

# HON WAH IN BLOSSOM

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# Message from the Principal

Hon Wah in Blossom transcends its status as a mere annual departmental publication of the English Department at Hon Wah College. It stands as a testament to the department's unwavering commitment to providing our students with high-quality English Language Education (ELE) by integrating and enriching innovative teaching methodologies. This publication also exemplifies the school's and the English Department's dedication to equipping our students with a diverse range of proficient English language skills, forward-thinking leadership qualities, and essential competencies necessary for success in local, national, and global contexts in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We are delighted in witnessing the English Department's exceptional achievements in learning and teaching (L&T), public assessments, and value-added attainments. It brings us immense joy to see many of our graduates pursuing their dreams at distinguished universities both locally and globally.

This year, the English Department has integrated Drama in English Language Education (DELE) and Language Arts (LA) into the English Curriculum of Secondary 1, with a focus on adolescent literature to expand students' literary exposure. This integration aims to nurture a love for reading and performing arts.

We are proud of our students' accomplishments at the 76<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival (English Language) and the Hong Kong School Drama Festival this year. It is truly remarkable to have students ranked among the top achievers in Hong Kong, earning us an invitation to the prestigious 76<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival Prize-Winners' Recitals, where our students showcased their talents and experienced the exceptional performances of the territory's best.

May our students continue to thrive and transform their successful stories into meaningful milestones in their lives. May the English Department persist in guiding our students to build their dreams and achieve their aspirations.

*Kwan Wing Bun*



# Messages From Alumni

## The Life and Times of a Medical Student at HKU

Zhu zixuan, George



香港大學

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Medicine is a highly sought-after field, attracting thousands of students who strive diligently to gain admission into this esteemed program. When you think of "Medicine," you might envision performing surgery, prescribing medication, and treating patients. However, a genuine passion for science is also essential to becoming a competent doctor. As you embark on your journey into the realm of medicine, you will encounter an abundance of scientific knowledge. Practical experience and hands-on practice are equally critical in this pursuit.

I have been both curious and eager about my university life. At the start of the first semester, I had the opportunity to participate in a campfire event, which was filled with excitement and enthusiastic engagement from everyone. The people here are incredibly knowledgeable and talented, and I am fortunate to be surrounded by such friendly and amiable individuals. While lectures can sometimes be monotonous, we also have engaging workshops that help us unwind. For instance, the 'Mindfulness' workshop provides a guide to mindful practice, aiding in relaxation and concentration. This semester, we began learning dissection, and our professors have taught us to honor and reflect on the magnificence of our bodies and the concepts of life and death. I eagerly anticipate the opportunities that lie ahead in my university journey.

It is hard to believe that an entire semester has already passed since I became a university student. Initially, I felt as though I had experienced very little, but in reality, there have been numerous significant moments. I completed my first group presentation with my wonderful group mates. Remarkably, even though one member was not Chinese, we managed to communicate effectively in Mandarin. It sounds improbable, but it's true! I also accompanied a classmate to a doctor's visit, where we engaged in a fascinating conversation covering topics from medicine to university life. Most importantly, I successfully passed my first semester's final exams with a perfect score, a gratifying and unforgettable achievement!

Reflecting on my time at Hon Wah College, I am filled with gratitude for all the teachers who supported and guided me both academically and personally. Their encouragement has been invaluable. My friends have also been instrumental in my life, providing unwavering support and companionship. Lastly, I extend my deepest gratitude to my family for their unwavering devotion and dedication throughout my upbringing.

Thank you for taking the time to read about my journey. I hope to see you in the MBBS program soon!



More than an  
Autograph





# My Mental and Physical Journey After the Release of DSE Results

Hung Yue, Venus



香港大學

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Hello, I'm Hung Yue, Venus, a first-year social science student at the University of Hong Kong and a 2024 graduate of Hon Wah College. I am currently pursuing a double major in Social Policy and Social Development, and Global Creative Industry, with a minor in Journalism and Media Studies.

Becoming a part of HKU is a dream realized. I have aspired to join this prestigious institution since Form 4. The three years of preparation for the DSE were indeed filled with challenges, but the experiences and people I've encountered since September have made every effort worthwhile. At the start of the semester, I joined the Peer Impact Network (PIN) program through the student support center, where I served as a peer English tutor, helping students from the mainland improve their English conversation skills. This was a memorable experience, allowing me to interact with students across China, from Shenzhen to Shandong, and even Harbin. We exchanged thoughts on culture, politics, and personal experiences during our sessions, forming lasting friendships.

Additionally, I joined the Lee Chi Hong Non-residential Hall, where I met many local students. Together, we played Mahjong, Switch, and snooker during class breaks, explored various restaurants in Sai Wan for lunch, and even formed a band to perform at high table dinners. These experiences have been invaluable and have enriched my university life immensely.

Although I successfully gained admission to university, the program I am currently enrolled in was not my initial choice. My DSE results prompted me to reassess my academic journey and consider new opportunities. This led me to question the adage that 'hard work pays off'. Determined to redefine my journey, I chose to step out of my comfort zone to explore my true interests and aspirations. I worked at Starbucks for two months, embarked on solo trips, organized a campus tour with peers from different faculties, and selected a university in Istanbul, Turkey, for my exchange program.

I've come to realize that while life may not always offer what you expect, it often provides what suits you best. In times of frustration, instead of doubting or questioning, embrace the moment. View each failure as an opportunity, each sadness as a lesson, and each challenge as a chance for growth. Ultimately, you are the only one who can define your path, not the numbers on a transcript or the opinions of others.

Finally, I wish to express my deep gratitude to my family and friends, whose unwavering support and encouragement have given me the courage to pursue my passions. I am also thankful to Hon Wah for nurturing me over the past 12 years and helping me develop a well-rounded personality, enabling me to navigate an ever-changing society with confidence.

I am currently preparing for my upcoming exchange program and planning future travels to Russia in May and Tibet in June. I look forward to sharing more about my enriching university and travel experiences in the near future.



# Freshman Year: A Journey of New Beginnings

Sze Wong Lam, Jemmy



Hello everyone! My name is Sze Wong Lam, and I am an undergraduate student at CUHK. Last September, I started an exciting new chapter in my life, majoring in Mechanical and Automation Engineering.

This field includes various research areas such as robotics, energy, and automation. During my first year, I had the chance to work with 3D printing technology and CNC machines, which I believe will appeal to those who enjoy designing and creating.

For example, I collaborated with classmates to design a puzzle box based on centrifugal force, using software like SolidWorks and 3D printing technology. With the strong support of our teachers, we had the opportunity to take on many hands-on projects ourselves.

Nonetheless, university presents exciting opportunities for growth, such as adapting to a new learning environment, experiencing diverse teaching styles, and exploring unfamiliar concepts. As a native Chinese speaker, I initially faced some challenges in adjusting quickly, but these experiences have been instrumental in building resilience and enhancing my academic journey.

Despite these challenges, there are many exciting aspects of university life worth exploring, such as the orientation camp (O-camp). This event is a great opportunity for freshmen to make new friends and get familiar with the campus, creating memorable experiences. While I selectively chose some activities to participate in, I still successfully formed friendships across various classes. Rest assured, making connections at university is entirely within reach. A vibrant social network greatly enriches the university experience, providing both academic collaboration and emotional support.

Finally, I sincerely hope that all of you embark on your own journeys with enthusiasm and make choices that are right for you. While there will be many unknowns and challenges ahead, it's important to find the courage to move forward, as life offers plenty of room for trial and error. Just like debugging code, you will eventually find the right solution after making mistakes. As the saying goes, "All roads lead to Rome." Believe in yourselves.





# Equip Yourself, Treasure Opportunities, and Embrace the Moments to Showcase Your Potential

Cheng Ho Fung, Halvin



香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong

As a graduate of the class of 2024, I am thrilled to have received an offer from City University of Hong Kong (CityU) for a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, as I had hoped. I have always been eager to discover what university life holds. Would I make as many friends as I did in secondary school? Would the professors be welcoming? Would I encounter as many opportunities as I had at Hon Wah, such as performing on stage, delivering presentations, being an emcee, or being interviewed by RTHK radio? It required considerable time and effort to achieve my goal, and now I am finally a university student!

I owe this achievement not only to my own dedication in preparing for the DSE, which allowed me to score well and gain admission to my dream university, but also to my mother. Her unwavering encouragement to strive for my future and realize my dreams was invaluable. She taught me to cherish every opportunity, which led me to eagerly participate in the STEAM-teaching scheme organized by the College of Science of CityU.

I discovered this initiative through a promotional email, which required me to prepare teaching materials for two secondary schools in English. After successfully completing the two teaching days, the college staff recognized my potential and invited me to serve as the emcee for the Mentorship Kick-off Ceremony last month. Although it was not my first experience as an emcee, this role was more demanding, involving more content to memorize and hosting a game that required quick-



thinking communication skills. Despite the challenges, everything went smoothly! As a result, the College of Science has appointed me as their emcee for future events.

Gaining so many opportunities early in my university life has reinforced the lesson of valuing every chance I receive. If I work hard, opportunities will present themselves, and I will be prepared to seize them. Valuing each opportunity leads to even more, ultimately enriching my experience further.





## Navigating University Life: Insights and Advice from a Freshman

Wu Hoi Lam, Katherine



香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong

Hello everyone! I'm Katherine, a freshman majoring in Chinese and History at City University of Hong Kong (CityU). My university experience has been delightfully smooth,

allowing me to immerse myself in attending classes, participating in tutoring, and enjoying quality time with friends who also graduated from Hon Wah College. While my journey of personal accomplishments is just beginning, I am filled with enthusiasm

and optimism for what lies ahead. I'm excited to share some valuable insights and advice based on my experiences so far.

Once you've completed the DSE, it's a great time to start learning the ropes of research paper writing. This includes getting a firm grasp on proper paper formatting and how to select a compelling topic. Additionally, if it aligns with your future plans, consider taking the IELTS to boost your English proficiency or obtaining relevant professional licenses. For instance, I managed to pass two papers for the securities license. Surprisingly, these were less challenging than the DSE subjects. Moreover, take some time to envision your long-term career goals and what kind of professional you aspire to be.



Another crucial point is to never stop improving your English. In the university environment, English is an essential tool. You'll be using it in daily classes, exams, when writing research papers, and during presentations. Notably, right after a presentation, you're likely to be bombarded with questions that you need to answer in English on the spot.

When it comes to mindset, it's important to remember that the major you choose or the school you're in currently doesn't define your entire life or career path. The process of choosing a major can be quite overwhelming. If your focus extends beyond just achieving a first-class honor or immediately pursuing further education, embrace a holistic approach to your studies. Engage deeply with your assignments, review diligently before exams, and make attending classes a priority. This balanced approach will enrich your university experience and prepare you for future opportunities. If your focus extends beyond just achieving a first-class honor or immediately pursuing further education, embrace a holistic approach to your studies. Engage deeply with your assignments, review diligently before exams, and make attending classes a priority. This balanced approach will enrich your university experience and prepare you for future opportunities.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all my teachers. Their guidance and support have been instrumental in helping me successfully gain admission to university.



More than an  
Autograph





# University of Sunshine and Tomorrow: Optimism for the Future and Hope

Niu Baixiang, Sean



香港科技大學

THE HONG KONG  
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

The universe has inspired human curiosity since ancient times. From philosophers gazing at the stars and pondering existence to today's scientists employing telescopes and particle accelerators to unravel its mysteries, it is the desire to explore the unknown that led me to choose Science, a crucial subject for Hong Kong students. Although the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has been humorously dubbed the 'University of Stress and Tension' due to its rigorous environment, I envision it as the 'University of Sunshine and Tomorrow.'

Science is a field brimming with challenges and opportunities. It presents numerous complex problems across various disciplines, teaching me to problem-solve and think creatively. The sense of achievement I experience when overcoming these challenges is unparalleled.

Moreover, the students here defy the stereotypical 'nerd' image. They actively engage in campus activities and discussions, embracing the freedom of university life. Personally, I rekindled my passion for fencing, joined the university team, and became an executive council member of the fencing club.

University serves as both a launching pad for dreams and a training ground for hope. Here, we apply our learning through practical activities, gaining experience and honing our skills. We can engage in scientific research projects to push the boundaries of our thinking, participate in volunteer activities to give back, and undertake internships to gain real-world insights. These experiences not only enhance our capabilities but also deepen our self-understanding and clarify our goals.

University life is vibrant, offering opportunities to learn, gain hands-on experience, and conquer challenges. By striving to practice and explore, we can realize our dreams and transform our hopes into reality. The future may hold unknowns, but with hope as our guide, nothing can deter us from progress. Let us embrace hope, face life's challenges with courage, and pursue our dreams relentlessly. I believe that in the near future, we will each welcome the dawn of our own success.



# Navigating New Beginnings: My Path from Hon Wah to University

Sze Kin Lok, Ivan



香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong

It is a privilege for me to be featured in Hon Wah in Blossom to share my experience as an alumnus. After graduating from Hon Wah College, I start my university journey, studying electrical engineering in City University of Hong Kong. This major has allowed me to explore the world with various fields, including Physics, Mathematic, engineering, and even computer science.

Though my time at university, I have forged some friendships with similar interest. We talk about some complex concepts and figure out how to make them easier to understand. Additionally, I have participated in a variety of university or society-sponsored activities, such as career fairs, exhibitions, and visits. It broadens my knowledge of electrical engineering and other fields. It also benefits my further career.

Reflecting on the remarkable journey in my secondary school, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my parents, this school and everyone who has supported me along the way. My parents have given me infinite support. And I have learnt invaluable knowledge here. Not only have I acquired concepts from the textbooks, but I have also gleaned opportunity and the life lessons through different challenges. All these contribute to my growth a lot. Furthermore, I have formed many unforgettable friendships with professional teachers. They have given me a lot of mental and academic support during my preparation for the public exam. They have given me a remarkable secondary school life.

For the message to schoolmates, I encourage you to embrace every opportunity that comes your way. Be brave to face every challenge. Build connections, seek knowledge, and don't hesitate to step out of your comfort zone. Your journey may be challenging but you will find that there is many people support you at your back. These challenges will contribute to your strength and experience. For schoolmates who will face the public exam, just try your best for the exam. I am sure that your teachers will support you. No matter you are satisfy to the result or not, don't give up. This may be a wonderful journey for you. Also, everyone remembers to enjoy your wonderful, joyful secondary school life, as it is a remarkable chapter in your life!

As I reflect on my remarkable journey, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the experiences, the people, and the opportunities that have shaped my time at Hon Wah College. I am looking forward to carry on with this trip, facing some challenging and embrace to the wonderful further.





# Embarking on a New Journey After 12 Years

Ching Chun Hoi, Denon



香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong

After a dozen years, I awoke without my school uniform for the first time and boarded the MTR to a new destination - City University. Here, I find myself standing at the threshold of the future I have diligently worked towards, prompting reflections on the stark contrast between my past and present.



University life undoubtedly offers excitement to many, bestowing newfound freedoms and the ability to select courses that pique your interest, allowing you to delve into subjects you passionately wish to explore. Personally, the vast expanse of my campus, the seemingly endless walks akin to marathons, and the diverse cafeteria menus were all novel experiences, a far cry from the familiarity of my school days at Hon Wah College. The vibrant tapestry of university life, embellished with bands, performances, and student-run cafes, has only served to enrich this new chapter. Ironically, my immersion in academia has left me exploring a mere fraction of the offerings, as the demands of my coursework consume much of my time.

Reflecting on my journey, my inspiring academic tenure at Hon Wah College, which began in Primary 1, guided me from a curious and eager child to the confident and accomplished individual I am today. The classroom walls, the melodic chimes signaling the end of each lesson, the rhythmic cadence of my steps on the staircases - these familiarities were constants for over a decade. As I walked through the corridors to my lecture halls, memories flooded back, prompting a deep sense of appreciation for the dedicated educators who guided me through my challenges, and the spirited classmates whose presence added a unique charm to those rooms. While the benefits of higher education are numerous, a part of me yearns for the simplicity and familiarity that defined over 60% of my life thus far.



An unchanging sentiment is my profound appreciation for the individuals at Hon Wah College who nurtured my growth, molding me into the person I stand as today. Without their guidance, I doubt I would relish the privileges and identity I possess now. It is imperative that we cherish every facet of our existence - past, present, and future - recognizing the intrinsic value each holds. Embrace these moments, reflect on their significance, but anchor yourself in the present, cognizant that change is inevitable, be it favorable or challenging.





