

**On the British Education System
and
The State Schools in Cambridge (XXIII)**

Minoru SHIGETA*

In the preceding essays (Vol. XIX, XX, XXI and XXII), I mentioned, according to the school brochure and my son's notebooks and school letters, the school lessons my son studied at the Manor Community College; Religious Education, French, Library, Drama, Mathematics, Art Design, Music, Physical Education and some unfamiliar sports, such as Cross Country, Netball, Rounders and Cricket, English and Technical Subjects, History, Science, and the other subjects not taught in the first year at Manor. However, because of the limited space, I left one subject called "Personal & Social Education." Therefore, in this essay, I will mention "Personal & Social Education" first and then tell you about the school events and miscellaneous things in which I took great interest.

Personal & Social Education

Life Skills Programme

We would expect all staff to be aware of the need to relate their teaching to human values and relationships when the opportunity arises, and thus social education is, in one sense, a continuing process in which subject teachers, form teachers and those taking Assemblies play their part. Complementary to this there is a formal structure of teaching from Years 1 to 5.

The direct responsibility for Health and Sex Education lies within the orbit of four departments: the Physical Education Department deals with the specific issues such as menstruation with First Year pupils, the Home Economics Department, particularly through their Child Care course, tackle a number of problems, while, throughout the age range, the Biology and Social and Moral Departments present a whole variety of issues each in their particular way.

* 宇部工業高等専門学校英語教室

In Years Four and Five there is a compulsory course for the majority of pupils in which groups tackle social and moral issues often with aid of films, videos and visiting speakers. This course forms part of our Life Skills Programme along with Careers, World of Work, Money Matters, Keyboarding, Word-Processing, Health Education and Study Skills. We accept that, over five years some topics overlap but there is often a considerable difference of approach and teaching method and, given the variations in pupil maturity, it is felt to be essential that "difficult" topics are approached from more than one angle.

There is an annual meeting, to which all parents are invited, where those responsible for Health and Moral Education discuss their subject and the material they use.

Now I have finished explaining the subjects taught in the first year and the other subjects taught in the other years at Manor. So I will tell you about some School Events in which I took much interest in the academic year (1986-1987) at Manor.

School Events

Activities Week 1987

One day in November in 1986, my son came home with a booklet called "Activities Week 1987." At first sight, I understood that it was like a trip for educational purposes in Japan, but that it contains something different from a school journey, such as "Jewellery Making," "Look Good, Feel Good," "Lost in the Wilds," "Mini-Music Course," "Eye-View," and something like that. Indeed I was surprised to know that this project had seventeen courses, and that all the staff and all the pupils from the first to the fourth years would take part in some activities for the four days! As I think we cannot find such a project in Japan, according to the booklet, I would like to quote a whole sentence of the project in the following:

INTRODUCTION

For the third time in 1987, we shall be running a week of fun and leisure during 'Activities Week.' The dates are Monday, 20th July to Thursday, 23rd July, although some activities may include some extra days. The whole school will be

involved. All the staff and all the pupils from the first to the fourth years will take part in some activities for these four days. There will be no normal school timetable during this week until Friday. Friday, 24th July will be a normal school day.

Everyone is expected to join one Activity Group for the whole week (details shown On the programme). As far as possible, you will be allowed to choose which group You would like to join but you must realise that some groups have limited numbers, Some have age restrictions and some cost money. Because of this, you may not get Your first choice.

This booklet gives information about all the groups that will be running. Every activity will say what it is doing; the age group that may take part; the staff that are running it; a description of the activities and the cost. If you need more information about any group, you can talk to the teacher organising it.

What you have to do

1. When you have looked through the booklet and have decided what you would like to do, you must then fill in the form at the back of the booklet.

You **must** get your parent to sign* the form to show that they give their consent to your choice. [First come, first served!] Remember you cannot do nothing. You must choose the things you prefer from the list on offer. If you choose an activity that has a cost, you will be expected to pay the cost in advance to enable the necessary expenses to be met before the course begins. You will be informed when the money is to be collected for each group. Do not choose an activity that will cost more money than you can obtain as these groups are much more difficult to change once they are full.

2. On Thursday, 18th December, when you are told you will sign up for your chose activity at that teacher's room (List on following page). You will also have the chance to ask any questions, find out more about that activity from the teacher.
3. From then on you must ask that activity teacher about further instructions, problems, money.

