



Choi Hung Estate Catholic Secondary School

English Newsletter 2016-2017 (Vol. 2)

Capturing
Dreams

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Message From the Chairperson

by 5A Angus Lee

Another fruitful year has completed, and it is a blessing to be involved in the family of the English Society. With the concerted effort of teachers, students and the committee members, many activities were successfully held throughout the whole year. I would like to express my gratitude to them.

This year, our theme is 'Dream'. We are encouraged to 'Dream Big & Work Hard' to realize our own dreams and aspirations. Let me sum up what we have done this year. First of all, we had our English morning assemblies and English Speaking Days on Wednesdays. Students from all classes and groups took turn to do presentations using English. Moreover, our English teachers shared with us on various topics to encourage us to pursue our dreams and made recommendation of books for us to read. Junior form students were challenged to either read aloud or recite some inspirational quotes about dreams and aspirations. While senior form students were to share their dreams with teachers. We were encouraged to share our dream jobs, places we wish to visit, and people we hope to meet.

To bring more fun in English learning, we organised the English Week on February 6-10. Throughout that week, there were games and activities held each day to promote the use of English. Students fervently visited and played at the game booths such as Bouncenglish, Food Toss and Super Shoot. Other than these more physically active games, we also had some quieter ones such as Matching, Tongue Twisters, and Word Search. To add more amusement to the English Week, every morning three new riddles with clues were prepared for us to enjoy the humour and puns on words. Riddles gave us great opportunities to learn more useful vocabulary and solve problems in a humorous way. Undeniably, one of the most popular activities of the week was Table Tenglish. It was an inter-class competition with students speaking English while playing table tennis. It not only posed challenges on students' language skills but also their table tennis skills. The week was ended with a drama performance titled "*Happy are the poor, the Kingdom of God is yours*" and an afterschool movie appreciation of Big Friendly Giant. It was such a fun filled and memorable week of English games and activities.

On top of that, another movie was shown especially for the SBA (school-based assessment) for form 5 students. Lastly, an English café was opened for Fu Jen students from Taiwan and their study buddies during their visit. We were glad and pleased to see that all the activities were successfully held and learning was achieved in a fun way.

Being the chairperson, I have found myself the responsibility of helping to cultivate the willingness of students in learning, reading and using English. Through holding different activities, we hope you all have enjoyed the fun and become more confident in using English. For some of you, English may not be your favourite subject. Take myself as an example, when I was little, I didn't really love English because to me English was very complicated to handle. Once I saw a story book in the library and my teacher encouraged me to read it. She said, 'It is okay for you to read books, whether you understand the hard words or not.' Therefore, I gave it a try and I was mesmerized by the plot and I was motivated to read more to improve my English. So I would encourage all of you to take one step at a time and you will definitely see improvement and succeed in mastering the language. When you, at last, find your key to match your lock, you can finally discover the beauty of English and will be eager to take more steps. Once you embrace English, English will embrace you!

Keep your passion burning in pursuing your dream. :)

'I believe that the only courage anybody ever needs is the courage to follow your own dreams.'

by Oprah Winfrey



5A Angus Lee

Game Booths



Every second counts



The Tongue Twister Booth



It's matching time!



Getting ready for another round

Six game booths were set up in the hall encouraging English learning in a relaxing and fun environment. The booths offered games ranging from more physically active ones namely Bouncinglish, Food Toss, and Super Shoot, to relatively physically less demanding ones namely Tongue Twisters, Word Search, and Matching. All booths were run by English Ambassadors (EA).

Super Shoot seemed to be the most popular game as students had a chance to shoot objects representing the answers. Shooting accurately was challenging for some students who failed to shoot the objects despite knowing the answers. But this challenge actually has added more fun to the game.



Getting competitive at Super Shoot



EA giving instructions

Tongue Twister was welcomed by students who wanted to put their English fluency to the test. While Matching was an interesting game for those who could quickly match the pictures with their corresponding names. It's not uncommon to see students helping each other in the course of the game and this has shown they were all enjoying the process and not only the prizes.

Students had a good time playing games, getting prizes while learning English.



