

第六十九屆香港學校朗誦節(2017/2018)

普通話朗誦成績

獎項	項目	班別	姓名
冠軍	中一、二女子普通話詩詞獨誦	1J	潘皓忻
冠軍	中三、四男子普通話散文獨誦	4L	朱浚霆
亞軍	中一、二女子普通話詩詞獨誦	1G	鄧卓枏
亞軍	中一、二女子普通話散文獨誦	2G	余澤欣
亞軍	中三、四女子普通話散文獨誦	3F	李若彤
季軍	中一、二男子普通話詩詞獨誦	1P	龔泓迪
季軍	中一、二女子普通話詩詞獨誦	1P	郭雪滢
季軍	中一、二女子普通話詩詞獨誦	2G	黃穎嵐
季軍	中三、四女子普通話散文獨誦	3P	蔡潼

LIST OF WINNERS (ENGLISH)

Award	Event	Class	Name
1st	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 4 - Girls	4G	WU Pui Yin
1st	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 5 - Girls	5F	WILSON Brianna Sum Yee
1st	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 3 - Boys	3P	CHAN Kin Ho
1st	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 4 - Boys	4P	YOUNG Cheuk Heng
1st	Dramatic Duologue Secondary 3 and 4	4J 4P	CHAN Renee YOUNG Cheuk Heng
2nd	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 2 - Girls	2J	LEUNG Hei Yu Sofia
2nd	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 2 - Girls	2P	CHAN Megan Sum In
2nd	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 5 - Girls	5H	SIU King Sum
2nd	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 1 - Boys	1G	KWAN Hok Lai
2nd	Dramatic Duologue Secondary 1 and 2	2L 2P	MAK Lee Yi CHAN Yi Man
2nd	Dramatic Duologue Secondary 3 and 4	3L 3L	LAM Sau Chun KU Fong Lum Flora
2nd	Dramatic Duologue Secondary 3 and 4	3P 3F	CHIM Wing Sum Samantha YUEN Ho Yi
2nd	Shakespeare Monologue, Non-Open Under Age 15	4J	CHAN Renee
3rd	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 3 - Girls	3P	CHIM Wing Sum Samantha
3rd	Solo Verse Speaking – Non-Open Secondary 1 - Boys	1P	KUNG Wang Tik
3rd	Dramatic Duologue Secondary 3 and 4	4L 4L	CHAN Wing Hei WONG Hui Ching Angie
3rd	Choral Speaking Secondary 1 and 2, Mixed Voice		S1 students

粵語朗誦成績

獎項	項目	班別	姓名
冠軍	粵語：女子組中學二年級詩詞獨誦	2G	黃穎嵐
冠軍	粵語：女子組中學五、六年級散文獨誦	5L	張凱琳
季軍	粵語：女子組中學三年級散文獨誦	3P	李若彤
季軍	粵語：二人朗誦中學三、四年級	4L	黃凱晴
季軍	粵語：二人朗誦中學三、四年級	4H	邢禹晴

Spkc

Stewards Pooi Kei College **Newsletter**

March Issue 2017/2018

Myriad Hues of

Pooikeinians



Cover Designed by Vicky WONG Wing Kei, 5 Hope



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Stewards Pooi Kei College

Where did Mr. LEE go? An Interview with Mr. William LEE

by Terrence Ng 1 Grace, Brianna Wilson 5 Faith, Phoebe Leung 5 Peace



As we all know, our vice-principal, Mr William Lee, was not in school during the school year of 2016-2017. During that time, he was meeting with teachers from all over Hong Kong for a secondment programme that enabled him a chance to do office work and field work for the Education Bureau. Today, we interviewed him about his experience as an outreach teacher during the last academic year.

Secondment (pronounced see-COND-ment) is a government program that allows frontline teachers to gain exposure to different working environments in EDB. Rather than the so-called frontline work, i.e. teaching, Mr Lee was able to undertake research on school curriculums, interact and give advice to other teaching staff. Given the opportunity to experience both instructing students and working as a liaison officer, Mr Lee says he preferred the former, for it is his dream to teach and inspire students. In the classroom, he enjoys interacting with students rather than managing documents. Mr Lee loves to see the growth of his students as they learn and mature; and even the transformation of fellow colleagues, those

teachers who have gained from their teaching experiences. Although he enjoyed exchanging ideas and sharing his experience with other teachers, Mr Lee found it rather dull, to be seated in front of a desk, reading documents, like curricula planning and education trends.

When asked what challenges he faced during the year, the biggest was to adapt to the new working mode and environment. As a secondary teacher, Mr Lee was expected to arrive at schools he had never worked in, meet teachers and figure out the needs of a school in a short period of time. He also provided professional feedback and advice. It took him months to adapt to his job. After that, he was able to digest the schools' condition quickly and suggest ways to improve. It was not an easy task.



