



Starfish



Lai King Catholic Secondary School

English Newsletter 2012 Issue 1

Address: 1 Lai King Hill Road, Lai King Estate, Kwai Chung, N.T.

Website: www.lkcss.edu.hk

Tel: 27441610

Fax: 27449134

Our English Department

The English Department has shown remarkable advancement in recent years. We have had a 5-star student, Kong Yan Nam in 2010 and a Grade-A student, Chan Hoi Wun in the 2009 UE Exam. We also achieved the highest passing rate ever in Use of English, with about 90% of our students passing and adding higher value, both in the CE and UE Examinations.



Chan Hoi Wun (2009 UE 'A')



Kong Yan Nam (2010 CE '5*')

This year, our English team has a total of 19 teachers, including two NETs, Mr. Raymond Patton from the U.S. and Ms. Harpreet Kaur from Hong Kong, respectively. They are both very friendly and caring, and students enjoy chatting with them during their free time. They mainly teach junior form English classes and SI-S4 Oral lessons, bringing a great wealth of knowledge to our department. Besides, every English instructor in LKCSS has been trained in the subject and brings great energy and care to the staff body. Six of them even hold Master's Degree in English-related disciplines, which only goes to show their eagerness to learn as well as teach this valuable subject. Check out the activity box on page 2 to learn more fun facts about some of our English teachers!

The teachers at LKCSS share a passion for learning and teaching English. We are confident that you will feel the same excitement and interest in your studies here with us!



Principal, Ms Lo and our English Team members



Our two NETs: Ms Kaur and Mr Patton



Who are they?

Matching: How much do you know about our English Teachers?
Let's see if you can match the teachers with their information below:

Background Information on the teachers

A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completed Bachelor's Degree at the City University of Hong Kong loves the Korean celebrity show "Big Bang" 	E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completed Bachelor's Degree in the UK has two dogs: a Labrador and a Shitzu
B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completed Master's Degree in Linguistics & Translation in London & obtained overall distinction likes watching basketball 	F <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completed Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Applied English Linguistics at CUHK minored in French Studies
C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a twin brother and a little sister speaks four languages likes bowling, reading and chatting online with friends and family 	G <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completed Bachelor's Degree in English at CUHK minored in French Studies was in the badminton team at university
D <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completed Bachelor's Degree in Australia loves travelling 	

*Check answers on page 8.

Mr Jensen Chau



Ms Wendy Lam



Ms Pieta Chan



Ms Harpreet Kaur



Ms Maria Yuen



Ms Agnes Chow



Mr Ray Patton



English Corner

The English Corner— An English Speaking World in a Hut!

The English Corner of our school is located in a hut next to the playground. Unlike most schools where the English corner is usually located in a classroom or some sorts, our English Corner is independent from other parts of the school. The hut is also decorated by our students to make it so inviting that students do not feel nervous coming in, even for the very first time. When students come to the English Corner, they feel like being in another world in which they can relax and have fun learning English.



As the English Corner was set up to facilitate English learning outside the classroom, the atmosphere in the English Corner makes students feel comfortable and confident speaking and listening to English. Students do not have to feel that they are here just to speak English but to play games, do homework or even just chat with our NETs using English. During the public exam period, our candidate students will practise their oral exams in the English Corner with clear guidelines and useful tips posted everywhere.

This year, one of our NETs – Ms Kaur even makes the English Corner her office so that every student who wants to talk to her can come during recess, lunch and after school! Ms Kaur's enthusiasm encourages many students to get close to her and use English as the medium to communicate with her. Since it is a judgment-free area, students are not scared to make mistakes while using English. When they are not scared, they just keep coming back.



