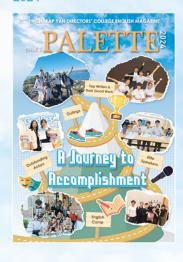


TWGHS KAP YAN DIRECTORS' COLLEGE

PALETTE

Issue 3



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From the Editorial Board

Let's experience the vivacity of the colourful school life and celebrate our students' achievements in this issue! From training to competitions, from educational outings to overseas tours, our students participated fully with grit and perseverance in an array of activities which have definitely enhanced their English learning! Be inspired by what our student devotees have learnt through their journeys to accomplishment!

OUR TEACHERS

Meet Our New English Teacher



Mr Yeung Long Ching

Hi everyone! I am Mr. Yeung, and I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the KYD family as your new English teacher. I currently teach Class 1B and 4A, and I am responsible for the speaking classes for form 2 students. Very soon, you may see me in some of your English remedial classes as well.

When it comes to my interest, as I did a double major in English Studies and Comparative Literature at HKU, it is without a doubt that I am your go-to person if you have book and film recommendations. I am waiting for your suggestions! Outside the classroom, I enjoy spending time in nature. Some of my favourite hobbies include cycling, hiking, and ice skating. There is something truly captivating about being outdoors and experiencing the tranquillity of the world around us. If any of you

also enjoy escaping city life, I would love to hear about your favourite trails!

I also want to take a moment to share something important with all of you. I understand that school, or life in general, can sometimes be overwhelming. We all face different challenges that can lead to feelings of stress or sadness. If you ever need someone to talk to, whether you are feeling overwhelmed with assignments or navigating through personal challenges, I am here for you. You can find me in staff room 3, and I am always open for casual chats if you bump into me at school. Whether you want to discuss ways to improve your English, share your favourite outdoor spots and locations, or talk about films, I am here to listen.

I look very forward to getting to know each of you and having a fantastic year together.

UNESCO DEBATING COMPETITION



Students of various forms took part in the USDGs Debating Competition, improving not only their skills in debating but also understanding in sustainable development goals. S5 Team completed the series as the 2nd runner-up, and some students were also awarded the best debaters. Congratulations to the debaters, and kudos to their teamwork and outstanding research.

6C Green Lalita

Participating in the UNESCO Debating Competition was an invaluable experience that I cherish a lot. As the first speaker in my team, I learnt the importance of preparation so as to be more confident and stay calm while delivering the speeches. Cooperating with my teammates is also an important point. The keys to being a good debater are being confident while speaking and meticulously listening to what your opponent says. Even if you have completed your own speech, you will still be listening to your opponents and thinking of rebuttals for your teammates. Besides, improving language skills and reviewing the feedback from your coach also enhances your ability to become a better debater.



6D Lam Pui Wing, Amy

I used to think debate is just a fancy term for arguing. I was wrong! A logical and precise argument is what distinguishes debates from mere quarrels. To become a good debater, respect is the treasure map, thinking is the treasure chest, and listening is the key (both tangible and intangible)!



6D To Sai Kin, Hercules

As the captain of my debate team, I embraced leadership and fostered collaboration. Guiding my teammates through research and strategy sessions, I cultivated confidence and public speaking skills. Delving into diverse social issues sharpened our critical thinking. The camaraderie and shared victories made the experience unforgettable, leaving me with lasting friendships and invaluable lessons. A great team needs a great teacher, and most importantly, unity!

Debating Adjudication

Three senior Kap Yan English debaters cherished the insightful experience of being adjudicators for a friendly match between F.S.F.T.F. Fong Shu Chuen Primary School and CCC Kei Chun Primary School on 19th June, 2024. Students were grateful for the opportunity coupled with adjudication training before the event provided by Mr Steve Madden, Primary Coordinator of the UNSDGs Debating and NET of Fong Shu Chuen Primary School.

5E Huang Ho Yi, Vinson

A debate is an organized contest of ideas in which the participants discuss a topic from two opposing sides. From my perspective, engaging in debates fosters openmindedness, the ability to consider multiple perspectives, and hones skills in public speaking and rhetoric.

Recently, I had an unforgettable experience as one of the adjudicators for the debate session in primary school. The debate was an impressive display of intellectual rigor although they are primary students.

Throughout the experience, I figured that being the adjudicator is absolutely a challenging mission since we have to focus on the arguments that the debaters mentioned carefully. Moreover, we need to comment and decide on the winner of the cases prudently. Though it takes time and effort, it definitely teaches me patience.



5E Chen Pak Kam, Dave

As I sat in the hall, surrounded by bright-eyed primary school students, I reminisced about my own days at this school. I recalled rehearsing for our talent show and feeling nervous on stage. Now, as an adjudicator, I was on the other side. A shy, quiet boy caught my attention with his powerful voice. His courage inspired me to be more confident in my judgments, and I realized empathy and understanding are crucial in our roles. Coming full circle from student to adjudicator, I was fulfilled as I knew I played a small part in their growth. It was a surreal experience.



It was an honour to be an adjudicator for a marvellous debate amongst promising future debaters. The debaters showed great courage and determination. I was especially stunned by their clear pronunciation and rebutting skills during the debate. They showed me that I too have not perfected my skills in numerous aspects and inspired me to keep moving forward. I appreciated the opportunity and priceless experience that I was brought up to. As a moderate debater, I am entirely grateful to play a part in inspiring young minds and promoting debating amongst the future generations. Thank you again for the astounding experience.