## My Journey in Physical Education

Tsang Chun Lok, Kenny



Hello everyone! My name is Kenny Tsang. I graduated last year and am currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Physical Education at the Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK). This five-year full-time program has proven to be an exceptional experience, enabling me to delve deeply into the realms of education and physical fitness. It has provided me with the indispensable knowledge and skills necessary to embark on a career as a Physical Education teacher, inspiring the

forthcoming generations.

My university life has been exceptionally fulfilling. Right from the moment I set foot on campus, I began forging connections with peers from diverse academic backgrounds. Engaging in orientation activities, such as the Jockey Club Student Quarters (JCSQ) orientation camp, the EdUHKPE orientation day, and the EdUHK open day, has played a pivotal role in fostering a strong sense of belonging within me. These events not only facilitated interactions with like-minded individuals but also facilitated a seamless transition into the new university environment.

One of the standout moments in my first year has been my participation in the university squash team. Apart from being immensely enjoyable, this sport has imparted invaluable lessons in perseverance. Fortunately, I had the privilege to represent the university in the Squash Competition organized by The University Sports Federation of Hong Kong, China. As we progress to the semifinals, I am hopeful that our diligent efforts will culminate in a well-deserved medal.

Upon reflection, I take immense pride in my academic and personal accomplishments. I have undergone substantial growth, not solely as a student, but also as an individual poised to confront the challenges associated with being a Physical Education teacher. A significant portion of my success can be attributed to the steadfast support of Hon Wah College, which has furnished me with essential resources and opportunities to hone my skills and chart my professional trajectory.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my parents, friends, and teachers for their unwavering encouragement and guidance throughout my secondary education journey. Their unwavering belief in my abilities has served as a constant wellspring of motivation, and I eagerly anticipate the unfolding of this path in the days to come.



More than an  
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# Victim of a Blessing in Disguise

Chiu Yiu Yin, Eli

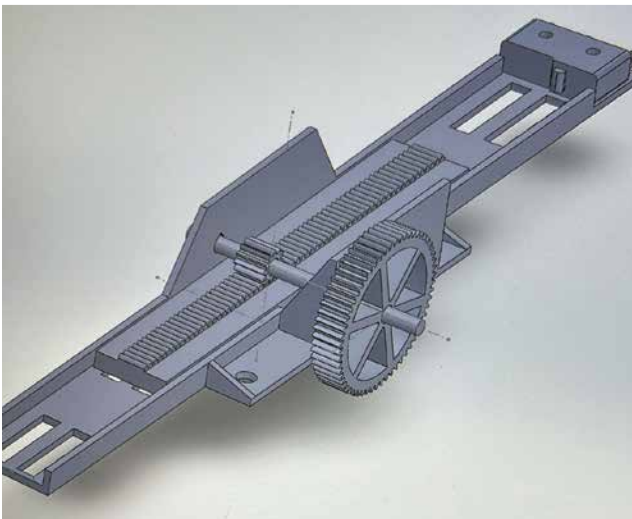


I would like to preface this by expressing my genuine gratitude for my current circumstances; my time at Durham University has been immensely enriching and enlightening. However, my original path was supposed to lead me elsewhere.

Let's take a brief journey back to January 2024: I received a particularly special email from the University of Oxford, congratulating me on receiving a conditional offer and outlining the terms and conditions. Fast forward to April 2024, as the DSE exams approached, tensions were high, and, unfortunately, I contracted COVID-19. I was genuinely distraught. So much so that I took a COVID test immediately after my English exam, saw that I tested positive, and then convinced myself that I didn't actually have COVID. Despite the challenges that arose during this period, my journey took an unexpected turn, leading me to Durham through the clearing process.

I embraced the opportunity to be in Durham, joining the ranks of many others in similar situations, and I couldn't be happier that I did. Here, I have encountered some of the kindest and most welcoming individuals I have ever met, and I have been able to pursue my passions in music and the creative arts while advancing my strengths and career aspirations. More importantly, the dramatic change in lifestyle and environment afforded me the opportunity to engage in much-needed introspection and personal development, which I could not have achieved in Hong Kong. To be candid, if I were in a city like Oxford, characterized by its academic prestige and exclusivity, I doubt my experience would be as fulfilling as it is here.

My primary takeaway from this experience is this: you are exactly where you are meant to be, whether you realize it immediately or not. Life's unexpected twists often lead to opportunities that are just as rewarding, if not more so, than those originally planned. While challenges are inevitable, they often open



doors to new paths and joys that we might not have otherwise discovered. Embrace the happy moments, and when faced with difficult times, trust that "this too shall pass." Life is a journey that unfolds in unexpected ways, and it's these surprises that enrich our stories and help us grow. As I once read, "Life is a journey meant to be lived forwards, with its true meaning often revealed in hindsight."



## My Journey in Cultural Heritage and Museology at Fudan University

Mok Hoi Lam, Emily



Hello everyone!

I am Mok Hoi Lam Emily, a proud graduate of the 74th batch, currently embarking on my freshman journey at Fudan University. In the upcoming semester, I am poised to commence my studies in the Department of Cultural Heritage and Museology, focusing on archaeology, cultural relics

restoration, museum management, exhibitions, and more. This program offers a holistic examination of the entire process, from excavating cultural relics to their eventual exhibition and promotion.

Reflecting on my collegiate journey, I have encountered challenges that have ultimately been enriching. Despite the absence of structured learning directly pertinent to my current major during my time in Hong Kong, I undertook a path of self-education to lay a robust foundation of knowledge and understanding. Joining the Hong Kong-Shanghai Student Affairs Committee has been pivotal in fostering connections with peers from Hong Kong and diverse regions within Fudan University.

I hold a positive outlook that the ongoing progress in the Greater Bay Area will propel significant growth in China's traditional cultural industry. My aspiration is to capitalize on this expansion and eventually return to Hong Kong to contribute to societal progress, particularly in the realms of cultural promotion, museum management, and exhibition-related endeavors.

As I eagerly anticipate my return to Hong Kong to embark on this journey, I am deeply grateful to my family for their unwavering support in my decision to pursue this major. Their encouragement has been a cornerstone in my academic pursuits. Furthermore, I express sincere gratitude to the teachers at Hon Wah College for their guidance, which facilitated a seamless transition to Fudan University.





# Expanding Horizons: My University Journey at Simon Fraser University (SFU)

Cheung Ching To, Matthew



Hello, I am Cheung Ching To Matthew, a Computer Science major at Simon Fraser University (SFU). My time at SFU has been a transformative experience from my high school years, driven by my love for technology and

coding, particularly in Python. This passion has led me into a world of innovation and problem-solving, where I immerse myself in projects that challenge my critical and creative thinking, from developing algorithms to creating software applications. The freedom and adaptability of university life have enabled me to delve deeply into my interests while balancing academics with valuable experiences.

University life at SFU represents a departure from the structured routine of high school, offering me the autonomy to craft my own path. Beyond academics, I have discovered a dynamic community of friends who share my spirit for adventure. Together, we have embarked on thrilling activities like snowboarding, engaging in airsoft battles, and hosting lively gatherings. Among our unforgettable escapades was skydiving in Los Angeles, embodying the fearless camaraderie we have nurtured. These moments have not only brought joy but have also instilled in me the importance of friendship and pushing boundaries.

Personally and professionally, I have reached significant milestones that fill me with pride. As an IPSC professional shooter, I have had the privilege to train at renowned Canadian ranges, refining my skills and discipline. This sport has imparted lessons in focus, precision, and resilience, which have proven invaluable in my academic pursuits. Balancing my shooting passion with my studies has presented challenges but has been immensely fulfilling.

The support of the remarkable individuals in my life has been instrumental in my journey. My friends at SFU have stood by me through academic obstacles and shared in my triumphs. I am profoundly thankful for everyone's encouragement and the lasting memories we have forged together. As I continue to evolve, I look forward to the future, confident that the lessons learned and the connections made will illuminate my path ahead.





## Journey to Success: A Tale of Unity and Achievement in Dramatic Duologue

S3A Wu Kai Lok



My drama partner, Christina Yuen, encouraged my participation in a dramatic duologue competition once again this year. Engaging in this event proved to be a rewarding experience that I thoroughly enjoyed.

To be precise, the endeavor was not only entertaining but also enriching. Collaborating with my partner and the additional practice team was both fulfilling and demanding.

This marks my second year of engaging in dramatic duologue with my partner. The extensive and tiring practice sessions provided valuable experience, drawing from the lessons learned in the previous year. We also found inspiration from another team performing the same script, incorporating their innovative ideas into our own performance.

Upon our arrival at the competition venue, we were surrounded by a multitude of outstanding performances. Despite feeling apprehensive due to the high level of competition, we focused and delivered our performance. While the details of the performance are somewhat hazy in my memory, the adjudicator's prolonged deliberation left us both anxious about our reception.

I am pleased to announce that my partner and I secured first place, setting a new record for the highest marks in Dramatic Duologue in the past five years. While I take pride in this achievement, I am even more delighted for the recognition received by my partner and our teacher, Ms Tam, who were both elated by our success.

I extend my gratitude to the adjudicator for her encouraging feedback. Her commendation of my portrayal as reflecting "genuine integrity" and the effective balance I brought to the scene, particularly the nuanced characterization, was deeply appreciated. While I value her praise, I must acknowledge my partner's exceptional performance, which truly elevated our duologue.

On January 18th, my partner and I participated in the 76th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival Prize-Winners' Recitals, which was a delightful experience. The event not only offered greater freedom on stage but also provided the opportunity to witness stellar performances in both Chinese and English from many prestigious schools in Hong Kong. In the week leading up to the event, we made subtle adjustments to the blocking and mannerisms of our characters to enhance the overall scene. The effort invested in these refinements proved worthwhile, contributing to a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

I wish to express my gratitude to my partner for her contributions to the blocking and her patience, as well as to our teacher, Ms Tam, for her guidance on the finer details of our performance. Additionally, I extend my thanks to my mother for attending the event, a gesture that was a pleasant surprise and greatly appreciated.



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# Milestone Achievement: Exceeding Expectations in Dramatic Duologue

S3A Yuen Christina



Once again, my partner Kai and I participated in the Dramatic Duologue competition for the second time, aiming for the best possible outcome. This year, we tackled a more challenging script that demanded a deeper exploration of facial expressions and emotions through movement. Leveraging the lessons learned from our experiences last year, I set my sights higher on clinching the top position, knowing that achieving this ambitious goal would require us to push our abilities to the limit. Our practice sessions became a daily routine after school and during lunchtimes with our trainer, Ms Tam.

Recognizing Kai's initial reservations regarding this aspect of the competition, I actively worked to make his practice sessions more engaging and focused on refining essential performance elements. This collaborative effort not only supported Kai in enhancing his facial expression skills but also provided me with valuable insights into creating effective blocking, enriching my understanding of our craft. Guided by Ms Tam, we both embraced our preparation with enthusiasm and commitment, aiming to elevate our performance to the highest standard possible.

Upon our arrival at the competition venue, I couldn't help but feel a wave of apprehension as I observed the apparent preparedness of the other participants. Watching their performances, I began to doubt our chances of success. However, as I stepped onto the stage and the performance commenced, a sense of calm washed over me. My mind seemed to go blank, and my body moved instinctively, reciting lines as we had practiced rigorously. Despite the excitement causing my heart to race and my thoughts to scatter, muscle memory proved invaluable. Every moment spent perfecting our performance culminated in that critical performance.

In essence, Kai and I clinched the first place, setting a new record for the highest score in Dramatic Duologue. This achievement came as a delightful surprise to me. I extend my gratitude to our adjudicator, who provided us with a multitude of compliments and expressed that our performance would be etched in her memory forever. The acknowledgment of playing my character flawlessly touched me deeply, though I recognise that this accomplishment wouldn't have been possible without Kai's ability to balance the dynamic by embodying the character as a true gentleman. The recognition of our hard work holds a special place in my heart.

On January 18th, we received a message from Ms Tam, informing us of our invitation to participate in the 76th Hong



Kong Schools Speech Festival Prize-Winners' Recitals. This invitation, based on adjudicator recommendation rather than solely on winning, was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Attending the event allowed us to witness remarkable performances by other winners, each showcasing their top-tier talent. The grander stage and more professional microphones made the experience truly unforgettable. Prior to our performance, we made slight adjustments to the blocking and character interactions to enhance the believability of our portrayal.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Kai for his unwavering support and dedication throughout this journey, especially for sacrificing his own free time for practice. Special thanks to Ms Tam for imparting valuable lessons that have helped us enhance our skills and providing us with extraordinary opportunities to shine, bringing me one step closer to realizing my dreams. I also extend my gratitude to Kai's mother for attending our performance and offering her support. I am hopeful that we can maintain this momentum and continue to achieve outstanding results.



More than an  
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# Triumph Through Trials: A Reflective Narrative of Dramatic Duologue Success

S2A Hung Yik Sum Maruko



My Dramatic Duologue Experience with my remarkable partner, Hannah, culminated in a triumphant First Place win! Although our performance may not have been deemed remarkable by all, the sense of achievement I felt was truly gratifying. Our preparation spanned several months, a period that, admittedly, lacked the excitement one might expect. However, it was the unwavering persistence of Ms Tam, our drama instructor, that propelled us towards success. The arduous nature of the process cannot be overstated; each session left me utterly drained and fatigued. Yet, the unexpected enjoyment I derived from the experience was a pleasant surprise.

While meticulously plotting our movements, we encountered numerous errors, a setback that was undoubtedly frustrating. The pinnacle of our journey was undoubtedly clinching victory in the competition we had poured our hearts into. Upon arrival at the venue, which proved to be a challenge to locate, I was struck by the impressive costumes donned by our fellow competitors. Their elaborate attire instilled a sense of apprehension in me, fearing that their appearance alone might outshine our performance. The anxiety I felt was palpable, particularly when tasked with carrying the bulky props that Ms. Tam had assigned me, leaving my arms fatigued.

Once inside, as we took our designated seats and parted ways with Ms Tam, I was pleasantly surprised to find that the competition was not as daunting as I had anticipated. The camaraderie among participants was heartening. Alongside my phenomenal partner, Hannah, we navigated the competition with relative ease, despite the lingering headache that plagued me on the journey home. While securing the First Place title was a significant achievement, I am keenly aware of the areas in which I have room to grow. Perhaps with greater dedication and intensified practice, I can elevate my performance further, a goal I am committed to pursuing diligently.

Expressions of gratitude are due to a host of individuals who supported me throughout this journey: my Drama Instructor and Director, Ms. Tam; the indebted Victor, our well-respected academic brother who owes me a buffet lunch; Co-Director Jason; emotional pillars Christina, Lily, and Nicholas; and the exceptional actress and partner, Hannah. Lastly, my heartfelt appreciation extends to the English Drama Alliance for affording me this invaluable opportunity to showcase my talents.



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# Gratitude Unveiled: Acknowledging Those Who Shaped My Dramatic Journey

S2A Yau Nga Yin, Hannah



Greetings from the theatre! My drama partner, Maruko, and I achieved first place in the dramatic duologue competition. Quite unexpected, isn't it? However, our diligent practice and unwavering effort proved to be truly rewarding. The moment of grasping that scroll will forever remain etched in my memory. Victory firmly in our hands; all those tireless days and nights dedicated to script memorization and after-school rehearsals culminated in that tangible symbol of success. It was a truly remarkable experience.

I approached the competition without excessive nervousness, bolstered by our consistent daily training. I held a strong belief that we would meet and even exceed expectations. Yet, I realized that even if we had not triumphed, the true reward lies in the wealth of experience gained. While the scroll symbolized our accomplishment, the invaluable lessons learned along the journey held far greater significance.

One crucial lesson was in the nuances of voice projection and delivery. Different tones convey varying emotions effectively. For instance, a voice crack or quaver can signify sadness, while a faster pace and higher pitch express joy and excitement.

Furthermore, I gleaned lessons in perseverance, patience, and acceptance. Enduring rigorous training, repeating the same exercises, often felt like a daunting challenge. Yet, working alongside my director and Maruko instilled in me the resolve to persist through difficulties, no matter how insurmountable they may seem.

