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## Principal's Message

I am very glad to introduce to you the first issue of our English Magazine SPOTLIGHT. Our school,

Lai Chack Middle School, is like a big stage for students to perform and act out their lives. Every student is the leading character of their own life drama and deserves equal amount of appreciation of their talents and advancements of various aspects. SPOTLIGHT, our English Magazine, is meant to unveil the flourishing achievements of students that are worthy of appreciation and compliments. In the past, there was a concept that CMI schools may fall short on providing students with an English-rich environment. However, such saying is no longer valid now. In the first issue of SPOTLIGHT, we are showing you the various opportunities we offered students to pursue the joyful and unforgettable experience in learning and using English.

"Exploring at New Horizons" is the theme of our first publication. As we realize the modern world has been changing at a fast pace due to globalization and rapid technological advancement, it is increasingly essential for both teachers and students to keep pace with changes through learning and thinking at new horizons. In fact, our school has long been training students to meet and adapt to the new challenges they may face at this modern age. Breaking down the walls that separate classroom learning and the real world has been one of our major objectives. We hope that with the guidance and assistance from our teachers, all Lai Chack students could open their minds and explore issues from multiple perspectives, perhaps at new horizons.

Thanks to the grace of my Lord, the activities and programmes run by the English Department have almost completed with encouraging results this year. I would like to take this chance to acknowledge the efforts and hard work of the whole team of the English Department who wholeheartedly contribute to creating opportunities for our students and facilitating students' achievements all the way through. I would also like to make special acknowledgement to our English Department Head, Ms. Cherry Wong for leading the department in realizing all the plans and goals in this rewarding year. Mr. Kevin Ng and Ms. Fion Li, the Chief Coordinators of the editorial team, also deserve commendations. Without their gruelling work and unwavering dedication, publication of this magazine would forever be a pipe dream. I believe passion is a force of motivation to get things done well. Having a team of passionate teachers, I am sure their work will soon bear fruit!

Drincipal Mr. Tsang Yau-shing





## School in a Landscaped Garden



Drastic changes in education and substantially growing number of students deem Lai Chack Middle School's existing Spanish-style building on Canton Road, completed in 1950s, in a challenging position to cope with the above demands. Approval for fund allocation for the new building was granted by the Education Bureau in May 2008. An amount of \$80,000,000 has been earmarked. The expansion will be carried out on the disused government property in Scout Path with the expected completion date set for 2011. When completed, the new building will boast a floor area of 3,636 square metres adequately equipped with state-of-the-art facilities.



#### **Special Rooms**

Multi-purpose Room

Computer Room

Multi-Media Learning Centre (MMLC)

Library

#### **Hall & Sports Facilities**

Hall

Stage (with backstage)

Furniture Store Room & Changing Rooms

Sports Equipment Store Room

#### Others

Toilets for the disabled

Lifts for the disabled/Firemen Service Lifts

Hall:

Functions and activities held in the existing hall are often affected by inclement weather and broadcasting from the neighbouring school. Ultimate solutions to the problems can be achieved when work on the new hall is completed. Students can have a learning platform on which they can gain hands-on experience on stage. They can apply the knowledge they acquire through interdisciplinary scopes as well as building up self-confidence.

Multi-purpose Room: More available space can be provided for karate, dancing practice and drama rehearsal.

Library: The existing library is well-stocked yet storage space is limited.

Promotion of extensive reading has been the school's avowed aim. A well-equipped library will certainly help reach the goal.

Computer Room: In addition to the three computer rooms and multimedia learning rooms in use, extensive IT facilities are needed to help with smooth implementation of group and project learning.

Greenery Corner: The designated patch is established with a view to developing students' interest in gardening and nature. A green house, a meteorology point and a nursery are core parts of the corner.

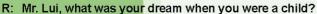
Act Out Stars and

### -OUR RESPECTABLE DISCIPLINE MASTER

Mr. Lui has been working in LCMS for 35 years. He is our discipline master and a PE teacher. During his time in LCMS, he treats his job seriously and he is no doubt loving and caring to every member of our school. We all know that he is going to retire very soon. We may wonder what lies ahead of Mr. Lui in his retirement. We were very honoured to interview him.

R = Reporter

L = Mr. Lui Hung-sing



- L: I wanted to be a news reporter when I was young.
- R: How long have you been teaching in LCMS?
- L: I have been working in this school for 35 years.
- R: What other subjects do you teach besides PE?
- L: I have only taught PE since I graduated from National Taiwan Normal University.
- R: Could you tell us what your favourite pastime is?
- L: I enjoy playing tennis and war game with my friends as they can help me to release stress.
- R: What is your favourite food?
- L: I like curry very much.
- R: We know that you are going to retire very soon. Do you have any retirement plan? What are you going to do when you retire?
- L: I am going to travel to different places in China, for example, Beijing and Yun Nan with my friends or family members. I want to visit Beijing first because it is our famous capital city and there are a lot of historical buildings. Yun Nan is second on my agenda because it has beautiful scenery. Travelling can broaden my horizons. However, I will often come back to LCMS.
- R: Can you say something to encourage students in LCMS before you leave?
  - : I encourage our students to work hard and do their best to get good results in their studies. You must not waste your precious time and potential during your time in LCMS. Also, I hope all of you can do more charity work to help the needy.
- R: We all know that our school extension project will be carried out soon. Could you tell us what facilities will be provided in the new building?
- L: I wish the new building would be beautiful and spacious. It could provide a bathroom for students to take showers after PE lessons. Of course, a spacious and comfortable school hall would be a great offer to the teachers and students to have assemblies.
- Mr. Lui, thank you for your precious time. We all hope that you'll have a leisurely retired life.