Mr Lee's sharing in Teachers Learning Community.

Mr Lee did not come back from the secondment empty-handed. He gained a lot as a teacher and as a vice-principal. For example, he was given the chance to study and read about effective teaching methods and updated information on e-learning. It seemed to him he was given a license to read because he had never had the time to do so in the past. From these books and documents, Mr Lee could give suggestions to the schools, and at the same time learn more about himself. He studied more about learner diversity and the supporting measure, which will be helpful in the classroom. He also developed more empathy toward colleagues and staff in school. He understands that they have an overwhelming workload, and that they worry about any changes in teaching methods or school policies. Teachers are worried that even the slightest change will cause uncertainty and that it can affect their teaching quality. He is going to make sure that teachers' sense of security is fully considered when making changes in the near future.



Cycling despite the rain.

So, what would Mr Lee's thoughts be if he were to give us feedback? He believes that SPKC is a unique school with advanced facilities and a huge variety of activities for students to participate in. He has not found anything similar to the LEWOWA curriculum in the 60 schools he has been to, not to mention a Fitness Centre, a STEM Room, a Black Box Theatre, and much more. The school invites popular speakers, like Mr. Wong Yan Lung, to give us talks. He also sees SPKC as a liberal school, with space for freedom. Everyone's opinions are respected - the school facilities mentioned were all raised by our teachers and principals. Lastly, he finds that Pooikeinians are lovely. We have a lot of respect for each other, and despite any conflicts that may arise between students, teachers or the school, they are quickly resolved. That is because the first priority of teachers is always the interests of students. Despite difficulties or limitations,

Distance Mr Lee covered on the nine-day cycling trip.



students always find ways to accomplish what has to be done. Mr Lee knows that this good relationship between students and teachers should not be taken for granted and must be cherished. After all, this is the product of the hard work and effort for over 14 years.

We also asked Mr. Lee if he had any advice for students who aspire to work in the educational field in the future. He suggested that a good attitude is the most important factor for a teacher. Of course, a teacher should acquire strong subject knowledge, have high language proficiency and IT literacy, but passion is a must for a teacher. A teacher should care enough about the needs and growth of students so

as to do the best he/she can to help them learn and acquire knowledge. He/she should be passionate and have the desire to nurture the next generation. As a 20th century teacher with 21st century students, Mr Lee has changed his teaching methods over the years and is not afraid to learn something new. He thinks that if we don't update ourselves, we are basically repeating the teaching style of the first year of being a teacher. It is crucial to accept new things as we are constantly evolving.

During the secondment programme, Mr Lee went on a cycling trip in Taiwan in May 2017. It was an unforgettable and challenging journey and Mr Lee could really experience what "jumping out of one's comfort zone" meant. He prepared and exercised for 5 months before the nine-day-eight-night tour, where he cycled along the whole coast of the island of Taiwan. The nine days consisted of six rainy days and three hot days - unsuitable weather for cycling, but his tour-mates and he went head-on, up mountains and down hills. According to Mr Lee, Taiwan has outstanding local food, friendly people, and eye-catching scenery. He enjoyed the trip very much. He is looking forward to doing it again with Pooikeinians in the future.



Mr Lee and other seconded teachers from the Mainland.

INTERVIEWS OF NEW TEACHERS THIS SCHOOL YEAR

by Arthur Cheng, 1 Faith

MS. JOYCE NG
(SUBJECT OF TEACHING:
CHINESE HISTORY)



Q1. Why do you want to be a teacher?

Answer: I love Chinese History and I want my students to find the interest in studying Chinese History also. I would like to show them more interesting and easier ways of studying Chinese History such as making good use of photos.

Q2. What do you like about our Pooi Kei family?

Answer: I taught in another school before coming to SPKC but I think SPKC is more suitable for me in teaching my subject, so I changed my school of teaching.

Q3. How do you feel about Pooikeinians' behaviour and performance in these few months?

Answer: Pooikeinians are willing to learn and good at respecting classmates and teachers.

Q4. Do you enjoy the life in SPKC?

Answer: Yes, I feel happy in SPKC because there are many different activities and events in SPKC that always surprise me and I enjoy them.

Q.5 What facility do you like most in SPKC?

Answer: I like SPKC's fitness centre most. It is because I can always see both students and teachers enjoying using our school gym room to have different training.

Q.6 What do you want to share with our students?

Answer: Learning can always help you to improve yourself and give you different experiences.

MS. ANGEL MAN
(SUBJECT OF TEACHING:
INTEGRATED HUMANITIES
AND GEOGRAPHY)



Q1. Why do you want to be a teacher?

