



# Lilium

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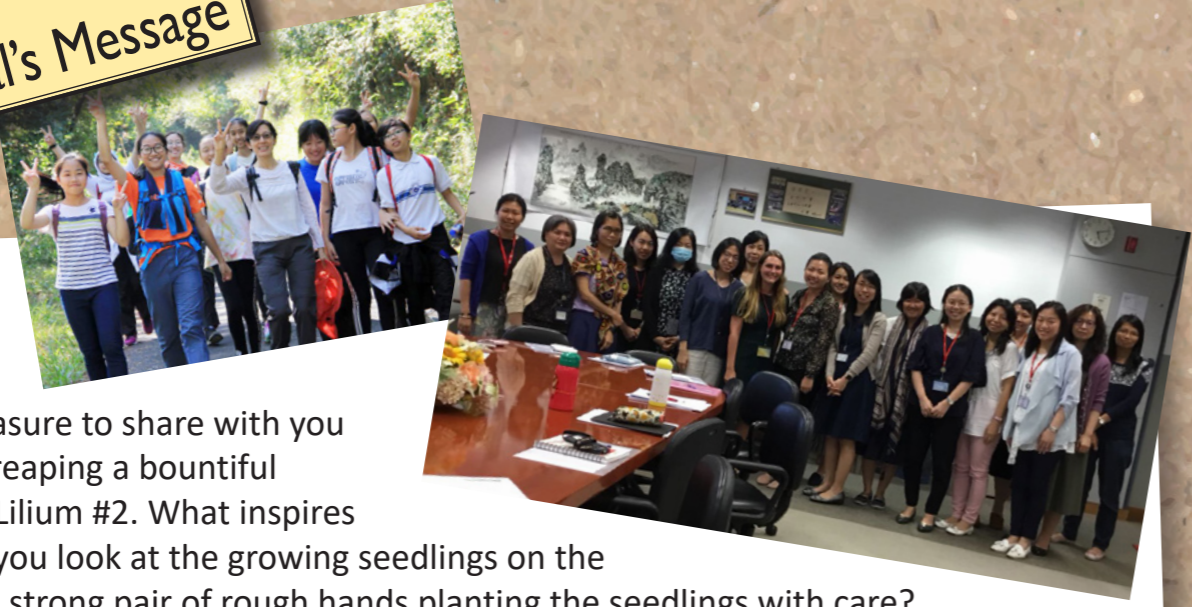
Issue 2 June 2018



Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School

English Department

## Principal's Message



It's my pleasure to share with you our joy of reaping a bountiful harvest in Liliun #2. What inspires you when you look at the growing seedlings on the cover? The strong pair of rough hands planting the seedlings with care? The watering can which sprinkles water on the plants? Or the fertile soil containing necessary nutrients for growing crops? For me, the hands, the water can and the fertile soil are all important to help the small plants grow healthily. This is what teachers do in Tack Ching, sprinkling abundant love and care for our girls to grow into strong women in a nourishing environment and preparing them for future challenges.

The 2nd issue of Liliun is taking you on an excursion to the discovery of the language-rich atmosphere in Tack Ching, including the internal English activities, the reading culture, the school tour to Canada, students' wide exposure to different language activities and external competitions such as debates, drama, public speaking, etc. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the English debate team and the drama team for their impressive achievements in the inter-school competitions of this school year. I wish them every success in the challenges ahead.

My special appreciation goes to the Editorial board for their hard work in putting all the beautiful memories together and breathing life to these masterpieces.

Let us celebrate this fruitful year, filled with honourable achievements, as we embark onwards to our adventurous journey ahead together.

Hui Yin Shan



## City U Linguistics and Translation Wonderland Camp

# SALUT

## Linguistics and Translation Wonderland 2017: Exploring Language and Cross-Cultural Communication

To start our school year full of English activities, four S.6 students joined a programme called Linguistics and Translation Wonderland 2017: Exploring Language and Cross-Cultural Communication organized by the Department of Linguistics and Translation, City University of Hong Kong. It took place at CityU campus from 24th July to 28th July 2017. The students had an interesting journey of exploration for the appreciation toward the role of language in everyday life through a variety of teaching and learning activities such as lectures, seminars, class discussion, presentations, videos and games.

Here are some of the reflections written by the participants:

### 6A Wan Hiu Lam Amy

In this summer vacation, I spent a fruitful week at Linguistics and Translation Wonderland. This weeklong camp really offered me great insight into linguistics and translation.

I found the translation section particularly interesting and I have gained more knowledge about this field. Apart from the literal meaning, a translator needs to put culture into consideration. It is because it's difficult for non-Chinese speakers to understand Chinese proverbs and idioms which are culturally loaded. Also, I had a chance to translate subtitles for a movie. It was really challenging!

The camp was fantastic. Therefore, I highly recommend it to my schoolmates and I hope they can discover the charisma of language as well!



### 6A Tsoi Kai Ting Tiffany

The programme has inspired me a lot about how English can be used and analyzed in different ways.

Through a series of teaching and learning activities such as lectures, class discussion and video watching as well as games, we explored various and fun aspects of language and its impacts on people and societies. In order to understand translation better, a simultaneous interpreter was invited to demonstrate how he translated dialogues between country leaders. We were amazed by his speed of translation. He also shared the symbols he used for recording the content with us. It's truly eye-opening.

The programme was really awesome. It was definitely interesting to discover more about languages.



### 6A Mohammad Shamsa Bibi

It was a wholly new experience for me as I had known nothing about linguistics before. I originally thought that Science is only Chemistry, Physics and Biology. But I was wrong. Linguistics is the scientific study of language. I was amazed by how interesting the study of language and translation was in this programme. It was also amazing to meet other people who were passionate to learn about the wonders of language. This programme has been a source of motivation for me and it ended up being a truly life-changing experience!

# HOLA



## STEP 2017: Canada Culture and English Summer Camp

Full immersion is the best way to language learning. Therefore, six S.3 students from our school participated in "STEP 2017: Canada Culture and English Summer Camp" organized by Canada-China Culture and Education Association Ltd from 29th July to 12th August, 2017. They had the opportunity to experience Canadian culture and live with the homestay families in Kamloops. They were very proactive in learning English as well as participating in the outdoor activities like kayaking, horseback riding, and U-pick. They were well disciplined and showed great team spirit. It was surely an eye-opening learning experience for the students.

This year, our students will take part in the same summer camp again. The organization invited us to attend a briefing session regarding the camp on 20th October 2017. Responses from both students and parents were overwhelming and all the applicants were invited to attend an interview. Finally, eight S.2 students who are responsible, enthusiastic to learn and prepared to face challenges were selected to participate in the camp. From 28th July to 11th August, 2018, they will have a chance to broaden their horizons in Canada. We hope that they will enjoy the trip and look forward to hearing what experiences they have to share with us on their return.

For now, let's recap on our students' precious learning experiences from their last summer's tour. Four of the participants were invited to share with us their overseas travelling experiences.



### 4A Tso Yin Sang Claudia

I joined the Canada Culture and English Summer Camp last summer holiday. I gained far more than I have expected. In the English class, I learned many useful words and phrases that were yet to be taught at school. Besides, I had a chance to make dreamcatchers. A legend said that if you give a dreamcatcher to the person you love, he or she will have good dreams. I gave this souvenir to my best friend and she liked it very much.

After school, we had a variety of activities, such as horseback riding, kayaking, going to the waterslide park, and picking peaches, apples and cherries in the orchard. Through the activities, I have made a lot of new friends, who were from different schools and of different ages. I think these friendships are the best souvenir from Canada because they last forever! I was excited to experience another culture. When I was on a downtown city tour, I found that Canadians are friendly and helpful. Also, it's my first time tasting bubble gum flavoured ice-cream. It was incredibly delicious!

The summer camp is awesome! It is definitely a trip that I will not forget. It is worth travelling half way around the world for such experiences. If you are to attend this camp, you will have a truly enriching summer holiday.



### 4B Chiu Sin Nga Apple

Last summer, I participated in the camp to Canada with five schoolmates. As it was my first time to go abroad, I was very excited and looked forward to this journey.

I was so grateful to have received warm hospitality from a friendly host family. My host parents were called Ken and Jolene. They have two daughters, Ryann and Resse. One morning, I was unwell and did not make it to school. Jolene was so nice! She cooked congee for me and took good care of me. This made me feel warm. Their daughters were very lively and lovely. I often played card games with them. In addition, they took me to a local zoo and their family barbecue event. I definitely had a wonderful time with them.

I was also very happy at school. We learnt English at Thompson Rivers University. There were twenty students in our group. Our English teachers were called Middle and Gio. Gio was a very funny person and a good teacher. He told us jokes. Although I was not good at English, he encouraged me to try my best. Middle often took us to different places to participate in various outdoor activities. In the camp, I had opportunities to go to different places and try different things, for example, horse riding, cherry picking at U-pick Orchard and going kayaking at North Barriere Lake Resort and water-sliding at Atlantis.

Through these fun activities, I have made friends with many students from other schools. It is truly an unforgettable journey! In this summer camp, my English proficiency, especially speaking, has improved a lot. If there is another chance, I will join the camp again for sure!



### 4B Wan Lok Yan Michelle

Last summer vacation was exciting, meaningful and fulfilling. I was lucky to be chosen for the English Summer Camp. I went to Canada with five of my schoolmates and we all had a lot of fun at this summer camp.

On weekdays, my host parents drove us to school and picked us up. After we returned home and had dinner, we watched TV together and played card games. At weekends, my host parents took us swimming, did trampolining and had barbecue with us together. One day, they took us to British Columbia Wildlife Park, which is home to over forty wildlife species. I was thrilled to see animals like barn owls, arctic wolves and black bears there.

