

## **How meaningful making a difference in school is!**

**By Calla Chan (4D)**

It's already the first term of 2023-2024. The School has started to give information and notices about different volunteer activities to students again. So, I'd like to share one of my experiences from last term's volunteer activity which is called "Big Brother Big Sister Project" with all of you who are debating whether or not to participate in this kind of activities.

Every time I look back on it, it makes me feel rewarded and proud of myself, teachers and other teammates! The "Big Brother Big Sister Project" aims to pair senior students with junior students to help them get used to their new school life. To ensure that things go according to plan, the project spanned over three months. All teachers in charge and students did many demonstrations and discussions about what to do when any unexpected problems happened.

During the first session of the activity day, after I and the student I was in charge of (who is called Bella) finished introducing ourselves to each other, silence filled the air again. I guess it was caused by the awkwardness, since it was the first time we got to know each other. "You have to get rid of this awkward atmosphere!" That's what I shouted to myself in my mind at that moment.

Luckily, as the second session started, we were able to get closer. We played many fascinating board games, for example, UNO chess and Cluedo! I was rewarded to see her smiling. Besides, Bella told me what problems she was facing due to the new school life. One of the situations she was struggling with was not getting used to learning so many subjects, as she used to learn only four subjects in primary school. Since I faced the same difficulty when I was a junior student, I was able to give her many useful suggestions.

In the last session, all teachers in charge of the project and the students involved took a group photo together. All of us did different funny poses. After taking the group photo, Bella whispered gently in my ears, "Thanks for giving me great tips that can help ease my frustrations. I hope you won't mind me reaching out to you again next time." I nodded my head.

Well, I find the activity very meaningful and I hope my little story can inspire you to try participating in volunteer activities. If you're interested, please give it a try!