Answer: I like chatting with students and I want to teach students knowledge about Geography. And I would like to see my students become more environmentally friendly under my influence.

Q2. What do you like about our Pooi Kei family?

Answer: Both students and teachers are nice to me and I feel that I am welcomed here.

Q3. How do you feel about Pooikeinians' behaviour and performance in this few months?

Answer: Most Pooikeinians are decent and polite while some are hardworking and very self-motivated.

Q4. Do you enjoy the life in SPKC?

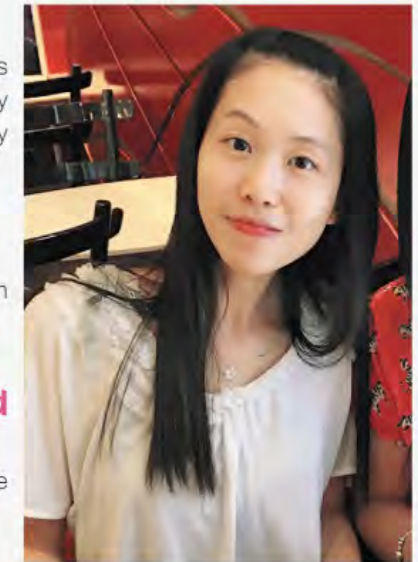
Answer: Yes, I enjoy my life here because SPKC is a harmonious school.

Q.5 What facility do you like most in SPKC?

Answer: I like the tuck shop in SPKC because there are various types of delicious snacks welcomed by both staff and students.

Q.6 What do you want to share with our students?

Answer: 'But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before' (*The Bible (King James Version) - Philippians 3:13*)



特別的學習技巧?

學習是很多人的終身事業。尤其學生來說，一套適合自己的學習方法是很重要的。但是，甚麼方法才是最適合自己的呢？就讓我們來看看一些同學和老師的意見吧！



受訪人1號
Felix Yim, 1 Faith

Q: 你通常用甚麼方式來溫習?

A: 我平時會將一些堂上學習的筆記抄錄多次，以點列 (point form) 的形式表達。這樣能令我更容易緊記重點，更易入腦。

Q: 你用甚麼方法來練成「學霸」? 有沒有甚麼「秘笈」?

A: 其實我也是一個普通人，並沒有甚麼「秘笈」。但「只要有恆心，鐵杵磨成針」。要學習得好，一定要有付出，只要持之以恆地溫習，才会有好成績。此外，我對「成為學霸」，也有點心得。第一，上課時要抄筆記。第二，請別人幫自己溫習，問一些關於考試的問題，促進記憶。第三，選擇課本裡重要的問題背誦。

Q: 如果你是一位老師，你會用甚麼方法來教導學生?

A: 我會每堂進行分組活動，並以遊戲形式，教導學生。我認為這比「教死書」更能令同學容易理解。

Q: 你有沒有甚麼課外學習的習慣? (如看書、補習等)

A: 有，我不時也會看課外書。

Q: 那你認為這些課外學習的習慣能不能幫助你的成績提升?

A: 的確能夠，因為在試卷中，有不少部分都是考已有知識的，而看書可加強語文知識，對閱讀理解也很有幫助，實在是一舉兩得!

Q: 古語有云：「讀萬卷書，行萬里路」。你認為動態或是靜態的學習方式較適合你? 為什麼?

A: 我認為動態的學習方式較適合我，如去文物徑或參觀博物館。因為這能「寓學習於娛樂」，又能學到額外的知識。

Q: 你通常用甚麼方式來溫習?

A: 我通常會自製筆記，在筆記本中抄詞語和段落。也會做些練習，牢記課本的內容。

Q: 你用甚麼方法來練成「學神」? 有沒有甚麼「秘笈」?

A: 其實也沒有甚麼特別，我會每晚都準時睡覺，通常都在9:00-11:00睡覺，養足精神來面對新的學習。也因為有精神，才能保持對學習新事物的好奇心。

Q: 如果你是一位老師，你會用甚麼方法來教導學生?

A: 我會使用遊戲方式來教導學生。因為，通常越有趣的東西，就越容易讓人深刻記住。所以我認為這方法最好。

Q: 你有沒有甚麼課外學習的習慣? (如看書、補習等)

A: 我閒時也會看一些中文小說。我也有補習的，因為英文和數學都不是我的強項，所以我希望能借此提升能力。

Q: 那你認為這些課外學習的習慣能不能幫助你的成績?

A: 能，正如我上述所說的一樣。

Q: 古語有云：「讀萬卷書，行萬里路」。你認為動態或是靜態的學習方式較適合你? 為什麼?

