Here comes the Zone......
The English Zone has arrived, bringing you brand new ways of English learning!

The English Zone
This academic year, in order to create an English based learning environment for all schoolmates, our school has established an English Zone which promotes the further use of English. But first of all, what is meant by a zone? A zone means simply an area. (eg. a no-smoking zone; a taxi zone etc)
The English Zone, which originally was the needlework room, is located on the ground floor, next to the Cookery Room. Inside the Zone there are a number of English activities you may do, for instance, playing board games and cards, using the computer to finish your on-line English homework and more. There’s certainly a lot to do in the English Zone to enrich your knowledge of English. Let’s take a closer look!

We’re going to recommend some of the board games for students to play and enjoy. The most common board game that most schoolmates know is Scrabble but few students recognize the rest of the selection. In fact there are a lot more board games to choose from, for example, Monopoly, Hedbanz, Cluedo to name a few, so we’ve decided to introduce Monopoly and Hedbanz to you all.

*Monopoly is a popular board game around the world. The game aims to teach the concept of economy and the correct use of capital, through the buying and selling of property. During the game, everyone has a chance to purchase land or a business. You may become a millionaire or even go bankrupt and lose everything in this game. The ultimate winner is the player who owns the most capital and assets.*

Hedbanz is a game which is based on asking question among players. Every player chooses a card and without looking at it, places it in a headband in front of their forehead. Since you don’t know what the card says, you must ask the other players questions to help you guess what it is. The other players may not tell you the answer directly, hence, you have to figure out the word along with good questions to ask, using your imagination.

It is evident that Hedbanz can improve your English communication skills, so don’t hesitate anymore, come and visit the English Zone and play a board game. You’re sure to have a laugh too!
1B Ada & Miley
We visit English Zone about twice a week. We usually play card games with friends. It is such a great activity as you can learn and feel entertained at the same time. It is definitely worthwhile to spend more time in the English Zone. As the number of our visits increases, our English learning ability is also enhancing. Both of us have improved our English grammar and we feel a lot more confident in speaking English.

1B Kelly
I seldom visit the English Zone. Although the facilities are really useful for learning English, I prefer playing lots of other different English games.

1D Christina, Coey and Agnes
Talking about the English Zone, there is no doubt that the most gripping part must be the great diversity of games. Playing Scrabble with friends can make you thrilled and excited to learn English. Other than games we also seize the precious chance to do English Builder in the English Zone. English Builder is also a major help to improve our English level.

5D Sammi
I seldom visit the English Zone, which I feel a bit ashamed about. Needless to say, our school is providing such a gorgeous zone for us, where we may read English books without any annoyance.

Thank you for your precious comments!
From the above opinions about the English Zone, most students strongly agree that the Zone is definitely a good environment in which to study English. It allows students to use English in an active way, from a totally different perspective, to experience the fun of English. There’s no need to study alone, visit the English Zone!
This year, the English club organized a new activity in our school. The activity is called ‘Trash to Fashion’. The target of organizing this activity is to provide a stage for our schoolmates to show off their ability in creating fashion and talking about it in English. ‘Trash to Fashion’ is also an environmentally - friendly competition, which encourages students to create their outfit using recycled materials. This is a competition for Form 3 to Form 5 students. Each class has entered one presentation group, which includes a model who parades along the catwalk in their outfit. There is also a student who narrates and describes how the outfit was made. This activity really creates an interesting way for the students to practice their English.

**Your turn!**

Q: What is your purpose for taking part in this competition?
A: **Emma Cheung**: I have longed for a chance to participate in this kind of activity, yet the school seldom organizes it. So when I was told that there was such a competition, I immediately joined it.

**Emily Ngan**: Just for interest.

Q: What is the theme of this outfit?
A: **Emma Cheung**: A Christmas celebration.

**Emily Ngan**: World peace. World harmony.

Q: What is the key feature of your outfit?
A: **Emma Cheung**: Though our outfit is made of newspaper, it seems that nobody notices this, so I guess that its main feature is style!

**Emily Ngan**: The gown is decorated with the flags of different countries. That’s pretty unique.

Apart from showing the talents of fellow schoolmates through their fantastic outfits, the activity also highlights a serious social issue that deserves to be mentioned. In recent years, interest has been aroused in environmentally friendly projects, as the global warming issue is becoming serious. Through this event, we hope students can understand the message of protecting our unique earth(eg. recycling) and avoid creating too much rubbish (bring your own bag, avoid using plastic bags , use 2 sides of a paper) in their daily life. Besides, we start to look at ‘trash’ with different eyes and see how it can be changed into something else like fashion. So take action now, be a responsible world citizen and stand up for recycling trash!
Let us recommend some songs!
JUST STAND UP
Various singers
I'm telling you things get better through whatever
If you fall, dust it off, don't let up
Don't you know you can go be your own miracle
You need to know!

If the mind keeps thinking you've had enough
But the heart keeps telling you don't give up
Who are we to be questioning, wondering what is what
Don't give up, through it all, just stand up
This is a song sung by many famous singers such as Beyonce, Leona Lewis, Rihanna, Fergie, Mariah Carey, Carrie Underwood, Mary J. Blige, Ciara and so on. It is an inspiring song for those who are suffering from cancer. Though the main target listeners to "JUST STAND UP" are the people who have cancer, I think it's also a very encouraging song for all the people in the world. The message of this song is to tell people not to give up on themselves and always have a positive attitude to the future and everything that happens around them. If you trust yourself, then you can make your own miracle happen.

Pray
Justin Bieber
Ohh Ohh Ohh... and I pray
I just cant sleep tonight.
Knowing that things aint right.
It's in the papers, it's on the TV, it's everywhere that I go.
Children are crying.
Soldiers are dying
Some people don't have a home
But I know there's sunshine behind that rain
I know there's good times behind that pain, hey
Can you tell me how I can make a change?
I close my eyes and I can see a better day
I close my eyes and pray
I close my eyes and I can see a better day
I close my eyes and pray
"Pray" is a song about the life and the situation of people in third world countries such as Ethiopia and the impact of having wars. The songwriter, 16-year-old Justin Bieber, portrays the reality of the world----- soldiers die, children suffer from illness, people in poor and underdeveloped countries are starving and experiencing famine. In an interview, he revealed that the initial writing of the song was influenced by Michael Jackson. Justin Bieber was inspired by Michael Jackson's "Man in the Mirror". Though I'm not a fan of Justin Bieber, I like the lyrics and the music video of this song. It's a very uplifting and motivating song. I'm sure the song can increase public awareness and help the poor.

What do you know about......
Name: Natalie Portman
Occupation: Actor
Education: Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Harvard University
Latest career:
Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Motion Picture
BAFTA Award for Best Actress in Leading Role (Black Swan)
Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance
Natalie Portman is an Israeli-American actress. Unlike other actors, she graduated from the well-known Harvard University, before starting her acting career. She is very successful, and I am sure students can learn a lot about how to balance hobbies and schoolwork from her.

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