



HILLTOP REVIEW

Volume 8, Issue 1 - July 2011

ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School

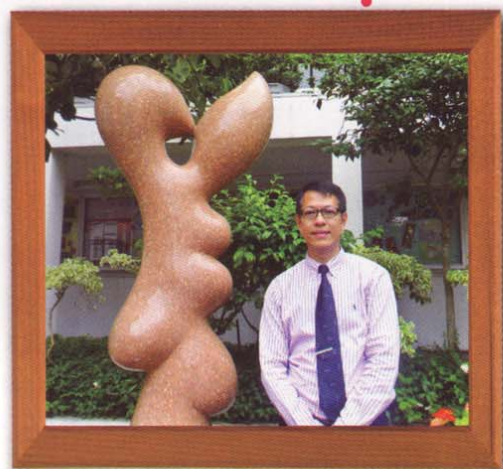
From the Principal's Desk

The unprecedented spread of the Internet and communication technology has tremendously transformed the world in which we live. People are closer than ever before. Keen competition arising from globalization has become one of the major challenges confronting teenagers in the 21st century. The world has changed, so has learning. Knowledge acquisition is no longer confined to textbooks and students' home countries. Instead, the world itself is a classroom for this and future generations!

Our school has launched the 'Global Classrooms' programme. It has been a great success which has earned the acclaim of both students and parents alike. This year, we built upon the success of this fine tradition and have organized several exchange programmes and study tours to the United States, Germany, Mainland China and Singapore. Through this programme, our American and German buddies had lessons, set up English game stalls and did presentations in English with our students. Our students learned about foreign cultures from their buddies and host families when they lived abroad. They had opportunities to speak English, Putonghua and even German with their buddies. These experiences are likely to be some of the most educational, fun and memorable chapters in their lives.

Judging from the articles and photos in this newsletter, it is not difficult to see the benefits of the 'Global Classrooms' programme to our students and their buddies. Because of this, I believe that we are on the right track. Some of our destinations for the next academic year include the United States, Germany, Mainland China and Singapore. As one of our student contributors said, 'The world is really big.' We will continue our endeavour to broaden our students' horizons in the future.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this year's Hilltop Review!



Principal Kevin Liang



Principal Liang (left) welcomes Mr Ralf Hübner (first from the right behind the banner), Vice-principal, and students of Gymnasium Neustadt i. Holstein, Germany, during a morning assembly.



Mr Cliff Hall (fourth from the left) introduces the 'Learning English through Workplace Communication' elective as part of the English Language curriculum to our English teachers in June 2011.

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My Experience as Mr Mistoffelees and Billy Flynn

7 May 2011 was a special day for me. Our school's annual musical was shown to the public on that day. To give you an idea how special this was for us, we had been rehearsing for four months and we were just waiting for this day to come. On one hand, I felt very happy being a main character in the musical. Yet on the other hand, I felt a little bit of pressure. I always become self-conscious once I step on stage. I tried my best not to make any mistakes in the rehearsal as I think this is a responsibility of a main character.

Thirty minutes before the show began, we prayed to God. Some of us were nervous but strangely, I wasn't. I tried to explain this to others even though I don't know why I didn't feel nervous.

From the first act to the curtain call, the performance seemed to happen so fast. I could not stop my feelings of excitement. We did a great job that night. Our characters, directors, backstage helpers and teachers were excited. No one cried, as we knew our success was shown not from tears but through our sweat, our performance and the audience's applause.

For the past four years, I have been acting in the school musical every year. These memories are unforgettable. What a great four years! Even though it is not easy to keep acting every year, I want to continue to spend a lot of time on it. Even if I do not appear on stage next year, my memories of the musical will be in my heart and spirit forever.

Finally, I want to thank all of the people who have supported us. It means a lot to us.

Michael Tsoi (4B)



Michael Tsoi (right) and Peter Yu celebrate the tremendous success of the musical drama 'The Light of Joy and Play' with Principal Liang (middle).



Acting as Mr Mistoffelees and Billy Flynn, Michael Tsoi (in red robe) impresses the audience with his well-designed costumes and outstanding singing and dancing skills.



What an extravaganza! Teachers, student actors and actresses wear eye-catching yellow T-shirts in support of the drama production 'The Light of Joy and Play'.



The feline image of Mary Li (left) as Rumpeteazer in 'The Light of Joy and Play'.