P.S. It is indeed sad to bid him goodbye but we all wish him good luck after he retires.



Reporters Clodya Chan Yi-shan, 4A Selina Tong Yin, 4A Wan Ying, 4A Shella Yip Suet-yan, 4A



## INTERVIEW WITH

# MS. LI KIT-SUM -OUR RESPECTABLE DISCIPLINE

**MISTRESS** 

R = Reporter

Li = Ms. Li Kit-sun

#### R: What was your dream when you were young?

- Li: When I was a teenager, I wanted to be a nurse or a policewoman because being a nurse,

  I can help patients while being a policewoman, I can enforce the law and protect the interests of the majority.
- R: Have you ever disobeyed your parents or teachers?
- Li: No, I've always been a good girl and I studied very hard.
- R: What's your major subject at university? Why did you choose it?
- Li: I was good at business studies so I chose business administration as my major.
- R: Why did you choose teaching as your lifelong profession?
- Li: By the time I graduated, it was very difficult to get a job. One day, I found a job vacancy advertisement in a newspaper and I applied for it, Luckily, I got it. From then on, I have the chance to teach young people. I found that I like teaching.
- R: In your opinion, what are the qualities of a good teacher?
- Li: A good teacher should be punctual, take care of students, always wear a smile, and be polite.
- R: In your opinion, which aspects should LCMS students improve?
- Li: Students should hand in their homework on time and learn to be more polite to teachers.
- R: What do you think about our class?
- Li: Your class is wonderful. It is a joy for me to teach you.
- R: In your life, have you done anything that you regret?
- Li: Sending my son overseas to study. If I had let him stay in Hong Kong, he would have learnt more Chinese and I could have had more time to talk to him.
- R: What's your future plan?
- Li: I'll try to make my best to help my students to get good grades in HKCEE.
- R: If you could turn back time, what would you want to change?
- Li: I'd like to be young again so that I could spend more time with my parents.

Reporters
Chan Wai-chun, 4A
Feng Pei-yu, 4A
Lai Yuk-ting, 4C
Tang Lau-kuk, 4C



## INTERVIEW WITH MS. LI YUR-MOI -A NEW ENGLISH TEACHER

R: Ms. Li, what are your hobbies?

L: My hobbies are reading, traveling and playing TV games.

R: Why do you like these hobbies?

L: Since different countries have different interesting cultures, traveling enables me to broaden my horizons. Playing TV games are exciting and it helps me release my stress. Besides, reading documentary books, ghost stories and science fictions help me relax while gaining knowledge.

R: What was your job before teaching?

L: I worked in some hotels in various countries such as Switzerland, the UK and Hong Kong (China).

R: Why do you want to be a teacher?

L: Teaching has been my dream job since I was young. I enjoy the working environment very much and some of my family members



R = reporter L = Ms. Li Yun-moi

are teachers too. I am interested in chatting with students. I think I can understand them more by communicating with them directly.

R: Do you feel happy when you teach? Why or why not?

L: Of course! I feel happy and energetic when I teach as the students are nice and cute! Not only do I teach students, I think we learn from each other and prosper together.

R: Where do you live and who do you live with?

L: I live in Tai Koo Shing with my parents and husband.

R: Have you lived in other countries before?

L: Yes, I have lived in Brunei, Switzerland and the UK before.

R: Can you give us some tips in learning English?

L: Definitely! You can listen to different kinds of English songs in your free time, for example, opera, pop songs, folk songs, hip hop and rap. One important point is to choose music that inspires optimistic thinking. Moreover, reading is significant too as it enriches your vocabulary bank. In addition, try to imitate the pronunciation of the actors and actresses when you are watching TV programmes in English. This enhances your fluency in spoken language.

R: That's the end of the interview and thanks for your sharing.

L: You are welcome!



Reporters
Chan Chung-yiu, 4A
Yeung Wing-chung, 4C
Siu Chun-ho, 4C
Hui Ko-man, 4E

# INTERVIEW WITH MS. WORD RA-SUEN -A NEW ENGLISH TEACHER

R: How do you think of students in LCMS?

W: Most of them are very smart and active. They are nice as well. They always move or walk in the playground, talk a lot at recess time, respect the teachers. But also some of them are naughty; they sometimes break the school rules.

R: What is special about our school?

W: There are a lot of good elements. Our school is just like a big family, teachers and students have a good and strong relationship. Besides, it is a Christian school, so we have the practice of praying to god in the morning and before meals. I feel very happy working in this school.

R: Why do you want to be a teacher?

W: When I was young, I didn't think of becoming a teacher. My first job was a part-time job. I was once a journalist and a flight attendant. R=Reporter W= Ms. Wong Ka-suen

After that I wanted to challenge myself and change students. Also I think being a teacher is a rewarding job. If I can inspire students to like English, I will feel very successful. So I like to be a teacher.

R: Why do you teach English?

W: That's because I'm interested in English.

R: A lot of people think that being a teacher is a hard job, especially in Hong Kong. Do you share the same feeling?

W: No, I like to be a teacher because I love teaching, so I don't think it's hard for me. Even though marking books, teaching, and preparing homework or running JPC activities are busy, I still enjoy being a teacher.

R: Since you are so busy, do you do any activities at the weekend?

W: Yes, of course. I watch movies, go shopping, meet my friends, read books and listen to music. It helps me relax.

R: So what types of movies do you like best?

W: I like all kinds of movie. But I would like to watch western movies more than Chinese ones, especially Hollywood movies.



