

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

As many in our school community are aware, this year marks the 65th Anniversary of ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School. Upon achieving such a milestone it is important to pause and reflect on the elements that have contributed to the longevity and success of our school as an educational institution.

Our school has, throughout its history, prided itself on our commitment to providing an educational environment in which the English language takes a prominent position in all aspects of learning. As you will see in this edition of the 'Hilltop Review', English language is not confined to the English classroom, but is a feature of learning across curriculum areas. Additionally, this year English excellence has once again been pursued throughout our extra-curricular activities, with great success being attained by many of our students.

In an ever-changing world, competence in the English language is a skill that will continue to open doors for our students as they complete high school and progress to tertiary education and beyond. I am confident that the English Department will continue to flourish, providing students with excellent opportunities to improve their English proficiency.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE ENGLISH SOCIETY



WILLIAM KUIPER
Chairperson of the English Society

As 2023-2024 marks the second year of my being the Chairperson of the English Society, I have embarked on various activities dedicated to promoting the use of the English language. Fostering communication between students and teachers was a major success, as we focused on educational themes and topics through various events. These events ranged from English Speaking Days to extracurricular activities, such as the ASF Intercultural Fair. Apart from the school activities, I was delighted to lead our school team in this year's Public Speaking Competition, as we won first place! Furthermore, I was elated to have represented our school in the highly competitive Solo Verse Competition, and to win first prize in that too. In conclusion, being the Chairperson of the English Society this year was a very fruitful experience, during which I have learnt that a lot of time and dedication is essential to achieving success. Once again, I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to have taken on this role!



JOLANE TSANG
Vice-Chairperson of the

As the Vice-Chairperson of the English Society, it has been an honour to be able to both assist my peers in their learning endeavours, as well as attend various events regarding the English language. Examples of these are our school's well-known English Speaking Days, along with our notable English Week. It was a great privilege also to be able to attend the ASF Intercultural Fair as a student host. At the fair, friends and families alike learned more about the English language. On top of that, I am equally thrilled to have represented our school in the highly competitive Speech Festival, in which my team was awarded first runner-up in the Public Speaking category. In short, serving as the Vice-Chairperson of the English Society has genuinely been an enriching experience, furthermore I am greatly appreciative for the opportunity to take on this role.



ENGLISH SPEAKING DAYS

English Speaking Days were once again an important and integral feature of the LSS English Department's English programme for the 2023/2024 school year. It was pleasing to see so many students participate enthusiastically in this themed monthly activity.

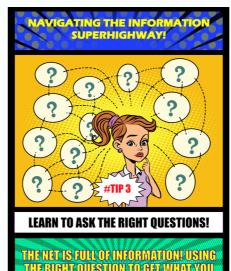
Mr Colley's vibrant and informative classroom posters provided background knowledge on each topic, giving students the confidence to speak English with teachers and English ambassadors throughout the day. The list of topics varied from month to month and included many themes related to the everyday lives of students, including Information Technology, the local area and various features of Chinese culture.

Students were encouraged to speak only English over the course of the entire day, both in and out of the classroom, giving a real-life context to their English language experience. Thanks must be extended to our English Department Student Ambassadors for their assistance on each and every English Speaking Day of the 2023/2024 school year.













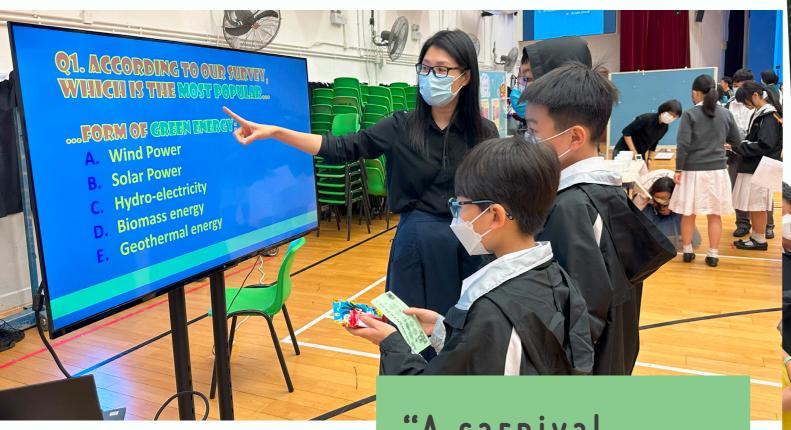
ENGLISH SPEAKING DAYS FOSTER CONFIDENCE IN COMMUNICATION

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ENGLISH WEEK

The LSS English Department strives to establish English as an integral part of school life. To help students to expand their language skills beyond the English classroom, the theme of this year's English Week was 'Speaking English across the Curriculum'. As usual there were many and varied activities on offer, such as the daily Campus TV broadcast including the 'Question a Day', the book exhibition, Intercultural Fair, and a host of other in-class and whole school experiences.

The week-long event culminated in our Game Stall activities, which were held in the school hall over two fun-filled and action packed days. Students flocked to the hall to participate in challenging English activities, with each event focussing on a different subject area. As well as a game show style Mathematics Quiz, there were History, Geography and Science games to keep students enthralled and entertained.





"A carnival atmosphere encouraged great participation"

The enthusiastic participation of so many students, regardless of their English level, was encouraging to see. We can't wait for English Week next year, which promises to be an even more expansive and immersive event.





HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPEECH FESTIVAL

The Hong Kong Schools English Speech Festival for 2023 was once again a success for LSS. With the vast majority of our students receiving a Merit Certificate - a score of 80% or more - for their performances, it was a great result for our school.