75th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

This year, 44 of our students who participated in the 75th Speech Festival obtained certificates of merit. Among them, 4 students won the first to third prizes. Congratulations to all of them who strived to perform their best on the stage!

3E Hou Kan Ni, Isabella (Champion)

First, I'd like to express my thanks to my English teacher, Miss Chung, who spent time coaching patiently. The poem, the Hairy Toe, is a long one. Miss Chung encouraged us to develop different styles for better presentation. I really

appreciate her effort to train us and we practiced really hard - even muttering the lines while dreaming! During the competition, I was quite nervous being the fourth to compete. As a result, I trembled a little while going on stage. It went smoothly, until suddenly, my mind went blank and had to improvise a bit. I am honored to be the champion of this year's Speech Festival. From this competition, I learnt that we need to persist and always try our best. I'm sure my hard work totally paid off. So, I think I'll continue participating in the Speech Festival during my secondary years.

2C Hong Pei Xi (3rd prize)

I gained a lot from participating in this speech festival. First, when practising, I learnt that I didn't only need to memorize the poem, but to understand the background and the message so that I could perform the piece with emotions. During the competition, being confident and at ease are very important. These make the performance more natural and smooth. At the same time, I learnt not to be afraid of making mistakes because mistakes are sometimes inevitable. Even if we make mistakes during recitation, we should immediately calm down and then

continue. From the final judge's comments, I learned that we could imagine performing the poem as a musical piece to make the performance more engaging and intriguing.



4A Lam Ming Sum (2nd prize)

There must be a payoff if you have put a lot of effort into something that you really want to achieve. This is what I have learned from the speech festival.

I must thank my classmates for their encouragement and support. Most importantly, I must thank my teacher, Ms. Lau. I am so lucky to have a teacher who understands me so well and has taught me so much. From the pronunciation of each word to the emotions I should convey.

For the very first time, I realized my strengths, areas I had to improve and the key to victory.

I made every endeavor to prepare for the competition as I didn't want to disappoint anyone or waste the time they have invested in me. Winning the competition was important, but trying my best was what truly mattered.

I was over the moon when I knew I was in the second place. Indeed, there is still a long way for me to go, but I know that the experience I gained from this competition will always stays in my heart.

3D Yan Jiahui (3rd prize)

perform it well.

My performance piece was about a woman who finds a hairy toe and is haunted by the monster. I'm grateful to my coach, Ms. Chung, who made me improve a lot by helping me with accent and pronunciation. I learned that the most important thing in recitation is to be emotionally involved. We have to understand the messages and feelings in the poem to

SPEAK UP ACT OUT DRAMA COMPETITION (EDB)

The 'Speak Up Act Out' Competition, organized by the EDB NET Section, was held in April 2024. Two weeks prior to the contest, each school cohort of 4 to 6 students was given a picture stimulus, on which they had to devise a 4-5 minute drama using various techniques. Contestants were judged on communication, collaboration and creativity of their performances. The S1 participants not only appreciated the opportunity to practice their drama and speaking skills but also had lots of fun acting and improvising. Despite the stiff competition, our school won one of the Best Actor awards. It was indeed a remarkable experience!

TESTIMONIALS

I am glad to join the Speak-up Act competition and appreciate Miss Gee and Miss Heidi. This competition helped me gain many drama skills.

2B19 CAI XUANYU, Eddy

As an extrovert, performing on stage is such an easy thing, I have been on stage since K3 so I'm not afraid at all. But this time I had another experience. I can still remember the moment we gathered and talked about what we would perform. Unlike before I had to think and recite as well. Also, thanks to Ms. Gee and Ms. Heidi, I had a great chance to improve my English and drama skills.

2B15 ZHENG GUO, Annie

It was my honour to be invited to join this meaningful competition. I'm very grateful to Ms. Gee and Ms. Heidi for their wonderful support and teaching...without them we couldn't have won the prize for the school! I had never done any drama before, and I really enjoyed my experience in acting. I completely immersed myself in the character, which felt amazing. It was an unforgettable experience of my school life!

2B08 TANG SHIYUAN, Sisi (Award for best actor)

I was incredibly happy to enter this competition with my schoolmates. After the competition, I learned a lot of drama skills. It helped me to improve my English as well. I'm so grateful to Ms. Gee and Ms. Heidi for this opportunity. I really enjoyed the time I spent with my friends and teachers.

2C16 WANG JIN YU, Yolanda

It was my honour to be invited to this event. At first, the reason I wanted to join was to experience new things after primary 6. It made me have more courage to talk to others and be on stage. It also taught me teamwork.... If it weren't for my teammates I couldn't finish a sentence on stage. Honestly, I really need to thank our teachers Ms. Heidi and Ms. Gee, without whom I wouldn't have delivered a splendid performance. That was just a dream which will always sparkle in my school life!

2D07 HO CHIN WING, Pekkle

I was lucky to have the opportunity to attend the SUAO drama. The experience was super fantastic! First of all, my drama skills improved with the help of my patient teachers and heartwarming classmates and I've also broadened my horizons. I watched different performances from different schools and they gave me a good impression. Overall, this experience was meaningful and attractive. I loved it!