Reporters Coey Cheung Kar-man, 4E Jessica Lai Pui-pui, 4E Wong Sze-man, 4E Liu Sau-choi, 4D

Written by
Daphne Chan Lok-yan, 6A
Debbie Tsui Wing-tak, 6A
Alan Mok Siu-lun, 6A
Jane Lai Hoi-yan, 6B

Dim Wei Tsz-sum, 6A Lincoln Chair Yat-hin, 6A Deng shun-quan, 6A Cathy Kwok Tai-kei, 6B

Recently, the English Department of our school has joined a QEF-funded professional development and research project, promoting New Literacies in Hong Kong Schools, conducted by Dr. Matthew Clarke (principal investigator), Ms. Margaret Lo, Dr. Jasmine Luk, and Dr. Svetlana Chigaeva (co-investigators) from the Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong. The aims of the project are to support teachers' teaching strategies, enhance students writing and reading experiences, develop students' ability to work with new technology and create room for students to apply technology in literacy activities. As one of the 12 participating schools, our school has planned to integrate new literacies teaching into

junior form curriculum from January 2009 to August 2010.

### AJB DUHL HHHE JPJR DUJECHE

In our school, two F.1 classes and one F.3 class are taking part in the project. For the F.3 students, they have to work in groups and give digital story telling presentations about films and books in which they are interested through Power Point slideshows. Students will later share their comments to the other groups and write a reflection about this project. As for the F.1 classes, students have been exposed to the application of a mind-mapping software which helps them organize ideas in writing and the production of a radio drama series. Hope that all students who have been involved gain lots of fun and unforgettable experiences and enjoy the whole new way to learn English language.

## Interview with Dr. Svelleme Chigaeva

Reporter: As we know that the project is meant to be an action research. Can you tell us what an action research 10

Dr. Chigaeva: Action research is basically research that your teachers conduct. Your teachers conduct research on your learning and on new types of teaching methods. For example, nowadays, we are introducing a new way teaching English and so teachers are observing. They are trying to notice and understand whether their teaching method is useful, whether it is effective in your school and what kinds of modifications need to be made in the future, and that's action research. It's basically research conducted by your teachers about their teaching and about your learning.

Reporter: What are the objectives of this study?

Dr. Chigaeva: Well, for us, the objective is to introduce new elements into teaching English and to evaluate

the effectiveness of this new element. Do we know whether it's good or bad? How do we know this element is good in teaching? For example, one of the classes in your school is doing digital story telling which means that they are presenting their ideas in a format of a PowerPoint presentation, so this is information technology involved here. The teacher has introduced these new elements into teaching and wants to know whether this is interesting to the students, whether this helps them learn English, whether this helps them learn more things about English, etc. So these are the basic objectives of this study.

Reporter: Is it a huge project?

Dr. Chigaeva: It is a big project. Yeah. We have quite a number of schools participating in the project at the moment. We have both secondary schools and primary schools.

Reporter: Why are you interested in the investigation?

Dr. Chigaeva: We have um... maybe four primary investigators in Hong Kong. We are all interested in this area because we realize that today's education is a bit lagging behind the current development in the world. You know, today's world is so affected by technology, and is so affected by the new types of digital technology. The recording that I am producing now is a type. So how do these kinds of tapes get integrated into school education? Are our students able to produce and interpret these kinds of tapes? These are the main questions that motivate us, so we want to bridge the gap between our usual practices, what we do outside the school and what we do inside the school.

Reporter: Do you enjoy working with schools? Why?

Dr. Chigaeva: Oh. Very much! I really enjoy going to schools like yours. I really enjoy observing the classes, talking to the teachers as well as the students. And I think this is very enjoyable!

Reporter: Do you think Hong Kong students are motivated to learn, or are they the so-called "passive learners"?

Dr. Chigaeva: I think it depends. I think many students are motivated and I think you guys are all motivated here, right? But there are students who think they are not good enough so their motivation is lower. But it's possible to motivate those students, I think. And introducing technology into the classroom could help that kind of students to become interested.

Reporter: Do you think reading could really help students raise their English standard



Dr. Chigaeva: Definitely! I think reading is one of the important skills that every student must develop. You can widen your knowledge of the world, you can increase your vocabulary, enhance your grammatical knowledge, you can see more sentence patterns, more phrases. So it can really help you improve your English. But at the same time, only reading is not enough, so you can combine reading and speaking together. That would be a really good idea. Yet reading is very important.

Reporter: Which is the weakest area of Hong Kong students?

Dr. Chigaeva: um...weakest area ... maybe speaking because Hong Kong students are usually shy about speaking. But at the same time they have so many chances to speak. There are so many foreigners everywhere so you can speak to them anytime. Usually they are quite friendly. So I think Hong Kong students are a bit too shy. And also, reading is quite popular among some students but not all students. I think our project is actually quite interested in comics. You know, many students like reading comics, so we want to introduce that into teaching writing and reading because comic strip writing is a good starting point, and then you can take that further to more extended and longer texts and that will be great!

Reporter: What difficulties did you face in this project? How did you overcome these difficulties?

Dr. Chigaeva: So far I am lucky that I do not see any difficulties.

Reporter: What is your impression of our school?

Dr. Chigaeva: It is so small. This is my first impression. I am used to living on Austin Road but I never knew there was a school here because it is so small. But at the same time, I think my other impression is that the teachers are very dedicated. They really want to help students learn more and become better.

Reporter: Do you like working with our teachers?

