The Bee

English Week

On the first morning of English Week, we had the opening ceremony. During the ceremony, all English Speaking Ambassadors went on to the stage and demonstrated the English-speaking activities for us. Then, over the following three morning assemblies, many English performances were shown. Most of the performers had previously participated in the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival and got prizes. There was also a role-play performed by Form One ESL Club members. It was very interesting and enjoyable to watch something different every morning.

During lunch-time every day, there were still games set up by Form 3 and Form 4 students in the hall, as well as English speaking activities supported by our Form 4 and Form 6 English Speaking Ambassadors all around the school. There were three plays staged by Form 6 students. On the final morning of English Week, we watched a Live performance through the screens in our classrooms; it was like watching a TV programme.

The Live Show was hosted by our Senior Form Students. In the Live Show, personal messages and song dedications were read out. Our Senior Form Students got Mr. Yip to bring in his own guitar. They all performed extremely well even without a rehearsal, with Mr. Yip playing the tune "I Believe I Can Fly" while they themselves sang along. It was a wonderful show!

The week ended with a prize-giving ceremony on Friday afternoon. Certificates were presented to the Speech Contestants, as well as the Best Speakers of the English-speaking activities. English Week came to a close with the whole school filled with excitement and happiness.

What do our Form 6 girls think of their own drama performance?

Congratulations to the form 6 girls! They have done a good job in their drama. The drama performances were definitely one of the highlights of English Week. The plays were performed live in the school hall to an audience of senior students while the junior students watched from the screen in their classrooms. It was no doubt a great success since the audience applauded so loudly and were so active in responding to the questions which were asked after the play.

Drama Performance by 6A

The drama which the form 6A girls performed is called "A Dream Comes True." It is about how a nurse, Mrs. Chan, had wanted to be a nurse and become a doctor but finally realized that the best choice was to allow to follow her own interest. The 6A girls had been rehearsing their play for three months. They put a lot of effort into the drama.

"At first, everything seemed hard to handle," said Winnie, who played Mrs. Chan. "we had to figure out the sequence of the play, the stage position of each person, the speaking time, the facial expressions as well as the different music background. The biggest problem we encountered was to switch from one scene to another in only a few seconds. Everything had to be very precise."

Fortunately, they managed to solve the problems and became confident after about 10 rehearsals. Their play turned out to be very popular among the audience.

"We were all very satisfied with our performance that day. Hearing the loud applause from the audience gave us a great sense of accomplishment. It was well worth the effort."

By the way, did you know that something went wrong behind the scene? Winnie told me that in one of the scenes in which she was asked by her neighbor to call her daughter to be taken to the hospital, she had forgotten to call her daughter. Winnie said, "Actually I didn't realize until my classmate told me," said Winnie "To be frank, sometimes I felt so nervous that I forgot my lines. Luckily, no one noticed it. It was close!"

Do 6B girls feel about their performance?

This year English week has been very busy and special for us. There were many activities held during the week. The most unforgettable one is the drama because we put a lot of effort into preparing for it. At the beginning, we didn't take it seriously because we didn't think that we had to perform for the whole school. Therefore, we wrote a silly script.

When we found out that it would be used for English week, we were shocked and tried hard to write a better script. Also, we spent a lot of time on rehearsing for the play. We practiced during lunch times, after school hours, and even came back to school on Sunday to practice it again and again. During this period, we all felt very tired because apart from practising for the drama, we also needed to revise for quizzes and do homework. When the day for our performance arrived, we felt very nervous as most of us had never done a drama before. Fortunately, everything ran smoothly on that day and the feedback from the teachers and students were very positive. We were all happy about this.

We have benefited a lot from this drama activity. We have to use English to write a script. Also, we gained so much confidence in speaking English to a large audience. What's more, we had the wonderful experience of working as a big team with all our classmates and the relationship between us has become very close. These are not the things that we can learn from the textbook.

Here, we would like to thank Miss Wong for giving us a chance to learn so many things! We know that, apart from organizing many other activities for English week, she also tried her every effort to help us succeed in our drama performance.