Patience emerged as a newfound virtue during this process. Understanding that not everything proceeds as smoothly as desired, I learned to accept setbacks and embrace the necessity of persistent effort. Patience and perseverance are intertwined; one cannot exist without the other. This experience taught me the value of waiting for progress while navigating obstacles with resilience.

In the realm of acceptance, I discovered the importance of embracing imperfection, both in oneself and in others. Recognizing that mistakes are part of the learning process, I learned to approach errors with understanding rather than self-criticism. By acknowledging missteps, analyzing their causes, and adapting accordingly, one can grow and improve.

Overall, this journey has been immensely enjoyable. It afforded me the opportunity to engage with older peers, glean wisdom from them, and deepen my bond with my supportive partner. Despite the challenges encountered, the invaluable lessons learned throughout this experience have made it all worthwhile.



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# A 'Supercalifragilistic xpialidocious' journey: Reflecting on Success at the 76<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival"

S5A Lam Tsan Yung, Hora



I am delighted to have participated in the 76th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival after a three-year break. This experience marks a significant milestone in my school life, culminating in a first-place victory.

This time around, I chose to compete in English Dramatic Dialogue. Three years ago, I portrayed a female character, but this year presented a notable difference. In "A Robber and A Thief," I embodied the character of Tom alongside Lily from S5C. Our selection of this script stemmed from its comedic essence, reminiscent of a lively comedy film.

In August 2024, Ms Tam approached me about joining the Dramatic Dialogue category. Despite some reservations from a past experience, I pondered whether I would once again assume a female role. Realizing this could be my final Speech Festival in school, I decided to embrace the opportunity.

Personally, my passion for acting, nurtured by a love for Broadway Musicals like "The King and I" and Cantonese Opera, influenced our rehearsals. I proposed incorporating elements from Cantonese Opera into our performance, drawing inspiration from the film "Tragedy of the Poet King," starring Yam Kim Fai and Pak Suet Sin.

During rehearsals, I found myself embodying a different persona with Ms. Tam's guidance to infuse more humor into the character. An amusing incident unfolded when Ms. Tam, playing the role of Ann, shed tears during a scene where I attempted to 'rob' her, momentarily startling me.

On the day of the competition (December 7th), my nerves were palpable. The audience and adjudicators erupted in laughter at the comedic scenes, catching me off guard. Lily and I secured the first-place position in our competition session, a truly unexpected and 'supercalifragilisticxpialidocious' achievement.

This experience not only taught me the importance of humor and self-expression but also how to manage stress and remain composed under pressure. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my director, Ms Tam, my friends, and parents for their unwavering support throughout this journey. Special thanks to my partner, Lily, for our mutual encouragement and determination to excel.

As Pak Suet Sin aptly said, "Art is an endless treasure. The deeper you touch, the more good things there are."



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# A Journey of Dedication and Gratitude in the English Drama Alliance

S5C Sze Wing Yan, Lily



As an actor in the English Drama Alliance since S2, reaching the top with my partner as champions in the dramatic duologue as an S5 student stands as a significant achievement in my journey.

Throughout our rigorous preparation, we encountered numerous challenges and setbacks, often requiring us to rehearse tirelessly with Ms. Tam until perfection was achieved. The dedication invested since the summer holidays for this accomplishment has been truly rewarding. Considering that this is likely my final year participating in drama as an S5 student, attaining this title holds immense personal significance. Collaborating with my partner for the first time this year, our bond strengthened significantly as we progressed through our training.

During our training sessions, we encountered moments of uncertainty, necessitating extensive efforts to master fluency and natural movements in our performance. This marked our initial return to in-



person performances post-pandemic, evoking a sense of nervousness. However, the extensive training and unwavering support we received instilled in me the confidence required for our performance.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Tam and Victor for their invaluable guidance and support in helping my partner and me achieve this success. Their inclusion of us in their busy schedules was instrumental in shaping our training. Additionally, I am indebted to my senior, who introduced me to drama and bolstered my confidence before the competition. My gratitude also extends to my parents, friends, and fellow actors who provided unwavering support by assisting with props, costumes, and training. I am truly appreciative of the collective support they have offered. To my partner, your steadfast presence throughout this journey has been invaluable.

In conclusion, I am profoundly grateful for this unforgettable event, which will forever hold a special place in my school life.



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# Achieving Second Place in my Debut Dramatic Duologue

S3A Chu Nicholas



I am Nicholas Chu, and I am excited to share my journey of securing second place in my very first drama competition.

Just two months ago, I received the news from Ms Tam that I would be participating in drama, a field entirely new to me. The initial nerves were palpable as I commenced practice sessions during summer. The script selection process presented an unexpected opportunity as I was partnered with Constance, a talented S4 student whom I had not previously worked with, for the performance of "Hindle Wakes."

The journey to the competition was a transformative experience filled with opportunities for growth. Meeting Constance for the first time, her confident demeanor inspired me, and our collaborative efforts to familiarize her with the script through emotional readings strengthened our partnership. With only three



weeks left before the competition, we wholeheartedly dedicated ourselves to rigorous training sessions, enhancing our blocking and committing our lines to memory.

The competition day arrived, and the mix of excitement and nerves was overwhelming. The moment of truth approached as we took the stage following another commendable performance by Group 11. Amidst the performance, a momentary stumble threatened to derail us, but composure prevailed, and we completed our act with determination.

As the results were unveiled, the thrill of clinching second place was electrifying. The elation of this unexpected victory was magnified by the pride reflected in Ms Tam's eyes. This experience instilled in me a profound lesson - the essence of enjoying the process regardless of the outcome.

I extend my gratitude to all those who supported me on this journey, and to you for accompanying me through this narrative. Special thanks to everyone especially Christina from class 3A, for her intrusive micromanagement during our preparation. Your support is deeply appreciated. Until next time!



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# A Journey of Growth and Triumph in English Drama Alliance (EDA)

S4C Cheung Ho Yan, Constance



This marks my second year as a member of English Drama Alliance, and I am sincerely thankful for the opportunity to be part of this wonderful elite community. Reflecting on my initial year of participation, it coincided with the challenges posed by the pandemic. Our performance was captured on video and submitted to the judges. It was a meticulous process that culminated in us securing third place, a result that filled me with joy considering it was my debut in dramatic duologue with Ms Tam.

However, this year presented a stark contrast to my first experience. The format required live performances in front of an audience, judges, and fellow contestants, with no room for error. The pressure of a single chance on stage stirred a profound fear of stage fright within me. The prospect of all eyes fixed on me as I stood center stage, engulfed in a deafening silence, was daunting.

Through relentless training sessions, practice performances, and late-night rehearsals on the school stage with my drama partner and Ms Tam, my partner and I endeavored to conquer our fears and perfect our act. Every detail, from our lines to gestures, was meticulously refined to appear seamless and natural to the judges. The camaraderie, encouragement, and tireless practice instilled in us a newfound confidence, despite lingering nerves on the day of the competition.

Witnessing the professionalism and dedication of fellow participants heightened the stakes, yet it also inspired me to push beyond my limits. Our performance of "Hindle Wakes" alongside another team underscored the impact of nuances in delivery, expression, and characterization on the overall portrayal. This experience deepened my empathy and enriched my understanding of human emotions.

Collaborating with my partner, despite initial unfamiliarity and disagreements, taught me invaluable lessons in teamwork, communication, and compromise. I am immensely grateful to our dedicated drama director, Ms. Tam, whose unwavering support, guidance, and belief in our potential propelled us forward. The camaraderie and positivity exuded by my peers in the drama club created a nurturing environment that fostered personal growth and confidence. In retrospect, this journey has not only instilled in me newfound courage and resilience but has also kindled a passion for the stage. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to participate in this year's drama club and competition, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have supported and inspired me throughout this exhilarating experience. Without all your support, I would not have been able to clinch 2nd place in this rigorous dramatic duologue competition.



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# The Power of Resilience

S5A Cheng Hoi Yuen, Hertzell



Winning this year's Dramatic Duologue competition still feels surreal—a whirlwind of rehearsals, nerves, and, ultimately, triumph. The moment the judges announced our names, the months of preparation melted into pure exhilaration. This victory wasn't just mine; it belonged to my incredible partner, our dedicated teacher - Ms Tam, and every person who encouraged us along the way.



The journey to the stage was anything but easy. Preparing for the competition was like piecing together a complex puzzle—one that required patience, precision, and perseverance. My partner and I spent countless hours dissecting our script, refining every pause, inflection, and gesture. Since I played a girl, a role obviously far from my usual demeanor, I struggled initially. Lines blurred together, movements felt stiff, and self-doubt crept in. There were moments when I questioned whether I could ever embody the role convincingly. But our teacher, Ms. Tam, never lost faith. With her keen eye for details and endless patience, she helped us turn stumbling blocks into stepping stones.

One rehearsal changed everything. After weeks of practice, something finally "clicked". My partner and I stopped mechanically reciting lines and began truly "living" our characters. We experimented with posture, tone, and expression until my girly mannerisms felt natural rather than forced. That breakthrough was magical, it was the moment I realized how much I had grown. The entire process taught me a vital lesson: Nothing is impossible with persistence and support. I couldn't have done it without my partner's dedication or Ms. Tam's guidance.

Beyond the performance, the competition taught me the heart of drama — connection. Before the competition, I bonded with fellow competitors, sharing nerves and laughter. Onstage, I discovered new layers of my character, pushing far beyond my comfort zone. The experience wasn't just about winning, it was about storytelling, collaboration, and personal growth.

Now, as I look back, I'm filled with gratitude. This victory is a testament to teamwork, resilience, and the power of believing in yourself. Here's to more stories waiting to be told, and to the incredible people who help us bring them to life.



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# My Journey to Victory at the 76<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Speech Festival

S2B Fung Cheuk Hei, Alston



The path to my victory, from triumphing at the 76<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Speech Festival, originated from my initial participation in a speech festival. At the outset, I was unfamiliar with the intricacies of such an event. The prospect of trying new endeavors as a secondary 1 student intrigued me. When Mr. Callum invited me to join the speech competition, I embraced the opportunity with courage. The following day, I embarked on practice sessions with Mr. Callum, focusing on the recitation of the poem "El Dorado". Despite moments of self-doubt regarding my chances of winning, a blend of Mr. Callum's guidance and my determination drove me to give my best performance. Though I did not emerge victorious, I believe that I succeeded in giving my all.

Reflecting on last year's defeat at the speech festival, I remained undeterred and resolved to make a fresh attempt. Seeking assistance from Mr. David this year, I set my sights on achieving first place at the 76<sup>th</sup> speech festival. Drawing confidence from my prior experience in similar competitions, coupled with dedicated practice sessions and invaluable advice from Mr. David, I felt well-prepared for the challenge.

On the day of the competition, initial nervousness gave way to resolve as I recalled Mr. David's counsel. Stepping onto the stage, I delivered a remarkable performance. Following the conclusion of all contestants' presentations, the momentous award ceremony arrived. As third and second place were announced without my name, a sense of doubt crept in. However, to my astonishment, my name was called for the first-place accolade. Overjoyed by this unexpected triumph, I promptly shared the news with Mr. David. This victory serves as a testament to the rewards that diligent effort and a leap of faith can bring in life.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. David for his invaluable support throughout the competition. Without his guidance, I would not have achieved this milestone.



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## Milestones of Mastery

S2A Chow Chun Sun, Bosco



A golden opportunity came up to me. It was the annual English speech festival, knowing it definitely benefit my report card, I joined without a second thought.

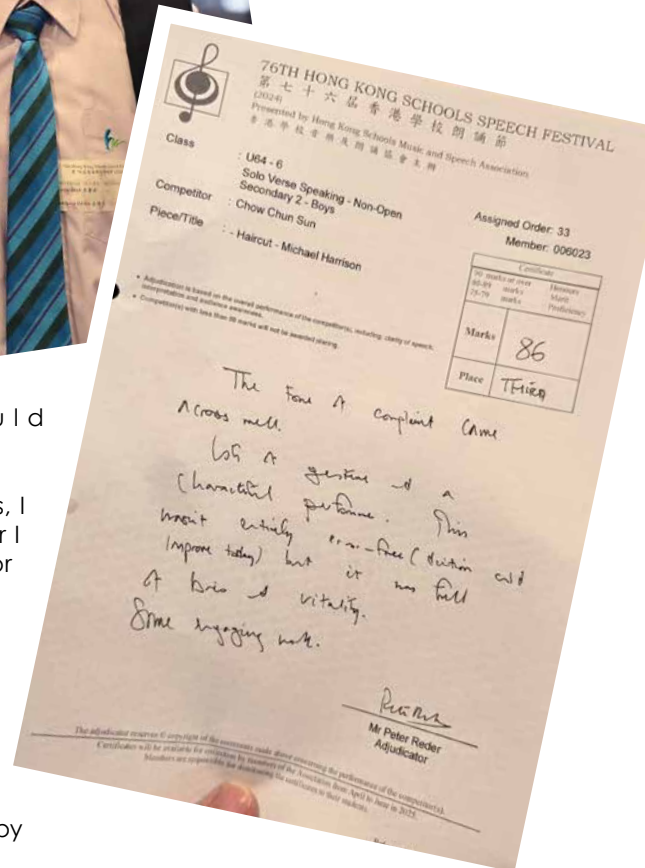
After I got my poem, my poem was about my hatred towards haircuts, I had a while to practice it before the actual competition. So whenever I was free I practiced, whether with my English teacher, family members or friends. So every few days until competition, I would practice my poem.

When the day finally came, the day of the competition finally arrived. I was one of the last people to actually go up on stage so I had a little more time to practice. When it was my turn, I took 1 deep breath and started to read out my poem. 3 out of the 4 paragraphs went flawlessly, but when I reached my last paragraph. I got mixed up with with one of the paragraphs as the opening for the first 3 paragraphs were all the same which caused me to mess up. Watching my competitors go 1 by 1, the moment of getting our results were getting closer.

After messing up, I have lost all hope in getting an award. When the judge finished marking each person, it was time to announce the results. Little did I know I was going to be shocked very soon. The judge announced that there were 3 bronze awards, 1 silver award and 1 gold award. After the judge announced the first 2 competitors that got the bronze award, I was just devastated because of my slight mess up. Suddenly, the judge announced my number, I couldn't believe it, even while messing up I still ended up getting bronze.

After this shocking yet exciting experience, I realized that even if you mess up, there is still hope and that I should never lose hope too early.

Although I got this award alone, I appreciate everyone that helped me practice such as the teachers, my friends and my family members.



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# My Success in the 76<sup>th</sup> English Speech Festival

S3A Kwong Tsz Ching, Charlotte



You have likely witnessed my presence in numerous Speech Festivals. Securing second place, I have exemplified the true spirit of Hon Wah College.

However, leading up to the competition, anxiety clouded my thoughts. Spending hours refining my emotions, seeking feedback from my teacher, Mr. Lin, and my parents, provided me with reassurance and invaluable guidance that culminated in this defining moment. As I advanced towards the stage, my heart raced with anticipation, not from fear, but from the excitement of performing before a diverse audience. Understanding their unpredictable expectations, I was prepared to captivate and surprise them, a goal I successfully achieved. Yet, during the judge's deliberation, she confessed to the challenges of the evaluation process. Despite clinching second place, I take pride in knowing that I gave my utmost effort.

While the accolade holds significance, attaining it naturally demanded years of dedication. Engaging in Speech Festivals for over four years presented formidable challenges, emphasizing emotions solely through voice and facial expressions without dramatic gestures. Mastery required a week of meticulous memorization to flawlessly recite the entire poem. Such proficiency cannot be acquired overnight; rather, it demands unwavering commitment and hard work.

I owe my success to Mr. Lin's mentorship and insights, coupled with my parents' unwavering support. Their guidance pinpointed areas for improvement, enhancing my performance with a unique voice and expression. Without their support, navigating necessary adjustments and interpreting the poem would have posed formidable challenges.

To aspiring participants in Speech Festivals, I recommend prioritizing facial expressions and infusing emotions into your voice, evoking a fairy tale-like narrative. Striking the right balance of exaggeration is crucial—neither too excessive nor overly subdued.



