# Teacher Insight

*'My Life Here'* is a memoir of my life in SPKC, with all the ups and downs. There are too many wonderful scenes that I can't share in even thousands of words. Now comes the day of my departure, I would really love to share with you all my thankfulness of being a Pooikeinian through these eleven years in song. I hope my first song published at SPKC can ripple the water of your heart and mind. When you graduate from SPKC, resonance will be made between you and me.

## My Life Here

Lyrics and Music written by
Ms Ripple CHAN on 21 May

On the first day here in the summertime,
I prayed for what I would be.
The good news flew to me just in time,
My new life started here.

Blue walls, white walls form a masterpiece,
Creative works are everywhere.
Faith, grace, hope, love, joy and peace,
Lovely smiles are what we share.

Every English class uses up all my energy,
'Fifty times copy' is our memory. *[Translate what you have said into English and copy fifty times to me!]*
Laughter, sleeping, chatting, sharing,
How complicated learning can be.

Teaching, marking and meetings, *[and admin. work!]*
once became burdens on me; *[We should set up a tent at our own seats. (Sigh.)]*
But I still find what I really love doing
is to see the world and leave footprints.

It's a place witnessing my change and growth,
A place restoring my parting soul,
A place lifting my faith to You,
A place showing Your Promise is true.

Looking back these years with wonders and love,
Your calling's always what I'm thinking of.
As I've finished the assignment You gave me here,
It's time to farewell the young me in tears.

Wherever I go,
You care for me so.
Your eagle flies me towards
A new page of life tomorrow.

# Joyful moments

# Spkc

Stewards Pooi Kei College Newsletter

July Issue 2017/2018

Cover Designed by LEUNG Man Chi, 4 Joy

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# Career Expo 2018

Reflection from a secondary four student

Career game stall

The event was successfully held in early March with the dear support of our teachers and students. It allowed students to know more about the civil service departments in Hong Kong and how to apply for them.

Career Expo 2018 lasted for a week and was held with various activities between 5 March and 9 March. On the first day of the week, I was surprised to see a huge job list posted outside Zone D when I entered school. It looked interesting and I wondered what those jobs were. Later, I found out that many other job advertisements were also posted around the campus. During recess, students were everywhere to check out what those jobs were and were eager to apply for them. One that caught my attention was Landscape Architect of Development Bureau. Its monthly salary could be over 58k Hong Kong dollars! It was amazing that a job, which I had never heard of, could pay a lot. My classmates and I were interested in applying for it so we played the games held in Zone D at lunchtime to attain related educational qualifications.

Our school also invited the Fire Services Department to talk about the duties and recruitment requirements of the job. It was shocking to know that being a fireman was not that easy! People applying for this job have to pass the fitness test and have a basic understanding of the Hong Kong society. Students who were interested took their follow-up action. They paid a visit to the Siu Lek Yuen Fire Station to experience the life of a real fireman.

The activities were educational and fun. Different interesting activities, like game booths, movie appreciation, book exhibition and card games, were held between the third and fifth day of the week. Many teachers and students participated in the activities and experienced various jobs in a fun way, which was very different from attending lessons in a traditional classroom.

I enjoyed participating in these activities, like the book exhibition and game booths. They breathed new life into my thoughts on 'career', so I definitely recommend the school organize this event again next year.

Rocky WONG 3 Peace, Jocast WONG 3 Faith

# What is 'Career Planning'?

Job advertisement board

One of the main goals of Career Expo is to shed light on planning our future, our career. It is crucial that we make the right moves so we can live the most out of our lives. But what exactly is career planning?

We interviewed a student about her definition of 'career planning', and this was her opinion below.

"I think career planning is, as it says, planning what we want to do when we grow up, what kinds of achievement we want to have in the future and what kind of person we wish to become."

We also asked Ms. Jovi Ma about the definition of 'career planning', and this was her explanation.

"There are countless jobs out there in the society and not every single one is suitable for us. To equip ourselves for the most ideal career, we need to gain a thorough understanding of our personality, interests, values and aptitudes as well as our practical circumstances.

Therefore, as career teachers, we hope to expose students to the types of jobs available in the market, help them understand their personality and interests, so as to help them make well-informed career choices.

With career planning, we hope our students can engage themselves in a healthy career management cycle. They can keep understanding and developing themselves, and exploring career opportunities in order to plan for their prospects onwards. Also, they can improve and re-visit the cycle again and again with experience and positive feedback.

Having a life of purpose is important. As a Christian myself, I believe God has arranged a plan for us and wants us to contribute to the society in our own unique way, instead of merely just tagging along with the tides in the sea of life.

