



專訪

鄭金鳳老師

於玫瑰崗學校小學部執教 45 載

學校歷來年資最長的老師



Interview

**Ms. Margaret Chang**

45 Years of Sweet Memories with Primary Section

*Longest Serving Teacher in RHS!*



首先，舊生會十分感謝鄭金鳳老師能抽空接受我們的訪問。在小學部的會客室內，面容慈祥、個性隨和、令人樂於親近的鄭老師不但告訴了我們不少鮮為學生所知的秘密，她還跟我們分享了一些她在玫瑰崗的生活點滴。一切就由她在寶血學校中學畢業，及後就讀了一年師範學院後，於 1960 年代加入玫瑰崗學校開始說起……

## 初出茅廬

鄭老師說她對學校的感覺是它那自成一角、巍峨地站立在山崗上的校舍；當年縱使交通十分不便，但是鄭老師每天依然抱著愉快和郊遊般的心情返回校園工作，因為她覺得在玫瑰崗上既可呼吸清新空氣、更可以在工作中那麼親近大自然，著實是一份令人羨慕的工作。

剛剛加入玫瑰崗時學校給她的感覺是一所整潔、很有規模的學校。除了學生校服穿戴整齊外；老師們的制服：米白的襯衫跟灰或啡色的短裙均是由豐昌順校服公司的裁縫專程到學校為她們度身訂造的！另外，那時的校監江士林神父(Father Gonzalez)經常會在小息期間跟在操場談笑玩耍的學生們傳揚愛的真理。對剛為人師表的鄭老師來說，學校優美的環境、良好的學習氣氛，再加上在其他對教學同樣充滿熱誠的老師和慈祥的神父們鼓勵下，鄭老師很快便融入了玫瑰崗這個大家庭。



## 桃李滿門

在學校四十五年的教學生涯中，無論是教學生涯還是跟老師同事間所發生的開心和難忘片段實在多如繁星。粗略估計，鄭老師曾教過的學生多達數萬人；在這批學生中，一班早於七十年代畢業的學長學姐們與鄭老師到今天仍保持聯繫，實在相當難得。他們當中不少如今在社會上已是知名人士，例如其中一位現為某跨國金融保險集團的亞太區總裁，到今天鄭老師仍然記得他在小學時那「平頭裝、面紅紅、眼碌碌、十分精靈，非常活躍」的樣子。



此外，鄭老師還愉快地跟我們分享一件令她十分難忘的事情。話說在學校三十五週年紀念時，她被邀請出席一個由數位舊生邀請的飯聚，抵達時她才發覺她當年任教過 A 班及 B 班男學生們坐滿整整兩桌，甚至當年的校長謝天仁神父(Father Xavier)也是座上客。大家除了重溫當年校園軼事和翻閱舊照外，於晚宴開始前，大家更請謝神父帶領祝禱，並無懼餐廳其他人的目光，一齊引吭高唱校歌！另外，鄭老師憶述當年學校三十五週年紀念慶祝時邀請到同是玫瑰崗校友的張國榮先生到來表演，使校內各人均興奮不已——那時候的鄭老師跟其他老師們都表現得如小歌迷般歡呼吶喊，還嚷著要跟偶像合照留念呢。

## 友情歲月

多年來鄭老師與校內多位老師建立了深厚的情誼，目前她跟一些已退休或已離校的老師依然保持著聯繫。其中一位令鄭老師最感觸的，便是另一位曾在學校小學部任教的好友兼同事——黃美娟老師。鄭老師傷感地告訴筆者們黃美娟老師從患病後到辭世前一直都是抱著正面和積極的態度生活，並一直堅強地對抗病魔。自從黃老師因患病令到其身體狀況不容許而離校後，雖然她每次出席眾老師的定期茶聚時均顯得身體健康每況愈下，到後期就算是步履為艱、飽受骨痛煎熬，黃老師每次仍然堅強地拿著坐墊跟一眾舊友見面。直到一次，黃老師於茶聚當天致電通知因為身體有點不適而不能應約，誰知道大家隔天便收到她離世的消息。原來通話那天黃老師已經身在醫院，只是為免大家擔心而未有說明一切… 酸著鼻子的鄭老師說黃老師離開前不久，曾經要求家人陪同病重的她回到學校的小學部、中學部等等，走遍每個地方跟大家道別…