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# My Success in Achieving 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

S2A Ho Ngo Tsing, Nathan



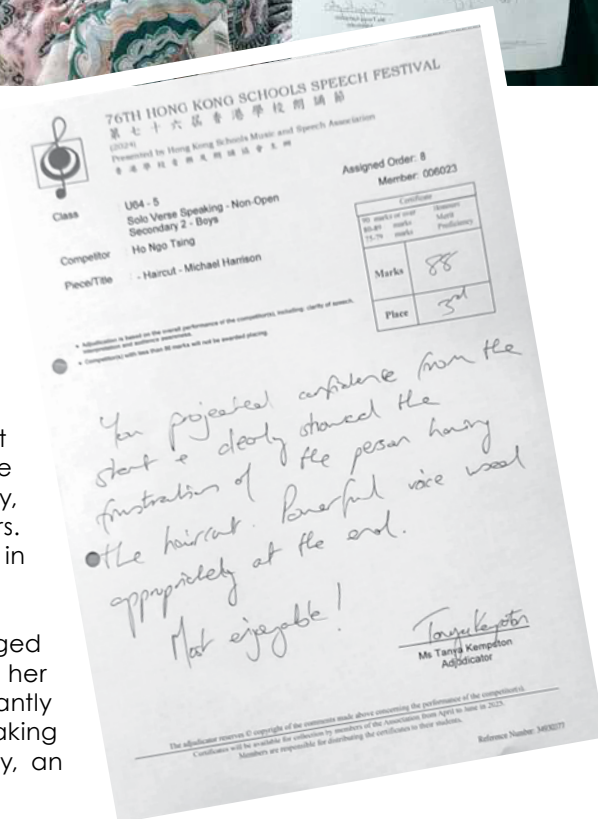
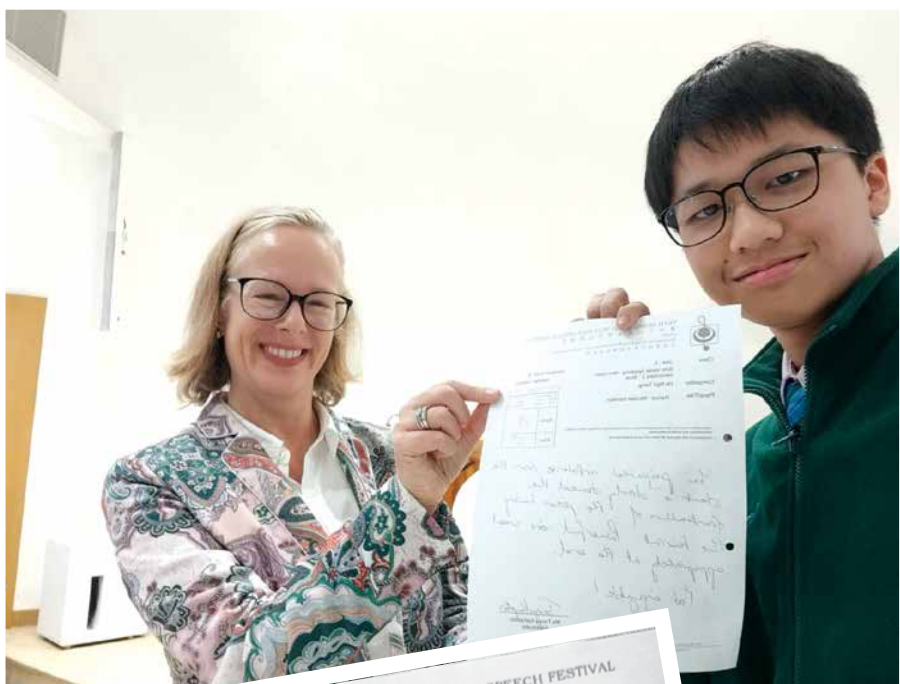
The award I received was unbelievable. As this was my first time participating in a Solo Verse speaking competition, I felt like a newcomer to this arena.

This story begins with Ms. Fok inviting me to join the competition. Initially, I was not keen on participating, but after her persistent persuasion, I eventually decided to take part. A few days later, I had my first speaking training session with my friend Bosco, who was also competing. During our initial lesson, we practiced reciting the entire poem. Following this, Ms. Fok provided us with advice to enhance our speeches. By the second week, we had fully memorized the poem and began incorporating emotions and gestures. In the final week leading up to the competition, I mentally rehearsed my speech, visualizing even stronger movements during my performance.

The awaited day arrived, and I entered the room, eagerly awaiting my turn to speak. 'Ding,' 'Haircut, by Michael Harrison...' After all competitors had delivered their speeches, the judge announced the 3rd place winner. To my surprise, I heard my name called for 3rd place!

From this experience, I learned that mere speaking is not sufficient to earn an award; one must infuse emotions and actions to make it feel natural. My key to achieving this award was to speak freely, embracing my unique style without concerning myself with others. Additionally, hard work proved to be a fundamental factor in attaining success.

I extend my gratitude to everyone who supported and encouraged me, with special appreciation to Ms. Fok, my teacher, for her invaluable guidance. Her advice on delivering the poem significantly contributed to my success. Participating in my first Solo Verse speaking competition and securing 3rd place fills me with immense joy, an experience I will always cherish.



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## A Creative Journey: My Experience in the Painting Competition Inspired by the movie, Man Jiang Hong (Full River Red).

S4C Cao Tsz Kwan, Lina



Recently, I had an incredible opportunity to participate in a painting competition, where I was tasked with creating a scene from the captivating film, Man Jiang Hong. Before watching this movie, I always thought that we could only learn from books in school.

However, after participating in the competition that required us to watch a film, my perspective completely changed. This experience not only allowed me to express my creativity but also deepened my appreciation for the artistry involved in both film making and painting.

Man Jiang Hong, with its rich narrative and stunning visuals, left a lasting impression on me. The film is a mesmerizing blend of historical drama and action, set against a backdrop of political intrigue and personal sacrifice. As I watched, I was particularly drawn to a scene where the protagonist stands resolute against the tumultuous backdrop of a stormy sea, symbolizing the struggle between loyalty and betrayal. This moment resonated with me and became the focal point of my painting.

When I began to paint, I wanted to capture not just the visuals, but the emotions conveyed in that pivotal scene. I chose dim colors to illustrate the intensity of the storm and the protagonist's unwavering spirit. Each brushstroke was a journey, allowing me to immerse myself in the world of Man Jiang Hong. I spent hours perfecting the details, especially the determined expression on the character's face, which I hoped would convey their inner strength.

Participating in this competition taught me valuable lessons about dedication, creativity, and the power of visual art. It reminded me of how films can inspire us to explore our own creative potential and express our feelings in unique ways. Winning a recognition for my painting was the icing on the cake, but the real victory was the joy of creating something meaningful.

I am grateful for this experience and look forward to more opportunities to express myself through art.



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# My passion in art

S4A Man Wing Tung, Ruby



Hello, I'm Ruby from class 4A and my hobby is drawing. Drawing has been part of my daily life. Whenever an art lesson begins, I get very excited to draw new things and show it to others. A lot of my friends say that I have great drawing skills! I have participated in a lot of art competitions and won some awards. Different competition brings new challenges, but I learned something new in taking part from each one.

There was a mask competition last year that was memorable. I took some time to design my mask. It took me the whole night to cut papers, draw patterns on the mask and it was tiring. But I was happy with the result. I made the mask mainly with red and white colors and stuck some papers with heart-shaped design as decorations, just like the photo I used.

At last, I got selected for a submission award and although it's not a top three place, I think it's nice enough for me. At the awarding ceremony, I saw a lot of great artworks on display made by different students from other schools and all of them seemed talented! Their masks were detailed and had more decorations than mine. I think they are more beautiful.



I learned that getting the award is not the most important thing. The key is to appreciate the work of others and learn from them, so that I can do better next time.

The last thing I want to share is for all the art lovers in the school is that sometimes people might tell you your art isn't so good. But don't be sad because your art style is unique and there is always room for improvement. Instead of comparing yourself with others, we should learn the



good things from them and apply it to ourselves. It's your choice to draw the way you want! So go ahead and be creative!







# Our Water Rocket Success

3C Zhang Shuhon



Hello,

My name is Hon from Class 3C. Recently, I participated in a water rocket competition, and I am very happy to share the experiences and lessons our team gained during this event.

## Preparation Stage:

First, we read extensively to understand water rockets, including how to adjust air pressure and water levels to control flight altitude and distance. This research deepened my appreciation for the fascinating world of physics. We explored different sources, such as books, online articles, and video tutorials, which provided us with a lot of information about the mechanics and dynamics of water rockets. The knowledge we gained during this stage was important in forming the foundation of our project.

## Production Process:

During the production process, we faced numerous challenges. For example, choosing suitable materials, designing the structure of the water rocket, and ensuring stability were all critical considerations. Our team worked together, with each member playing an important role. Some members focused on assembling the water rocket, carefully ensuring that each component was securely fitted and functioned as intended. Others were responsible for making thoughtful decisions about which materials would provide the best balance between weight and durability. Whenever we faced problems, we discussed and resolved them together, leading to remarkable results. This collaborative effort was a testament to our ability to work as a team and leverage each other's strengths.

## Challenges and Successes:

I remember our initial failures, but we did not let them discourage us. We made improvements until we achieved success. Each team member contributed their strengths to overcoming obstacles. For example, we experimented with different designs to optimize thrust and stability. Our persistence paid off when we finally launched a water rocket that soared to impressive heights and distances, far exceeding our initial expectations.

## Learnings and Gratitude:

This competition taught us valuable lessons in physics, hands-on skills, production capabilities and our communication skills. Also, we are grateful to our teachers for giving us this opportunity and providing their support, which was important to our success. The guidance and encouragement from our teachers were useful for helping us navigate the challenges we faced. This achievement marks a promising beginning for us, and we will continue to strive for excellence in the future.



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## Transforming Doubt into Enthusiasm: My Exploration of Chinese Ink Wash Art

S5C Keung Pui Yau, Bernice



Hello everyone. I am here to share some of my experiences on drawing Chinese calligraphy and ink wash painting.

In Form Three, I accidentally joined the Chinese ink wash painting class during ECA (Extra-Curricular Activities) sessions. Until I explored this classic art form, I regarded it as uninteresting, thinking that ink wash painting was less colorful than the western oil painting I had learned, and appeared to require minimal artistic technique. However, after my first lesson in the ink wash painting class, my view completely changed.

I discovered that ink wash painting is not just about the absence of color; it is about the beauty of simplicity and the power of expression. Each brushstroke tells a story, and the varying shades of ink create depth and emotion that I had never appreciated before. The way the ink flows on the rice paper, blending and fading, captures the essence of the subject in a way that oil painting cannot.

During our lessons, we learned about the significance of each brushstroke and how to control the amount of water mixed with the ink. I remember my first attempt at painting a potted plant. At first, my strokes were hesitant and unsteady, but with guidance from our teacher, I began to let go of my fears and focus on the interaction between the ink and the rice paper.

By the end of the course, I had created a few pieces that I was proud of and even displayed them at our school's art exhibition. This experience motivated me to continue exploring this art form passionately and delve into different kinds of art.

Looking back, I am grateful for that accidental decision to join the ink wash painting class. It has enriched my artistic skills and allowed me to discover a whole new hobby. As I move forward in my school life and beyond, I carry these experiences with me, eager to explore more avenues of creativity.



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# Things Beyond Mathematics

S5A Chen Zekun, Kevin



At Hon Wah College, my passion for mathematics has been nurtured and supported by both my teachers and classmates. Our shared journey of learning and growth has been filled with challenges, culminating in my recent award in the Australian Mathematics Competition.



From the moment I stepped into HWC, I was surrounded by teachers who were not only knowledgeable but also incredibly supportive. They recognized my potential and encouraged me to push beyond my limits. When I encountered difficult problems, my teachers patiently explained the concepts, breaking them down into simpler parts so that I could fully understand them. Their guidance was invaluable and gave me the confidence to tackle even the most complex problems.

Moreover, my classmates played an equally important role. We often gathered after class to discuss mathematical concepts, share different approaches to solving problems, and help each other understand the material better. These study sessions were not just about academics; they were also about building friendships and a sense of community. We learned from each other's strengths and supported each other through our struggles.

When the opportunity to participate in a mathematics competition arose, I was both excited and nervous. The preparation was intense, but with the support of my teachers and classmates, I felt ready. During the competition, I faced several challenging problems that tested my knowledge and problem-solving skills. Drawing on everything I had learned, I managed to complete the tasks to the best of my ability.

When the results were announced and I discovered that I had won an award, I was overjoyed. Standing on the podium, I realized that this achievement was not just mine alone. It was a testament to the hard work and dedication of my teachers and classmates who had supported me every step of the way. This moment was a powerful reminder that success is often a team effort, and I felt incredibly grateful for everyone who had helped me reach this point.

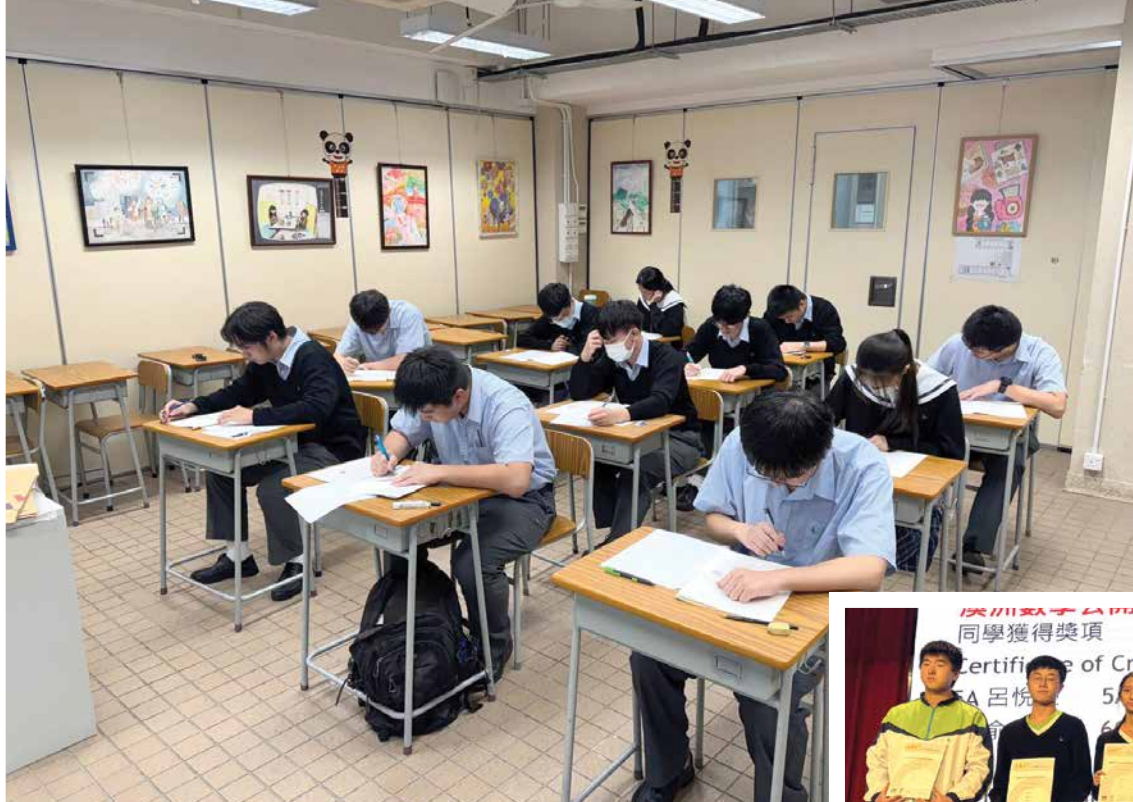
I am deeply thankful to my teachers for their guidance and encouragement, and to my classmates for their companionship and support. Their contributions have been instrumental in my growth and success. I am also grateful to HWC for providing an environment where I could thrive and pursue my passion for mathematics.

This experience has taught me that perseverance and teamwork are key to overcoming challenges. It has also reinforced my love for mathematics and inspired me to continue striving for excellence. I look forward to seizing more opportunities to learn, grow, and achieve, and I hope to inspire others with my experience.



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# My Learning Journey in Mathematics

S6A Li Ho Yan, Norman



As a passionate mathematics student, my journey in this field has been anything but innate. Growing up, I faced challenges with my grades, often leaving my parents feeling dissatisfied. However, my love for chess and solving complex problems ignited a desire to improve, ultimately guiding me to pursue mathematics as a significant part of my education. For me, mathematics is not just a subject, but it is also a way of thinking that equips me to tackle various challenges in life.