* for out of school activities only

ROOM LIST WITH TUTORS AND FORMS

<u>ROOM</u>	<u>TUTOR</u>	<u>FORM</u>	<u>TEACHING BASE</u>
1	Mrs. Kilburn	5.4	Mrs. Kilburn
2	Mrs. Mitchell	2.2	Mr. Mitchell
3	Miss Lovell	4.3	Mr. Downes
4	Mrs. Patmore	4.6	Mrs. Patmore
5			Mr. Smith
6	Mr. Harker	4.4	Mr. Harker
7	Miss Rae	5.5	Miss Rae
8	Mr. Tippet	2.4	Mr. Brown
9	-	-	-
10	-	-	-
11	-	-	Mr. Murphy
12	-	-	Miss Sinkinson
13	Mr. Dixon	2.3	Mr. Dixon
14	-	-	Mr. Baugh
15	Mrs. Partridge	2.1	Mrs. Partridge
16	Mr. Coates	3.3	Mr. Coates
17	-	-	Mr. Radcliffe
18	Mrs. Quarrie	3.2	Mrs. Quarrie
19	-	-	Mrs. New
20	Dr. Magilton	5.3	Dr. Magilton
L1	Mr. Jones	1.4	Mr. Hunter
L2	Mr. Glover	1.2	Mr. Glover
L3	Mr. Woodcock	4.5	Mr. Woodcock
L4	Mrs. Forster	4.2	Mrs. Forster
L5	Mrs. Hooper	4.1	Mrs. Hooper
L6	Mr. Urwin	5.1	Mr. Urwin
W1	-	-	Mr. Rowlandson
W2	-	-	Mr. Jones
W3	-	-	Mr. Gordon
W4	-	-	-
D1	-	-	Mr. Hodierne
A1	Mr. Howard	5.6	Mr. Howard
A2	Mr. Ilsley	3.1	Mr. Ilsley
H1	Mrs. Brown	1.1	Mrs. Brown
H2	Mrs. Davis-Hurcombe	3.4	Mrs. Davis-Hurcombe
P1	Mrs. O'Gorman	1.3	Mrs. Mitchell
CL	-	-	Mr. Hodierne
T1	Mrs. Curry	5.2	Mrs. Curry
T2	-	-	Mrs. Hawes
M1	-	-	Mr. Durrant
L	-	-	Mr. Brown
LT	-	-	-

1. LOOK GOOD, FEEL GOOD

- Age Range - 1st - 4th Years
Staff - Mrs Davis-Hurcombe and Mrs Mitcherll
Description - We will be offering a varied programme, including caring for yourself i.e. haircare, make up, general beauty routine; eating for health demonstration; choice and care of clothes and exercise! There will also be an opportunity to visit the East of England Show.
Cost - £ 8 (approximately)

2. JEWELLERY MAKING

- Age Range - All Years
Staff - Mr Gordon and Mr Jones
Description - Design and make pieces of Jewellery. Various metals and plastics available. Design guidance given to those in need. Production techniques and methods will be shown as needed. Help and guidance will be given to enable several pieces to be made during the four days. No previous experience necessary. Suitable for boys and girls.
Cost - Will depend entirely upon how many pieces are made and the materials used. £ 2 or £ 3 is quite likely.

3. CREATIVE CRAFTS

- Age Range - All Years
Staff - Mrs Patmore, Mr Hodierne, Mrs Partridge
Description - The following activities are on offer: -
Glass engraving
Candle making
Badge making
Enamelling
The finished items could make suitable presents.
Cost - Up to £ 5 plus cost of own glass.

4. WORD PROCESSING

- Age Range - 4th Year Typists
Staff - Mrs Curry, Mrs Hawes
Description - Students are introduced to Word Processing using the school's B. B. C. Micro Computers and the B. B. C. Wordwise word processing system.
 Pupils will be taught to enter material, edit and format it, and print it out.
 Possible visit to C. E. N. to see Word Processors at work.
Cost - £ 1.50

5. 'KNOW YOUR CAMBRIDGE'

- Age Range - All Years
Staff - Mrs Quarrie
Description - Visits to various places of interest in Cambridge, most of them free entry e. g. Cambridge Evening News, Folk Museum, Midsummer Common Glass Blowing, Wren Library, The Round Church, Fitzwilliam Museum, Old Pumping Engine, Cheddar's Lane.
Cost - Entrance fee to Folk Museum

6. OUT and ABOUT in CAMBRIDGE

- Age Range - All Years
Staff - Mr Smith, Mr Dixon
Description - Planned programme, but will vary according to the weather.
Monday a.m. Guildhall, Corn Exchange, King's College Chapel and Folk Museum.
 p.m. in school for follow up quiz, questionnaire etc.
Tuesday River walk all day.
Wednesday a.m. Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall.
 p.m. Swimming.
Thursday Another mystery walk!
Cost - £ 2 approximately (for the Sports Hall / Swimming)

7. 'LOST IN THE WILDS'

<u>Age Range</u>	-	2nd – 4th Years
<u>Staff</u>	-	Mr Coates, Mrs O'Gorman
<u>Description</u>	-	Could you find your way if you were lost in the wilds?

