



# THE ENGLISH NAVIGATOR

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## Editorial

Welcome to the fifth edition of THE ENGLISH NAVIGATOR! In this volume's edition, we focus on the essential and practical issue of English learning. I hope that our theme BETTER ENGLISH, MORE OPPORTUNITIES can arouse your attention to the importance of English learning. To master a language, one should put efforts and spend time improving it. There is absolutely no short cut. Indeed, English plays an indispensable role in our daily life. If you want to have a promising future and better opportunities, having good English competence is vital as it can be a stepping-stone for you. Our school has organized different activities to provide students with an English-learning environment. We hope you will find those activities interesting and useful in improving your English.

We also have our features on introducing the instructor of English Drama in our school as well as the four new English teachers. We sincerely hope you enjoy this edition and wish you a brilliant and fruitful year 2005.

Editor in-charge:

Cheung Fu Wah, Frederick (Head of English Department)



## Students' Writing Corner

### Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow

We all have our yesterdays - our history and our own stories. They may be cherishable memories or tragedies that we don't want to talk or even think about. My dear, don't forget those who loved you, because they taught you how to love. Don't forget those who hurt you, because they made you strong. However, don't think about yesterday too much. We have to live for today. Today is a gift. That's why it is called 'present'. Treat everyone with love every day. Do our best in our work every day so that we won't regret tomorrow, for the future belongs to those who plan for it today.

### Thinking about Yesterday

Every Christmas, my family hold a Christmas party at home. One year, when I was seven years old, my mother told me that we wouldn't hold a Christmas party at home. I was extremely sad. That night, I dined out with my relatives. After dinner, we walked past a secondary school on City Garden Road. When I remembered that we wouldn't have a Christmas party that night, I really felt very down! Suddenly, a skinny Santa Claus came out from the school and gave me a bag of candies. I was very surprised. He smiled and I smiled too. I wondered if I was dreaming! I walked away. I asked my mother a silly question, 'Why is the Santa Claus so skinny?'

Now, I am studying in that secondary school and every Christmas, I think about the Santa Claus who gave me the candies. I am still wondering who he is. Is he still studying or teaching in the school?

I would really like to say 'thank you' to him, for he is the nicest Santa Claus in the world!

Man Ching Yin, Jenny (2F)



### Tomorrow's Me

I have an ambition. I want to be a vet when I grow up. I want to be a vet because I love animals crazily, especially dogs. I want to touch them and help them. If I can make enough money one day, I will buy an animal farm.

To make my dream come true, I will study hard, so that I can go to the university to study veterinary medicine. After I have completed my training, I will set up my own clinic in either Australia or Hong

Kong. I like Australia because I think the people there are friendly and they love animals, but I also like Hong Kong because it is my hometown.

Of course, I do not have a crystal ball, and so I am not sure of what or how I will be in future. Anyway, I will try my best to make my dream come true.

Justin Brian Leong (2F)

Learn from yesterday, live for today, and hope for tomorrow. ~ Unknown

# English Learning Enhancement Scheme



The grand opening of 'Yellow Castle'.

including Wong Lai-keung, Cheung Fu-wah, Cheung Tze-yan and Cheung Man-ye was set up. They are responsible for organizing different English-learning activities throughout the year to make students find learning English fun and interesting.

One of the English-learning activities is called 'Yellow Castle', an English-based speaking programme. (The name 'Yellow Castle' refers to the English-speaking activities held under a big yellow tent at the School playground). Teachers and students are invited to speak every Friday during lunchtime in different activities—for example, Two-minute Speeches, English songs, English debates and story-telling. The English Department has also invited teachers of other subjects to participate in the programme so as to implement a whole-school approach for promoting the language. This year's theme of the English Department is 'Better English, More Opportunities'. The English panel chairperson, Mr. Frederick Cheung, said he hoped that students would be well-equipped with good English competence so that they would be able to face future challenges and demands of society.

In an effort to create an English-learning environment for students, an English-learning Enhancement Scheme has been set up this year. The aim of the Scheme is to promote English learning through inter-subject activities and activities under a non-teaching curriculum for students. A special team



Two-minute speeches provide students with more chances to speak English confidently to the public.



Home Economics teacher Catherine Tsang complied by teaching a cooking class in which she gave instructions in English at 'Yellow Castle'.



Teachers and students played music and sang English songs under the Big Tree at 'Yellow Castle'.



