ESCOLA PORTUGUESA DE MACAU
OPEN DAY
WHO ARE WE?

“One year before the Macau’s transference from the Portuguese to the Chinese administration, EPM was founded as a fusion of three schools: The Liceu de Macau, Escola Comercial Pedro Nolasco and Escola Primaria Oficial. The school uses the Portuguese curriculum but made some adaptations to the Macau’s Special Administrative Region requirements, such as offering Mandarin classes to their students. The fact students are taught English from the very first year also makes the curriculum different from the one in Portugal. Students can additionally take French as a foreign language. All other subjects are taught in Portuguese and most of the teachers are cadres of the Ministry of Education in Portugal.”

What makes our school SPECIAL?

With this issue we hope to give you a glimpse into what happens in a school where all cultures meet.

We will approach topics such as what our school has to offer as well as students’ take on the educational system and community.

We will keep you updated on what’s new and what we intend to do in this school year.

Our main focus for this project is to bring out all the positive aspects that make our school so unique.

But we’ll let you be the judge of that...

MANDARIN DAY
On the 8th of February our school held a celebration of Chinese Culture amid Chinese New Year.

POETRY CONTEST
Students from all forms actively participated in our school’s poetry contest, with the aim of promoting literature sensibility.

DSEJ TOURNAMENTS
Held in October 2012 our school participated with enthusiasm in tournaments organised by DSEJ.
A TOUR AROUND THE SCHOOL PREMISES

- Primary classrooms
- Our garden
- Reading room
- Playground
- Library
- Volleyball court
“Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”
Arthur Luther King

As to what differs our school from the others, or in other words, what makes EPM a first choice, it’s safe to say that having English as a second language does seem to be of interest. English is compulsory since the start of the 1st grade. It’s notable that learning English in our school is taken very seriously, just as learning our dominant language, Portuguese, thus having the exact same level of requirement. Our English curriculum is very praiseworthy and it’s important to know that it has shown very good results concerning future studies in foreign countries.

SCHOOL RANKING

Our school is well placed in rankings made for Portuguese speaking schools all over the world. For the secondary level our position is 65 with an average of 11,23 marks. We are the best Portuguese school outside the country and our students are able to apply for state universities in Portugal and all over the world. Ex-EPM students are now studying in the UK, USA, Australia, Hong Kong, Beijing and a lot of other destinations with success on their academic and pos academic life.

STUDENTS’OPINION

Name: Catarina Leiria
Ethnicity: Ukrainian
I personally think that our school is very good because the quality of teaching is high. I do believe that EPM prepares us well for the future. What I like most are the classrooms, computers and the library that has a lot of useful books.

Name: Artur Muiria
Ethnicity: Russian and Mozambian
EPM is one of the few good schools that expects the best from its pupils. All our school’s facilities are pretty good and well constructed. As for the school’s social life, it’s very good because our school has a big variety of cultures, so social communication between everyone is quite extensive, meaning we’re all kind to each other, and help as much as we can. Regarding future careers, our school does prepare us well for university and makes it easier to adapt.
READER ROOM LABORATORY GYM AND SPORT FIELDS

LIBRARY AND READING ROOM
Our School library is filled with lots of appetizing books in Portuguese, English, Mandarin and French. New books are selected for the library every month and they can be enjoyed either at home or at the recent and comfortable reading room. The enriching experience of reading in a room with modernist architecture winner of UNESCO’s Asia-Pacific prize for preservation of heritage, in the category for new interventions in historic buildings will never be forgotten by those who try it.

CANTINE
Our canteen holds the responsibility of giving the school’s pupils a healthy and substantial nourishment and therefore selling a wide range of nutritious food and a well balanced amount of fruit, grains, meat, sweets, vegetables, water and so on. In order to do so, the canteen serves lunches every weekday.

LABORATORIES
EPM offers two laboratories holding classes every day, ranging from subjects such as Geology and Biology to Physics and Chemistry. In the Biology lab, the school has an extensive variety of material equipment. As for Geology, a wide collection of fossils, minerals, rocks, corals and Vesuvius’s volcanic ashes are offered for practical activities every now and then. All compartments have tools necessary for the manoeuvring of laboratory experiments for example, knives and needles for animal dissections. Both Geology/Biology and Physics/Chemistry are equipped with state of the art technology.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Our school takes pride in offering a wide range of facilities, whether them being academic or social, aiming to develop leadership and social skills. We strive to maintain high standards; therefore, every year our school offers pupils a list of extracurricular activities to choose from. Options include football, volleyball, handball, basketball, kendo, folklore, chess, table tennis, Orff, swimming lessons, Jazz dance, gymnastics, science club, and arts and crafts... Needless to say, students are guided every step of the way throughout their academic journey. One of the most popular facilities are the sports equipment and courts, which students can benefit from.