My school life has been a whirlwind of excitement and discovery. Participating in mathematics competitions and solving mathematical questions have been perceived as an enjoyment throughout my learning journey. Each contest pushed me to think critically and creatively, often in high-pressure situations. I vividly remember the thrill of solving tough problems during competitions and examinations—the sense of accomplishment when I found the solution was indescribable. It balanced my rigorous reputation and motivated me to pursue further learning in my life.

Beyond academics, I have grown immensely as an individual. I have learned the importance of resilience, teamwork and time management. Collaborating with peers on group projects has taught me how to communicate complex ideas clearly and effectively. These experiences have not only honed my mathematical skills but also shaped me into a more confident and capable person. I have applied my mathematical problem-solving skills to real-life challenges, thinking through solutions before starting and using evidence from setbacks to solve them.

The incredible support system around me has greatly contributed to my success. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my parents for their unwavering encouragement when I was down, my teachers for sharing their experiences and helping me overcome difficulties, and my friends for their endless motivation. Each of them has played an integral role in my journey, and I am truly thankful for their support.

As I move forward, I am excited to continue exploring the vast world of mathematics and its applications. I hope to inspire others to appreciate the beauty of this field, just as I have. Let's continue to embrace the challenges and celebrate our achievements in this wonderful learning journey in mathematics.







## My Mathematical Journey at Hon Wah College

S6B Cheng Hok Kan, Derek



As a devoted student majoring in Mathematics at Hon Wah College, I have embarked on an exhilarating journey through the world of numbers, equations, and problem-solving. Mathematics has always intrigued me, and my time at HWC has allowed me to explore its vast landscape more deeply, from calculus in the core curriculum to vectors in extended part 2.

My school life has been filled with not only stringent academic pursuits but also memorable experiences that have contributed to my growth. One of the most exciting aspects of my journey was participating in the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC12). Practising with fellow students to tackle complex problems and develop innovative solutions without the aid of calculators was a thrilling challenge. The competition pushed our limits and sharpened our analytical skills. I will never forget the sense of accomplishment we felt after successfully solving particularly tough problems.

Throughout my time at HWC, I have experienced significant personal and academic growth. The rigorous coursework and challenging projects have not only deepened my understanding of mathematical concepts but have also built my confidence in tackling difficulties in other subjects. The encouragement I received from my teachers and the camaraderie among my friends have played a crucial role in my development. Their passion for Mathematics has ignited my own enthusiasm and inspired me to think critically.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my parents, who have been my steadfast supporters throughout this journey. Their belief in my abilities and constant encouragement have motivated me to pursue my passion fearlessly. Additionally, I am thankful for my peers, whose friendship and collaboration have made learning an enjoyable and enriching experience.

Moreover, the mathematical discussions and group study sessions have allowed me to appreciate different perspectives and strengthened our friendships. Sharing our unique approaches to solving problems has improved our abilities and fostered a greater understanding of each other's views. The bonds we have formed while navigating through math challenges have made my experience at HWC even more meaningful.

As I look to the future, I am excited about continuing my journey in Mathematics and applying what I have learned to real-world problems. My time and experience at HWC have equipped me with a solid foundation, and I am eager to contribute to the Mathematics community and beyond.



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## S5A Lam Ho Yin, Kelvin



Hello everyone! My name is Kelvin.

My expertise is in sprinting. I am the vice-captain of our school's athletics team, and I have been part of the team for two years. I have always represented the school in competitions such as the Inter-school Athletics Competition and friendly matches.

Becoming a member of the school's athletics team has not been easy. When I was in Form 3, I took part in the "Arts and Sports Education Scheme" athletics extra-curricular activity. Miss Leung, my PE teacher, saw my talent and enthusiasm for running. After the lesson, she invited me to join the athletics team.

Since then, I have achieved good results in sprinting. Not only did Miss Leung supported me in running, but my family and friends also helped me. I have met many friends at school who also like running. I really enjoy running with them and sharing the experience together.

I remember when we lost in the 4\*100m relay competition, I couldn't fall asleep in the evening. I was constantly thinking about why we lost and repeatedly watched the video of our race.

I have learned that this is not an individual competition but a team sport. My teacher and classmates encouraged me to be more patient. Since that day, my teammates and I have discussed and practised our posture to improve our performance. I would say we have made significant progress in that area.

I am sincerely grateful to the school for allowing me this opportunity and enabling me to make a meaningful contribution to our school.







## Winning First Place in a Drone Team Competition

S4C Lai Chi Him, Cayden



Participating in a drone competition and securing first place was a truly remarkable achievement that I am incredibly proud of. The competition tested not only our technical skills but also our ability to innovate and to brainstorm the movement of the drones.

The journey began with meticulous preparation, where we dedicated countless hours in designing and picking a song for the movement of the drones and fine-tuning our drone to ensure optimal performance.

This process involved troubleshooting technical challenges, programming flight algorithms, and ensuring compliance with competition regulations. We also practised piloting the drone extensively to master precision control and navigation, which were critical for success. Furthermore, a lot of time was needed to debug and to make improvements for the drone. We encountered numerous challenges along the way, from motor malfunctions to software glitches, but we tackled each obstacle that we faced. This process required patience, problem-solving, and effective communication within the team.

On the competition day, we needed to ensure the hardware was functioning well and to monitor the drone's software for any issues. Although we had already tested the program many times, some unpredictable things happened! One of our drones was out of control, stopped functioning and landed itself. We were shocked since it would undoubtedly lose marks. Furthermore, a lot of error signals appeared on our program. We had no choice but to land our drones. Luckily, we had another chance to perform. After asking our teacher for the solution, the problem was fixed and the drones were ready to go. We were nervous and hoped nothing unpredictable would happen this time. The competition was designed to push each team to their limits and fortunately, we managed to perform consistently throughout this round. When the results were announced, we were chosen as the winners and the sense of accomplishment was indescribable.

This achievement was more than just a trophy, it was proof of what teamwork can accomplish when working toward a goal. Winning the competition not only boosted our confidence but also increased our passion for technology and innovation. It is a milestone for us to learn more about the importance of teamwork and to know more about technology these days.

I really want to thank my teacher for helping us to achieve this prize in the competition and also my teammates for the hard work in teaching me about the program of the drones. This competition gave me the motivation to learn more about drones and to participate in more competition of this type in the future.



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### 3A Wong Tsz Yu, Evelyn



Hello, everyone, I'm Evelyn Wong from Class 3A.

I am privileged to have received the Hong Kong Youth Arch Student Improvement Award. As I reflect on this journey, I ponder a question that many students often debate: is it luck or hard work that leads to success?

Throughout my academic journey in S2, I have faced numerous obstacles and challenges. There were several moments of frustration when I didn't understand the concepts, leading to feelings of depression when I didn't achieve my goals. Nevertheless, I experienced elation when my hard work paid off, whether it was overcoming a tough subject or getting an excellent grade on a test.

While I acknowledge the presence of luck in helping me achieve my accolades, I firmly believe that it is the relentless pursuit of hard work that truly paves the way for success. It is the consistent effort and commitment to excel that ultimately propel us towards success.

Additionally, I believe that hard work inspires others. As I strive for improvement, I noticed my peers are motivated as well. They formed study groups, shared resources, and cheered each other on. Humans are inherently social creatures, easily influenced by their environment and surroundings. This environment reinforced the idea that success is a collective effort.



As we pursue our goals, let us remember that our efforts, and resilience will ultimately define our success. Thank you.







## People that propel me to where I am now

S6A Yeung Tseng Yiu



My secondary school journal is filled with numerous experiences and challenges. This stage played a pivotal role in shaping my character and discovering my passions and interests. My secondary school journey has not only prepared me for future academic endeavors but also instilled in me valuable values that will be beneficial throughout my life.

As a Form Six student, I need to allocate more time to academic work, which leaves me with less time to engage in various leadership activities. However, I am still grateful to be a part of the Cascade. This year, the members of the Cascade and I worked diligently together to organize various events, such as swearing-in meetings. Active participation in these activities has fostered a sense of belonging within the school community and enabled me to develop essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership and communication.

This year, I was fortunate to participate in several academic competitions that broadened my horizons. I took part in the Australian Math Competitions in October and was honored to receive an award for my efforts. Throughout my secondary school journey, I have been lucky to have teachers who support and believe in my potential, offering me invaluable guidance. Their dedication and mentorship have played a significant role in my personal and academic development. They have provided me with numerous opportunities that encourage me to embrace challenges and fostered a strong sense of self-belief, helping me become a more well-rounded individual.

There is no doubt that my classmates are also a vital part of my life. They are more than just fellow students. They offered a helping hand when I needed assistance and supported me through thick and thin. We have formed an interconnected web of support that helps me strive for excellence. They serve as a source of motivation for me, and this healthy competition drives me to pursue greatness.

Last but not least, I would like to express my gratitude to my parents, who are indispensable to my achievements. Throughout my life, they have dedicated countless hours to helping me with homework and exam preparation. In my academic journey, my parents play a crucial role in keeping me motivated and focused. They celebrate my accomplishments, no matter how big or small. Their unwavering encouragement has instilled in me resilience and self-confidence.

Thank you all for making my campus life wonderful and for constantly teaching and encouraging me. Everyone in my life has played a crucial role in my growth and has propelled me to where I am today.



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# Achievement in Archery

S3C Cheng Ka Lok



Hello everyone.

I would like to share with you my achievements in archery. First, I have to talk about my archery journey in Hon Wah College. To be honest, when I was in Form 1, I was a new student, and I didn't know anything about archery. One day, an archery coach came to Class 1C looking for anyone who wanted to take part in archery. I was lucky to join the archery team and train with my team members. It's been three years since I joined the team, and although my archery skills aren't great, I think they are not too bad either.

Thanks to all my archery team members and the coach who have been teaching me along the way. I train five days a week, and it is very tiring. But I like it so much that I am always excited to have my archery training after school.

I have been learning a lot from my family and coaches about studies, life experiences, and competitions. I gained so much experience and learned how to improve my archery skills from them. I would say, without Hon Wah and the teachers/coaches, I would not be writing this today. There are so many things that matter to me. For example, if the coaches had not dedicated their time to me, I would not have the skills I have in the archery team. That means I may not have achieved anything today. It's also very important to thank my parents.

It is wonderful to write for Hon Wah in Blossom and to get the award this year. But I think I can get better and improve myself. Oh yeah, also you guys should never give up and not fear of achieving something. If I can, I think you guys can too!



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## Nicky Tai shines at Inter-Schools Table Tennis Competition

S5A Tai Nicky Ngo Ting



I'm excited to share my recent achievement at the inter-schools table tennis competition! My name is Nicky Tai, and I'm in Class 5A. I first started playing table tennis in primary school, and I quickly fell in love with the sport's fast pace and excitement. This competition was a big step for me, and it taught me so much.

During the tournament, I faced a really strong opponent who tested my skills like never before. The match was thrilling, with intense rallies and some close calls. As the score tightened, I could feel the pressure, but I stayed focused and gave it my all. In the end, I managed to win by a narrow margin! This experience taught me a lot about staying strong and positive, even when things get tough.

More than just improving my game, this competition helped me grow as a person. I learned how important it is to show respect to my opponents, regardless of the outcome. Winning is great, but appreciating the effort of others is just as important. I also realized how much teamwork matters to me; my coach and teammates supported me every step of the way, and their encouragement truly boosted my confidence.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone who helped me along this journey. A big thank you to my coach for the guidance and support, and to my teammates for being so supportive. I'm also grateful to my teachers for encouraging me, and to my parents and family for believing in me. Lastly, a huge thank you to my friends and the entire Hon Wah community for cheering me on. I'm proud to represent our school and can't wait for more exciting challenges ahead!



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## A remarkable champion in my table tennis journey

S5C Yu Ka Wing, Karen



I have represented Hon Wah's table tennis team for five years. There have been lots of ups and downs in the last few years, including the suspension of competitions during the pandemic. I have also been nursing grievances as the first runner-up twice, which has had a big influence on the team's emotions. But all of these were lessons: we learn, we try, and we promise. Finally, our team went through all the crises and won the inter-school table tennis competition on December 1st, 2024.

I truly remember the day before the final. I had some belief we might do well, but I didn't really hold on to hope that we would win the competition, as we had finished as the first runner-up twice before. I was afraid that we might end up as the first runner-up for a third time or even not get a ranking at all. As it was our first time competing in an A-grade competition, I didn't know the quality of the other opponents.

Before I stepped onto the court, we already knew who we were drawn against. I would face the guy who was my former teammate outside the school. Both of us know of each other's playing style, which makes it an interesting contest. I was nervous and panicked as I stepped onto the court.

We had a lot of back-and-forth rallies. At one point, we had a rally that lasted 19 shots. It was really a close match. But maybe that belief of mine helped me, and I started gaining confidence in my play. I made the right ball movements and connections, put in a lot of effort defending against threats, and made precise attacks. I managed to win the game and helped our team take the lead with hope.

We had the belief that we only had one more game to fight to become champions! My heart was beating so fast with a mix of excitement and nervousness. I kept my eyes fixed on my teammate for almost half of the game, listening to the sound of ping-pong and the noise of the cheering crowd until the end of the game. We finally did it! Our dream and yearning to become champions have come true.

I think not only we, but many of us experienced failures hold on to passion and continue to believe in yourself to become successful. Don't give up or else you must regret it.







## Discovering The Joy of Archery

S5A Wong Sam Yi, Samyi



I am Samyi, the captain of the school archery team. Let me introduce you to our team. We specialise in recurve archery, which has evolved from traditional archery. Unlike compound archery, recurve archery relies more on the stability of posture and muscle strength, as it is not assisted by other mechanisms.

One of my most treasured experiences is shooting in the rain. We enjoy the power of nature while practising a modern sport — it is a wonderful experience! Shooting in the rain helps me focus more on the stability and consistency of every shot, as there are more uncontrollable factors to consider, like strong winds, slippery grips from the rain and blurry vision. These challenges serve as good distractions for archers, enhancing our overall performance. Moreover, the sudden appearance of insects during rain adds an element of psychological warfare, serving to mentally train us.

Next, I would like to share how archery has benefited me. Firstly, it has improved my patience through the long waiting time for arrows to arrive at targets 30 to 60 meters away. The emphasis on building a good foundation in archery has taught me the importance of not skipping steps and has made me more capable of doing everything methodically. Furthermore, archery has greatly enhanced my vision as it involves aiming for long distances, from 18 to 70 meters. It gives me a break from the virtual world, where we often find ourselves glued to screens or studying with our books too close to our eyes. Shooting allows me to train my eye muscles and strike a balance between my academic life and health. However, to achieve high results in archery, I know I must work harder and put in more effort to improve my performance while managing my time effectively.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Siu, the teacher in charge of the archery team. Thank you for tolerating the craziness of the archery team and for all your contributions to our growth. Our coach, Mr. Ho, sacrifices his free time to teach us essential skills and strengthen us mentally. Many alumni share their invaluable personal experiences with us and offer alternative solutions to the challenges we face in archery.

So, that is a glimpse into our world of archery! It is more than just a sport. Actually, it is a journey of growth, focus and fun.



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# 'A Rewarding Sojourn at Hon Wah College: Learning, Sharing and Growing'

S5B Deng Jianda, James



In 2023, I came to Hong Kong and joined Hon Wah College, a big family filled with friendship and care. Adapting to this new life was indeed full of challenges, but with the meticulous help of teachers and classmates, I have had a fulfilling and wonderful campus life. Over these two years at school, I have gained a lot.

Academically, I have always been enthusiastic about the study of History and Geography. "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." The unique history and geography of Hong Kong have deeply fascinated me. I participated in the Historical Heritage Docent Video Competition with my classmates, and we successfully won the Award of Excellence. We created a video introduction about 1881 Heritage, the former Marine Police Headquarters in Hong Kong. Starting from scratch, we searched for information, planned the route, wrote the script, recorded the video, and edited it. My team members and I worked closely together, communicating on how to perfect the video, ensuring it was engaging and accurately analyzed the historical and modern revitalization of the heritage site. I also learned how to confidently give speeches in front of the camera, a skill that will greatly benefit my future growth. I have always hoped to become a video blogger and share my experiences and knowledge with the audience.

