

Spotlight

2018
10 ISSUE

Commit to be fit

English Magazine
Lai Chack Middle School

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Commit to be fit

As we enter the 2017/18 school year, I once again have the honor of presenting you the 10th issue of Spotlight: the annual English magazine showcasing students' learning experiences and achievements. Over the years, we have built a tradition of diligence, perseverance and humility. We take pride in being a school where every student can find an avenue of success and being in a community where every Lai Chackian strives to find the best in themselves and others. We have so much to be proud of and will continue to be the type of school that parents are delighted to send their children to.



Established in 1929, our school is devoted not only to pursue academic excellence but also to motivate and empower our students to be lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and productive members of an ever-changing global society. We know this can only be made possible with a healthy mind and body. The theme of this edition is 'Commit to be fit'. In this issue, you are invited to witness how our students learn to develop a healthy lifestyle through a number of English activities held in the year: English Drama Show, Fruit Party, Exercise Corner and LCTV broadcasting students' ideas of maintaining good health. All these echo with our belief that learning is not just about acquiring facts and figures but is also based upon a holistic approach that helps students grow to be physically and mentally healthy.

I would like to thank the team of English teachers who strive to cultivate students' interest in English language learning and constantly help them grow to their full potential in terms of their English language skills, physical, mental and spiritual wellness.

I hope Spotlight would be an enjoyable read to you!



Tsang Yau-shing

Mr. Tsang Yau-shing

Principal





Interview with Principal Lee

In the next semester, Principal Lee Kit-ming will take over the job from Principal Tsang. Principal Lee who has served Lai Chack Middle School for 20 years is enthusiastic in education and has a strong sense of responsibility. Also, he has rich administrative experience. From this interview, we hope that we could know more about our new principal.

Ashley	Principal Lee, did you want to become a teacher or a principal when you were young ?
Principle Lee	When I was a kid, I did. I would mimic being a teacher writing on the blackboard. And my passion for education grew when I was in my secondary school where I met many great teachers. But I was not confident enough at that time. Later when I studied in university, the idea of becoming a teacher has come back to me again and I started to find jobs related to education. In the end, I became a teacher in Lai Chack Middle School and my career began from there.
Ivory	You suggested us setting our goals. Where does this idea come from?
Principle Lee	I think that having a goal is really important. We would lose our directions very easily if we don't have one. And it would be like sailing in the ocean without a compass. As what the Bible said: <i>'Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, press on toward the goal.'</i> -Philippians 3:13-14. So we must try to achieve our goal in every possible way.
Ashley	Does determination always lead to success?
Principle Lee	Mm...in some cases, no. But we need to know that 'Failure is the mother of success.' And with diligence, perseverance and humanity, we would finally embrace a rich and happy life. A student once told me that he worked very hard every year but still could not get the first place in the exams. He was so upset and disappointed. I told him not to give up, and that it should be the process that counted most. As long as he did try his best and make the most efforts in making his dream come true, there should be nothing to regret.
Ivory	Principle Lee, what is your expectation on school development ?
Principle Lee	At present, the development of our school has become more and more mature. With the belief of an all-round education and a whole-person development, we hope our students to learn the qualities of 'diligence, perseverance and humility'. I also expect students to actively learn and pursue excellence in our school's Christian education so that when they enter the society in the future, they will also care about and serve the people around them. In term of teaching and learning, our school will closely follow what the Education Bureau suggested and include those elements in our curriculum, such as values education, Chinese history, Chinese culture and STEM teaching mentioned in 'Learning to learn 2.0'. I would like to see our students grow in an environment where Christianity and traditional philosophy go hand in hand.
Ashley	Principle Lee, can you share with us your experience of learning English ?
Principle Lee	I felt it so difficult when I was learning English back then. The main reason was I lacked confidence. I was afraid of speaking out and being teased by my classmates. But later I found that such worry was indeed unnecessary. When I travelled to European countries, there were many people who spoke English with different accents. I then started to think: as long as we could communicate and understand each other, why bother whether the English I spoke was immaculate or not? With that in mind, I no longer felt scared of speaking in English and began using it more often. I gradually gained my confidence thereafter. When I was a student, I used to copy new words from the dictionary and recite them. I found this method very useful. I also suggest students learning English by writing and reading more, by recitation or listening to English news. But no matter which method you use, always remember that it is your determination that matters the most. With that in mind, I am sure all of you will have a prosperous future and a fruitful life.
Ivory	Thank you Principal Lee for taking the time to have this interview. Under your leadership and guidance, we believe our school will march towards a new milestone.

Interviews with teachers

REPORTER Mr Tang, may we know who your favourite athlete is? Why?

MR TANG: My favourite athlete is Rex Tso, a professional boxer, who has amassed 22 successive victories. At 6, Tso started practising boxing. He was 12 when he first participated in a competition. I admire him the most because of his sportsmanship. He never gives up and is devoted to boxing. That is why he can bring Hong Kong glory.



