



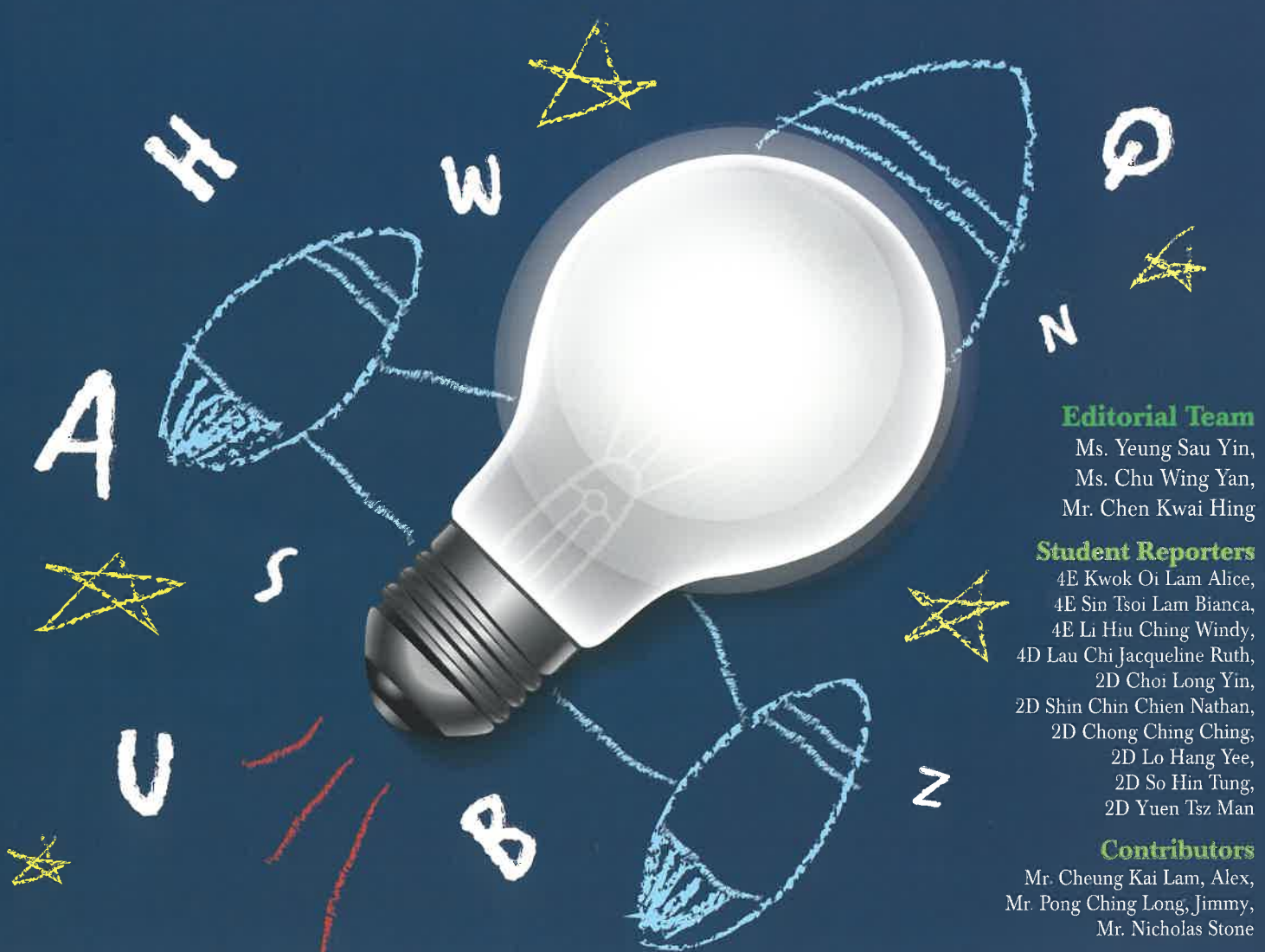
The English Navigator



Editorial

To many, English is widely considered as a foreign language which is hard to learn. However, our students prove that it is not difficult. No matter whether you are a senior form or a junior form student, you will be able to find your stage where you can shine.