Apart from spending quality time with my host family, I had English lessons at Thompson Rivers University. My class teachers were very kind to us. Because of their encouragement, I was no longer reluctant to speak English and became more confident in communicating in English. In the afternoon, we took part in a lot of different activities, some of which I have never tried before, such as horseback riding and rock climbing.

I enjoyed all the things in Canada and I tried loads of new things. Kayaking was the most enjoyable activity. It was great fun. Although it was very tiring to paddle from one shore to another, I did not give up and kept on going. Finally, I made it and it was very satisfying.

I am very grateful that I could join this camp, which has broadened my horizons. I wish I could take part in it again.



### 4A Cheung Yuen Ling Janice

I was glad that I had a great opportunity to join the Canada Culture and English Summer Camp last year. It was a really wonderful trip.

Before I set off, I was curious about my host family. 'Are they nice? Would it be difficult for me to get along with them?' But after meeting them on the first day, my worries disappeared right away. They are really nice and caring. My host mom, Shelley, always cooked delicious supper for us. Her daughters, Kes and Janai, always watched movies and bounced on the trampoline with us. We shared lots of good memories there. Also they had an Australian shepherd dog called Sugar. He is really adorable and I miss him very much! During our stay in the host families, we had to use English to communicate. So now, I am confident to speak English and I think my listening and speaking skills have greatly improved.

We attended the English lessons at Thompson Rivers University. Our teachers Gio and Maddi are so funny and they always cracked jokes. We have learnt so many new words and presentation skills. I really want to thank them for their effort and patience.

In the 15-day trip, I took part in many outdoor activities such as kayaking and indoor rock climbing. Horseback riding is the most memorable activity. The name of the horse that I rode was called Bae. I thought he was a little bit naughty because he just kept looking around and eating grass while we were having a tour with him around the farm. I always needed to pull him up hard to keep him moving.

I had a great time at the summer camp. I hope that I can participate in this kind of trip again in the future!



# Speak Out- Act Up Improvised Drama Competition 2017/18

Drama is the way to express our emotions and use English in a fun way

To enrich students' learning experience, five students took part in the drama competition--- 'Speak Out--Act Up! Improvised Drama Competition 2017/18' held by the Education Bureau on 15th March, 2018. Our girls had to memorize their roles and scripts in English and conquer stage fright and pressure. Despite fierce competition between eleven participating school teams in the district, we were honored to be awarded with three prizes, which are Team Merit Prize, Individual Best Actor Prize, and Audience Prize. Not only did they impress the adjudicators, they also showed other students their talents and the use of English by performing on the stage of Tack Ching. It is truly a first for these students and they look forward to many years of drama activities at school. The following are some reflections made by the students.

## Prizes won

Team Merit Prize	Trophy + \$500 book coupons
Individual Best Actor Prize - Faria Arshad	\$200 book coupons
Audience Prize	\$50 book coupons

The names of the participating students are as follows:

ID Bibi Sundus	2B Eimaan Altaaf
IE Fung Tze Hing Coco	2B Faria Arshad
IE Ng Pui Yu Emily	

## The Road to Stardom is tough but worthwhile

In March, I joined the Speak Out - Act Up drama competition for the first time. We performed on two different topics - Hong Kong's technology and multiculturalism 20 years ago. At first, I thought there would be costume and make-up. However, it is actually an improvised drama and so no makeup, costume, or props were used. It is definitely challenging to dramatize the scenes without these but it required participants to fully focus on dramatic skills. To be frank, I was quite disappointed, but I put that aside because I love drama and acting. On top of learning English, we learned a lot about perseverance and teamwork. Because after a long day of school, my teammates and I have always forgotten the dialogues during our training and so we kept practising relentlessly at home and after school. It was frustrating but I knew it wasn't the time to give up. We only had a week to practise before the big day! When I saw the tiredness on my teammates' faces, I realized that I was not alone and we must all cooperate and press on. At last, we competed against other hard-working students and enjoyed their performance as well. After our travails, we got voted for the Team Merit Award and I got the Best Actress Award. I appreciate all the intensive dramatic skills training provided by Ms. Kwok and Ms. Charlotte and definitely will participate again next year.

2B Faria Arshad

## Drama builds my confidence in English

This is my first year at Tack Ching and it is my first time joining a drama competition. I was very nervous at first. Luckily, this was not as difficult as I had thought. We drafted the roles, the plots and dialogues ourselves so I could quickly integrate into my role. We have ownership to the stories we created and the effect was also better than I had imagined. I'm really thankful for having joined it. I've a good experience and my teammates and I had a good laugh during the practices. I learned that practice truly makes perfect and we sow what we reap. I feel so much more confident in using English naturally and I am not afraid to join different competitions at school anymore. Moreover, it was an eye-opening experience to watch other students' performances and I am truly glad that I am part of the team. I look forward to another term of English drama in September!

IE Ng Pui Yu Emily



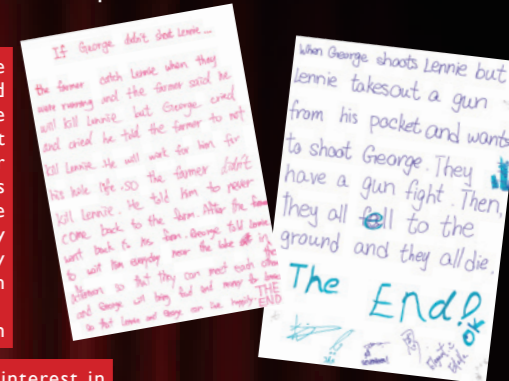
# SCHOLAR English Alliance "From Page to Stage"

Exploring Beyond - Drama

We were delighted to have participated in the SCHOLAR English Alliance "From Page to Stage" event at Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre in November 2017. In this activity, students learned to interpret the classic story of *Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck and brought the story to life. Dramatic skills were learned and our students enjoyed it thoroughly through planning creative new endings. Here are some of their thoughts after the workshop.



I have learned many things from the workshop. For example, I have learned how to create a story ending with more difficult words. I have learned how to act out a story and how to work together with my classmates. The workshop was amazing. The teacher was kind. She helped us a lot. There were also many fun games and activities. It was a lovely workshop. I hope that we can go again and learn more English.  
- 2E Khan Khadijah



I have learned the story of *Mice and Men* and a lot of new words. In the workshop, I overcame my shyness and tried to speak English to everyone. It was an interesting workshop. The teacher was very nice.  
- 2E Meng Bi Yi

From the story of *Mice and Men*, I have learned that even if we plan our lives, everything will still go wrong. Sometimes, we need to take it easy and just let it go. I observed and enjoyed the performance by other students and found that they are very funny. From them, I have learned some English and the importance of active participation.  
- 2E Tang Tsz Yan

I have gained interest in reading and my English definitely improved. I think the workshop is useful because I have learned a lot of useful vocabulary.  
- 2E Lai Hoi Ying Aurora

I have learned a lot of new words from the story of *Mice and Men*. In the workshop, I spoke English and my confidence improved. I felt happy and it was unforgettable. I like that workshop.  
- 2E Cao Fuying Jennifer

From the workshop I got to know a great story. I am so glad to have joined the workshop. The teacher was so fun. We have had a great time.  
- 2E Tse Yan Tung

I like the story about friendship but I didn't enjoy the ending because it was so sad. I did not understand the teacher fully so I must listen to English more from now on.  
- 2E Luk Mei Kei

I have learned to work with others in a group. At first I found the workshop boring because the teacher was just reading aloud, but then the teacher took out a puppet to dramatize the book. It was so funny.  
- 2E Chloe Leung On Yiu



## 'Jack and the Beanstalk' - The Pantomime

In a lovely November evening, twelve students had their first Pantomime experience at the Cotton Spinners Association Secondary School. Ms. Charlotte and her colleagues from Chatteris Education Foundation organized this so that students enjoyed an interactive show and be immersed in an English speaking event. It was amazing for students to see their own teacher, Ms. Charlotte, in a colourful costume portraying exaggerated characters from the story '*Jack and the Beanstalk*'. Moreover, they got the chance to meet other students and teachers from different schools. It was a wonderful experience!



## Precious Phoenix - English Debate Team at Tack Ching

The English debate team well deserves the name of THE Precious Phoenix at Tack Ching. They have gone through impressive transformation by being committed to the debate team and acquired treasurable life experience. Our girls learned to be focused and travail together as a team at all times. Not to mention being quick-witted, this team of girls worked with grit and reaped exceptional results. After a long winning streak, it is our honour to report that our debate team is contending for the Grand Final championship in the Hong Kong Secondary School Debating Competition in the upcoming match on 5th July. In this issue, our debaters are proud to share their experience with you.

### Achievements in Hong Kong Secondary Schools Debating Competition

2016-2017 July	Term 2	Champion in Division 2 Senior Form New Territories West
2017-2018 Dec	Term 1	Champion in Division 2 Senior Form New Territories West
2017-2018 July	Term 2	Contender for Champion in Division 2 Senior Form Grand Finals



Champion in 2017-18 Inter-school Debating Competition Term 1



Debating against Lion's College



Debating against Caritas Marden Secondary School



6A Wan Hiu Lam Amy with her teammates

### My Reflections: Learning Beyond the Classroom

We debate to learn beyond the classroom and mostly to think more critically. I've learned presentation skills and analytical skills, and of course, a load of debating skills. Our teachers guide us intensively instead of lecturing so we are able to take a different and more active role in English learning. It is always very challenging for me to come up with the arguments and counter arguments as we always have to think out of the box. Rebutting the opposing team's arguments right on the spot is the most challenging and interesting experience from the entire debate for me. It is because we have to listen very carefully to the opponents and spot their weaknesses, and then rebut them with stronger arguments in a very short period of time. No matter how much preparation we have done, my quick wit has saved me numerous times. I was the third speaker in one of our debate matches, I had to write down all the opposing invalid arguments and refute them with a few short sentences. I had an adrenaline rush when I refuted successfully. However, suppressing the excitement while multitasking at jotting notes, summarizing and generating ideas was a challenging task for me. All that I mentioned had to be done in 10 seconds at most! By quoting the opposing team's arguments and refuting them are the key to victory. It is clear that debating is definitely the most effective and efficient way to boost one's listening, critical thinking and arguing skills in a short period of time. As a result, we were far-stretched for reaching above and beyond. This is very beneficial to me not only in English or other academic subjects but also in preparing myself for life.