Dr. Chigaeva: Oh yes, definitely. I have met Miss Wong for a few years, so it's been a great pleasure to work with her all this time. I am getting to know other teachers as well, and I am really enjoying. We usually write e-mails to talk about your progress. Once a while, I come to your school. I'll probably come again next week.

Reporter: Would you please give us some tips on how to speak English fluently?

Dr. Chigaeva: Take every chance to speak it. First of all, do not be shy. At the same time, you can help yourself such as using the recorder. You can take a recorder and speak into the recorder, record your speech and then listen to it. You can listen to your pronunciation, you can listen to your vocabulary use and you can listen to your intonation. Let you practise and let you record yourself all the time. It is an easy way of using a recorder if you do take the technology to improve your speaking. You can also talk to your friends in English, maybe once a week you can have an "English Only Day", but you do need to have a friend who is also interested to improve English.

Reporter: What qualities should we possess if we would like to study at university in the future?

Dr. Chigaeva: I think you have to be very active and improve yourself, so self-learning, self-studying and interactive learning are very important. We would need to learn how to find useful things to read and how to ask questions. You need to be motivated too, actually outgoing, because the university life is also a kind of social life. You will be joining many clubs. If you have that kind of experiences, it would be useful as well. Critical thinking is quite important, so organizing questions to come up with clearly structured answers is essential. But I think the most important quality is being interested in the subject that you really want to study. If you really love that subject, everything else is secondary, so really develop that interest in something that you want to study.

Reporter: Do you have anything to say to Lai Chack students or teachers?

Dr. Chigaeva: I would say continue doing what you are doing. You have a lot of motivated teachers who are trying out new ideas, so continue to do that. As students, continue grasping opportunities, use those opportunities to improve yourselves. Also, have a dream for your future.

CHICAEVA

Since Dr. Chigaeva is a very special guest, we decided to give her a special gift to acknowledge her coming. We prepared a very beautiful rose for Dr. Chigaeva. However, it was not just an ordinary rose, but a crystal rose assembled by us piece by piece for almost 4 hours. We made it for her because roses represent romance, and all ladies love romantic handicrafts. Together with the crystal rose was a card drawn by one of our classmates. In the Thank You card, we included some blessings in English and Chinese. With the words written in Chinese characters and Putonghua transcriptions, we hope that Dr. Chigaeva can know more about the Chinese culture.

y 'Mew Literacies'?

#### Written by Dr. Svetlana Chigaeva

Today's teenagers enjoy a variety of communication means: they can interact with friends face-to-face, they can easily call them on their mobiles, or they can meet up in the virtual world of the internet. The phrase "new literacies" has to do with the increasingly popular ways of sharing information, creating texts, and interacting with others through mobile and digital technologies. It highlights the new types of texts that are created as a result of these interactions: texts which contain not only words but also pictures, videos, hyperlinks, and many other meaningful elements. In addition to the technological aspects of today's communication, new literacies include our interests in popular culture; for example, interest in reading comics and creating stories of our own. New literacies have a great potential for our language development.



Chapter 5 Adiose

## THE 60TH HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPEECH FESTIVAL

This year, some of our fellow students have performed with flying colours in The 60<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival presented by Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association. Having received training by our English teachers, 36 of our students attained proficiency or merit awards in the competitions. Among the participants, Li Yu of S.3A and Xiao Wei of S.2A were awarded the First Runner-up and Second Runner-up respectively. Here, some of the participants would like to share with us the precious experience they gained from participating in the competitions.

#### Reflections



#### Chan Yung-yung, 2A

Through the English Speech Festival, I've learnt more English vocabulary and the use of appropriate tone to recite a poem. Besides, it has enhanced my confidence to speak in front of a lot of people. Anyway, I enjoy the competition very much, so I will take part again in the coming year.

#### William Li Yu, 3A

I am so happy that I attained the First Runner Up at the English Speech Festival 2008. A lot of people said that I had American accent when I spoke in English and asked where I had learnt the accent. Some asked if I had lived in America before. My answer is "No!" Actually, I learnt it from the Hollywood movies. I love watching those

movies and I always go to rent my favourite DVDs. When I notice words that are easier to pronounce, I will imitate the mood and accent of the actors. I also like to talk to my classmates in English. That's why I can speak in English like an American Chinese. Lastly, I would like to say thank you to Miss Li as she helped us correct the pronunciation and manner of our speaking. We

got to know that it is not just about reciting but the way we

express feelings of the poet.

#### Joanna Choi Hung-sze, 3A

When I was standing on the stage, words popped out of my lips smoothly and yet strongly. The stage was like a swing where I could express my mood like a poet. Although I did not get any prizes at last, I gained precious public speaking experience at the English Speech Festival 2008. It was a chance to let me know how good students from other schools are and the occasion let me show the positive spirit I have towards English language learning. Before the Speech Festival, we had training sessions with Miss Li after school. She taught us how to proceed the stage of the stag

Speech Festival, we had training sessions with Miss Li after school. She taught us how to pronounce the words and how to catch the feeling of the poem, so I could stand on the stage with confidence. I would like to thank Miss Li and the teacher who took us to the venue on the day.

