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# THE ENGLISH NAVIGATOR

Address : 2 City Garden Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Telephone : 2570 1466 Fax : 2503 4603

Website : <http://www.henrietta.edu.hk>



## Editorial

This special edition captures the highlighted activities celebrating our school's 60th anniversary. Apparently, Henrietta Secondary School has been serving in Hong Kong for more than half a century during which many teenagers have received a quality Christian education. We hope to bring you some news about the great celebration.

Furthermore, the Education Commission of the SAR Government has currently issued a 'Report on Review of Medium of Instruction for Secondary Schools and Secondary School Places Allocation'. The report affirms that the medium of instruction (MOI) policy should be 'to uphold mother-tongue teaching and enhance English proficiency concurrently'.

How we can fulfill this task truly depends on how we make a good balance between two languages. Indeed, with a view to nurturing students' proficiency in English, our school and the English Department have tried all means to provide students with diverse exposure to English. In this volume, you will find many English-learning activities which are organized on a daily basis in the campus to promote an English-rich environment.

Finally, we wish you all a prosperous and brilliant year of 2006.

Editorial Team: Frederick Cheung (Head of English Department),  
Trish Standring (NET) and Priscilla Ng

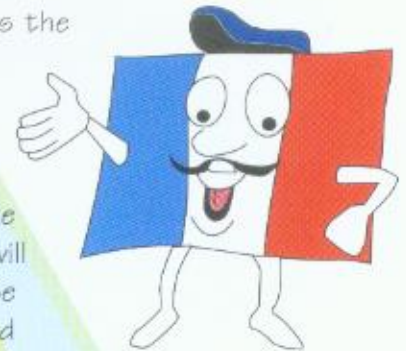


# English Assembly



Hong Kong is a place in which the East meets the West. You can easily find different cultures in this small metropolitan city because of her unique location. It is interesting to see many local Chinese people have adopted a lot of Western culture in their daily life. For example, people in Hong Kong like celebrating Christmas yet at the same time, they will not forget to celebrate their most important Chinese Lunar New Year. Western people in Hong Kong find living in this small and crowded city happy because they can also enjoy a variety of cultures. This 'Eastern Pearl' seems to have become a hot pot of mixed cultures. However, have you ever encountered problems as you tried to make friends with foreigners? Or have you ever found foreigners have

difficulties in coping with the local culture? Because of different cultural backgrounds, we may have different ideas and ritual practices. However, cultural differences may cause struggles and misunderstanding.



## Understanding Cultural Differences



## Dim sum



On November 30, 2005, the English Department held an appealing assembly to share with students the topic of Cultural Differences. At the assembly, English teachers, Ms. Trish Standing, Ms. Celina Cheung and Mr. Frederick Cheung prepared an interesting skit to advocate the importance of appreciating different cultures. To help students understand the topic, Celina and Frederick shared their overseas' experience living in England and Canada respectively. Ms. Standing successfully captured audience' s attention with her impressive powerpoint slides of New Zealand.

Furthermore, Frederick sang the Canadian National Anthem as an introduction to his past experience with local Canadian and French-Canadian that provided students with more exposure to the issue.

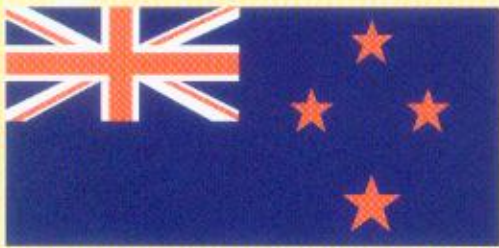
When we eat  
junk food, we  
may call it  
**"crap"**

However, it is  
not a dirty  
word to them!





# Profile



Although I have lived in Hong Kong for five years now, this is my first year at Henrietta Secondary School. I come from New Zealand, though I was actually born in



England — my parents who were also teachers, moved to New Zealand when I was a child. I have taught for many years, at both primary and secondary schools, and for much of my teaching life I have taught English to young people who come as foreign students to New Zealand to study. In 1998, I visited Hong Kong to see parents of the students I was teaching in New Zealand. I thought Hong Kong looked a really interesting place, and applied to come here to teach. Now it is almost beginning to feel like home!

People often ask me what it is I like about Hong Kong. I think it is an exciting city where so much is happening all the time. I love the country parks and outer islands, and often go hiking with my friends. Eating out is easy and inexpensive, and the shopping is wonderful. In New Zealand, life is much quieter and everything closes down by early evening. Of course there are things I miss — my family (I have three grown up children), my friends, my own house, the beautiful clean air and peaceful environment in New Zealand — but those things will be there for me when I return, and I often go home in the holidays.