5A Khan Manahil



### My Reflections: Having a debate team is crucial for our students

Debate is indeed the perfect way to improve one's reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. It is challenging but after a year, my English competence is enhanced significantly. Moreover, I have learnt how to work as a team as it is impossible to debate individually. As a team, we must question ourselves about the motion critically; and we must provide sophisticated answers to our opponent's challenges. This critical thinking skill is of paramount importance because it is universally applicable to all subjects. Having a debate team at Tack Ching is crucial. It provides an ideal environment for students to enhance their English, presentation skills and even boost their confidence. I hope that more students will join our English activities and be immersed into the English learning atmosphere.

5A Lee Ka Ki Karen

### My Reflections: An enlightening and exhilarating activity

When I was invited to join the team at first, I only hastily and grudgingly agreed. I was very socially awkward and was afraid of speaking in front of others. But deep inside, I wanted to challenge myself and be the best that I could be, so I decided to test the waters. When I slowly got a taste of how and what debating is, I thoroughly enjoyed it. After being part of the team for a couple of months, I learnt to think and generate intellectual responses instantaneously. Although I encountered blunders a lot, the positivity is in the silver lining, as with the help of my teachers and teammates, I eventually started to catch on and pick up the speed.

Debating is an enlightening and exhilarating activity. Not only can it broaden our horizons, it also allows us to gain knowledge on heated topics that may or may not be included in our textbooks. I am extremely grateful to my fellow teammates and teachers in helping me overcome my agitations and difficulties. Moreover, as we are advancing into the grand final, we are more ambitious and goal oriented than ever. Even though we have our eyes set on winning, it is the process of it all that counts.

Finally, I encourage our students to join more English activities like debating because it is truly beneficial.

4A So Tsz Yau Zoë



2018 Feb Debate workshop at PLK Choi Kai Yau Secondary School

# 6th Plain English Speaking Contest



In July 2017, our students participated in the 6th Plain English Speaking Contest. Thirteen secondary schools from the New Territories, Kowloon and Hong Kong Island participated in the event. The contestants were all neck and neck, and the adjudicators conceded to having a tussle before eventually deciding on the winner. It was a close competition and our students must be commended for their effort. Special mention must be made of our senior form participant, Ayesha, who took on the challenge of an impromptu speech. The adjudicators were particularly impressed with the quality and delivery of the senior form contestants, considering that they had only 15 minutes to prepare their speeches.

Congratulations to our students on their excellent performance in the grand final. Khadijah Khan from 2E, being the youngest contestant among all, got the 2nd Runner-up in the Junior Category and our team was awarded the School with Best Performance.

It was good to see our students' inordinate display of confidence, as they assumed the unenviable task of delivering their speeches to an almost packed auditorium. It was also a delight to see them interacting with and learning from other contestants, and the adjudicators, at the post-contest reception.

The development of public speaking skills helps students to expand academic skills, promote self-reliance, and build confidence and leadership which will help them achieve future successes. We encourage our students to participate in it because we believe by availing such a valuable learning opportunity to them, their proficiency in public speaking; including developing critical thinking, independent research skills, and organising and communicating ideas, will be improved.

## Paving the way for successes

When my name was called upon from the stage, I was stunned. I sat still and thought I misheard my own name. But it was real...I was not dreaming! I won the second-runner-up in the 6th Plain English Speaking Contest organized by Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School! It was so unbelievable to me that I was even holding the trophy on stage, being highly praised by the Head Judge. I couldn't even imagine that the judges liked my speech and they enjoyed listening to it.

This was the best experience for me because it was the very first time for me to win a prize in a speech competition. I'd like to dedicate my big thanks especially to all of my classmates and my coach, Ms. Chan, who was always there to support me. She had practised with me even on non-school days. She always believes in me. I didn't want to disappoint her and so I practised my speech day and night.

On the competition day, she practised with me for a few times and told me that I could do it so I was not afraid and I also believed in myself. It was like a miracle. That moment while I was standing on stage, I suddenly overcame the stage fright. I felt confident and had all the courage to deliver my speech. I ended up having a great performance. I was overjoyed!

After this competition, I decided to join more and more speech competitions in the future because my love for public speaking was nurtured and I am so looking forward to more opportunities to unleash my potential.

2E Khan Khadijah

## A confidence-boosting eye-opener

I was invited by my teacher to participate in this public speaking competition. At first, I was not really sure whether I should take part in this competition, but it sounded different from the others, so I was curious to know what it would be like.

I had to write a speech on a given topic. Participants were given about two weeks to write their own speeches. I had never thought that other contestants would be that competent. The competition was very tough because the contestants were all confident and proficient in English.

There are two categories - Junior and Senior. The Senior Category is an impromptu speech competition. It was extremely challenging for contestants because the topics were distributed to them on the spot and they only had very limited time to write their speeches. As for the junior category, although we were secured with a prepared speech, the pressure was still very intense. I remember when I went onto the stage last year, I was so intimidated by the crowd. I got even more nervous when giving the speech. Nevertheless, I was able to finish the competition with my teacher's support.

This whole competition is very much new to my style and I had never joined anything like this before, but I was really glad to know that my teacher trusted me and thought that I would be capable of doing this. She gave me an opportunity to experience something new and different. You know, sometimes you're better than what you think you are and I think we should all have new experiences in our life. I know the processes are never easy but think about the outcome. I am certain that this competition is a confidence-boosting eye-opener.

4A Sandhu Harshpreet

## More Than Expected

7/7/2017 was the day I faced my fear of stage. I was invited to participate in a competition which I'd never been a part of before. I had no idea about what it was going to be like, but I took the offer gladly despite the fact that I have stage fright. I wanted to seize the last chance to write a beautiful page in my secondary school life. I told myself that it's okay even if I lost as I would learn something in the end.

When we went there, I was surprisingly calm. I just decided to take it as an adventure more than a competition, and more importantly, because of the teacher's constant encouragement and her trust in us.

When I saw how much our juniors prepared, I got nervous because everyone seemed to know what's going on and they were all prepared but I was totally clueless. However, when I met other contestants from the senior category, I realized that half of them were doing it only for the first time and they also had no idea about what they would be going through. It may sound evil, but it calmed my nerves.

I chose my topic and was given a cue card to write notes on, but it was just one cue card and I thought it wasn't enough. So I took out two of my own cards, and wrote a lot on them. When we were ready to go back into the hall, the teacher-in-charge saw me holding three cards and said, "You can't take more than one card or you'll be disqualified." It wouldn't be a lie to say that I had a mini heart attack for a moment there. I thought to myself, "You're on your own now. You're either going to make a fool of yourself or come back without creating a scene".

While I was waiting for my turn, I scanned through my other cue cards and hoped I'd remember what I had written. However, when I went onto the stage, everything flew out of my head and I had no choice but to say whatever I could think of right there. I'm proud to say that I didn't appear slightly as nervous as I was feeling inside, according to the contestant sitting right beside me. Eventually, I got off the stage without making a fool of myself.

It was my first time to go for a contest like this and I went for experience which I got and I had a great time. Surprisingly, we gained more than we had expected. It's great that we were awarded as the 'School with Best Performance'.

6A Ayesha



# The 69th Hong Kong Schools English Speech Festival

Exploring Beyond -  
Speech Festival



Rome was not built in a day. It always takes years of strenuous efforts and practice to put on a bravura performance! Girls in Tack Ching cherish every single opportunity to practise their speaking skills. They enrolled themselves for the 69th Hong Kong Schools English Speech Festival and set attainable goals to achieve breakthrough for this year. Let's see what some of the participants want to share with us!

## S.1 Choral Speaking Team – Merit

On 1st December, our school Choral Speaking Team entered the 69th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival competition. Our team performed the poem titled: *A Televised Surprise* by David Harmer. This poem is about some students seeing their teacher on television by chance. Sneaking a look at what their teacher is doing, the students were stunned and surprised. Can you imagine how curious these students were when they watched her being whirled and twirled by her partner in her glamorous dress? The more fascinating fact was... the teacher's partner turned out to be their headmaster!

The challenge for the team is to tell the story and visualize the emotion complexity with voice variation in pitch, tone and volume. Reciting the poem in unison, moving with precision, playing with the props to add fun to the poem...it's never easy to do all these, but gradually, they accomplished in a relatively short period of time. Scoring 84 marks, they attained a Certificate of Merit and a great sense of belonging to the team is nurtured. As students are not performing alone, they may feel less conspicuous or intimidated. For those who are reluctant to speak, the whole experience offers a great opportunity for them to gain confidence.

This is the first time I have ever participated in the English Choral Speaking Competition. I still remember when Ms. Chan invited us to join the team, I felt very nervous because I'd never tried this before.

At first, we could not recite the poem loudly, but after having practices almost every day, we did a great job. Then, our teacher started recording videos for us. We watched our own videos and discovered a lot of room for improvement. We figured out how to get things right. We even made props to make the performance more vivid.

On the competition day, one teammate forgot to bring the pom-pom and so we rushed to remake one. Phew! When we arrived at the competition venue, we felt like it's the most nervous moment in our lives. Although we didn't win anything this year; I learned from my teacher that 'life is full of obstacles, but we shouldn't allow problems to overshadow our strengths; and we have to be strong to face different challenges of life'. True, we should never give up!

