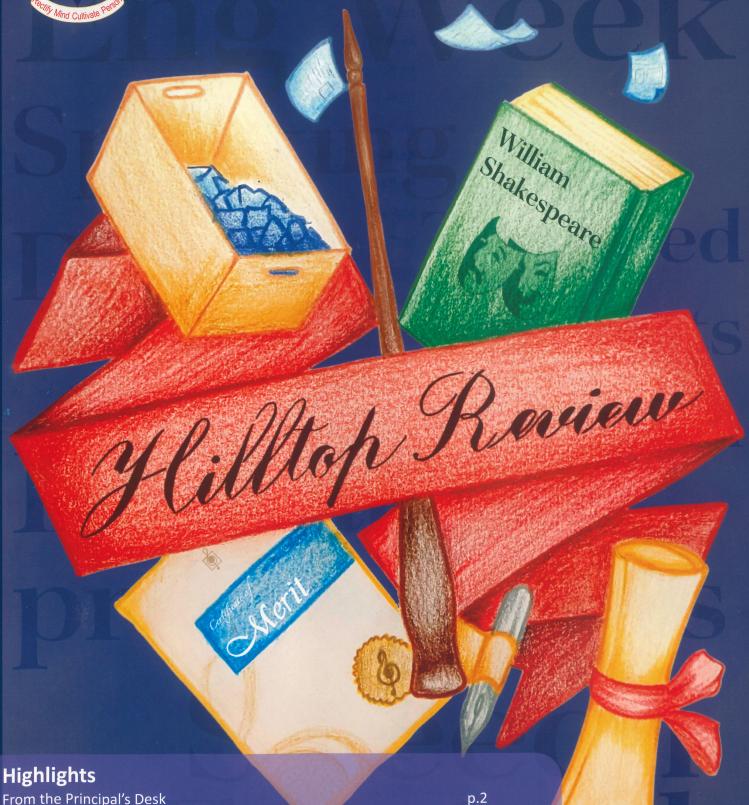
## **ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School** Volume 19, Issue Aug-2022



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# Establishing a Rich English Environment

With our goal of improving the English-speaking skills of all students, the LSS English Department again held a number of important events throughout the year. These included: English Week, English-speaking Days, Self-directed Learning, and extracurricular activities like the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival and the Talented Arts Association Awards; all helping to provide an immersive language experience. A new event for 2021/2022 was the 'LSS English-speaking Days' programme, the aim of which was to encourage students to speak only English around the school campus. English Department staff devised activities to prompt and inspire students to speak with each other, teachers or English Student Ambassadors during break times. It was heartening to see so many students engaged in discussion during recess. It truly embodied the English-speaking Day slogan; "Grow Together, Speak Together".

Once more, this school year saw LSS enter the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival; the mode of entry again being video submission. The enthusiasm and hard work shown by students paid off; as, not only did several of our students attain first and second runner-up placings, but most LSS entrants achieved a score of 80% or more. Further speaking success was achieved through the 2021 Talented Arts Association Awards, with a first runner-up, two second runners-up and a merit award granted.

One common feature of all English activities throughout the year was the integration of online and multi-modal components. This incorporation of virtual learning platforms arose largely as a way of meeting the challenges of last year's pandemic environment. Now, however, we see the infusion of electronic or web-based elements into English activities as an opportunity to further immerse students in an environment of English language learning which is easily accessible and sustainable for many years to come.

Principal Kevin Liang

## G.L.E.A.M. - Sing Kong Hand in Hand

As many parents may know, ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School has a long history of foreign exchange programmes with schools from a number of different countries around the world. In spite of the limitations brought about by the pandemic we are continuing to engage students in the spirit of international cooperation.

This year's programme is called G.L.E.A.M. – Sing Kong Hand in Hand, and as the name suggests, it included a collaboration with school students in Singapore. 5B (and a number of 5A) LSS students worked with a group of 34 students from PEICAI, Singapore. The initiative was multi-dimensional in its scope and included a number of steps.

