

roll call



HK today



Education



Sports



Social Issues



Personal dev

YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College



It has been a great year for our athletes. In rugby, the A/B Girls won the All-Hong Kong Rugby Sevens Competition, and the A Boys came in second at the Inter-school Rugby Championships (NT Region). Brothers Mark and Anthony Coebergh were named Man of the Match, and 13 players were selected to represent Hong Kong from U16 to U20s.

In football, our A team won the Inter-school HKSSF Football Competition for the second year in a row. The team will go on to the All-Hong Kong Football Tournament next month.



Anthony (R) and Mark Coebergh, Man of the Match

Precious Blood Secondary School



To celebrate our school's 70th anniversary, we presented the history of the school with acting, dancing and singing.

The theme of the drama was "Homecoming". More than 130 students, including some recent graduates, performed in the show. It ended with a flash mob of mostly Secondary One students performing *Do-Re-Mi* from *The Sound of Music*. The audience was



Janice Yeung Yuen-yung (left) and Lee Hoi-in doing ballet

delighted, as students came from all over, dancing and singing cheerfully.

Katharine Winsy Kong, Secondary Four (A)

Tuen Mun Government Secondary School



In late December, two Form Five classes held a Christmas Gala for our sister school, Pui Oi Hong Kong

Christian Service, which provides special education for physically disabled children. More than 30 students with different disabilities took part in decorating Christmas cards, singing carols and decorating cookies. Not only were the activities fun,

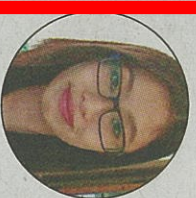


Students could write and colour their own Christmas cards

but they also provided many chances for students to practise speaking and writing in English.

Letters from the dorm

Put your health before grades



Candace Kwan, University of Washington (US)

College has been a wild ride. I'm graduating in 10 weeks and am nowhere near prepared. In fact, I just fixed up my CV last night and am going to start applying for jobs later this month. It's weird. I actually have to get my act together and be a functional adult. I can't be a "college kid" forever.

Classes this quarter are also a lot tougher since they're not exactly the subjects that I'm best at, but, well ... it's my last quarter. I've survived three years of college, so I know I can do it.

It goes without saying that I've learned a lot during my time at the University of Washington, but I value what I've learned about myself more than I previously thought. One of the most important things I wish I'd known when I started was how to be patient with myself and not push myself to my limits without considering the consequences.

I should have taken better care of myself in my first year of college, especially after being diagnosed with irritable bowel syndrome. On a day-to-day basis, my chronic illness does not affect me too much, but I tend to feel very nauseated



when I am stressed out. Not to the point of puking, but I lost quite a bit of weight as I was not feeling my best. Seeing my family and friends constantly worry about me was a wake-up call that I should take care of myself.

In addition, I threw myself a little too hard into my schoolwork. Spending all your waking energy going after a perfect 4.0 grade-point average is not a normal or sustainable way of life. Many tears were shed in the process. I remember breaking down in my second year, and trying to convince myself that the endless cycle of anxiety trying to get the perfect grade was worth it. Spoiler alert: it's not - at least to me. It was not worth the impact it made on my physical and mental health.

Upcoming first-year students, I know the freedom that comes with starting college is oh-so-exhilarating, but take care of yourselves. There's a learning curve that comes with starting school in a whole new environment. It's not likely that you'll get the hang of it immediately and that's OK. No one has university figured out in their first quarter.

Studying at university, like any other stage of your life, isn't fun all the time, but it's pretty great. Just remember there's more to the college experience than the fancy piece of paper you walk across the stage for.

People love Go Princess Go



Modern China

It started off as a relative unknown, but the funny web TV series *Go Princess Go* has become a major hit, with more than two billion views. But last week it was suddenly cancelled by mainland censors.

The censors didn't give a lot of information about why they cancelled the show, but it is believed that they considered either "too vulgar, ... or dabbling in superstition".

The show is about Zhang Peng, a man who hits his head while running away from an ex-girlfriend. He wakes up to find that he's travelled a thousand years into the past.

But that's not even the biggest problem. He wakes up as the crown princess of the dynasty, Zhang Pengpeng. He is not sure if he should try to get back to his own time, or just enjoy his new life in the royal harem.

It's a weird story, but people love it. "At the beginning, I just wanted to see how weird this show was, but I realised I was addicted to it when I was still watching it at 5am," said Wang Li, a third-year student at Hunan University of Commerce.

Compared to other TV shows that have big budgets, *Go Princess Go* is very low-budget; it calls itself the poorest show in Chinese TV history. Lin Fu, a 20-year-old student, said the costumes look as if they were made out of curtain fabric, and the things the characters wear with them look as if they had been bought from a street vendor. But if anything, its small budget has only made it more popular.

Go Princess Go might be a little weird, but mainland viewers seem ready for that kind of show, even if the government's censors are not.

Zhou Zhi

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