

# School news

## Malvern hosts official opening



Staff and official representatives open Malvern's pre-school in Yau Ma Tei

Malvern Collège Pre-School Hong Kong welcomed representatives from the UK and Hong Kong for its official opening.

The Yau Ma Tei-based school put on a colourful display, with performances from students, a ribbon cutting ceremony and a celebratory cake. The event was attended by around 150 pupils, plus teachers and representatives from the British Consulate-General, Sino Group and Invest Hong Kong. School representatives included chief executive of Malvern College International, Jacqueline So, and Malvern's director of international schools, Allan Walker.

"It's amazing to see how the pre-school evolved from just a plan, gradually to this beautiful open-plan campus," commented So.

The preschool offers a play-based programme focused on the UK's Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum for children aged one to five years, embracing a Reggio Emilia philosophy.

It is also the first school in Hong Kong to run the Forest School programme. Children will enjoy regular field trips to nature-based facilities partnering with Malvern College in the New Territories.

## SIS 'best ever' GCSE results

Thirteen students at ESF South Island School (SIS) scored nine or more A\* and a further eight achieved ten or more. For the first time, the Aberdeen-based school recorded an A\*/A pass rate for all exams taken of over 60%. The school's average grade for all GCSE passes was an A. Over 31% of all exams taken were passed at A\*, which is also a record for the school.

"This is a year group that deserves the accolade 'best ever' in the history of South Island School," said principal Graham Silverthorne. "In our 40th anniversary year, they take a proud place in the story of this great school... I salute the entire cohort."

SIS is a private co-educational international school founded by the English Schools Foundation of Hong Kong.

## Party time for Leapfrog

Leapfrog Kindergarten in Sai Kung Country Park is celebrating its 25th birthday this month with a party for the whole community.

The school was originally set up in 1992 by the Hong Kong Pre-school Playgroups Association in collaboration with six local families who wanted to start their own playgroup in Sai Kung.

It spent its first four years at Li Po Chun United World College and then moved to the Sai Kung Community Centre.

Its present site is inside the Sai Kung Country Park gates and was covered in dense foliage. It took the help of the local police and volunteer parents to get the school shipshape and ready to open in January 1997.

The school will be celebrating with an anniversary party on Saturday October 21 at Victoria Recreation Club, Emerald Bay, Tai Mong Tsai Road, Sai Kung. The event is open to all and starts at 3pm with family activities and games. From 7pm there will be live music from parents past and present, food and a bar, [leapfrogkindergarten.org](http://leapfrogkindergarten.org).