Regarding school activities, I have made more friends and participated in various school activities more frequently. I am also honored to be the deputy captain of the Prefect Team and a member of the Student Union. Seeing my classmates enjoy the Halloween and Christmas activities organized by the Student Union makes all the efforts worthwhile. I hope to live up to the trust and expectations of my teachers and classmates, providing a better learning environment and more diverse activities for my fellow students. Since my teachers and classmates have helped me, I will pass on this spirit and help new and transfer students better integrate into the big family of Hon Wah College.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have supported me. In particular, I want to thank Mr. Hui, my Chinese teacher, and Miss Choy, my English teacher. I did not perform well in these two subjects initially, but with their help, I have made great progress. I hope I can achieve good results and live up to their expectations.







## A Heartfelt Expression of Gratitude

S6B Leung Sheung Yu, Ina



As we know, life is full of ups and downs. When we hit rock bottom, many of us become more grateful for the people who help us confront our life obstacles with physical or mental support. Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude in this article.

First and foremost, I greatly appreciate my parents' life advice. As I grow up, anxiety start to creep inside of me due to a lack of future career direction. I could barely sleep at night with such overwhelming pressure until I found a way to ease my worries by opening up to my parents. They lend me a helping hand by asking constructive questions about my likes and dislikes in various aspects of life. Afterwards, my parents have suggested a few jobs based on my enthusiasm for helping others, such as being a nurse, therapist, paramedic, or social worker. I feel relieved as they give me practical life suggestions.

In addition, I want to sincerely express my gratitude to my dearest brother. In my opinion, he is not only a like-minded friend but also my life coach. Last year, I was burned out due to academic pressure and my struggle with perfectionism. My elder brother told me that "done is better than perfect" and advised me to take regular breaks if I was on the verge of a mental breakdown. He emphasized that personal health should always be the first priority as money cannot buy health or longevity.

Last but not least, I am grateful for all the teachers at my school. When my classmates and I have different types of lessons, our teachers often inspire our minds and creativity by nurturing our critical thinking skills. They also frequently remind us of the importance of moral values, such as courage in achieving our life goals, academic accountability as students and team spirit. Without the guidance of our teachers, neither our critical thinking skills nor our ethics could be fostered in our daily lives.

In a nutshell, I cherish all the lessons my family members and teachers have taught me in my daily life. I hope every one of us has a heart of gratitude and remembers what we have instead of what we have lost in our lifetime.



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## Chasing Dreams with a Grateful Heart

S6B Nie Jenny



It is a great honor for me to be here, just before graduation, to share my amazing educational experience over the past few years. In addition to joining the Student Union as the deputy director of the Culture and Leisure Department and competing in the Australian Mathematics Competition, I have participated in numerous school events, overcoming various obstacles and acquiring new prospects along the way.

More significantly, the thought process required for the Australian Mathematics Competition motivated me to strive for a better life. Solving mathematical problems demands the highest level of problem-solving skills, which is also essential for medical professionals who must thoroughly and accurately assess patients' conditions. This has made me a considerate person for my ideal future career in healthcare. Additionally, the precision required in mathematics has taught me to be more cautious and rigorous in my work. Ultimately, when I attempt to solve difficult math problems, I must push my limits and apply my knowledge to develop innovative solutions. This is crucial for medical innovation and research, helping us improve the quality of our lives. Receiving the Certificate of Proficiency in the competition has greatly boosted my confidence and sense of accomplishment.

I have quietly honed my problem-solving abilities by taking on various roles, especially while planning student union activities. Together, we discussed and shared our thoughts. Following heated debates, we made an effort to comprehend and evaluate one another's viewpoints. After discussing the initial strategy, we assigned tasks to everyone, ensuring a collaborative effort.

As I reflect on my time at Hon Wah College, I am deeply grateful for the invaluable contributions of my teachers, fellow students and the diverse range of extracurricular activities and campus events.



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# Geography: A Passion Igniting Growth at Hon Wah College

S6B Zhuang Xinyi, Joice



Throughout my secondary school experience at Hon Wah College (HWC), I have developed a strong interest in Geography and adopted effective learning methods and rigorous study habits. In my leisure time, I would constantly master the topic on my own and complete practice papers to consolidate my understanding. Also, I immersed myself in geographical topics outside of class and shared my knowledge with my classmates. This unwavering commitment paid off handsomely, as I consistently ranked among the top students in Geography. I proudly achieved first place in my class on multiple occasions, reflecting my hard work.

At school, I was eager to spread my love for Geography. During morning reading sessions, I would stand in front of my classmates and share my well-thought-out learning strategies. I broke down intricate geographical theories

into bite-sized, easy-to-understand chunks. Recess time was also utilized productively. I patiently listened to my classmates' questions, no matter how trivial they seemed. By simplifying difficult subjects for them, I not only helped them grasp the material better but also honed my own teaching abilities. This process was incredibly rewarding and I discovered an even greater sense of satisfaction in sharing knowledge than I had anticipated.

In Form Five, I had the incredible opportunity to participate in the Organic Pioneer and the Youth Organic Training Program. I threw myself wholeheartedly into this unique practical experience. Pulling weeds was no easy feat as it required physical strength and patience. But seeing the sheep munch contentedly on the weeds I had cut was a heartwarming sight. As I walked through the vast expanse of farmland, the earthy smell filled my lungs and I felt a deep connection to the land. These experiences made me acutely aware of the challenges faced by farmers and shepherds. I began to appreciate the simple yet precious gifts that nature bestows upon us, from the food we eat to the beauty of the landscape. This newfound understanding gave me a more profound and nuanced perspective on rural life.



Reflecting on my secondary school journey in HWC, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude. My teachers' guidance is instrumental in shaping my love for Geography. My classmates, with their inquisitive minds, have provided me with the opportunity to share and grow. The various campus activities and extracurricular programs, like the organic training, have broadened my horizons and enriched my understanding of the world.





## Dreamer of Truth

S6C Choi Ka Hang, Ethan



From a young age, I had a great interest in science, especially mathematics. Driven by this interest, I have acquired a deep understanding of math and aimed for further achievements in the field. To this day, I maintain a strong sensitivity to mathematical principles and numbers when solving problems or deriving solutions.

In my regular school life, I have many friends who are willing to do remarkable things with me. During our spare time, my friends and I enjoy engaging in amusing games, which may seem a bit childish and naive, but we view them as fun for our age. When it comes to academics, we gather to discuss solutions to different problems. Whenever I find an interesting academic topic or social phenomenon, we sit together and spend a lot of time debating or arguing about it. This is a perfect method for us to enhance our critical thinking and gain knowledge. These activities make my regular school life exciting and keep pushing me to seek the truth.

As my understanding of math excelled in school, my teachers recommended me for various science and math competitions. Fortunately, I received several awards in these competitions. For example, I got the Certificate of Merit in the 23-24 Hong Kong Mathematics Olympiad and the Certificate of Credit in the 24-25 Australian Mathematics Competition. These awards showcase my ability to solve math problems and help me gain valuable competition experience. More significantly, the competitions have made me aware of my own shortcomings and helped me to correct them. This has increased my motivation to learn so that I can achieve even more in mathematics in the future.

I must express my deepest gratitude to those who have ever helped or supported me. Thank you to every teacher and classmate who have shown me kindness, cared for me and pointed out my mistakes. I will never forget your generosity.

Lastly, as this is my final year of my secondary school, I am ready to close this chapter of my life. I sincerely wish everyone a bright future and hope to pursue my dream of uncovering the truth with determination.



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# My Learning Journey at Hon Wah College

S6C Luo Chongyun, Jason



This article serves as an epilogue to recapitulate my past three years as a Hon Wah student and to share some thoughts and experiences I have gained along the learning journey.

Recollecting my school life, there is not much to recount. I have been selective with my extracurricular activities to ensure I have abundant time for my studies,



which means most of my school days were uneventful. Yet this doesn't mean that all of the days were dull. With my affable classmates and dedicated teachers, we have made precious memories that we are bound to savor for a lifetime. Whether it was late-night chats about our dreams after a barbecue or meeting different people during our field trips to Mainland China, these moments truly stand out.

Over the past three years, I have experienced valuable personal and academic growth. Although I cannot say that I am content with every subject and my status quo—one cannot be too happy with the journey of self-improvement—I can proudly state that I have made progress beyond what I envisioned three years ago. Academically, I have pushed myself to excel in every subject and earned awards along the way. More importantly, on a personal level, I have become a more confident and self-disciplined individual, which is something I am proud of.

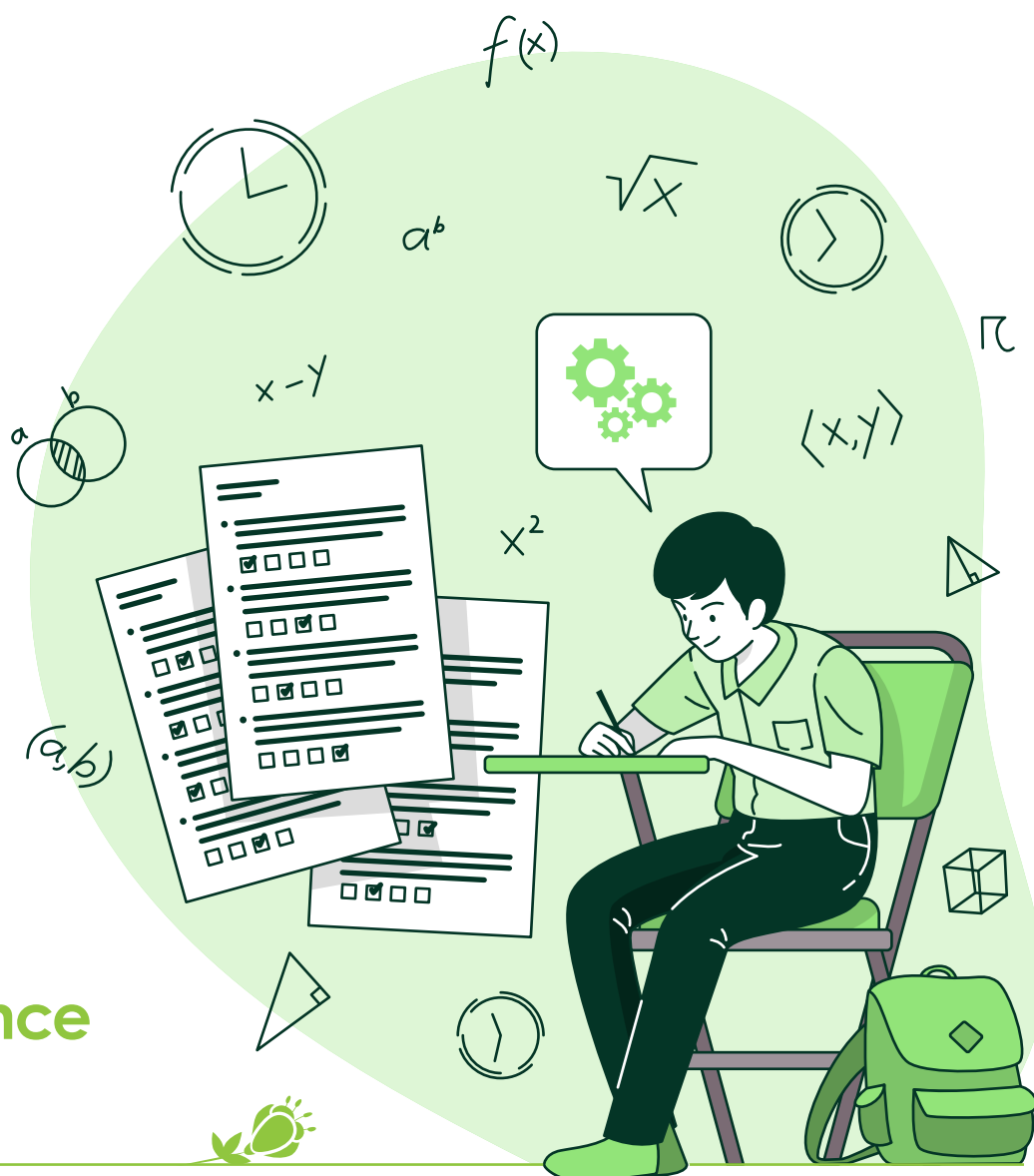
As I walk along the circuitous path towards adulthood, I would like to share some insights with young adolescents who have just embarked on their secondary school journey. Firstly, although the main duty of students is to study, there is no need to adopt an overly ascetic approach. Embrace the philosophy of “work hard, play hard”. Take initiative and participate in extracurricular activities positively to enrich your school experience, unlike my reserved approach. Secondly, keep your head up and be confident no matter what happens. Life is bound to have obstacles. Face them fearlessly. If we fail, accept the fact with courage and keep moving forward because life is “not about how hard you hit; it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward”.



Finally, I want to thank all the people who have helped me along this journey: my parents who support me unconditionally, my teachers who take good care of me, my classmates and friends who enrich my life with friendship, and lastly, myself for having a persevering spirit.



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## The importance of hard work

S2B Yeung Yik Hei

Hello everyone, I am Regan Yeung, from class 2B. I am happy to the get the award in this competition.

I will talk about the journey in getting this award. In the first uniform exam, I failed in many exams, in particular mathematics which I did not do particularly well in. Although I practised a lot of mock papers, I kept using the wrong calculations and getting incorrect answers. I even wanted to give up mathematics at one time. As the maths teacher saw my weakness in factorisation, he gave me some tips and advice which helped me improve on my calculations and answering the questions.

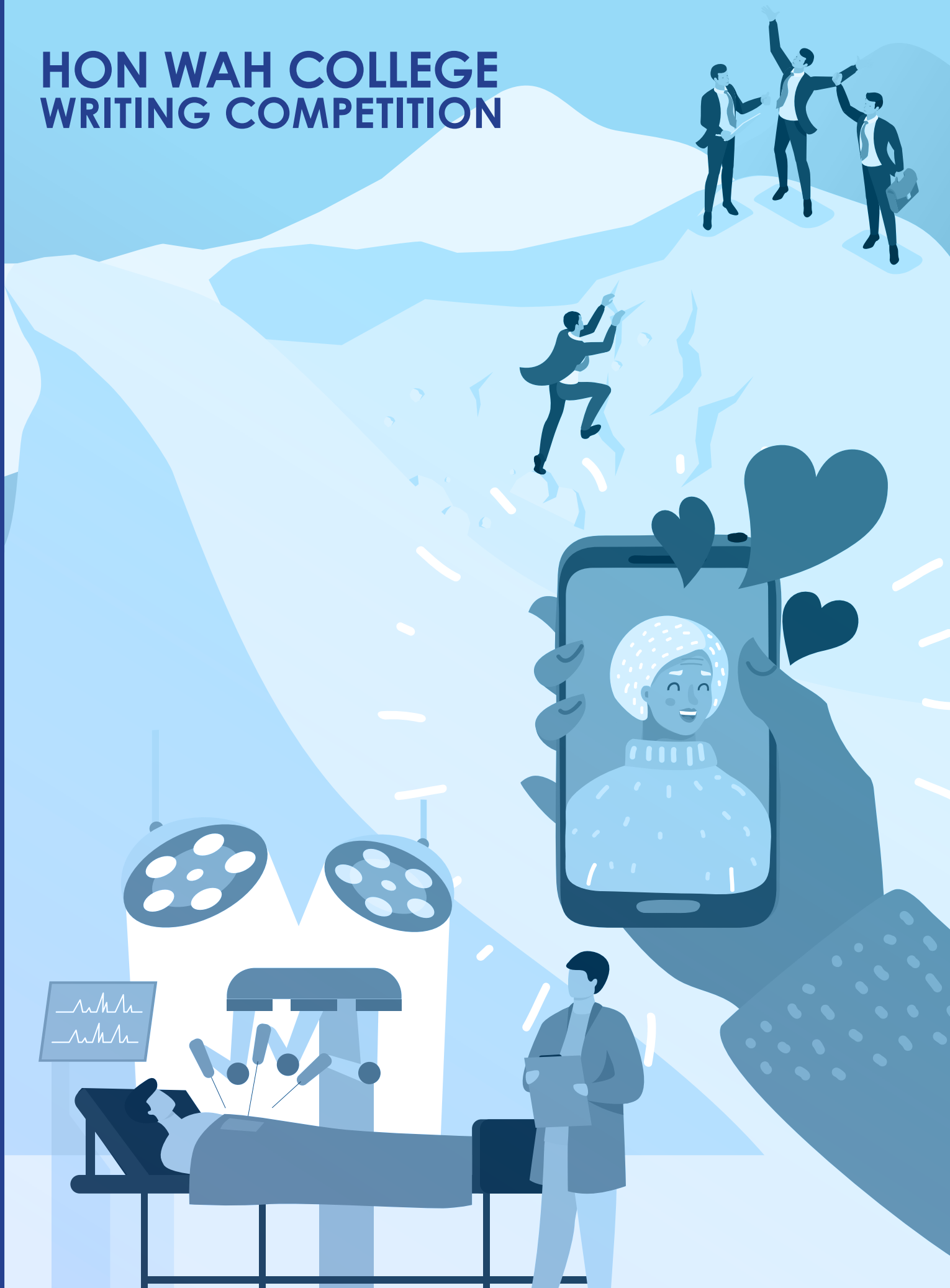
I got the reward due to my hard work and major improvement on my exam results. I learnt that hard work is important and useful to succeed in many areas.