REPORTER: Ms Chow, as a PE teacher, you know a lot of athletes. Among all, who is your favourite athlete?

MS CHOW: My favourite athlete is Sang Lan, the ex-gymnast. She received many awards in gymnastics at a young age. However, she was hurt when she was warming up for a competition and the result of the injury was paralysed from the mid-chest down. She could never be a gymnast but she did not give up. She became a reporter at the Beijing Olympics. She lives an ordinary life, is married and has children. Her persistence is what I like the most.



REPORTER: Mr Patience, can you tell us who your favourite sports player is?

MR PATIENCE: Mine is Cathy Freeman, a famous Australian runner. She is Aboriginal and her people have a lot of problems but Cathy proved that they can triumph too. When the Olympics were held in Sydney, she won her race and became an incredible Australian champion forever more!



REPORTER: Ms Lai, could you please tell our readers who your favourite sportsperson is?

MS LAI: I like Liu Xiang, the famous Chinese athlete. He joined the high jump team of his school when he was young. Then, Mr Sun Haiping, his coach, encouraged him to try hurdles instead. He practised very hard. In 2001, Liu won his first world championship at Universiade in Beijing. Then he won several gold medals in different world races. However, Liu pulled his Achilles tendon and had to withdraw from the 2008 Olympics. Nevertheless, he returned to the sports ground the next year. Liu Xiang's determination made him Chinese hero.



Hong Kong Secondary Schools

Debating Competition

What an interesting and rewarding time the Lai Chack Debating Team have had this year! Despite a victory eluding our grasp in both the first and second term competitions, our speakers still learnt valuable skills in bonding together as a team, coaxing and supporting one another as well as the all-important debating skills of rebuttal, speech writing and speech delivery.

Our first competition involved a trip to Chung Chuk School on Hong Kong Island – a place which looked as if it had been carved into the side of the mountain! – to do battle with Ms Chu's Debating Team. It was here that Nicole from 3A had her debating debut as our team argued against the increased use of robots for the care of Hong Kong's elderly. Nicole had a strong start whilst stalwarts Chris and Gabriel also contributed to a good match.

For the next debate, we were the hosts as Ms Pang's team from SKH Lam Woo Memorial School came to tackle the issue of E Cigarettes with us. Pansy from 4C was our accurate time-keeper while the inimitable Martin from 5B was our somewhat eccentric Chairperson... "I love this guy!" was the comment from the Adjudicator on Martin's "amusing," antics!

The new term began and we were poised for our

opening round debate with Yan Choi Hospital School when something unexpected happened....the other team had to forfeit! This was especially annoying for Cameron from 4B who was all set to participate in our competition for the first time. Oh well! It was an easy victory and we prepared ourselves for the final debate of the year.

Lai Chack was the host once more when Mr Wallin and his team from Liu Po Shan Memorial College came to our school to debate whether or not the implementation of an organ donation scheme in Hong Kong was a good idea. Once again, Pansy kept time and – once again! - Martin was his inimitable self, drawing amused comment from the adjudicator.

So that's how things went for the debating team. Hopefully, next year, we'll snatch a victory or two and – who knows?! – a place in the finals?!

We'll see!





English Week

'Aladdin!' Proudly presented by Lai Chack Middle School. This year our department once again liaised with 'Chunky Onion Productions' to present the story of 'Aladdin' to students and to promote the message 'maintaining a healthy body'. Nothing comes easy. If you want to be healthy, you must be devoted and determined. It is the same as our slogan for the year, we must 'Commit to be Fit' Health has never been such an important priority in a child's mind, but as teachers we wanted to tell them that they need to monitor and maintain their physical health. It is thus that there is a link between mental and physical health. For instance, students need to be physically in shape in order to be active in class. And in addition, we need at least 10 hours of sleep a day in order for our minds to function properly in class. Also, it is imperative that we do exercise regularly in order to keep our body immune from illnesses. From time to time, students neglect their health at school. We watch our students every day and see them eat anything they want when they are hungry. When they start to do sports, they don't stop until the bell rings. As teachers, we need to urge our students to look after their bodies because without a healthy lifestyle, they will not be able to try their best at school and more importantly obtain the scores they want.



On the first day of English week, we introduced the theme of 'Aladdin' to students through LCTV broadcast and worksheets. On this day, teachers and students got together in their classes and discussed the story of Aladdin and how it related to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. In class, teachers gave a brief introduction to the topic of health and shared their experiences with students.

On the second day, we had a junior morning assembly. Students expressed their views on health during it. They also had an opportunity to take part in some afternoon activities during recess including interviewing teachers about health.

In the afternoon, we organized a workshop where students gathered together to learn about health. Participants played games together and showed a lot of interest in learning about ways to be healthy.



