



HILLTOP REVIEW

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ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School

From the Principal's Desk



Mr Kevin Liang, Principal

Congratulations to all English teachers! 'Inspirational', 'outstanding', 'fantastic' and 'amazing' are only some of the accolades heaped on our teachers who shone as winners of the 'Outstanding Teachers Award 2010' presented by the Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers in June this year.

Teaching is an art. Our teachers' great passion for helping the students succeed and their commitment to fulfilling students' potential are indispensable to learning. Indeed, our teachers are ready and willing to help their students.

The mission of teachers is to develop their students' intelligences and potentials through the curriculum and activities. As professional and caring educationalists, they enlighten their students with passion, dedication and wisdom. Thanks to our teachers' concerted efforts, our students have

ample opportunities to learn in harmonious and interesting ways.

We understand that we should not be complacent. We are committed to creating an English-rich environment for our students. The fine-tuned MOI arrangements for our school will be implemented starting from the 2010/11 school year at Secondary 1 level. Our implementation plan will safeguard students' learning effectiveness in accordance with the criteria prescribed by Education Bureau. They include teachers' capability and school support measures. We believe that the implementation of the policy can expose our students to more English and enable them to learn and use the language in a more authentic manner.

I hope that the successes of the English teachers will inspire other teachers who work hard each day to make a difference in students' lives.



The trophy awarded by the Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers recognizes the concerted efforts and contributions of the English Department.



The superstars of the English Department 2009/2010.

Classes 1A and 1B	Classes 1C, 1D and 1E
English Language, Mathematics, History, Geography, Integrated Science and Computer Literacy	English Language, Geography and Integrated Science

The subjects that will be taught in English in S1 classes in 2010/2011.

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'An Appealing Heart': An Appealing Acting Experience

This year's musical drama 'An Appealing Heart' was certainly a night to remember. It was the fruit of the dedication of each and every member of cast and crew. The tears shed and sweat wiped by me and my partners in the rehearsals and actual performance paid off and the experience became one of the most memorable chapters in my life.



Our dedicated student actors and actresses impress the audience with beautiful costumes, magnificent dances and music on a night to remember.

Having joined the Drama Club for a long time, I love acting on the stage. My school life remained ordinary until I started acting as Kim in this adapted version of 'Miss Saigon'. Not only did I act as a main character, but also sang and danced with other actors and actresses. It was more difficult than I had imagined. It was a different experience for me.

During the first few rehearsals, I felt scared when I sang on the stage because I did not have a sweet voice. I found it very difficult to match the melody of the music. However, my teachers and fellow classmates were willing to teach me the singing skills. I always practised singing with my partners in the music room every morning. After a month's hard work, I felt more confident and could sing the songs loudly and meaningfully. As the night of the performance approached, I found it easier to show the audience Kim's steadfast love



All members of cast and crew celebrate the great success of 'An Appealing Heart' after the show.

for Chris through the beautiful songs and poetic dances on the stage.

As we practised, we argued about the plots, costumes and trivial things such as props and eye contact. We were so fortunate, however, that the countless arguments between us did not stop us reaching our goal. I enjoyed working with the team. Our morale was high. Every cast and crew member worked very hard for the show. It was our unfaltering belief in ourselves and in each other that led to the final magnificent performance of 'An Appealing Heart'.



Student actresses wear elegant Vietnamese nón lá (leaf hat) and colourful áo dài, a Vietnamese national outfit, in 'An Appealing Heart'.

I am very proud to have contributed to the production of 'An Appealing Heart' this year. *It was an invaluable experience for me to learn how*

to work with others, listen to others and be more considerate. My thanks go to Ms Wen, who was the teacher advisor of the drama, my classmates, all the friends whom I made in the drama and my family for their support, encouragement and patience. Without them, 'An Appealing Heart' would not have been the tremendous success that received a standing ovation from the audience.

Winnie Lam (6S)



A scene showing the steadfast love between Chris and Kim.

'Will you marry me?'
Chris asked Kim.



A great experience in a small city: My trip to Singapore

Living and studying in a foreign country sounds impossible for me? Here was a chance! I was very lucky to have a chance to join the 10-day exchange programme to Singapore from 29 April to 9 May 2010.

Of all the activities, I found the MI World Conference 2010 particularly inspiring. All student participants were divided into different groups. As a representative from Hong Kong, I made friends with students from 13 schools in 9 countries, including Argentina, Sweden and India. After the conference, I had a better understanding of different cultures.



Students from around the world outside Integrated Simulation Centre of Singapore.