IE To Wing Kiu Kendra

By participating in the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival, we have not only learnt about how to recite a poem nicely, but also the real meaning of team spirit. We are now more patient and can stay focused when we work.

During the practice sessions, we came across many problems, for example, we could not reach an agreement about what actions and movements to go with the words. We argued, but in the end, we're still friends. Because of the time limit, we had to do practice over the weekends. We wish to express our deepest thanks to our English teachers for coaching us, encouraging us and helping us to overcome lots of difficulties throughout the process.

I've learnt that success is not built on success, but on failure, frustrations and sometimes catastrophe. Although we felt a bit disappointed for not winning a prize in this competition, one thing I'm certain – we never regret for the time and effort we spent on it. I believe that we can do better next time

IE Lam Sum Yuet Nicole

Acquiring problem-solving skill is vital in life. Recalling the day of competition, some teammates did not come for practice on time; some forgot to iron their school uniforms and some even left their pom-poms, our props, at home though Miss Chan had already reminded us ten thousand times. Therefore, before heading to the competition venue, we must solve all these problems. We had no time to lose indeed! Instead of talking about the problems, we initiated thinking about the solutions. We spent our time helping one another to iron the uniforms, getting strings to remake the props. What a lovely sight to see everyone in the team rendering assistance in something, towards the same goal we're working for! We finally made it through before leaving the school. We have won friendship and learnt the true meaning of team spirit. Frankly, we all enjoy the stage.

IE Leung Wing Kiu Ally

## S.5 Solo Verse Speaking

"Opportunities don't happen. You create them"

It is unbelievable that I can get such good results in the English speech festival. I am glad to have this opportunity to participate in this festival, on behalf of the school. At the beginning, I was reluctant to join because I was too timid. I usually found it hard to perform in front of strangers, but I could never imagine how much I have gained from this experience. Through training and practice, I have learnt to overcome my shyness and became a lot more confident to speak in front of people.

Actually, the best part of joining this speech festival is that you can learn different nice and meaningful poems. This year, my poem is *Magnolia Avenue*. It's a bit tricky as it was not easy to express the writer's feelings. I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my English teacher, Ms. Koo, who helped me understand the poem and spent lots of time practising with me. I'm sure I'm going to miss this opportunity a lot as I will be preparing for the public exam next year.

The annual English Speech Festival is definitely an eye-opener. I hope students in Tack Ching can seize this opportunity to learn and grow.

"Opportunities don't happen. You create them"

Good luck!

Winner of S.5 Solo Verse Speaking – 5B Khan Hafsa



## S.2 Solo Verse Speaking

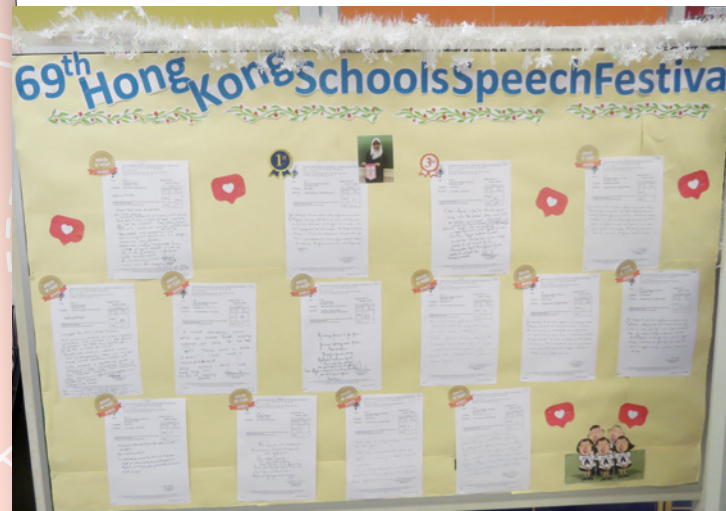
"Work hard for your goal and achieve something impossible"

It's a surprise for me to have won Third Place in the S2 Solo Verse Speaking this year. I have participated in the competition twice. When I first joined this competition last year, I was very nervous and didn't know how to practise for it. Fortunately, my teacher gave me lots of helpful advice, which gave me confidence to keep trying. This year, I had more confidence and experience to challenge myself which resulted in great improvement in this competition.

I would like to thank Ms. Law, who helped me a lot in my practice. She taught me the meaning of the poem, which did help me recite it more easily. Also, I would like to thank my parents. They always reminded me to practise and have fun. It did calm my nerves.

I have learnt a lot from this experience. For example, I know how to present a poem with the right mood and how to be confident on stage. I have also found that I have developed interest in drama. I totally understand the saying, "No pain, no gain!" If you work hard for your goal, you will succeed in achieving something impossible. When I came across difficulties, I think about the reasons I joined and it really helped to cheer me up. The only thing is to persevere and keep trying until you reach your goal.

Second runner-up of S.2 Solo Verse Speaking –  
2E Lai Hoi Ying Aurora





## List of award winners – 69th Hong Kong Schools English Speech Festival

Class	Eng. Name	Category	Marks	Class	Eng. Name	Category	Marks
5B	KHAN HAFSA <sup>Winner</sup>	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	89	1B	CHOW LONG CHING	S1 Dramatic Duologue	82
2E	LAI HOIYING <sup>2nd Runner-up</sup>	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	85	1C	CHEUNG CHING MAN	S1 Dramatic Duologue	82
4B	KHAN RUKAYAN	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	86	3E	WU HO YEE	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1D	CHAN MAN WAI	S1 Dramatic Duologue	84	4A	KHAN VIRDAH	S4 Dramatic Duologue	82
1D	CHU TSZ CHING	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	84	4A	LIN LOK YI	S4 Dramatic Duologue	82
1D	LEUNG TSZ SAN	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	84	4A	CHEUNG YUEN LING	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1D	SUNDUS BIBI	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	84	4A	HO SZE MAN	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1E	CHENG YEEYAN	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	84	4A	SZE HIU YING	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1E	TAM PUIYI	S1 Dramatic Duologue	84	4A	TUNG ON MAN	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1E	CHAN HOI TUNG			5A	KHAN RUQIYAH MANAHIL	S5 Dramatic Duologue	82
1E	CHAN WAI SUM			5A	LEE KA KI	S5 Dramatic Duologue	82
1E	CHENG YEEYAN			5A	LI PO LAM ESTHER	S5 Public Speaking Solo	82
1E	CHEUNG NGA MAN			5B	KWONG NGA MAN	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1E	CHOW TSZ YAN			5B	WONG HEI TING	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	82
1E	CHUNG KAYI			1A	CHAN HIU LAM	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	CHUNG TING HEUNG			1B	CHAN YEUK LAM	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	FUNG TZE HING			1B	KAN LOK YIU	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	HU JINLING			1E	HU JINLING	S1 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	HUANG KEI CHING			1E	WU WING KI	S1 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	KWONG TSZ YING			2B	DAI KAYI	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	LAM SUM YUET NICOLE			2C	YUSRA-ARUJ	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	LAU PUI MAN			3C	CHUNG HOI TUNG	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	LEUNG WING KIU ALLY			3C	KWONG TING GI GI GI	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	LI CHING CHING	S1 Choral Speaking	84	3D	LEETZ WING	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	LIN HOIYAN			4A	FUNG LOK YAN	S4 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	MALAIKA MUHAMMAD			4A	KWOK TSOIYAN	S4 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	NG PUI KEI			4A	SUE SIU WAI	S4 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	NG PUIYU			4A	TSO YIN SANG	S4 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	TAM PUIYI			4A	MAN CHEUK YIN	S4 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	TANG YAT YIU			4A	WONG YUNG YUNG	S4 Dramatic Duologue	81
1E	TO WING KIU			4B	YIP HOI CHING	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	TSAI HSIN-TUNG			4B	LIU PO LING	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	81
1E	TSE CHUI YEE			5A	HUANG YANJUN	S5 Public Speaking Solo	81
1E	WONG TSZ KWAN ZITA			1B	POON WING SUEN	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1E	WU WING KI			1B	MEHMOOD NAIBA	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1E	WU XIAO YI			1C	SUEN HIU CHING BRITANY	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1E	YU LOK YI			1C	TSE SI MAN	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1E	YU XINTONG			1D	CHAN KA YAN	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1E	YUEN TIN CHING			2C	LI YUEN LING	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	80
2C	AREESHA MARIUM	S2 Dramatic Duologue	84	2D	WONG WING KI	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	80
2C	BIBI SUNBAL	S2 Dramatic Duologue	84	2D	LI LOK YIU	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	80
2E	TSE YAN TUNG	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	84	2E	CHEN KAIYI	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	80
3E	CHEA YAN YU	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	84	4A	CHAN SZEYIN	S4 Dramatic Duologue	80
3E	LIN HOIYAN VIVIAN	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	84	4A	LAM WAI KI	S4 Dramatic Duologue	80
4C	ASHRAF IQQRA	S3-4 Public Speaking Solo	84	4D	FU CHOI YAN	S3-4 Public Speaking Solo	80
4D	YUEN SZEYI	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	84	5A	WONG CHAK TUNG	S5 Dramatic Duologue	80
5A	HUANG YANJUN	S5 Dramatic Duologue	84	5A	WONG WAI TUNG BETTY	S5 Dramatic Duologue	80
5A	YU WING SUM	S5 Dramatic Duologue	84	5A	CHAN CHUN TING	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	80
5A	YU WING SUM	S5 Public Speaking Solo	84	5A	TANG YU SZE	S5 Public Speaking Solo	80
5B	WANG XIANGYUE SELINA	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	84	5B	LAU MEI KI	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1B	ASHRAF HIFSA	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	83	5D	CHOI PUIYEE	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1C	HUANG LIYU	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	83	5E	KOMAL BIBI	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	80
1D	SIU YU CHING	S1 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
2B	EIMAN ALTAF	S2 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
3A	CHEUK WING LAM	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
3D	CHAN HOI CHING	S3 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
4A	KAM LAM SUM	S4 Dramatic Duologue	83				
4A	LEUNG WING YI	S4 Dramatic Duologue	83				
4A	ZHAO SHUHUA	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
4C	LEUNG YAN TING	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
4D	TANG FUNG CHI	S4 Solo Verse Speaking	83				
5D	CHAN MAN YEE	S5 Solo Verse Speaking	83				



# Keep calm and speak English!

Internal Highlights - English Months

Global Cafe: English and food are the languages of everyone



Global Cafe was held on March 22 and April 27. Global Cafe was a successful event organized by the NETs from Chatteris Educational Foundation, and the NET and teachers from Tack Ching. Native speakers hosted different games and introduced different countries to all of our girls. Our girls thoroughly enjoyed the event and we are proud to share some of their reflections with you.