The good old Tongue Twister



EA host timing challengers



Ready, Steady, Toss!



The Bouncinglish Booth

Evangelization Drama



The chair belongs to me! Not you!

A group of students from different forms joined the English Evangelization drama this year. They have performed in many primary schools in Wong Tai Sin district. The play is called *"Happy are the poor, the kingdom of God is yours"*. This story is about a chair that everyone wants, including a bossy king, two wicked merchants and some robbers. At last, only a poor man and his son were able to own the chair because they cherish it wholeheartedly. We showed this drama during English week and students liked it very much.

Students were given a chance to showcase their learning outcomes and learn from their peers in the event. It was also a valuable experience for them to perform on stage. Most importantly, the event helped spread God's message to many more people.



The audience watching attentively



The bossy king



The wizard bargaining with the king

Table-Tenglish

Amongst many of the English activities held during English week, students like Table-Tenglish the most. What is that? It's a simple game. Students had to play table tennis but at the same time think of different vocabulary under the themes given by the English teachers. Not only because it is fun-filled and enjoyable, but also because students can learn English in a fun way outside the classroom. It has long been our tradition to hold Table Tenglish for junior form students. It is a game that requires high concentration and skills, but who doesn't like challenges?



The red team is in the lead!



High concentration is an advantage to win the game



Watch out ! It's a fast ball!

Fierce competition surrounded by their 'fans'

★ Movie show ★



Laughter in the air!

To wrap up the eventful English week, the movie show was held in as its finale. Students and teachers watched *The Big Friendly Giant (BFG)* at our very own makeshift theater. The cinematic quality is nothing to brag about but that isn't enough to stop a good story from working its magic. With free snacks and drinks and a good show, our students thoroughly enjoyed their time.

The BFG is a friendly giant, who catches dreams then gives the good ones to children and destroys the bad ones. The story is about a girl named Sophie and her breathtaking adventure with the BFG.

Riddles

Riddles are very effective ways to introduce students to intellectual humor while explaining to them the logic behind.

For example, “what is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?”

Answer: charcoal

Riddles also encourage critical thinking and problem solving skills which deem to be two of the most important and sought after abilities in today’s society.

For example, “what can travel around the world while staying in a corner?”

Answer: a stamp

Finally, riddles allow students to enjoy puns on words by expanding their vocabulary and increasing their ability to understand context.

For example, “what type of house weighs the least?”

Answer: a lighthouse

Knowing the benefits of riddles, three new riddles were presented each day of the English Week with some clues given during the morning assembly. Some were easier to solve than others. Nevertheless, students had a sense of achievement when they were able to work out the solutions and had fun in the process. You may want to try out the following riddles:



Tang Tsun Ting from 1A is giving out clues about the riddles with our our hosts

1. What goes up and doesn't come back down?

2. What is at the end of a rainbow?

3. A seven letter word containing thousands of letters. What am I?

Answers: 1. Your age 2. The letter W 3. Mailbox

English Speaking Day

At CHECSS, teachers help create a friendly environment where students can freely express themselves in English. Therefore, English Speaking Day has become synonymous with Wednesday.

With the help of our English Ambassadors, our Inter-class English Speaking Competition was carried out with great success and here are the results.

Form 1		Form 2		Form 3	
Winner	1A	Winner	2B	Winner	3B
1st runner-up	1B	1st runner-up	2D	1st runner-up	3C
2nd runner-up	1C	2nd runner-up	2A	2nd runner-up	3D

Can you recite the quote?

If you can dream it, you can do it.



Miss Agnes Pak

Hello, every one! I am Miss Agnes, the part-time NET teacher at CHECSS. It is great to come back to the family of CHECSS. I enjoyed very much in meeting each old and new face.

In the writing enhancement course this year, I met many students who are eager to improve their English writing proficiency. Their enthusiastic learning attitude is much appreciated. In the course, they have learned various writing skills through social issues such as Food Truck Pilot Scheme, Solid Waste Charging Scheme, Global Warming, Carbon Footprints and Standard Working Hours. Students were eager to express their ideas and opinions on current social issues through class discussions. Furthermore, with collaborative work in class, students attempted to write letter to the editor, news commentary and argumentative essay. I hope that with more practice in future, students can further enhance their English writing skills.