	1A	Lam Yuk-shan	Merit		
	1A	Wu Ka-man	Merit		
	1A	Chan Po-yan	Merit		
	1B	Lau Chung-yan	Merit		
	2A	Cheung Kar-wai	Merit		
	2A	Ip Nga-lai	Merit		
	2A	Chan Yung-yung	Merit		
	2A	Pan Yu-qing	Merit		
	2A	Kwok Yin-man	Merit		
	2A	Lung Sui-shan	Merit		
	2B	Chung Hiu-ying	Merit		
	3A	Tsoi Hung-sze	Merit		
	3A	Li Cui-qiong	Merit		
	3B	Tsao Chia-chien	Merit		
	3B	Keung, Elizabeth	Merit		
		Tieri-gikwan			
	3B	So Sze-man	Merit		
	4A	Feng Pei-yu	Merit		
	4A	Ng Shuk-man	Merit		
	4A	Wan Ying	Merit		
	4A	Chan Yi-shan	Merit		
	4A	Tong Yin	Merit		
	4C	Yee Hang-yi	Merit		
	4C	Li Sze-hau	Merit		
	4C	Lai Yuk-ting	Merit		
	1B	Zhang Si-shi	Proficiency		
	1B	Chan Mei-ki	Proficiency		
	1B	Chik Man-chun	Proficiency		
	2B	Chiu Tsz-yau	Proficiency		
	3A	Yiu Chiu-cham	Proficiency		
	3A	Lo Chun-wai	Proficiency		
	3B	Lo Sin-ying	Proficiency		
	4A	Yip Suet-yan	Proficiency		
	4A	Zhen Ai-lin	Proficiency		
r	ronounce the words				

Our Students' Achievements

1A Chung Wing-yan Merit

Li Yu

2A Xiao-wei

Merit(2<sup>nd</sup>)

Merit(3rd)





# Think Series Think Great Snapshot Competition

In February, a number of our Form 3 students achieved remarkable performances at a public competition. The competition was organised by Wiseman, a leading interactive curriculum developer and

competition. The competition was organised by Wiseman, a leading interactive curriculum developer and the name of the competition is called Think Great Snapshot Competition. The competition was opened to all schools in Hong Kong and Suzhou, including all CMI, EMI and International schools. Over 1,600 students and 400 teams participated in the competition and only top 30% of the students were invited to attend the Awards Presentation Ceremony at the Kowloon Tong Education Services

Centre Education Bureau, on 13th February, 2009. Three teams formed by twelve Lai Chack's students were honorably

invited to attend the ceremony. Great news was yet to come when it was announced that two teams achieved the 'Merit Award' and one team even achieved both the 3rd Runner-Up of the 'Best Caption Award' and the 'High Distinction Award'!



#### 'Best Caption Award' – 3rd Runner-Up 'High Distinction Award'

Title: Our Future Generation

Team Members:

3A Lee Tsz Yin Liz,3A Tsoi Hung Sze Joanna,3A So Hing Yi Terri,3A Wong Ching Ching Kathy

#### 'Merit Award'

Title: What is the Power of Love? Love ...

Team Members:

3A Ho Sheung Yi, 3A Au Sau Ting Candy, 3A Sze To Nga Ting Mandy, 3A Xia Jia Wen Carmen

#### 'Merit Award'

Title: Dreaming At My Hair Salon

Team Members:

3A Li Cui Qiong Kody, 3A Lee Wing Yee Karena, 3A Li Jia Ru, 3A Au Weng Ian Andrea



## Think Series New Zealand Leadership Programme

Rebecca Lau Chin-wai, one of our S.7 schoolmates, has been admitted to the The Think Series New Zealand New Thinking Leadership Programme 2009. As one of the 20 potential young leaders in the programme, she went through a series of intensive training sessions that helped her develop essential presentation and leadership skills.

#### Reflections

#### By Rebecca Lau Chin-wai, 7B

This year, I was so gratified by joining the Think Series New Zealand Leadership Programme. As the only F.7 student in the team, I was concerned that my study schedule for the A-Level examination might be affected. Luckily, it turns out that my worries have been unnecessary. Indeed, this leadership programme not only provides me with a chance to improve skills in leadership, management, organization and communication, I have also gained precious experience in working with "elites" from other schools. I really treasure this opportunity and would do my utmost for the success of the events I'm organizing with other leaders!







English Week was held from 17th to 21st November 2008. The theme of the English Week this year, 'Everything is Possible with Imaginations' echoed with the film students all watched in English classes: The Spiderwick Chronicles. huge need of imaginations and dreams. A wide range of activities were held during the English Week, here's a list of





- Song dedication
- Game booths

#### Drama

Fashio Show

New

Chapter 6

Character Desig:

Song Dedication









### Valentine's day

#### Valentine's Card Design Competition

In this activity, junior form students designed their Valentine's Cards with love messages written in English. Many of our students have shown their creativity and potential in design and drawing.

Title of Award	Class	Name of Student
First Prize	3A	Terri So Hing-yi
Second Prize	1A	Tse Oi-sze
Third Prize	3B	Elizabeth Keung Tieri-gikwan
The Most Creative Award	1A	Tin Ho-pang
The Most Romantic Award	3A	Terri So Hing-yi

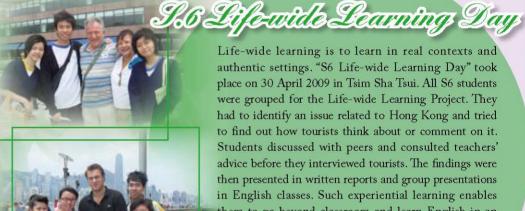
#### Love Letter Writing Competition

In the Love Letter Writing Competition, our S.4 and S.6 students expressed their affection in words to their family and best friends.