## Global Cafe: Learning Famous Places

Global Cafe is so much fun! I played games at each table. There are four tables in total: the U.S., Mexico, Fiji and the U.K. After I had finished the game, the teachers gave me a stamp on my card. Then, I got some nachos and soda from the food station. It was awesome! I think the games were exciting and educational. For example, at the U.S. station, I played a matching card game. By playing that game, I have learned some famous places in America, like The White House, The Grand Canyon and The Golden Gate Bridge. I hope we will have this event next year, too!

1D Bibi Sundus

## Global Cafe: Speaking comfortably in a fun and relaxing environment

On my visit to the Global Cafe, I tried different food from all over the world. The teachers prepared theme games from different countries. I received stamps when I finished games from these countries; and with the stamps, I got free samples of snacks from these countries. Furthermore, the teachers are English-speakers, so we must speak English at Global Cafe. This activity improved my English communication skills as I feel more comfortable speaking in a fun and relaxing environment. Moreover, I learned about famous food from different countries. I hope we will spend more time on this type of activities in the future.

3E Yeung Wai Lam Joanne

## English Room is fun!

Having a venue where students can use English without pressure is essential. English Room is the place for students to come and relax during recesses and meet with the two NETs. Ms. Charlotte and I have conducted a variety of activities, from writing to casual speaking, from formal speaking practice to fun team building games. Students enjoyed their visits and this year, we implemented a new award scheme in March and April, in which students could exchange their passports with stamps for presents. Because of the incentive, the number of visits has increased significantly. Khan Rukayan is the most frequent visitor and she would like to share her reflections with you.

## English Months

Going to the English room is a fun way to improve your English through different methods. You can learn English by talking to the teachers daily and by learning English through playing games. We had English months this year in March and April. Because I have visited most of the days, I got lots of stamps and prizes from this award scheme. I surely had a lot of fun there with Ms. Charlotte and Ms. Brenda around!

Besides playing games, we also watched movies on some days. We've watched *Inside Out* and *Legally Blonde*. While watching the movie, we enjoyed candies and popcorns. It was so much fun, and it looked like we were in a movie theatre, but with free popcorns and candies. I will definitely visit the English Room again next year!

4B Khan Rukayan



## Teach Unlimited Foundation (TUF): We mentor students

Hello, I am Miss Hayley and I am from TUF. I am pleased to join the Tack Ching family! We provide creative and effective mentorship and education support to instill changes into students, developing their confidence and motivating them to own a better future. I am so proud to see how much our students have grown and accomplished.

**Every youth has a dream and can learn to realize it**

Scan this to learn more about TUF:



### Dream Pursuing Project (DPP)

Dream Pursuing Project ( 夢想飛航 伴你同行 ) is a programme which aims to encourage students to take the first step towards their dreams. It offers a wide variety of activities for students (e.g. Dream Pursuing Day, Girls' Go Tech, etc.) to increase their exposure, to help them discover their potential and actualize their potentials.

#### (a) Dream Pursuing Day (DPD)

"Dream Pursuing Day" is a highlight of our programme. It consists of two parts: "Life Simulation" and "Human Library". In "Life Simulation", students "experienced" studying in the university, employment and more; in "Human Library", students were inspired to plan for their future. In a joint-school event setting, students also had the opportunity to communicate with their peers and make new friends from other schools.

#### I have seen a bigger world: "Life Simulation"

On 3rd March, 2018, I joined Dream Pursuing Day (DPD) and it is one of the best days in my life! With students from nine schools, we played "Life Simulation" game in the morning. I enjoyed playing the role as a social worker in particular. During the game, I can have a taste of working as a social worker to design a game with the theme "dream chasing" with my friends. It is a challenging and rewarding experience. During the day, I met some new friends from different schools and I had fun going to different booths with them. I really benefited a lot from the activity as I learnt more about different jobs. I learnt that there are many different aspects in life which we need to consider when we plan our future.

5C So Wing Ting

#### I have seen a bigger world: "Human Library"

My dream job is to become a designer. On the Dream Pursuing Day, I got the chance to speak to two designers and learned a lot from them in the afternoon session "Human Library". The two designers are Joselie and Fred, who are a fashion designer and an interior designer respectively. Their stories are inspiring. From them, I learned that being a designer is more than drawing; they take part in different competitions to get more experiences and practices. Through talking to them, I have gained the motivation to take action to be a designer. It might be tough, but they told me that it is through hard work that brings us closer to our dreams.

3B Lau Lap Ping

### Lunchtime Small Group

We believe learning takes place when students are having fun. Thus, in our lunchtime small group sessions, we strive to create a positive and safe learning environment for S3 and S5 students to learn English, such as interactive games and pair work. The topics range from daily conversation exchanges in English to exploring cultures of different countries. For sure, students are more motivated to speak English when they are enjoying themselves.

#### "Do not be afraid and just try"

I'm glad that Miss Hayley invited me to this lunchtime small group. Every session, we had activities based on different themes. My favorite activity is "speed dating" held during Valentine's Day because it's fun. We all put on crazy masks to find our perfect match through introducing ourselves in English. In this game, I practised introducing myself in English. I also learnt words to describe my interests and personalities. Joining the English Small Group, I have become more confident in speaking English. Gradually, I see myself as an active English learner. While encountering difficulties learning English, I will always remember what Miss Gigi told us, "Do not be afraid and just try".

5C Pang Ching Ying

#### My transformation experience

I have joined Lunchtime English Small Group held by the programme mentors, Miss Hayley and Miss Gigi since the beginning of this school year. I am so grateful for it. Before, I was too shy to speak English. Miss Gigi, is very encouraging and has helped me build up confidence in speaking English. In the small group, we played a lot of creative and fun games. I especially enjoyed playing "Draw Something" in a small group during Christmas time. I have learned a lot of new words related to Christmas. After joining the group, I am now more willing to talk to others in English. I am also more motivated to learn English. I highly recommend our schoolmates to join this group, and I know you would have a wonderful time. Learning English can be fun!

5B Chau Ka Yue Ashley

**TUF S5 Lunchtime English Small Group Student List**  
 Time: 1:25pm-2:00pm Venue: Room 514  
 Group A: Tue Group B: Wed Group C: Thu

Group A	Group B	Group C
5F	5C	5B
Chan Ho Kiu Jasmine	Chan Cheuk Lam	Chau Ka Yue Ashley
Fung Shuk Yi Zoey	Chau Wing Ki	Chan Man Yu Moko
Law Ka Yee Yasmine	Fong Chung Yan	Li Wai Kuen Jesse
Lee Sin Ming Iris	Pang Ching Chi	Shum Tsoi Wing Chering
Lee Wing Yan Wing		
Ngai Yee Yiu Helen	5E	5D
Tang Wing Wing	Hui Yuen Ying	Chu Nga Hang Andrea
Zhang Wing Sze Wing	Lau Hiu Ching	Li Yuk Ting Angel
	Mung Sin Yan	Mok Tsz Ki Kelly
	Yau Shuk Yan	Yuen Sau Kwan Macy



#### (b) TUF x Credit Suisse "Girls' Go Tech"

Twenty-eight girls from DPP had a taste of computer programming with volunteers from Credit Suisse, an international corporate. Knowing that women can also succeed in the STEM field, the girls had a lot of fun playing with Micro:bit devices. They also had the chance to interact with adults from around the world.

#### TUF x Credit Suisse: Girls' Go Tech

The most memorable experience throughout the Dream Pursuing Project is visiting Credit Suisse for the coding project. This is the first time I have ever visited an investment bank. It was on the 88th floor and the view is stunning! We did some coding using Micro:bit with the help from the voluntary staff. For example, we learnt how to create the "rock, paper, scissors" game and display messages with LED light through coding on the Micro:bit. The volunteers spoke English and I tried my best talking to them. They were all very friendly and patient. For example, Greta helped us a lot during the discussion and quiz on women in STEM. She shared her inspiring story with us and she is my role model! I am glad to have learned more about coding and improved my communication skills through interacting with foreigners.

5B Liu Mei Yi



# Welcome to Tack Ching!

5A Khan Ruqiyah Manahil

Our school's Info Day was held on 1st December, 2017 with lots of students from different schools and parents visiting us.

Once guests stepped inside our school, they would see plenty of posters and pieces of artwork put up around the campus. They were welcomed by friendly Girl Guides members and other student helpers who handed out the programme of this special day. Guests could watch the principal's welcoming speech and students' interviews from videos playing on TV next to the reception table.

The English Room was on the left side of the reception table. Members from the English Society and the English Debate Team welcomed the guests with smiles and beautifully printed bookmarks designed by our schoolmates. Outside the room, there were display boards with photos and details of our classmates' achievements in the Hong Kong schools Speech Festival and the debating competitions. In addition, the guests were attracted by the videos of our classmates' outstanding performance in external English competitions.