Finally, we hope that all the students can understand that the aim of the activities is to provide you an interesting way of learning English. If you don't participate in them, you won't have any fun. I hope every student will continue to show enthusiasm and enjoy learning in English. (English week continued on page 2)

Findings of our D.E.A.R Time Survey

As you know, since the beginning of this academic year, we have all been doing morning reading. I hope that you have found it very useful. A survey was done to find out how much time you spend on reading, and here is what we found:

1) How many D.E.A.R. time days would you prefer to have each week?

According to our survey, most of our students prefer to have D.E.A.R. Time 2 to 3 times a week, and that the main reasons being they like reading and thinking that reading can help improve their English.

2) What do you usually read during D.E.A.R. time?

A: English Fiction B: Chinese Fiction C: English Non-fiction
D: Chinese Non-fiction E: English Newspaper F: Chinese Newspaper

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% Yes No

(1) Form 2 girls (2) Form 3 girls (3) Form 4 girls (4) Form 5 girls (5) Form 6 girls

3) Do you enjoy DEAR Time?

4) The majority of Form 4 and Form 6 students enjoy DEAR Time because they would like to have more time to read. However, a large number of students in the lower forms do not enjoy DEAR Time as they feel bored and they don't like reading. We asked Ms. Kim Wong about this finding. "Most of our senior students are highly motivated and would like to improve on their language skills," she said. "They understand the importance of reading for academic success not only in English, but also in the content subjects. With the public examinations only a year or so away, our Form 4 and Form 6 students have certainly realized the urgent need to read more and to read well, whereas for the lower forms, they have yet to learn the crucial role that language plays in their academic studies. Another explanation for the lack of enthusiasm shown by some of the lower forms is that Form 1 to Form 3 classes already have ERS reading lessons; something that our senior students dearly miss."
How much do you know about SARS?

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is a type of highly contagious pneumonia, caused by a previously mysterious virus, so called ‘atypical pneumonia’.

Cause of SARS

The cause of SARS has been identified as a mutated form of Coronavirus, never seen in humans before. Coronavirus, so called because of their spiky crown of protein globules, are generally not mortally harmful. They are a pest in humans and are responsible for more than one-third of the common cold cases.

Mode of transmission

Much like other respiratory illnesses, SARS seems to be spread by close contact. The mode of transmission is still believed to be by droplet spread through close person to person contact. For example, a person infected with SARS could cough or sneeze, contaminating the immediate surrounding air with tiny droplets of infected matter. Someone in close proximity of the infected person could then breathe in the air that has been contaminated. These droplets travel a distance of about 3 feet from the mouth or nose of an infected person during talking, coughing or sneezing.

The virus can also survive for as long as 60 hours on surfaces like tables, doorknobs, lift buttons etc. Direct contact with secretions from an infected person on these surfaces and subsequent contact with the mucosal surfaces (e.g. nose, mouth, and eyes) can transmit the disease.

Symptoms

The main symptoms include fever (of 38 degrees Celsius or above), malaise, chills, headache and body ache. Other symptoms include coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing, rash and diarrhoea.

Incubation period

From the experience in Hong Kong, the incubation period appears to be between 2 to 10 days with an average of 4 to 6 days.

Cure

Doctors in Hong Kong and Canada are using the antiviral drug Ribavirin + steroid with varying degrees of success. Tests in the USA, however, show no effect of Ribavirin on coronavirus in the laboratory but clinical experience in Hong Kong suggests it is effective in some patients.

Smoking can help?

Of course not. Smoking weakens immunity and increases the chance of infection. When a person smokes, their hands are frequently in touch with or positioned near their mouth and nose, increasing the likelihood of acquiring the infection. In addition, face masks have to be taken off when smoking, hence reducing protection.

Surgical masks

They are comfortable, effective and are recommended by doctors.

N95 masks

3M's heavy-duty mask is the cream of the crop for medical staff. Filters out minuscule particles but can be uncomfortable.

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English week-continued from page 1

Do You Want to Talk to Me?

"Do you want to talk to me?" If this question seems familiar to you, this may imply that you have actively participated in English Week. This question, in fact, was asked by the English Speaking Ambassadors to converse with other students. In the conversations, you might talk about yourself, your school life, as well as your family. Now, let's have some of the English Speaking Ambassadors share their experience and feelings about this activity.

"After a week of speaking practice, serving as an English Speaking Ambassador, I found that my spoken English had improved. I spoke more fluently. Although I had less time for lunch because I had to go on duty, I really enjoyed this activity. It was very beneficial to me."

