

“Not Another Christmas Letter!”

– the Quek Cambridge Epistle

Tze-Ming, Sharon, Hannah, and Elizabeth, fellow pilgrims in the journey towards the new creation; To all our family and friends -

Warm Greetings from Cambridge! We trust and thank God that you've had a meaningful Christmas, celebrating the miracle that is Immanuel – “God-among-us.” We've been here in England for a little more than two years now, and we are so sorry that (for some of you) we have not written in a long while. We'd like to use our Christmas letter to tell you how we've been this past year. We'll start with the youngest in the family and work our way up...



Elizabeth Quek alias “Craft Queen”

It's hard to believe that Liz is now 4 years old now. She's attending Under Fives Roundabout, a preschool about 4 mornings a week. Tze and Sharon take turns to cycle her to school, which is about 10 mins away. She enjoys school and particularly loves crafts during free play. I am told she spends almost all of free play time... gluing, cutting, drawing, colouring, painting. She really likes sticky tape and goes through quite a bit at home sticking things together. She also likes jumping around and generally being a “cheeky monkey”. Her other love is also playing dress up and clopping around in her cloppy shoes.

Hannah Quek Alias “Book worm”

Hannah is now 6 years old and currently in Year 2 of Park Street Primary School. It is a great little school of only 120 or so students. It is only 4 streets away from our home (Tze walks her to school every day) and has a great “family” feel to it. Hannah also really enjoys school and is progressing well in her reading. She really loves reading and can go through chapter books. She also loves drawing, and creative writing. She has had fun leaning about the Great Fire of London, how the Victorians lived,



Florence Nightingale with history days at school. Due to one of Tze's mad ideas to help her with Mandarin, Hannah has now finished watching the kungfu serial 射雕英雄传. Mommy (Sharon) also helps out at the Parents and Teachers Association committee of her school.

Sharon Quek “Mommy”

Well, I keep myself busy with generally keeping house and also caring for the kids when Tze's at school. For about a year, I have been working part-time cleaning houses to help with our living expenses, because it had the most flexibility that would allow me to continue being with the kids when I had to. However, as of late Jan 2007, a few week's time, I have decided to stop work as I have been feeling the strain of having to juggle too many things.

On a volunteer basis, I am helping out at the PTA committee of Hannah's school, and am also the Chair of a Toy Library (Jumbo Toy Library). I am also helping out with the International ministry of the church I attend here (St Andrew's the Great). This generally involves befriending international women with kids here in Cambridge. These all keep me very busy and hence the problems in keeping up with correspondence to all of you back home. I hope next year will be different and that I can be more "in touch" with you.



Tze-Ming Quek "Daddy"

Tze has been busy working his way through his dissertation, which is taking longer than expected. At least this year, his computer didn't choke due to an a little girl stuffing her cardboard toy into the slot DVD drive (this happened in 2005). One unexpected health issue occurred when he suffered an infection in his nose. Although not serious, this caused quite a lot of pain and embarrassment for a while.

Tze has gotten more involved in the International ministry of our church too, especially in leading a men's morning bible study. Also, in November, he got permission from Sharon (and travel funding from the faculty!) to go to Washington, D.C. for a conference of the Society of Biblical Literature. Apart from the various conference papers, the highlight was meeting up with some of Tze's old professors from Regent College, Vancouver. Also, during his time there, he managed to visit the White House. Strangely enough, it was on the day that President Bush was visiting Singapore!

That's all for now. We hope to be returning to Singapore towards the end of 2007, so you can warn all the food courts and hawker centres of our arrival. Please do continue to pray for:

- 1) Our physical and spiritual growth, health and safety;
- 2) Our financial situation, that would allow us to stay until the end of 2007;
- 3) Tze's continued progress.

In this season, may you participate in the wondrous creation of God the Father; live the priceless salvation wrought by Jesus our Lord; and enjoy the life-giving community revived by the Holy Spirit.

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