Both the outdoor and indoor playgrounds were packed with different kinds of booths, from Drama Club to Korean Cub, from STEAM Club to the six Houses. There were interesting games like puzzles, flag throwing and marble games, just to name a few. The STEAM Club booth was the most popular stall because they gave guests an opportunity to play with a solar-powered system remote-controlled car. Prizes like Mario balloons and balloons filled with candies were given out to those who had played all the games. Everybody went for the games to get these fabulous prizes. Basketball matches took place at the basketball ground. Several students from different primary schools were invited to compete with one another and they had loads of fun.



In addition to the activities on the ground floor, there were plenty of events happening elsewhere on campus. Primary students were given a chance to attend English lessons taught by our NET, Ms Brenda. They could also play interesting English activities held by our other NET, Ms Charlotte, and other expatriate teachers in the next room. Apart from fun-filled activities, guests could sit comfortably in the hall and watch our classmates' awesome shows, including English Choral Speaking performance, Chinese dancing and singing.

On the 3rd floor, guests had a chance to make their own delicious cupcake. After that, they went to the Visual Arts Room to browse through students' fine artwork.

Going up to the 4th floor, guests were introduced heart-shaped laces and bags by the Girl Guides. The Captain of the Girl Guides, Karen Lee said, "These handicrafts are valuable because they show our members' enthusiasm and hard work." In the Biology Laboratory, eleven student helpers wearing white lab coat were busy introducing the room to the guests. Three experiments about food substances were conducted. One of the helpers, Wincy Yu, commented, "Primary students are interested in our experiments. I'm happy to offer help in this room."

A Mathematics competition named '24 Games' was held in Room 514. Students from seven primary schools participated and two teams from one school won both the championship and the bronze prize. Sirena, the Chairlady of the Mathematics Club, said, "I'm so nervous and excited because the competitors are so keen!"

Needless to say, the whole school lit up on this awesome day. It was a great opportunity for our guests to appreciate our school spirit and discover the talents and potentials of our schoolmates. We will never forget this memorable day!



# Cross-curricular Projects

## S1 English Singing Contest

Co-organised by the English, the Music Departments and the Life Education Committee, the S1 English Singing Contest was held in November 2018. The theme of the activity aligns with one of the core values the Sisters of the Precious Blood promotes – LOVE. Students learned the meaning of the song lyrics in English lessons, sang the tune in Music lessons, and then practised and rehearsed during the class periods. Each class chose a song from the three designated love-and-friendship themed songs, *Count on Me*, *Gift of a Friend* and *Seamless*, and competed in the contest. *Count on Me* turned out to be the most popular song among contestants. On 1st November 2017, all S1 students performed their masterpieces in the school hall. It was consoling to see students participate in it enthusiastically. Their sense of belonging to the class was strengthened. The champion went to Class 1E and Class 1A won the Best Cooperation Award. The contest ran smoothly on the day and was well received by teachers and students. It successfully provided a platform for students to showcase their talent in singing and an opportunity for them to learn to respect one another, collaborate with their peers, and to build and boost their self-confidence.



## S3 Upcycling and Fashion Show

There is always no lack of creativity among Tack Ching girls, especially when it comes to fashion design. The collaboration between the English Department and Home Economics Department has provided our girls with opportunities to upcycle their old outfits into gorgeous ones, making the seemingly useless clothes come to life again. A stage is set up for our girls to showcase their unique designs, with students modelling on the runway and introducing their design in English. The marvelous show is scheduled as one of the post-exam activities in July 2018 and we look forward to seeing the superb designs with fabulous presentations on the runway.

## S4 Interviewing Tourists in Ocean Park

Working with the Tourism and Hospitality Studies, the English Department has designed a series of English lessons emphasizing the interviewing skills and how to write a restaurant review by observing the restaurant settings, decorations, target customers, quality of service, price, etc.

Thirty S4 students who take Tourism and Hospitality Studies had an excursion to Ocean Park in March 2018. They observed different kinds of eateries in the Park and talked to the tourists so as to collect their views on the restaurants they visited.

Through this outing, the students could communicate with tourists from around the world to understand more about their culture, their preferences for food and restaurants. They then brought the information back to their classmates for the restaurant review write-up. It was fun!



# English Society

## 2017-2018

This year, the English Society has held a wide range of activities. The most popular meeting is the drama workshop, in which students learned different drama techniques, built their confidence and they even went on to perform their own mini-dramas in front of their peers!

We were also honoured to have hosted a talk organised by the Royal Geographic Society which saw the famous Arctic and Antarctic explorer, Mr. Wilson Cheung, visit Tack Ching to tell us all about his adventures. The talk was very interesting and full of pictures and videos from his expeditions all over the globe.

There is also the Lifelong Animal Protection (LAP) Charity School Visit in which students learned to protect and respect animals.

Other English Society activities include a fun Christmas party with lots of communicative English games, traditional party games, music, and party food and drinks. Society members have also taken part in an English Slogan and Bookmark Design Competition, Film Appreciation activities, Fundraising Brainstorm sessions and much more!

### Talk on Guiding at the South Pole, the Alps and the Norwegian Arctic

Vast, bleak areas, perilous mountains, icy weathers and home to exotic, marvellous wildlife, the Arctic is a mysterious, cryptic location where very few get to experience in real life.

In one of our meetings, we were very fortunate to have a specialist to share his knowledge and expertise with us. Mr. Wilson Cheung, who is a traveller, photographer, writer, tour guide, etc, gave a fascinating

speech about his adventures in the Arctic. He spoke about his various exhilarating experiences and the things he has discovered throughout the years.

From his talk, members learned all sorts of information about the North and the South Poles, including geological, biological facts, and its history. The talk is very fascinating, but venturing into one of the planet's most desolated spots is a rare opportunity for the majority of us. Moreover, calling the snowy regions a home and living an unpredictable life on the edge are truly most extra-ordinary and challenging.

4A So Tsz Yau Zoë



### Designing Thank-you Cards



To show our gratitude and appreciation, members of the English Society had a session on designing and writing thank-you cards to Mr. Wilson Cheung for sharing his experience with us.

We were separated into three groups and each group was provided with some A4 size paper, coloured pencils and printed pictures related to South Pole. After an hour's hard work and co-operation among the different members, we came up with our own beautiful and unique cards. Throughout the activity, members did not only employ our creativity and artistic talents, we also had a good chance to practise and improve our English through communicating and sharing our ideas. In addition, we have expressed our sincere gratitude into words for Mr. Cheung.

4A Khan Virdah

## English environment on campus

### English Slogan and Bookmark Design Competition

To maximize our potential and enable us to put our English and art skills into practical use the English Society organized an English Slogan and Bookmark Design Competition. We designed bookmarks with slogans on the theme 'English is Fun and a Useful Tool in our Life'. We showed much enthusiasm in making materials for authentic purposes and lots of entries with good composition of images and use of colours were received. The adjudicators really had a hard time deciding on the winning pieces, some of which were printed and given as souvenirs to visitors on the School Info Day.

4A Chan Sze Yin Annie



### Playing English Communicative Games

Members of the English Society surely had lots of fun learning and using English through different game sessions throughout the year. Games like Dubsplash, Draw out the Animal, Broken Telephone, Musical Chairs, Musical 'Truth or Dare', Pictionary and lots of other fun games. Through interacting with our NET and English teachers, we learned a lot and had a great time.

4B Khan Rukayan



### Mini-drama

During the year, the English Society has had 3 mini-drama sessions. The first and second were acting out particular scenes from *Frozen* and *Pocahontas*. The last session was the most unique and interesting one. We gathered in groups of two; each group was given different themes and we had to brainstorm for our stories and write our own scripts.

Then, we practised our lines and acted the scenes out, after which a winning group was chosen. We were enthusiastic and started sharing our creative ideas. We enjoyed the drama activities much and have become more confident and expressive in delivering our lines. Acting has not only provided us with a chance to learn and practice using English in an interesting and fun way, but also a chance to learn to communicate and appreciate each other's ideas.



4A Chan Sze Yin Annie

### Lifelong Animal Protection (LAP) Charity School Visit

For the last session of the English Society, there was a talk by Lifelong Animal Protection Charity (LAP), a charity that aims to help animals in distress in Hong Kong and to bring about desirable living conditions for them.

The talk mentioned how some owners abuse their pets physically or psychologically, or even by giving them vegan diets. The speaker also talked about how his organization helped animals, and raised awareness on animal cruelty, which also raised students' awareness of the need to protect animals and respect life.

Besides being educational, the talk enabled us a chance to be in close contact with animals, to feed the dogs and learned how to pet dogs correctly.

4B Khan Rukayan



# Drama Appreciation

As a regular practice and part of English Months, the English Department held two interactive English drama shows for both junior and senior form students. These shows support students' English learning and increase their language exposure. The junior drama show was held in the school hall on 8th March, 2018, and the title of the drama is *David and Goliath*. The senior drama show was held in the school hall on 15th March, 2018, and the title of the drama is *Behind the Screens*.

## Junior Drama Appreciation - David and Goliath

The bible story is about David who defeated Goliath and became the new King of Israel. The show began when prophet Samuel chose David to be the King of Israel and the story flashed back to the time when David first met Goliath. In the Philistines, there was an invincible giant named Goliath when the Philistine army was attacking Israel. David represented Israel and volunteered to fight the giant Goliath. David went to pick up some stones and trusted God to protect him. God is there with David and David used a stone to defeat Goliath. After David beat Goliath and saves Israel, he became the new king.

I enjoyed the performance very much, it was very interesting. My favourite part was the fighting scene with David and Goliath. My favourite character is Goliath, because he looked very evil and scary. I thought that he was a real giant.

