

English Newsletter 2016-2017

Choi Hung Estate Catholic Secondary School



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Message from the Principal

Every success starts with a dream. Not only is it a powerful source of motivation, but it also helps develop hope, courage and inspiration. One who dares to dream can lead and make an influence, no matter when or where you are.

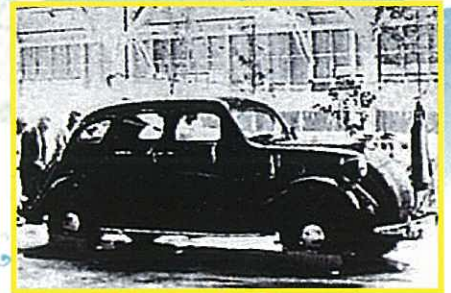
Here I would like to share with you an inspiring story of Mr. Kiichiro Toyoda, the founder of the well-known automobile company Toyota. I learnt his story from the Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology in Japan.

They say the Roman Empire was not built in a day, so does the automobile empire of Mr. Toyoda. The company was started by a vision of Mr. Toyoda's father, who wanted to build an eternal motor for loom production. His passion has made a big impact on Mr. Toyoda, who then went abroad to study mechanical engineering in order to fulfill this dream. With the skills and knowledge acquired through his studies, Mr. Toyoda was able to develop an automatic loom and other textile machinery soon upon his return. His innovation was a major leap forward in Japan's textile industry.

Such success did not stop Mr. Toyoda from going further. He continued to pursue his passion and decided to devote his lifetime to developing the local automobile industry. His dream sparked the fire in a lot of local engineering professionals, in order to compete among international brands like Ford and General Motors they formed a team to achieve their goals.

The journey of Mr. Toyoda's dream was not all plain sailing. Their development was severely hindered by the financial and industrial constraints during World War II. Despite the predicament, their team never gave up. Instead, they came up with an idea to offer local post-sale support service to attract new customers. Their persistence had moved the heart of bankers, who kept investing on their project. This in turn has allowed the company to develop and expand. In 1935, the team managed to produce the first prototype passenger car, which was named Toyota. The company has grown into one of the best global brands and one of the main leaders in the automobile industry worldwide.

There is never a dream that is too small or too stupid. Dream gives meaning to life and helps identify important things from trivial matters. In Mr. Toyoda's case, his father's dream inspired him to achieve bigger goals. Never underestimate the power of dream. Anything is possible when you put your mind to it. Let's remind ourselves to respect those who work hard for their dreams and pray for our own! God bless!



A1 prototype car

Winners of 68th Hong Kong School Speech Festival – Choral Speaking

Congratulations to our 1A students for winning the competition at the 68th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival (Choral Speaking).

The 2-month intensive training finally came to an end when students stepped on the stage for the contest on 7th December. The students came to know that their effort was not in vain when the adjudicator announced their winning.

A lot of time and effort were spent on practice and rehearsals. And by performing at different school events, the boys earned not only applause from the audience, but also gain experience and valuable feedback. With the support they received, our boys surprised us every time they performed on stage.

The poem we have selected this year is called "The Three Foxes". It is a poem that incorporates humor and wordplay, which brings smiles on everyone's face.

"It's a great opportunity for me to sharpen my speaking skills. I have never had a chance to embrace the language in such a joyful way," said Jason Tang, one of the little foxes on the Choral Speaking team.



The Three Foxes we find on campus



What do the foxes say



Class 1A is performing in front of the guests

"Nothing happens unless first we dream." By Carl Sandburg

The 68th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

A number of CHECSS students from Form 1 to Form 3 participated in Solo Verse Speaking in the 68th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival. The students did well and received positive feedback from the adjudicators. Four of them attained the merit awards and one won the 2nd Place in the event.

Through learning the poem and reciting it, they had a taste of English Language Arts and have become more confident to perform on stage.

Participant list

Class	Class no	Name
1A	8	Ho Cheuk Hang
1A	15	Lee Hon Ching
1A	17	Lui Man Hin
1A	22	Tang Tsun Ting, Jason
2A	8	Lam Tik Ming
3A	29	Sze Wai Lun



It's a joyful experience to them



Jason Tang won second place in solo verse speaking

English Speaking Day



Students listening to each other's sharing

Our English Speaking day is held every Wednesday. After our English Morning Assembly, students get to immerse themselves into an English speaking campus, as crowds of students flock to share their dreams with their favorite teachers all around the school.

students during lunchtime. Each student is required to read aloud or recite famous quotes related to our theme "dreams". Moreover, you will be able to find some of these quotes when reading this English Newsletter. Let's see how many of these great quotes you can find!