A: 我覺得靜態或動態的都適合我，但如果真的要選擇的話，我會選擇靜態，因為動態的學習會較費神，而靜態的也較方便，如要溫習，一翻開書本就行了。



受訪人2號
Yannis Fung, 1 Faith

These are the suggestions from teachers and students. There are many good study methods for you! Which one do you prefer?



Interviewee no. 3 -
Mr. Luke Ng (English Teacher)

Q1: What is your most effective way to study or revise?

A: I think making my own notes with my own drawing is my special way to study. I love to use colour pencils and highlighters to underline the key points and come up with different silly drawings to revive my memory of the important points.

Q2: What is your view about learning or doing revision?

A: Revision is an important step in study. It helps us to establish our long-term-memories of the learning materials over time.

Q3: If you did not get good results in the recent exam, what would you do to improve?

A: I would go through the exam paper again to look for my weaker areas. I would also do more exercises and drilling on the parts that I am especially weak at to make sure that I can understand something more thoroughly before moving on to learn new things.

Q4: As a teacher, would you suggest any methods to boost student's confidence in our weaker subjects?

A: As I have mentioned, I will suggest that they look carefully into their previous exam papers and start their revision by going through the weaker subjects or papers. Finish those weaker parts again to see whether they can get higher marks than before. If they do so, then at least it shows that their knowledge is improved.

Q5: Apart from your work, what would you do to increase your knowledge in your spare time?

A: I usually read books and watch documentaries. I love watching movies and listening to Mandarin and English songs too.

Q6: There is a Chinese idiom telling us 'In addition to reading thousands of books, you should travel thousands of miles'. Then, which type of study do you prefer, the more dynamic one or the more static one?

A: I prefer the more static one. Because I am a person who needs enough time and space (especially quiet space) to focus on something like reading, I would rather stay calm so that I can have a more focused mind when I am studying.

Q1: What is your most effective way to study or revise?

A: Firstly, I will not study for a long time. I will break them down into different sessions. For example, I will study on the school bus for 15-20 minutes and I will also study when I am waiting for my dinner. By doing so, I can make better use of my time and can refresh my memories regularly too. In addition, I will join study groups with my friends. Sometimes, friends will be a better teacher. I can learn things through discussions with them. Secondly, I will choose to wake up earlier in the morning to study instead of studying at night. You will have a clear mind and energy to study after you wake up.

Q2: What is your view about learning and doing revision?

A: I think I will choose to learn according to my interest. I love learning new things that I do not know, especially about everything on earth.

Q3: If you did not get a good result in the recent exam, what would you do to improve?

A: I would raise my hands and ask teachers for help with the parts that I didn't understand immediately. I remember that when I was in S1, I got a bad result in the Chinese subject. And I even asked my Chinese teacher for supplementary lessons and he really did it for me!

Q4: As a teacher, would you suggest any methods to boost student's confidence in our weaker subjects?

A: I will suggest them to ask more questions and do more practice. Or they can discuss the subjects with classmates.

Q5: Apart from your work, what would you do to increase your knowledge in your spare time?

A: I will watch dramas or TV shows to reflect on myself. When I watch them, I will always ask myself how such things happen. And so, I will learn more about humanity. I will also read books to learn more.

Q6: There is a Chinese idiom telling us 'In addition to reading thousands of books, you should travel thousands of miles'. Then, which type of study do you prefer, the more dynamic one or the more static one?

A: I think it depends individually. Some people like reading but some people like doing experiments. Some people like listening to teachers but some people like learning from experience. For me, my learning style is to listen to others. I can remember it clearly after a long period of time.



Interviewee no. 4 -
Ms. Phoebe Chan (English Teacher)

Gospel Week 2017

16 October 2017 - 23 October 2017

The Gospel Week was held on the third week of October and the theme was "Unconditional Love". Thank God for blessing us and giving us the wisdom to know and appreciate the Gospel, and for allowing such a fruitful Gospel Week this year!

Lunchtime Worship

A lunch hour worship was held in the Red Brick Area. Our worship team conducted the services by singing hymns. The atmosphere was relaxing, and many could feel God's presence in the prayers and worship.



Gospel Café

At the Gospel Café, teachers and students can have a conversation about their views on Christianity.



Gospel Fair

Students took photos and made henna paintings at the Gospel Fairs.



Gospel Assembly

The Gospel Assembly showcased a drama about the story of 'Zacchaeus' that was performed by teachers. Mr. Tim Li and Chaplain Celeste Yuen shared the Gospel with us. S.6 student Amber Luk sang a hymn for us and shared her testimony. Some students decided to commit their life to Jesus Christ.