Our school theme this year is "**Study Well, Play Well**". Academic achievements are always our top priority. Nevertheless, we also put emphasis on our students' well-being. We provide them with different opportunities to widen their horizons, including taking part in both internal and external competitions, helping with English events, etc. We believe that students can develop their interests and love towards this language through taking part in different activities. In the meantime, their confidence will be boosted. It is hoped that students will be able to understand how practical and how easy it is to learn this language.



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Mr. Pong Ching Long, Jimmy,
Mr. Nicholas Stone

70th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

Many people think that poetry is very old-fashioned and that only students from elite schools can understand and appreciate the beauty of it. Nevertheless, our students have proved that this is not true. This year, iC students took part in the choral speaking competition in the 70th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival. With students' hard work and effort, they beat the other 16 teams and got the third place in the competition.

From the outset, the students thought that it was difficult, if not impossible, for them to read the poem, especially in a language that they were not familiar with. After explaining the poem to them, they had a better picture in their minds. They even took the lead to come up with some actions that they could do in order to help them express the meaning of the poem. Even the teacher was surprised by their creativity and unity.

On the day of the competition, students were excited yet very tense. When the competition started, they paid extra attention to the performance of other schools in order to try not to make the same mistakes. Competing with some elite schools helps widen their horizons and makes them serious about their work.

When the judge announced that they had won the third place in the competition, they could not believe their ears and did not know how to react. The joy was indescribable. This proved that so long as we put effort in our work, nothing is impossible to be achieved. At least, we will not feel regretful.



Keung Ying, a Form Four student, took part in the solo verse event and got the third place. Congratulations to this student and thank you for the hard work of her English teacher.



The Champion 5D KU Dick, Claudio

Good morning fellow students,

I know you guys are quite sleepy this morning but I am sure you don't want to miss what I am going to talk about. So keep yourself awake! I will now introduce three enticing, mind-opening, heart-pumping activities that our students' union is going to organize.

As you know, the theme of our school this year is 'Study Well, Play Well', as for our first activity we will organize, it is 'Do You Know Your Place?' which combines two elements of studying and playing. Students will form a team of four and challenge the other teams in a competition of textbooks' knowledge. Two teams will be asked the same set of questions from every subject. Each team will need to act quickly and answer the question faster than the other team. Not only is this a blood-boiling, intense competition but you can also find your weaknesses through it. Want to know which subject you are weak at or just want to triumph and win a mysterious but magnificent prize? Then this competition is for you!

As for our next activity, this activity has never been done before. It is enormous! It is grand! It is the 'Trial of Agility!' Students' mind and bodies will both be pushed to their limits! Students who join the competition will need to advance to the seventh floor by answering questions about some common, but useful knowledge on each floor. Don't worry if you are not smart enough, there will be enough clues on each floor for you to figure out the answer. 'That will be too easy!' You might say, indeed that is too easy so there is a 15-minute time limit. Now the staircase will look like a

river flowing in opposite direction, hallways will look like an endless tunnel of dread, words will look like some random jumbles. The one who finishes the trail the quickest will be entitled 'The King of Speed' and rewarded with a special trophy that is made by the Students' Union. Will you prevail and claim the crown as yours? Join and find out yourself while learning mind-blowing knowledge you never knew before! You can enhance your analytical thinking and reinforce your body's strengths while having fun.

If the last two activities are too exciting for your heart to support, then feel free to join the 'Brain of The World'. Set in the school's library, reading five short but informative books about different countries' cultures and answering a few easy questions about the books and you can take one of them home! Learning about cultures of the world and win a book? You can become a Mr. or Miss International just by joining this relaxing activity, what's there to lose.

Wanna beat the competition? Become a King? Or just want to relax? Then join these activities and have fun while learning! I hope you guys can study well and play well! Thank you for listening!



The Champion 6B Grace Khoo

Good morning everyone,

As we all know, “Study well, Play well” is the theme of our school this year. Hence, I’d like to introduce activities which will be held and organized, correlated to this theme on behalf of the Students’ Union.