Having fun at English Speaking Day



Students flocking to share their dreams

English Morning Assembly

The English Morning Assembly has long been a tradition of our weekly English Speaking Day. It is held every Wednesday morning. We have had many delightful class performances, book sharings, and themed sharings. The Morning Assembly also provides a platform for students to communicate and make announcements in English, which provides an opportunity for students to use English outside the classroom.

This year, in order to bring novelty to our students, the junior and senior form students have started to switch venues on the last Wednesday of every term. The feedback has been very positive, students and teachers now see the Morning Assemblies in a new light.



Fun with English drama



Presenting at the school hall



Sharing at the playground

"The more you can dream, the more you can do." By Michael Korda

Primary Six Mock Interview

"Practice makes perfect!" is one of the most famous quotes when it comes to learning. This also applies when students are preparing for their admission interviews.

Two sessions of mock interview were organised successfully on 12th November and 10th December for Primary Six students. The response proved overwhelming since more than 500 students benefited from them.

Our well-trained English Ambassadors were enlisted to help conduct the mock interviews. To prepare them for their roles, a series of training sessions had been given to help develop their leadership and communication skills.

Mock interviews offer students a great opportunity to evaluate their interview skills. Aside from this, students can reduce their stress about interviewing. Not only can this practice sharpen their skills, but it also helps boost their confidence. Moreover, teachers can point out their strengths and weaknesses in the process so that they can perform better at their actual interview.

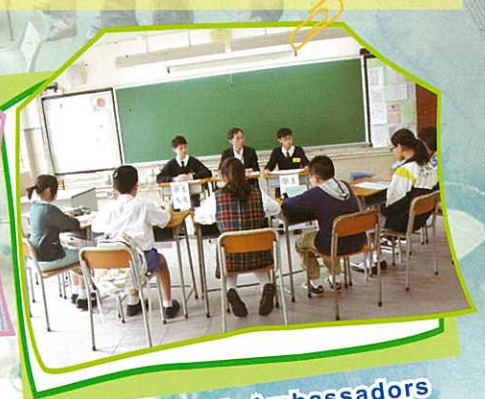
"Practice makes perfect!" You have to learn the technique and then practice. A mock interview will help you acuminate your technique and provide you with constructive feedback to help you improve your performance.



Hundreds of P.6 students benefit from the event this year



P.6 students attending the mock interview



Our English Ambassadors facilitating the mock interview

English Fun Day

As a warm welcome to our new students, the English Fun Day was held on 19th August 2016. The theme of the Fun Day was English Alert, our boys had to escape the deadly 'English Prison' by solving a series of puzzles and challenges that put their English skills to test.

The 'English Prison' consisted of four corners with each corner focused on one language skill; the corners were called 'Break the Code' – reading, 'Message to the Outside' – writing, 'Charm the Guard' – speaking, and 'Kill the Monsters' – listening.

Students were able to learn English through playing games, and above all, they were able to enjoy and have fun, which is what English Fun Day is all about!



Break the Code



Charm the Guard



English Fun Day



Kill the Monsters



Message to the Outside



Winners!

"Help others achieve their dreams and you will achieve yours." By Les Brown

English Café

To make our guests and visitors feel at home and welcomed, the English café is opened to serve drinks and snacks on special school occasions such as P. 6 Mock Interviews and Information Day. The helpers include some F. 2 boys who set up the booth and serve our guests with drinks IN ENGLISH! Of course, they ONLY take orders in English as well.

Through these interactive activities, our boys can put into practice what they have learnt in real life. We believe 'the more you use, the better you become!'. Why not drop by our English café and get to know our boys better next time?



Hard at work



Looking good and prepared



Neat and orderly

Inter-School Mathematics Contest



Ambassadors with their teachers

On 3rd December, more than 500 P.6 students from 18 primary schools assembled at our school for the Inter-School Mathematics Competition. Students from different schools performed so well and displayed their Mathematical talents at the contest. During the recess, our English department has set up game booths so that the P.6 students could relax and enjoy themselves before another session of the exciting match. All participants enjoyed the games and won many different prizes while speaking English. Aside from this, it was also a great chance for our students to practise their English and learn how to serve others politely.