▲ Students actively participated in the assembly. ▲ Teachers performed the story of 'Zacchaeus'

Naming Competition for School Covered Playground

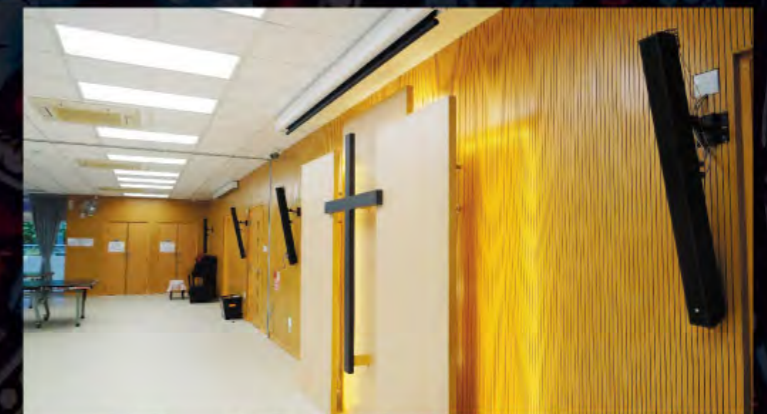


A tall Christian cross, a state-of-the-art audio-visual system, soundproofed acoustics walls, and an ivory-white floor - SPKC's newly renovated covered playground is now open for business.

"Zone D" (Chinese: 興Zone D) was the most-voted name.

The alphabet "D" carries two essential meanings: "Development" and "Disciples". "Development" refers to both the spiritual and physical development of students and staff, which is the purpose of the venue. "D" also means "disciples", reflecting the area's mission in nurturing students to be committed Christian leaders, following the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Congratulations to the four winners in the naming competition!



Mr. Dalton – More than a Teacher?

By Jocast Wong, 3 Faith & Rocky Wong, 3 Peace

▼ Mr Dalton is showing us an ancient bronze statuette from Yemen against an Art book



▲ Mr Dalton - amateur Connoisseur

LOOK AT MR DALTON AND HIS CHEONGSAM!

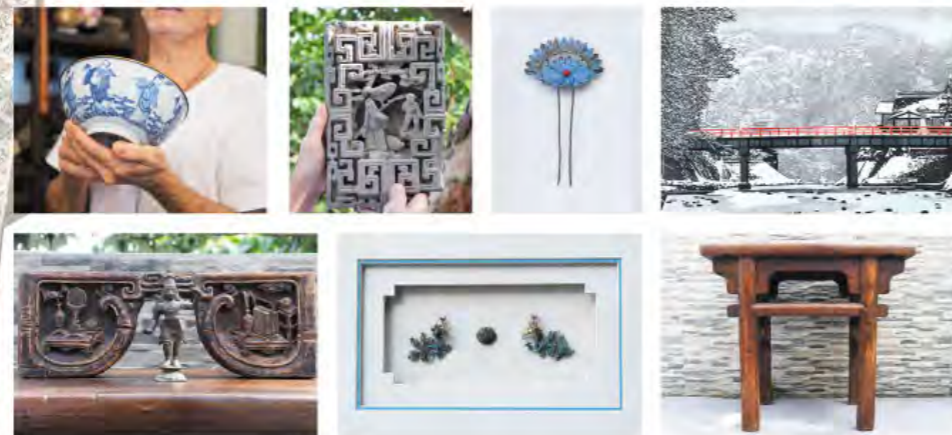


◀ Mr Dalton is passionately telling the story about a Shiwán statue from his curio cabinet

▶ The Young Connoisseurs visit Mr Dalton's Collection



A BRIEF SHOWCASE OF THE DALTON COLLECTION



'If three walk together, there must be one who can teach me.'

from the Analects of Confucius

few. His collection reflects years of curiosity, adventure and determination. He also has a few selected and rare artifacts, such as a group of exceptional Chinese Kingfisher feather hair pins (tian-tsui) dating early 20th century. It is necessary to extract the feathers of a Kingfisher bird to create this magnificent art.



The lady connoisseurs are having fun admiring the Cheongsam

We all know that Mr. Dalton is one of the new teachers at SPKC. But did you know he is more than just a teacher of English Literature? Members of the Young Connoisseur Club witnessed his collection of strange and valuable objects, curios and antiques. They originate from all over the world – a testimony to his travels, beliefs and experiences in the world.