Can you use a map and a compass? This activity will introduce you to the basic skills of map and compass reading, lead you through how to find your way round a small area and on to working your way round vast uncharted territories. In other words you'll use the skills you've learnt to follow a course out in the wilds.

You will need to provide your own packed lunches and be prepared to get a bit muddy.

<u>Cost</u>	-	Possibly bus fares
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8. Canal cruise

<u>Age Range</u>	-	3rd, 4th, 5th Year
<u>Staff</u>	-	Mr Brown, Mrs Brown
<u>Description</u>	-	A canal cruise on a traditional narrow boat probably around the Midlands Area (Birmingham). Leaving Cambridge early Saturday, 18th July and returning p.m. Thursday, 23rd July. Itinerary to be finalised.
<u>Cost</u>	-	£ 50- £ 60 approximately

9. HOME and AWAY

<u>Age Range</u>	-	All Years
<u>Staff</u>	-	Mrs Forster, Mr Urwin, Dr Magilton (Mrs Hooper)
<u>Description</u>	-	How to spend leisure time, at home – cheaply, and away from home – involving some expense
	<u>Monday</u>	Around Cambridge and swimming.
	<u>Tuesday</u>	Board Games, quizzes, jigsaws, cross-words.
	<u>Wednesday</u>	Bury-St.-Edmunds a trip to the market in the morning. A picnic lunch and Rollerbury in the afternoon.
	<u>Thursday</u>	A trip to London – final arrangements to be made, but this could include a visit to a show (depending on cost) or visit to the Tower of London and river trip and

shopping.

Cost - £ 1512. 'Eye-View'Age Range - All YearsStaff - Miss Brown, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Onions, Mrs Stocking, Mrs Cox, Mrs SleathDescription - Do you want to know more about eye-problems?
Do you want to learn how blind people are able to find out about things around them?

Do you want to learn how to help blind people when you see them in the street?

Do you want to learn Braille? Moon?

Do you want to make special maps and diagrams for blind people to touch?

Do you want to play games - Snakes and Ladders, Ludo, Scrabble, Mastermind, Cards, with a blind-fold on?

Then come to the V. I. C. and do one, some or all of these things.

DAY 1 a.m. Learning about Visual Impairment
p.m. Learning Braille / MoonDAY 2 a.m. Demonstration of equipment used by blind and partially-sighted pupils.
p.m. Map and Diagram-making plus Braille / MoonDAY 3 a.m. Sighted Guide Technique - Activities under blindfold / simulated Spectacles
p.m. Visiting Cambridge City to explore the environment with a different eye-view. Seeing advantages and disadvantagesDAY 4 a.m. Indoor Games under blindfold.
p.m. Braille / Moon / Map and Diagram-making etc.

MAXIMLUM of 10 pupils

COST Nil13. 'HOME and ABROAD'Age Range - All YearsStaff - Mr Hunter, Mr Murphy, Mrs KilburnDescription - Monday: Trip to France

Tuesday: 1/2 Day (p.m.) Rounder on Field
 Wednesday: Trip to Worbutrn Abbey
 Thursday: Possible trip to Lakenheath Airfield
 (subject to confirmation)
Cost - £ 28 total approximately

16. 'MINI-MUSIC COURSE'

Age Range - All Years
Staff - Mr Durrant
Description - The week will be spent in preparing vocal or instrumental items. You should be of musical inclination to get the most out of this and if you play an instrument you should bring it along. Creative projects involving instruments (including electronic keyboards) will be offered depending upon Numbers. Preparation of jazz / pop / reggae numbers will also be tried if there are sufficient pupils interested.
 Notice that this course is designed for your playing (and signing) pleasure and is not intended for only the music specialist. If you have enjoyed music-making in class then come along and enjoy it again. Occasional swimming.
Cost - Nil. (Swimming cost as needed)

17. TENNIS COACHING

Age Range - All Years
Staff - Miss Lovell
Description - Coaching and trips to different tennis courts in local area.
Cost - £3 approximately

18. SCHOOL BASED SPORT

Age Range - 1st - 4th Year, Girls and Boys
Staff - Mr Tippett, Mr. Downes, Mr Glover
Description - All facilities in school are available.
 We will form new groups for each morning and afternoon session. The activity to be pursued in each session will be decided at that time. You must have kit and you

Cost must enjoy physical education.
Nil

Indeed the booklet contained 18 courses! In due consideration of my son's interest and necessary expenses, my son and I decided to select No. 13 'Home and Abroad.' Then we received some school letters from the tutor.

However, as the space is limited, I will explain the details of the school letters and the trip to France in next essay.

(Continued)

(平成9年9月24日受理)