



## **My Feedback—**

### **How my child benefited from the Pure Chinese Programme**

Mrs Yeo

When I was first approached in 2016 by the school and being informed of the initiative to start the Pre N Chinese Programme in 2017, I was a bit concern about enrolling my younger child to the programme. Upon discussion and further evaluation of the my elder child's progress since she attended the bilingual programme in 2015, my husband and myself decided that it would be the right decision to enrol our younger child for the pioneer Chinese Programme.

Like most of the other children, my elder child, who is attending the bilingual programme speaks English and is resistant to speak and read Chinese, let alone in embracing the beauty of the Chinese language. Despite our effort to encourage her to read and speak Mandarin at home, we have seen little improvement. Having experienced this scenario with our daughter, we decided to support the school's initiative and send our son in the Pre N Chinese programme. This decision turns out to be the right one.

We have never doubt a child's ability to pick up a language when young but the changes in my son came as early as February, when he was only two months into the programme. My son started humming Chinese rhymes and was able to understand simple Chinese words and instructions. To our delight, he was receptive and love to read Chinese story books and having us communicate with him in Chinese. We would like to credit and express our appreciation to the team behind this Chinese programme and the Chinese teachers who are extremely patient and dedicated in nurturing the children and their love and interest for Chinese. The interesting curriculum and engaging environment, allowing the children to explore things and environment around them also aid the child in overcoming the fear to attend school and resistance to learn Chinese as they start to embrace Chinese through learning, singing, games, interacting and exploring with his teachers and peers.

Another comforting observation which we have made was the influence my son has made on his elder sister, who was once resistant to reading Chinese story books. She is now willing to read Chinese books and is slowly learning to overcome her fear and resistant of learning Chinese. Through lots of encouragement, she has even started to converse with us in simple Chinese recently.

We are grateful that the school has taken the feedback from some of the Pre N parents this year and decided to continue the Chinese Programme for the Nursey classes in 2018 and even decided to introduce 唐诗 into the curriculum next year. We are thankful to the team and the school for their willingness to embrace change and feedback, and their dedication and effort for the love of the children. Like many parents, we understand that it does not stop here as learning is a life long journey and the beauty of the Chinese language can only be explored through one's understanding and appreciation of the language. It is nevertheless with certainty that the children of this year's Pre N Chinese Programme class will continue to embrace the beauty of Chinese under the care of this amazing team at Marymount Kindergarten.

May The Lord continue to guide the team in delivering a successful and fruitful Chinese Programme in 2018 and many years to come.