My three other schoolmates and I lived with two host families during our stay in Singapore. We had a chance to learn more about the Singaporean



Rachel Woo from class 4B (2nd from the left) and Ms Wen (right) receive two lovely souvenir bears from the mayor of Singapore.



culture and customs of its people. My host family and buddy, Vivian, took me to many famous tourist spots, like Merlion Park, Little India and Chinatown. They were so nice that they introduced us to a wide variety of delicious local dishes.

Let me talk about the lifestyle of Singaporeans. I could hardly believe that Singapore is busier than Hong Kong. In Singapore, traffic jams normally occur as early as 6 o'clock in the morning. Every day, I had to squeeze into a train when I went to school!

This exchange programme has boosted my confidence in speaking English. Every day I had to speak Mandarin and English. My Mandarin was not good enough, so I was forced to speak English with my teachers and friends. In Hong Kong, I seldom speak English with my peers.

I am very glad that I participated in this exchange programme. If I had a chance, I would go to Singapore again.

Rachel Woo (4B)

Debating workshop: an eye-opening experience

I have long dreamed of becoming an eloquent debater who can argue with the opposing team logically and cogently in English. My wish finally came true on 30 January 2010, when I took part in the 'Persuasive English: Debating Workshop 2010', which was co-organized by the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (SCOLAR) and the English-Speaking Union (Hong Kong). It was certainly an eye-opening experience that I will never forget.

When I opened the door of the waiting room, I saw many smart-looking students from other schools. They sat properly and were tidily dressed in school uniforms. It was this atmosphere that made me feel extremely nervous and uneasy. I even found it difficult to breathe. In contrast, my counterparts from other schools chatted with their brilliant-looking peers in fluent English. I was very afraid because I knew my English was not as good as theirs.



The student debaters find the debating workshop relevant and interesting.

A few minutes later, five foreigners entered the waiting room. Three of them were female and the others were male. They looked intelligent, as they were top debaters in the world. Then, they gave us an opening speech. They spoke quite fast and I was not able to follow them. I felt very frustrated as I understood only 50% of what they said. I tried to pay attention to them, but I understood very little of the speech. To my surprise, students

from the EMI schools could respond to the trainers promptly and nodded their heads frequently.

After the delivery of the opening speech, the host divided us into three small groups. Each of them was coached by a trainer. Then, the trainers gave us some warm-up exercises to do. A trainer told me to do a demonstration for other groupmates. I did not understand them, so I had to ask them to repeat slowly. I was lucky that I had a patient trainer who was eager to explain the rules in very simple words. Eventually, I understood the rules. I learnt that when we come across difficulties in our studies, we should not be shy. Instead, we should ask our teachers for the answers until we fully understand them.

After the game, we started the debate. The motion was 'Students should be allowed to vote for the worst teacher at school'. My counterparts from the EMI schools and I spoke for the affirmative team. During the preparation period, we exchanged our ideas. I was quite unhappy because no one listened to me. I suspected that they couldn't understand what I said because of my poor English. I didn't feel confident and kept asking myself why I had not worked hard to improve my English when I was small.

The war started finally. My teammates' impressive debating skills were like weapons that 'attacked' the points of the opposite side. I was the fifth speaker of the positive team. When I heard the speech of the previous five debaters, I was shocked and surprised at their outstanding eloquence. I knew how to make rebuttals in Chinese, but I couldn't do the same in English. Finally, it was my turn to give my speech. Although I spoke in a loud voice, I could not help feeling frightened.

After the debate training workshop, my mind became totally blank. I forgot everything. I learnt that my English was very poor compared with the EMI students. I felt guilty, scared and upset. *I promise that I will try my very best to improve my English in the years to come.*

Paper Wong (4B)

Memories of the Year...



US Consulate's visit to our school



US Consular Officer, Sarah Shabbir (first from the left), and Political Unit Chief of the US Consulate General, Mr Benjamin Weber (right) introduce our students to American popular culture.

English Game Stalls



Mr Liang (middle) and other guests of honour cut the ribbon for the 'English Game Stalls' activity.



A large number of students participate in the 'English Game Stalls' activity.



Look! We're rabbits: Students make fun of their display boards.



Students queue up for an ice-cream after playing the games.

Musical Drama – ‘An Appealing Heart’



Mr Liang, the Principal (with a white hat), celebrates the tremendous success of the drama production with the cast. Teachers and crews wear eye-catching T-shirts in support of the show.



