



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL 台北歐洲學校

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4 December 2020

CEO Weekly Update

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Performance Events

I hope that you will agree that we had a wonderful day at the Christmas Bazaar last Saturday. I was happy to see that the goals of enabling the community to engage with the school and letting the students perform live with parents in the audience, was achieved. These opportunities have been sadly missing due to the COVID-19 considerations but we really need such events to provide this energy in order to keep our performance programmes vibrant. The students were all highly motivated and excited, it was great to see.

When talking to parents on the day of the Christmas Bazaar and further during this week, I hadn't realised the tone of last week's newsletter gave an impression of apprehension but obviously, from their comments, it did! As a school we are keenly aware of the potential for too many people to be on campus at one time, but with the sensible approach parents took to the event, this didn't materialise. It was a great day. I felt, and parents that I spoke to agreed, that it was a nice community event that wasn't overwhelming as it had been on some occasions when it was open to the public. Finally we need to get more candy floss/cotton candy suppliers; that 1 hour queue has to be avoided next year!

Yesterday gave the EPC music students a chance to perform in front of another audience, parents and others as members of the ECCT. Again it is good to get feedback from parents and we all saw the real need for children to perform in order to have aims for their music education. It gives me great pride to say that the children were wonderful and really created the start of Christmas for all present.

Restrictions and Explanations

We are now entering a period of increased COVID-19 globally that was predicted, the winter giving rise to case numbers rising. We can see from the rest of the world that this is exactly what is happening and over recent weeks we have seen the number of imported cases in Taiwan is increasing significantly. Another point to note is that many of the cases being found have come at the end of the quarantine period and even some beyond the end of this period and into the self-health management period.

As a school and after taking professional advice, we had firmer precautions in place to protect our school community because of our international nature. We said that if someone quarantines at home



then anyone in the same house should not come into school until the end of the self-health management period. The reason for this was confirmed for us yesterday by the CDC hotline where we were informed that there is no inspection to ensure that the home quarantine regulations are being followed and they can be transgressed, possibly accidentally. We have no intention of relaxing our requirement at this time for the reasons mentioned above.

I also have to remind all parents that when a student cannot attend school we will keep them updated with the work missed and we still expect assignments to be completed. We will be as supportive as possible but we clearly cannot deliver online lessons while giving live lessons on campus.

Please remember to fill out the health declaration form before coming back to school should you or any household members have travelled overseas.

Links for the health declaration form

[For students](#)

[For visitors](#)

Emergency Preparedness - Lockdown drill at EPC

As parents of EPC will be aware, on Thursday morning 9:45am, the EPC ran our Lockdown protocol, prior to the drill we tested the alarm, teachers were trained on procedures and so when the drill took place we had the response we would want should an intruder be found on campus. We had the police join the drill and we have been working with them to evaluate our protocols. They were impressed with what they observed and we will have a follow up discussion before the end of term to ensure that we all learn from the drill.

Sincerely,

David Gatley
CEO
Taipei European School