



Student Activity Centre



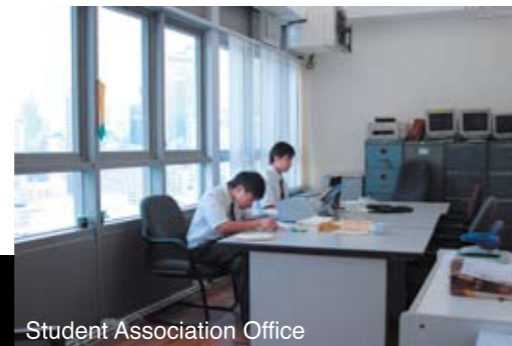
December - 2006

**A closer look at the New Annex:
Impact on the Users**

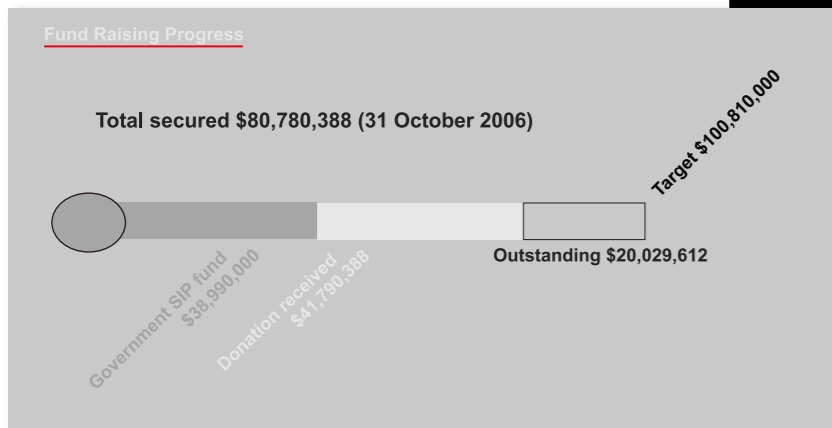
Mr. Lo Wing Sun, the Assistant Principal who took an active role in the planning, construction, fitting out and implementation stages of the New Annex, has now become one of the major users of the building. With the teething problems of the new building subsiding, we feel that it is a good opportunity to ask Mr. Lo to sum up the impact the New Annex has created on the users, students and faculty alike.



Summing it all up, it is entirely palpable that all users concerned are pleased, if not overwhelmed, by the new facilities and improvements brought about by the completion of the New Annex. We would like to let all SDP benefactors know that, as users, we are forever thankful for their generous donations.



Student Association Office



Our campus enjoyed the reputation as an architectural icon of the 50s. Yet in recent years, she had been finding it difficult to cope with the ever increasing demand for campus space by modern education. There was a distinct lack of space to let students and teachers interact, to shelter students on rainy days, to build throughways linking various parts of the campus, to fulfill special tasks and usages like first aid, meeting, archiving, storage and the like. There was not enough flexibility to accommodate higher quality learning and teaching. For example, small rooms suitable for small-class teaching were needed while our rooms were either large classrooms or laboratories that simply could not be converted. Making it worse were the fifty years of wear and tear that had become apparent with water leaking persistently at many places.



1950s



Conference Room



Music Room

As a result, the New Annex, inclusive of the Government funded SIP portion and the 'top-up' portion financed through funds raised by the school, now features:

- A large covered Lobby and a Conference Room on the G/F. The Lobby serves as a vehicle turn-about, a visitors' waiting area, a 'hanging-out' for students, as well as a covered venue for emergency gatherings. The Conference Room is appropriately equipped and well laid out.
- A large Staff Room on 1/F housing all faculty members who used to be located in different rooms. With a covered footbridge linked to the Classroom Block, faculty members are now within easy reach of the students, especially those in the lower forms. The podium adjacent to the Staff Room has been turned into a very pleasant Meeting Place loved by teachers and students alike. We are very proud of our new Staff Room. It is so well laid out and facilitated that it has become a 'showroom' for our vendor and has already been visited by more than 30 other schools;

- A Library on the 2/F with a footbridge linked to the Classroom Block. Bright, airy, spacious and conveniently located, it has become an inviting place for students. We are amazed by the sharp increase of students turn-up during the short 10-minute recesses.

- A computer hub on the 3/F made up of a Creativity Laboratory (CL) housing 22 Mac computers with piano keyboards, a 50-seat Computer-assisted Learning Centre (CAL Ctr.) and a support centre located in between the two. Now students can compose and play their musical pieces and record them on a disc in the CL and Star editors can produce their annuals on much faster computers in the CAL Ctr. You are also likely to bump into a few faculty members anxious to polish up their computer skills in these rooms.

- A Music Centre taking up the entirety of the 4/F. Behind the moveable partition of the Music Room is a large and air-conditioned Orchestral Practice Area large enough to hold both the Choir and the Orchestra at the same time. We are now able to invite other schools to rehearse with us for joint-school performances. And, on top of everything, there are 4 other Practice Studios on the same floor.



Covered Lobby



Meeting place outside Staff Room



CAL Centre



Staff Room



Library