Scenes showing the complicated relationship between Chris, Kim and Ellen in ‘An Appealing Heart’.

Trip to Singapore



*Let's take a break!
Living and studying in
Singapore is fun!*



We are in one world: Principals, teachers and students from different countries find the MI World Conference useful in promoting cultural understanding.

Outstanding Teachers Award 2010 (Teaching)



Dr Chan Ka Ki, Catherine, Deputy Secretary for Education, presents the Outstanding Teachers Award certificates and souvenirs to Ms Cheung (in black) and Mr Tam.

Trip to Taiwan



Get, set, go! Let's start the trip to Taiwan!



The Principal, Mr Liang, teachers and students visit the Presidential Building in Taipei.

English Day Camp



Our students enjoy the inspiring and interesting activities in the English Day Camp.

'Speak and Shop' activity



Our students speak English when they buy snacks and drinks at the canteen.

The Speaking Towards Excellence Project (STEP) – Network Speaking Day organized by the Education Bureau



Education students from the University of Hong Kong share their experience in learning English.



Our students actively participate in the speaking practice.

Stanford House English Resource Mobile Centre



Students are interested in reading English books at Stanford House English Resource Mobile Centre.

A visit to Guangzhou

Recently our school has organized a two-day trip for all Secondary 4 students. We went to Guangzhou and visited a well-known secondary school.



All 54 students enjoy the trip to Guangzhou in November 2009.

On the first day, we crossed the border through Shenzhen Bay Immigration Check Point. We went to Guangzhou Number 17 Middle School in the afternoon. At about 2:00 p.m., the Principal, Mr Luk and many teachers of the school were waiting for us at the entrance. We were then taken to a huge conference room where Mr Luk gave us a



What a wonderful trip to Guangzhou!

short briefing. Then we were divided into three groups. The three groups were taken to three different classes. I went to a Senior Secondary One (Secondary 4) classroom. The students of that class were having a history lesson. The teacher used Putonghua throughout the lesson. Although I could speak little Putonghua, I could understand that the lesson was about Sino-Japanese War. The teacher made good use of the computer and she even showed students some movie clips. I

enjoyed the lesson very much. The students were very attentive in class. I did not see anyone sleep in the classroom. And I found that the students had actually prepared and pre-read the textbook before the lesson. I wondered how many of my classmates would do that.

After the lesson, we went up to the roof of the school building. There was an observatory on the roof. Although it was a little bit old, the astronomy telescope was huge. We were very impressed. The students then showed us around the campus. We were surprised to see the size of the playgrounds and the gym. They were much bigger than those in our school.



A talented mainland student demonstrates how to write Chinese calligraphy skillfully.

On the second day, we visited the Guangzhou University Town and the Guangdong Science Center. We saw many exhibitions and learned a lot of things about science.

The two-day trip was a meaningful activity. We could talk to some secondary students in Guangzhou face to face. It was a rare opportunity. I hope our school will organize more visits of this kind for us.

Simon Tam (4E)

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By the Skin of Our Teeth



Mr Liang (middle), the Principal, and Mr Cheng (fourth from the left) celebrate the winning of the Kowloon Football Championship with the talented football players.

Through our excellent teamwork, our football team entered the semi-final match. We all knew that our opponents from Kwun Tong Kung Lok Government Secondary School had ability similar to ours, so this match would be intense.

When the match started, both sides defended well. This match would determine which team would enter the finals, so we worked hard to beat the other side. We took every opportunity to get a free kick.

Fortunately, our first goal was scored because of a free kick. One of our team players was pushed over by an opponent and the referee let us have a free kick near the penalty area. A skilful player kicked the ball over the goalkeeper and he scored a goal for our side. We suddenly felt very happy because we were in the lead. Our second goal was scored a few minutes later when our team captain seized the opportunity to score another goal. These two goals were scored in the first half.

After our success, we all thought we would win, so we relaxed. Unfortunately, because we were not concentrating on the game, our opponents managed to get a free kick. The ball shot over the goalkeeper and they scored a goal. Our team became very nervous and anxious. At the end of the first half, the coach encouraged us by saying, 'Don't give up. The match has not finished. The situation could change. Keep going!' This advice boosted our morale.

In the second half, our players were very confused and the opponents were pushing for an

equalizer because they were losing. They took advantage of the situation to score another goal. Naturally, we were disappointed and thought we would lose the match. When the referee blew the whistle to end the match, the score was 2:2.

