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3rd Quarter Report 2019

Greetings from La Salle Study Centre, Changjiao. Peace and Joy is within you.

How time flies by. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report of activities at LSSC Changjiao. When I wrote my 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report on 2<sup>nd</sup> July I was in the Philippines at DLS Rsidensia, Dasmarias and was receiving medical attention. I ended saying that I would try my best to return to LSSC Changjiao to run an English Tuition Programme during the summer holidays. Thank God, the doctors at DLSU Medical Center certified a clean bill of health and I was able to return to China on 29<sup>th</sup> July and ran the tuition classes for 15 days beginning on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August.



I still have my teeth.



I can still do manual work



and take care of a baby!

As I mentioned in my 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report, I have to accept the fact that I no longer have the energy to run the usual Summer Programme where there were about 60 volunteers living in and we admitted 400+ students. We ran classes in the morning, individual and small group tuition in the afternoon and shows and activities at night.

When I returned to LSSC I only had 4 days to get LSSC cleaned up and ready for lessons. Thank God, there were a few regular students who came over to help wash and clean up LSSC. A few parents also came to help us in the clearing and tidying up activities and so it was neatly done in two days and I had two days to get the teaching materials printed and packed in plastic bags.

We had a mother with a son and daughter, both primary students, from Gansu Province 甘肃省, north of China. The mother is a graduate and she wanted to study with us. We gave them a room to stay in at LSSC. The other stay-in students were 4 boys (all primary students) and 7 girls (3 university, 3 secondary and 1 primary). There was also an adult stay-in student. She and the lady from Gansu did all the cooking for us. Two of the university students assisted me in class one and class two. I started each lesson, they taught half an hour each and I ended each lesson. It was a good arrangement. They got to practice teaching and I did not have to teach 3 full hours without a break.



**Power water spraying to clean up LSSC**



**Washing, wiping and drying chairs**



**Arranging the chairs**



**LSSC Hall readied for lessons**

**Ha ha ha ... I am not the only one getting older and losing energy. Our photocopying machine broke down and could not be repaired as there were no spare parts available for that old model. Thankfully a parent of one of my students who runs a printing shop volunteered to do the printing for us and I just had to email the document to him and he delivered them in the morning. White ants ate up our wooden bunk beds but thankfully did not attack the mattresses and so the live-in students had to sleep on the floor. The main switch to the air conditioners tripped after less than 15 minutes. It was overheating very quickly and had to be changed. The aircon in the girls' dormitory broke down and it took us three days to find the spare parts as that model is also out of production. In addition to the above, for two days we had water problem at LSSC bathrooms and toilets. At first there was no water because the intake spring source up in the hill was overgrown with weeds and blocked. Then when that was cleaned up the piping half way down from the hill burst. Well, I have to find the means to upgrade the facilities for next year. Thankfully by the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, we had everything sorted out and we could function smoothly.**

**We had 140+ students in Class One, 90+ students in Class Two and 20+ students in Class Three. The parents who accompanied their children to LSSC each morning were generally very cooperative to ensure that the driveway to LSSC was always clear and safe. Having to feed just a small team of 18 per meal made it possible for generous parents to buy fruits and vegetables for us. We had endless supply of fresh fruits and vegetables. Some parents even sent cooked food for us. Thank God, everything went off smoothly from day one and ended so well that some students were reluctant to go home.**



Parents watching the assembly



Students lining up

**This year, because of the drought during the flowering season, the pomelo harvest was at least 30% less than last year. Those who were eager to sell their harvest early to middlemen collectors barely made enough to cover the cost of fertilizers and labour. Those who dared to hold on, doubled their income and those who sold directly to customers tripled their income. The four families who took the extra effort to pack their fruits in boxes to sell to directly to factories and retailers more than tripled their income. Last year only two families did that and this year four. I hope more families will follow suit next year. One lady with only 100 trees made sales worth more than RMB30 thousand. I loved to see her smiling as each time she saw me she would pat her money bag and laughingly said to me “money money coming in!”.**

**Many past students of LSSC did very well in English this year at the Gaokao, China’s university entrance examination. They scored 130-140 out of 150 full marks. I was told two students scored 144. If I am not mistaken both students have been accepted into universities in Beijing. One of them even donated RMB3 thousand from his scholarship fund to assist LSSC run the Summer Programme!**

**With this bright note I end this report. Our normal weekend classes resumed on 14<sup>th</sup> September.**

**Thank you for reading. Keep us in your prayers. To all who have supported this little mission at LSSC Changjiao these 18 years, I say, “Thank you and God bless you.” A special thank to La Salle College Kowloon who has been sending student volunteers and giving financial support year after year.**

**As always with love in the service of youths for the development of nation through DLS,**

**BDLiaoFSC  
LSSC Changjiao  
30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2019**

# Photo Gallery - A photo speaks a thousand words.



Getting materials ready for students



PinPhonics reader is packed in pastic bags



Junior students in front



Senior students at the back



Reading PinPhonics sound system



while lining up before lessons begin



**BD stressing an important point**



**BD asking a question**



**Every seat taken**



**Assistant teaching - BD watching**



**All eyes looking at the screen**



**What is that strange sound?**



**HKong visitors Br Jeffrey and Mr C Tong**



**Br Jeffrey addressing the students**



**Guangdong Medical Uni students visiting**



**Speaking to our students**



**Meals time ...simple food**



**is fun time and learning session too.**



**Selling pomelos to middleman**



**Bulk loading**



**Temporary extension shelter**



**Improvised packing factory**



**Neatly packed – selling directly to retailers**



**Another temporary house factory**



**Using three wheeler motorbike from village**



**to transport truck on the main road.**