The next day was our afternoon assembly where 'Chunky Onion Productions' performed a drama show about Aladdin in our school hall. Everyone was excited about the show. The performers were hilarious! And the students and teachers took part in the show as well! The atmosphere was absolutely amazing! Everyone was clapping their hands until the end of the show. It was a non-stop interactive show. At the end, there was a tea party where the actors/actresses of the show and the students got together to ask questions about them and their preparations. It was a very fruitful learning experience for students to learn about the story of Aladdin in more detail and how much effort it took the actors to perform the show.





During the final day of English week, students had the opportunity to recap what they have learnt through the English week. In the afternoon, they went in the new chapel to take part in activities designed by teachers. The games included a matching game about healthy food, a mini-basketball game, a guessing game, food riddles and an exercise corner.



(Day 1 of our English activities)



(How many hours of exercise do you need to do a day? Hmmm,,,))



(Our English Helpers ~~~~~)



(Everybody move your body~~~)



(It's always fun to learn English ~~~~)

(Look at me~~~ I'm so skillful in skipping)

This English week was a very joyful experience for both teachers and students. We hope to see everyone next year for our English week. Stay tuned for the next theme of English week and remember, 'Commit to be Fit'!



English Made Easy

Join Our Society!

2018 continued to be a fruitful year of our school English Society. Dedicated to promoting the joy of learning English to the whole school and creating a rich and entertaining environment for learning English, our two brilliant chairpersons, Cameron (4B) and Gabriel (4B) have organized a wide range of activities that provide our schoolmates with precious opportunities to immerse themselves in the language. To name just a few, the Wall Street English course, the English Booth on School Fun Day and the Inter-school English Debate competition were huge success that, not only widen our students' horizons, but also foster the exchanges of views and knowledge among our students and those from our partner schools. Followed by the After School Workshop and the Fruit Party, the English Week was another highlight of the year. In such a relaxing English-rich environment, our club members not only could enjoy themselves, but were also encouraged to take an active role in communicating with others in English and most importantly, gaining lots of enjoyment and a great sense of achievement from all our exciting and enlightening activities. Thank you all our teacher advisors and committee members for all their great efforts to make all these great moments happen! With all their contribution and dedication, 2019 would definitely be another fabulous year for our students to look forward to! Let's walk together and explore all those fun ways to learn English.





Card Design Competition

What does LAI CHACK mean to these little newcomers? Let's hear them out!



1A Fong Ching



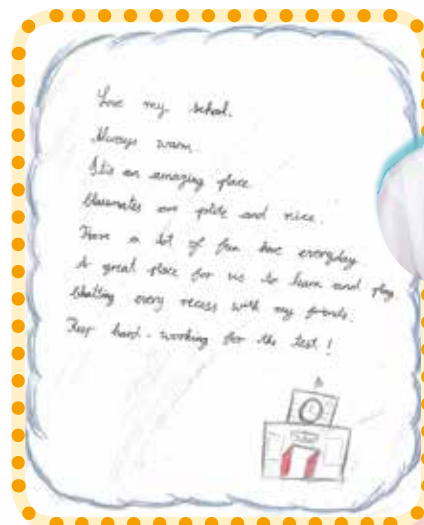
1A Chen Huizhen



1A Chan Man-yan



1A Lau Fei



1A He Yuet-tung



1A Poon Mei-ling



1A Ou Ruiyi



1A Lun Sin-ting





1A Tao Ying

Lai Chak is my home.
 All teacher and students feel happy here.
 I feel happy in the school too.
 Classmates are very friendly when someone is
 Help them.
 Always
 Come to help them and a lot of.
 Kind lessons we can have and learn interesting things.



1A Tran Yan-ye

Lai Chak is my school.
 As my home
 It has a lot of friends
 Classmates was funny.
 Happy days
 A teacher is nice
 Chinese is my favourite subject.
 Keep fighting

Lai Chak
 Always has joyful thing
 Interesting lessons
 Classmate helpful
 Happy teachers
 Amazing school life
 Chinese lesson is my favourite lesson
 Keep hard working



1A Wong Ka-ying

Lai Chak
 Lai Chak Middle school
 Amazing school
 I am in Class 1A
 Classmate are nice, teachers are hard-working
 Happy life in my school
 Always smile and laugh
 Chat and talk
 Keep happy!



1A Yu So-yin

L: Love my school.
 A: And because this school give me some joy.
 I: I will tell you my classmates and teacher.
 C: Classmates are very funny and beautiful.
 H: History teacher is very funny too.
 A: Also, English teacher is very strict.
 C: classmates are very tired after PE lessons.
 K: Keep us happy!