If you think you can, you can

7 May 2011 was an important and meaningful day for me. Last month, four other Secondary 6 students and I were invited as special guests to sing before the musical started. When I received the news, I was too stunned to react. I never imagined that I could make my dream come true. I was so shocked and thrilled that a rare opportunity had been presented to me unexpectedly. It was an eye-opening and thought-provoking experience which was engraved in my heart.

When I first noticed I was going to sing on the stage of the school hall, I felt on top of the world. But after a while, I was puzzled and confused. I started thinking about whether I was brave enough to stand on the stage or if I would be able to perform the songs with sincerity, emotion and meaning. Furthermore, I was instructed to sing an opera song, which was a rather hard job for me. At that period, my mind was blank and I doubted if I could take those challenges.

Fortunately, I had met some good friends. The students in Secondary 6: Paula, Michael, Sugar and Cathy were friendly, kind and thoughtful. All of them have a talent for music.

Time went by quickly, and we eventually had to go onstage to perform our songs. I felt tremendously nervous at that moment. Sweat ran



The dream of Patman Lo (right) to sing onstage finally comes true on an unforgettable night.

down my forehead and my hands were shaking uncontrollably. I convinced myself that I should enjoy performing, took a deep breath and went onstage. Luckily, our show seemed to have been successful. I was touched that most of the audience clapped their hands heartily after our performances were completed.

As the saying goes, **if you think you can, you can**. I have been longing for a chance to sing in front of others onstage. I am glad that my dream has been fulfilled.

Patman Lo (5B)

My Unforgettable 7 years of Musical Life

This year, I am a Secondary 7 student. As I needed to write my public examination, I thought that I could not participate in this year's musical drama – 'The Light of Joy and Play'. Luckily, after my last day of the public examinations, there were still three weeks left for me to give a performance.

In the beginning, I thought that I would just help to do some sundry tasks. After I joined the production, I found that I became not only a graphic designer, but also a general manager. I am so happy that I was able to play such important roles during my last year at this school. Certainly, I tried my best to do these tasks. You can see my work in my all two dimension designs including the red posters, tickets, pamphlets and invitation cards for the performance.

This time, I was not an actor. I saw all of the actors in the musical work very hard and with great effort to prepare their performance. It touched my heart. They tried to do their best for the performance. In the end, their struggle did not go to waste. I was proud of all the members involved in the musical. Backstage, I was glad to have the members help me to control the effects on stage.

The end of this year's musical signified the end of my secondary school life. I remember when I was a Secondary 1 student, I was invited to participate in the musical by Ms Wen. After that, I found that **I loved doing drama** and **the feeling of working with others towards a common goal**.

I would like to thank Ms Wen for giving me the opportunity to perform in the musical drama for the past seven years.

Gilbert Li (7S)

From Visual Arts to English: A Taste of Australia

On 23 February 2011, my class attended a workshop by Mr Terry Saleh who is an aboriginal visual artist and musician from Australia. It was an honour to meet him and to learn about aboriginal art and culture from Australia. I learnt a lot through this workshop.

On that day, when we arrived in the art room, Mr Saleh drew a symbol on the face of everybody to symbolize that we were his guests. This gesture helped create an aboriginal atmosphere in the room. After that, he started dancing with his partner and invited us to join them. At first, we were too bashful to dance with them but after they gave us the utmost attention we accepted and had a go with this dancing. Then, they played some music for us and Mr Saleh started painting. He drew the animals which represented the twelve months of the year from his culture and asked us to put our fingerprints on his painting. He even put his footprints on the painting too! Finally, we had a discussion and took some photos together to end this activity.

I learned that we should recognize and accept different cultures. We shouldn't discriminate against other cultures that are different from ours. Also, we need to be brave when we communicate with other people. We will meet many different people from different ethnicities, countries and cultures in our lifetime. We need to be open-minded, friendly and outgoing when we meet new people. Furthermore,

we can learn about ourselves through constructive criticism, focusing on both the positive and negative aspects of anything we do because it can help us improve ourselves and make us **become more self-aware and considerate of other people around us.**

I am so glad that I was involved in this workshop. If I were given a chance, I would definitely join it again.

Rachel Woo (5B)



Ms Cheung, Mr Schedlich (2nd and 3rd from the left) and S3 students create a colourful aboriginal painting that reflects Australian culture.