2C28 SUN YU YANG, Sunny







Sharing from the winner of the Good People Good Deeds Writing Competition

First of all, it's my honour to be invited to give this speech. To be chosen as the Gold Winner of 23-24's Good People Good Deed writing competition is a personal tribute of unmatched quality. I want to thank my school principal and teachers for giving me the chance to compete in this event.

Firstly, I'd like to thank my mom for always trying to push me into reading books. Books are essential to writing a good story, and she's been buying me all kind of books since I was little, and that is the main reason why I have so many books to read and how my writing got better in the first place. Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory was the first plain text book I've ever read.

But that's not the only good book. When I was older, I began to read more classical books. The Twilight Saga, The Hunger Games, Percy Jackson, Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings... Like I said, you need to read before you can write.







4B Yeung Chun Yan, Victoria

Lots of you may be wondering how I got the inspiration to write. There's this YouTuber I've been following since I was ten-Markiplier. He is one of the most thankful people I've ever met. And I can guarantee that it's not an act. His parents divorced when he was three and he had been living with his dad ever since. His dad got cancer when he was in college, making it even worse for him. Nevertheless he never gave up on himself and that resulted in him being one of the most popular YouTubers today. He once said that he felt kind of regretful after being so popular. You see, when he first started making videos, he was connected with his followers. He had time to chat with them and get know them. But after he gained lots of followers he started to lose touch with them, and it's one of his biggest regrets. He donates lots of money to people in need each year too, not just money, his heart as well. He once spent three days doing nothing but signing calendars and giving them out to help children in need, and that is Good People Good Deeds.

About tips for writing – Pick a good name for the main characters. A name that people feel connected with is better for them to dive into your story.

Another tip is that you should finish your writing a little over a week before the deadline. Put the writing aside and forget about it, then pick it up the day before the deadline and read it again. You will see that some parts of it would be so weird you don't even know why you wrote it in the first place. It's like having another person to read it but it's less awkward, and it helps a lot.

The last tip: read more books. It improves your writing to a whole new level and helps you see the world. Hope you enjoy my little sharing. Thank you!

20th Biliteracy & Trilingualism Composition & Speech Competition Excellent English Writing

5E Loo Tsz Ching, Alice

Living in the 21st century, we are able to enjoy tremendous amount of benefits to improve the quality and convenience of our daily life because of the rapid development in science and technology by numerous scientists. One of the most controversial inventions nowadays, is artificial intelligence, which is often called 'AI'. The occurrence of Al has led to thousands of opinions. Some may say Al has a large database and thus it will definitely help us a lot at aspects like searching resources online, answering some academic doubts and doing calculation. It will hugely make our life become more efficient. On the other hand, some people may say that Al has the ability of self-learning and modifying, so what if Al surpasses human intelligence one day? This hypothesis immediately arouses lots of people's concern and creates panic. However, I do not think that we should worry about this problem.

Take the most popular AI recently – ChatGPT as an example. It is invented as an AI which can have a conversation with a user and answer his/ her questions based on its database. When it is answering questions, it always gives quite a number of suggestions and ideas. It does greatly reduce our workload, doesn't it? However, some may worry that if we ask ChatGPT questions, it will become smarter and smarter. Yet the real case is that, it is choosing the data in its database by selecting some of the keywords you mentioned, which indicates it is actually doing things like an upgraded version of Google. That's why sometimes its response does not seem to be that accurate. Thus, it offers some choices about some similar questions that are asked by others before. ChatGPT has collected the data and it tries to answer plenty of

questions with a similar or even the same answer. What it may improve is to add the question you asked to its question list. Therefore, why do we have to worry about it?

Moreover, since the situation of students using ChatGPT to finish their homework, projects or essays happens more often, some universities, for instance, HKU in Hong Kong have restricted its use. It shows that ChatGPT has an inevitable effect on reducing people's workload. Plenty of anti-Al apps which help to identity works and writings done by AI have been invented and widely used. The reason of stating these realistic examples is not to prevent people from using ChatGPT or other more powerful Al in the future. It is to remind people to think on their own. Al is human's invention to help mankind, not a replacement of our process of thinking, especially not a replacement of us. We cannot really stop the development of technology, but we can improve the knowledge and skills managed ourselves. If we continuously develop our own personal qualities and lifelong skills, we will be able to control and make good use of this scientific product. Yet, if we stop using our mind to think and to solve problems on our own, we will lose our ability to think in the near future. In this way, the tragedy of us being replaced by AI really may happen.

To conclude, AI and our scientific development are unstoppable. AI will not surpass human intelligence in normal situations, unless we are beaten by our laziness and spontaneously invite them as our replacements. Undoubtedly, human intelligence should be always higher than AI.

Sharing from the Winner

Since the Biliterary & Trilingualism Writing Competition was impromptu, no last-minute preparation could be done, which inspired me to realize that daily accumulation of English vocabulary and knowledge of social topics is crucial. Additionally, the broad platform allowed contestants to compare themselves with students outside school, offering a valuable opportunity to evaluate our writing skills and creativity.