1A Chui To



1A Deng Yiu-wa

Lai Chak Middle School - My Learning School
 Let's all new things I can do - I can learn
 I make new friends I can learn with
 Can you do it too? I think you can do
 Help my new friend. My
 Apparent is very fast and full
 Can you tell your friends something
 Keep working



1A Heung Ho-ping

Lai Chak middle school is my school
 very beautiful one
 I'm good at Chinese
 Chinese is my favorite subject
 Holiday I go to library to read books
 book is interesting
 Chinese in the library
 Keep learning



1A He Ziming

L: Love my school
 A: Always studying
 I: It is good
 C: Classmates are helpful
 H: History is interesting
 A: At school I am hard-working
 C: Chinese is my favorite
 K: Keep well for study

EVENT ARCHIVES

Good People Good Deeds English Writing Competition

Congratulations to 4A Lau Hang Chun for receiving the Merit Award (Senior Level) in the Good People Good Deeds: English Story-Writing Competition organized by Tung Wah Groups of Hospitals. The story "Waiting" written by Hang Chun was appreciated by the panel of judges and it was awarded the Top 10 Merit Award in the Senior Level. A big thank you to Hang Chun's English teacher, Mr. Curtis Cheng, who helped her achieve her potential to the fullest.



English Day

The English Department has organized four different English Days surrounding the theme of 'Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle'. The four English Day topics were (1) ways on maintaining a healthy lifestyle, (2) a balanced diet, (3) mental health and (4) pets help with people's health. It really was a delightful experience to let students share their own healthy diet and daily exercise routines.



LCTV

A Daily Encounter with Lai Chack Pupils in the Air
A Valuable opportunity to learn IT skills
An Active Participation in School Events



Speech Festival

A Wonderful Experience to Compete with Other Schools

An Opportunity to Broaden our Horizon

An Intimate Interaction between Teachers and Classmates



1A	Lau Fei	Merit
1A	Yu So-yin	Merit
1B	Liu Hau-ying	Merit
1B	Cheng Wing-hei	Merit
1B	Hassan-ahmed	Merit
1C	Chu Tik-yi	Merit
1C	Hou Zhaolong	Merit
1D	Yip Chun-man	Merit
2A	Chen Zhiying	Merit
2A	Law Ching-man	Merit
2A	Li Xinyan	Merit
2A	Wong Tsz-yan	Merit
2A	Kwong Ka-shing	Merit

2B	Chan Hiu-ying	Merit
3A	Zhang Zi-feng	Merit
4A	Lam Hiu-tung	Merit
4A	Feng Yao	Merit
4A	Sing Si-nga	Merit
5A	Fung Tsz-ying	Merit
5A	Leung Wai-yan	Merit
1B	Shek Yuen-ting	Proficiency
2A	Tang Yat-fei	Proficiency
2B	Mohammad Raimuhammad Umarhayat Khan	Proficiency
4A	Chow Man-hei	Proficiency

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Another Way to Shine

4A	Dinh Ka-po	Credit
4A	Ngo Fung	Credit
4A	Chen Siyin	Merit
4A	Lui Ping-lam	Merit
4A	Lee Ming-yeung	Merit
4A	Chow Man-hei	Participation
4A	Lam Hiu-tung	Participation
4A	Lau Hang-chun	Participation
4A	Lau Suet-fei	Participation
4A	Lui Lok-yi	Participation
4A	Pan Meihua	Participation
4A	Pan Rutong	Participation
4A	Siu Mei-lan	Participation
4A	Huang Yingjie	Participation
4A	Leong Lap-keung	Participation
4A	Ng Shu-yan	Participation

4A	Lai Ka-fai	Participation
5A	Chan Wing-man	Participation
5A	Fung Tsz-ying	Participation
5A	Ip Ching-yu	Participation
5A	Law So-wun	Participation
5A	Leung Wai-yan	Participation
5A	Li Xin	Participation
5A	Liao Yingqian	Participation
5A	Ruan Caiyun	Participation
5A	So Ho-ying	Participation
5A	Xu Shiqi	Participation
5A	Chen Jia-cheng	Participation
5A	Huang Weiye	Participation
5A	Lo Kit-yan	Participation
5A	Lui Siu-chung	Participation
5A	Yin Ho-lung	Participation

Students' Writings

Danny Mak 1A (25)

Hey Mark,

Hi there! Does your school require students to learn swimming in PE lessons? Right now my school is proposing this. That's unusual! Let me tell you why I say NO to this proposal.

I don't think we have such need although swimming is useful and fun. PE teachers should teach us something special and rare like field hockey in the lessons instead of what we can learn in our spare time by ourselves easily.

What's more, our school should teach us some sports which could help build up our team spirit such as basketball, football, etc. However, swimming is not a team sport. We can practise it on our own if we want to. It's meaningless to teach us how to swim. Therefore, I think we should not include swimming in PE lessons.

