



06 September 2011

Ms Winnie Lee
Senior Educational Consultant
Education & Learning Services
Room 807
8/F Wellborne Commercial Centre
8 Java Road
North Point
Hong Kong

Dear Winnie

I write to you with regard to one of the pupils whom you have recommended to Merchiston, namely **King Fan Chung**. Previously, King Fan attended St Paul's College, Hong Kong. In his A Levels this summer, King Fan gained the following results: Mathematics A*; Further Mathematics A; Mandarin A; Physics A; Economics A. Moreover, King Fan also achieved a grade A in his Biology at AS Level. This is a very impressive set of results and King Fan leaves us to attend his first choice of university, namely the University of St Andrews to read Management Psychology.

I am delighted to let you know that in 2011 Merchiston recorded its best ever set of A Level results with a 100% pass rate and 84% of our students gaining A*, A, or B grades. Moreover, of the 260 individual candidate results, 63 gained A* (24%) and an amazing 164 (63%) gained A* or A. Whilst we are careful not to place too much emphasis on league tables, it was gratifying that The Daily Telegraph newspaper ranked the School 70th within the UK in their A Level League Table and consequently we are the top school in Scotland at A Level for 2011.

At GCSE, our students' pass rate A*- C was 98%. Moreover, of the 608 individual candidate results 364 (60%) gained grades A*/A; and the School's combined A*, A, and B grade pass rate was a highly gratifying 88%. This was another very successful year for our Fifth Form (year 11) pupils and we congratulate in particular the five boys who gained 8 or more A*s each. Many boys in our Shell Form (Year 10) also took GCSE exam units; these results will contribute towards their GCSE grades next summer. In this regard, it is also worth noting that Merchiston offers the IGCSE in a number of subjects since these can be perceived to be more challenging than GCSEs.

Of our applicants to University, 86% gained grades which enabled them to take up places at their first choice of university and 91% of applicants secured offers from either their first or second choice courses. 19 UK Universities form the 'Russell Group' of selective institutions: we are delighted that 46% of Merchiston's applicants this year took up places at either 'Russell Group', Durham or St Andrews Universities. Additionally, five Merchiston pupils secured places at Oxford and Cambridge universities for this coming academic year, in subjects as diverse as Engineering, Theology and Medicine. I am pleased to enclose a photocopied leaflet showing our Interim Academic results and University destinations for 2011. These will soon be incorporated into a new Academic Leaflet.

Merchiston joins me in sending you our very best wishes and our thanks for your continued support of Merchiston and our recruitment of such an able pupil.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Hunter
Headmaster

Enclosure: Interim Academic Results 2011