I am finding Henrietta Secondary School a good place to work. Everyone has been welcoming, the staff and students are friendly and the school environment is pleasant. English is a hard language to learn, and I realize that for some of you, it is a difficult subject to study. Yet many of you understand how important it is to succeed in English, and are trying hard to improve. My advice to you all - try to speak and read in English as often as you can. It is only through practice that your English will get better. And remember — as a NET, I am here to help you in any way I can.

Ms. Trish Standing (Native English-speaking Teacher)



# 60th Anniversary Celebration

With God's grace, Henrietta Secondary School celebrated her 60th anniversary on October 29, 2005. There were many special home coming activities held to celebrate the important day. A lot of alumni, especially those who have left Hong Kong for overseas returned specially for this precious occasion. The atmosphere was filled with joyfulness and happiness.

Mr. Mok Oi Tung, Anthony (the second from the left at the front), a former biology teacher and his wife, Grace (the third from the left at the front), a former geography teacher visited the new campus. Both Mr. Mok and Mrs. Mok had served in Henrietta for more than twenty years before they moved to Alberta, Canada in 1988. Presently, Mr. Mok is one of the internationally well-known orchid specialists in Canada.



On October 28, 2005, a memorial service for remembering Ms. Henrietta Shuck, the first female American missionary to China, was conducted in the Happy Valley Christian Cemetery.

The School Marching Band demonstration was organized after the Anniversary Thanksgiving Service. Students' ambidextrous performance with their synchronized appearance impressed each spectator.



More than 550 alumni and guests attended the Anniversary dinner.

Ms. Donna Kirby, a retired IMB missionary to Hong Kong for 36 years, and a former English teacher in Henrietta, returned joyfully from Georgia, America to join the great celebration.



# Yellow Castle 2005-2006



Ryan with F.6B students



'Yellow Castle' is our school's featured English-learning programme. We started the programme last year. We have organized different interesting activities during lunchtime on a weekly basis under the Big Banyan Tree on the campus to provide students with more exposure to English. In general, teachers, students and parents have shown their great support to the programme.

This year, Mr. Ronnie Wong, the person in charge of the Yellow Castle and Mr. Frederick Cheung, the head of English Department have decided to extend students' learning horizon by inviting more teachers from other subjects to hold several appealing activities. The rationale behind is to provide students with more opportunities to learn English through an inter-subject collaboration and provide greater exposure to authentic use of English.

In October, Ryan Warden, a teenage amateur model from Alberta, Canada, was invited to share his modeling experience in our school. This attracted a lot of students to attend the section.

A 'Two-Minute Talk' is always one of the most popular activities in Yellow Castle. Apparently, Yellow Castle serves as a good platform for students to practise their English-speaking skills. They can demonstrate their ability in reciting, sharing ideas, performing dramatic duologue, etc. Students can be trained to speak more confidently and proficiently under a public setting.

Mr. Pau Hoi Wah, a Chemistry teacher, nick name, Professor Pau, conducted a very successful talk through organizing some interesting and practical chemistry experiments that had attracted more than 120 students to watch his dramatic and lively demonstrations at Yellow Castle.



Ryan's inspiring sharing



An experiment called, 'Coke-volcano' was demonstrated to display the practicality of Chemistry.



Professor Pau and his magic soap bubble



Ms. Standring, the native English-speaking teacher, was giving her comments on students' speaking performance.





# School Events



An annual Campus Charity Run was held on November 18, 2005. About thirty classes joined the competition. Each athlete in the relay race devotedly ran to collect donations for supporting local charitable organizations. Not only athletes made the competition invigorating, but also cheer groups from each class successfully created a happy and carnival atmosphere. Their keen participation has truly reflected the 'Spirit of Henrietta' in Christ ~ Love and Sharing.



On the mark, get set, go!



Hurray! Run fast!

We are all champions.



A new English Debating Team was formed last October. Team instructors recruit potential students to join the team every year. Members of the team will be trained intensively on a weekly basis to represent the school participating in inter-school debate competitions in coming years. The team entered the public competition last year in which members gained valuable experience and learned the importance of teamwork.



2004-2005 Form 1 Summer Bridging Course was organized last August. All new Form 1 students were invited to join the four-day English preparation course. The joint organizers, Henrietta Chapel and the English Department hoped that the course not only provided new students with an opportunity to make friends with their teachers and classmates, but also close contact with their new learning environment.

