# Law Ting Pong Secondary School 羅定邦中學

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## I'm Andrew Wan. I am 14 year old and now a university Year 2 Student

Getting into university is important, but it is difficult: It is definitely a challenge. And how can you conquer it?

But what if there is another way for me to get into there? And how can I make good use of my abilities in this path?

Think about the subjects you are doing well in: Science? English? Mathematics? Arts? Whichever subject you are good at, you can use it to help you walk through another path to get into university.

In my case, I am good in Mathematics.

My parents and I found out about the IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education / 'O-Level') and IAL (Internation Advanced Level / 'A-Level') examinations. They are examinations which, like the DSE examinations, test your skills on particular subjects, but they allow you to take them regardless of what grade or age you are in.

I decided to study for those examinations as a challenge. I had to deal with both the JUPAS curriculum (the one for taking the DSE) and the British curriculum (IGCSE and IAL) at the same time, so that was a lot of work. But with the help, dedication and devotion from my teachers, I have learnt the fundamental knowledge necessary. After that, I studied and revised all by myself. Finally, after going through the long periods of studying, testing, and reacting to my grades, I got into university - through another path.

In case you are wondering, yes, this path is hard and frustrating for me. But how did I get through this path successfully?

As I said above, I needed help from my teachers, my parents, and my friends. So, it is very natural for you to ask for help - and never hesitate to ask for some at any time!

Things can get quite emotional for me. I had thought about giving up sometimes. But I always remembered to tell myself these things:

If you give up now, then it might be too late for you to get back on the path. You might not gain the courage you need to continue.

If you give up now, then all of your efforts would be gone. To work so hard only to give up at the end... what a waste.

If you give up now, then you would be mocking yourself. Do you like being mocked at?

My parents, my teachers, and my friends all support me for going through this path. I thank them very much for their support. Without them, I would not have made it to here.

Think about how good it would be if you made it to the end. Think about your future - as you get through this path, you are getting closer to the future you desire.

Have you thought about dumping your future away? Well, you have a chance now: Yes or no?

It is painful, and it can be emotional. But do you enjoy studying the things you want to know more about? If so, then get through this path as happily as you can!

And when I wanted to procrastinate, I reminded myself:

Your perseverance brought you here. Isn't that amazing? Don't you want to get even further along the path?

If you are thinking that luck is not on your side, then you're stupid: Luck is always with you as long as you truly devoted yourself to work. Luck will show its effects when the right moment comes.

When time is gone, time is gone. Time is irreversible and you cannot 'possess' time. So you better make good use of time now before you regret it!

And of course, you have to maintain a good balance of work and relaxation. Of course I have to relax after working for a long time. I do so mostly by playing video games, but reading books, watching the TV, or simply spending time with my family also works.

To sum up, you may choose another path for getting into university. If you trust in your skills and abilities, and if you can work hard for long periods of time, then do it! Pursue your dreams on this path! Keep calm and go for it! Thank your parents, teachers, and friends for being with you and supporting you along the way!

I wish you all good luck in your studies!





## I'm Cherry Leung from 4R

It has been six years since I started swimming. Yet I started getting tired of the dull training routine in my fourth year. I thought swimming started to become boring. At that time, I lost my passion in swimming, slowly drifted away from my original intentions and gave up on the sport. Until one year ago, I came across other swimmers fighting for themselves and their schools in my last inter-school competition. By then I started reflecting on myself if I was wasting my time on the long training sessions before. After a bit of time, I decided to tell my parents that I wanted to pick up swimming again. Starting it all over again wasn't easy, but I still have the support of my teammates and coaches. They helped me a lot and they were my forces to improve.

### I'm Yumi So from 4M

One of the things I really treasure about my school is that I am able to take part in so many high quality extra curricula activities. At school I am a member of girls' volleyball team, See house cheering team the Chinese debating team and I am the vice chairperson of the school band.

These activities and societies help me to develop new skills in subject related areas. I am really thrilled that the school gives me so many opportunities to learn and develop problem solving skills, critical thinking and leadership qualities.

We also have opportunities to join special events such as the 'Books for Breakfast' event to celebrate International Literacy Day. This event taught me that we are actually so blessed because we have free education, we should be grateful and treasure our learning in a safe and comfortable environment.

Finally last June, I travelled to Singapore with some of my schoolmates to participate in the International Student Leadership Convention (SLC) in Singapore. This was truly a wonderful trip, we were encouraged to address potential and pertinent issues facing the global community in the modern era. It was a life changing experience!

The school has given me so many opportunities to learn and broaden my horizons outside of the classroom. Through CAS related activities I have gained lots of memorable and fruitful experiences that have made me into a better person and a more responsible leader. I hope I can spare no effort to continue to develop myself and my school.







#### I'm Ms Elizabeth McNeilly, the Library Manager

Stories were my first friends and I am grateful to have been surrounded by the written word throughout my life. Hong Kong has been my home for 17 years. When I first arrived, I worked as a writer and editor on for different publications. Then, I decided to try something new and began studying to be a librarian. I didn't know what I would do when I graduated, I only knew that I wanted to share my love of reading and learning with others. It was a big change, but sometimes you have to trust your instincts, even if you have no idea where they will lead.

Four years ago, I became a librarian at an international school and I absolutely loved my job. However, after visiting LTPSS's vibrant campus last year, my instincts told me to try something new again. I feel both nervous and excited about the challenges ahead, something I have felt at the start of every school year. I suspect many of you feel the same. The good news is, we are all in this together and we can help each other to thrive.

As well as reading, I like to hike with my dogs, watch films, listen to music (and sing along!), and laugh as much as possible. Still, my favourite past time is to become lost in a good book. Did you know that studies show people who read for pleasure have more successful, happier lives? Stories are a perfect way to explore other worlds, while also helping us make sense of our own world, helping us understand, and therefore be kinder to, each other. I want to know which stories mean something to you and introduce you to new stories, too.

### I'm Ms Zena Yeung, a Visual Arts Teacher

I am so happy to come back. Yes, I say 'come back' because I'm an alumna of LTPSS. LTPSS is where I started to study Visual Arts. Now, I'm happy to come back as a teacher to share my love of Visual Arts with all of you.

A lot of people ask me whether the school has changed since I was here. I can tell you, the school has changed a lot: it has more facilities and a better environment compared to my school days here. The library is much bigger, with many more books now. There are nice, large Drama and Spanish rooms. And these courses were not available when I studied here. Recently, some S.1 students told me that they love coming back to school every day. I am really happy and proud to hear this as a teacher, and also as an alumna.

Coming back to teach means a lot to me, because art is important and meaningful to my life. It helps me to record my life and alleviates my emotions. It influences me in so many ways. With my knowledge of art, I would like to bring a little positive change to your life and give you something to think about. I hope you enjoy the meaningful journey that the arts can take you on.