Solid Waste Charging Scheme – 4A Horatio Cao



Municipal solid waste is one of the biggest problems in our daily lives. At present, the daily quantity of municipal solid waste being dumped in Hong Kong is 9114 tonnes. Therefore, the Solid Waste Charging Scheme has to be enforced. Its aims are to reduce the garbage people produce and change people's lifestyle.

There are both positive and negative effects of the scheme. On one hand, the positive effect is that it will affect the consumption habit of the citizens. It is because people have to pay as they throw. The more garbage they produce, the more money they will need to pay. So if they want to save money, they will need to change their eating and shopping habits. On the other hand, the extra payment on designated plastic bag

is a big problem to low-income families. After buying those designated plastic bags, they don't have much extra money left to spend on other things.

I agree that the Solid Waste Charging Scheme should be enforced based on these major reasons.

Firstly, it is about personal habits. People used to throw as much garbage as they produce and are not aware of the landfill saturation situation. People only think about keeping their house clean and are not aware of how much garbage they have produced. Once the scheme is enforced, they will have to change their lifestyles and it will be hard at the beginning. It is difficult because people are so used to their old lifestyles.

Secondly, it is the problem of illegal dumping. While some may think that by decreasing the amount of garbage bins on the street, people can't dump illegally. Even if we decrease the number of bins, the illegal dumping will probably still happen. Moreover, this will cause a lot of inconvenience for the people and tourists who want to use the rubbish bins on the streets.

To conclude, it is difficult for the Solid Waste Charging Scheme to be enforced because of the citizens' habit and the illegal dumping that may still happen.

The Food Truck Pilot Scheme

by 4A Tsang Ka Hung

Dear Editor,

The Food Truck Pilot Scheme is a new initiative announced by the Financial Secretary, John Tsang, in the finance budget. To be exact, there are 16 operators on the local street. However, it seems that the trend of the Food Truck Pilot Scheme is going downhill.

Overall, the current situation of the scheme is getting worse. Although the food quality is superb, the cost of the food is quite high. To be honest, some of the food like burgers or fried rice costs almost 50 dollars. In addition, the locations of the food trucks are quite far away from the transport network, such as Central Harbourfront Event Space and Energizing Kowloon East Venue. Certainly, the attractiveness would decrease due to the locations, which are too far away. I hope that the government will revise the scheme if they want to showcase the diversified food culture of Hong Kong.

To a large extent, I agree that the scheme can increase our local profile and attraction to the tourist industry. However, the promotion is not enough to encourage the local residents and the foreigners to reap benefits from this scheme. From an interview made by Hong Kong students, only Hong Kong people know about the food trucks, whereas the tourists are completely unaware of it. Obviously, the promotion of this scheme is inadequate to attract more overseas customers. If the government had done more work on the promotion and advertising of food trucks by holding large-scale activities, it is certain that the scheme would have made better profit and boosted the tourism industry.

These are some of my opinions and suggestions. I hope that the government can do better in this scheme and drive the growth of the economy.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong



Solid Waste charging Scheme —

4A Lo Chun Kit



Nowadays in Hong Kong, tonnes of garbage are being produced every day. The government plans to tackle the garbage disposal problem with the Solid Waste Charging Scheme, which will be effective in 2019.

The Solid Waste charging Scheme intends to encourage people to reduce the amount of garbage they produce. On one hand, the scheme can reduce the solid waste. According to the government, the scheme hopes to cut down the volume of waste by 30 percent. On the other hand, it may lead to illegal dumping next to the

rubbish bins along the streets.

To a large extent, I think the Solid Waste Charging Scheme will not be effective because of the following reasons.

First, the main reason is the lack of public awareness of the solid waste problem and the scheme. According to a field observation on waste disposal done by a group of students, they have found that most of the households were not aware of the scheme and the seriousness of the solid waste problem. So even after the scheme has gotten started, people may not follow the instructions of the scheme.