Principal Liang (right), with some white dotted paint on his face, enjoys the workshop on Australian aboriginal art run by Mr Terry Saleh (left).



An Unforgettable Experience – My Theme-based Presentation

I participated in the theme-based presentation competition for my first time in May 2011. I was delighted because the experience broadened my horizons. I find that theme-based presentation was more than just a competition; it was a matter of education and cooperation.

It was educational because my group members and I did a lot of research about our topic 'New Immigrants to Hòng Kong'. We learnt about new immigrants to Hong Kong, some of the difficulties which they face and ways we can help them. The audience could learn more about new immigrants from our presentation too. Since there were nine groups in the competition, we could listen to the presentations by other groups and our knowledge about different topics was enhanced.

I cooperated well with other members not only when we were on the stage, but also while we were preparing for our presentation. It was lucky of me that our members had different strengths, so we could help each other deal with the problems which arose.

Benny Li (5B)

Memories of the Year

Coffee Talks



Mr Ronald Hernandez (2nd from the right) from the US Consulate General Hong Kong shares his views on environmental protection with our students.

Mr Peter McSharry (3rd from the left) from the American Consulate General Hong Kong shares his opinions on global citizenship with our S5 students at the English Corner.

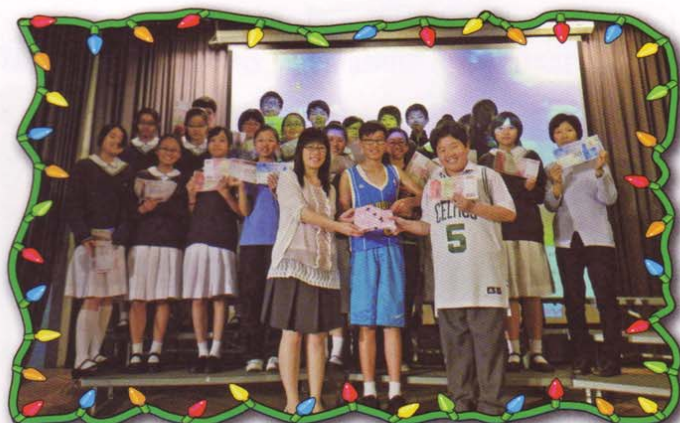
Theme-based Presentations 2011



The student presenters impress the adjudicators with lucid explanations and eye-catching PowerPoint slides.



English Week 2011 - S1 Rap Competition



Ms Cheung (left photo) and Ms Ho (right photo) present a gift to the winning classes.



S1 students demonstrate their rapping and acting skills during the S1 Rap Competition.



English Week 2011 – S3 Singing Contest



S3 students impress the audience with their beautiful voices in the S3 Singing Contest.



English Week 2011 - S4 Short Stories Performances



Three S4 students retell an American short story in the form of drama onstage.



English Week 2011 – Game Stalls Activity



S3 students proudly showcase their well-designed game stalls.



Mr Ralf Hübner (2nd from the right) from Germany graces us with his presence at the opening ceremony of the 'Game Stalls Activity'.

Our students find the game stall set up by their Germany buddies interesting.

Hong Kong – USA Exchange Programme 2010



Our students enjoy dancing with the American buddies at the school hall.



Get, set, go! A US buddy (middle) takes part in a relay race with our students on Sports Day.



Ms Wen (in purple) and her students prepare a delicious meal at South Vermillion High School, Indiana, US.



We're in one world! The Hong Kong – USA Exchange Programme promotes friendship between the US and Hong Kong students.



Headed for Hong Kong

Shown from left, Eric Ruppel, a senior at Ernie Pyle School, is the school's representative to the Hong Kong - USA Exchange Program. He will be traveling to Hong Kong on Friday and return on Saturday. The Hong Kong - USA Exchange Program is a joint effort of the school and the Hong Kong Education Office.

Hong Kong – Germany Exchange Programme 2011



The German buddies have breakfast with our students before touring around Hong Kong.



The German buddies are amazed by the panoramic view of Victoria Harbour.



Mr Joachim Kuhlmann (front), a biology and chemistry teacher at Gymnasium Neustadt i., Holstein, Germany, studies a dried sea urchin with Michael Tsoi (right) at Aquarium Kiel.



Ms Wen (right) and Ms Szeto (3rd from the left) learn about the educational system of Germany at the State Parliament of Schleswig-Holstein.



Our student participants and their German buddies enjoy a barbecue after going to Lutheran Church.