Break the Code



Charm the Guard



Busy at work



English Fun Day

Evangelization Drama ~ The Chair

English Department puts on an evangelization drama every year to share the gospel message with different primary schools. We visited seven primary schools this year and the drama is about a special chair.

The Chair tells the history of a chair as it passes through the hands of its various owners - the honest, the dishonest, the humble and the regal. Only the woodcutter and his son, the honest ones, care for the chair. The rest only want to take advantages of the chair and finally only the woodcutter can own the chair. So what's the moral of the story? The greedy always fall! As the Bible says, "Happy are the gentle, they shall inherit the land."



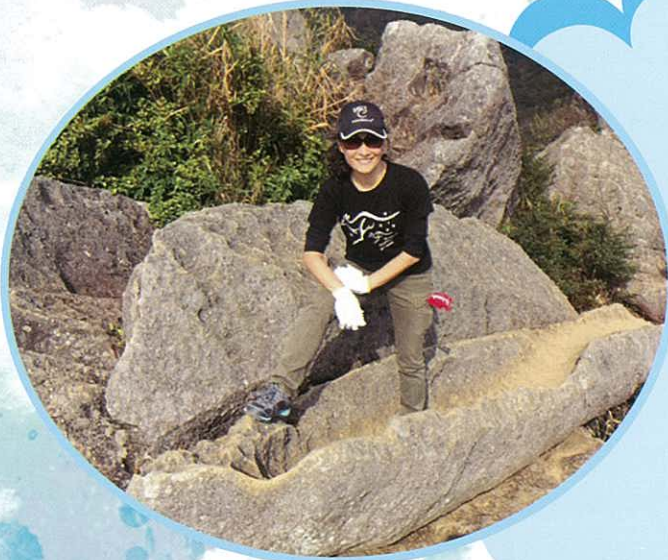
"If you can dream it, you can do it." By Walt Disney

Our BIG Theme!

You may have already noticed that our English activities this year share something in common. That's right! From our English Speaking Day to the decoration of our English Room, many of our 'happenings' are related to the theme 'Dreams'.

For some, dreams may be interpreted as something unreal, or just something limited to the realms of sleep. But teachers in the English Department believe that dreams are to be pursued, of course, with courage and perseverance! You can also make your dreams come true if you possess these qualities.

Exclusively for this issue of the English Newsletter, Ms Ivy has kindly written a poem for us. Of course, a poem about 'Dreams'.



Dreams

Dream the wildest dream

Pursue until it's redeemed.

Sail the roughest stream

Dream forever reigns supreme.

Dreamers, dream on;

Let dreams take you far & beyond.

To create memories which are always fond,

To unleash thoughts and let them spawn.

To build relationship and strengthen bonds.

To nurture dream chasers into paragons.

If life is full of dreams,

Future never looks grim.

But if life is without dreams,

Hearts and minds quickly grow dim.

So Dreamers ...

Shun all fears

Wipe all tears

Brave all despair

Until victory appears.

Take heart and soar with your dreams like eagles

Because all things are made possible.

~Ms. Ivy



"Never give up on what you really want to do. The person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts."

By Albert Einstein

My Dream & Aspiration

5A Billow Lam

Have you ever thought about your future? What do you want to be when you grow up? I've been asking myself these questions from time to time.

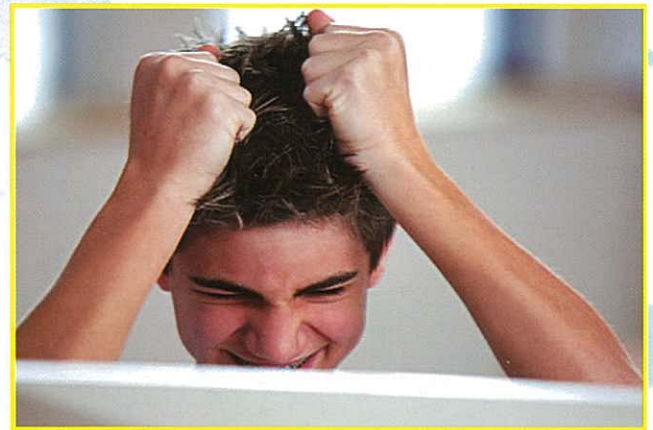
While many of you may dream to become a doctor, a policeman or a fireman, I want to become a professional guitarist because I love playing guitar ever since I was young. My passion for guitar is too strong for words. To me, music is one of the most powerful forms of communication. It's my source for comfort, for self-confidence, and for love. It is an art in one of its most beautiful forms. With music, I can express my thoughts and feelings. There is always a song for every occasion. It can make happy time happier and sad time more bearable. So music can do for me what no words can.