Title of Award	Class	Name of Student
First Prize	4A	Shella Yip Suet-yan
Second Prize	4C	Li Sze-hau
Third Prize	6B	Li Lai-shan
The Most Creative Award	4C	Kwan Suet-yee
The Most Romantic Award	4A	Clodva Chan Yi-shan







Life-wide learning is to learn in real contexts and authentic settings. "S6 Life-wide Learning Day" took place on 30 April 2009 in Tsim Sha Tsui. All S6 students were grouped for the Life-wide Learning Project. They had to identify an issue related to Hong Kong and tried to find out how tourists think about or comment on it. Students discussed with peers and consulted teachers' advice before they interviewed tourists. The findings were then presented in written reports and group presentations in English classes. Such experiential learning enables them to go beyond classroom and learn English in an authentic situation. It not only helps them develop English proficiency, but also helps them achieve the aims of whole-person development and enables them to develop the life-long learning capabilities that are needed in the ever-changing society.

### **English Channel**

Mesmerized students were under the spell of Wish in English! The lively and informative broadcast by William Li Yu and Billy Lo Chun-wai from 3A. Uttering idioms and expressions one after another, the 'magicians' filled the whole school in on the interesting aspect of the English

language. What William and Billy conveyed was music to other students' ears so they were all ears. They were eager to take in as much as possible and get a special prize! They could expect more to come as it was just the very first of a series of programmes. They all wanted to say 'Thanks a bunch!' to William and Billy from the bottom of their heart.





# Students writings

Michelle Chung Wing-yan, 1A

## Festival

Christmas is a very special festival. People usually stay with their family and friends to celebrate the birth of Christ. They also buy Christmas presents for their loved ones.

Yesterday, Johnny had a Christmas party at home. In the morning, his mother asked him to buy some food for the party. So he carried a wallet with him and went to a shopping centre. He bought a lot of tasty food. He wanted to give his mother a surprise, so he walked to the florist and bought some flowers for his mother. What a nice boy! He spent some time in the florist so he went home late. He ran fast.

When he went home, he found that he had lost his wallet. Johnny cried very loudly. His mother was curious, and she asked him, "Why are you crying?" Johnny replied, "I lost my wallet." His mother didn't get angry with him. Instead, she comforted him and said, "Everybody makes mistakes sometimes. So don't be angry with yourself."

Lastly, Johnny gave the bouquet of flowers to his mother. His mum felt so sweet. She kissed him. Johnny was joyful. Then, they started the Christmas party. Everyone enjoyed the party and was very happy.



## Writing a diary

Miki Chan Mei-ki, 1B

Saturday, 7 Aug

Dear Diary,

Today, I was very happy because I went to Ocean Park with my friend. I had sandwiches and soya bean milk as my breakfast. Then, I went to Ocean Park with my friend, Lucy. We went there by taxi. We bought the tickets at about \$200 each. We got a map because Ocean Park is very big and I was afraid I would get lost in the park.

First, we visited the Giant Panda Habitat to see the pandas. The pandas were cute. After seeing the pandas, we rode the cable car to the Adventure Land. The view of the sea and the mountain was beautiful. After getting off from the cable car, we went to see the jellyfish. They were very interesting. We stayed there for about 20 minutes. Finally, we were very hungry, so we went to McDonald's to eat hamburgers and drink cokes. At about 6 o'clock, we returned home because we didn't want our family to worry about us.

We were very happy today! But I am tired now, time for bed.

Good night, Diary

Mike



# Vational Casure Giffie Pan Yu-qing. 2A

Giant pandas are the national treasure of China. They are also my favourite animals too.

Everyone thinks that pandas are very cute, I absolutely agree. Therefore I find out lots of facts about them from the Internet. Pandas are of medium-size. They are black and white. Their bodies are round and chubby. They have dark circles around their eyes. Perhaps they don't have good sleep. Anyway, pandas are extremely cute and lovely. I know that most pandas live in Sidnuan Province and some in Gansu Province, China.

I have got some detailed facts about pandas. Male pandas are larger than female. Pandas stand 1 metre tall on four legs and their body length is 1.5 metres. But a newborn baby giant panda is very small. It weighs only 120-125 grams and its body length is 15 centimetres. It's very amazing!

Pandas like eating bamboo shoots. They spend ten to sixteen hours a day eating bamboo. It's so incredible! Pandas eat different parts of bamboo during the year. They eat leaves in summer and autumn, tough stems in winter and young shoots in spring. Is this interesting?

But it's a shame that pandas are endangered species. If we don't protect them, they will disappear one day. Perhaps we can't see giant pandas in the future. So people should not hunt them. Please remember that giant pandas are the national treasure of China. They are precious.



# My Favourite Part in My Favourite Part in School School Middle School Danniel Choi Wai-kin, 20

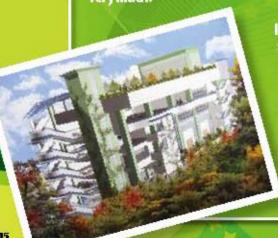
My school, Lai Chack Middle School, compared with other secondary schools in Hong Kong, is not big. However, there are many facilities in the school. Different facilities have different functions and specific features. My favourite part is the tuck shop. It is situated behind the school hall on the ground floor. It is an ideal location because students find it easy to get there from different corners of the school. It takes me just a couple of minutes to get there from my classroom. There are many tables and long benches of various colours. It is quite tiny. During recess, it is packed with students.

I usually have breakfast in the tuck shop and have a chat with my friends in the morning before school starts. We update one another on trendy things we are interested in and exchange gossip. We enjoy it very much.

I like it there because I can have my favourite snacks and watch other students playing basketball in the playground at the same time. Once I get there, I feel relaxed and do not have to worry about homework and tests.

After school, I wait for my friends in the tuck shop and we go home together. Towards the end of each month, I go there to pay for lunch for the next month.