Our students play shuttlecock with their German buddies in Kiel, Germany.



Trip to Hunan, China



Our students enjoy the visit to Fenghuang City (left) and Lutheran Building (right), which is donated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong, in Hunan Province, China in July 2011.

Budding Public Speakers Showcase 2011



Mr Ken Ho (left) from the Education Bureau presents the 'The Best Opening/Closing Award' to Michael Tsoi in recognition of his good presentation skills.



Mr Danny Lever (left) from the US Consulate Hong Kong awards Karen Lee 'The Most Interesting Speaker Award'.

Joyee Leung (right) receives the 'The Most Creative Speaker Award' in the Budding Public Speakers Showcase 2011.



Margaret Pham (right) is awarded 'The Most Confident Speaker Award' and 'Overall Champion' in the Junior Secondary Section.



Fashion Show 2011



Mr Schedlich (middle) and two professional models at Fashion Fiesta 2011.

English Day Camp 2010



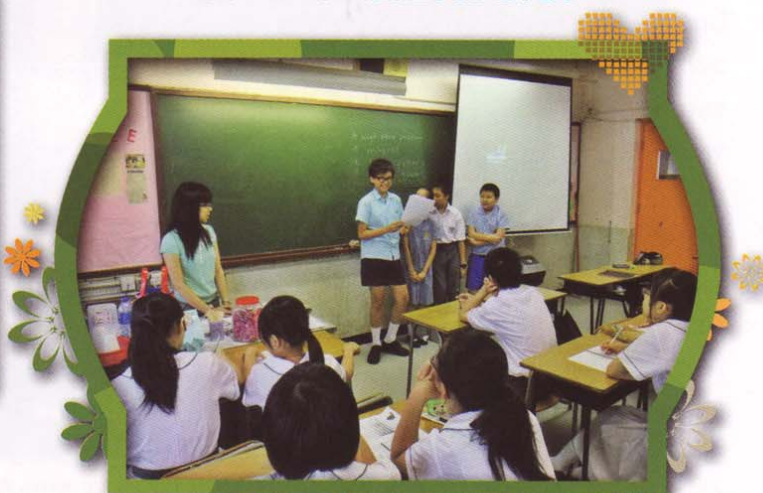
Principal Liang (2nd from the right) sings the camp song with the officers from the Language Learning Support Section of the Education Bureau, English teachers and students.

Network Speaking Activity 2011



Students from the Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong share their views on how to impress the examiners in the AS Use of English speaking examination with Mr Tam (middle) and S7 students.

Summer School 2010



S1 students find the Summer School programme useful in preparing for their secondary school life.

Clipit Competition 2011



Sunny Cheung (right) wins the first prize in the Junior Secondary Section in the Clipit Competition 2011.

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Mr Paul Schedlich

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Mr Tony Wong

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Ms Vicky Cheung

Professional sharing with the Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers



Ms Wen (standing) explains to the audience the strategies of teaching English through raps.

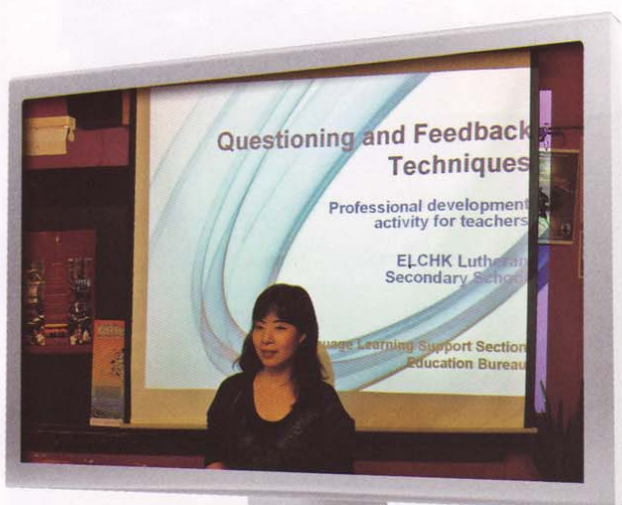


The Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers invites the winners of the 'Outstanding Teachers Award 2010' to share their strategies of teaching English.