The next stage was very intense and nerve-racking because each side needed to have five penalty shoot-outs to decide who would be the winning team. We were all very nervous because we didn't want to lose. We lined up and waited for the first round of the penalty shoot-outs. We were the first side to kick. The striker was our captain, but unfortunately the ball was saved by the other side's goalkeeper. It was now the turn of our opponents. Their captain was also the striker, responsible for kicking the penalty shoot-out. He kicked the ball straight into the goal. They were leading 3-2. They were ecstatic, but we were stunned. We really thought it was the end of our chance to win the match. Our captain was upset. However, we still had four rounds to go.

In the second round, both sides scored goals. The result was now 4:3. The tension was mounting and we all felt extremely nervous. We then went on to the third round of penalty shoot-outs.

In the third round, our striker calmly kicked the ball into the goal and fortunately our goalkeeper saved the shot kicked by the other side. The score was now 4:4. The atmosphere was seething with excitement. We now had a great chance of winning. The suspense was killing.

It was now time for the fourth round and the final chance to score, win the match and enter the finals. Miraculously, our striker kicked the ball directly and easily into the goal. That was it! We had finally won the match!

After the final goal, all our supporters rushed onto the field, cheering and shouting loudly as we all hugged and congratulated each other. We were euphoric. We were in the finals for the first time in the fifty-year history of ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School. It was just like a dream come true.

It was an unforgettable personal experience for me too. I learnt that anything can happen during a competition. *We should not give up until we have tried our very best to succeed.* During this match I

learnt many things about myself and the importance of teamwork. I am really happy that I could have this chance and I would like to thank Mr Cheng Wah Seng and Mr Chan Sui Ho, the professional football coach, for this wonderful opportunity to have such a memorable experience of losing and then finally winning. I will never forget this match.

We eventually defeated Buddhist Ching

Kok Seconday School to win the finals and the Kowloon Football Championship 2010. What an achievement!!

John Lam (4A)



Theme-based Presentation – To Think and to Create!

As senior form students, we were very pleased to represent our class, 4P, in the Form 4 Theme-based Presentation competition in May. In this article, we would like to take the opportunity to express our gratitude to our English teacher, Mrs Munro, our classmates and our group members for their help and support in preparing for the contest.



The beautifully made PowerPoint slides impress the judges and audience.

In this project, we discovered that teamwork is important in order to achieve success. We are students who are learning English and we cannot complete everything on our own. When we were preparing, the team members sometimes disagreed about certain aspects of the presentation. However, these disagreements did not affect our cooperation and team-spirit. On the contrary, the arguments enhanced the development of our project so we could reach a better standard. From this, we learnt that respect, listening to each other's opinions and accepting different points of view are important when we are working in a group.



Mrs Munro (third from the left) presents the prize to the students from class 4P in recognition of their impressive presentation skills and language ability.

We finished our presentation and performed on the stage in the school hall on 19 May. To our surprise, we won the championship! We would like to thank Mrs Munro again! *She did not limit our ideas but gave us freedom to think and to create.* In addition, she gave us a lot of help with our pronunciation, pace and facial expression. Without her guidance, we would not have achieved our outstanding success. We also gained the appreciation of the judges, other teachers and schoolmates. All team members were very pleased to win the first prize in the competition. Lily and Samantha were extremely happy to receive the prize for the best speakers.

We all worked hard together. This is the key to success!

** Lily Heung and Samantha Hui (4A)*

Rap the Tenses

Break broke broken
My two legs are broken
Break broke broken
My glasses have been stolen
Break broke broken
I am the unluckiest person!

Choose chose chosen
I went shopping with Jason
Choose chose chosen
I bought a very big melon
Choose chose chosen
Jason had my melon eaten!



Hold held held
Many people need my help
Hold held held
I've heard a lady yell
Hold held held
Oh, she's just a hawker selling seashells!

Buy bought bought
Today I went for a walk
Buy bought bought
Later I was lost in a shop
Buy bought bought
Finally I was taken to the court!
Oh my god! Tell me what is going on?

*Ben Chan, Wing Chan,
Tim Chan and Tim Fong (1B)*

Take took taken,
Breakfast eaten
Take took taken,
Dinner eaten.
Take took taken
It's so much talent!



Give gave given.
Present given!
Give gave given.
I love parents!
Give gave given.
It's so much fun!

Write wrote written.
Slogan written.
Write wrote written.
Article written!
Write wrote written.
It's so much talent!



Drive drove driven.
Taxi driven!
Drive drove driven.
Bus driven!
Drive drove driven,
It's so much fun!

Rita Fung (1A)