First, after the selection of group leaders, students met on Zoom and engaged in games and ice-breaker activities. This enabled students to establish effective teamwork skills with their international peers. Following this, Instagram accounts were set up, through which students could join forces to discuss a number of topics and issues pertinent to students of their age, such as:





The integration of virtual platforms made cross-cultural interaction possible.

Lessons and Studies, How Covid has affected us, Extra-curricular Activities, and more. The final stage of the project included a written reflection on the thematic discussions in which the students had engaged.

Despite the current challenges preventing face-to-face activities, our school was able



to incorporate technological resources such as Zoom and social media, to provide students with a culturally rich and educationally rewarding opportunity to interact with students of another country. Our thanks and appreciation must go to the teachers responsible for the project: School Adviser, Ms. Connie Wen Shan and Mr. Tony Wong.

## **English-speaking Days Grow Together, Speak Together**

#### **English-speaking Days – Grow Together, Speak Together**

The Lutheran Secondary School "English Speaking Days" – a new initiative for the 2021/2022 school year – provides a wonderful opportunity for students to put their English speaking skills into practice. The programme also demonstrates that LSS is a school in which the English speaking environment extends beyond the classroom.

> LSS "English-speaking Days" are monthly themed events in which students are encouraged to speak only English on campus for the duration of the day. To encourage

> > activities which help students to express themselves on a particular topic. These activities include vocabulary work, idioms, common expressions and greetings, which students can then use in spoken English around the

English teacher Mr. Cheng Wah Seng engages in disscussion with

(3D) Yau Tin Yat (left) and (1A) Tsui

Chun Hong (centre).

school.

To encourage students further, prizes are awarded to students who demonstrate their new knowledge or skills by speaking to an English teacher or Student English Ambassador at break times throughout the day. The great popularity of the programme among students is such that teachers and ambassadors are often easily able to give away all their prizes by the end of the day.

The themes selected sometimes focus on important cultural celebrations or festivals that take place in each month, such as Christmas or Easter. Other themes have a



Prizes are awarded for speaking well. (3A) Hu Xin Yin, Cindy, receives a prize after discussing the monthly theme.



Students participate euthusiastically in the new English-speaking Day programn

more vocabulary specific focus, such as International Space Week or World Environment Day. This variety of themes can therefore provide students with not only functional knowledge but an appreciation of language as an aspect of culture.

English teachers would like to extend their appreciation to the willing and hard-working assistance provided by the Student English Ambassadors. These students assisted with every English Speaking Day throughout the year with enthusiasm and a positive attitude, which contributed greatly to the success of the events. This teacher/student cooperation was the embodiment of the English-speaking Day slogan...

"Grow Together, Speak Together!" o.4 English-speaking Days – Grow Together, Speak Together



English teacher, Ms. Chan Wai Kei (right) shows he appreciation for LSS English Ambassadors, (4B) Ting Chu Shing (centre), and (4B) Lo Hoi Chun (centre right).

### **English-speaking Day Posters**



WHAT?
TO ENCOURAGE OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO USE ENGLISH TO COMMUNICATE, LSS WILL HOLD REGULAR ENGLISH SPEAKING DAYS:

#### WHEN?

THROUGHOUT THE 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR

#### SCHEDULE/THEMES.





06 

-TO SHAKE LIKE A LEAF -AN OLD CHESTNUT





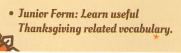
Thanksgiving

#### What are you thankful for?

 Senior Form: Find a Teacher or Ambassador and tell them what you are thankful for this year.









or English Ambassador to win aprize!

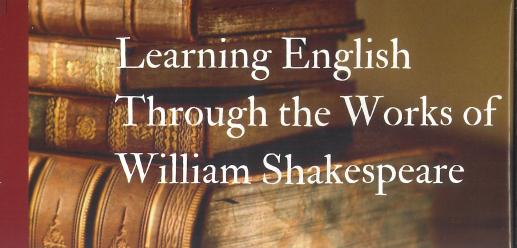




ELCHK LUTHERAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

ENGLISH WEEK

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## English Week-The Works of William Shakespeare ...but for mine own part, it was <del>Greek "English" to me</del>

Each year the Lutheran Secondary School English Department offers a week of engaging, theme-based activities to give students a broad and rich English language experience. For English Week this year the theme chosen was "The Works of William Shakespeare". In addition to learning about several of Shakespeare's most famous works, there was a focus on the language, vocabulary and idioms used in the renowned writer's celebrated plays and poetry.