Ms Kaur with students

Morning Assembly with Cross-curricular Topics

A good day shows itself in the morning. What is better than an inspiring and entertaining speech before a long day of school? Over the past few years, the Morning Speech has become a culture for LKCSS students. Every morning, students come to school expecting a speech with two students sharing their views and experiences on a chosen topic with our Native English Teacher, and the results are always amazing. Through chatting with the NET in a relaxed manner, students gain confidence in public speaking. Promising improvements in pronunciation and intonation can be observed too!

Coinciding with the Refined English Enhancement Scheme, the topics for the speeches are carefully chosen to facilitate learning of the English language under a broad spectrum of themes. Ranging from entertainment and invention to air pollution and social issues, the topics help widen students' exposure to various knowledge areas and cultural contexts, crossing over the boundaries between disciplines.



Mr Patton with
student speakers



Post-exam English Activities in 2011

S.1 Storytelling & S.2 Singing Contests

As the most anticipated annual English activity for junior forms, the S.1 Storytelling and S.2 Singing Contests, held on 6 July, 2011, were the best stages for students to demonstrate their talents. From romance to horror, fables and fairy-tales, the performances of our S.1 students gave the adjudicators and audience a thrilling time filled with joy, excitement, and even enlightenment.



The school hall was then transformed into a huge dance floor for the students. The S.2 Singing Contest allowed the students to submerge themselves in an environment filled with music, rhythm and strong performances. As a class activity, all seven groups in S.2 chose a favourite song of their own and displayed their talents to the fullest. The audience and the judges were awed by Lady Gaga and Bon Jovi impersonators alike.

S1 Storytelling Winners:		S2 Singing Contest Winners:	
Championship (The Best Storyteller)	IC-Wat Cho Yan	The Best Group Participation	2R
The Best Theme Award	ID-Chan Cheuk Lam	The Best Singing	2A
The Best Adaptation Award	IE-Chan Wing Yu	The Best Intonation & Pronunciation	2S
The Most Creative Story Award	IA-Jordy Ng Ka Chun	The Best Stage Arrangement	2B
The Most Interesting Story Award	IB -Chan Yee Ki	The Most Creative Performance	2E
The Best Pronunciation and Intonation Award	IE-James Yeung	The Most Enthusiastic Performance	2D
The Best Script Award	IC-Chan Hoi Hang	The Best Overall Performance	2C

S1-S3 Drama Performance “East Meets West”

The show, funded by the Education Bureau and organized by Dramatic English was staged in LKCSS on 4 July, 2011, and viewed by all S1-S3 students. The dramatic performance brought laughter and enjoyment to the students. Some students were also invited to act on stage. Students enjoyed the show and look forward to more in the future!

“I found the drama show interesting and I like performing with the actors on stage. I have become more confident in my ability to speak English.”

– **Gerald Ng Ki Kwan (4E)**

S2-S3 Drama Course

Closely arranged after the Drama show, the drama course on developing students’ understanding of drama was held in LKCSS for some of the S2 and S3 students during 5-8 July, 2011. Course tutor Betty gave a very clear and interesting delivery of the course. Students were then able to analyze and use her teachings to create a drama plot for performance as the end-product of the course.

“I have learnt more about basic stage acting skills, such as body movement and dramatic intonation. I think I can speak English more effectively now.”

– **Alex Ng Tse Wai (4E)**



S6 Inter-school Oral Practice

On 7 July 2011, our S6 students joined the Inter-school Oral Practice with students from HKMA David Li Kwok Po College. There our students chatted with students of LKP about social issues, played some guessing games and had a formal oral discussion similar to the public exam in format. We were also treated egg tarts and drinks to ensure the friendly nature of the event. We really appreciate the host school LKP for welcoming our students to have a wonderful time after their exams. It was indeed a great opportunity for our students to refresh their oral skills with their peers in a friendly, yet competitive environment to boost their confidence.

Students' Sharing...