『我永遠懷念她…』

## 見證四十五載的變遷

從六十年代到今日，鄭老師見證了學校和學生們多年來不斷的轉變。鄭老師慨嘆早年無論學生或家長，都深明尊師重道的道理；然而，現今的家長和學生們對很多傳統觀念都隨著時代而漸漸地改變了… 鄭老師寄語小朋友們應在發展不同興趣的同時，亦應多專心學業，保持同學間良性的競爭。



儘管如此，鄭老師仍然在其四十五年的教學生涯中獲得極大的滿足感。她多年來跟一眾門生一直保持著亦師亦友、齊喜齊悲的關係，再加上與其他老師同事間相處融洽，這些都是令鄭老師於學校執教努力不倦的原動力。雖然轉瞬間已過了四十五載，鄭老師仍然是十分喜歡學校的禮堂及聖堂。在訪問中，鄭老師特別感謝范士豪神父(Father Francisco)，因多年來每當她信心動搖時范神父對她都給予極大的支持和鼓勵。幽默的鄭老師說她退休後如果學校需要代課老師時，她還是樂意效勞的——她唯一的要求便是可以繼續搭乘校車隨時回校，她就只怕年輕一代的校車司機們不認得她。就此，聞說范神父正考慮特別為鄭老師發一張榮譽乘車證呢！此外，鄭老師還透露她剛剛領了長者卡，她風趣地道是時候好好享用政府提供的優惠了！當正式離開教學生涯後，縱使每晚鄭老師只會在家「出前一丁」（當她看見筆者們驚訝的表情時，鄭老師笑道：『一丁即自己一個人呀！』），閒時大部分時間她仍會留港跟朋友茶聚、研究國粹（即麻將！）或作東南亞短線旅行。不過，令人意外的是——鄭老師閒時除了健身、耍太極、瑜伽、健美操等運動外，她還很喜歡集體舞蹈呢！

作為玫瑰崗學校歷來年資最長的老師，當問到有什麼心得跟各玫瑰崗校友分享時，鄭老師表示希望學生們能夠珍惜自己，在適當的時間及適當的地方做適當的事情。鄭老師同時亦寄語老師們不要單從外表判斷學生的好壞，可以嘗試深入的了解學生，發掘他們的優點，加以鼓勵及培養他們的自信。誠然，老師們亦需要鼓勵；鄭老師希望學校將重點放在學生身上的同時，亦能多關心老師們，分擔他們的壓力。因為她覺得開心的老師自然會更用心教導學生呀！鄭老師跟我們分享了她的人生座右銘，就是：「一定要學以致用，用真心對人」。

最後，玫瑰崗舊生會希望鄭金鳳老師在榮休後能好好享受人生！



First, a big thank you from RHSOSA to Ms. Margaret Chang for accepting our interview invitation! In the meeting room of Primary School session sat Ms. Chang who looked so graceful and yet remained so down-to-earth when talking about tidbits of life and even hush-hush stories at RHS. The room was alive with both laughter and tears. Let's wind back the clock to 1960s era when Ms. Chang first stepped into RHS...

## The New Sprout

Ms. Chang's first impression of RHS was the very unique and lofty location in the hill. Although the traffic was rather inconvenient, Ms. Chang went back to school everyday with high spirits as if she were having a daily picnic. It was indeed a delightful job to be able to get so close to the nature and surrounded by exceptionally fresh air.

Her next impression was that the school was a very neat and well-disciplined one. Apart from the students all in very tidy uniforms, the teachers also – beige-colored shirts went with grey or brown skirts which were all tailor-made from Fung Cheong Shun Tailor exclusively ordered by the school!

## Countless Students

In her 45 years of teaching career at RHS, the happy and unforgettable memories with both students and teachers were myriad. It is roughly estimated Ms. Chang has taught about tens of thousands of students in these 45 years, which is a very impressive figure! And among them, some graduates from the 70s are still keeping close contact with her. Many of her students also have become renowned celebrities and one example is the current CEO of Asia Pacific for an international insurance company. Ms. Chang still remembered him as "the very energetic and witty kid in crew cut, flushed face with big round eyes"!