Every one of us is special and has our own talent. When everyone's talent is properly channelled into the society, that's how we make this world a more beautiful, colourful place under God's will."

Both opinions are fairly in match with each other. Students generally think that career planning means planning a better future for them, while career teachers define it as a journey for students to make 'informed choice' – knowing what kinds of choices that are suitable for their personality and interest for their future.

Book exhibition at learning centre

# Career Expo 2018

## Guest talk in assembly

## Movie appreciation

## Fire station visit

# ENGLISH SOCIETY INTER-HOUSE ENGLISH QUIZ

Brianna WILSON 5 Faith

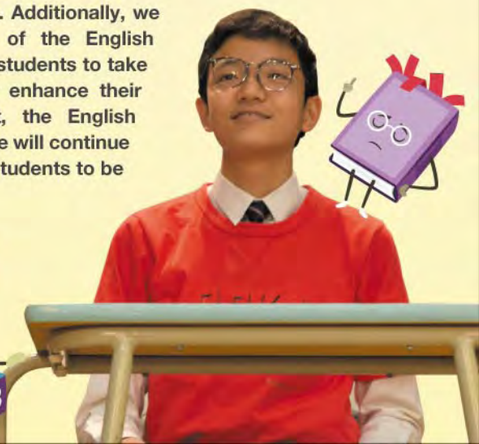
Being the chairperson of the English society was an interesting experience—as it was a completely new CCA that I had not participated in previous years. It proved to be relatively challenging, as our team had to prepare for several school events, but it had revealed itself to be the kind of challenge that was both enjoyable and educational, as I managed to bond with both our teachers and our teammates. Ultimately though, the excitement towards hosting the English Society's English Quiz was perhaps the highlight of my experience.

The English Quiz had been mentioned during our first few meetings early on in the school year, where we would address certain events that would be hosted during the school year, as our intentions were to create activities that would further promote the entertainment and enjoyment that came with learning the English language. After undergoing several draft ideas, we finally decided on having a simple Q&A format, in which sections had been divided into themes that correlated to a certain aspect of the English language and our school. Certain examples of the kinds of questions we had include, the spelling bee, quirky questions about our school and tongue twisters.

Luckily, it was a huge success with both groups when it had been carried out on 9th and 23rd May. The audience had been fully engaged in seeing their friends and house representatives participating in both games. Participants—each representing an individual house in our school—had shown excellent sportsmanship and tried their very best to answer all of the questions to the best of their abilities under the limited amount of time that they were given.

Through the mutual cooperation that everyone in the team displayed while hosting the event, the event ran successfully as a result of everyone's hard work. We would also like to add our thanks to the teacher advisors of our CCA—Miss Pinky Ng and Mr. Gerald Li—for their constructive feedback and support. We couldn't have done it without them.

The awards for the winning houses—with Savior in 2nd place and Priest in 1st—were distributed early in May. The quiz provided an opportunity for more academic-minded students to contribute more to the inter-house competitions during the school year, as most activities often relate to more sports-oriented activities—such as Athletics Meet or the Inter-House Sports Competitions. Additionally, we hope to further promote the usage of the English language at our school, and encourage students to take more of an interest in it as to better enhance their proficiency in the language. At last, the English Society's Quiz is something that we hope will continue to evolve as time goes on, and enable students to be unified under a wonderful language.



▲ Mr Dalton with S5 students taking English Literature

▲ Two S6 Lit students, Cyrstal and Joseph, forming a relay team called 'Carpe Diem' with Mr Dalton and S5 Lit student Phoebe on Sports Day

▲ Mr Dalton with the 'wall of Literature in English'

# Stepping into the World of Literature

Phoebe LEUNG 5 Peace

Like how some of us express ourselves through song, or speech, or sketch, there are countless others who choose to share their thoughts with words, through writing. Let us embark on a journey of literary works, discovering the wonders between the lines.

## Why study Literature?

**Or else my heart, concealing it, will break, And, rather than it shall, I will be free, Even to the uttermost, as I please, in words.**
**~Katherina, The Taming of the Shrew**

Literature is a medium in which you can express yourself however you want. Whether it's anger, joy, pain, relief, hatred, or being emotionless, let it all out on paper. It is usually through poems where poets pour out their inner emotions or feelings in a more lyrical manner, compared to other forms of literature. Because it can be anything, from a story to an ode, from having a complex structure like a villanelle to a free verse, rhythm, meter, rhyme...so many variations, carrying their own tone and promoting their own mood.