I spend quite some time in the tuck shop. It plays a very important part in my life at school.



Poor Children

Mabel Ng Pui-mei, 3A Quine Wong Yim-siu, 3A Tiffany Chow Hiu-yu, 3A Winnie Ng Yuen-sze, 3A





Poor children and rich children living in different places have different ways of playing. However, they share similar feelings.

The people in the pictures are mostly children and they have different destinies. Most children living in richer families are luckier than those in poorer families. Have you ever cared about poor children? Have you ever wanted to help them? Have you ever helped them? If you have not, you are an unloving person.

In the picture, you can see that the children are from different places in the world. On the left, the children are not wearing any shoes because of poverty. They also do not have any special toys and all toys are made by themselves. Most of the time, no body takes care of them and usually, they just chase each other around for fun. Sometimes, they have to look for food with their parents. Maybe you can't see clearly from the picture, but their abdomens are swollen due to certain illnesses. Besides,

they may not have good nutrition and they fall sick easily. You may think that their clothes do not look too bad; however, most of their clothes are donated by richer people. On the right, the children are sitting comfortably and happily in their baby carriages. They are not like the poorer children on the left, who do not have a baby carriage and have to use a box instead. Besides, there are adults to look after the children on the right. Moreover, they are wearing beautiful clothes and shoes.

What is your first feeling when you see the pictures? In our opinion, poor children need more people to take care of and to care about their feelings as they may often feel lonely without companion ship. We need to help them grow both healthily and happily!



## o'clock

Elizabeth Keung Tieri-gikwan, 3B

This was a story about a 14-year-old girl, Melissa, who went to a school camp and experienced something extraordinary. Everyone was very excited about the camp. When they got to the camp site, they all went straight to their rooms to see how good they were. But only Melissa went to have a check-up of the bathroom. She was curious about how clean the totlet and the bathroom were, because she had a habit of keeping herself very clean. When she found out that she needed to share the bathroom with all her roommates, she came up with a lie that would allow her to be the only one to have a shower. So, she told everyone that the bathroom was haunted with a young female ghost. She told her roommates

that the dead girl hanged herself in the bathroom because her boyfitend broke up with

her. So, the girl ghost would wander around the bathroom at eight every night. After hearing this, her roommates totally believed her and were completely terrified. They surely would not go near the bathroom at eight every night.

Since her friends were really scared, Melissa reached her goal that she could take shower alone at night in the nice and clean bathroom. She was really happy that the story scared them off.

One night, while she was taking a shower, she had a strange and unusual feeling. After a while, she felt like something was rubbing against her head. Melissa struggled to look up, but when she was finally brave enough to check out what it was, she saw a girl with long straight black hair who had a really long narrow red tongue. Melissa was totally shocked by this and stood at the corner... shaking....

The girl ghost whispered, "You want to see me, right? I'm here. It's eight o'clock."



## A Nightmare

Shella Yip Suet-yan, 4A

Dear Chris,

Haven't written to you for a long time. How are you? I've just finished my final exam. But I had a horrible yet funny dream just before that. It happened on the eve of the exam.

You see, as I'd been tather lazy for many days, I still hadn't revised half of the exam materials. So I had to burn the midnight oil, trying to cram the notes into my head. The process was quite slow, painful and fruitless. I kept reading, trying to memorise all the important notes.

But I was very tired and my eyes were so heavy that I could hardly keep them open. Slowly I dozed off at my desk. Then I saw a little fairy. She looked like Tinker Bell in the story, Peter Pan. She also had a magic wand. 'I will give you a wish. What do you want?' she said kindly. I cried and pointed to the books. I didn't say anything, but she seemed to know what I wanted.

She waved her magic wand. Just a second, I was in a laboratory. The belts from the seat tied me up automatically. The electrical whee came floating to me by them selves. The instruments of the machine were all over me then. It was so painful that I could not stand anymore.

Later, I was dazed and knew that I was in an operating theatre. I saw a doctor and his assistant. It was strange

that I felt quite cold in my head. To my horior, I saw them putting a lot of books... Do you know where they put the books? They cut open my head and put them all into it!

Afterwards, I tan as fast as I could and they were chasing me. I thought they were crazy!

Luckily, it was just a dream, a bad dream. From now on, I will work hard for my studies.

Love,

Shella

Vanness Ho Yu-fai, 6A

## Advantages and disadvantages of social interaction via the Internet

Today, the Internet is one of the most powerful tools throughout the world. The Internet is a collection of various services and resources. Therefore, more and more people are using the Internet as their primary means of social interaction—chatting, playing online games, documenting their lives in a weblog, or reading and commenting on other people's weblogs.

There are numerous advantages of the Internet. Firstly, entertainment is one of the popular seasons why many people surf the Internet. People can download games, go into chat rooms or visit people's weblogs. There are a lot of games that may be downloaded on the Internet at no charge. Chat rooms are popular because users can meet new and interesting people. People can also visit others' weblogs on the Internet so that they can find life-long partners. Secondly, people can read the news on the Internet. Almost all news can be obtained through the Internet, such as sports, weather etc. Thirdly, children and students can use the Internet for their assignments. At the same time, many teachers use the Internet to teach in classrooms. The Internet has become an educational tool. Finally, shopping online is agreat advantage of the Internet. No matter what people are shopping for, it can be found on the Internet. People do not have to leave home to buywhat they want.