Once again, this year's event included a variety of diverse learning experiences including a book exhibition, the LSS Campus TV "Question a Day", classroom English corners, a daily musical broadcast, a noticeboard display, and classroom-based learning activities.

One of the highlights of English Week was the "Question a Day" activity, which was presented each morning on LSS Campus TV. The purpose of the daily quiz was to teach students about some of the commonly used English idioms coined or popularised by William Shakespeare. Every day a video play was presented which showed one of the idioms being used verbally in an everyday situation. The task for students was to guess or infer the meaning of each idiom. It was a successful and entertaining activity, and thanks must go to the student members of the LSS English Society who volunteered their time and talents to serve as actors in the video presentations. The actors were:

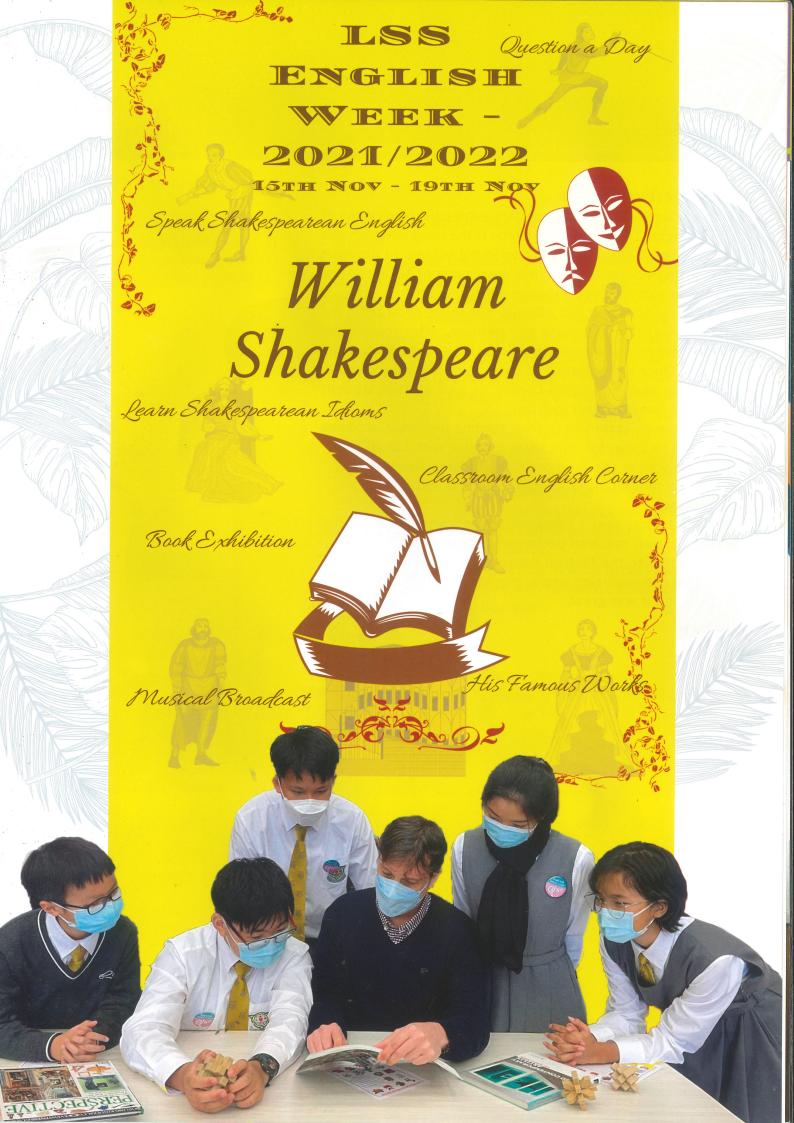
4B (3) Chen Man Chai Markus, 4B (27) Wu Tsz Yan Melinda, 3A (29) Yau Hoi Tung Eunice, 3A (16) Leung Man Chi Mandy, 2A (21) Rai Protsahan, 2A (22) Tsang Cheuk Laam Jolane, 3A (9) William Kuiper "Wim", 4A (22) Wong Hiu Ying Corinne.