However, sometimes, I feel frustrated and lost because I couldn't spend enough time or put enough effort into pursuing my dream. As my school workload gets heavier, it's getting more difficult for me to spare time to practise playing my guitar. I am truly scared that I can't achieve my dream if I only daydream about it every day and don't put in more work to make it happen.

Fortunately, every time when I was saddened by frustration, my mother would comfort and say to me, "Try your best to live out your life and follow your dream. 'Rome was not built in one day' and so you don't have to get everything done right away. Take your time and be persistent in pursuing your dream." I was very encouraged by her support and promised I would try harder to realise my dream.

With the encouragement from my mother, I immediately made changes in my schedule and carved out time to practise guitar. For example, I keep practising guitar for at least an hour every day even though it is quite boring sometimes. Not only am I taking part in a school acapella group, but I am also joining a band which provides me with opportunities to perform. In addition, I have added Music as my extra elective and started to learn more about music composition, music analysis, and music history.



My dear schoolmates, I am working hard to pursue my dream now. I believe my dream will come true. Wish you all "Dream Big, and Work Hard" to accomplish what you have dreamed to do. Thank you!

English Ambassador Programme

Every year, English Ambassador Programme is launched to train up a team of confident and well-rounded student ambassadors to cultivate an English-rich environment on campus. This year, English Department has provided training to more than 80 English Ambassadors on their leadership, presentation and communication skills. They help the Department organize the English Week and lead various English activities, e.g. reading aloud scheme and game stalls. Besides, English Ambassadors are responsible to host an English Café to greet visitors at special events. In Primary Six Mock Interview, they also serve as mock interviewers to assist primary school students in preparing for Form 1 admission interviews.



Sorting out refreshment



Helping out at the English Fun Day

"All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." By Walt Disney

My Father's Dream

Ms. Ivy



My dad went to be with the Lord five years ago. If you ask me about my memories of him, I can clearly recall two anecdotes between me and my dad.

Being the youngest child, I was rebellious and have never had a chance to develop a close relationship with him. However, having a dad driving you to school on a motorbike and picking you up was undoubtedly a head-turner. It probably was the only occasion I could be alone with him.

Unexpectedly, one Saturday morning, while we were on our way to school, a torrential rainstorm came

our way uninvited. Immediately we got off the highway and took shelter under a bridge. Without hesitation, my dad got out some hand towels and started wiping my hands and feet lest I caught a cold. He had completely forgotten that he was drenched too. Seeing him wipe my face dry when his was dripping with rain water, I was really touched by his selfless act.



Coming home with ankle sprains or muscle strains was not unusual for me. Nevertheless, when I was in junior high school and came home with a broken right arm, it was unconventional. Immediately, my dad took me to see an orthopedist to have an x-ray done. There was a bone fracture and a cast was put on my injured arm. I wasn't even able to pick up a pen to do homework let alone to eat. My dad comforted me not to worry about school work. Not only did he make soup for me, but he also did my laundry. Again, my heart was melted by his genuine love and care.



Over the years, I learnt that it has always been his dream to protect and provide for me. Although he was not perfect, he tried his best to love and take good care of me to the best he could. This has made me ponder on what Jesus said in Matthew 7:9-11:

⁹ "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone?¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! (NIV)

As much as my earthly father hoped to provide and support, he had limitations. But our Heavenly Father who is all-loving, omnipotent and omniscient, does not withhold anything good from us. Instead, He is always ready and willing to grant us grace. It's His dream that we ask and receive all good things from Him. So we are encouraged to cast our cares and fears on Him for He is our loving Father.



For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV)

6 dream jobs you didn't know exist

If you haven't found your dream job, don't fret just yet. Here we have 6 dream jobs that you might not even know exist.