3E Chea Yea Yu Angie



## Rumple and Friends

On 15th March, the actors from 'Rumple and Friends' came to our school and performed a drama show about school bullying. After watching this drama, I realize that everything affects people and carries an influence. We always think these are harmless; 'We won't hurt someone if we send this message to her/him', 'This person won't die because of me', 'I want this person to die because I hate him/her'. These are all misconceptions! In fact, ONE word can be hurtful if it is something that matters to someone. Also, I realize that we should care for someone if we know he/she is in need of help or is emotionally distraught. Accompanying and listening to our friends are more helpful to a person than to leave them alone. Glad to recommend this drama show to all my schoolmates.

5A Tsui Ching Wen Kira



# Reading Culture in Tack Ching

Reading is an integral part of our life and it is of no exception for Tack Ching girls. To foster a reading habit among students, there has been a wide variety of reading activities on campus, including the morning reading sessions, cross-curricular reading activities, book exhibitions in the school library, Chinese and English book fairs, to name but a few.

Every morning, students enjoy reading for 20 minutes before start of lessons. Students can choose their reads in both English and Chinese languages. Books are available in the Class Library and the book crossing basket of each class. Upon completion of the book, students take turns to share what they have read with the class towards the end of each month, giving students more ideas of how to pick a good book. To further promote the culture of reading in school, the English Department has also organized an English Book Report Writing Competition in both the first and the second term, collecting good book reports to be published on campus.

To celebrate the World Book Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, a series of reading activities was held in March and April. Other than different fun activities held in the school library, pre-recorded book recommendations were scheduled to be shown in the morning reading sessions. Students were invited to write their reflections based on the book recommended by their peers. It was a fun activity.

The morning reading period, the book sharing, book recommendation sessions as well as the English Book Report Writing Competition have broadened students' horizons and provided students with opportunities for practising and improving their writing, speaking and presentation skills.





### 13 Reasons Why

Are you being bullied at school? Are you a bully? Or are you not aware of it though you are involved in school bullying?

I'm going to introduce a book that had an influence on my school life – *13 Reasons Why*. The main character, Hannah, is bullied in her school. Before she committed suicide, she recorded 13 cassette tapes to explain why she ended her life. Every tape contained the recording of an incident that saddened Hannah. This included humiliation on the figure of her body, broken friendship and lack of help from school counsellors. The death of Hannah was attributed to 13 reasons and 13 people.

Nevertheless, when I first started the book, I did think Hannah is a drama queen since all her incidents seem only trivial to me. Take broken friendship as an example, I believe that every student must have been through similar situations and we must have solutions for the trauma it causes. As the plot goes on, I finally know why Hannah got hurt because of those little things. The little things that accumulate can lead to something detrimental. The chapter that shocks me most is the one in which the boys in her class made jokes about her figure. You might think it is just a joke, a harmless joke, but when the whole grade is talking about it, it becomes sexual harassment to Hannah it.

Think about the question I asked. Have you ever been involved in any school bullying without your noticing it? As a student, we must take stand now against bullying in order to prevent students from getting hurt and making irrational decisions. Besides, for those who are suffering from bullying, you should talk to people you trust. Taking one's own life is never a solution towards any problem.

5A Tang Yu Sze Krissy



### Falling Leaves

Imagine yourself being the least-loved child of the family just because you were a girl and your mother died after giving birth to you. Your siblings bullied you and commanded you to do all kinds of things for them. Your stepmother abused you by giving you barely enough food, while your siblings could order whatever they liked. Meanwhile, your biological father ignored all of these and disregarded all your hard work.

The above is what the famous Chinese-American author and physician, Adeline Yen Mah, suffered in real life and described in her book *Falling Leaves*. Adeline was considered bad luck to her family as her mother died just after two weeks after her birth.

Adeline's only comfort and support came from her grandfather and her aunt, who kept telling her that schooling was her only hope to live a better life. At school, Adeline was top in almost every subject. Because of her grandfather's and aunt's emotional support, Adeline overcame all difficulties and never gave up on her dream.

The book showcases the amazing story of Adeline who transcended her sorrows into a source of creativity, courage, and compassion. The story is extremely moving.

Adeline never gave up even when the road was bumpy, and she kept fighting for a bright future. This book is inspiring for those who are constantly challenged in life.

5A Li Po Lam Esther

### The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Have you ever thought what it is like to be an autistic kid? What's inside a heart of an autistic child? "*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*" tells a story of a 15-year-old boy, Christopher, suffering from high-functioning autism. Through the book, readers can grasp an understanding into the world of autistic kids and understand their feelings and needs.

To show you what difficulties Christopher faced, let me share with you two incidents that happened to Christopher.

Firstly, Christopher never understood human emotions, so he had a hard time figuring out what people had in their mind. For instance, his father was angry with Christopher investigating the murder of a dog. However, Christopher had no idea what anger was, so he continued questioning his neighbours. Just imagine, if you asked your friends to keep a secret but they disclosed it to others, how would you feel? His father was of no exception. What Christopher did had made his father so angry that he punched Christopher in his face, warning him not to do it again.

Secondly, Christopher was always under the impression that his mother died years ago, as told by his father. Yet, that wasn't true. His mother was actually alive and living with another man. Yes, she had an affair with another man. When Christopher found out the truth, he became very sick. He was unable to move. He groaned for several hours until his father returned home and realized it. You would have fallen sick too, knowing that your parents have been telling you such a big lie, not to mention to an autistic child.

The contributing factor to all the above incidents were actually lack of communication and understanding between Christopher and his father. The story clearly illustrates what a family with an autistic child faces, clearing all the confusions and misunderstanding we have for autistic patients. Therefore, I genuinely feel that this book is really insightful and worth reading.

5A Khan Ruqiyah Manahil



### Wonder

Have you ever thought about what it would be like to look different? In the story *Wonder*, that is what the boy August Pullman, looks like. August is a homeschooled fifth grader and lives with his parents. People usually get very scared when they first look at him. It is because he suffers a rare medical condition called Treacher Collins syndrome. This causes him to undergo many surgeries. August has an older sister named Via. Via loves him more than anything and is a protective sister. August's life becomes even more complicated when his parents enroll him into Beecher Prep School so that he can build friendship and face the reality. At first, August is very upset but then slowly he blends himself into the school environment. Of course, that is not an easy process. It was a path full of hurdles. Though his classmates are friendly, they are still not used to him. Some continue to keep a distance from August. However, August's kind-hearted and positive personality melt everyone's heart. At the end of the school year, August is awarded the 'Henry Ward Beecher Medal' for being exemplary throughout the school year. The story ends with August's mother saying 'August, you are truly a wonder.'

To different people, the word 'wonder' carries different meanings. To some people, it may mean you're wonderful and to some others, it may mean you are full of wonder. To me, "Doing your best at your worst" is a Wonder. "Winning yourself over winning others" is a Wonder. That's what the boy, August, did.

4A Sandhu Harspreet



### Wonder

The book I am would like to share is called *Wonder*. The story is about a boy named August. He is different from other people in appearance, he was born with a deformity. He has very low self-esteem because of that. However, his parents never give up on him. His sister loves him very much, so she and her friend always play with him.

August starts his primary school life. He is not confident and feels uneasy as to how other people look at him. He therefore always wears a helmet when he goes to school. Many of his classmates bully him. Noticing that he will not be having a lot of friends there, he always goes to school with an unhappy face. One day, a boy tries to befriend him and August's life is no longer the same.

This story is very touching. I have learned that even if you are not perfect, you don't need to care about how people judge you. Also, we should not bully others, but love one another.

2E Tang Tsz Yan Tiffany



### Milk and Honey

Do you often find yourself deflated? Do you have inner voices discouraging you with your insecurities and vulnerabilities? Have you encountered some adversities that you can't seem to rebound from? If so, you should definitely pick up the book *Milk and Honey*.

*Milk and Honey* is a collection of modern poetry with subjects revolving around recovery, femininity, self love, maturity and more. The book is split into four chapters and each chapter focuses on a different concept. In the section titled '*The Hurting*', the author talked about her experiences with her family breaking up and how she came in contact with traumatic incidents. She mentioned how she was abused and felt used in relationships and how other people neglected her feelings and wishes. She described how dysfunctional and broken her family was and how it affected her, how empty and terrified she felt.

Through heartfelt, bittersweet and tender poems, the author allows us to gain an insight into her personal life and experiences. Throughout the book, we could see her transition through many stages of her life.

At first glance, *Milk and Honey* might seem like a cheesy, sappy book, but once we look past that, it is actually quite a captivating, engrossing, and exhilarating piece. Not only is it simple, clear and easy to understand, it deepens our thoughts and inspires self-reflection.

4A So Tsz Yau Zoë



# English environment on campus



## Morning Assembly Sharing

It's of paramount importance that our girls from Tack Ching gain public speaking skills and build confidence with English. On Thursdays, all our announcements and presentations are done in English by the students. The English teachers and NETs at Tack Ching all participated and trained students with love and encouragement. For the junior assembly, the senior students presented stories and articles; while for the senior assembly, students presented on different life education topics with the help of PowerPoint. The topics for the junior form students are related to humanities and science subject, for example, history of Easter and how bubbles are formed. In the senior form assembly, students shared about different topics such as love, friendship, failure and success.

Moreover, a team of students are trained specifically as Masters of Ceremony and they are equipped to conduct and hold the senior hall assembly. Another team of students are dedicated to be punctual and to announce the weather early in the morning. These soft skills are definitely beneficial for their lives and personal development no matter what they will do in the future. It is also critical for students to understand that English is a practical language needed for daily communication. As a team, the English department strive to make that happen on campus.



## Book Fair is a Book Lovers' Haven

At Tack Ching, reading in both English and Chinese is stressed. Collaborating with the School Library, the English department provided opportunities for our students to purchase discounted books over a 2-day period in April. Also, students have an opportunity to browse books together with their friends and share their opinions with one another. It was a great chance for students to familiarise themselves with books from different genres and the latest titles on the market.