Elisa Chan 6A

"Being an English Speaking Ambassador made me feel more confident in speaking English. I am not so afraid of speaking in English now. Moreover, from the conversations that I had with the participants, I learnt about their school life and also lots of funny things which happened during their lessons. Furthermore, to my surprise, I found that the Form 5 students were the most active in this activity. I would gladly be an English Speaking Ambassador again next time."

Grace Wong 6A

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Stall Games

During English Week, several hall games were set up in the hall. I believe that most of you had tried to challenge them. Students could take advantage of this chance to communicate with the English Speaking Ambassadors. The aim of this programme is to enhance student's interest in speaking English and improve our schoolmates' speaking ability.

Stamps were awarded to those who spoke to the ambassadors in English and met the criterion. A gift was presented to the student who had collected the maximum number of stamps. Congratulations to our overall champion, Regina Ho Pui Sa in 2D.

From the pictures above, we can see that these interesting games had attracted many students as each of the stall games was crowded with students.

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What do our teachers say about English Week?

Ms Alice Lo

Ms Alice Lo said the drama performance was the most impressive. She thought that the overall response of students was quite good. However, some students were not attentive enough on the English speaking performance during morning assemblies. Moreover, she thought that student drama performers and ambassadors could raise their English level since they could have more chance to speak in English. Ms Lo thought this type of activities should be held once or twice each year. She also thought that English speaking performances shouldn't be too long as it was tiring for the students to stand for a long time.

Ms Winnie Cheung

The drama performance impressed Ms Winnie Cheung. She thought that although we could not hold this kind of activities regularly but our students should make efforts in speaking English. She also suggested that we could ask students to write proposals for the stall game in English. Only the best proposal of each class can set up a stall in the school hall. Ms Cheung also suggested that students could design more games to help students practice speaking English.

Mrs. Suen

Mrs. Suen thought that the students' feedback of "English Week" was quite good but some of our schoolmates were not keen on taking part in the activities. She agreed that the "English Week" activities could raise students' English level as they had more chance to speak in English. Moreover, Mrs. Suen thought this type of activity should be held regularly and improvements should be made on the procedures for stamping the students' record sheets.

Ms. Cheung Tak Man

The drama impressed Ms Cheung Tak Man most and she enjoyed "English Week". She thought that students gave good response to "English Week" as most of them participated in the games. The lower form students spoke a lot of English. She agreed that "English Week" could raise students' English level as it provided them with an English speaking environment. The programmes also encouraged them to think and communicate in English. Moreover, Ms Cheung suggested this type of activity should be held at least once a week. However, Ms Cheung felt that it would be better to have more time to prepare for the activities.

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Editorial Board

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Chinese Horoscope

The OK of the Chinese Horoscope is intelligent and self-confident. She is also patient and methodical, helpful and hardworking. Although she might appear rigid and slow, a kind and active mind is beneath. A natural born under works systematically, the Ox is responsible for family and believes in authority but is sometimes too stubborn and traditional.

The TIGER of the Chinese Horoscope is courageous, active, and self-assured. She is said to be a natural leader, passionate and independent. Possibly restless especially if born at night. She is rebellious and dynamic, a warrior and center of attention. Quick tempered but considerate. Affectionate but careless. A roaring success awaits the Tiger.

The RABBIT of the Chinese Horoscope is peace loving, good mannered, kind and sensitive to beauty. Apart from this, she is also intelligent in business with creative mind but sometimes moody and indifferent. A person born in the year of the Rabbit possesses one of the most fortunate of the twelve animal signs. The Rabbit as she is referred to in Chinese mythology, is the emblem of longevity and is said to derive his essence from the Moon.

The DRAGON of the Chinese Horoscope is artistic and very lucky. Alternately, can be stubborn, irritable and impulsive. She can also be rather worldly and hard to get close to. The Dragon personality is always attractive. The powerful Dragon is difficult to control, at times even impossible. He tends to intimidate those who dare challenge him. In spite of his volcano of emotions, the Dragon cannot be said to be sensitive or very romantic.

The SNAKE of the Chinese Horoscope is calm and understanding, she is also charming in personality and elegant in dress. She is receptive and a deep thinker and likes to judge by intuition. She is fortunate in wealth through her life. But she generally relies on her own judgment and does not communicate well with others.