ERS Book Report Competition



To promote students' interest in reading, the English Department organized an ERS Book Report Competition this year. Students could choose to write a script, design a movie poster, and write an email to the author based on their favourite books and so on, to demonstrate their creativity and ingenuity. Some of the winning entries are as follows:

Form 1

Write a script of the last scenes, showing the rewritten ending of the story.

Name of the book: Cat Ninja: The Return of Malice Author: Matthew Cody

1st Prize: Alice Wen (2D)

Doctor Von Malice: Cat Ninja, I advise you to join me now, or you will die!

Cat Ninja: I will never join such an evil creature as you! I would rather die than obey!

Doctor Von Malice: humph.... Your performance is every bit as stubborn as your master's, and it seems that it will not be easy to convince you.

Master Hamster: See? Cat Ninja is not joining you, so you're just taking here, and you might as well just let us go!

Ninja Hamster: You'd better show some respect to master, pinhead! (waved the knife in his hand.) Doctor Von Malice: Enough! Cat Ninja! If you join me, I'll treat you well, as long as you obey me.

Cat Ninja: Never! I'll never join you!

Master Hamster: Ah! If Cat Ninja joined you, would you treat him well? Really? But it doesn't look like any of your subordinates are being treated well. They look...very awful! (Look at Cat Master and Ninja Hamster)

Doctor Von Malice: Ha Ha! That's because they're just pawns in my plan, and only with Cat Ninja can get what I want! Wait! Did I slip out?

Cat Master/ Ninja Hamster: (Stare at Doctor Von Malice) What did you just say? Master?

Doctor Von Malice: Ha! Actually...that's not what I mean, don't take it seriously.

Cat Master / Ninja Hamster: We trusted you but you betrayed us. We'll never obey you again! (Walk up to Cat Ninja and Master Hamster and help them untie the ropes.)

Master Hamster: Doctor Von Malice! You might as well surrender. There are four of us, and you're alone!

Cat Ninja: If you will mend your ways now, we will forgive you! Maybe you can go back to being friends with my master.

Doctor Von Malice: Really? Will you really forgive me?

Cat Ninja: of course!

Doctor Von Malice: Oh, I really appreciate your kindness! I'm sorry for what I did in the past. I promise you, from now on, I will be a good person.

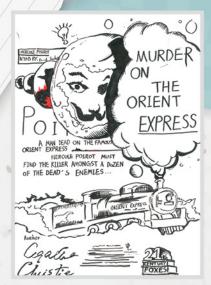
Cat Ninja: All right, I accept your apology, but you're gonna have to apologize to the citizen right now. Show them that you really want to change!

Cat Ninja: (To the audience) In our daily life, we should learn to be tolerant. No matter who the other people are, as long as they are willing to reform, we should give them a chance. Don't you think so?

Brilliant Works!

Form 2

Drawing pictures illustrating the climax.



Wu Ho Yeung Michael 3B (1st Prize)



Zhao Ziyu Jaden 3C (2nd Prize)



Liu Luan Xi Lancy 3A (3rd Prize)

Form 3

Write an email to the author telling him/her which part of the book impressed you most and why.

Name of the book: Matched Author: Ally Condie

Dear Ms. Condie,

1st Prize: Tarntip Siu Po (4D)

I've recently read your book *Matched*, and I find it really interesting. I enjoyed every minute I spent reading it.

I couldn't be more impressed by the unpredictable storyline. I had a rollercoaster of emotions as I followed Cassia through the story. The plot twists are so creative that they left me in-awe. The twist I love the most has to be that the society used the error of KY's Pace appearing on the screen to experiment on Cassia and KY, to see whether they would fall in love or not. It took me by surprise that I had to pause for a while to process the new information before continuing to read on.

However, there is something that I'm not completely satisfied with. I believe that if you made some improvements, the book would be flawless. It is the connection between Cassia and KY. I can see the connection between them, but it's not strong enough for me to accept Cassia choosing KY over Xander. I would like to see a stronger and more significant connection between Cassia and KY, which shows the love Cassia has for KY is significantly different from the love she has for Xander. I would re-read the book and enjoy it even more if you ever make improvements on the connection.

Overall, I absolutely love *Matched*. I hope you find my opinions on this book useful for your future stories.

Best regards, Khim

Hong Kong School Drama Festival (23-24)

This year, our school's drama team participated in the Hong Kong School Drama Festival with an original play "The Generator", which discusses the struggles faced by teenagers and the significance of perseverance. The team, which rehearsed and prepared for the performance for over 3 months, obtained the Award for Outstanding Cooperation. Five of our team members were also recognised for their exceptional performing skills and received the Award of Outstanding Performers.



2C Chung Cheuk Hei

The Drama Festival was an exciting journey for me as a first-year student. During the training sessions, we practiced our lines, explored different characters, and learned to express emotions on stage. Our coach and teachers always encouraged us to work as a team, which helped build our confidence.

The competition was intense but fun! We performed in front of a large group

of audience, and it was amazing to see everyone enjoying our hard work. Through this experience, I learned the importance of teamwork, creativity, and staying focused. The Drama Festival has also taught me to express myself and appreciate the art of storytelling.



