TWGHs KAP YAN DIRECTORS' COLLEGE ENGLISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 5

PALETTE 2026

Eye on the World

















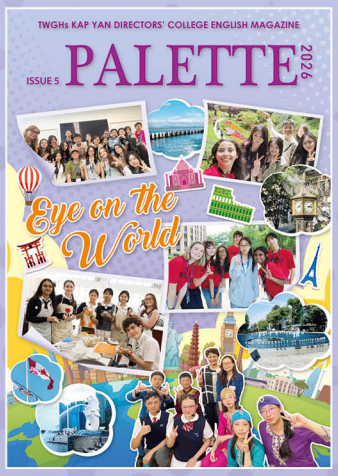




TWGHs KAP YAN DIRECTORS' COLLEGE

PALETTE

Issue 5
2026



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From the Editorial Board

Set off on a global adventure with us in this issue! From engaging activities in Reading Festival and cultural exchange visits to eye-opening study tours, students have gained valuable insights into cultures around the world. Over the past year, our elites have achieved impressive results in a variety of English competitions, reflecting their dedication and hard work. May their achievements inspire us all to embrace new opportunities, broaden our horizons, and continue striving for excellence.

Meet Our New English Teacher

Ms Foo Ching Fei



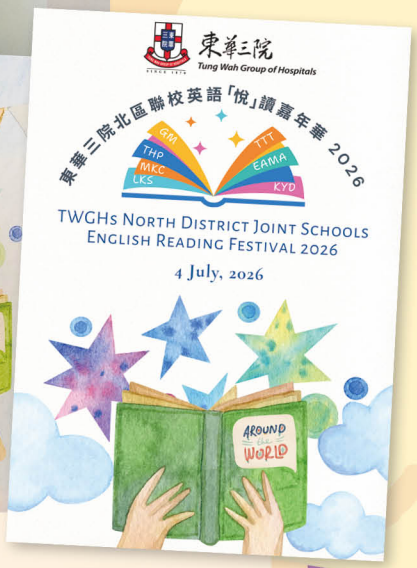


Hello, everyone! I am Ms Foo, your new English teacher, and it is a true pleasure to be part of our school community. I am currently teaching S.1, S.3, and S.4 this year.

Believing that we are all capable of achieving great things, I hope to see my students remain resilient, persistent, and adaptable. I strongly believe in maintaining a positive mindset, especially during challenging times. To make meaningful progress, we must be willing to push past our comfort zones and challenge our limits. As long as you believe in yourself, you will surely see your hard work pay off.

That said, balance is key! While working hard is essential, taking time to rest and recharge is just as important. Be sure to give yourself some time off on the weekends if you are feeling fatigued. In my spare time, I love exploring different cuisines and staying active by working out with friends. I encourage all of you to discover what brings you joy and take time to recharge!





TWGHs North District Joint Schools English Reading Festival 2026

The TWGHs North District Joint Schools English Reading Festival was held on 4 July at Ma Kam Chan Memorial Primary School. The festival took students on a global journey without leaving Hong Kong, uniting five TWGHs schools in a celebration of language, culture, and discovery. Each school explored different countries' traditions, food, and dances, while strengthening English communication, teamwork, and intercultural understanding.

Our signature performance, Around the World in 30 Minutes, follows performing students from the five schools as they travel through South Africa, Mexico, Spain, Brazil, and India, discovering each country's unique cultures, flavours, and dances. Meanwhile, interactive game booths prepared and managed by our students invite guests to experience traditional games enjoyed from all around the globe.

A standout highlight of the programme was our collaborative audiobook project. Preparing for the recording demanded great dedication and patience, as participating students rehearsed tirelessly to perfect their narrative delivery. They meticulously honed their pronunciation, word stress, intonation, pace, and vocal expression to breathe life into each storybook.

Through these adventures and activities, students learnt that every culture has something beautiful to share—and that the world is full of warmth, wonder, and connection.



3E Jessie Liu

Our teachers offered us innovative ways to enhance our English skills, moving far beyond traditional textbooks. Instead of passively absorbing information during lessons, we actively participated in hands-on activities such as recording videos and performing role-plays. These dynamic tasks transformed our classes into diverse, engaging, and genuinely enjoyable sessions. Stepping into practical scenarios helped us overcome hesitation, practice spontaneous speaking, and collaborate meaningfully with our peers. Overall, this experience demonstrated that language learning is not merely about memorizing rules, but about expressing ourselves with genuine confidence and creativity in everyday communication.



4D Jannik Pang

Participating in this programme has broadened my cultural perspectives, particularly regarding India and Korea. Previously, I held preconceptions about and viewed India primarily as an underdeveloped country. However, exploring its vibrant festivals, rich traditions, and profound heritage completely shifted my mindset. I gained a genuine appreciation for the distinctive beauty and depth of both Indian and Korean customs. This meaningful journey challenged my stereotypes and taught me to approach unfamiliar cultures with curiosity and respect. It has widened my global horizons, inspiring me to embrace diverse traditions and view the world through a much more open-minded lens.





Around the World in 30 Minutes

Hop aboard our worldwide expedition as young actors journey to Spain, Africa, Mexico, Korea, India, and Brazil, bringing local customs, traditional festivities, and cross-cultural friendships to life through vibrant dialogue and expressive role-play.







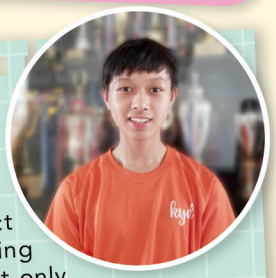


4C Sunny Sun



It was a great honour to have taken part in this performance at MKC! "Around the World in Thirty Minutes" not only broadened my horizons but also allowed me to explore the unique traditions and cultures of various nations, such as Brazil and India. Through numerous rehearsals, my theatrical skills have been refined. I also had the opportunity to meet many fellow performers from other schools. At the game booth, I enjoyed encouraging kindergarten and primary students to participate in our interactive activities and learn about Indian culture. This will always remain an absolutely unforgettable experience that I will cherish.

4D Michael Wu



Before participating in this program, I'd never thought about collaborating with students from other TWGH schools to put on such a perfect show. It was truly a highly rewarding experience that enriched me. It not only boosted my confidence in English expression and allowed me to learn about different cultures, but it also built strong bonds between us and other TWGHs students, including the younger ones, who possessed remarkable English proficiency and engaging personalities. It is hard to believe that although we only rehearsed five or six times and collaborated for just a few days, we still worked together so seamlessly.

Looking back, I've gained so much more than just the experience on the day of the performance. I cherish the time spent with our schoolmates and above all, our tutors. They provided excellent training and introduced some engaging games, which helped us get to know one another so quickly. They felt less like teachers and more like supportive partners. To be honest, at the start of the rehearsals, I did not have high expectations for this program, but the passion shown by our tutors quickly changed my mind. Whenever I felt nervous, they comforted me and taught me valuable performance techniques to enhance the performance and deliver it successfully.



3A Yoyo Ng



It was a precious experience, and I've gained a lot of meaningful insights. During the rehearsals, not only did I have interactive practices with other schoolmates but also learnt various presentation skills. The engaging teaching style of the tutors helped me become more confident in putting on a performance. I would like to take this chance to thank the amazing teachers and the peers in the senior forms. The experience was truly unforgettable!