**"It's really something,"**
**~The narrator, Cathedral by Raymond Carver**

We also read Literature to find ourselves and understand ourselves. Have I been acting like this character? Is that how people view me as a person? How have I been so oblivious? We reflect on the world and humanity, and we try to become the best version of ourselves. How so? We read about topics we're not familiar with, and/or about the writers' own opinion that differs from ours. We see the world in a different light. Writers use irony, contrast or conflict to highlight the sometimes nonsensical nature of humanity or to provoke thought and reflection upon ourselves. It is through such that we get to know ourselves more, and also the people around us. We notice what we've not been doing quite so well or what we do that does not have any reason, and we learn to change ourselves for the better.

**I think that there is just one kind of folks. Folks.**
**~Scout, To Kill A Mockingbird**

Lastly, we read and write because we enjoy and want to enjoy it! We are allured by characters, story plots, comedy or tragedy, because they reflect what we are, how we are. We are drawn to write about people and nature because we want to share such with the world, and about all the things we share between us. What makes Literature so special? It connects us, people from different cultures and race, people from the past and present (and hopefully the future). In a way, Literature is a form of entertainment - it's where reality meets fantasy, where the supernatural meets logic. But it is also a form of communication. Through imagination, stark clarity, yearning and memory, we enjoy and appreciate how words can carry so much meaning and emotion.

▲ Mr Dalton's teaching notes on the whiteboard

**We don't read and write poetry because it's cute. We read and write poetry because we are members of the human race. And the human race is filled with passion.**
**~John Keating, Dead Poets Society**

And now a word from our dear Literature teacher, Mr Barry Allan Dalton:

Lit in Eng is great because it explores the most interesting and complex subject on our planet: the human condition. Through history, across cultures, between genders.

A range of genres and forms, from realism to fantasy to abstract (and all in between)

It has the ability to teach us, inspire us, shock us - intellectually and emotionally.

As any artistic form of expression we are elevated by our experience of it.

I like teaching Literature because it forces me to think and question my values, knowledge and beliefs. It keeps me young and vibrant. It keeps me humble. It is a great challenge and I am always learning from the text itself, others' analysis of the text, and from the students!

There are many many worse jobs in this hard world.

I am grateful for the opportunity and I have much to learn!

**To suck the sweets of sweet philosophy.**
**~Lucentio, The Taming Of The Shrew**

In the Literature In English curriculum, students study a play, a novel, a film, fifteen poems and eight short stories on average. Along with whatever else the teacher might ask us to consider – other films, other poems, additional short stories, theatrical excerpts and a multitude of YouTube clips! We study the texts, discuss its meanings and themes; we write our own personal responses and compare or contrast them with other texts that we've read. We link archaic works set in the long past to our modern society, and look for and comment on the literary techniques the author adopts.

You'll never get bored in class because there's always something you can gnaw on, whether a hidden message, or double entendre. Why is the author's diction a certain word but not its synonym? What is the significance of the work to the author's background and situation at his/her time? There's always something you can contemplate, whether a theme, or a realization of reality or beauty. The irony of society's acceptance of right and wrong, or the subtle cruelty and corruption of human nature, or self-reflection. The best part is there is never a wrong answer, nor a model answer. Everyone is free to give their own interpretations, and that's exactly what Literature is about -- authors provoking their readers to think and question and respond.

**Nudgers and shovers**
**In spite of ourselves.**
**~Mushrooms, Sylvia Plath**

In class, one of the most frequently asked questions is 'What does (blank) mean?'. While a lot of people might not choose to study Literature in English because of how hard and advanced it sounds, it is through this fear that we are able to learn, and we are prompted to search for answers. We mustn't be afraid to raise questions. It is through courage we are able to gain wisdom. Undoubtedly, this is another lesson we learn from English Literature. Trust us, it isn't as hard as you might think, and the personal rewards are truly wonderful.

"All the worlds' a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts"

As You Like It
Act II. Scene 7.
William Shakespeare

# STEM development in SPKC

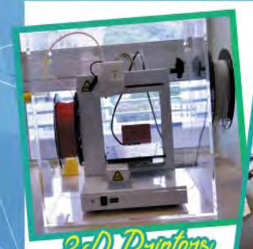
## What is STEM?