Another reason why swimming should not be taught in PE lessons is its inconvenience caused to students. We have to bring our own swim gear and equipment to school on the day which we have swimming lessons. Our schoolbags are already heavy enough! There is no space for extra things. Most importantly, there is no swimming pool in our campus, which means we need to walk to the public swimming pool nearby. Though it only takes 15 minutes for the distance, don't you think it's annoying and we can learn more during the commuting time? Furthermore, taking a shower is a must for us to do after swimming lessons. However, students need to take turns to do so. It's totally a waste of time too! Thus, swimming shouldn't be included in our PE lessons.

What comes next is some students may be afraid of water and their parents may worry about their safety during swimming lessons. I think our school should respect our will. Actually, the principal could do a survey to see whether students want to learn swimming in PE lessons or not.

That's what I think. What is your opinion? Write back soon!

Best wishes,
Chris

Stephen Curry

Joy Shek 1B (8)

Stephen is a professional basketball player from the United States. He was voted as the one and only unanimous MVP player in the year 2015-16. He plays for the Golden State Warriors. He wears the number '30' on his jersey.

When he was in high school, he played basketball with his father every day. His father is also a well-known basketball player that plays for the Golden State Warriors as well. His name is Dell Curry. He is recognized for his ability to shoot three-pointers at ease. Before Stephen Curry joined the Golden State Warriors, he was very short and thin. His dream was to join 'Duck University's basketball training' but he did not qualify because of his size. He was sad, so he played basketball on his own every day and finally his hard-work got him into Davidson College where he had the opportunity to display his skills to everyone around the world.

After a few years, agents from the Golden State Warriors recruited him. Once again, Curry started his intensive training and through months of hard-work he finally achieved his goal to bring the championship back to 'Dub' City where until now is recognized as the land of the champions. Stephen Curry is a very popular figure and has over millions of followers on his social networking site.

A letter to the Editor

Vicky Chan 2A (2)

Dear Editor,

I read in your newspaper that Hong Kong is running out of space for our rubbish. I am shocked that our landfills are going to be saturated. We have very serious garbage problems. We should change the way we create and throw away rubbish to solve the problem.

Firstly, we should reduce the use of disposable goods. For example, we can reduce the use of disposable chopsticks and plastic bags. In fact, plastic bags are the main source of pollution. It is made from chemicals which will take hundreds of years to dissolve. If it is buried under the ground, it will produce poisonous gas too.

Secondly, we should recycle garbage such as recycling glass, plastic and waste paper and turn them into renewable resources. Although there are recycling bins in many places, people rarely sort rubbish. The aluminum cans should be placed in the yellow recycling bins. The plastic bottle should be placed in the brown ones. The waste paper should be placed in the blue bins.

The landfills in Hong Kong will be filling up soon. We must reduce the rubbish and protect our city.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

A letter to the Editor

Crystal Wen 2A (8)

Dear Editor,

I am writing to provide suggestions for saving energy at school. I believe we will waste more energy if we do not act now. Saving energy is very important. Everyone has the responsibility to save energy. As a student, we can do a lot at school.

Firstly, we should turn off all the electrical devices when nobody is using them. For example, we should turn off the computer after class. If the sun is bright, we can keep the lights off during the day. After school, we should check if all the power buttons are switched off, such as the lights, fans and computers. If we can do it every day, we will save a lot of energy.

Secondly, we must adjust the temperature of the air-conditioners. The optimum temperature is 25°C. Maintaining a low temperature will not only make people feel cold, but also waste a lot of energy.

Thirdly, we can hold an Energy-saving Day. At school, we have a lot of fun days for different subjects, for instance English Day, Chinese Day and Religious Day. We can introduce the ways to save energy to our students and let them know more about it through games. We can also demonstrate the use of energy-saving devices. For example, light bulbs, solar-driven and water-saving devices.

In conclusion, energy is the most important thing on Earth. We should save energy together. I believe if we do this for a long time, we can save lots of energy. I hope my suggestions will help develop an environmentally friendly atmosphere.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

A story in the 1st person

Leslie Li 2A (20)

A brown and yellow girlfriend

One day, the sun shone brightly through the leaves in the savannah. I felt very happy but I felt very unusual on this day. 'I'm very hungry,' said myself. I went out for breakfast anyway.

'Wow! The leaves are mouth-watering!' I ran to the trees and started eating the leaves. 'They are very delicious!' I yelled. Suddenly, two zebras were running to me. They looked very scared and yelled, 'Run! There is a lioness nearby!' I hid behind a tree immediately. 'But I haven't finished my breakfast. I'm so hungry,' I thought.

A lioness said, 'Please, can someone help me?' As soon as I heard that, I ran out and asked, 'Can I help you?' The lioness begged, 'Can you help me find a boyfriend. I'm so lonely,' 'Of course I can help you!' I answered. 'You're really helpful!' said the lioness happily. After that, I tried to introduce some friends to her but she didn't like any of them.