Thanks to the great efforts of English teachers and student helpers, this year's English Week was a great success. Students were able to experience enjoyable and creative activities which not only taught them about William Shakespeare but provided them with useful and practical English skills for the future. Staff and students are now looking forward to next year's English Week, when there will be a new theme and new learning experiences.









## **Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival Speech Festival Success**

#### **Speech Festival Success**

Each year one of the most important extra-curricular events of the LSS English Department's calendar is the Hong Kong Schools English Speech Festival. Having achieved success in previous years, both students and teachers were eager to begin training and preparation for this prestigious event.

With Choral Speaking not offered, our focus once again for this year was the Solo Verse competition. After completing the nomination and enrolment process it was time for training to begin. Once again posters of each poem were displayed in classrooms and the English Corner, as well as each student participant receiving their own copy.

Each afternoon, according to their training timetable, students logged on to Zoom for Solo Verse practice with LSS NET, Mr. Corrie. As well as speaking practice, students also watched videos and presentations to learn tips for a successful

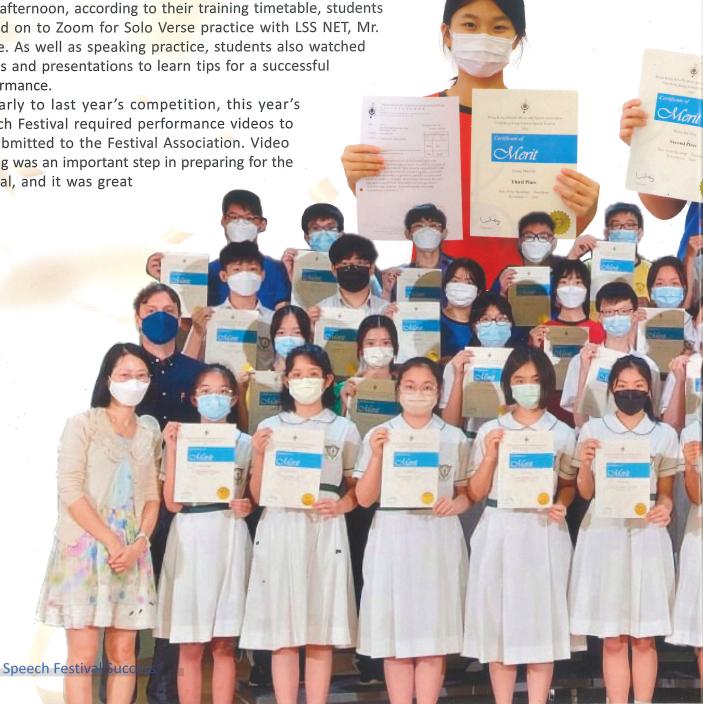
performance. Similarly to last year's competition, this year's Speech Festival required performance videos to be submitted to the Festival Association. Video filming was an important step in preparing for the festival, and it was great