The Young Connoisseurs a Chinese intensively study Portrait Painting

To find out more about Mr. Dalton, The Young Connoisseur Club paid a visit to his house in Sai Kung before Christmas, having no idea what they were about to see. After welcoming his guests, Mr. Dalton led them in and what next greeted them in the humble living room was an unusual collection of antiques. The walls of the house were decorated with framed jewelry, precious textiles, ancient tools, Chinese ceramics and paintings. Other curios and antiques were displayed in a large wooden cabinet. The living room was literally full of collected relics, except for a TV and two stools. After giving the students time to marvel, Mr. Dalton began describing the history of his collection. He has spent years collecting interesting objects from different places such as Asia, Australia and the Middle East to name a

But members of the Club weren't there to attend a museum exhibition. After Mr. Dalton led them to the front porch of his house, the students got to work. Each student selected an object (or two), measured the length and width, took pictures and then began to do some research. As a Club, they would produce a formal catalogue for the highlights of The Dalton's Collection. For example, one of the interesting objects is a handmade silk Cheongsam. It is 118 cm in length; each sleeve 42 cm long and the chest 42 cm wide. The design of this Cheongsam is mandarin collar, buttoned on the right side with a loose chest. The sleeves are full length, with fitted waist, and slits up both sides. The pattern on the Cheongsam is of grass shapes and a fruit motif. There is peach, guava and chayote and the colours are patterned between the fruit and grass pattern. What makes it special is that such a simple piece of clothing is so detailed and intricate in design. It is estimated to originate from the 1950s.

The visit taught us that Mr. Dalton is more than just a teacher with a fine taste for art. By observing his lack of materialist house wares, we realized he is a "minimalist", living a simple lifestyle. This might help to explain his path as a Literature teacher. Literature is also a collection of arts. It is a "living" testimony, like Mr. Dalton's collection – an abundance of interesting stories, waiting to be told. By collecting such artifacts, our teacher is able to reflect upon the past and present. He can contemplate the nature of mankind, art and beauty. This seems so appropriate for a true Literature teacher, doesn't it?



Our Connoisseurs are researching about this God of Wealth statue for the catalogue production



Ms Helen Ho is showing the students how to look for traces of hairline crack in a porcelain



Students are getting ready for the catalogue production of this 'Shaanxi Wine table' for Mr Dalton



CCA Highlight

舞蹈學會 Dance Club

中三喜樂班 陳諾文

可能有人認為跳舞是女生的專利，舞蹈學會只適合女同學參與，但實際上這只是一個迷思，作為碩果僅存的唯一男成員的我，其實十分喜歡舞蹈學會。

我與其他男生不一樣，沒有那份熱愛籃球的心，亦沒有對足球的那份熱血，在朋友的推薦下才意外的加入學會。一開始也有點兒抗拒，但後來才發現當中的樂趣，舞步方面既有驚鴻艷影的優美舞蹈，亦有型格帥氣的街舞，還有特別為我而設的演戲部份。學會每年都會參加校際舞蹈節，試想一下，能把你練習已久的舞步呈現給觀眾欣賞，成就感是十分大的。



中四恩典班 梁希彤

舞蹈學會其實並不是各位同學想的那麼奇怪，跳的也不是中國舞、十字步，而是Jazz Funk、Jazz、Hip-Hop和K-Pop。而舞蹈學會亦會為會員提供不同的表演和比賽機會，例如香港校際舞蹈節，在時裝表演中獻技等等……另外參加舞蹈學會也有很多好處：跳舞能增強心臟機能，使心臟慢而有力，令大腦思維活動變得清晰、靈活，可提高學習和工作效率；跳舞亦能增強自信，還可以緩解緊張，穩定情緒；而且舞蹈是團體活動，每個隊員沒有主次之分，都同等重要；會員也能透過舞蹈，學會尊重、包容、合群，並能體會團隊精神的重要性。



INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS WEEK 2017

By Phoebe Leung, 5 Peace



Global Picnic

The annual International Awareness Week was held during 20th to 24th November. Do you still remember Till and Jey? They're back and they've also brought more friends from all over the world. We Pooikeinians are lucky enough to have had the opportunity to meet people of different nationalities and with unique cultures.

This year we had a lot of activities, like the previous years. Not only did we enjoy lessons with our worldwide guests, we also had Global Village, Global Picnic, IH Forum during lunch recess. Weekly assembly on Monday also featured a doctor from Médecins Sans Frontières, who courageously put others in need before himself. Archery Tag on Tuesday brought out Pooikeinians' competitive side and battle instincts - strategically dodging arrows, aiming and shooting - never has a fight been this fierce.

On Monday, 20th and Wednesday, 22nd, Global Picnic and Global Village was held in the red brick area respectively. Did you grasp the chance to chat with friends from various nations and enjoy their scrumptious local food? From German and Somali food, to Korean and Thai traditions, the area was filled with international fun.