The next day, the lioness came back and said to me, 'Actually, the one I love is you. Can you be my boyfriend?' I replied, 'Of course, I'm lonely too.' 'You're so helpful and tall. That's why I love you very much,' whispered the lioness. 'I said, 'This must be love at first sight! You are the apple of my eyes too.' Then, we became lovers. We lived happily ever after.

A leaflet

Tony Tang 2A (25)

Modern Shopping Centre

We are awarded hundreds of prizes, such as Pritzker Architecture Prize and AIA Gold Medal, for our excellent services and the unique appearance of the centre and facilities.

Shops & Restaurants

We have a wide variety of shops. If you want to buy cosmetics, go to the 16th floor. The entire floor is full of cosmetic stores, for example Sephora and Pola. From 18th to 20th floor, there are countless restaurants and in the middle there are 450 seats for you. Our most popular restaurant is Monster Sushi. There're millions of Japanese food for you to choose.

Entertainment

If you want to watch a movie with your girlfriend, the cinema on the 31st floor is the best choice. The Couple Cinema is tailored for couples. We have the best sound effects and the biggest screen in town. Of course the most important thing is that we have many packages for couples. There's also a 4D cinema next to the Couple Cinema. You will never forget the impressive 4D effects. Plus, there is a spacious lawn on the top of the centre in which you can relax and enjoy the warm sunlight.

Security & facilities

If you're worrying about your safety while you're shopping, you don't have to worry about these problems. We have the most professional security guards to protect you from any potential dangers. Also, our 450 mbps free wifi covers the whole centre, so it's really convenient when you need the Internet. If you're fret about forgetting to bring the phone charger, we have mobile phone charging stations on every floor, too.

We have a VIP card and a free gift for all customers. There will be a discount when you use the VIP card, so what are you waiting for? Visit Modern Shopping Centre now!

A letter to a Character

Ryuto Man 2B(25)

Dear Aladdin,

How are you? After watching the drama of Aladdin, I think you are a talented actor. You can even become a Hollywood star. Jokes aside. You are my favourite character in the whole drama. I like you because you are brave and you made me laugh all the time. Your body language and your voice are so amusing. I want to ask you a question. How much does your magic lamp cost?

Best of luck
Ryuto

A letter to a Character

Umar 2B(26)

Dear Aladdin,

You were the best on the stage. You were as handsome as the real Aladdin, and your performance was the best of all the actors and actresses in the drama. You inspired me to be brave and not scared of anything. The show was so wonderful and amazing. If I were you, I would tell Genie to throw Abdul far away from Baghdad. I hope to see your wonderful show again next year.

Yours
Umar

Art Theft

Nicole Sung 3A (8)

Detective Tsang was having a bad day. Yesterday, he had arrested the thief who stole a famous painting from the Art Museum. But that morning, another painting was stolen. The museum manager gave him the security video. The thief on the video looked exactly the same as the woman he had already arrested!

The crime did not make sense. Why were all the security guards on break at the same time? Why didn't the alarms ring? How could the woman who was already in prison commit the crime?

Then he re-investigated the case and found that it was illogical in many ways. The prisoner, Mary, was one of the security guards of the museum. Although all the evidence found in the second theft pointed to her, she could not be present in the crime scene at the time of the crime.

Detective Tsang was a collector of newspapers and leafing through some could always bring him new ideas. He accidentally turned over the newspaper People's Daily from many years ago and found a list of the city's missing persons. It revealed that Mary's parents had reported the disappearance of their daughter but the prisoner had never been reported missing. So, who was the girl?

Detective Tsang then took the lead to investigate. He asked Mary whether she had a sister and she said no indubitably. However, from her positive and fast response, Tsang's suspicions were aroused. Then, he discovered that Mary had a twin sister, Emily, who had been separated from her family for many years. By coincidence, they met and were reunited. Tsang also inspected Emily's financial background and status. Unsurprisingly, Emily was heavily in debt. Therefore, her motive for committing the crime was made clear. She was planning to steal and sell the painting to repay the debt.

Mary committed the crime first and Emily treaded on her heels because Mary was one of the security guards who knew how to switch off the alarms and how to deceive other security guards into getting off work. Mary had told Emily all the aforementioned details, so Emily could easily disguise herself as Mary because they were twins.

Finally, Detective Tsang caught the twins.

Good People Good Deeds Competition – Top 10 in Hong Kong

Waiting

Alyssa Lau 4A (9)

A little boy who had just got on a minibus in Tsim Sha Tsui asked the driver to wait for his mother. After a minute, the mother still did not arrive. The other passengers began to grumble,

'You're wasting everyone's time,' they groaned, 'we're in a desperate hurry to get home.' At that moment, a crippled old woman with a worn wooden suitcase in her hands limped onto the bus.

'Mom, take a seat.' The son grasped her suitcase, cradled her tenderly in his arms, and sat her down. Everyone was silenced...