Voice-Over Artist



\$52k

- ✓ Lend their voice to commercials and voice-overs for TV and films
- ☆ No specific qualifications but courses are available

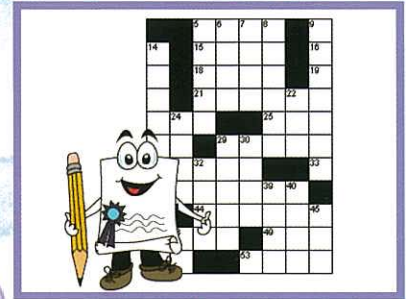
Video Game Player



\$35k and the newest releases

- ✓ Assist other players in helping achieve higher levels in games
- ☆ A love for video games

Crossword Puzzle Writer



\$45k

- ✓ Build and create crossword puzzles for newspapers
- ☆ Have the ability to create puzzles in a timely fashion and have a wide-ranging vocabulary

Ice Cream Taster



\$40k and unlimited ice cream

- ✓ Evaluate ice cream in terms of taste, texture, smell, and other elements
- ☆ You need a degree in food science to land this job, not just a love for ice-cream

Ethical Hacker



\$92k

- ✓ Hired by government & security firms to help design ways to keep hackers out of their systems.
- ☆ Hold a relevant qualification; meet the additional requirements of GCHQ's check scheme

Disney Face Character



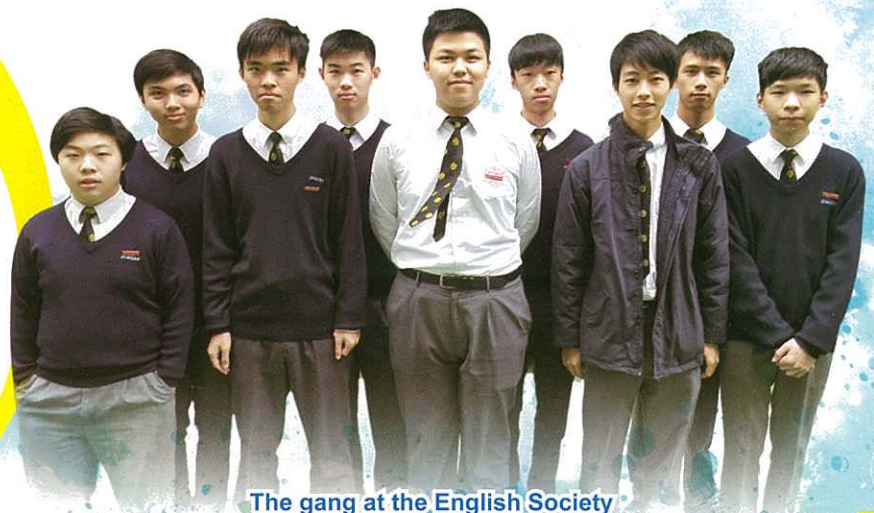
\$22k

- ✓ Dress up and perform a famous Disney character
- ☆ Strict height and appearance regulations and the ability to impersonate a character and be good with children

\$ Salary per month
 ✓ Job Duty
 ☆ Requirements

English Society

The English Society, which is one of the school's extra-curricular clubs, aims at providing fun and organising English-learning activities for Choi Hung boys to join. The vibrant activities include the English Week, game stalls, talent show, song dedication programme, summer study tour, etc. The teacher advisors this year are Ms. Wong O.Y., Ms. Liu S.K., Mr. Chan W.K. and our NET Ms. Ivy Leung. You are most welcome to join our Club and have a whole new English-learning experience.



The gang at the English Society

Australia & New Zealand Summer Study Tour 2016

Two Choi Hung boys, Kevin and Jeffery took part in New Zealand study tour organised by the Hong Kong Catholic Diocesan (Secondary Schools) last summer. The boys were exposed to the learning environment extended from Hong Kong to Oceania. Our boys found the authentic needs of using English in their daily life and all of them would like to explore different cultures around the world.



Sharing by 3A Kevin Lam

Last summer, I joined the Wellington, New Zealand Study Tour with my classmate, Jeffrey. The days in New Zealand were fun and unforgettable. We did a lot of new things in New Zealand. We visited many tourist attractions, such as Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Weta WorkShop, Wellington Zoo, Kiwi House, etc. Also, we studied at St. Patrick's College in New Zealand during the tour. There were some lessons that I have never heard before, for example, there were Social Studies and Rugby classes. Moreover, the teachers and students were nice and willing to help us. In short, the tour was meaningful. I was exposed to the culture and the lifestyle in New Zealand.



Sharing by 3A Jeffrey Cheung

I felt amazed about this New Zealand trip. I was scared when I first arrived in New Zealand. Fortunately, the host family were very nice to me. I also met a friend called Ben. He is such an energetic boy, he always showed me around. We went out together every weekend. We took many photos of the beautiful scenery. His mum is a very kind person. She cooked a lot of yummy food for us every day, like fried fish and pork. We also went to school together. At school, I have made a lot of new friends. Besides, I learned a lot about Maori, which is their culture in the old days.