We are extremely proud of our LSS entrants in the Public Speaking division, in which two teams were crowned with the title of champion and one was awarded the place of first runner-up. Our team members were lauded for their exceptional scriptwriting, which incorporated thorough research, personal anecdotes, and supporting data. Additionally, their effective use of facial expressions, vocal dynamics, and gestures contributed to their excellent delivery, which was also commended by the adjudicators.



To top it off, students also found great success in the Solo Verse division and secured top three placings in the competition. William Kuiper (5A) for the second consecutive year was the outright winner in his grouping with a wonderfully emotive performance of a Rudyard Kipling poem. Mercy Ha (2B) also prevailed with a third place in her division, performing a very challenging piece. Well done to those students!

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all participants for their outstanding performances, which would not have been possible without the hard work and time they invested in preparing and delivering their speeches.





DYNAMIC ENGLISH PROGRAMMES TAILORED FOR JUNIOR STUDENTS

S1 AI-Powered Writing Competition

The English Department has incorporated AI into the curriculum to enhance teaching and learning. One initiative was organising the S1 AI-Powered Writing Competition with the Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK). During the competition, students visited an EdUHK-developed website that allowed them to describe real-life images with automated scoring and feedback. Based on the student data, the EdUHK team analyzed the students' language learning behaviour, and prizes were awarded based on their findings. The successful implementation of this activity has paved the way for further integration of innovative technologies to elevate the English learning experience for our students.

S2 Day Camp

To bolster the motivation of S2 students in learning English, an afternoon day camp was organised in March. The event encompassed 5 engaging activities: Big TV, Fish Letter Pond, Guess What, Kahoot, and Picture Relay. This array of comprehensive activities, orchestrated by the English teaching staff, was enthusiastically embraced by the students. The participants reveled in the delightful afternoon, immersed in the enriching experience.





All S3 students gathered at Outback Whampoa for an extraordinary English workshop on an April afternoon. They immersed themselves in learning essential table etiquette, from proper utensil usage to engaging dinner conversation. The students also explored the art of crafting bar drinks, experimenting with mixology techniques and flavours. To complement their newfound knowledge, they relished a delectable meal. The workshop provided a unique opportunity for the students to improve their English proficiency and develop practical life skills in a dynamic setting. Through this hands-on learning experience, they gained confidence and a deeper appreciation for dining etiquette and bartending.





2024 LSS SCHOOL MUSICAL "ENCHANTED ECHOES"

This year marked the much anticipated return of the LSS School Musical production after more than five years, and judging by the enthusiastic audience reception, it was well worth the wait.







Under the dedicated and inspirational direction of Ms. Connie Wen Shan, the production returned in full force with all the colour and excitement we had become accustomed to in the past. The event showcased the wealth of dramatic and musical talent among LSS school students with the cast proving to be filled to the brim with naturally gifted performers. Also to be congratulated are the backstage crew, who contributed to the wonderful spectacle by ensuring that all lighting and sound effects ran smoothly.

This year, the plot of the Musical was based in a fictional school setting with the actors playing the students. Although fictitious, the student audience members were encouraged by the play's inspiring message and positive values. We now look forward to next year and what is sure to be an equally spectacular production.













CHATTERBOX THURSDAY

VENUE: ENGLISH CORNER

DATE & TIME: EVERY THURSDAY (12:50 PM - 1:20 PM)

Kaleidoscope of Exciting English Activities held in 2023-2024

- SPEECH FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS
- CHATTERBOX GROUP DISCUSSIONS ENGLISH ONLINE GAMES
- **ENGLISH SPEAKING DAYS ENGLISH TV BROADCASTS**
- **EPIC READING**
- ENGLISH CRAFT LAB

- MUSIC & LYRICS
- **ENGLISH BOARD GAMES** FILM APPRECIATION
- **ENGLISH WEEK**

ALL ARE WELCOME •

Throughout the 2023/2024 LSS school year the English Corner has thrown open its doors each Thursday at lunchtime to hold 'Chatterbox' English activities. Hosted by NETs, Mr Corrie and Mr Colley, the activities are aimed at giving students the opportunity to improve upon their English reading, listening and speaking skills in a fun and relaxed environment.

From music and movies to iPad English apps and art/craft activities, the exercises have been designed to appeal to a wide range of student interests. The Chatterbox Thursday sessions allowed students a chance to be exposed to an

> immersive English language experience on a weekly basis, providing opportunities to use their English in a

practical setting. engaged in a was ensured

Even if students were themed art activity, it that all written and verbal instructions, as well as all discussions were conducted in English only.

In this way, it is hoped that the programme will develop good language habits, and students will elect to speak English to converse outside of the classroom as a regular means of communication.



EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES & VISITS

AFS Intercultural Fair

With an aim to promote global cultural exchange, our school co-organised the AFS Intercultural Fair with AFS on 11 November. LSS students and youth ambassadors from countries like Brazil, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, and Venezuela decorated classrooms and led activities such as dances, music performances, plays, food sharing, and sports. Over 600 local students participated in the event and experienced a joyful afternoon. We felt blessed to be part of this meaningful event, as we were able to make new international friends, organise English activities for other local students, and improve our own English skills. We all look forward to the same event next year.









4A Genie Chor

Singapore Exchange Programme



My visit to Northland Secondary School was highly memorable. I performed with students and witnessed their impressive shows, learning about Singapore's education system. Exploring Chinese, Indian, and Arabic communities broadened my cultural understanding. After the school tour, we visited cultural landmarks like Little India, Kampong Glam, and Chinatown, where I discovered traditional architecture and cuisine. Our trip also included visits to environmental conservation sites like Gardens by the Bay and River Wonders, showcasing Singapore's sustainability efforts and teaching me the importance of protecting the environment. Experiencing the vibrant cultures of these neighborhoods was a highlight of the trip.

3A Shirley Gurung



ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School

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