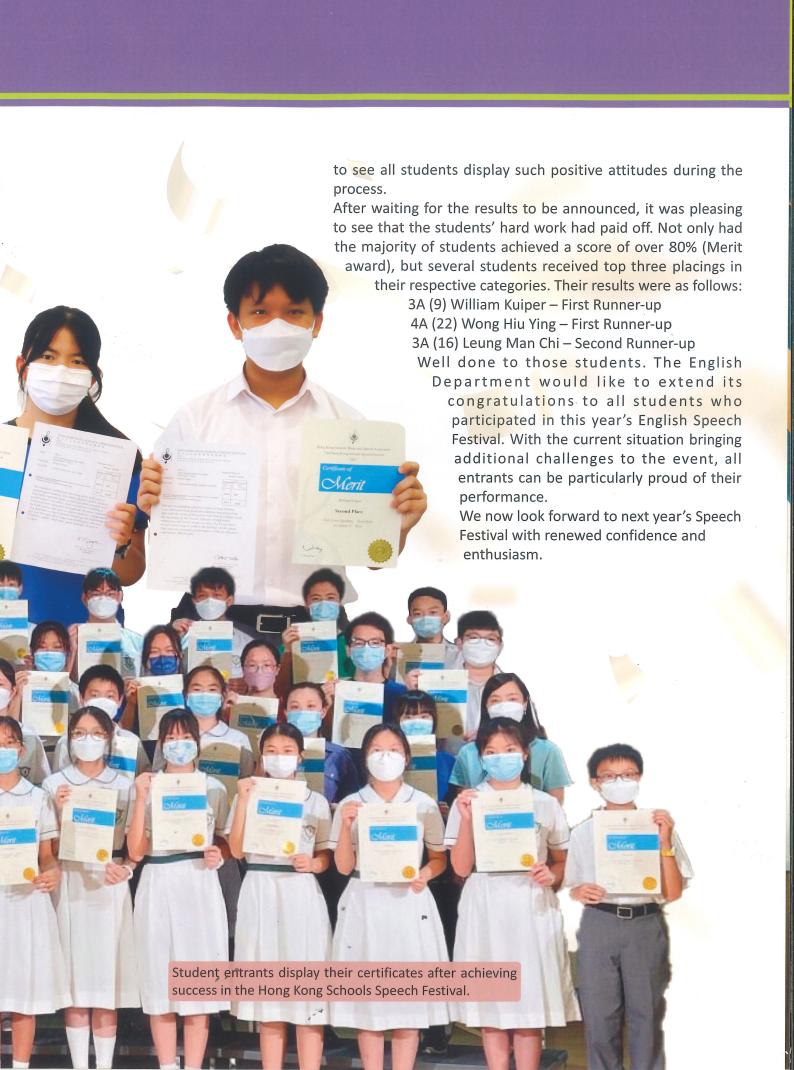
Speech Festival award winners, (from left)

(3A) Leung Man Chi,

(4A) Wong Hiu Ying,

(3A) William Kuiper





# Talented Arts Association LSS Students Awarded for Talent in English Speaking



This school year marked the first time in which Lutheran Secondary School students entered the Hong Kong "Talented Arts Association" English Speech Competition; an annual event held to recognise and reward students who display exceptional aptitude for English public speaking.

The school began by selecting four students who had shown promise in prior English speaking events. These students were chosen across both junior and senior forms with representatives of S2, S3 and S4 taking part. With a large number of schools and students across Hong Kong

participating, the event was sure to be extremely competitive.

The competition was conducted on a video submission basis, whereby Association judges would review each student performance and make evaluations accordingly. Consequently, the school submitted files for each student and keenly awaited the results.

When the final decisions were published by the Talented Arts Association, we were very pleased



3A(9) William Kuiper

hat our selected students had all achieved very highly in petition. Although we were confident in our students', the school was delighted and gratified that the entrants such excellent results.

ticipating LSS students and their corresponding awards follows:

Yau Hoi Tung – First Runner-up

/illiam Kuiper – Second Runner-up

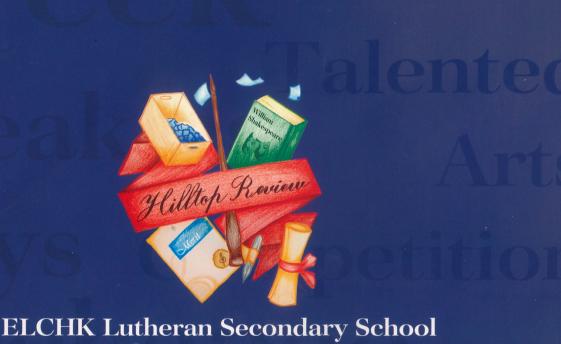
Lai Ho Hei – Second Runner-up

Rai Protsahan – Merit Award

end our wholehearted congratulations to all entrants in wonderful achievements and for gaining such valued tion for their English speaking talents — particularly in highly competitive event. Our school has no doubt that all intatives will go on to enjoy even greater success in their indeavours. Well done!







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