# My Experience In the English Debate Competition

On October 16, 2004, our school's English Debate Team participated in its first interschool competition at Pui Ching Education Centre with other twenty-eight CMI schools in Hong Kong. The competition was organized as one of the activities of English Festival 2005 by 'Momentum-The Rising Bunch'.

The motion of the debate was 'Community service should be made compulsory to all secondary students'. Beatrice Yip, the captain of the affirmative team, led the group debate with the opponent team, Pui Ching Middle School.



In the forty-five minute debate, our team members tried their best to perform an interesting and impressive debate.

Although our team lost finally, the adjudicators found our team members' English-speaking skills proficient.

Overall, our presentation was organized and our team members' debating skills were competent. Our team was formed by two Form 3 and two Form 4 students; however, their mature performance was not shoddier than the opponent team formed by some senior-form students.

It was a great experience for all of the team members. We found that the competition could widen our horizon and allow us to have more exposure to English debating skills. According to Mr. Cheung Fu Wah, the instructor of the English Debate Team, more team members will join the competition again next year so as to keep improving their English and striking for the best.

**English Debate team members: Beatrice Yip (3F), Heidi Louie (3F), Viktoria Kwong (4B) & Naomi Lam (4B)**

**Floor Speakers: David Chan (5D) and Antonio Tse (6B)**



## Profile

To me, drama is all about 'play'. It is something we forget how to do little by little, and day by day as we grow up. To play is to experience, display and communicate with our purest and truest self. That is why I feel it is very important to bring drama - or bring back 'play' - at an age when 'playing' is still part of a person's everyday environment. That is why I teach children drama. When I teach drama, I am not just teaching acting skills, but also skills we need to function effectively as a contributing and healthy member of our very complex society. We need these 'life skills' throughout our lives, like skills for communications (which include speaking and listening), teamwork, expression, leadership, public speaking, performance, imagination, creativity, collaboration, writing, story-telling, concentration, reflex, improvisation, and many more. Students will gain confidence, courage, empathy, and will share a special bond with one another in the Drama Club.



I am pleased that Henrietta Secondary School has chosen to include drama in the students' life and offer them this unique and valuable opportunity. I feel privileged to be a part of what I hope will become a tradition at Henrietta Secondary School. The Drama Club will give the students a mode of expression where their mere participation and commitment will be good enough to succeed. Right and wrong is not important in drama, only the desire to participate and learn. I hope the students will find that their investment in drama will bring them many good and enjoyable experiences, that 'playing' will influence their life in ways that will carry well into their adult life, long after they have left my classroom and Henrietta Secondary School.

**Margaret Cheung (English Drama Club Instructor)**



# OUR NEW ENGLISH TEACHERS

In the academic year of 2004-2005, there are four new members in the English Department. This section will provide you with their background and personal details.

As long as you are reading this line, you may be interested in knowing more about me. (I guess!)

I have an unforgettable experience to share with you. After graduating from the university, I worked at a refugee organization in the United States. I met people from all over the world, such as Sudan, Somali, Iran, Germany, France and Bosnia. All my colleagues and the clients were very kind and I have made a lot of friends whom I still stay in touch with. As part of my job, I conducted some English classes for children and grown-ups. Also, I worked with the caseworkers to home-visit the clients, try to help them to get their green cards, go with them to have job interviews and take shots.

At that time, many clients were from Africa. I can't stop thinking why I have ties with this country and its people. When I studied in Australia, my host family was South African White. My professor in the University was a South African White too. Also, I love African literature. The following lines are written by one of my favourite writers - a South African as well. Cheers!

(Who knows what we live, and struggle, and die?... Wise men write many books, in words too hard to understand. But this, the purpose of our lives, the end of all our struggle, is beyond all human wisdom.) ~ Alan Paton

**Kee Siu-yin, Angie (F.3 & 4 English Teacher)**



also because my school gave me the invaluable gift of knowledge, experience and friendship. Together with my teachers and schoolmates, I faced difficulties and challenges. We had the best and the worst of times. It's hard to forget those days, isn't it?

Since I have the chance of becoming a teacher now, I'm determined and inspired to help my students academically and spiritually. I hope every student in Henrietta is also encouraged to pursue higher achievements and a better future. I sincerely wish they could have precious memories when they leave school.

**Li Yan, Joy (F.1 & 4 English Teacher)**

It has nearly been half a year after I came here. I really have to thank Lord again for bringing me here. I like here. Every day when I come to school and see your faces, I smile.