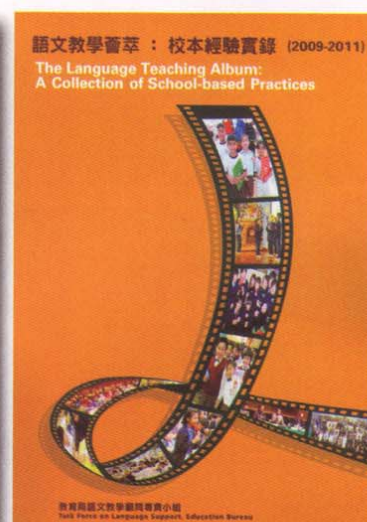
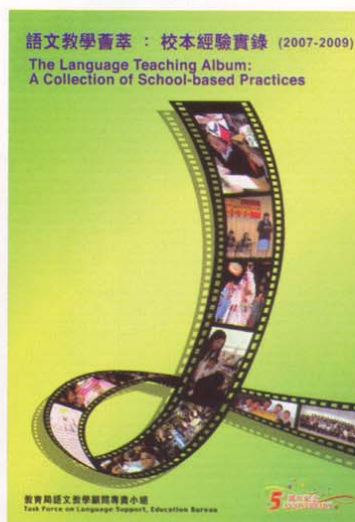
Collaborations with the Language Learning Support Section, the Education Bureau



Ms Cheung (in pink) and four S5 students introduce ways to get rid of stage fright and use of attention-getters in a public speaking training video pack prepared by the Education Bureau.



Ms Florence Yip, Senior School Development Officer from the Education Bureau, introduces Bloom's Taxonomy and questioning techniques to all S3 English teachers who want to improve their teaching strategies.



Our strategies of fostering English speaking skills at Key Stage 3 are introduced in The Language Teaching Album: A Collection of School-based Practices.

Short Trip, Forever Friendship

The Hong Kong - Germany exchange programme may have ended a few weeks ago, but the memories are still fresh in our minds.

We visited lots of attractions in Hong Kong, such as The International Finance Centre (IFC), Victoria Harbour, Star Ferry, and many other places.

On the first day, we split up into many groups, visited many places and also went shopping. Our group went to Fa Yuen Street and The Ladies Market. The German buddies did a lot of shopping and bought a lot of goods such as accessories, clothing, hats, shoes and other souvenirs. It was really fun helping them bargain with the vendors! Through bargaining, our English speaking and translation skills improved a lot! At night, we gathered in front of Victoria Harbour and took The Star Ferry back to the hotel. It was enjoyable for us to take the ferry.

The next day, we went to Tsim Sha Tsui again to take a lot of pictures of Victoria Harbour and the Clock Tower. Then we took the Star Ferry to Hong Kong Island and visited the IFC. Next, we went to try wanton noodles, one of Hong Kong's most famous local foods. Even though some of our

German buddies didn't know how to use chopsticks, most of them really liked eating wanton noodles. Later, we went to Mong Kok and visited The Temple Street Jade Market. Although they did not buy anything, they really enjoyed browsing through the stalls.

Finally, we went back to school and had our farewell dinner. Sure, we cried a lot but we really enjoyed the time that we had together and we appreciated the friendship that we built up during these days. I hope I will have more experiences like this in the future.

Bon Bon Chow (4A)



Hong Kong trifft Neustadt

Chinesische Schüler besuchten Küstengymnasium



Die Austauschschüler hatten ein riesiges Plakat mit der Aufschrift „Hong Kong/Germany Exchange Programme 2011“ mitgebracht und dieses beim Besuch im Rathaus stolz präsentiert.

Neustadt. Insgesamt 17 Schüler und vier Lehrer besuchten vom 25. Juni bis zum 3. Juli im Rahmen eines Schüleraustauschprogramms das Küstengymnasium Neustadt. In den letzten Osterferien waren bereits 18 Schüler aus Neustadt nach Hong Kong gereist, um die Kultur und die Menschen besser kennenzulernen. Nun statteten die ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School und die Yuen Long Secondary School Hong Kong ihren Gegenbesuch ab. Ausflüge in das Museum zeitTOr, Segeltörns oder ein Besuch in Kiel standen unter anderem bei den Jugendlichen auf dem Programm. Am vergangenen Mittwoch besuchten die teilnehmenden Schüler dann das Neustädter Rathaus und Bürgermeister

Henning Reimann, der sich geduldig für gemeinsame Fotoaufnahmen zur Verfügung stellte und viele Informationen von den Austauschschülern über die Unterschiede in Kultur und Essgewohnheit bekam. Besonders beeindruckend war für die Schüler aus Hong Kong der strahlend blaue Himmel, der sich in der vergangenen Woche zeigte, denn diesen bekämen sie zu Hause wegen des Smogs nie zu sehen, wie die Lehrer berichteten. Der Aufenthalt der Gäste endet in dem gemeinsamen Besuch des Open Air Konzertes in Grömitz am heutigen Samstag, bei dem unter anderem die namhafte Band Juli ihre deutschen Lieder präsentieren wird.