## External Speaking Practices

In order to get our S.6 students ready for the HKDSE Paper 4, the English Department collaborated with a few different schools around the district for mock exam practices. In November, twenty-four students went to HK&KLN Chiu Chow Public Association Secondary School for practice. Then, in January, sixty students from Lung Kong WFSL Lau Wong Fat Secondary School and Newman College joined seventy Tack Ching Girls and they all had a few rounds of practice. Although time was limited, all students benefited a lot from these practices. Thirty of our F.5 girls will also visit Lung Kong WFSL Lau Wong Fat Secondary School in June and will practise together with students from TWGHs Kwok Yat Wai College. We sincerely thank our affiliated schools for collaborating with us and look forward to many practices to come.

# Interview with English Teachers

## Our Native English Teacher - Ms. Brenda

5A Wong Lok Ting Stephanie, 5A Huang Yau Jun Katie

## Differences between Life in Hong Kong and Canada

Raised in Canada, Ms. Brenda experiences some cultural differences because of the contrast in the lifestyle and pace of life. According to Ms. Brenda, life in Hong Kong is extremely busy and fast-paced while life in Canada is much more relaxing. Citing having a coffee as an example, "Canadians are willing to spend time waiting for and enjoying a cup of brewed coffee with a muffin, but this is not the case in Hong Kong. Here, everything is in a rush. There is no time for one to really enjoy even a cup of coffee, not to say taking time to appreciate art works," said Ms. Brenda.

## Ms. Brenda's Little 'Children'

Yes, life is really hectic in Hong Kong and always immersing herself totally in work without her being aware of it, Ms. Brenda constantly reminds herself to strike a balance between work and life. She does this by spending time with her two little 'children'. Children? Oh no, I mean her two little pet dogs. "Keeping pets is a good way to relieve stress. I often take them for walks and go shopping for them, which then take me away from my work temporarily and allow relaxation time for me," Ms. Brenda said. "I couldn't help taking them home since they are so adorable and lively." Ms. Brenda recalled the time when she first met her two 'children' before adopting them. "Ever since adopting them, I have been enjoying the time with them though they often bite my shoes or mess up my house."

## Challenge in Future

So now Ms. Brenda has her pets as her children. Does she ever plan to give birth to her own children and become a mother herself?

"Becoming a mother seems to be the biggest challenge for me at the moment. This is because I am not good at time management. I often spend much time on my work since I consider teaching not merely a job, but also a responsibility of caring and paving the path for young people's future by passing on the necessary knowledge and skills they need to face their future challenges. After all, it can be really demanding for a career woman to take care of both her family and career," Ms. Brenda said.

It is sometimes really hard to make choices. We sincerely hope that Ms. Brenda can achieve her aspiration, be it an inspiring teacher or a great mother, or both.



On school days, she can easily be seen in the English Room during breaks or lunch-time conducting English language activities. She is of medium height with bead-like eyes and tanned skin. Do you know who she is? Yes, she is one of our Native-English teachers, Ms. Brenda.

## Road to Taking up Teaching as a Career

You will be very surprised if I tell you that Ms. Brenda is actually a pharmacist as she has always loved Science and Mathematics very much. Yes, she was a pharmacist before becoming a teacher. Ms. Brenda used to be a pharmacist at a children's hospital in Canada. Seeing how fascinated the children she served were whenever she taught them something, Ms. Brenda was inspired and determined to be a teacher instead.

Ms. Brenda chose to teach in Hong Kong, partly because Hong Kong is where she was born. Also, Hong Kong is conveniently located between the East and the West, which serves as a threshold for her to travel to other places and therefore further broaden her horizons.





## Views on Education and Teaching

When asked about her views on education, Miss Charlotte thinks that there is a big difference between the education system of Hong Kong and that of the United Kingdom. The education system in Hong Kong can be harder on and more stressful to students, because there is a lot more focus on examinations, but in the UK, instead of just examinations, students are assessed continuously throughout the year in different ways like presentations or project work, so students have more chances to improve on their grades. However, there are always pros and cons for any one system. The education system in the UK has a better way to develop students' potential while the examination-oriented one in Hong Kong is a fairer one as everyone is assessed at the same time with the same set of paper.

"Teaching is a good job," said Miss Charlotte. "I used to work with young people for a long time and also volunteer doing some teaching. I enjoy teaching, especially the teaching of English, which is an international language. As English is considered a core subject in many places, I can go teaching the language in different countries while experiencing the different cultures around the world."

## Feelings about HK...

Hong Kong is a good place to live for Miss Charlotte because it is easy to travel to different places. She loves Hong Kong as the people are very friendly. Also, it is one of the safest cities in the world, even at night, and the food is good as well. However, there is one thing about Hong Kong that Miss Charlotte does not really like – the scorching hot and humid weather in summer though in winter, it is not as cold as that in England.

## Tips on Studying Abroad

"Studying abroad definitely broadens your horizons, but there is bound to be obstacles especially if you are new to the place. I hope students can always stay open-minded and positive in times of difficulties. Also, don't be afraid to ask for help if you have any problems," Miss Charlotte said.

As for tips for examinations like IELTS, Miss Charlotte suggested that we practise using more English in our daily life; for example, interacting or conversing more with native English speakers. Immersing oneself into an English rich environment is indispensable in helping to improve our English when preparing for examinations. "Keep on trying and practice makes perfect are the keys to success," said Ms. Charlotte said.

## Encouragement for Students

Students nowadays have lots of pressure in their studies. It is important we tackle it. Here are some suggestions from Miss Charlotte: Look after yourself as much as you can; When you feel tired, try to have some rest and do something that you like or enjoy before you carry on with your work; Meeting and pouring your heart out to your friends is also a good way to relieve your stress.

It was a very nice conversation with Miss Charlotte and we benefited a lot from it.

# The Sportswoman - Ms. Kiwi Law

5A Tsui Ching Wen Kira, 5A Ling Man Yuen Kallis

Beautiful, slim and yet energetic and sporty! This long-haired lady is sometimes seen in our school's sports ground playing basketball, yet she is not our schoolmates. Can you guess who she is? Yes, she is our new English teacher, Ms. Kiwi Law.

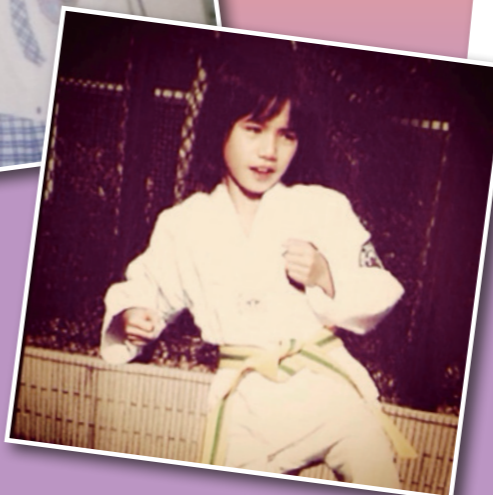
Though an English teacher, Ms. Law's favourite subject in school as a student was surprisingly not English, but Physical Education (PE). In fact, she loves sports very much and her favourite sport is swimming. She is also very much interested in playing rugby. Her fervent love of sports makes her an athlete on our sports ground playing basketball with her students during lunch-time. This has helped her establish a good relationship with her students. So, what makes a sports fan take up teaching as a career?

"I have never thought of being a teacher before, but I had the experience of giving English tuition to children when I was in secondary school and university. I find that teaching is actually very rewarding especially when you get to know the students you teach and they remember the things that you have taught them. That is why I finally chose to be a teacher after graduating from university.

When asked if she has had any extraordinary teaching encounter, Ms. Law said, "To me, every lesson is an extraordinary encounter as this is my first job and the first school that I teach in. I would say teaching is fun, and teaching in Tack Ching is really fun too, because the students here are very active and they are really funny. They actually treat me like a friend and they tell me lots of secrets and the things that they like. I feel very welcome here."

Being a sports fan, Ms. Law's favourite idol is a famous New Zealand rugby player, Sonny Bill Williams. What Ms. Law admires most about Williams is not only his performance in rugby, but also his attitude towards life as he is able to have a good balance between his career and family life.

If you are Ms. Law's fans and would like to be a teacher, here are some tips from her. "Being a teacher is not that easy. If you want to be a teacher, the first thing you need to ask yourself is whether you are willing to take on this challenge. This is because being a teacher is more than just teaching. Teachers do not only need to be knowledgeable in the subject that they teach, but also know how to communicate with others. You need to be a well-balanced person to be a good teacher," said Ms. Law.



# The Dancing and Foodie Queen - Miss Charlotte

5A Chan Chun Ting Sirena, 5A Lo Tsz Shan Natalie

"A-yo." A lovely voice came from the staff room. We looked up - a beautiful lady in green clothing, with big eyes, blonde curly hair and a sweet smile, stood in front of us. Yes, she's Miss Charlotte, one of our native English teachers this year and a vegetarian from England. Have you ever seen her before? Have you ever been to the English Room and played games with her? If you would like to know more about her, here is a good chance to get to know her more!

Let's have a look at what she usually does in her daily life. "Dancing and reading are both my favorite hobbies." She answered with no hesitation. Escaping from the real world into the world of a little book with imagination and having lots of fun while dancing are perhaps the ways she uses to relax herself.

## Travel and Food

As we know, Miss Charlotte is a foodie and she loves travelling. She has been to Vietnam, Bali and the Philippines in the past holidays during Christmas, Chinese New Year and Easter. In Vietnam, she had an extraordinary experience of attending a local wedding party and tried a kind of noodle called 'pho', which is really yummy. In Bali and the Philippines, she tried a special vegetable rice and vegetable kebabs respectively.

Miss Charlotte was really excited when talking about food during the interview. It is not difficult to see that she is a die-hard fan of food!





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