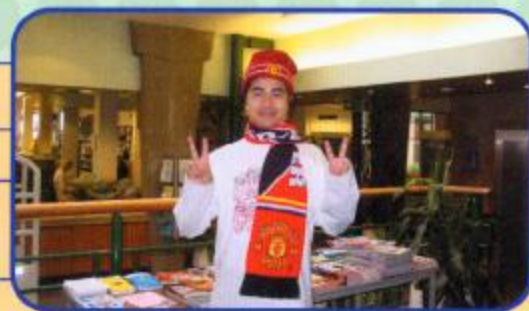
There have been a number of students asking me about my personal information. Let me briefly introduce myself here. I am in my twenties. I live in Sai Wan Ho with my parents and my brother. I studied in a girls' school on Hong Kong Island for seventeen years! In the university, I studied Translation. After I graduated, I went to England for my second degree in Applied Linguistics (Language Science).

Love is very important in everyone's growth. All through the years since I was born, I have been showered with love.

Jesus my Saviour, my grandma who brought me up, my parents who teach me a lot, my caring brother, my kind teachers, my sincere friends - all of them have helped shape my optimistic character, build up my self-confidence and have always been with me. I have been getting a lot and now I am trying my best to give as much as I can to you, teaching you academic knowledge, sharing my life values with you, opening your eyes to see what you can't see... After all, I am more than willing to be your company when you are in need.

My dear HSS Boys and Girls, do treasure all you have - your life, your family, your friends, and the opportunity to learn. Try your best to do everything and leave the rest to our Lord. Then you will have no regret at all.

**Cheung Man-ye, Celina (F.2, 4 & 6 English Teacher)**



Name:	Mr. Cham Pui Kee, Chris
Subject Taught:	English (F.3 & F.4)
Extra-curricular Activity:	Hong Kong Award for Young People (HKAYP)
Religion:	Christianity
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Science (Communication), Post-graduate Diploma in Education (English), Passed the Language Proficiency Assessment for Teachers (LPAT), Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (Working in Progress)
Hobbies:	Sailing, table-tennis and reading
Favourite Food:	Sushi, asparagus, and sirloin steak (medium)
Favourite Movie:	Dances with Wolves (directed and acted by Kevin Costner)
My Learning and Teaching Experience:	I fell in love with languages (e.g. English, Putonghua, Japanese and Italian) as I studied in the U.S.A. and England. I was confronted for the first time with the necessity of learning English and other languages. From that experience, I developed a love of studying English that drew me into the field of communication and second language acquisition. My desire to share my experience and to help others who are working on mastering a second language has encouraged me to pursue a career in teaching.

# School Events

## Scrabble Competition 2004

English Week 2004 was held from November 20--24. The theme of this year was 'Better English, More Opportunities'. There were several English-learning activities to help students find learning English fun. One of the most popular activities among students was SCRABBLE. Students from junior classes were invited to participate in the competition. They not only found the game interesting, but also useful to help them learn and practise their vocabulary.

Results of the SCRABBLE competition 2004: Champion: Kong Wai-ki, Katie (2B), 2nd Place: Katherine Rigby (2F) & Ko King-lok, Kingsley (2F), 3rd Place: Tse Hoi-ying, Vivian (1A)



## English Book Fair

To promote English reading, the English Department and the School Library organized an outdoor book fair for students during the English Week. A mobile bookstore from a local publisher was arranged to park at the School playground to let students choose their favourite English storybooks, fictions, magazines and other interesting reading materials.



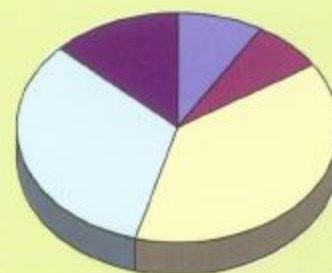
## Saturday English Tutorial Class

Henrietta Secondary School and Education-Wise jointly organized an English oral tutorial class for Form 1-3 students. 158 students divided by eleven groups joined the programme every Saturday during the first term.

Six native English-speaking teachers prepared twelve interesting and practical oral lessons through various and lively activities to make students effectively engage in learning English. Dilligent participants were also awarded a certificate at the end of the course. In general, students found the programme very useful. They would love the School to organize the same kind of extra English classes for them in the second term again so as to help them improve their English.



We have currently done a survey among all Henrietta students last December. The result revealed that about 70 per cent of students support the School to keep publishing the English magazine-THE ENGLISH NAVIGATOR so as to create an English-reading atmosphere.



- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

*"Way to go!"*