The second reason is the increase of illegal dumping. The households need to buy the designated bags instead of the normal plastic bags after the launch of the scheme. However, some people will not follow the instructions and they will discard the garbage into the roadside bins instead. Some of them may even dump the rubbish into the refuse collection points. Therefore, the scheme will not be effective because of the increase of illegal waste disposal.

School Visit-Fu Jen High School



A remarkable moment between two schools



Historical walking tour in Sai Kung



Here we go!



A campus tour in HKUST

Welcome!

Fu Jen High School!

Fu Jen High School is definitely a familiar name to our students. We have been paying each other a visit every other year. A lot of our students have participated in different exchange programs between the two schools including some friendly visits and S.6 graduation trips.

This year, it was their turn to pay us a visit. There were 20 students and 2 teachers who took part in this trip. Our school arranged a memorable day trip which allowed them to visit many different tourist attractions in Hong Kong. Besides, some host families, who are the families of our students, also designed many appealing and fun tours for them to know more about local culture.

Students from Taiwan have truly enjoyed our hospitality and we sincerely hope this tradition will continue to allow more exchanges between students from these two schools.

English Café

To welcome our guests from Taiwan, the English Café was opened on 3rd April, 2017. Through serving simple snacks and drinks, our boys demonstrated their hospitality towards our friends. Our guests were shy at first but very soon they were warmed up by our friendliness.



Would you like to have a cup of milk tea?

Immersion Classroom

Fu Jen students were invited to have an English lesson together with our Choi Hung boys. The aim of this was to allow students from Fu Jen to experience the learning / teaching in Hong Kong while they were also given the opportunity to interact with Choi Hung students. This class was a great platform for students from both schools to exchange ideas on the differences of two education systems.

The topic of this lesson was charities in Hong Kong. Students were able to exchange ideas on how charitable work can improve the quality of lives of many people. Some students even showed interest in working as volunteers in the near future when they realized the benefits of giving.



Note-taking during the lesson



Choi Hung boys are demonstrating the use of iPad in learning



Fu Jen students are eager to raise questions



Collaborative learning with Fu Jen students

How to choose a right book to read

by Mr. Chan YL

We all understand there are many benefits for students to read. However, students usually have a lot of excuses when they don't want to start reading. The most frequent excuse I have heard is that they have no idea how to pick a book to start with. Therefore, I am going to share some tips so that you can start enjoying reading this summer.

When choosing a book, the very first thing you have to know is what genre you are interested in. A lot of people love reading detective stories because they are exciting. Readers are allowed to act as one of the little detectives in the story so that they can investigate the case and solve the crimes. When you get to know which genre you enjoy reading, you can start with looking for some famous books of that genre in the library.

Ask yourself, what are your interests? By doing this, you can easily get a keyword to search in the library catalog and you will have a bigger chance finding a book you want to read.

It's always good to have a companion. Things get a lot easier when you have someone to share reading with you. Ask them to recommend a book that they are reading and share the plot with them from time to time. Not only does this help you find a book to read, but it also allows you to sustain your reading motivation.

Books vary greatly in their level of difficulty. How to select a suitable English book also requires some skills. I once read an article about the 5-Finger Rule, which might help you to choose a "Just Right" book.

Open a book to the middle and begin reading. For each word the you don't know, have them put up one



Vacation book



JUST RIGHT!



Very Challenging



Save for Later

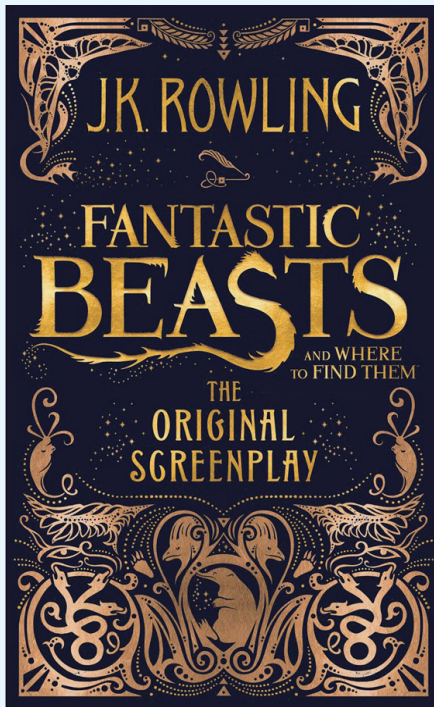
finger. If at the end of the page you have:

- 5 or more fingers up - too hard and challenging, a save for later book
- 4 fingers up - very challenging
- 2-3 fingers up - just right
- 0-1 finger up - too easy, a vacation book

Lastly, NEVER judge a book by its cover. You might have missed a great opportunity to read a good book. Try start reading, maybe you will fall in love with the words and plots in the book with a terrible cover.

Let's start reading this summer!

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them



by Ms. Shieh WL

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them is a book written by British author J. K. Rowling in 2001. Rowling's name did not appear on the cover of the first edition, the work being credited under the pen name "Newt Scamander". It's about the magical creatures in the Harry Potter universe.

When Magizoologist Newt Scamander arrives in New York, he intends his stay to be just a brief stopover. However, when his magical case is misplaced and some of the magical creatures in his care escape, it spells trouble for everyone.

Rowling's imagination seems to have no bounds – this little volume contains descriptions of 85 creatures, some based on mythology and some entirely the author's creation. Obviously you will "learn" about known beasts like dragons, centaurs and werewolves. There are also many other fantastic beasts with detailed information about each of them and that they never appeared on the seven novels of the series.

Fantastic Beasts appeared decades before Harry Potter was born, and offered very different themes. Fantastic Beasts seems to be more lighthearted without being childish.

This particular cast of characters is a pleasure to get to know. I love seeing Muggles other than the Dursleys in the wizarding world. There's Newt Scamander, a magic zoologist, dorky and loveable.

This book is wonderful because we get to visit the rich detailed wizarding world again. Definitely this is a quick but wonderful engaging reading of the magical world of Harry Potter. If you are a big fan of Harry Potter, I will definitely recommend this book to new HP readers and Potterheads alike.



Movie Review —

Gifted

by Ms. Ivy

Cast: Chris Evans, Mckenna Grace, Octavia Spencer, Lindsay Duncan, Jenny Slate,

Director: Marc Webb

Screenwriter: Tom Flynn

The movie "Gifted," directed by Marc Webb and starring Chris Evans, Mckenna Grace, Octavia Spencer, Lindsay Duncan and Jenny Slate is a charming heartwarming comedy-drama.

Frank Adler (Chris Evans) is a single freelance boat repairman in rural Florida, attempting to raise Mary (Mckenna Grace), the brilliant daughter of his deceased mathematician sister. After homeschooling Mary for seven years, Frank decides to send her to public school. Like her mom, Mary is a child prodigy in Mathematics. Things get complicated when the wealthy grandmother shows up out of the blue leading to a full custody battle as she feels that Mary should attend a private school to cultivate her math skills.

Not only is the movie a tearjerker, especially when Mary is taken away from Frank, this movie has also brought up the issue of what should we do with our talents? As clearly shown in the movie, once the talent in Mary is discovered, the school principal's and grandmother's immediate responses are to send her to a school where Mary's talent can be further sharpened and worked on. It would be a waste of such extraordinary talent if Mary was to be put in a regular Grade 2 class when she can do advanced calculus. So the logic goes this way, something must be done to every talent that is entrusted or given. If a prodigy like Mary needs to cultivate her talent with hard work, are we of any exception? Should we not also work on the talent God has given us, instead of wasting it? Are we not responsible to discover our talent and work on it so that we can be a productive member of the society?

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do goodworks, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10).



God has made it clear that although our talents or gifts are different, we are expected to use them towards productive ends. No one is good at everything, but everyone is good at something. Perhaps it's time to ask our selves questions like "what can I do well?", "what do I enjoy doing?", "what can I do to make myself and other people happy?" to discover our talents. Practice makes progress. So start today to identify your talents and use them to make this world a better place.