Game booths

The games were hosted in English and players were also encouraged to use English to complete the tasks, enjoy the experience, and win exciting prizes!







4B Stephanie Poon



Stepping onto the stage as the master of ceremonies was both exhilarating and nerve-wracking, but it pushed me completely out of my comfort zone. Seeing the huge smiles on the younger students' faces as they delightfully played at the game booths made me realize just how rewarding it is to be a part of such a meaningful project. It taught me that all our 'behind the scenes' efforts truly brings the school community together in the most joyful way.









Reading activities - Hear the Story, Crack the Clues!

Listen closely as our enthusiastic teachers narrate captivating adventures, inviting alert listeners to test their memory and win exciting rewards by answering fun, interactive story questions!

Audiobooks prepared by Tung Wah students



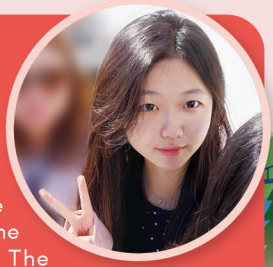






Immersion Programme to Vancouver





4C Mary Mu

One of the most impressive moments was visiting Shannon Falls. Surrounded by thick green forests, this huge waterfall flows down a rocky cliff. We were amazed by its powerful flow. We even spotted a faint rainbow above the waterfall created by the water mist. The view was breathtaking and totally beyond my imagination. We also took photos in the colourful Butchart Gardens, enjoying the beautiful natural scenery.



4D Venessa Wang

Living away from home built my independence. I managed daily routines and learnt basic local customs. Making new international friends was another important thing I've done. We shared stories and laughed together during group activities. Apart from lessons, we visited Stanley Park, Science World and charming Gastown. The most memorable full-day trip was our visit to Whistler, where we enjoyed fresh mountain air and amazing natural views. Unlike Hong Kong, Vancouver's summer was cool and comfortable with green parks everywhere and I loved it.



5C Chloe Chan

Since my English is not fluent and I'm not good at casual conversation, during my first few days, I often felt nervous and anxious about chatting with other people from Brazil, Taiwan and Canada. Later, I slowly tried to speak with English with others, and I realised it was actually easier than I'd imagined. They didn't mind any mistakes at all. I just need to be brave to express myself and be willing to speak.

What makes me the happiest is that I've gained new Brazilian friends. They are very kind and warm-hearted. They always chatted with us actively and shared lots of interesting things about Brazil and themselves. We gained lots of lovely memories.

Every experience helps us grow. When we get such a chance, we shouldn't worry too much but be brave and embrace the opportunity. More often, the worries we have may never come true. So try to step out of your comfort zone.



4B Julia Zou

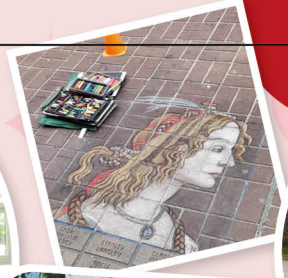
What truly boosted my English was the daily interaction with my classmates from other places like Taiwan, Brazil and Russia. Whether in group discussions or casual chats, we communicated in English constantly. This authentic environment pushed me to think and express myself in English, which was more effective than textbook learning. Gradually, I not only sharpened my speaking skills but also became more confident.

Stanley Park is a dense forest but felt like a natural oasis, perfectly showing how the city coexists in harmony with nature. The towering trees allowed me to clearly see the geographical layers I'd only learned from textbooks. The journey to Whistler was equally magical. Standing on the pure white snow under the bright blue sky. I was deeply impressed by the vivid 2010 Olympic rings. Although it was midsummer, the snow didn't feel freezing at all, making it a unique wonderland. The cruise offered a completely different perspective. Leaning against the railing, I was amazed by the endless deep blue sea while a cool sea breeze blew through my hair and white waves trailed behind the ship. Experiencing both the sea and snow in one summer was truly breathtaking and unforgettable.

My most valuable takeaways from Vancouver were cross-cultural understanding and stronger friendships. Communicating with peers from other countries broadened my worldview and deepened my understanding of their unique traditions, lifestyles, and cultures.








4C Sunny Sun



My experience in Vancouver is undoubtedly one of my most unforgettable memories. Throughout my stay, we attended morning classes alongside students from various countries. We chatted like friends, free from the pressure of formal lessons and learned about Canadian culture together.

In the afternoons, we explored scenic spots including Stanley Park and downtown for sightseeing and shopping. The Science World left a deep impression on me. It offered many interactive exhibits covering biology, physics and chemistry. I picked up plenty of scientific knowledge while having fun. We also visited The Butchart Gardens of breathtakingly beautiful plants that released sweet scents. I felt as though I'd stepped into a fairy tale world.

In the evenings, a range of activities were available for us. I joined the Halloween fashion show and put together my own costume. Even though my outfit looked a bit silly, the judges awarded me full marks of three points. This boosted my self confidence. It seems I could be a good 'model' after all! Besides, we took part in a photo scavenger hunt with peers from different backgrounds. We collaborated and grew closer to one another.

I also got to sample local food. Meals at UBC and street side ice cream rolls were mouth watering and finger-licking.

Vancouver's open surroundings, well planned urban design and natural beauty made me deeply fond of this city. Overall, this trip to Canada completely amazed me and held great meaning for me. I stepped out of my comfort zone to make new friends. Additionally, I gained greater insight into local Canadian culture through study and sightseeing. This journey has become a precious part of my life. I hope to explore more stunning places in the future.

4E Sisi Tang








The classes at UBC were nothing like the English lessons I used to have. We debated real-world issues, gave presentations on topics about countries, and had open discussions where every voice mattered. My teacher encouraged us to think critically and express ourselves freely. What made it even more special was the diversity of my classmates! There were students from Brazil, Russia, Spain, Italy, Britain, and many other countries. I made many Brazilian friends in particular. We chatted about everything and nothing, and I realized that even though we came from completely different backgrounds, we shared the same excitement about learning. That cross-cultural connection was, in itself, one of the most valuable lessons I took away from the classroom.

In the provincial capital of Victoria, accessible only by a ferry ride across the Salish Sea, I'll never forget standing on the deck, wind in my hair, watching the Vancouver skyline fade into the distance as islands began to appear on the horizon. We visited the famous Butchart Gardens. It was early summer, and the flowers were in full bloom — waves of purple, gold, and crimson stretching as far as the eye could see. I'd seen gardens in photos, but standing there, surrounded by color and the hum of bees, I indeed felt the beauty of nature in my whole body.

The highlight, though, was Whistler. We took a gondola up the mountain, and as we ascended, the air grew cooler and the trees gave way to bare rock and snow. At the top, I was face to face with a glacier. The same slopes that hosted the 2010 Winter Olympics stretched out below us, vast and silent. I stood there for a long time, just taking it in. There's something humbling about standing before a mountain, it reminds you how small you are, and somehow, that's a comforting thought. To make the moment more memorable, my friends, Mary, Julia, and I grabbed some gelato at the peak. I had the berry and mango shaved ice, it was absolutely delicious. Eating sweet, icy dessert while surrounded by snow-capped peaks and freezing wind — was a summer I'll never forget. It made me realize that growth often appears when you put yourself in a place that's bigger than you, that challenges you to look at things from a new angle.

