The signing of the Agreement by Dr Raymond Ch’ien, Chairman of SSC Council and Mr Trevor Gregory, Chairman of HK Rugby Football Union, accompanied by Mr C C Tung (2nd right), Vice-Chairman of SSC Council and two SSC student Rugby Players, Ian Michael Yeung (1st left) and Hugo Tsui (1st right)

Improving Community Links

St Stephen’s College, both as a college and as a community, has over the past 10 months worked to enhance the learning opportunities for our students through building mutually beneficial links with the wider Hong Kong community. The College’s drive to reintroduce traditional sports, and to enhance our school swimming team’s capacity, has created some exciting possibilities.

In consultation with the SSC community, a working group was established to assess the introduction of new sports to our College along with opening our facilities to community groups, and develop a range of options for consideration by the SSC Council. One of these options came to fruition on 27th March, 2010 with the signing of an agreement between St Stephen’s College and the Hong Kong Rugby Football Union (HKRFU).

The agreement will see the reintroduction of rugby into the school for St Stephen’s College students, along with specialist coaching by Union coaches in the ECAs, and the Mandatory
Boarding Programme. Students from the Prep School and College will also be encouraged to join the youth league and further develop their skills on the weekends. The HKRFU will host 24 sessions for juniors on Sunday mornings at the College, and help to refurbish TSK Field so that all SSC students will have a top-grade field on which to play their sports. The upgrade will include proper drainage and irrigation (which is non-existent at present), along with brand new turf, and a water tank.

The association with HKRFU is a wonderful example of a win-win co-operation, with St Stephen’s College fostering positive links with the wider Hong Kong community and creating new opportunities and better facilities for our students. It also underpins our obligation and commitment to the Education Bureau’s policy encouraging schools to enhance mutually beneficial engagement with community organizations.

We look forward to future community partnerships, and encourage our school community including the PTA and the Alumni Association in their support of the current and future students of St Stephen’s College.