This was not their first encounter. In fact, the driver saw the mother and son catching his minibus at the last minute every single day. Once the boy got on the bus, he carefully opened his wallet and counted the coins. He would pay the exact amount, no more or no less, every single ride. They would, every single time, sit in the two seats right behind the driver. Overhearing their conversations, the driver learnt that the mother was not only disabled, but also illiterate. He always wondered why her leg was injured, what she did with her kid in Tsim Sha Tsui and why they had to take his minibus, the last one back to Sham Shui Po every day. These questions, however, were never answered.

Until one day on a busy street in Tsim Sha Tsui, a woman in rags selling sugar paintings caught his attention. The woman was using the same worn wooden suitcase he saw every day. When he wanted to walk closer to find out more, the woman staggered to the trash can and rummaged through the smelly garbage. She deftly spotted the leftovers in the can. As he approached, he could not help but cover his mouth because of the awful smell. At this time, a bowl of leftover rice was thrown from the distance, and the woman was splashed with oil. Without any complaint, she just looked up and wiped her hair with her bare hands. She picked up the food in the garbage can and walked to her son, who was kneeling on the street begging. She said, 'Come on, dinner time!' The son rushed to his mother with joy. The Mother watched her son eat with satisfaction. Innocently, the son asked his mother, 'Mom, why don't you eat too?'

'I'm not hungry.' Mom replied softly. The mother was glad to see her son's happy smile, and he loved her smile too. He reckoned it was the most beautiful smile in the world. At his very moment, the driver didn't notice that tears had welled up in his eyes. He was touched.

After that, the driver felt pity for them every time he drove the last minibus, wanting to talk to them but was held back because of a lack of courage.

One stormy night, the sky roared thunder and the rain began to pour down. The last minibus was scheduled to depart soon, but the mother and child were not yet seen. Feeling worried, the driver decided to wait for a few more minutes. Other passengers grumbled as usual. In the midst of this meaningless noise, he saw an old miserable woman, soaking from head to toe, carrying her son, grunting and bleeding, in her arms. Everyone went silent. There was only the sound of rain outside the window, the sobbing of the woman, and the occasional grunt of the child.

'Save my son!' She had been trying to shake her son and keep him awake.

'What can I do?' this question echoed in the driver's mind repeatedly. At this critical moment, he decided not to drive the usual route. He knew that it might cost him his job, but he still insisted on driving to the hospital straight away. But all this effort soon seemed futile because her child never woke up again. He passed away that night.

Finally, they got a chance to communicate, not on the minibus though. Sitting on a bench outside the children's ward, for the first time they talked. The child was an abandoned kid. She found him when he was a baby near a trash can in Shum Shui Po. She had never studied but she had learnt sugar painting from her own father years ago. When the child was six years old, he helped his mother to earn money and began to beg on the street with her. The tragedy happened when the child saw his mother walking across a street. A speedy car was dashing towards her. Her son saw it and pushed her on the ground, and saved her at the cost of his own life. Tearless, the mother told the driver everything about her and her son. The driver believed that this was the only thing he could do – to listen and accompany this woman.

Although it is not really difficult to wait for a few minutes, it becomes a very difficult thing to do some day, especially in this busy and emotionless city. How many good people are there in the world like the driver would spend his time doing good things? Life may not be fair. Fragile lives are lost every day and night. What matters are the deeds we do for others. There will be more and more good people in the world, won't there?

A letter to the Editor

Carol Xu 5A (18)

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the article published in Hong Kong Daily which is about the removal of several old trees in Hong Kong due to safety concerns. I cannot agree with the writer since having trees in Hong Kong brings plenty of benefits. Also, there are different ways of keeping the public safe other than removing them. Therefore, I am going to express my views on this issue.

First of all, having trees is essential for Hong Kong and its citizens. One of the advantages is that trees can improve the air quality. They could provide fresh air for the citizens which is good for their health. At present, air pollution is worsening in Hong Kong which could cause a lingering influence on the people who are living here. The dirty air could lead to lung cancer, a terrible disease that could kill anybody. Therefore, we need trees to produce new and fresh air desperately so as to improve the air quality for the city and protects the citizens from air pollution.

Another advantage of having trees in Hong Kong is that it is good for tourism industry. It goes without saying that Hong Kong is a wealthy and beautiful city. That said, you can hardly find a large green zone in the city centre or any popular places in Hong Kong such as Mongkok and Central. People would think that Hong Kong is an amazing shopping paradise but it is not really suitable to travel or enjoy the great view. However, if Hong Kong has some trees in busy areas, it might attracts more tourists to travel to Hong Kong. Furthermore, the world is calling for sustainable development. Having trees is also a way to carry out the concept. It could also be an attractive point to travellers. Hong Kong should be a green city, thereby having trees is an essential step to take.