To anyone who wants to consider joining an exchange program: say yes before you're ready. The world is bigger than your classroom, and you'll be surprised by how much of it you already understand.

5A Amy Li



My trip to Vancouver would not be complete without Stanley Park. It is hard to believe such a huge natural space sits so close to the city centre. As soon as I stepped in, the busy city seemed to fade away.

I walked along the seawall that circles the park. The ocean stretched out on one side, and I could see the Lions Gate Bridge and snow dusted mountains in the distance. Gentle wind carried the smell of seawater. When I turned into the forest trails, tall ancient trees blocked much of the sunlight. The tranquility made me slow down and notice small things, birds calling, soft moss on tree trunks and light filtering through leaves. I also visited the totem poles at Brockton Point. Each carving told its own cultural story.

What touched me most is Stanley Park's special balance. It's not just for sightseeing. People jog, cycle, sit by the water and simply breathe. Being there, reminded me that nature doesn't have to be a far away experience. Even in a modern city, we need places to rest our minds and feel connected to the world around us. My time in Stanley Park was more than sightseeing — it was a chance to refresh myself.





5D Angel Hou

Vancouver Vibes: Where the City Meets the Wild

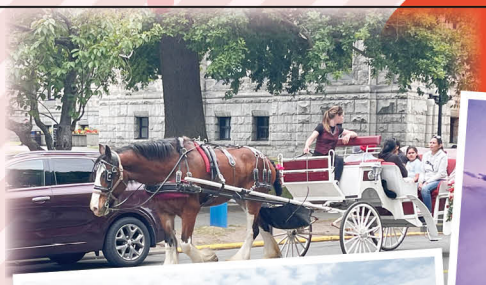


The exchange to Canada was an enriching experience—it was truly a pleasure to explore the country yet equally challenging to immerse myself in a brand-new environment.

While studying at the University of British Columbia, I engaged in vibrant classes focused on Canadian culture, critical thinking, and social awareness. Through interactive games and competitive debates, I was able to develop a more open mindset.

Outside the classroom, I visited Vancouver's most iconic landmarks. Metrotown, Downtown and Whistler displayed the city's modern developments, while Stanley Park and Victoria preserved its natural beauty. These experiences allowed me to reflect on the importance of protecting wildlife habitats while adapting to an urban lifestyle.

The study tour was undoubtedly a resounding success. I returned to Hong Kong with new friendships, irreplaceable memories, and a renewed curiosity to explore the world.







5A Serena Chung



My immersive adventure to Vancouver was eye-opening as it served as an academic and cultural experience, significantly broadening my global perspectives.

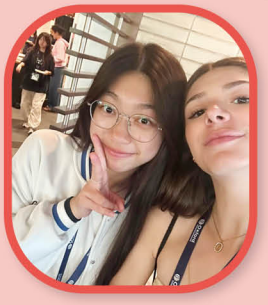
Beyond the classroom, we had the opportunity to go on outings to Downtown, Stanley Park, Granville Island and other sites, giving us a taste of life in Canada. During the weekends, we got to go on excursions to Victoria and Whistler, stopping by Butchant Garden along the way and visiting the Winters Olympic Village of 2010. These excursions let me understand that learning doesn't have to be confined in a classroom packed with students. Instead, it taught me that visiting and experiencing places first hand is also a profound way to consume knowledge.

Additionally, I also got to experience campus life with peers. Of all the campus activities we had, the most memorable one was our talent show. We didn't get a grand stage with professional lighting; we only had a corner on the field with a speaker. What made it wonderful was the passionate performers. On that day, we had typical performances like singing and dancing, and people playing the Rubik's cube. And at last, all of us (Hongkongers) sang Red Sun by Hacken Lee together, putting the talent show to the end. That day was especially memorable as it was supposed to be our last day for school. To me, that evening was my definition to mark the end of my school year. Moreover, I had the opportunity to play basketball and volleyball with my new friends from around the world, which made me realise that sports has no barrier between gender, nationality or colour, as our only mission was to break a sweat and have fun.

During my stay at the University of British Columbia with Oxford International, I had the pleasure of enjoying local cuisines, meeting wonderful people from around the globe, which broadened my international outlook.

5E Angel Zhang

A marvellous trip to Vancouver



During the first two weeks of July, I went to Vancouver with my lovely schoolmates. We spent our time there wonderfully, learning and speaking English and making new friends from different schools and countries.

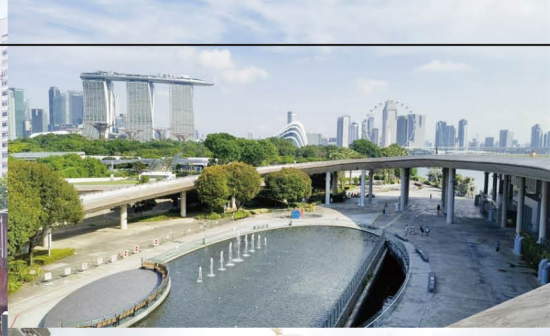
I like everything in Vancouver — the sunshine, the wind, the streets, and the people there. All of them made my day. If you ask me what impressed me the most, I will definitely say it was the atmosphere.

Canadians are very polite and outgoing. When you say "Hi" or simply greet someone on the streets or in shops, they will probably greet you back with a big smile. This is rare to see in Hong Kong, and I'd seldom do the same. As a result, I really love the warm atmosphere there.

Last but not least, I made lots of friends during my trip to. Some are from Brazil while others are from Taiwan, China. I still chat with them on Instagram to keep our friendship alive.

To be honest, this trip was absolutely worth it. Those precious memories will stay with me for a long time.







Tung Wah Camp to Singapore





3E Gigi Liu



Have you ever cried from heavy pressure or felt inferior to others? I had this feeling on my Singapore study trip. After the first public speaking lesson, all classmates answered the teacher's questions smoothly, but I struggled a lot. When I was picked to give a speech, I stammered badly. That night, I cried in my room thinking I did not belong here. The next day, I chose to challenge myself. I raised my hand to answer questions and found speaking was not as hard as I thought. In the end, our team won the Team Excellence Award by presenting our product to ninety people.

We visited many fantastic scenic spots too. Merlion Park, Singapore's landmark, impressed me most with its beautiful sea view and unique statue showing local history and modern beauty. I was also attracted by the lotus-shaped ArtScience Museum, full of dreamy glowing projections of magical visual experiences.

We also visited Jewel Changi Airport, home to the world's tallest indoor waterfall, Rain Vortex. Tall palm trees and thick green plants fill the hall, and a huge glass dome covers the whole area, making it feel like an indoor rainforest.

At the Indian and Malay Heritage Centre, I learned about Singapore's precious multiculturalism. Its elegant arched windows and classic Islamic-style architecture perfectly reflect Singapore's rich mix of ethnic cultures. The Science Centre helped me review biology and geography knowledge like monsoon climate and water cycle.

