



Sui Chiao Sih is a seventh-grade student at Cambridge Junior High School this year. Last year, when

she enrolled in Lathers Elemen-tary School, the Taiwan-born Sui could not speak English.

Posing with Lathers Elementary School Principal Charles Des-champs are Wan Hslang Sih, 7, and Sui Lin Sih, 9. Both students are performing well, a year after they arrived speaking only Manda-rin Chinese. (Staff photos by Bob Wandaing)

Taiwanese students end 1st year in new country

By MIKE SCANLON

No one is saying it's been easy, but the enrollment nearly a year ago of three Chinese-speaking stu-dents in a Garden City elementary school is seen now by teachers and administrators as more delight than disaster.

"it's really been fantastic the way they grasp things." said Charles Deschamps, principal of Lathers Elementary School "Of course, we're working with three youngsters who are right up there, mentally speaking."

mentally speaking.

Sui Chiao Sih, Sui Lih Sih and Wan Hsiang Sih arrived in the United States from Keelung, Taiwan, three days before their enrollment at Lathers last January.

If any of them knew a word of English at the time, they managed to keep it secret from classmates and school officials.

Sui Chiao is called Sue by her classmates at Cambridge Junior High School, where the 13-year-old enrolled in the seventh grade this year.

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"At first, I think she was a novelty in the room," said 9-year-old Sui Lin's teacher, Sandra Slack. "But now the other students have accepted her. excellence. She's only satisfied when she's got everything right—one wrong answer is one too many," said Mrs. Slack.

"She's very good at math, and I think that's because of the school system over there. She came here knowing her math. She strives for

But changes since last year aren't limited to the trio's names.

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The children have encountered some difficulties in making the adjustment from one of the world's most difficult major languages, (Continued on page IIA)



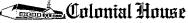
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