6C Hau Cheuk Ki, Esther

I decided to join the Drama Festival since I wanted to improve my acting skills. The programme has really enlightened me about acting. During the training, the director always asked us inspiring questions that made us reflect upon the motives of the characters. I have learnt that acting is far beyond the actions and the lines. Besides, I've made some cool friends in this programme. I'm truly glad I have joined this programme this year.



4A Liu Ka Yau

Drama has turned me from a shy person into an extrovert. At first, I felt nervous about performing, but as I took on different roles, I learnt to express myself more. The supportive atmosphere in the drama club has helped me build confidence.

Interacting with other actors and actresses has also let me hone my communication skills. The performance on stage has allowed me to connect with the audience. It is really enjoyable to tell a story on the stage. Drama has taught me to be more open and confident. It has completely transformed my social life. I truly love engaging with others now.



Time Out

The visit to SCMP --- A valuable experience

This visit to SCMP has provided me with valuable insights into the field of journalism. By gaining a deeper understanding of the information related to journalism, it has helped me to clarify my future career path - a crucial step for me to know what score I should aim for in order to meet the admission criteria for my preferred university program.

In addition, one of the sessions of this visit was a mock interview, which gave me first-hand experience of the actual interview process. This experience has

helped me to identify my weaknesses in expression, allowing me to work on improving them. It has also given me valuable mental preparation for the real interviews I will face in the future.

In summary, this visit to SCMP has been a truly valuable experience which has given me a clearer direction for my academic and professional future.





Kuo Tsz Shan, Vanessa

A Fruitful Mock Interview Experience at SCMP

To be honest, I am a timid person, especially in serious and formal situations, like interviews. However, the SCMP staff held a wonderful ice-breaking activity, and my nervousness was successfully released. The company not only has an intriguing atmosphere, but also upholds a high standard of professionalism. Every single person had an assigned staff member, in charge of interviewing. Most importantly, my interviewer kept nodding her head to encourage me to talk more, and this action worked well for me indeed. After the interview, my interviewer gave me a feedback sheet and patiently provided me countless pieces of advice. I can say that this experience is a priceless lesson, as I realize that the interviewee can also take an active role and control the flow of the whole conversation. I remember a saying that my interviewer shared: "The interview is a two-way selection process. You also have the right to select, so don't be timid.'

6D Pang Yan Yi, Aurora

Enlightening Insights at SCMP: A Mock Interview Experience

It was my honor to visit the South China Morning Post (SCMP) in Times Square in Causeway Bay on 27 January 2024, where I learned more about its history, work environment and culture. In our interactions with the staff, they introduced various job roles such as personnel manager, analyst, and newspaper editors, providing me a better understanding of potential career paths. The office tour showcased a harmonious work atmosphere that left a strong impression on me. The most memorable part of the visit was a mock interview conducted in English. I received valuable feedback on my CV preparation and interview skills, including tips on answering questions, dressing appropriately, and professional behavior. This experience not only enhanced my English language skills but also assisted me in career planning.



English Weeks

Five English Weeks were organized by the English Department. They were a huge hit among the students. During the events, the students participated in a variety of engaging activities, including a "Game Galore" where students competed in lively English games, thought-provoking TED talks, and a lively "Singalong" where they showcased their vocal talents etc. Students had fun, and the events helped improve their English proficiency in a dynamic and enjoyable way.







Meeting the Legendary Icons of Hong Kong Pop Culture



A VISIT TO THE HERITAGE MUSEUM

On 8 March 2024, all the S3 students went to the Hong Kong Heritage Museum to explore the various aspects of Chinese art and culture in life. Through the visit, students had a glimpse of the history of Cantonese opera, the works of the famous writer Jing Rong and the story of martial arts master Bruce Lee.

They also had a chance to join the English guided tour "Hong Kong Pop 60+" to learn about the pop culture in the 60s onwards, from which they could find out the changes and the development of TV, film and music industries. They also glanced at the charming faces of those celebrities and were amazed by the glamorous costumes in those movies and concerts. Afterwards students reflected their learning through in-depth discussions.













On 4 March 2024, all S4 students paid a visit to Yuen Long Town Hall to watch a theatre production called **Strategy**, a From Page to Stage programme organized by AFTEC. Based on one of the masterpieces "Romance of the Three Kingdoms" by Lu Kun Chung, the play depicts an intriguing version of the classic. Students met the

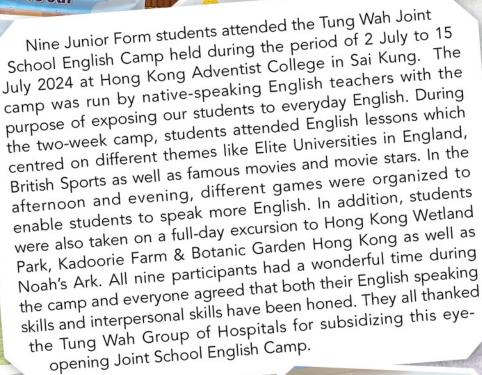
historical figures Zhou Yu, Zhuge Liang and Cao Cao to learn about their tactics and wisdom in the battlefields on the stage. As a follow-up task, students had a chance to design roles and costumes with their creativity and as a result developed more interest in using the English Language.