These speaking lessons we took in Singapore Management University (SMU) greatly improved my oral English and taught me about confident body language. I can adapt to high-pressure environments and speak fluently in front of crowds now. I am really grateful to TWGHs for this valuable chance.

3C Allin Li



This summer, our group embarked on an unforgettable journey to Singapore, a city-state that seamlessly blends modern innovation with rich cultural heritage. The trip was not merely a sightseeing tour but a profound learning experience that broadened our horizons and deepened our understanding of global diversity.

One of the most impressive aspects of this trip was visiting the Merlion Park. Standing before the iconic statue, we were struck by the symbol of Singapore's humble beginnings as a fishing village and its transformation into a global metropolis. This visual narrative taught us the value of resilience and forward-thinking. Furthermore, our visit to local universities exposed us to cutting-edge educational facilities and a multicultural student body, inspiring us to embrace lifelong learning and cross-cultural communication.

We also gained valuable insights into civic responsibility. Observing the strict adherence to public rules, such as no eating or drinking on public transport, highlighted how individual discipline contributes to societal order and cleanliness. It reminded us that a harmonious society relies on mutual respect and shared responsibility.

The photos attached capture these moments: the majestic Merlion at sunset, buildings of different styles with the lens and the vibrant hawker centers where diverse cuisines coexist. These images serve as reminders that travel is not just about seeing new places, but internalizing lessons that shape our character. This trip has left an indelible mark on us, encouraging us to become more open-minded, disciplined, and globally aware citizens.





3E Henry Yang



Our study tour to Singapore was an unforgettable experience that completely changed how I see the world. Before the trip, I thought Singapore was just a city full of modern buildings, but exploring its different sides taught me a lot about its interesting culture and history.

One of the best parts of the trip was visiting the Chinatown Heritage Centre. Walking around and observing how the early Chinese immigrants lived was very touching. It taught me an important lesson: behind every modern and successful city, there is a story of hard work by the people who came before us. I also loved seeing how peacefully people from different cultures — Chinese, Malay, and Indian — live together. It showed me how important it is to respect each other and get along.

We also got to see how Singapore mixes art, science, and everyday life. Seeing the cool ArtScience Museum right by the water was great because it shows how creative the people are. Of course, we cannot talk about culture without mentioning the amazing food! Trying local dishes with my classmates was one of the funnest parts of the trip, proving that food is a great way to bring different people together.

Finally, Singapore's "green culture" totally surprised me. When we walked into the Cloud Forest at Gardens by the Bay and saw that huge indoor waterfall, we could not stop taking photos! Standing under the giant Supertrees made me realize that protecting nature and cities can work together perfectly.

Looking back at our photos by the Merlion, I am so delighted we went on this trip. It did not just give me beautiful memories; it taught me to love different cultures and look at the world with an open mind!







3A Emma Dai

From the moment I got to Singapore, I could feel something different—not just the heat, but this strange harmony between steel-and-glass buildings and all the green around them.



Gardens by the Bay was a real highlight. Even though we visited during the day, I remember standing under those giant Supertrees in broad daylight, looking up at how massive they really were—no lights needed to be impressed. The Cloud Forest dome took my breath away too, mainly because of that huge waterfall and the cool mist that hit my face the second I walked in. It was such a relief from the heat outside.

Honestly, I wasn't expecting much from the ArtScience Museum, but the interactive exhibits drew me in. There was one room filled with floating digital flowers that responded to movement—it was simple, but I could've stayed there for an hour. Through immersive digital installations, the exhibition perfectly combines art, light, and technology.

The most challenging part of the trip was conducting street interviews. We tried to communicate with university students, asking what their school life was like. Their answers amazed us, and we found that there are a lot of differences between schools in Singapore and Hong Kong. For instance, participation in co-curricular activities is mandatory in Singapore, while enrichment activities are mostly optional in Hong Kong.

What really stayed with me was how seriously they take sustainability. Recycling points were everywhere, the MRT ran smoothly and quietly, and even the air felt cleaner. It made me realise that a city doesn't have to choose between being modern and being green.

I came back with a lot of photos, but also a quieter kind of admiration. Singapore stayed with me longer than I expected.

3C Chelsea Leung



Joining this exchange trip to Singapore was a meaningful learning journey that brought me profound personal insights rather than just scenic views.

The most rewarding part was the public speaking workshop at SMU. Before this class, I always felt nervous and stiff when speaking to a crowd, with minimal gestures. Through constant group drills and tutor guidance, I overcame my fear of performing in front of others. I learned that appropriate body language, such as hand movements and relaxed posture, can make speeches more engaging and help audiences grasp my ideas easily. This lesson has greatly boosted my self-confidence when expressing myself publicly. Visiting NUS also gave me a fresh perspective on international higher education, motivating me to seek more practical learning chances in the future.

Our visits to Little India and Kampong Glam opened my eyes to striking cultural diversity. Walking through these districts, I observed obvious differences between ethnic groups, from their traditional outfits and delicate handmade jewellery to unique local snacks and daily goods. Every detail reflected distinct cultural aesthetics and living customs. Seeing such varied traditions coexist peacefully in one city taught me to embrace cultural differences and look at the world with a more inclusive mindset.

At Merlion Park and Gardens by the Bay, I was impressed by how Singapore balances bustling urban finance with well-preserved green nature. Compared with Hong Kong, Singapore specially preserves independent cultural quarters for each race to keep their traditions alive, while Hong Kong's cultures are more integrated. The public also shows stronger collective awareness of environmental tidiness there.

Overall, this trip changed me in two key ways: I can now speak in public without anxiety and I have gained deeper respect for multiculturalism. It is an invaluable experience that has broadened my global outlook entirely.





Visit by Secondary Schools from Scotland

As one of the Hong Kong Scotland School Improvement Partnership (HKSSIP) participating schools, our school hosted 7 students from Scotland led by Ms. Coupar from St Augustine's High School on 9 October 2025. They joined the lessons with our students and participated in the discussions about Hong Kong and Scottish culture, making Chinese dumplings and exploring aviation-related topics through hands-on practice. Our Student Buddies and English Ambassadors from S3-4 prepared the campus tour and introduced the local snacks of Hong Kong to them. All these activities promote cultural exchange. A joint school dinner gathering was held on 10 October 2025 to allow students to mingle and make new connections. It also creates a platform for professional exchange among participating schools.

The visiting students are from Craigmount High School, James Gillespie's High School, Queensferry High School, Royal High School, St Augustine's High School and Trinity Academy respectively. It is our pleasure to host the students from the above schools.








DEEP FRIED
MARS BAR
- Ingredients
- Mars Bar
- Batter
very bad for you
01:00



A Taste of Chinese New Year in English

In February, our school proudly celebrated Chinese Culture Week, a highly anticipated event that showcased the richness of Chinese traditions while fostering a strong sense of community among students. A wide range of cultural activities were organized across the campus, encouraging active participation and cultural appreciation.

As part of the celebration, the English Department designed a variety of interactive game booths that successfully integrated elements of Chinese culture with English language learning. Students explored the English names of traditional Chinese New Year foods, including turnip cake and sweet rice balls, while also learning how to share festive blessings and greetings effectively in English. Through quizzes, games and interactive challenges, students strengthened both their cultural knowledge and communication skills. The event served as a valuable opportunity to celebrate Chinese heritage while demonstrating the importance of using English as a bridge between cultures.