The HORSE of the Chinese Horoscope is cheerful, quick-witted and popular. With a happy outlook, independent, subjective and self-centered. She is also good at handling wealth. In most cases, she will leave home early. If not, her independent spirit will gound her to start working or to take up some career at an early age.

Fun with idioms

Let’s Match Them. Link the appropriate meaning of the following English idioms together. Then fill in the answer form and drop it in the English Activities Letter Box in the Oral English Room. The first three lucky winners will get a prize each.

1) Go too far (eg. Peter is a bad-tempered boy but this time he went too far and even his mother is angry with him)
2) As green as grass (eg. She left school & started her first job, she was as green as grass.)
3) Come up smiling (eg. Recently Hong Kong people are threatened by SARS, but we should come up smiling whatever happened to us.)
4) Come rain or shine (eg. Come rain or shine. keep cheerfulness all the time.)
5) Until the cows come home (eg. The chubby girl loves eating and would quite enjoy to eat junk food until the cows come home)

Fun with idioms

| Name: __________________________ |
| Class: _________________________ |

Answers:

1) _______ 2) _______ 3) _______

4) _______ 5) _______

Guess who they are

Below are parts of the photos of three of our teachers. Can you guess who they are? If you would like to be one of our lucky winners, just complete the following form and drop it into The Bee Letter Box in the Oral English Room by the end of next week. Good Luck!

| Name: __________________________ |
| Class: _________________________ |

Answer 1: _________________________________

Answer 2: _________________________________

Answer 3: _________________________________
德雅群星匯聚，發放天后光芒
「校園樂風精英賽」記

「讓我不在手裏拿，何不邀多本Singalong Contest」！这是今年校庆音乐会的口号。「校園樂風精英賽」是德雅群星的活动，每届都有数百名学生参与，今届亦有数百名学生参与比赛及访问。

今届「校園樂風精英賽」于二十七日于五校联合开展，由德雅学校校董会副会长甘先生主持。甘先生介绍，今届精英赛共有三百多名学生参与，包括来自五校的乐风精英。精英赛分为三部分：合唱比赛、独唱比赛和乐队比赛。合唱比赛分为初赛和决赛，独唱比赛分为初赛和决赛，乐队比赛分为初赛和决赛。比赛规则如下：

1. 合唱比赛：初赛由五校联合组织，由五校校董会副会长甘先生主持。初赛分为两个小组，每个小组由五校的合唱队参加。比赛分为初赛和决赛，初赛排名前四的队伍进入决赛。

2. 独唱比赛：初赛由五校联合组织，由五校校董会副会长甘先生主持。初赛分为两个小组，每个小组由五校的独唱队员参加。比赛分为初赛和决赛，初赛排名前四的队员进入决赛。

3. 乐队比赛：初赛由五校联合组织，由五校校董会副会长甘先生主持。初赛分为两个小组，每个小组由五校的乐队队员参加。比赛分为初赛和决赛，初赛排名前四的乐队进入决赛。

今届「校園樂風精英賽」有数百名学生参加，精英赛分为三部分：合唱比赛、独唱比赛和乐队比赛。比赛规则如下：

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走出校園——訪問女校長聯副神李煥頻同學

李煥頻，女校長，一位知識淵博、風趣橫生的校園導師。在她身上，我們看到了傳統與現代的完美融合。當被問及校園文化時，她笑了笑說：“校園文化是校園生態的一個重要組成部分，它體現了我們的教育理念和人文精神。”

問：您是如何認識到校園文化的價值的？
答：在我們校園裡，校園文化無處不在，它貫穿於校園生活的每一個細節。比如，我們的校園環境設計，就是為了營造一個舒適、開放的學習氛圍。我們還舉辦各種活動，比如校園節、統一思想、運動會等，這些都是校園文化的體現。

問：您認為現在的校園文化應該如何發展？
答：現今的校園文化應該結合時代特色，把傳統和現代文化相互融合，使校園文化更加嶄新和活躍。同時，校園文化應積極引導學生，提升學生的綜合素質，促進學生的全面發展。

問：您對未來的校園文化有何期待？
答：我希望未來的校園文化能夠更加多元，每個學生都能夠在其中找到屬於自己的位置。同時，我希望未來的校園文化能夠不斷創新，讓學生有更多的學術創新的空間。