Furthermore, we went to the zoo. It's very famous and we saw some animals that we have not seen in Hong Kong before, like kiwi, which is a cute animal. But it was so shy that I failed to take photo with it. We also saw giraffes there. It's truly an unforgettable experience. I love New Zealand!

Theatre in Choi Hung School

An interactive drama, 'Theatre in School 2016' was held in our Choi Hung school in May, 2016. This drama programme was co-organised by Language Learning Support Section and The Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection. A team of professional drama players performed an English drama, Treasure Island, with some of our Form 3 and 4 students in the school hall. Our boys were thrilled to act out the story on stage and learnt various drama skills, such as forming a scene and the art of articulation. Our students also had a chance to get on the stage and entertain the audience with their own developed ending of the story. The project brought great success in arousing students' interest in English drama.



Rewriting the ending scene



Action!



A handsome smile



Students on stage with NET teachers

"A dream written down with a date becomes a GOAL. A goal broken down into STEPS becomes a PLAN. A plan backed by ACTION makes your dreams come true." By Greg S. Reid

English Talent Show



English Talent Show 2016

The talent of our boys shines not only in their studies, but also in drama playing. Our English Drama 'Old School-New School' won the first runner-up in the English Talent Show 2016, which was organised by HKCDSS English Language Education Committee. The aim of this talent show is to provide our students with more exposure to English and help them gain confidence in using it. Our Choi Hung boys demonstrated excellent acting skills on the stage. The adjudicators made an encouraging comment: "Good costumes! Humorous script, but with a meaningful message at the end".



Joint School Oral Practice

This year our school organised a joint school oral practice with Confucian Tai Shing Ho Kwok Pui Chun College so as to boost our students' confidence in speaking English and prepare them for the upcoming public exam. Two classes of Form 6 students went to Tai Po and took part in the oral practice. During the practice, students interacted and learnt from each other under the guidance of English teachers. This is such a successful activity for students to improve their English speaking skills.



Students having discussion



Oral practice in different groups



Students exchanging their ideas



The hall at Tai Po school

Learning English through Workplace Communication

5A Allen Yu

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to ask for help in a project called Second Chance, which aims at helping prisoners reintegrate into the society.

In view of a large portion of reformed prisoners failing to get employed and relapsing into their old practices, the government has launched the Second Chance to encourage your company to help. In the project, the salaries of the reformed criminals are paid by the government throughout their period of probation. However, the firms taking part must guarantee to continue hiring the workers unless they make serious mistakes or display poor working attitude. We are confident of our participants because all of them were convicted with minor offences and have remorse for their faults. With this project, we hope to see our prisoners have a successful transition from jail to society.

The scheme has a few benefits. They are as follows:

From your company's perspective, you can hire workers for free throughout their period of probation. Moreover, since the reformed prisoners regret their mistakes, there is no doubt these prisoners would treasure the new leaf of their life and try their very best on their jobs. Also, these workers have often been trained in a wide range of practical skills, such as, typing, cookery and repairing gadgets. They have obtained related qualifications, and thus saves the time and resources of your company to retrain these employees.

The scheme benefits not only your company, but also the reformed criminals and their families. Because of their criminal records, these rehabilitated drug takers or criminals often fail to find jobs. With urgent needs of living expenses, they may be once again tempted to commit crime again. Therefore, to these reformed prisoners, work is a form of therapy since it keeps them free from the worries about money and enables them to alleviate their families' financial burden, gaining their families' acceptance and building up their self-confidence. I believe the reformed criminals and their families would be grateful for your help should they be offered a second chance.

Moreover, the scheme also benefits the society. If the reformed criminals start contributing to the society, the resources and effort made to help them will be all worth it. Only with your company's help, we can be sure that the money and effort we made on prisoners are not wasted. Moreover, allowing the reformed criminals to work in your company gives them the opportunity to regain public acceptance as they can work and mingle with more people. By understanding more about the reformed criminals, the public's ingrained biases against them can be rectified. The public will one day understand that not all of them are bad when they have a second chance.

Thousands of prisoners are about to finish their sentences and are making a sincere plea for jobs. If your company joins the scheme, more prisoners will be given a ray of hope which they desperately want. We really hope you will play a vital role by giving them a second chance. Your help is crucial to the success of the program. I am looking forward to your good news.

Yours faithfully,
Chris Wong
Intern at HKCS