Smile!



Let me try!



Teacher and students having fun together



Appetizing prizes



Foodies Challenge

















When Lunchtime Became a Stage

S4 and S5 TED Talks on Chinese culture, virtues and living heritage



Last March, S4 and S5 students gave TED-style talks at lunchtime, with one day set aside for each form. The hall filled quickly, and for two busy lunchtimes the school had a student-led event worth turning up for.

S5 focused on Chinese traditional virtues and the preservation of Chinese culture. The talks covered facial makeup in Chinese opera, lion dancing, and classical Chinese, or 'wenyan'. The range was ambitious, but the speakers handled it with real care.

S4 took a more local route. Speakers introduced historical landmarks in Hong Kong, discussed Peking Opera, and presented table-tennis champion Mr Fan Zhendong. Other talks looked at Chinese sport, performance and everyday heritage, giving the audience plenty to take away.

The lunchtime format kept the event short and sharp. Students researched their topics, practised in advance and spoke with confidence in front of their peers. Over two days, the series showed that Chinese culture is not only a subject in textbooks, but something students can study seriously and present with pride.







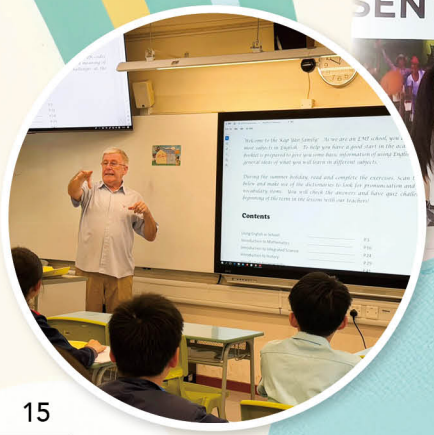


Pre-S1 Bridging and Enhancement Program

About 160 students took part in the Pre-Secondary One Bridging Programme from July 16 to July 22, 2026. The programme was designed to support their seamless progression to secondary education. The programme sought to strengthen essential academic competencies, nurture self-assurance, and cultivate cooperation skills among participants.



The programme featured a diverse range of activities, including ice-breaking exercises, script-writing workshops, and interactive vocabulary challenges centred on classroom communication and EMI subjects including Mathematics, Integrated Science, History as well as Geography. Students rehearsed and performed short dramatic presentations, while making use of the online reading platform, news articles, and a specially prepared enrichment booklet. Through this well-rounded learning experience, participants not only acquired key academic skills but also sharpened their creativity, communication, and teamwork abilities, equipping them to embrace the opportunities and challenges of secondary school with confidence.











English Week Junior Form Spellathon



Vocabulary retention and spelling accuracy remain core instructional priorities for our junior forms (F1–F3). The English Department held the activity as a timed, form-based contest designed to measure recall under pressure. The event began with a Basic Round, in which teachers read each item aloud twice. Students then completed short writing tasks in around 10 seconds. The second phase, the Challenging Round, required faster written responses as students tackled more difficult words.



During the event, F1 students competed in their classrooms with their group members, while F2 and F3 took part in competitions in the hall. With Ms. Gee's guidance, students wrote down basic and challenging words from their syllabus. 3D, 2C, and 2D won the prizes and shared their joy with their peers.



The event concluded in a genuinely uplifting way, recognizing students' efforts while reinforcing their growing appreciation for English.









DEBATING COMPETITIONS



With wit, teamwork and camaraderie, members of the school's English Debate Team not only won several titles but also built their foundations on debating skills. Last academic year, the senior team was awarded champion in the finals of the Hong Kong Secondary School Debating Competition while the junior team came second. We also won the second-runner up in UNESCO Debating Competition series, in which our students demonstrated awareness of global issues and sustainable development, and how they channel their thoughts into powerful speeches. Congratulations to our students.



3B Kingsley Kho



Through participating in many debate competitions, not only have I improved my debating and critical-thinking skills, but I have also become more confident and articulate, which translates well into interpersonal skills. We haven't won every single debate — but that's okay! With the support of my peers and teachers, I have learnt to focus on self-reflection and hearing about others' perspectives rather than wins and losses. Overall, I have grown a lot from the Debate Team, and I'm excited to see what the coming year brings.

4E Winnie Guo



Looking back, I feel super lucky to have been a member of the English Debate Team. Debate is not only about reading aloud or pronouncing words properly, but also about constructing arguments and coming up with rebuttals on the spot. Through joining English Debate Team, my critical thinking and public speaking skills improved significantly, and I also learned how to collaborate with others. What I enjoy most is that debate allows me to intellectually spar with my friends. In addition, the debate topics also inspire me to reflect on real-life phenomena and pay more attention to important social issues.

All in all, joining the debate team has truly been a great experience for me. I hope all of you will join the English Debate Team too!

4E Sisi Tang



When I first participated in the UNESCO debating competition with my team, I thought the whole point was to win awards. What I'm taking away from this experience, however, is something entirely different.

To my teammates — thank you. The nights we spent poring over arguments, challenging each other's reasoning, and rebuilding our cases piece by piece were indeed unforgettable. Your discipline pushed me to learn further, and your patience whenever I got stuck on a difficult point meant more than anything else. To our coach, Mr. Mong— your feedback never stayed on the surface. You sharpened our critical thinking and problem-solving skills, which have already begun to change how I approach problems well beyond the debate floor.

The most enduring lesson for me was learning the difference between simply waiting for your turn to speak and actually listening to what's being said. What I came to realize is that the sharpest rebuttals come from truly engaging with your opponent's logic, finding the precise gap in their reasoning and addressing it directly, with composure.

I'm grateful for this competition. The skills I have built, from testing ideas collaboratively to staying steady under pressure, are lessons I will carry with me for a lifetime.

The 21st Century Cup National English Speaking Competition



The 21st Century Cup National English Speaking Competition, launched by the China Daily Group in 1996, aims to enhance students' English-speaking skills while encouraging creativity, confidence, and innovative thinking. This year, contestants in the Junior Secondary Category delivered speeches on the theme "If I Were the Principal of Our School for One Day," while participants in the Senior Secondary Category explored the thought-provoking topic "AI and the Human Touch: Can They Coexist?" We are proud that twelve junior form students and two senior form students represented our school in the competition and demonstrated their enthusiasm for public speaking. Three of the awardees shared how they felt and they dealt with the challenge in public speaking.

Second Prize Awardee

4B Stephanie Poon



Getting into the semifinals of the 21st Century Cup was an amazing surprise. I never pictured myself standing at the front of the room, passionately sharing my thoughts with people I didn't even know. Honestly, this whole experience was never just about getting a prize. It was a challenge to try something completely different and force myself out of my comfort zone. Not only was it a chance to assess myself, but it also gave me a glimpse of the talent outside and inspired me to keep improving.

Third Prize Awardee



3B Meko Liang

From this experience, I have learnt to express my arguments in front of so many people. The more I practised, the less nervous I felt. I gained a sense of achievement as I've improved my persuasive skills. For preparation, one crucial element is we should choose an innovative story line. A hook is also important to catch someone's attention. We can add some questions or current news to resonate with the audience and arouse curiosity. Finally, the tone of voice, body language and eye contact can play a vital role in speaking. With all this, your presentation will be more attractive!