Lastly, I would like to the people who helped me in this journey, especially, my teacher and parents who never gave up on me.

Thank you for reading.



# HON WAH COLLEGE WRITING COMPETITION



## Secondary 1-2

**Topic 1:** Write a diary entry about a time when you and a group of people worked together to achieve something meaningful. Reflect on what happened, how you contributed, how others played a role, and how it felt to be part of something bigger than yourself.

**Topic 2:** Write a letter to your future self, describing your hopes and dreams for how technology will shape the world in the years to come.

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## Secondary 3-4

**Topic 1:** Write a letter to a future generation explaining why language is such a powerful tool for connection, learning, and creativity, and how they can use it to unlock their potential

**Topic 2:** Write a letter to your future grandchildren, explaining the importance of showing gratitude and respect towards your family.

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## Secondary 5-6

**Topic 1:** Tell a story to a friend about a time where you used innovation and/or technology to help you achieve something great.

**Topic 2:** Showing acts of togetherness and sharing values is considered as the 'spirit of unity'. Write a speech to your year group, talking about how spirit of unity can be built and the importance of it in today's world.



# Writing Competition 2024-25



S1A Kwan Yat Nam, Kaylie



## Topic 1

Dear Diary,

Today, I'm reflecting on an incredible experience from last month when I, along with a group of friends, organized a community garden project. It started as a casual conversation over coffee, where we discussed the lack of green spaces in our neighborhood. Before we knew it, we had a plan to transform a vacant area into a vibrant community garden.

I took on the role of coordinator, reaching out to local businesses for donations and gathering supplies. Kaylie, with her gardening expertise, led workshops on planting techniques, while John, a graphic designer, created beautiful flyers to promote our project. Maria, a local teacher, organized a group of her students to help on planting day, ensuring that the younger generation was involved.

On the day of the garden build, the energy was contagious. We arrived early, armed with shovels, seeds, and a shared vision. As we dug, planted, and painted signs, laughter and camaraderie filled the air. I felt a sense of purpose as I worked alongside my neighbors, each of us contributing our strengths. It was heartwarming to see families come together, sharing stories and bonding over the common goal of beautifying our community.

As the sun began to set, we stood back to admire our work. The once-barren lot was now a patchwork of colorful flowers and vegetables, a testament to our collective effort. I felt a profound sense of pride and fulfillment, knowing that we had created something meaningful together.



Being part of this project reminded me of the power of community. It was more than just planting seeds; we were sowing connections and fostering a sense of belonging. I left that day with a full heart, grateful for the friendships forged and the impact we had made. It was a beautiful reminder that when we come together, we can create something truly special—something that benefits not just ourselves, but everyone around us.

Until next time,

Kaylie





SIB To Wang Tat

### Topic 1

Dear Diary,

Today, I am reflecting on a truly remarkable experience from a few months ago—a community project that brought people together in the most inspiring way. We were tasked with revitalizing a local park that had fallen into disrepair. The project wasn't just about cleaning up; it was about restoring a space for everyone to enjoy.

The day began with a diverse group of volunteers gathering at the park. We ranged from families with kids to retirees, all united by a common goal. I remember feeling a mix of excitement and nervousness as we introduced ourselves and shared our hopes for the project.

I had taken the initiative to help coordinate the efforts, reaching out to local businesses for donations and organizing supplies. It felt rewarding to see those connections come to life as we received tools, paint, and even refreshments for our hard work. I contributed by leading a team tasked with painting benches and planting flowers.

As we worked, I noticed how everyone played a vital role. The children were full of energy, painting bright colors on the benches, while the adults took on heavier tasks like clearing debris and planting trees. Each person brought their strengths, but what struck me most was the sense of camaraderie that developed. Laughter echoed through the park as we shared stories and encouraged one another, making the work feel less like a chore and more like a celebration.

By the end of the day, we had transformed the park into a vibrant space. Seeing the smiles on the faces of families as they enjoyed the fresh, colorful environment was incredibly fulfilling. It felt amazing to be part of something larger than myself, to see how our collective efforts had made a tangible difference.

Reflecting on that day, I realize how powerful community can be when we come together with a shared purpose. It was a reminder that our individual contributions, no matter how small, can lead to meaningful change. I left the park feeling a deep sense of connection—not just to the space we had revitalized, but to the people who had joined me in this endeavor.

Today, as I write, I cherish that feeling of unity and purpose, looking forward to more opportunities to collaborate and create a positive impact in our community.

Until next time,

To Wang Tat



More than an  
**Autograph**





## Topic 2

Dear Future Ruby,

As I compose this letter, hope and curiosity fill my thoughts about the world's evolution in the years to come. My aspiration is for technology to persist in bridging gaps, uniting people and nurturing cross-cultural understanding. I yearn for advancements in artificial intelligence and renewable energy to foster a more sustainable and just world, where resources are equitably shared, and environmental challenges are met with inventive solutions.

I envision a future where education is universally accessible, irrespective of one's background, and where technology empowers individuals to realize their full potential. I dream of a world where healthcare undergoes a technological revolution, enabling the early and effective detection and treatment of diseases.

Above all, I hope that amidst technological progress, we retain our humanity. I envision a world in which technology enriches our connections rather than supplanting them, where we harness our tools to cultivate a more empathetic and inclusive society.

I eagerly anticipate witnessing the realization of these dreams and how you, Future Me, have contributed to shaping this improved world.

With hope and anticipation,

Ruby Liu



More than an  
**Autograph**



## Topic 2

Dear Future Grandchildren,

I may have already left as I am writing this letter to you, or you may have discovered it by chance. In any case, I hope this message will serve as encouragement for you. Despite our distance in time, I'd like to leave some words and stories for you to understand as you start your own lives.

Whatever you do in life, good or bad, never forget or abandon your family. Family is a part of you; it is messy, difficult, and often downright frustrating. However, it is also where we make our greatest connections and discover the true meaning of unconditional love. Every one of your family members has a unique tale, so when you're bored, don't rot away in your room scrolling on whatever social media app is popular in the future; use the time to ask and listen to your family member's experience. Let your family member's stories be your lessons to guide you through your trials and tribulations. Who knows? You might even see them from a new perspective; you might even learn some new things about them. Friends are nice, but family is forever; I wouldn't trade it for the world. And I hope with time you will come to understand.

An essential habit that you need to learn to show is gratitude. It is a basic yet powerful, small yet deep practice that can change the entire outlook of your life. You don't know what they may have sacrificed to keep you happy. So make time to express thanks to the family members for all the love, care, and sacrifices they have made. It could be a mere "thank you" for a well-prepared meal or a heartfelt appreciation of all that they've done when times were difficult; gratitude unites people and creates a positive, supportive environment. Gratitude helps you value what you have and gives you a positive attitude. I hope you cultivate it as a habit, not just on special occasions, but also daily. Small gestures of gratitude can go a long way in enhancing your family relationships. This doesn't only apply to family; it applies to everyone.

Respect is the most important element of your personality. It's the building block of any relationship, and it is the same in the case of families. It's all about acknowledging a person's individuality and giving respect to their feelings, opinions, and choices. As you grow older, not everything will be agreed upon with your family, and that is perfectly fine. What matters is how you communicate those differences. Approach discussions with an open heart and mind, and try to listen as much as you speak. But it also means valuing the wisdom and experience of older generations. Let's not forget that your previous generations, for example, your parents, have walked miles to give us a better life, often at the cost of their dreams. To



disrespect them is to diminish all they have done out of love. They have walked paths you have yet to explore. Their stories and lessons can offer invaluable insights. But a piece of advice from me: treat people the way you want to be treated. Talk to people the way you want to be talked to. Respect is earned, not given.

Please don't make the same mistake I did. Don't neglect your family or grow distant from them. Trust me, you will regret it when you grow old and they are even older. They probably can't even get out of bed or are just incapable of creating new fun memories with you. You will regret asking yourself why you didn't spend more time with them, why you didn't take them out more, or travel around. So I advise you to go to family gatherings, traditions, and shared experiences; they are the real treasures that stay with you throughout your life. Make it a point to participate in these moments—be it big celebrations or quiet evenings spent together. These memories will become the stories you share with your children and grandchildren.

As you journey through life, remember that any relationship will take work. But make it a point to call, to check in, to celebrate each other. The love and respect nurtured within will make a garden of support on which you all will lean with joy and in times of sorrow.

Let me leave you with this: appreciation and respect are not only about the present; it's about leaving behind a legacy of love that will reverberate across generations. As you make this day, know that what you do today will affect how your children and grandchildren will view your family.

I look forward to the day when I will be able to see the love and respect you have for one another, but even if I am gone, I sincerely hope these words are of use to you and open you up to a whole new perspective. Until then, carry these thoughts in your heart, and may they guide you in all your relationships.

With lots of love,  
Grandma







S4C Ng Sum Yuen

## Topic 2

Dear Future Grandchildren,

As I write this letter, I want to share a crucial lesson about the importance of expressing gratitude and respect towards our family. Living in a world that often seems chaotic and has a fast-moving lifestyle, I believe that these aspects can foster our relationships and strengthen our connections.

First and foremost, I believe that family should always be our first priority. Family always supports us unconditionally, no matter what happens, and family holds countless memories of good times spent together. Showing gratitude to family can transform ordinary moments into cherished memories, showing that we care for them, and it can also create a positive atmosphere. For instance, a simple action like a heartfelt 'thank you' or a kind gesture can already show gratitude and reinforce the bond between family.

Subsequently, showing respect to family is also vital. For example, respectful interactions promote open communication. When our family feels respected, they are more likely to express their perspectives and feelings honestly. In order to have an atmosphere of trust and understanding, valuing one another's viewpoints is needed within the family. Besides, every family has unique experiences and thoughts, and treating each other with respect allows us to learn and grow; it can also enhance family dynamics.

Furthermore, as you journey through life, I highly urge you to embrace these aspects wholeheartedly. Convey your appreciation through meaningful, simple actions, and learn to respect your family. Spend more time approaching family with reverence and kindness, and these gestures will nurture the love that sustains you.

In a nutshell, I hope you can cherish every moment spent together with family and allow gratitude and respect to guide your interactions. I am sure that the aforementioned aspects cultivated within the family will serve as an enduring source of strength and joy that benefits you and future generations.

Yours sincerely,  
Chris Wong

All the best,  
Samyi at 16 years old





S4B Chow Ho Wun, Anderson

## Topic 2

Dear Future Grandchildren,

As I write this letter, I'm thinking of you—the ones who will carry our family's legacy into a world I can only imagine. There's so much I want to share, but above all, I hope you'll hold onto this: Gratitude and respect for your family are the roots that will keep you grounded, no matter how tall you grow or how far life takes you.

Gratitude is more than saying "thank you." It's recognizing the sacrifices, love, and invisible efforts that built the life you have. Think of your great-grandparents, who worked tirelessly to give their children safety and opportunity. Picture your parents staying up late to comfort you, teach you, or simply listen. These acts may seem small, but they're the threads that weave a family together. When you practice gratitude—whether through words, hugs, or simply pausing to reflect—you honor the countless gifts you've been given, many of which you'll never fully see.

Respect is also non-negotiable. Families are messy. We disagree, hurt one another, and sometimes take each other for granted. But respect means listening even when you're frustrated, valuing someone's perspective even when it clashes with your own, and defending your family's dignity as fiercely as your own. Remember: No one in this world will ever fight for you, celebrate you, or love you as unconditionally as family. That bond deserves reverence.

Our family isn't perfect, but it's yours—a shelter in storms, a mirror to your roots, and a compass when you feel lost. When you show gratitude and respect, you're not just upholding traditions; you're nurturing a legacy of kindness that will ripple far beyond your lifetime.

One day, you'll understand how quickly time passes. People you love will leave this world, and moments you took for granted will become memories. Don't wait until then to say, "I see you. I appreciate you. You matter." Start now.

Yours faithfully,  
Chow Ho Wun







## Topic 1

'This drought is killing us!' exclaimed a villager. 'Every crop we've planted has become bone dry in a matter of days! Rations won't last much longer!' Then came a moment of silence. I knew it was bad, but not this bad. I walked away from the chief's stone cottage, away from the problems of the adults. I'm just a kid who overheard a conversation with them. Though, I can't help but worry about what we can do to not die of starvation or thirst.

I walked on and on, trying to relieve myself from the fear of death. The sun was shining bright, too bright, quickly draining away the remains of hydration in my body. The round stone huts lined up on the sandy dirt path, while some kids who looked no more than 7 chased each other gleefully, playing without a single worry in mind. I wish I could join them, but I'm not in the mood to. Eventually, I reached the village farm, a large plot of dirt with some occasional weeds and crispy dried-up seedlings. The dry atmosphere contrasted with the memory of the vegetated and green crop-filled farm. It was unrecognizable.

I kept on walking without a thought in mind. The view was repetitive, just occasional dried-up bushes or weeds in the vast light brown earth, stretching endlessly into the horizon with some bumps or hills here and there.

Suddenly, I noticed a change in colour on the far right. It was a subtle green enveloped by a darker shade of brown. Is that... vegetation? I rushed over, kicking up some dirt behind me as my sandals left the ground.

What was now under my foot was a small patch of scarce light green grass the size of a dinner table. Does this mean there's water here? My eyes lit up. The village can be saved! But where is it? Could it be that the water is underground like wells? I knelt down and ripped up the dirt under the grass. However, my efforts showed no effect as my hands were already scratched having dug about a quarter of a meter deep. I decided not to waste more time and to get help from the village.

'Stop messing around and go play with the other little ones,' the village chief told me. I wasn't taken seriously because I was too young. Looks like I'm on my own.

I grabbed a spare wooden plank from home and sharpened the edge with a stone knife from the kitchen. I was hoping that I could push the now-pointed tip of the plank far enough into the ground to reach water. The adults would have to believe me when I brought back a wet plank.

I ran back to the patch of green and inserted the plank vertically into the shallow hole I dug. The plank was now up to my chin. I hammered down the end of the plank with all my strength using my fist. It worked at first, but I only managed to get a quarter of it into the ground before it wouldn't budge. What now? Frustrated, I shoved the plank and shook it. Somehow, the plank wiggled in slightly deeper. Bewildered, I proceeded to repeatedly shove and wiggle it. It worked, but it was barely effective. I used up most of my strength just to get it an inch or two deeper. What now?? Tired, I headed back to the village to get some rest and think about what to do next.

Walking back, I noticed that our clothes were hung up by a string attached to two poles that were anchored to the ground. I've never seen them tip over, so they must be pretty deep, right? Maybe using a pole would do the trick. The next day, I headed back with a pole for hanging clothes. With the drought, we've got no water to wash our clothes anyway. I pulled out the plank and shoved the pole in. Just as I expected, it was easier to get the pole in deeper than the plank using the same 'wiggle and shove' technique. But it still wasn't quite deep enough. Maybe I have to wiggle it differently? Or maybe I could try spinning it, drilling it into the ground.

Continued on  
next page



When I tried that, I mustered all my strength to try and spin the pole deeper into the ground. It made a few crackling noises. SNAP! The bottom of the pole remained in the ground while the detached top part stayed in my hands.

Huh? The adults won't notice a pole gone with the drought going on... but still, how will I get the pole deeper? Argh! I'm out of ideas. What can I do now? The village will be destroyed soon due to the lack of water. I don't want to see anyone die such a horrible death! I've never felt such immense despair before. The hopeless emotions channelled into strength, and I let it all out by angrily stomping on the broken pole remaining in the ground. Oh! Hammering it might work! With a bit of hope regained, I rushed back to the village to grab a new pole.