SCHOOL FACILITIES
FACILITIES AND SCHOOL CAMPUS

NAME: Bridget Lee
AGE: 13
FORM: 7th
ORIGIN: Australia

QUESTIONS

What are your favourite facilities?
My favourite facility at this school is the library.

What do you think of the teachers?
The teachers are good at explaining, they understand us and if we need help they're up for the challenge. They give the students the same amount of attention and I like that. At this school they prepare us well for the future, giving us an extensive amount of options to explore.

And how about the students? I haven't come across anyone that's mean, so I guess everyone's really nice.

PREPARATORY YEAR

Our school provides a preparatory year program for foreign students who don’t speak Portuguese as a native language. These students are taught in an intensive one year course by a certified Portuguese language teacher and at the same time they are placed in regular classes, with the purpose of an easier integration and interaction with the school’s environment.

STUDY ROOM

Every school has its facilities, some more than others. One of our facilities is the study room, best identified as Sala de Estudo. It’s a bit of a recent addition, seeing that it was installed only in 2008. What the study room consists in is mainly helping out pupils with all the support necessary in their work prevenient from their daily classes. It has shown to captivate more pupils each year, given that there’s now a larger variety of teachers from each subject, something that wasn’t very dominant and noticeable a couple of years back.

NUMBERS

Library books 5000
Computers available 120
Total of pupils 500
ILDA ANOK

Our school has a canteen with a large variety of food. Usually after class we can buy something to eat or just hang out there. I like the playground; it’s very green and beautiful. I think the preparatory year is very useful. It really helped me a lot and I have learned many things. Now I can understand Portuguese, although in class sometimes I don’t recognize a word or two but my classmates are always there to help. I love the students. They are very nice to me and the teachers are very helpful.

I like this school because there’s more freedom of expression and you can be yourself. I came here because I wanted to learn Portuguese. I think it is a beautiful language and its culture is very appealing. I chose to go to EPM because it’s the best school to learn Portuguese in Macau.

MILTA ALEIXO

EPM, in comparison with my last school, offers facilities that the other didn’t display, giving us an opportunity of interaction with the rest of the world and an easier passageway to get a job because it prepares us for life outside our bubble!

At the start of my first year in EPM, it was a bit hard to adapt to the culture and the school because it was very different from what I was used to back in Angola. However, one of the things that I was most impressed with was that everyone was very welcoming and tolerant with people from other cultures.

Yes, I do think that our school prepares us well regarding aspects such as social life abroad, and also in terms of university, which will help us deal with the outside world more easily.
“No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive.”
Mahatma Gandhi

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Being a multicultural school, where East meets West, the majority of our students are polyglot, hence our aim to promote understanding towards other cultures. Every year we open our doors to foreign pupils...
Nationalities range from Italians to Ukrainians, Thai, Africans, British and Indians... Right from the onset our students are taught to despise prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination.
All in all, pupils have learnt to cherish each others cultural heritage as well as their own, promoting the fusion of nationalities. Over the years, a growing number of Chinese students have enrolled in this school in order to pursue their hope of studying Portuguese, a language that is gaining a significant importance all around the world.

STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT

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Our school is a place where students’ dreams and ambitions come to life. They are guided and encouraged to pursue their goals with the help of peers and teachers. Bearing that in mind, pupils develop a sense of leadership and initiative as well as altruism and compassion. Furthermore, they are offered numerous means to showcase what they’re all about. Pupils can benefit from sports fields, music room, library, reading room, study room, tutoring... and most importantly a safe and friendly environment for them to grow in. They are given a first hand acquaintance with other cultures and perspectives, broadening their minds. An effort is made by every single member of the educational community, who dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to educate the next generation. Thank you so much for being part of this community...

Authors:
Ana Sofia Baguinho, 10A
Carolina Tam, 10A
Clara Saldanha, 10A
Catarina Almela, 10B
Bruno Leong, 10C
“One secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes.” - Benjamin Disraeli

“Education costs money, but then so does ignorance.” - Claus Moser

“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.” - B.B. King

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.” - Benjamin Franklin

“He who opens a school door, closes a prison.” - Victor Hugo

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” - Dr. Seuss