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Cultivating Global Citizenship Through Community-Based Club Activities

[How Chadwick International Students Are Creating Change in Their Local Community · Part 1]

Chadwick International, located in Songdo International City in Yeonsu-gu, Incheon, operates the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme and is home to students of diverse nationalities. These students are striving to contribute to the local community beyond the school campus. Guided by one of the school's core educational values, *Global Citizenship*, they are putting into practice what they learn in the classroom as members of the Incheon community.

Practicing Korea's Traditional Value of *Hyo* (Filial Piety): The Hyodo Club



Students at Chadwick International take part in various extracurricular clubs. Among them, the Hyodo Club, now running for its eighth year, has become one of the school's well renowned clubs. The club is dedicated to practicing *hyo* (孝), the traditional Korean value of filial piety.

The students collaborate with the Sehwa Senior Welfare Center in Yeonsu-gu to support elderly residents. Once a month, they visit the homes of seniors turning 80, celebrate their milestone birthday, spend time talking together, and share a meal.

Last year, the club hosted a fundraising booth at the international youth football tournament Songdo Cup, held at Chadwick International, and donated the funds to the Sehwa Senior Welfare Center. This year, donations collected at the tournament will be used to prepare handmade gifts and to hold a small concert for seniors.

Recently, the Hyodo Club launched the "Doorbell Project" after noticing that some seniors had difficulty hearing their doorbells at home. The club proposed to the Sehwa Senior

Welfare Center that doorbell alerts be linked to the smartwatches distributed to seniors by the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

Student Sophia Kim (17) said, “Visiting seniors, spending time with them, and offering a small gift may seem simple, but we hope these moments convey that they are not alone. As the holiday season approaches, we hope to be even closer to them and continue practicing *hyo*.”

Bridging Generations Through Digital Skills: The EZBytes Club



Another student-led club supports seniors who may feel left behind in today’s rapidly developing digital society. The EZBytes Club assists elderly residents who are unfamiliar with digital environments. Students prepare the learning materials themselves and visit local senior welfare centers to help seniors learn practical digital skills, such as purchasing daily necessities online or using mobile applications with subway route information.

Student Chloe Kim (18) said, “Technology has made everyday life more convenient, but at the same time, it has created a barrier between generations. Seeing seniors proud and excited when they successfully complete online shopping made me feel that digital technology can also connect us.”

Student Sophia Byun (17) added, “We think carefully about how to explain digital concepts in a way that feels natural and comfortable for seniors. During each session, we adjust our explanations based on how they respond.”

Recently, the EZBytes Club began working with the Incheon Metropolitan Council to develop specialized educational resources aimed at improving digital literacy among seniors. The club is also conducting a needs-based survey to identify senior welfare centers, long-term care facilities, and other organizations in the Incheon area that may benefit from the programme.

Supporting the Next Generation: Students' Vision for Children (SVC)



There is also a club called Students' Vision for Children (SVC). SVC students regularly visit Boramae Children's Center in Dong-gu, Incheon, where they teach children using approaches that encourage creativity and allow them to enjoy learning. During English vocabulary sessions, for example, students host quiz-style activities or hands-on projects such as baking cookies so the children can learn new words in a fun way.

At the end of the year, the club runs a Christmas Wishlist Project. During this time, not only SVC students but also teachers, students, and parents across the school prepare gifts — becoming “Santa” for the children at Boramae Children's Center. The purpose is to create opportunities for the school community to connect with children in the local community.

Student Martin Lim (17) said, “When I prepare Christmas gifts, I imagine how happy the children will be when they receive them, and I realize that the joy of giving is greater and more meaningful than receiving.”

SVC students are also working to develop a new educational model that combines creative learning with programmes that support children's mental and emotional well-being. Their hope is to collaborate with local child welfare institutions using this model in the future.