On the contrary, many fear the Internet because of its disadvantages. Most parents do not realize the dangers hidden when their children log onto the Internet. When children are online, they can easily be lured into something dangerous. When children are talking to others online, they do not realize they could actually be talking to a detrimental person. One major disadvantage of the Internet is the invasion of privacy. Personal information can be easily released and tracked by hackers. In addition, children may also access pornographic materials online, and children are curious to explore these things such as pornographic videos or pictures. Some people are so devoted to the Internet all the time that they even forget to eat or drink. Heavy Internet use can be harmful to people's health and lead to isolation between people.

In conclusion, society's development nowadays is based on technological tools. The Internet is a very powerful tool. It has many advantages. However, people need to be extremely aware of the disadvantages as well. We should handle its problems with care and use it properly.



Alan Mok Siu-lun, 6A

## top Playing Computer Games to make Reading a Habit

Nowadzys, many students find themselves "fallen in love" with the Internet and computer games. Most of them prefer playing computer games to reading. They tend to iconize novels as "boring" while computer games as "exciting". They are reluctant to read books and even if they read, they may soon give up. However, many studies have shown that children who spend about 30-60 minutes a day on general reading achieve better results in language subjects and mathematics. Therefore, as a student, we should spend more time on reading, but not on computer games. Make reading your habit!

#### Choose books you feel interested

The reason why so many students are reluctant to read is that they cannot find a book in which they are interested. Hence, if you want to take up the habit of reading, you should choose a book based on your interests. For example, if you love the computer game "War Craft", I recommend you to read the original fiction War Craft. In fact, many computer games are adapted from fictions. If you are professional game players, you should not miss the chance to read the originals of the games you love. Remember, the first step to start areading habit is important: choose abook that you like.

#### Read every day

After choosing a book you like, you should plan your timetable. Reading should be included in your timetable as a daily routine. You may review your timetable and make sure if it includes at least 30 minutes for reading every day. You should follow your timetable seriously though it is probable that you may need to confront with some difficulties at the beginning, such as the slow reading speed or the temptation from computer games. Nevertheless, you should be tough enough to overcome these challenges. Don't break the reading habit easily. Do your best to keep it up!

#### Choose a silent and comfortable space to read

Undoubtedly, a silent environment is ideal for reading as noise may sometimes divert your attention away from the words. You may even feel annoyed if you read in a noisy environment. Normally, we can choose to read in libraries or study rooms. They not only provide you with a large variety of books to choose from, but these places are also quiet enough and many people are reading with you there.

There is no doubt that reading can bring positive impacts on academic achievement. It can also help you develop a critical mind when you think more after reading. It is never too late to start taking up the habit of reading. Follow my tips and have reading planned as adaily routine of your life. Don't miss the treasure hidden inside books.

## AS STREET

Rebecca Lau Chin-wai, 7B

Korea is a country with great vitality and is almost unrivalled in Asia. These years, Korean influences have swept through Asian consumer markets including Hong Kong, and the younger generation in particular seems to be addicted to Korean culture. As a teenager, I am fond of different kinds of Korean products and I do believe that the local market has been taken over by Korean

Having the television turned on, you can easily see that many Korean TV drama series are broadcasting. My mother has a craving for Korean TV drama series, especially those love-comedy drama series. For instance, the Romantic House, which is about the love story between a girl and a pop idol in Korea, is my mother's favourite drama series.

When it comes to pop idols, Rain and Super Junior will be the most popular idols not only in Korea, but also in Hong Kong. Most of my friends love their songs and dances. Every Thursday, a programme called "Pops in Seoul" introduces the hottest Korean songs and invites many celebrities and pop stars to the show. Some of my friends are so obsessed with their Korean idols that they have even set up weblogs and facebook fan clubs for their idok. Through these weblogs and facebook connections, they exchange latest news about their idols and post their views on their idols' recent acting on TV.

Aside from popidols, the Korean restaurants and fashion are my

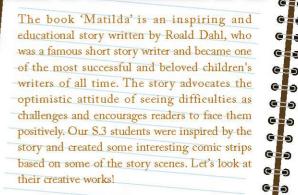
favorites. In Hong Kong, there are Korean restaurants everywhere. I like having lunch or dinner with my family in Korean restaurants as the food there is so delicious and so different from Chinese cuisine. I would say Kimchi and barbecue pork are the cuisine I like most Apart from culinary arts, Korean fashion is chic too. When I go shopping, the clothes made in Korea always catch my eyes.

The craze for Korean fashion and cuisine seems to be more common among teenagers. As for adults, it is not uneasy to find some traces of the craze for Korean technological ideas. There are many Korean brand-name electronic products at my place, including the television, computers and even my mobile phone. Samsung and LG are two typical examples of Korean brand-name electronic products. My father prefers these two famous Korean brand names because their products are much cheaper but in high quality when compared with other electronic products on the market.

To summarize, with the Korean influences sweeping through Asian consumer markets, the Korean TV drama series, movie stars and pop idols, fashion and electronic products have taken over Hong Kong market undoubtedly. I anticipate that there will be more and more Korean products on the boal market in the future.

# COMIC STRIPS BASED ON THE BOOK





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By Andrea Au Weng-ian, 3A Karena Lee Wing-yee, 3A Kody Li Cui-qiong, 3A Li Jia-ru, 3A



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By Tiffany Chow Hiu-yu, 3A Winnie Ng Yuen-sze, 3A Mabel Ng Pui-mei, 3A Quine Wong Yim-siu, 3A





Huh? Don't you recognize me? I'm a very important person in this school. I used to study here, just like every one of you. I have a great sense of belonging to school and I hope you all

do.



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2. Mt Lil Chak-ming
3. Mt Lil Hung-sing
4. Ms Leung Slu-har
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