TWGHs Joint Secondary Schools English Camp 2024















The 14 day TWGH joint school 2024 Study tour to New Zealand was flagged off in June from Hong Kong airport to the capital, Auckland. The tour was choc-o-bloc with activities like hiking and rock climbing and trips to various popular attractions and sights like Sky Tower, Waitomo Caves, Devonport, Honey centre etc. The afternoons were spent in NZLC at the city centre for lessons in language enhancement and cultural immersion.

The cohort of 55+ students and chaperone teachers had a wonderful experience; enriching their knowledge of Maori and Kiwi culture from local teachers and house-parents as well as exploring the picturesque 'land of the long white cloud.'

Lam Nga Ki, Carol

"The lesson made me relax and I talked and laughed a lot with Jo and the classmates with confidence. It was because I had told myself just to chat normally and be cheerful. We also went to many fabulous places in New Zealand with the centre teacher. I could feel the vibe of speaking English locally, which was fresh and amazing to me. In this trip, I realized that if we treat English as a subject and not a communicating medium, we will never overcome the fear to speak. So just try it, no matter how much you can express."









Wang Xin Ruo, Cindy

"If you ask me what the highlight of this trip was, I would undoubtedly say the homestay arrangement. Students were welcomed into the homes of local families, each hailing from diverse backgrounds. This arrangement was a golden opportunity for us to interact with people from different walks of life and learn about their unique cultures."



6D Lin Jialin

The gruelling hike tested my endurance, but the sense of achievement at the summit was unparalleled. This experience has inspired me to continue challenging myself and not be held back by self-doubt. After participating in the trip, I am confident to unleash my full potential going forward!



From 3rd to 7th July, 30 intrepid climbers including Principal Ms. Yau, Mr. Tsang Hing Shan and Ms. Fong Suk Kwan, took part in a trip to Mt. Fuji, Japan.

6C Li Tsz Yiu

This trip to Mount Fuji was a challenging yet inspiring and unforgettable experience. I have experienced a lot, and also gained a lot of insights. The steep climb tested my endurance and resilience. While facing unpredictable situations, I learned the importance of preparation, perseverance, and adaptability. When I reached the peak, the stunning scenery and indescribable sense of achievement in front of me, made every past struggle worthwhile. This journey has taught me the value of surpassing limits, embracing difficulties, and finding strength in adversity.



The trip to Mount Fuji in Japan is a journey full of unknowns and exciting feelings. Teammates cooperated to break through the difficulties. The road is long and difficult, but the beautiful scenery along the way is worth the effort!

4B Wei Ming Yu

The trip to Mount Fuji was not a tourist group. During the mountain climbing process, I learned how to take care of some people in need. After successfully reaching the summit, I became more confident than before. When facing adversity, I believe I will no longer be afraid. This experience was wonderful and will accompany me throughout my life.



Brain Teasers

Unlocking Your Potential: Brain Teasers on Self-Discipline, Proactive Learning, and Well-Being

Introduction:

Welcome to this special edition of our school magazine! Our school is dedicated to fostering an environment where self-discipline, proactive learning, and well-being are at the heart of our educational ethos. This page is designed to test your knowledge and get you thinking about these values through fun and challenging English idioms. Dive in and see how many you can solve!

1	Fill	in	the	R	an	L
	СШ		une	_	ан	м

"The early bird catches the _____."
This idiom reflects the value of being proactive and early in one's efforts.

2. Guess the Idiom

What idiom fits the description that continuous, steady work leads to better outcomes?

3. Multiple Choice

Which idiom means to save something, especially money, for a time when it is needed?

a) Break the bank b) Save for a rainy day c) Pay through the nose

4. Scrambled Idiom

Unscramble this idiom: "Pkee ruoy noes ot het grnduoie"

This is metaphor about maintaining a humble attitude and steady focus on personal growth.

5. Idiom Interpretation

What does the idiom "Keep your chin up" suggest about one's attitude in difficult situations?

6. Match the Idiom to Its Meaning

Idiom: "Bite off more than you can chew"
Meanings:

a) To keep oneself busy; b) To take on a task that is too big; c) To eat quickly.

We hope you enjoyed these brain teasers and they've sparked some thoughts on how the idioms reflect deeper values of self-discipline, proactive learning, and well-being. Remember, language is not just a tool for communication but also a reflection of our values and thoughts!

You Will Never Be-As Good As Others



TWGHs Good People Good Deeds English Writing Competition 2023-24

Middle Level: Gold Award

4B Yeung Chun Yan

Valerie had been waiting eagerly for her special ability for the past eleven, nearly twelve years. On every person's 18th birthday, that person gets a superpower. Valerie's older brother Noah could control fire, and he became a firefighter. As hers ticked closer, Valerie's excitement grew steadily.

The day finally arrived. The morning sun pierced into her room, casting a golden yellow glow. Valerie bounced off her bed. A virtual screen flicked into life before her eyes as she squinted at it anxiously, her heart jamming in her ribs. Her specialty appeared. 'You will never be as good as others.' The screen flickered and died. It was as if the world had played a cruel joke on her. Valerie felt like a bucket of ice was dumped on her head. Her muscles tense from the excitement she had felt what seemed long ago, felt limp, as she slid to the floor wearily.

Though so much had happened, she still had to go to school. Valerie arrived soon, her heart pounding in her chest with dread. Although she usually kept to herself, one girl was always there...