Third Prize Awardee

2B Kiana Chan



During the preparation process, I wrote my script and then practised many times. I frequently read to my family and sometimes practice in front of a mirror. I slowly built confidence by reading the script again and again. On the day of the competition, I was really nervous because all the other participants seemed to be serious and strong. When I stepped into the room, I even dropped my script onto the floor. Yet, I still tried to read confidently and eventually won a prize. I felt a sense of relief since the effort was worth it. I have learnt that we shouldn't give up because as long as we keep going on, there is hope.









Speak Up Act Out 2026

Reflecting on the Stage

Every single participant agrees that the Speak Up Act Out Competition was an unforgettable, fun and eye-opening experience!

Competition was fierce, with schools across the board displaying impressive scripts and expressive performances that gave the judges a tough time picking the winners. Marking our school's third consecutive year in the drama competition, six dedicated Form 3 students poured hours of hard work into rehearsals under the guidance of our NET, Ms. Gee. Their 5-minute play, The Dusty Mirror, followed a confused teenager torn between two cultural and geographical identities, who ultimately discovers himself.

Reflecting on the journey, the cast agreed that they learned invaluable lessons like team spirit and ownership, all the while boosting their self-confidence, communication and organizational skills. With spirits high and lessons learned, we are already looking forward to the next one!

Time to Talk 2026

Speaking Up and Shining Bright!

This year, 2 enthusiastic teams from S2 enrolled for the coveted Time to Talk 2026 cup! Months of dedication led up to the big day, with students pouring hours of hard work into designing eye-catching presentation slides and rehearsing their lines to perfection. For the musical performance component, the six eager and talented students wowed the audience by choosing inspiring songs from the official list: Miley Cyrus's uplifting anthem "The Climb" and the magical classic "A Whole New World" from Aladdin.

In the end, all six competitors walked away as winners—not just with well-earned certificates of participation, but with invaluable lessons in teamwork, communication, and self-confidence that will last a lifetime.









HKFYG PUBLIC SPEAKING 2026

Speak Up, Speak Loud, Speak Out!

This year, our school set itself the ambitious goal of maximizing student participation in the 2026 public speaking contest organized by the Hong Kong Youth Federation. The annual competition is conducted across five districts and consists of four stages.

Despite the challenge of recruiting participants at short notice, we successfully submitted 22 video speech entries on a variety of self-selected topics in the preliminary round. From this enthusiastic group, four junior-form students advanced to the semi-finals, where they delivered five-minute speeches in person on topics of their choice.

Reaching the next stage required perseverance, preparation and confidence, as contestants had to present a speech on an assigned topic with a questionnaire. Competing against talented speakers from across the districts was no easy task, yet 2 of our students successfully progressed to the grand finale.

All participants were awarded certificates along with valuable feedback from the judges. We are especially proud of Sisi from S3, who won First Prize in the New Territories Junior Division Grand Final, bringing honour and recognition to our school. Her outstanding achievement serves as an inspiration to all aspiring young speakers.





ERS Book Report Competition

The English Department's annual ERS Book Report Competition is designed to cultivate students' passion for literature. Participants demonstrate their understanding and creativity by reimagining a favorite book through various formats—such as a comic script, a movie poster, or a letter to the author. Featured below are some of the winning entries.







1st Prize
3C Leung Ka Hing

Topic: Write an interview script.

Interview script

"People We Meet on Vacation"

Reporter: R Poppy: P

Reporter (R): Hi Poppy! Thanks for joining us. For readers who haven't heard your story, can you start by telling us a little about yourself and the person who changed your life?

Poppy (P): Hi, thanks for having me! I'm Poppy, as a travel writer I've spent years chasing big adventures and "perfect" moments. The person who changed everything is my best friend, Alex. We grew up together in a tiny town, and although we're total opposites - he's quiet and loves routine, I'm loud and always on the move - he's been my constant since we were kids.

R: I hear you two had a big falling out and didn't speak for years. What caused the rift?

P: It was my fault, really. I was scared of ruining our friendship, so I pushed him away instead of admitting how I felt. We stopped talking for two years, and I thought I'd lost him forever.

R: What made you decide to reach out and take that road trip to reconnect with him?

P: I realized I wasn't happy anymore. All the trips, the adventures, they felt empty without him to share them with. I knew if I didn't try to fix things, I'd regret it for the rest of my life.

R: Looking back, what's one small moment from that trip that reminded you why Alex was so important to you?

P: It was a quiet night in a tiny motel. We didn't even talk about the past — we just ate takeout and laughed like we used to. In that moment, I remembered how easy it is to be myself with him — no masks, no pressure.

R: If you could go back to your younger self, what's one thing you'd tell her about love and friendship?

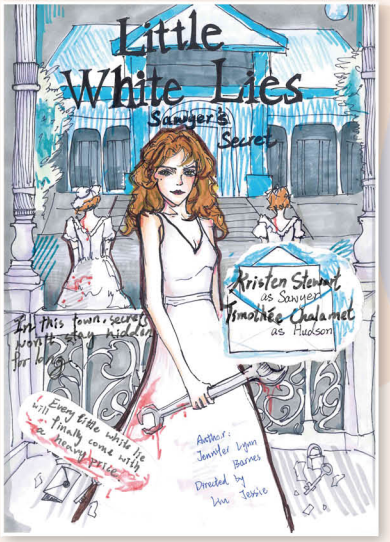
P: I'd tell her not to let fear stop you from being honest. You don't have to choose between adventure and the people you love — they can be the same thing.

R: What's the biggest lesson you learned from this whole journey?

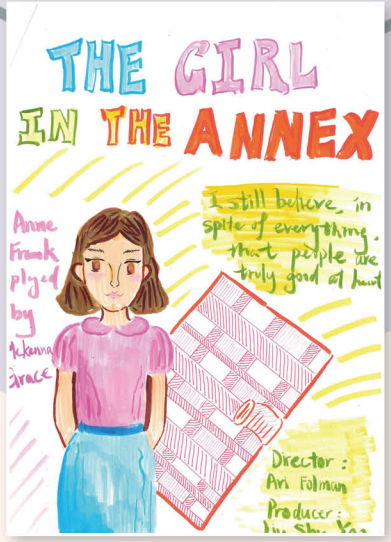
P: That the most important adventure isn't about seeing the world — it's about being brave enough to hold onto the people who make you feel at home.

R: Thanks for sharing, Poppy.