Ploy came all the way from Thailand. She introduced her country's snacks - crushed nuts with dried banana slices. Ploy explained that food in Thailand is made from a lot of ingredients, in varied spices resulting in broad tastes. When asked about Thailand's most welcomed festivals, she immediately answered Loykrathong, a festival where people make tiny boats out of leaves and flowers, and let it float down a river as a thanks for the water it provides every day.

Till, at the German stall, was baking what seemed to be cookies, which turned out to be cakes. Lebkuchen is its name, meaning 'life cake' in German. It is a family tradition during Christmas, they would spend hours of time making Lebkuchen together. Smelling of spices and lots of flavours, the cake is meant to smell and taste of the joyous season. Till introduced a German carnival held annually in February: Fasching, where people dress up under masks to scare others. He was not a big fan of the carnival, but compared it to our Halloween, 'Only Fasching is the opposite; where adults scare children instead of the other way round!'

At the Somali stall was Shermarke. Enjoying some snacks, including noodle bits from Pakistan and chop-up chips from West Africa, he shared his life story. His country Somalia is a war zone, which is why he fled. He is in Hong Kong seeking asylum, which has been easier for him throughout the years. Now he studies Computer Science at a local university!

At the Korean stall, the food was so popular they were finished in the blink of an eye. We also got to know more about Korean traditions. Much like us, Koreans celebrate Lunar New Year (Seol-nal in Korean) and Mid-Autumn Festival (Chu-seok). These are the two main celebrated festivals in Korea. During these times of the year, families gather and come together to celebrate.

Thursday, 23rd November, was the IH Forum. The topic covered was about recycling all over the world, and each of the helpers assisting with the event had gone across to different corners of the room, where students could ask questions surrounding what environmental ploys had been employed to help keep the country cleaner and safer for its citizens. There had been several interesting differences that other countries had from Hong Kong in terms of recycling, which managed to work very well for their countries and made their citizens happier as a result.

For example, as Till explained during the forum, Germany had a law surrounding the recycling of plastic bottles, and how citizens were able to save a lot of money thanks to it. In Germany, it is commonplace to see people carry massive bags of plastic bottles to supermarkets, to exchange bottles for money to buy food at supermarkets. Apparently, bottles can be inserted into a machine that has lasers that cut the plastic into pieces, which are reused to make other plastic products. Although it sounds like something out of a science fiction story, it's very normal for German citizens to use this government implemented facility to save some cash for groceries.

While other countries do not have such methods, there are some distinctive ways of recycling in other countries too. Singapore, according to Jey, has an island dedicated solely to their waste, where incinerators are readily prepared to burn all that garbage, in order to save space due to the lack of land. In Malaysia, they have dumpster trucks like in Hong Kong, although theirs are more regulated and are separated into various different regions in the country.



LS workshop



SINGAPORE EXCHANGE: A MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

by Brianna Wilson, 5 Faith



school. They had many questions to ask us about the wet market and the towering estate buildings we passed, and often stopped to take several pictures as a memento. We had learned that their education system, their housing situation and even their communication strategies were vastly different from ours, and it was quite a successful endeavor overall, for we had befriended each other over this last hour and a half.

We managed to learn quite a lot from our fellow students, despite having originated from different homelands. They were very friendly and happily answered any questions we had for them, and some had even offered to keep in touch. Such an exchange with people from another country is valuable, as it further broadens our international awareness. There's always something new to be learned from a different culture, and despite our rather brief encounter, it was most definitely enlightening for everyone involved.

Having any opportunity to learn something new beyond the average chances provided by our school, is readily welcomed by those who wish to improve their self-enhancement. No matter what the opportunities are, we should always take them, and learn from them. This year, we had the fortune to participate in the school's annual Singaporean Exchange Band programme, with St. Andrews Junior College from Singapore. Their senior band played with ours in perfect harmony. Wonderfully performed pieces that they practiced back home during one lunch break in early December, allowing us an insight into their lives as Singaporean students, which had been the aim of the exchange.

Their band members had all recently finished their A-levels (the equivalent to the university exams/DSE), and were visiting different locations in Hong Kong as part of a one-week holiday due to having completed their exams. The exchange was conducted during normal school hours and we had played various ice-breaking games, where we learned more about each other and what we wanted to do with our lives; colloquial terminology and slang that was used and what it meant - this activity greatly entertained the Singaporean students when it was our turn to guess. And finally, we explored cultural differences between Singapore and Hong Kong. This part of the session was fairly interesting, as it allowed further insight into the lives of Singaporean students, such as how accurate our perceived notions of them were.