Rita approached and pinched her. "Hey nerd," she sneered. Rita had started picking on her after she got first place in exams. Nevertheless, she was a problem that could be ignored. Valerie would rather spend the day peacefully than getting into trouble with ignorant bullies so she left without a word. It was Biology first. "I will distribute your quizzes back to you," Mr Ching announced. Hers 17/20 wasn't bad. "Most of you got more than 18," Mr Ching continued, "well, except for one." He lowered his eyes to Valerie, giving her a cold stare. Valerie stared back fearfully. But she was still the same girl. She took notes, she was hard-working, she was focused. Yet everyone else seemed more diligent than her.

Rita slithered soundlessly behind her after school. She pulled her hair violently as she snarled. "Oh Valerie, did you get the ability to be the worst?" Valerie flinched, and Rita giggled, "Eww, loser!"

Valerie returned home, depressed. She dumped her school bag on the floor and curled under her blankets, with her octopus 'plushie' against her trembling body. Valerie sniffed uncontrollably, and hiccupped. She heard the floorboards creak as Noah entered. "Noah, I'm fine," she muttered. "We both know you're not," Noah replied gently. His phone rang as he opened his mouth again. A few moments later he sprang off her bed, "So sorry Val, there's a massive fire. I need to be there." he left hurriedly.

Moments later Valerie decided she would stop sulking. She winced against the chill as she flung her blankets off. The water was cool against her face, her tense muscles relaxing slightly. In the mirror, her eyes were rimmed red from the crying and a few strands of hair stuck to her face. "I would never be as good as other people," she murmured softly, "this ability....."

Her eyes widened with surprise, "wait... does it mean..." she gave a small gasp as she realised what she could do, and ran out immediately, setting to motion.

For the past decade, Valerie had studied hard, did sports and pushed herself so she could improve. In her world now, everyone was more hardworking and motivated than her, and technology sprinted up faster and faster each year. A cure for cancer was discovered by a few years of doctors, and a reliable source of renewable energy was invented by some diligent scientists.

Since Valerie would never be as good as others, no matter what she did, she would always be at the bottom of the world's evolution. But other people's abilities would always be higher than hers. When Valerie is outstanding, the entire world would become more outstanding than her.

She is, and always will be the bottom line of human race.

Yet, she's why everyone shines like a star. She is a good person that does good deeds that doesn't seek repayment.



Cardboards

TWGHs Good People Good Deeds English Writing Competition 2023-24

5D Tang Hiu Tung

It was one' o clock, and as usual, that lady with curly white hair appeared in the corner of the stores.

When my brain was flooded with boredom, I tended to look down at the bustling streets through the windows. The street was full of people, carefree kids running around, teen girls shopping with their friends, talking about where to buy the trendiest clothes.

Amidst the youngsters, there always came a white-haired lady, pushing a cart every day at one o'clock. I named her "Snowflake" secretly because her white hair was so eye-catching in the swarm of black-haired adolescents. On top of that, she was somewhat cold – to be honest, didn't quite match the lively vibe here.

Scurrying across the streets, she disappeared in the alley.

I decided to turn on the fan before focusing back to my homework, since it was scorching today. The lady's silhouette appeared in my brain again and I wondered how it felt to work under the burning sun, and I knew it certainly wouldn't be a bed of roses.

When I picked up the pencil on my desk, getting ready to plunge into the world of mathematics, the doorbell rang.

Opening the door, it was my package ordered earlier. I unboxed it immediately and minutes later, I found myself surrounded in pieces of cardboards. Rushing down the building to dispose them in the bins, I heard voice far away from here.

"Excuse me!" It was a lady sitting on a bench, and I recognized her the second I saw her – it was "Snowflake". And this time, I finally got to glimpse at her appearance – she was likely to be in her fifties. Several wrinkles were drawn on her pale face, and her eyes were filled with tiredness. Behind her was a weather-beaten cart with her plastic bottles.

The sky was getting darker, which in a flash, turned into a downpour.

Staring at the chaos, I noticed that the lady did not have an umbrella and she kept pushing her heavy cart. My heart sank to the bottom as I knew an elderly person like her could catch a cold easily on such a rainy day.

I ran to her immediately despite the splashing rain. Well, I did not have an umbrella either, but I got a cardboard! "She needs help." That was the only voice I heard in mind.

The next second, we both were shielded under my cardboard. Looking at me, her eyes widened. "Thank you," she smiled softly regardless of the shrill thunders and lightning. Yet, the smile could not hide her exhaustion. "Miss, I can help you to push the cart. You know, youngsters own nothing but strength!" She subtly nodded.

I was helping her push the cart all the way, while she held the cardboard. The cart was much heavier than I expected. I couldn't help imagine how she bore this before. "It must be tiring and chaotic to collect cardboards outside on rainy days." I sighed. "Well, it's for my paralyzed son." she explained, with a hint of sorrow in her eyes. "Oh..." I could hardly utter any words.

We stopped at a bench in a park. There was a man sitting on a wheelchair. "Look! That's my son!' Without a moment of hesitation, she rushed to her beloved son.

"Finally, I can meet you earlier than before! You know, I don't think I have that much strength anymore. I may not give you the best but remember, I love you forever." she hugged him tightly, as if she would never let go.