Besides, in my opinion, instead of removing the old trees, there are other ways to keep the public safe. First, the government could check the old trees once a month. If problematic trees are found, they could heal them or cut down the ill part to make sure there is no danger. If the government could do so, the trees could always keep healthy and they could stay for a longer time.

Another way is to educate citizens how to protect trees and avoid accidents. The government should educate people to protect but not to destroy old trees such as cutting them down. What's more, citizens should avoid accidents from happening: they should neither climb the old trees, nor walk near ones which are marked dangerous. The final way to protect citizens is to make sure the trees would not be destroyed by terrible weather like typhoon. If Hong Kong did not do it, when the terrible weather comes, the old trees are dangerous to everyone nearby.

I hope my views could bring some different ideas about removing old trees in Hong Kong to you.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

Reborn

Winnie Chen 6A (1)

"Hey! Look at me...Can you hear me?"

"I need an ambulance please! Now!"

Pain, I can only feel it inside my body. Where am I? What happened? Who is he?

"Can you hear me now?" That voice appeared once again.

"Yeah...Where am I?" I tried hard to keep my eyes open.

"Hospital. You were in shock when I found you. Can you remember what's going on there?" He looked at me and asked.

I was staring into the window, and listened to the clock clicking.

"Dear, are you okay?" My mom ran to me. I can still see the tears on her face.

"I think I'm good." I smiled to her.

"Thank you so much. You saved my daughter. I can't imagine what would have happened if she wasn't with your help. Thank you. You are our hero." My mom burst into tears and hugged him.

"That's what I should do. I think the others will help her just the same, won't they?" He beamed on us.

"Thank you." I smiled to him.

When I was born into this world, I thought that people are as cold as ice. Many times we choose to give people the cold shoulder even if we are totally capable of giving help. As time passes, we become the one whom we used to hate and blame. But until I experienced this car accident and escaped from the death's door, I realized that there still are people who are caring and loving, living in this world of indifference.

"Anna, your dad...had passed away." My mom told me this heartbreaking news on a rainy night.

When I got there, I could only see my family weeping and holding my father who could no longer comfort them anymore. I walked toward them but my legs were heavy. I was like wading through tar.

A doctor who stood in front of my family and took out a copy of paper said, "Mr. Lee used to sign an organ donation agreement. We need his family's signature to confirm his donation. Here's the agreement."

"No! I won't sign it! He has already left us. How dare you! How can you let him go with an incomplete body? Don't even think about it!" My mom shouted to the doctor.

I hugged my mom and said, "I think I need some time to talk to my family."

"Sure, take your time. I'm so sorry for your loss." The doctor left.

"So you want to sign it? You want to let them take away your dad's organs? Why? How could you be so merciless to do such a cruel thing? Please...don't..." My mom sat on the ground and wept.

I squatted next to my mom and wiped her tears, "Mom, Dad

was gone. This is his choice before he left us. We should not stop him. Dad was a good man, he loved all of us. Now he wanted to contribute to this world, how can we stop him?"

"But...I still can't. Why must it be him?" she was looking down.

"Mom, what if I didn't survive in that accident? I mean...what if that man didn't save me? How can I see you again? He said that he did what he should do. So he reached out to me. Now there are many patients who are suffering from pain and sickness. They are dying because there are no matching organs. People are not donating. But now, Dad can save them, we can save them!" I gazed at her eyes.

My mom stopped crying.

I was gripping my father's hand and said, "Dad is our hero. If Dad can save a life, there will be a new life that continues and extends, doesn't it? Dad will live in a new way, a new world and a new life. We are one."

The voices of crying and screaming echoed around the hospital, from patients, and their families. We could hear them so clearly. The pain. The death and despair. Mom was sobbing again. And she looked at the patients who lied on the bed. Finally, she nodded.

"You're right. He is a hero." she was staring at the distance.

"I represent all the patients to thank Mr. Lee and you. You save their lives." The doctor said.

While I walked out from the gate of the hospital, I could feel that the world become warmer. Maybe there really are heroes in this world. Not a superman, not a batman, he will just be one of us, in everywhere. Like that man who saved me, and my dad who saved the other patients. We may not meet each other in our lives. We may not know their identities. We don't even have a blood relationship. But all these things will not be important anymore. No matter how trivial the help you offer, you are a hero. Sometimes, lifting a finger can change their lives.

"Good morning, what can I help you?" a man asked.

"Hey! It's you! After the accident, I couldn't contact you anymore." I was surprised.

"Oh...Hi! I didn't expect to see you again. Well, I'm John. How can I help you?" He looked at me.

"I want to sign an organ donation agreement." I said.

"Why?" He gave me a glass of water.

"Cause I know what we are capable of. I know exactly what I should do. And I'm trying my best to reach out to the others. We are one, aren't we?" I sat down in front of him.

He took out the agreement and said, "Yes, we are. Tell me your name, hero."

"Anna." I smiled.

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Spotlight

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