Firstly, I reckon that most of you are certainly questioning the bare concept of “Study well, Play well” and so did I. Yet, the coming activities will soon clear your thoughts. For instance, a post-exam trip to Ocean Park in late winter will be held on a regular school day. Students are allowed to visit Ocean Park for free in casual wear with a coach for picking them up at school. Sounds fascinating, doesn’t it? After all, you could have a thrilling free ride on a roller coaster or a dreamy ferry wheel for a whole day till sunset at 5pm, without suffering from the usual boiling-hot weather as it’ll take place in late January, just after the mid-term exam. However, you cannot have it for free, obviously. You must “Study well” in order to “Play well”. Don’t worry, though, as it’s nothing about marks and rankings. It’s the punctuality of handing in homework that matters. If a student has less than three late submissions of homework until the exam and has behaved well under teachers’ consent, with no detention record, then the trip is all yours. Work hard, play hard; there’s always a price behind if you desire to play properly.

Secondly, a study corner on the seventh floor will be open from March to April after school till 7 pm. If students are able to revise at

the study corner for 15 hours in the opening two months, then you are allowed to join the Easter Hunt in late April. Snacks such as chips, candies, some festive Easter eggs and some hand-made desserts will be available. There will be game stalls held in the covered playground and in the hall. There will be staff dressed in a puffy chicken outfit hiding somewhere in school. The first three classes to find out its true identity will be awarded a jumbo pack of Easter candies. Therefore, revise, so that you can participate in such an amusing and entertaining event before the Easter holidays!

Last but not least, there will be an “End of Term Party” held in July, where there will be a teachers’ concert held in the hall. You’ve guessed it right! Dozens of teachers will be performing on stage to sing with students that day as it’s also the annual singing competition. Students will vote for the best performer among both teachers and students. You’ll also be able to dress in casual clothes to school and enjoy the snacks you bring into the classroom as well. Plus, all you need for the admission ticket is to get 60% of your tests passed according to your ability and teachers will be the adjudicator. Work hard and anticipate the fruit of your diligence; your hard work will certainly pay off.

In short, thank you for your attention and on behalf of the Students’ Union, I encourage you all to “Study well, Play well”, so as to take part in these activities and once again, thank you for listening.



ΜΟΛΩΝ ΛΑΒΕ - English Debating Team



The Greek philosopher Socrates once said that an unexamined life is not worth living. In this modern age where we are constantly bombarded by a barrage of information yet so little wisdom is gleaned, we often have few chances to ask the big bold questions. Or we are too constricted by niceties to criticise and receive criticism, afraid of the social repercussions spiralling out of control. Where do we find a safe space in which tough conundrums are analysed and dissected, then argued passionately but with pose? This is where debating offers a safe channel to do all that, and so much more.



Our school's English Debating Team is set up with two general goals in mind. On a practical level, we see that debating is an essential component of the NSS curriculum, and our S6 students will no doubt encounter it in one



form or another in their DSE. Whether there are actual debates in the listening task, or writing about a debate, or even prepping for a debate in the speaking paper - there is a high chance everyone will face it in

some way. Furthermore, the requirement of our students to possess both lateral and critical thinking, to process information at high speed, and to lay out one's reasoning in a fluent manner is met by the training method of debating, which meets these criteria extremely well.



Besides practical needs, our wish is for students to develop into global citizens that have the ability to take both sides (sometimes more) in an argument. The world is never black & white, and yet recent global events have often driven people to extremities on every issue. It is rarer to see people willing to engage in meaningful dialogue with their counterparts across the aisle. If we are ever going to change this type of “with-us-or-against-us” attitude, we need to train our minds to be willing to step in other people’s shoes and at least agree to disagree.




If you've read up to this point and thought debating is very difficult, well, the answer is yes and no. In fact, debating is very easy to learn but takes a lifetime to master. Having said that, our team of S4 students have bravely stood their ground against some formidable opponents and represented our school very well. We have got 1st runner-up in Term 1 in the HK Secondary School Debating Competition, and we also participated in the CityU Debating Challenge organised by CityU's Department of Asian and International Studies. Our future plans include joining more interschool competitions, as well as university held British Parliamentary (BP) style debating competitions. Who knows, if we are lucky, we might also be able to host the first Henrietta Cup this year with some of our neighbouring schools. The sky's the limit (or time, or health, anyway...).

What we really need though, is a team t-shirt and a motto...
hmmm....





An interview with Mr. Pong



Why did I join Henrietta?