I found this practice very useful. I hope there will be more oral practice before the exam.
- Alfred Wu



The practice was very meaningful and it helped boosting my confidence. This is such a great opportunity to improve our discussion and presentation skills.
- Bonnie Chan



This inter-school oral practice gave me a precious experience. It provided me with a chance to expand my social skills and learn useful oral exam skills.
- Jaffy So



I ♥ Oral



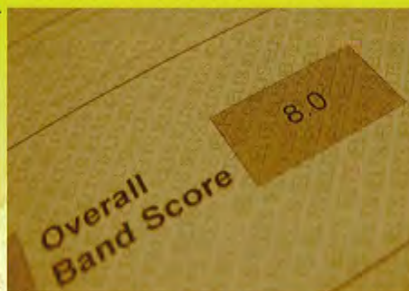
S6 IELTS Preparation Course

Although being an internationally recognized assessment of the English Language, IELTS has just started gaining importance as an admission criterion among local tertiary institutions. In view of this, an IELTS Preparation Course was arranged for our S.6 students during the post-exam period, 8 July 2011. The course aimed at providing an introduction to the exam format and many useful skills for the students. The goal was also to familiarize them with the assessment, in case they need to sit for the test in the near future. This course was conducted by our English teachers in two sessions.

Students' Reflections:

It helped me get a better understanding of the IELTS format and makes me think about sitting for the exam after I finish my A-Level exams.

- 7A Lam Mei Ting



I thank the teachers for spending all the extra time teaching this course. I know this exam can enable me to really prepare myself for college life and give me the best chance to be able to enroll in a good degree programme at one of the local universities.

- 7B Eric Luk Kin Hang



Words from our S7 graduates...



7A Students



7B Students

7A-Ivan Ho (2010-2011) Bachelor of Education University of Hong Kong



Ivan Ho

Perseverance and diligence are essential to success in many things in life, especially in examinations. However, it does not mean that we have to force ourselves to study endlessly. Hard work is crucial, but we should not overlook the importance of good planning. Needless to say, no one could endure having to study around the clock, so we should develop study habits that best suit ourselves. For instance, someone may find it more effective to work at night than in the morning, then you may allow yourself to stay up a bit later to work, and get up a bit later the next day. However, your routines must be adjusted a few weeks before the actual examination so that you can guarantee maximum performance during the process.

There isn't any 'golden rule' to good planning and time management. It is a good plan as long as you can achieve your own targets. Always be prepared and you are all set. I wish the S.7 graduates this year every success in the pursuit of your dreams!

7A-Wong Hei Yu, Hayley (2010-2011) City University of Hong Kong

In retrospect, I had a fruitful academic year in LKCSS. It was my honour and pleasure to be the student representative of the graduation committee and the speaker of the Speech Day. Although we faced some complications during the organizing process, I cherished every moment cooperating with my fellow schoolmates. The friendships I gained are my most treasured assets. As we depart from our alma mater, there is the excitement upon embarking on the next stage of our life journey. Yet, the sorrow of having to leave our safe haven is also inevitable. I would like to take the opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to every teacher for their love, care and guidance. Last, I wish you all a bright and rosy future.

7A-Connie Cheung (2010-2011) Chinese Language and Literature Chinese University of Hong Kong

Being a university student is definitely a dream-come-true for me. Yet, one piece of fact that must not be ignored is 'No pain, no gain'. Even though we have now passed the A-Level Examinations and have been admitted to various universities and tertiary institutions in Hong Kong, the challenges, the hardships, the sleepless nights and all the trials and tribulations that we overcame to tackle this exam will forever remain in the precious memories of our youth. As the saying goes, 'Where there is a will, there is a way.' Once you have a clear vision, you should pursue your dream without hesitation. I hope all students in LKCSS will have a bright future.