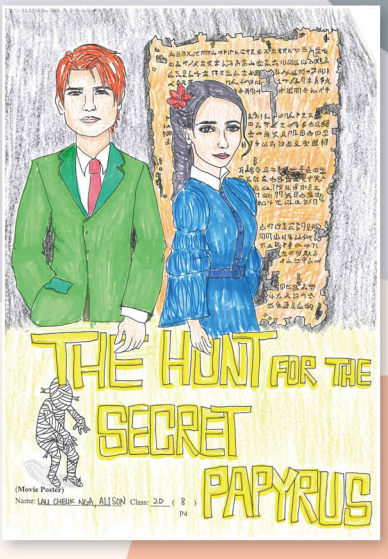
Awarded S2 Movie Posters



3E Jessie Liu (1st Prize)
Book title: Little White Lies



3A Liu Shu Yao (2nd Prize)
Book title: The Girl in the Annex



3B Lau Cheuk Nga, Alison (3rd Prize)
Book title: The Hunt for the Secret Papyrus

1st Prize
2A Lee Kwan Lok, Leo

Topic: Write a speech sharing about a book in the morning assembly.

Book title: The Hunger Games: Catching Fire Author: Suzanne Collins

Dear Principal, teachers, and fellow students,

Today, I am going to talk about The Hunger Games. This book is set in the dystopian nation of Panem, located in post-apocalyptic North America. Set a few months after the end of the first installment, the story begins in winter as Katniss and Peeta embark on the "Victory Tour", ultimately leading into the 75th Hunger Games held in the summer of the same year.

I like this novel because its main character Katniss is brave and inspirational; she inspires others by choosing humanity over the Capitol's cruelty. From volunteering for her sister to mourning Rue, her selfless love and defiance with the berries proved the regime's fragility. As the Mockingjay, her raw, honest anger turned personal survival into a universal rebellion, proving that even a single person's courage can ignite a revolution and topple a tyrant. That is why I adore her character so much.

Furthermore, the story demonstrates a profound truth: power often thrives on fear and media manipulation. It serves as a reminder that war has no true winners, as even the victors carry deep psychological scars. Ultimately, the story emphasizes that individual agency and kindness are the only ways to break the cycle of tyranny, showing that staying true to one's humanity is the ultimate form of rebellion.

I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys psychological suspense and political intrigue. With deadly hidden traps and constant betrayals, it keeps you asking: in a game of survival, who is the real enemy?

I hope you enjoy reading it!

The 77th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

Once again, our school achieved outstanding results in this year's competition. Our students distinguished themselves by securing award-winning positions. Two of the prize recipients shared their learning journeys, insights, and personal reflections.





First Runner-up

6D Sucharitsopit Tarntip

I've taken part in the Speech Festival every year since F1, and it has been a highly rewarding journey. Each year, I'm given a different poem, trained with a different teacher, and face different competitors. Poems I recited have always given me a new perspective on the world, every teacher who has coached me has helped discover my potential. Over time, my confidence and English skills have increased noticeably.

I'm deeply grateful for the English teachers who have guided me through the nuances of each poem and taught me to convey emotion with authenticity and precision. Without their support, I wouldn't have achieved what I have today.

Looking back on these five years of participation, I'm very proud of how far I've come — not only in terms of awards, but in personal growth and self-expression. I truly encourage other students to embrace this opportunity. It's an experience highly worth having.

First Runner-up



4D Michael Wu

Participating in the speech festival is certainly one of the most valuable experiences for me. I went a long way with my teacher coach to enhance my pronunciation, find appropriate tones and improve my confidence. Speech Festival is never a competition to simply recite poems; we need to add "seasonings"- appropriate tones and moderate body gestures to assist the expression of emotions to convey the author's thoughts.

I still remember the adjudicator demonstrating her interpretations of one of the poems. She connected two lines with a sudden acceleration and unanticipated pause (as a finishing touch). We all instantly felt as though we had been immersed in the world described by the author. This is something none of the contestants could express that day. This was truly inspiring and left me to wonder how I could perform poems accurately. Every time I tried to experience the poet's mood, I felt like I'm in touch with them. Whether it was the anger about the hairstyle expressed in the poem 'Haircut,' or the free-spirited enthusiasm in breaking away from tradition in 'An attempt in unrhymed verse.'

These poems have become my companions and mean more to me than solely winning awards in the Speech Festival.



The Big Red Zero

3B Kingsley Kho

Looking at the big red zero on my test paper, I felt bittersweet.

It was just a seemingly random Tuesday night. I could barely keep my nauseated head up. It felt like it had a mind of its own that desperate needed rest.

Out of the blue, a buzz emanated from my phone. It was a text message from my best friend Henry.

"You're prepared for the Chinese test tomorrow, right?"

At this moment, my dread became anxiety, my sleepiness became stress. Being already bombarded by the gargantuan pile of homework sitting on the desktop longing to be finished, I look out of the window only to see a raging thunderstorm. I resonated with it.

In a panic, I asked Henry if he was joking. Of course he wasn't. He's my best friend after all.

I was shell-shocked. Is there any remedy to this? If I failed my tests one more time, my parents would surely be infuriated.

Suddenly, I received another message. "You can always cheat, you know..."

He's out of his mind! In what world would I do such a dishonest act?

But as my troubles caused me to do zero, zip, zilch, the message echoed in my head. As my energy withered away, the choice felt difficult yet easy to make — what once had been utter nonsense transposed into the only way out.

The cluster of notes and books on my desk? The honesty in me? All was forgotten and long gone. Looking out the window yet again, the thunder had abruptly stopped, but grey clouds covered the sky spotlessly — just like it was telling me the tranquil was nothing but temporary.

And so I decided on going with this "ironclad" plan of mine and went to sleep.

Only I was stressed out. Time wasn't. It passed effortlessly, as fast as a bullet, and I already found myself having doubts the following day.

Time wouldn't, couldn't stop and wait for me to change my plan. The hole I dug had been too deep; even with regret I wouldn't be able to claw myself out.

The walk to school was treacherous, although with no obstacles in sight. Gusts of wind made leaves tremble. I calmed myself down since I was unable to do anything about it anymore.

Arriving to the school, I sneakily hid notes and nooks under the test paper and inside my drawer. I sighed in relief as the teacher failed to notice them.

My smile stretched from one ear to another as I swiftly jotted the answers down. It felt like such a simple yet effective way of acing this test! The adrenaline rush motivated me to try to continue on this with my other tests.

However, all things must have an end. The soft footsteps from my teacher slowly approaching my desk felt forceful. As the teacher reached for my notes, goosebumps filled my body.

The entire classroom went into a standstill. Its silence was ear-deafening. Its quietude was uncomfortable. The teacher scolded me with a stentorian voice. His words, albeit horrifying, were insightful. "I would never accept such falsity!"

Here, peace became anxiety and tears of joy became tears of nervousness.

I got sent to the principal's office and my parents were called immediately. Through the telephone, despite there being no facial expressions, I could clearly see their disbelief. I let out another sigh — not of relief, but of distraught.

After lunch, I met Henry again and asked him why he would backstab me by encouraging me to be wrongful.

"I was just joking..." With a measly four words, his face, always smiling, had turned into trepidation. Before this I was outraged from his suggestion, but I had come to realise I only had myself to blame.

In all the lessons school teaches me, I would scoff at the endings having nonsensical morals. In spite of that, I have experienced a story that I could truly learn from, in my own eyes. It was a different point of view that fascinated me. A straightforward moral to just be honest — it has been embedded into my brain, instead of being forgotten right after being read.

The big red zero. Sure, it might be a low grade, the lowest grade possible in fact, but it has made me gain more than any other test would.