**STEM means 'Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics' Education. We aim to nurture students with positive attitudes and characteristics that instill initiative, innovation, collaboration and perseverance.**

**Mr. Harry Lau**
STEM Co-ordinator,
Head of Science and Technology KLA

## 2017

### INSTALLATION OF NEW FACILITIES



3D Printers

Laser cutting / Engraving machine

### FORMAL LAUNCH OF STEM ROOM ON 6th FLOOR

### RECRUITMENT OF STEM & SCIENCE LABORATORY STAFF

Mr. Vincent Yip

### 2017-18

**INCREASE IN TRACHING HOURS FOR COMPUTER LITERACY SUBJECT**
FOR S.1-3 STUDENTS

To prepare students with essential STEM knowledge such as programming, soldering and the use of electronics.

### MAY 2017

**STEM Solar model cars competition**
ALL S.2 STUDENTS

Students developed hands-on experience in building their solar model cars for the modules 'electricity' & 'energy conversion'.

The teaching plan of this competition received the MERIT AWARD in the OPEN SCHOOL STEM TEACHING PLAN COMPETITION, organized by MingPao Education Publications Ltd.

### DEC 2017

**3D-Printing Restaurant Mascot Design Voting**
ALL S.3 STUDENTS

Cross-subjects project between CL and BAFS

Students used 3D modeling software to make a mascot and printed it out by using a 3D printer.



## 2018

### SEP-MAR 2017-18

**Sci-Tech@Lunch**
ALL STUDENTS

Students explored different aspects of Science & Technology through fun experiments & activities

### JAN 2018

**HKFYG IBM STEM WORKSHOP**
ALL S.3 STUDENTS

An engineer from IBM gave a talk about engineering. All S.3 students participated in a hands-on competition to design and make a spinning top with the longest spinning time. The workshop was held by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups.

### MAR 2018

**CROUCHER SCIENCE WEEK: 'Our Wild World' Workshop**
ALL S.1 STUDENTS

Leading scientists from the UK came to stimulate our S.1 students' natural curiosity, teach scientific methods & approaches, and to help us to ponder fundamental questions of science in the extreme environment. The visit was jointly organized by Croucher Foundation, The HKSAR Education Bureau, HK Science Museum, and Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

### JAN-MAY 2018

**LED in Fashion Exhibition**
ALL S.2 STUDENTS

Cross-subjects project between IS, CL & Physics

Students made their fashion design using LED techniques for the modules 'electricity' and 'soldering'

### SINCE SEP 2017

**SPKC Science App**
WHOLE SCHOOL

App users read up-to-the-minute, real-time weather reports & Science news worldwide.

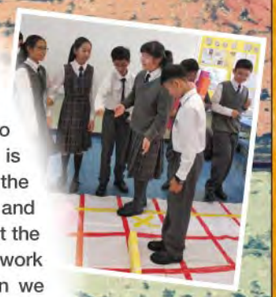
"SPKC Science App", together with our "Science Award Point Scheme", received the MERITS AWARDS in the STEM Education Stream of INTERNATIONAL OUTSTANDING E-LEARNING AWARDS (2017-18) from THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

# Joyful moments in SPKC

Jocast WONG, 3 Faith

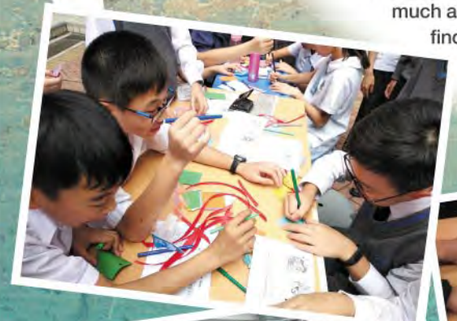
**This year, our school successfully applied for the *Quality Education Fund* to implement a *Joyful School Campaign*. Activities such as *Joyful Class Moment, Expressive Art Therapy* workshops, teacher trainings and parent talks were held with the support of the fund.**

Many fellow schoolmates must have participated in an activity called 'Joyful Moment', which can vary into many types of interesting activities. For Form 3 students, we had two kinds of activities offered by this programme named as Kin-ball and Zentangle drawing. These activities are often neglected by or unknown to many people, but they are very helpful in one's personal growth.



When I heard the name Kin-ball, I thought it was some sort of ballgame like basketball. But after the whole class gathered up on the playground, I noticed two enormous balls sitting in the center of the playground. Kimball is an activity which is played by 3 or more groups consisting of 4 players. 3 players must hold the humongous ball in position while the remaining player shouts a war cry and strikes the ball with all his might. The other teams try to rush and intercept the ball, and the competition is on. During this activity, I learnt about teamwork and synergy. We learnt from each other. We rejoiced together when we accomplished something or even shared the down moments when we lost.