Connie Cheung
with Ms Wu





7B Jacky and Ms Chow

7B – Chan Yui Yi, Jacky (2010-2011)

Mathematics

Chinese University of Hong Kong

I am thankful that I have the chance to study Mathematics in CUHK, which I feel is the most interesting and suitable subject for me. Unfortunately, life doesn't get any easier in university, and Mathematics is a real challenge. It is very different from high-school Mathematics. However, I still think it is the right choice for me since the joy it brings completely overshadows the sadness brought by its difficulties. Believe me, following your dreams brings a great sense of fulfillment. So let's all work to excel in what motivates us and shoot for the stars.

7B - Nacky Chan Man Wai (2010-2011)

Biochemistry

University of Science and Technology

When I was a kid, all I had in mind were playing computer games and sports. But now, I believe if we are going to survive in such a competitive society, the best way to equip ourselves is through learning. Through learning, we can beat our peers in the public examinations and even more in our career fields. Thus, you need to keep studying and not just in the classroom.

To prepare for the public exam, I worked at least 8 hours a day to revise what I had learnt. We need courage to overcome our fear and work diligently all the time. This year I am glad to be admitted to my dream programme, Biochemistry, at the University of Science and Technology (UST). I find all my hard work has paid off. I hope you can also have a bright future.



7B Nacky and Ms Wu



7A Ng Tsz Hin

7A - Ng Tsz Hin (2010-2011)

Accounting

University of Science and Technology

Hello! I'd like to share with you some of my methods which helped me to get into university.

- 1.) Do some easy questions to score high marks in exams.
- 2.) Treat revision as you would an online game, the more revision you do, the higher level you will achieve.
- 3.) Organise a study group to discuss the questions with classmates and friends.

Although it is very difficult to make revision interesting, the more you "love" your subjects, the higher the chance you will achieve your goal.

7B - Sak Man Hou, Raymond (2010-2011)

Double Degrees in Technology and Management

University of Science and Technology

I have studied in LKCSS for the past 7 years and I will never forget the passionate teachers and principal here. I sincerely thank everyone for their kindness and encouragement throughout these days. In addition, I would also thank the school for offering me sponsorship and providing me with the opportunity to attain the AYP Gold Award. All of these elements have helped me in my all-rounded development. I have recently been admitted to my dream university and in my dream programme at UST. I hope my fellow schoolmates will work hard for their futures at LKCSS as well.



7B Raymond Sak



EDB Mainland Exchange Teachers Programme



EDB Mainland Exchange Programme Teachers, Principal, Ms Lo, and LKCSS English teachers

Lai King Catholic Secondary School was honored to be a participating school in a new EDB programme. Earlier this year, the EDB linked up with several local schools to partake in a mainland school teaching programme. Apart from the advantage of teaching in mainland China as part of the exchange programme, the fact that we were chosen as one of only a few schools to take part in this programme is special in itself. There were sharing sessions in various educational and academic areas throughout those few months.

Student's Poem

Saving the world and the environment

Our world is sick
Please help her quick!
When you use plastic bags,
The environment feels bad.

What can we do?
I can tell you!

Stop cutting down trees
Let animals stay free
Don't use new plastic bags
Use ones that you have.

Try your best to do these things
Give the world a pair of wings
Leave the polluted past behind
And the world will become green in kind.

3B-Yeung Hoi Yan.



Principal, Ms Lo, Ms Wu and EDB officers



Our teachers' sharing

In this programme, some of our teachers joined co-teaching sessions in which they had the chance to co-plan lessons beforehand with teachers from other schools. The co-teaching lessons were productive and fruitful. Also, these peer lesson observations gave us the opportunity to try out new teaching aids and approaches and gain in-class experience from observing others' lessons. Such programmes foster strong bonds among our teachers and a greater sense of unity and professionalism.

At the end of this programme, there was a dissemination period. Our teachers also played a part in this sharing session. This programme provided a great opportunity for our staff to exchange ideas and share experience with veteran teachers from other schools.

[Who are they?] Answers:

Mr Chau---E Ms Chan---G Ms Lam---F Ms Kaur---A
Ms Yuen---D Ms Chow---B Mr Ray---C