We managed to learn a lot from each other through this event, and after school, our student helpers brought the visitors on a tour around the estate and market place surrounding our



Teacher's Insight

Who's your favorite superhero or superheroine? Is it Tony Stark, the science genius slash real-life megalomaniac who transforms into Iron Man and fights the bad guys? Or someone more humble, like Steve Rogers who mostly uses his stars-and-stripes shield to protect the country that he loves so much, thus named "Captain America"? Or is it someone more dark and elusive, like Bruce Wayne-- a playboy millionaire in daytime and a "dark knight" at night? I will tell you mine—Magneto, the supervillain from the X-Men who flows like molten metal and transforms into statues. Why him? Well, he has cool superpowers, and he survived the Holocaust where he saw his mother murdered by the Nazis in a concentration camp (a history tie-in makes everything better for me). He is a classic tragic villain.

Back in my teens, while most of my friends were obsessed with Japanese manga, I would often linger in an American comic bookstore in Shatin quite a bit at the weekends. It was at that time I got acquainted with superheroes, and learnt that most of them come from two American comic powerhouses: D.C. Comics and Marvel Comics. The stories of heroes were mostly paper-printed, while some became cartoons and managed to creep onto the TV screen. Unfortunately, however, there was nothing like the superhero movies we see today.

The first superhero movie I watched back in the 2000s. It was the first X-Men movie. This ushered in the beginning of an unstoppable cultural force that soon took control of our planet. To start with, there was the Spider-Man series, the X-Men series and the Avenger series (thanks to the Avengers, Hong Kong students learnt a synonym for revenge). Then there were some not-so-superhero characters who made it to the screen, like Deadpool, who is ugly and vulgar, and the mentally unstable Suicide Squad. When their stories were exhausted, the team broke up and went solo. Like the Avengers who got to make their own movies...except for the Black Widow and Hawkeye (Iron Man has got to make three of his own movies but the Black Widow has scored zero... even superheroes are not immune from gender inequality). The superhero theme seems to guarantee instant success. Has there been a really bad superhero movie in recent years...maybe the Green Lantern? They are goldmines for Hollywood that ensure box office success and money. Never has a few months passed without a superhero movie being released. You can hardly meet a person who has never seen a superhero movie.

I was amazed by the mega-successes of all these superheroes. I have often wondered why superheroes have been transformed into a global phenomenon. I wonder why these quintessentially American movies can so easily by-pass cultural and language barriers and effortlessly capture the minds of people across the globe. Of course there is the magic of CGI, thrilling fight scenes and the witty jokes of the superheroes. But would it also be true that superheroes and superheroines are needed more in the present time? Is the present so troubling that we demand more heroes, whether real or fictional, to provide some shreds of hope and security?



Green hair, sickly pale face, sinister eyes and lips: actor Heath Ledger revived the chaos and madness of the Joker in *Dark Knight*.



The Avengers are the most iconic team of superheroes in recent years.

Fake But Adored: Why Superheroes Never Die

Mr. Tim Li

When the US was fighting Nazi Germany in the early 1940s, Marvel created Captain America as both propaganda and a morale-booster for Americans. Propaganda arts are usually nothing short of a laughing stock, but Captain America was an instant hit. Those who are bullied find comfort in the story of Spider-Man, who was also bullied at school. Peter Parker is a science nerd and struggles in social relationships. But he was chosen to do something great, learnt that "with great power comes great responsibility", and began to support the helpless and innocent. When American men lost their jobs in the Great Depression and were unable to support their wife and children, they projected their ego onto Superman, a fictional hero created a few years into the depression years of the 1930s. They were reminded that men had extraordinary abilities and could save the world single-handedly, as a father could single-handedly support his family.

We look up to a strongman or strongwoman to save us from chaos and suffering; the more troubled we are, the more we demand heroes. "If everybody was satisfied with himself, there would be no heroes," said Mark Twain. Is the box office success of superhero movies an indicator of how we feel about the world today? Is the success of these movies merely a reflection of production skills, or, like other arts, do they resonate in our hearts because they echo the spirit of our time? Superheroes give us encouragement and inspiration. We identify with them. After all, superheroes can also be vulnerable, like you and me. They also live in troubled times that require acts of courage and sacrifice. We can all be real-life heroes when the situation demands, just like the ones in the movies.

Old heroes like Superman and Batman will turn 100 years old in the 2030s and there seems to be no stopping this craze for more! The more troubles we have, the more heroes and superheroes we create. This may prove that it is human nature to search for security and encouragement outside of ourselves.

Are you troubled by the times we live in? Where do you find a sense of security? Is it in superheroes, or something else?



Actors Michael Fassbender and Ian McKellen's performance brought Magneto alive in the *X-Men*.



This cover illustrates the purpose of the creation of Captain America: to fight the Nazis.

Looking at Colour Diamonds



Teacher and student football match



St Andrews Junior College's Visit



Fashion show



Carol Night