German newspaper Der Reporter's report on the visit of delegation of ELCHK Lutheran Secondary School to Neustadt, Germany, on 2 July 2011.



S2 students and their German buddies take pride in the beautiful artworks they make in a visual arts lesson.



Hong Kong – Germany Exchange Programme

I felt very excited after the 2011 Hong Kong – Germany exchange programme because it changed my views about English. When I talked with our German buddies, they did not care so much about my incorrect grammar and sentences. They thought that it was enough if they understood what I said. Therefore, I am braver than before. This increased my confidence in speaking English. From now on, I will make sure that my sentences are right before I talk.

After this programme, I treasured the time we had together. I felt comfortable talking with them because they didn't care so much about my mistakes. Finally, I know that it is easy to improve my English speaking skills if I am brave enough to try.

During the programme, I talked with my German buddy. We talked about the differences between Hong Kong and Germany. We are very

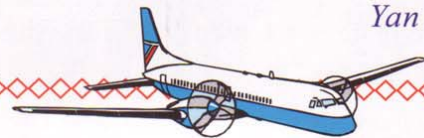


The Hong Kong and German buddies tour around the city as part of the 'Discovering Hong Kong' programme.

happy that we can continue to chat on Facebook after she returned to Germany.

I hope I can have more opportunities to communicate with other buddies.

Yan Sin (5C)



Food, Fairs, Church Organs and Zoos: My 10 days in Germany

I think this exchange programme was a good chance for us to learn more about the culture, history and people in another country. Let me explain what I have learnt in this trip.

This was my first time going to Europe. I felt very excited! I went to **Kiel**, **Hamburg**, **Eutin**, and **Lübeck**. I went to the '**Kieler Woche**' festival. In this festival we could buy a lot of food, like **french fries**, **lebkuchenherzen**, **Döner** and so on. I tried the spit with chicken. It was delicious! I bought two lebkuchenherzen cookies for my classmates. I joined the Freefall-Tower too.

We went to Lübeck to visit churches. Mr Hübner was our tour guide. We visited **Saint Jakob Church** and it was very beautiful. After visiting the churches, we went shopping! I bought **Marzipan** for my family.

We went around **Neustadt** where we lived. We had a chance to talk with the mayor of Neustadt. After that we went to the church and we listened to the Organ performance. It was awesome!



Karen Lee (left) enjoys making bread with her German buddy Franziska Brunion (2nd from the left) at Bäckerhandwerk, a bakery school in Germany.

My German buddy Franziska brought me to the zoo, which is in **Grömitz**. I saw many different types of animals, like kangaroos, monkeys, donkeys, sheep, rabbits, tigers, and seals. We loved the zoo very much!

I spent a great time with my buddy's family. We had meals in the garden. Her mother cooks very well! I picked some berries from the garden. It was a good experience for me to see what German people like to eat.

In this exchange programme I did not just play. I learnt many things that we can't learn from school or books. I like this exchange programme very much!

Karen Lee (3A)

Thoughts from Neustadt: My Experience in Germany

After travelling to Germany for an exchange programme with German students, I want to thank Principal Liang and Ms Wen for giving me the chance to go.

We travelled to a town called Neustadt. It is a beautiful and quiet town. There are many trees around the road and I loved it because I could breathe fresh air. It was also different from Hong Kong. I loved having barbecues in Germany because I could eat as many sausages as I wanted. I was happy about that.

I loved my host family very much. They were very nice to me. We always helped each other if there were any problems. I loved to play mini-golf with them. I got a lot of joy from this activity. My buddy Svenja and I always laughed together when we were doing something crazy. She shared her feelings with us. This is what she said:

"I think it is a very interesting experience to have somebody with a completely different culture in our home. I think it is very strange to eat so loudly. But it is good to know how other people live, however. If I had to decide between the German and Hong Kong ways of living, I'd choose the German way. Also, it is interesting to see the differences between the Hong Kong people. Some are very shy, some are so thankful, and some are different from the German people in every aspect."