Zentagle, my first thought, is only like a therapy or treatment to the ones who have difficulties in controlling their emotions. But after I underwent a class of this activity, I think it's decent. When you are down and there seems to be nothing that you can do to alleviate the problem, just spend some time drawing lines, dots, squares and a lot more patterns repeatedly on a sheet of paper and it can really make you feel better. The teacher reminded us that we ought to apply less force as possible when using a special pen to draw the pictures and we need to find the peace in our minds during drawing. This refers to our life. When we encounter difficulties in life, it is best to calm down and take it easy, and not to push ourselves too much as if we apply force when drawing. Finally, you can find the stunning pattern while you apply only a little force.



# "Growing up...

is a process. It takes a lot of time, love and patience."

## My First Failure

Hailey LUN, 1 Faith

The most unforgettable experience at school was my first "fail" grade. At that time, I was really disappointed. Since the experience, I have thought about it repeatedly and learnt a good lesson. Finally, I set a goal to improve my academic results and I accomplished it!

Right before the test, I was lazier than ever. I hated studying anything about Maths. I ignored the need to do revision and did not care about it. I just wanted to play with my mobile phone every minute. I could not put down my mobile for one second. However, when I realized I had wasted so much time, it was already too late. I can never forget how disappointed I was when I received my Maths test result. The whole thing was just like being woken up from a dream. After this experience, I clearly understood I had to change. So I set a goal and started to study Maths much more seriously. Finally, I accomplished my goal and have not failed again in Maths tests or examinations.

I learnt a lot from this experience. I now know that everyone of us has the potential to improve as long as you do not give up, and trust yourself. In addition, it is sometimes good to make mistakes because we can learn from our errors and it provides a good chance for us to reflect on ourselves.

*"If you have Faith as a grain of mustard seed. Nothing shall be impossible unto you."*
(Matthew 17:20)

## My Enjoyable Moments

Scarlett CHAN, 2 Love

In my S.2 life at SPKC, I have encountered a lot of happy times and sad times with my friends. I am also proud to be a member of Student Press, which is a team for the school's publications. It is a good opportunity for me to write creatively and enhance my English skills. Every day after school, I usually read English magazines, watch English movies, and listen to songs recommended by senior form brothers and sisters. Sometimes, English teachers will talk to me about fun ways to learn and use English. I really enjoy the time I chat, play and eat with teachers and friends there. It is amazing! I will definitely join more English activities in the coming years.

*"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus to you-ward."*
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

# Travel in Sha Tau Kok Area

KUNG Wang Tik 1 Peace

SPKC Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) had organized an activity for students and their parents. That was a trip to the Sha Tau Kok Area. No one can go there without permission because half of the area belongs to China and another half belongs to Hong Kong.

This activity was held on 10th March. We assembled in Sha Tin in the morning. Then, we rode on a boat that the PTA booked for us. After an hour, we finally arrived at our first spot, Lai Chi Wo. It took us a lot of time to get there, but after seeing the beautiful view, my mood got better. Lai Chi Wo is a country park that took many years to develop because it is a village with a long history. The tour guide said, "This is a hollow tree, because of bacterial erosion, the tree has a hole on its trunk." Then he said, "This is the Five Finger Tree; however, it only has four fingers left. Do you know why? It's all because of the Japanese. They cut one of the branches of the tree out during World War II, so the villagers have been protecting it as hard as they can afterwards." Then we got on the boat to go to the next station, Kat O.

Kat O is also an old village. The first thing we did there was to eat. The food there is so delicious. Mom told me that I need to do more exercise after this trip to compensate for the extra calories. After that, we visited a temple. We had to be careful because there were some bats. Then, I bought a can of ginger candy from a friendly old lady, she chatted with us for a while. Unfortunately, we didn't have much time to stay there as we had to start going to the last location, A Chau.

This island is made of rocks. When you overlook this island, you will see a duck in a lying position. We took a lot of beautiful pictures there, but time was running out, and we needed to go very soon.

After this trip, I learned more about the landscapes of our homeland, Hong Kong. I hope our PTA will organize this kind of activities more often to help students and parents interact and get along with each other more. This was such a wonderful trip!

# School Event photos

2018-02-03

## Parents Talk III

2018-02-08

## Light Passing Ceremony

2018-02-12 & 13

# Athletics Meet

2018-02-26

# SPKC's leaders forum Mr. Lau Ming Wai

2018-03-27

# 2nd Runner-up in the JA Company of the year

Mr. Simon Leung, winner of both 'Outstanding Teacher Award in Business and Financial Education' & 'Student Empowerment Award in Financial Education' (2018).