"Mom, it's alright. I always love you." He hugged her tighter.

"Thanks to this young man, or else I can't get here."

"You are welcome, miss. Oh and...." As she handed her the cardboard, I stopped her.

"We don't know when it will rain again. Here, take this."

"Oh. I don't know how to thank you, really!" There, I saw the prettiest smile.

I rushed back to my house without an umbrella. The rain was cold, but deep down, I was never warmer.

For once, the "snowflake" finally matched the lovely streets.

THE BLACK MANOR

(Chapterl)

3C Chung Hoi Man, Serena

beamed across the whole classroom. He continued 'today we're learning about the Black Manor...' I swiped my fingers across the drawing of the rumoured manor on my textbook, 'This name is so familiar, where have I seen it before?' I whispered to myself. That's when the person sitting next to me started to shift uncomfortably as if he had squirrels in his pants. I stared at him 'Xavier Black.' I mumbled to myself. 'What are you staring at?' He spat at me 'focus on your stuff, Valentine...or shall I say goody-two-shoes?' He laughed. I felt my cheeks burn when he made eye contact. I didn't know why, but after all the years of him bullying me, I still found him... attractive. I'll always get lost in those silvery blue eyes, his pale skin. Those sharp canine teeth make it hard for me to focus on things other than his appearance. I was staring dreamily at him when he suddenly snapped his fingers at me. I quickly got to my senses and continued focusing the class.

'Now please turn your books to page 666.' Mr Thompson's voice

Throughout the lesson, the black manor captivated my imagination. I really wanted to go check out that mysterious manor located somewhere in the Silverwood Forest, one of the most dangerous forests in the world. And besides, I had nothing interesting to do in my life. I thought and thought, 'where can I find more information on this manor?' I had already checked it at the library and even the prohibited side where students can't go alone... but I couldn't find any more information. 'The Black manor...the black manor...' I closed my eyes and thought about it repeatedly... 'Black... Xavier Black!'

The next day, I sat in my usual assigned seat and waited for my history lesson to start. I was daydreaming when the chair next to me let out an ear-piercing squelch and scared me to death! I flinched when the boy next to me slammed his backpack on his table and aggressively sat down. 'Valentine, are you really that obsessed with me? I know that I'm handsome and all but you're starting to creep me out.' He asked in a whisper only I could hear. 'Umm...' I stuttered out of embarrassment, 'I'm...I'm not! It's just that your chair screeching and bag slamming ruined my daydreaming session!' I declared. He chuckled at first but soon started to laugh loudly. My face turned into a complete tomato once again, 'Stop it!' I spat at him. I pouted as he continued laughing.

After class ended, I plucked up my courage and decided to ask Xavier about the thought I had about the Black Manor. I slowly walked towards him and tapped on his shoulder. He turned around to see who it was, but it took him 5 seconds to find me due to our height difference. 'What do you want, shorty?' He asked with an amusing tone, he kneeled to match my height and continued, 'Now that's better. What do you need?' I pouted as I asked with sparkling puppy eyes, 'I want to find the Black Manor... can you go with me? I figured that you'd know something about it...' His face immediately changed from joking to serious. 'No. I can't help you with that.' He said blankly and left. I pouted again, 'Why?' I whined, but he never looked back...

To be continued...

A Better Me

3E Cheung Chun Yiu, Louie

There was a time when I suffered from depression and anxiety. I was not able to find a reason to make myself productive and started to lose hope and confidence in my life. The pressure and stress broke me and I finally collapsed. I was then sent to hospital for treatment for a year. The white walls, the screams of the disorders and the dim lights of the hospital made me sick. It only worsened the pain in my heart day after day. Tears flooded my room every night as I cried and cried in fear and anguish. I was hopeless. However, something happened that changed my life forever.

There was a day when I had the opportunity to meet my family and have a look outside the white walls. The view of the blue sky and the busy streets made me smile as I walked with my family. The neighborhood is still as beautiful as it was in my memories. One of my family members had to use the bathroom, so we stopped by a government park. As we waited, I had a look around the playground out of my childish curiosity. The cool breeze touched my hair and face, as it was healing my broken heart. The laughter of the children in the playground lit the world with happiness. While I was enjoying the view, I came across an old man on a wheelchair that seemed to have lost his legs. He was smiling at the children who were having fun in the park. I was curious about his life, so I walked towards him and politely asked, "Hello sir, what happened to you?"

The old man smiled brightly and said, "Greetings, young man, as you have asked, I suffered a leg injury because of a car accident, and I broke both my legs."

I looked at his face, he smiled and I wondered, "How come a man who has lost the ability to walk can smile as brightly as the sun?"

The man seemed to be reading my mind, he looked straight at me and said, "Well, there's nothing I can do about that, so I just smiled and got used to it. I mean, in a clever way, at least I have arms right?"

His words rang in my mind as I looked at his wizened face. His simple but wise words struck me as I gazed into my faded memories and realized how selfish I had been. I looked at my hands and legs, ashamed of the growing sadness in my heart. The pain suddenly crashed and faded away. Suddenly, I turned into a better man. I tried to reach the bottom of my mind, but every memory was just filled with joy!

That day, I grew into a better man. That day, a new me arrived in this world.

PALETTE

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