Finally, I have to say that this experience was very nice and interesting!

Alvin Ho (3D)

A month to remember: a trip to Indiana, the United States

Ms Wen, Vice-principal, and four students from our school traveled to Indiana, USA from 22 September to 2 October 2010. I was one of the participants. My stay there has broadened my horizons. It is certainly one of the most colourful chapters in my life.

I lived with a host family and my host student's name was Jeremy. A smart teenager and a quality leader. Jeremy lives with his parents and two younger brothers. His father Scott is a very tall and kind man. He brought me to visit a lot of places when both of us were free. We did many activities, for example, bowling, playing golf, and hiking. Scott could also cook many delicious dishes! I believe that he could be a chef. Although it was quite fattening, I enjoyed the food Scott cooked very much.

Jeremy's mother is also friendly just like her husband. She made our breakfast every morning and drove us to school. She brought us to watch a football game, which was different from the ones in Hong Kong! She is a helpful woman and always helped me when I had a problem.

I gave them a big fan as a gift and they loved it very much. They also gave me some special gifts. We cried at the airport on the last day because all of them did not want me to leave.

I miss them so much and I promised that I will visit them in 2012.

I love my host family. I had lots of memorable experiences in Indiana. They are now friends whom I will never forget.

This trip was special for me. I made more friends and became more independent. In those eleven days, I left my parents to live a new life. **This trip gave me confidence to do anything. Also, I could improve my spoken English. I learned lots of things that I could not learn from school.** I hope I will have another experience like this someday.

Tony Ng (5A)



Tony Ng (3rd from the right) is grateful of the hospitality of Jeremy (front left) and his family in Indiana, the United States.

My stay in America: a horizon-broadening experience



Rebecca Wong (left) and her buddy at South Vermillion High School, Indiana, the United States.

For me, the trip to America was very long: it lasted for ten days and the flight from Hong Kong to Indiana took about 21 hours. It was not comfortable for me to be on the airplane. The weather was so cold that their autumn was as cold as our winter! However, I could not help falling in love with this country. The air in Indiana was exceptionally fresh and I could see many stars at night! We cannot see any stars at night in Hong Kong. I enjoyed my stay in America.

I met a lot of friends. Their names were Shelbi, Amanda, Morgan, Max and Kaden. My host family was nice. They took care of me very well. Their names were Bob, Kari and Samantha. They knew I did not like fast food, so they brought me to a Chinese restaurant. There were many competitions at their school. I watched a soccer game on the first day. There was a football game

the next day. I felt very excited watching the games. The players were strong and smart. I love their school life because they were free in their lessons. They could talk and play. Their teachers just talked a little about their books. In the chemistry lessons, my classmates did physical experiments. In the genetics lessons, we played with a mouse. There were a lot of students dating at school. It was common to see students holding hands, hugging and kissing at school. Girls wore make up as well. On Saturday, there was homecoming celebration. The students wore shirts and dresses to the dance.

If I had not gone to Indiana, I would have just continued my life in Hong Kong: going to school and waiting for school to finish. **The world is really big.** I wish I could have stayed in Indiana for a longer time, for it is a relaxing place.

Rebecca Wong (5D)

My Trip to Singapore

After going on the trip to Singapore, I have learnt a lot of new vocabulary and know more about Singapore's culture. During this trip, I also learned how to be more independent. Although I was not used to staying in my buddy's home, I tried my best. At first, we had problems communicating with each other. After a few hours though, we managed to adapt.

My buddy is a lovely girl. She always taught me a lot of new words and took me to famous places to go sight-seeing. Meanwhile, I bought some souvenirs for my friends.

I think Singapore is like Hong Kong. They are both beautiful places. The public transportation in both cities is very convenient. Since Singapore is smaller than Hong Kong, they only have a few factories. I could breathe more fresh air there. Their sky is always clear and blue. There are a lot of trees everywhere. On the whole, Singapore really emphasizes their green environment.

I love this place. If I have free time, I hope I can go there again and meet my buddy. We live in different countries but we always keep in touch through Facebook and MSN. I cherish our friendship and I miss her.

Heidi Leung (4B)



Heidi Leung (2nd from the left) receives a souvenir from Principal Tan (3rd from the left) of Millennia Institute, Singapore.