening Group

We had a great response for the start of the new gardening group with 25 families expressing their interest. The first session was held on October 4th with wonderful weather and a team of very enthusiastic parents and children who enjoyed potting plants and weeding. The group would also like to plant seeds for the next session to be held on November 1st after half term. If you did not email previously but would like to be added to the mailing list for the gardening group please email Jo Bryce (joclark@hotmail.com).

Family Photos with Aimee Haak

Once again we are welcoming Aimee K Photography to our school for a Family Photo Session. Due to the demand over the past years, Aimee is offering two weekends this year October 25th & 26th and Nov 1st and 2nd. This year there is an added incentive to book as 5% of the earnings will go towards the Teacher's Development fund to enrich and enhance the educational development of the teachers and this is your opportunity to support it!

The sessions are 30 minutes each and are shot on a white studio background as in previous years. The sessions will take place in the new classroom which is located on the ground floor. What to wear? Blue clothing looks fantastic on the white background! Please avoid wearing white! See this link for more ideas: <http://www.pinterest.com/aimeekphoto/what-to-wear/>

6TH ANNUAL AT HIGHGATE HOUSE

Basic:

30 minute session
+ 30 digital images
+ print release
= 3000 HKD

Standard:

30 minute session
+ 40 digital images
+ print release
+ coffee table book
+ FB timeline cover
= \$4500 HKD

Deluxe:

30 minute session
+ ALL digital images
+ print release
+ coffee table book
+ FB timeline cover
= \$6000 HKD

CHRISTMAS FAMILY PHOTO SESSIONS

BY WWW.AIMEEK-PHOTOGRAPHY.COM

OCTOBER 25TH & 26TH NOVEMBER 1ST & 2ND



To book

Your deposit of 1000 HKD goes towards package

Reserve with the office or email: aimeekphotography@gmail.com

Ready for School
or Ready for Life?

Explain it to me
again: How would
I learn more about
the sea sitting
in a classroom
watching a DVD
and writing about
it?

*Painting: Nadine Le
Prince*



South Bay Beach Outing

Please note that due to the recent school closure we have decided to change the date of the annual Beach Outing to **Friday 5th December** (please note it is not on 1st November as stated in last month's newsletter) A letter will be sent out with details nearer the time. This trip to the beach, a secluded and very beautiful spot on the southside, is a wonderful social time for families and teachers to get together and enjoy the cooler, yet sunnier weather outdoors. Our children can experience the rich learning environment of the seaside with their friends, collect seashells, splash in the sea, build in the sand, share a picnic and store up memories for their important creative play and imagination.

We look forward to seeing you soon at the upcoming events.

Christmas Fair

Our annual Christmas fair is coming up soon on Saturday 29th November from 10am – 3pm. There will be a variety of children's crafts, books and toys for sale, food and drinks, puppet shows, face painting and more! Please bring your family and friends along. We currently have a few charities that we are considering for a donation and details of the chosen charity will follow. We will need plenty of volunteers for food donations to sell at the fair and help with the Barbeque and drinks stalls. We will also need your help in distributing flyers at your place of residence, club notice boards etc.

Advent Spiral Evening (Kindergarten only)

A reminder that the beautiful **Advent Celebration** for Kindergarten children is on the evening of Wednesday 3rd December. Look out for more details coming soon.



Dates to Remember:

Half-Term Holiday

Sunday 19th to Sunday 26th October

Christmas Fair

Saturday 29th November

Advent Spiral Evening
(Kindergarten ONLY)

Wednesday 3rd December

Beach Outing

Friday 5th December

End of Term

Friday 19th December

Christmas Holidays

Saturday 20th to Sunday 4th January