The Weight of a Stone

6E Tony Zhang

My father was a quiet man. He did not fill silences with talk. He filled them with work. Every Saturday, before the village had finished its morning tea, he would take his old bucket from beside the back door and walk down to the river.

The river was not deep or wide. It was the kind of water you could hear from the garden, a low murmur that rose after rain and softened in dry weather. Across it lay a line of flat stones, grey and worn, placed just high enough to keep your feet dry if you stepped carefully. The stones led from our bank to the public footpath on the other side. They were old. No one remembered who had first laid them. But everyone used them. The postman used them as a shortcut on his rounds. Mothers with prams bumped across them slowly. Children balanced on them for sport, arms outstretched, pretending the water was a canyon.

My father did not build the crossing. But he kept it.

Every Saturday, he waded into the shallows with his gloves and his pry bar. The current had a way of shifting the stones. A heavy rain could tilt one sideways. A season of foot traffic could loosen another. My father would find the stone that had moved, work the bar underneath it, and settle it back into the riverbed with a grunt and a splash. If a stone had cracked, he replaced it with another he had found in the field—one of the right shape, the right weight, the right flatness. He never brought stones from anywhere else. He said the river only accepted its own kind.

I did not understand this work when I was young. It seemed endless and thankless. The stones would just shift again the next week. The people who crossed did not even glance down at their feet. They did not know my father's name. They did not know the stones had been touched by human hands at all. I asked him once, as he dried his arms on an old cloth, why he did it.

He looked at the crossing for a long moment. "Things need looking after," he said. That was all.

I grew older and moved away. The city was loud and fast, and I forgot about the sound of the river. I forgot about the bucket by the back door. When I came home to visit, I noticed small things. The crossing looked different. Some stones were paler, some darker. But they were always steady. My father's shoulders had begun to round. His hands had grown thicker at the knuckles. But every Saturday, the bucket was gone from its spot, and when he came back, his trousers were wet to the knee.

Then his heart began to trouble him. I came home for a longer stay, to help my mother and to sit with him in the afternoons. He could no longer walk to the river. He sat by the window instead, looking out at the path. I watched him watch the crossing. His eyes would follow anyone who walked across. He never said what he was thinking. He just watched, and his face was calm.

One afternoon, I stood beside him and looked out at the river. A woman I did not know was crossing with a small dog on a lead. She stepped from stone to stone without pausing, without looking down at her feet. Her trust in the path was absolute. She disappeared up the far bank and into the trees.

It came to me then, slowly, like the way the river smooths a stone over time. My father had not been tending stones. He had been tending a promise. The promise was that when someone needed to cross, the ground beneath them would hold. It did not matter who they were. It did not matter if they noticed. The promise was made to the path itself, and the path kept it for everyone.

The first Saturday after he died, I picked up the bucket. The gloves were stiff from drying a hundred times. The bar was heavy and cold. I walked down to the river alone.

The water was lower than I remembered. I could see the places where the current had eaten away at the mud around the stones. One near the middle had shifted, its edge lifted like a shrug. I stepped into the river. The cold took my breath away. I worked the bar under the stone and leaned my weight against it. It was heavier than I expected. It took me three tries to settle it flat again. My hands ached. My back ached. I understood then, in my body, what his Saturdays had cost him.

When I finished, I stood on the far bank and looked back. The crossing looked exactly as it always had. Unremarkable. Solid. The water flowed around the stones without complaint. A man walked down from the village side. He nodded at me the way people do when they pass a stranger. He stepped onto the first stone, then the second. He did not hesitate. He did not look down. He crossed and continued up the trail toward the mill road. He did not know my father. He did not know me. He did not know the stones had been touched that morning.

I stood there until the light began to change. A few more people crossed. None of them looked at their feet. None of them said thank you. None of them needed to. The stones held.

That is what my father left behind. Not a monument. Not a name on a plaque. Just a line of grey stones in a shallow river, steady enough to be forgotten. And every Saturday now, I take the bucket down and make sure they stay that way.

Brain Teasers

QUESTIONS

1. What breaks the moment you say its name?
2. What five-letter word reads the same right-side up and upside down when written in all capital letters?
3. Which weighs more: a pound of feathers or a pound of steel?
4. A prisoner must choose between three rooms to survive. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in three years. Which room is safest?
5. A man is looking at a portrait and says, "Brothers and sisters I have none, but that man's father is my father's son." Who is in the picture?
6. What three-letter word has two letters added to it to make it fewer?
7. What plural English noun becomes a singular noun when you add an "s" to the end of it?
8. An English teacher writes two sentences on the board to test subject-verb agreement. Sentence A: "The yolk of the egg is white." Sentence B: "The yolk of the egg are white." Which sentence is correct?

ANSWERS

(1) Silence
(2) SWIMS
(3) They both weigh exactly the same (one pound)
(4) The third room. If the lions haven't eaten in three years, they would be dead.
(5) His son
(6) "Few." (When you add the suffix "-er" to make it comparative, it becomes "fewer.")
(7) Princes. (Adding an "s" to the plural word "princes" makes it the singular word "princess.")
(8) Neither! Egg yolks are yellow, not white. (This tests their ability to spot a factual trick hidden inside a grammar question).

PALETTE

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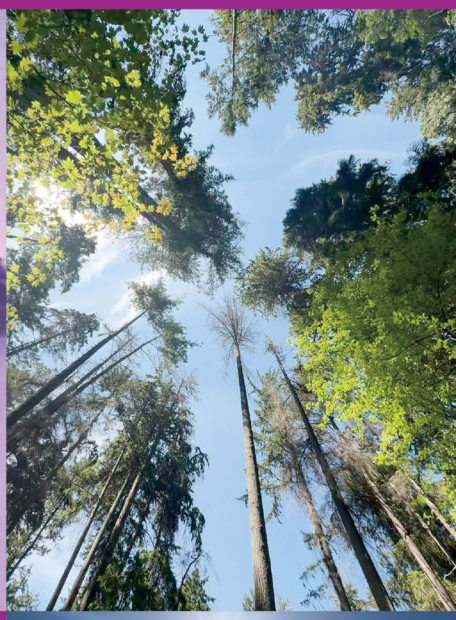
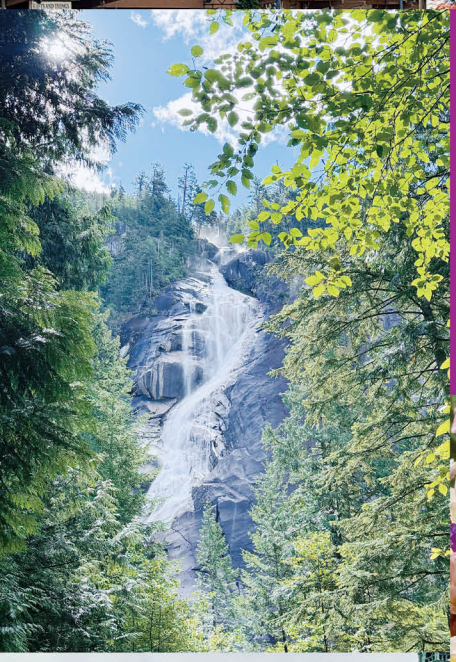

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