Juniors' Olympian effort

Pupils highlight piracy with a play about the Games, writes Elaine Yau

Students from Aplichau Kaifong Primary School staged a play to promote a healthy and vibrant Olympics.

The 15 young thespians were participants in a drama festival organised by the Rotary Club of the Tolo Harbour, the Education Bureau and Chung Ying Theatre Company.

The festival consisted of a series of drama workshops and talks which revolved around the theme of health and the Olympics.

Together with students from seven secondary schools, the primary students learned how to write a play and incorporate the 2008 Beijing Olympics into the plot.

The students' eight-minute work was the fruit of three months hard work and meticulous research. It was staged in front of their fellow classmates and teachers last month.

The play portrays a series of wrongful activities that might mar the Olympics and surrounding festivities, if the proper precautionary measures were not taken.

Anita Yau Wai-ying, administrative assistant from the school, said the play was proof of the students' creativity and their awareness of social issues.

"One of the problems mentioned is the rampant piracy on the mainland."

"In the play some malcontents produce counterfeit merchandise involving the five Olympic mascots. The students aimed to make the audience aware of the piracy scourge on the mainland," said Ms Yau.

With around 130 days to go before the epic event, the students were excited about their creation.

"Our students lap up everything about the Olympics. Whether it is information about the upcoming equestrian event held in Hong Kong or stories about past Olympic medalists, they are eager to learn everything about sports," said Ms Yau.

The school has lost no time in incorporating the epic event into the curriculum with a series of Olympic-themed activities planned. Miss Yau said such activities would not only spice up lessons, they could also teach students positive values like patriotism.

"It is the first time the Olympics are being held in China. Our students are very proud of being Chinese," said Ms Yau.