Ms. Chang further shared with us an especially cherished memory of hers at RHS. During year when RHS was celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, she was invited to some old students' dinner gathering which turned out to be a surprise party for her! As soon as she stepped into the restaurant, she found two full tables of her students (her former Class A and Class B boys) were already sitting there waiting for her arrival; Father Lionel Xavier, the former school principal, was also one of the guests too. Not only did they have some good recapturing of the past anecdotes, leafing through the photos taken in the old school days, Father was actually invited to lead a prayer before the dinner and then they all sang the RHS school song together at full volume! Moreover, Ms. Chang mentioned that Mr. Leslie Cheung, a RHS alumnus, was the guest performer at the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration performance and everyone got really excited about it. She and her fellow teachers suddenly all turned into thrilled little fans striving for a photo with the super idol!

## Forever Friends

Over the last 45 years, Ms. Chang has built a very deep friendship with numerous teachers at RHS and still has close contact with some of them who have retired or left the school. She shared with us the colleague who gave her the most poignant memory was Ms. Alice Wong, a close friend of hers who was also a RHS primary school teacher. Ms. Chang told us sorrowfully that although at that time Ms. Wong had to fight against a severe illness, she always had a brave and positive attitude toward her illness until her very last moment. Every time when the teachers had gatherings, despite the fact that her health was deteriorating, she always attended their gatherings bringing along a cushion until the very last time when she called and apologized that she could not make it for the gathering, it turned out that Ms. Wong was already hospitalized at that time but still kept it to herself as she did not want to stir up anyone's anxiety. The news of her departure only came to Ms. Chang's knowledge a few days after the gathering. Ms. Chang added in snivel that she was told by Father Francisco that Ms. Wong had in fact paid a visit to every part of RHS primary and secondary sections with her family, which seemed that she wanted to say farewell to the school and everybody...

## Eyewitness for 45 Years

All through the years from 1960s till now, Ms. Chang had witnessed constant changes from the school to as well the students. Ms. Chang uttered a sigh saying that in early years both parents and students showed a great deal of respect towards teachers but nowadays, much of this traditional mentality had been changed gradually as time flies by. During the interview, Ms. Chang expressed her advice for the present young generation that they should always place their focus on studies and also keep positive competitions with one another while busy developing their other interests.

When asked what satisfaction she got from the 45 years of teaching at RHS, Ms. Chang told us her satisfaction was immense indeed. She said that what has been giving her the motivation as a devoted teacher at RHS was definitely her close relationships with the students and colleagues. Her love for RHS has never changed and even today she is still very fond of going to the school hall and chapel. Moreover, Ms. Chang would like to use this interview to show her gratitude to Father Francisco for his consistent support and encouragement whenever she had doubts in herself. Although Ms. Chang is now officially retired, she is still very considerate and she told us that she would be very willing to work as a substitute teacher if necessary after her retirement; but she added amusingly that her only request was to be allowed to go back to school anytime by school bus. Yet she wondered if the recent school bus drivers may recognize her! After hearing so, Father Francisco was actually considering to issue an honorable school bus pass solely for Ms. Chang! Apart from that, recently Ms. Chang has just obtained her Senior Citizen Card and she joked that it was time for her to enjoy the benefits provided by the Government! When asked about her plans after her retirement, she said she would still have high tea gatherings with friends, and she would also explore the quintessence of Chinese culture (Mahjong!) and even go on short trips to South East Asia. Furthermore, it surprised the undersigned that in addition to regular exercise like aerobics, Taichi and yoga, Ms. Chang also enjoys group dancing as well!

As the RHS teacher with the longest service record, when we asked Ms. Chang if she had anything to share with the fellow Rosarians, she said that she hoped all students would always value themselves well and make good use of the time and opportunities. Moreover, she advised that students should never be judged merely from their appearance; on the contrary, more time should be spent on exploring their different personalities and potentials, and words of encouragement are always important to nurture their confidence. In addition, support for teachers should not be neglected as Ms. Chang believes a happy teacher would teach happily and whole-heartedly! Lastly, Ms. Margaret Chang shared with us her life motto: "Put into practice from what has been learned and treat everyone with your true heart".

RHSOSA would also like to wish Ms. Margaret Chang a very enjoyable and meaningful life after her retirement!