

Class: 2A

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Topic: A green Christmas party

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### **Our Greenest Christmas Party Ever**

Thanks to all attendees of the party, this year's Christmas party was a success! Not only was it the greenest Christmas party our school has ever had since its establishment in 1995, but it also helped our school earn the reputation as "The Green Campus in Hong Kong".

#### **Use Less**

Waste produced during the Christmas party was reduced dramatically. Disposable tableware, such as party plates, cups and forks, were reduced, since students were encouraged to bring along their recyclable tableware. Party plates were diminished by 75% from 300 to 75 items; cups were reduced by 60% from 500 to 200 items and forks were reduced by 70% from 600 to 180 items. What's more, disposable items were reduced dramatically this year. Disposable items, like plastic boxes and polystyrene boxes, were reduced since students were encouraged to make their own food. They avoided ordering takeaway food which was packed in disposable plastic boxes or polystyrene boxes. Therefore, the quantity of plastic boxes was cut down by 80% from 1500 to 300 items and polystyrene boxes were dwindled by 90% from 600 to 60 items.

#### **Eat Wise**

Food waste were reduced and handled properly in this year's Christmas party. A packing list was prepared by each class. Students bought a suitable portion of food and snacks according to the number of participants. Therefore, food quantity was carefully controlled. The quantity of cakes was cut down by 80% from 50 to 10 items. Besides, snacks, such as chocolate, potato chips and cookies were also curtailed by 60% from 100 to 40 items.

What's more, leftover foods were handled properly this year. Students bought the food based on the number of participants. Some food, such as chicken wings, cakes and noodles, was brought home by teachers and students. Some of the snacks and drinks, which were unopened, were reserved for future use.

#### **Shop Green**

The quantity of decorations bought this year was the lowest among the years. No Christmas

trees were bought this year. The Christmas trees from last year were reused. In some classes, Christmas trees were handmade by students using cardboards. Christmas trees were diminished by 90% from 50 to 5 items. Fewer Christmas decorations were bought since the students were encouraged to make their decorations by some recyclable materials like paperboards and newspapers. Christmas decorations, such as ornaments, tinsels and coloured ribbons, were decreased. Ornaments were reduced by 50% from 300 to 150 items; tinsels were reduced by 75% from 300 to 75 items and coloured ribbons were reduced by 80% from 200 to 40 items.

### **Discard Less**

Less paper waste was produced this year. Fewer wrapping papers were used while more reused paper, such as newspapers and magazines were used to wrap the gifts. Wrapping papers were reduced by 60% from 1000 to 400 items and the use of reused papers were increased by 70% from 200 to 340 items. On top of this, fewer Christmas cards were discarded since e-cards were commonly used in these few years. Christmas cards were reduced by 60% from 2000 to 800 pieces while e-cards were increased by 70% from 500 to 1500.

### **Recycle Wise**

An overabundance of recyclable items was handled properly. Since the past few years, students have been reluctant to sort rubbish and put it into recycling bins as it was inconvenient. In view of this, recycling bins were set up in every classroom this year. It was more convenient for students to throw the recyclable items, such as glass bottles, plastic bottles and aluminium cans. Recycled aluminium cans were increased by 80% from 80 to 144 items; recycled plastic bottles were risen by 90% from 100 to 190 items and recycled glass bottles were increased by 60% from 60 to 96 items. Meanwhile, some recyclable items were upcycled to some handmade crafts by students. For instance, they used plastic papers to make cash boxes and pencil cases.

It is hoped that we can spare no effort in creating an even greener school in the coming years. Instead of being green at school, we too can put these into practice in our daily lives. By tweaking our behaviours, we are playing a vital role in helping the environment.