Well, it all started when an asteroid hit Earth and wiped out the dinosaurs. You see, there are these little proto-mammals who are like these little rodents and they were scuttling about here and there for a couple of million years, and finally, we are here...

Jokes aside, I have been teaching for a couple of years in my previous school, and I saw my last cohort of S6 off and I thought to myself - could I try what I am doing with e-learning in another setting? Before I knew I had already typed and posted my job application. To be honest I didn't even know where the school was at first and I was almost late to my interview, thank God for Uber hahaha! Of course, I have heard good things about the school and so I was eager for new encounters and experiences.

Do I enjoy teaching?

Sure. It is rare to find a teacher who does not enjoy teaching, at least in Hong Kong. I mean, this is one of the most stressful jobs - we don't just work with people, we are working with people who will go on and become better versions of themselves IF we play our cards right. It is very hard to keep up the fight if you don't really enjoy it.

I love integrating different teaching methods in my lessons. Most of my classes are familiar with the technological aspect. We use a lot of e-learning tools and platforms, as most of you know I put things on Schoology almost daily. But aside from using tech, I also try Socratic dialogues (I have to say, this is

a hit or miss, depending on the class), debating, film critiques...I just like thinking, and I like students to think. I also tend to blast through things very quickly, so if you sit in class idly, very soon you feel stranded because when you refocus we would have all left for Mars, metaphorically speaking.

How do I find life here so far?


Life here is great. I really love the environment here. It is great to come back every morning and be greeted with a view of the big tree; And during class when things are not going as smoothly as I planned I can always look out at the sea and calm my mind. Furthermore, the students are very nice and polite in general and they do try their best (most of the time). It would be better if students could aim higher and strive for more. They have a good environment and a dedicated team of teachers supporting them, they should use this advantage.

Right now I am still trying to learn the ropes here and still settling in. But I must say, so far so good.

Why do I love cats so much?

Because I find them easier to communicate with than most people, haha! Do you know, there is a cat at a hardware store near our school? I found her while going out for lunch once. She's adorable!! But of course I love my own two little furry babies the most, they are the cutest and greatest!
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An interview with Mr. Stone



Let's meet our new NET this year!

His Background:

(1) Which country do you come from and could you introduce your country to us?

Ans: I am from England. I think that the people in England are a bit cold in style. And England is a country with a long history.

(2) What are your hobbies?

Ans: I like reading, hiking and History. Therefore, I've been to different hiking trails in Hong Kong before. I enjoy hiking in Hong Kong very much.

About Hong Kong

(1) How long have you stayed in Hong Kong?

Ans: I have stayed in Hong Kong for about 10 years.

(2) Why did you come to Hong Kong?

Ans: Oh! This is because I met a woman here and later got married with her. So I followed her to stay here.

(3) What do you think about Hong Kong and the people here?

Ans: Hong Kong is a nice place and I like living here. It is convenient to get to everywhere I like. I think the people here are kind and honest. However, I think some of them speak too loudly. In the beginning, I wondered why they were so rude and angry all the

time. But later, I realized that this is the way they speak and interact with each other. It has nothing to do with their rudeness. Therefore, I have learnt that showing respect to others is very important.

(4) What do you like/dislike most about Hong Kong? Why?

Ans: I like the freedom I enjoy here and the chance I can make a living here. It is good that I can enjoy the freedom to do what I like to do here. However, I dislike the weather and the pollution problem in Hong Kong. Even though I have been living in Hong Kong for about 10 years, I still am not used to the humid and hot weather, especially during the summer time.



About Henrietta Secondary School

(1) Why did you choose to work here in our school? What do you think about the students here?



Ans: During my application, I searched for information about this school. I also asked my relatives and friends if they knew anything about this school. Then I got some positive feedback from them, and I chose to work here. I think most of the students here are kind and helpful.



(2) What kind of students do you think are the most difficult ones to handle? What is the most troublesome thing of being a teacher?

Ans: I think students who refuse to try are the most difficult to handle because if they do not want to try, no one can help or push them to do so. The most troublesome thing of being a teacher is to deal with those students who do not want to try.

(3) Can you give some tips to our students on how to improve their English?

Ans: Just keep practicing. Practice makes perfect.