Right, maybe I can sharpen it even more, and this time I'll pick the slightly thinner pole as the pole I used was much slimmer than the plank, and it worked much better. After half an hour, I was done with my search and my sharpening. The pole was now so sharp it could be used for hunting.

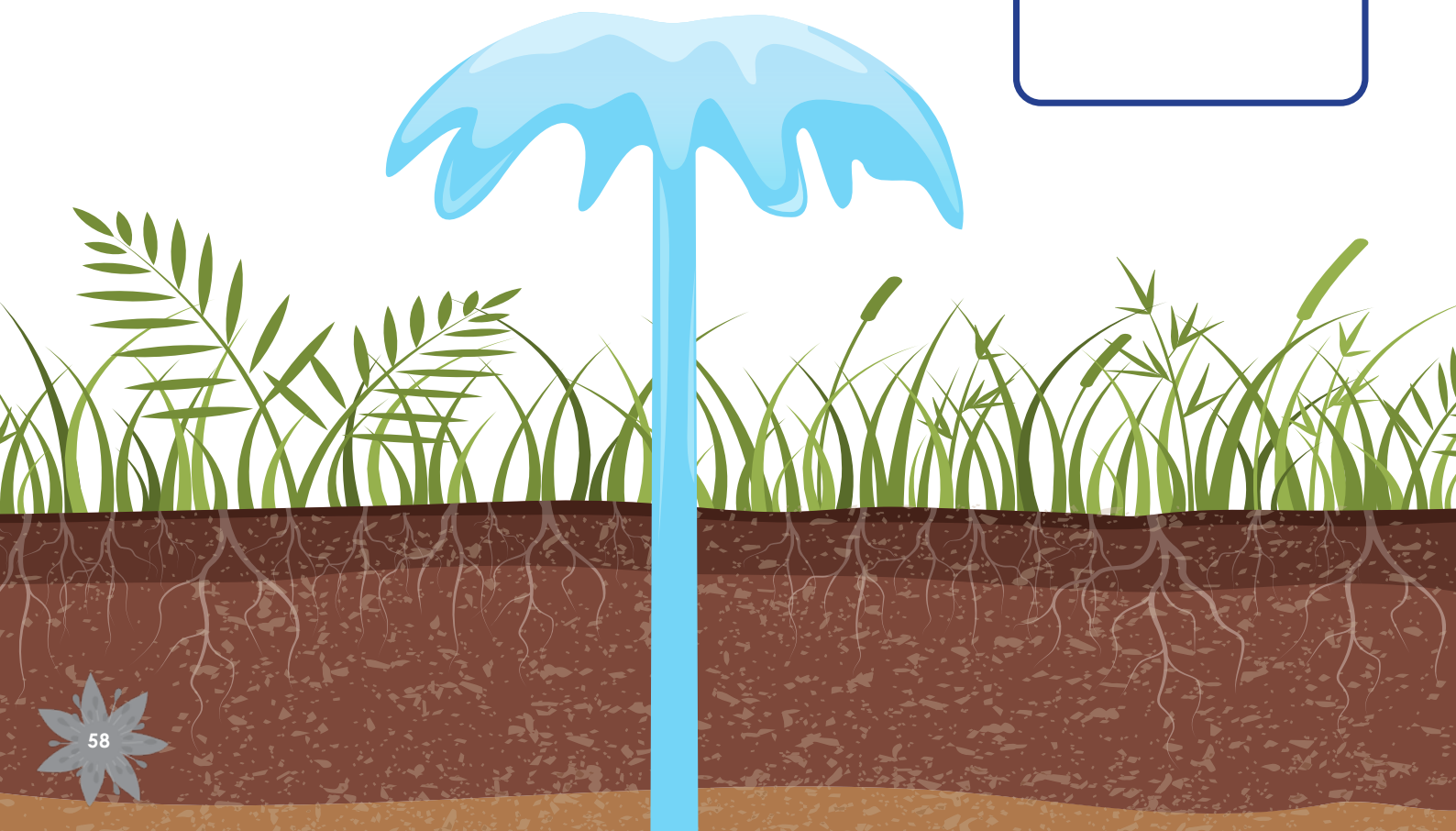
I rushed back and shoved the new pole into the ground. Hmm, but my hands hurt when I tried hammering it in... So maybe I could grab the rock and use that instead of my fist? With the combination of a new and improved pole, hammering, shoving, and wiggling, the pole was deeper than ever before. It might just be deep enough to reach water. Surely, the root of the grass can't be that deep, right? I clasped my hands around the pole and held on tight as I tried to pull it back up. I pulled and pulled, but I wasn't strong enough to yank it out of the ground.

At this moment, a familiar voice emerged behind me. 'Hey, you know about the drought and all, and no one has any solutions. We're gathering everyone at the village to have a final meeting, and everyone in the village has met up. You're the only one left. I followed your footsteps here, so why don't you come follow me back?'

It was the chief. He had a grave expression and tone. Perfect! An adult! Just the strength I needed. I promised to go back as soon as he pulled the pole out. He didn't ask questions and put his arms around the pole as well.

One! Two! Three! Pull!!! The pole was yanked out of the ground in one swift motion, revealing a soaked bottom and leaving behind a hole in the ground which quickly filled up with water. We both stood in awe as the water rushed out, forming a miniature fountain. Our eyes lit up, and without a word, we rushed back to the village and told everyone about this miracle.

Soon enough, as the village farmlands were restored to their former glory, the picture in my memory appeared in front of me. I was praised as the hero of the village and received compliments in glee, earning the title 'god of water.' And that, my friend, is how I used innovation to achieve something great.







## Topic 2

Good morning, fellow teachers and students,  
The topic I'm sharing today is unity.

First of all, I must point out that the spirit of unity is important.

Unity is a familiar but blurry word. Unity is a thing which is extremely vital to us. Unity is a magical word that gives us power. We are often told by elderly people that humans can never live alone. It might sound ridiculous: I can cook for myself, I am an independent person, and I don't need anyone else. Yes, I must admit that it is possible to pass an entire life without interacting with others. However, this kind of golden sentence doesn't come without reason. In order to face the fear of the dark and dangerous, our ancestors gathered in a group to ensure their safety. Therefore, society appeared. In order to deal with countless situations, people united with each other to take the bull by the horns, and so a connection appeared. In order to sustain our own species, people of opposite sexes aggregated and produced offspring. Ultimately, home appeared.

Personally, all I have mentioned above is the symbol of the spirit of unity. This sense of togetherness implants hope deeply into everyone's mind. No longer do we have to suffer from loneliness, fear, or anxiety, since we know that there is someone beside us, someone to support us. We are indeed not alone. Moreover, unity fosters recognition of value between individuals. This sense of honour motivates people to dedicate themselves to learning and working, resulting in an upsurge in productivity.

Last but not least, there are more hidden benefits brought by the spirit of unity. When you are suffering from depression, why don't you try to rely on others? Rather than indulging in sugary snacks or surfing the internet for no reason, expressing your concerns is definitely a far more effective way to relieve your stress. Pouring out all my true feelings to my friends and relatives, and gaining their support, I understand that the dilemma I'm facing isn't that inextricable. Instead, failure only makes me stronger.

Now, do you have a clearer understanding of what unity is? If you are still confused, try to think of those valuable moments created when you are interacting with others. In this lifelong journey, you will definitely meet various people, and those complex moments will support you in overcoming the lowest periods of your life. Thanks to those periods, we gain the ability and bravery to confront problems.

Next, let's go to another side. If the spirit of unity is that useful, how can we foster it and rearrange this kind of power to be ours? I would say that love plays an irreplaceable role in building unity. Take the Mohist thought as an example: they advocate universal love, which means you treat every stranger as your closest friend, or you respect every elderly person as your grandparent. In my point of view, inconspicuous love is the fundamental material of unity.

So, what should we do specifically to promote the spirit of unity, especially among teenagers? To my dear audience, I highly encourage you to participate in group activities, no matter if it's volunteering or joining a preference club. These activities help build bonds between different individuals. Through conversations, you will gain a deeper understanding of your partner's characteristics. In addition, during the period when you work with them, connections are formed, and both of you will become more familiar. Ultimately, a spirit of unity will be successfully built. People support each other and work for the same goal.

On the other hand, involvement in charitable activities that help others also enhances the promotion of unity. For instance, visiting nursing homes or assisting those with financial difficulties allows us to express our love. The recipients will know that they are a part of society and that there are people who stand by their side. Therefore, helping others not only benefits those facing difficulties but also enhances unity within society.

In the end, I would like to thank everyone for listening. I hope all of you have a great day.



More than an  
Autograph



## Topic 2

Good Morning, dear teachers and fellow students. Today, I am honoured to be here to address a speech on the 'spirit of unity.' In our diverse and interconnected world, fostering unity among us is not just a moral imperative, but a necessity for progress and harmony. What is the spirit of unity? It's the sense of togetherness that makes us feel like we're part of something bigger than ourselves. It represents a coming together of diverse individuals, ideas, and cultures under a common purpose. Therefore, this spirit can be a powerful driving force that encourages us to put down our differences and work collectively towards a shared goal.

In an era of globalization, technological advancements, and increasing interconnectedness, the challenges we face are often too complex for any one individual or nation to tackle alone. Climate change, pandemics, economic crises, and social injustices are global issues that require collective action. Great successes do not only depend on individual strength, but on the collective energy and efforts of a group. The achievement of our goals and the realization of our dreams depend on our ability to work together in harmony.

Unity is our greatest asset in facing these challenges. When we stand together, we are more resilient in the face of challenges. Whether it's dealing with academic stress, social pressures, or personal difficulties, having a supportive community can make all the difference. We can lift each other up, offer encouragement, and help one another through tough times. These challenges require the collective efforts of people all over the world to solve.

During various collaborations in homework projects or competition programmes, we can learn the importance of unity vividly. However, as a student, how do we build this spirit of unity within our grade, our school, and our broader community? In my opinion, the answer lies in several key actions:

First and foremost, open communication is paramount. We must create an environment where every voice is heard and every opinion matters. By encouraging open dialogue, we can foster understanding and empathy, which are the cornerstones of unity. When we listen to one another, we learn to appreciate our differences and find common ground. We should take the time to understand the perspectives of others. This simple act of respect can go a long way in building trust and unity. Secondly, common goals unite us. Whether it's achieving better academic performance, participating in extracurricular activities, or contributing to community service, setting shared objectives helps align our efforts and strengthen our bond. Working together towards these goals fosters a sense of belonging and collective responsibility.

Finally, leading by example is powerful. As students, we have the power to influence our peers. By demonstrating unity in our actions and words, we inspire others to do the same. Leadership in fostering unity doesn't always mean being in a formal position of authority; it can be as simple as being a kind listener, an encouraging friend, or a supportive teammate.

In conclusion, the spirit of unity is not just a nice concept; it's a necessity. By following these useful measures, we can build a strong sense of unity within our grade. This unity will not only enhance our school experience but also prepare us for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Let us all strive to build a better school with a 'spirit of unity.'

I hope you all enjoyed my speech and learned more about the 'spirit of unity.' Thank you for listening.





## Introduction to Drama in English Language Education (DELE) and Language Arts (LA)

This academic year marked the introduction of a novel S1 class merging Language Arts with Drama, a collaborative effort led by our NET and English instructors. This interdisciplinary course empowered students to delve into storytelling through the lenses of literary analysis and theatrical performance.

During the initial term, students delved into the world of Peter Pan, mastering the art of story dissection alongside fundamental drama techniques. Crafting a Peter Pan script, they premiered their production early in the subsequent term, honing skills in character portrayal, teamwork dynamics, and stage management.

In the latter term, the cohort embarked on the journey through Alice Through the Looking Glass, unraveling intricate characters and themes while experimenting with expressive avenues through dramatic artistry. These activities nurtured critical thinking, empathy, and inventive interpretations.

By seamlessly blending DELE with Language Arts, the course not only facilitated literary scrutiny but also breathed life into narratives on stage. It cultivated creativity, collaboration, and individual expression, aiding students in evolving as poised communicators. As they chart their courses ahead, they will leverage these newfound skills to craft original scripts and prepare for live performances, setting a promising tone for their artistic odyssey.

### Program Overview: A Harmonious Fusion of LA and DELE

The S1 LA and DELE curriculum was meticulously crafted to provide students with a holistic educational experience oscillating between text-centered learning and theatrical exploration. This structured approach enables students to immerse themselves in literature while concurrently applying their creative aptitudes in a pragmatic, hands-on context.

During reading sessions, students focus on specific segments of the assigned text, dissecting two chapters weekly. Interactive worksheets are employed to enhance comprehension, ignite critical thinking, and foster analytical prowess. This method facilitates a profound engagement with the narrative, laying the groundwork for subsequent creative endeavors.

Conversely, drama sessions breathe life into the textual material. These workshops emphasize character development, performance techniques, and creative production tasks. By toggling between literary analysis and practical application, students seamlessly merge theoretical insights with practical implementations, transforming words on a page into vibrant, engaging enactments.



# Student Perspectives on the Program

In a bid to glean insights into their experiences, students were invited to reflect on their most memorable moments from the course.



## S1A Chung Lap In Hailey

Upon reflection, I've realized substantial growth both academically and personally. The diversity of literary genres explored in Language Arts opened new vistas, fostering an understanding of varied perspectives and cultures. Concurrently, Drama classes proved equally transformative as they unveiled the allure of stage performance and honed my emotive acting skills. Collaborating with peers during rehearsals underscored the significance of teamwork and effective communication. While I relished the Peter Pan narrative, I found joy in both Language Arts and DELE. However, the allure of acting may sway my interests towards drama, though I remain committed to improving in both disciplines to overcome my shyness.



## S1A Wong Tin Wai Carina

My experience in the Peter Pan and Drama classes was enriching. I relished the insights into stage positioning for actors and actresses, from Upstage Right to Downstage Left, with the center stage holding a special significance for lead performers. Scene One in Peter Pan captivated me the most, chronicling the transformation of the Darlings' blissful existence upon Peter Pan's arrival. The subsequent journey to Neverland with Wendy, John, and Michael was particularly enthralling, radiating a sense of adventure and excitement through its narration. A standout memory was Mr. David's elucidation of the storyline, illuminating pivotal aspects of the narrative.



## S1A Lo Ching Nam Sunny

The experience was unparalleled, offering a delightful exploration of drama. Our foray into global stage typologies and behind-the-scenes intricacies, such as set design and sound effects, fostered a profound appreciation for the dramatic arts. Interacting with classmates in this vibrant setting was immensely enjoyable, a testament to the enriching guidance provided by Mr. Corn .



## S1B Li Chun Ming

Greetings! I am eager to recount my enriching experiences in Language Arts and Drama, replete with creativity, merriment, and unforgettable moments. Peter Pan, a literary gem we explored, unraveled a tapestry of enchanting experiences. The narrative chronicling a boy's magical exploits, his encounter with the Darling family, and the escapades in Neverland invigorated our class sessions. Our tutor, Mr. David, adeptly navigated us through the nuances of the Peter Pan storyline. The Drama lessons brimmed with excitement, prompting us to embody diverse characters and orchestrate scenes adeptly. These dramatic renditions were a source of immense joy and camaraderie. With this, I conclude my reflections, hoping you relish this narrative. Until next time.



## S1A Lyew Sunlok Ryan

This academic year brimmed with excitement in Language Arts and Drama. The camaraderie shared with classmates and instructors underpinned our memorable experiences. The structured lessons, particularly centered on Peter Pan, resonated deeply. The narrative's intricacies and captivating characters left an indelible impression. Collaborating within a group of seven for our Peter Pan performance fostered new friendships and engendered a spirit of camaraderie. Engaging in lively discussions on Peter Pan's themes and motifs with friends further enriched our collective learning journey. These invaluable experiences at Hon Wah College will forever linger in my memory.





# FOOTBALL ENTRY



S2A Su Yu Long Brian



Hello everyone, I'm Su Yu Long Brian, and I joined the Hon Wan football team in Form 1. At first, I was quite nervous because I didn't know anyone on the team, but over time, I warmed up. I think the football team is like a big family, and everyone is nice. Last year, I was the first-choice goalkeeper for C Grade and the futsal team. Although we didn't go very far in the inter-school competition, I was happy with the results considering it was my first year. Even though we weren't the best, I loved the team's mentality and our desire to win.

As for the futsal team, I was very happy because we won the championship in the futsal cup, and I'm very honored to be chosen as the goalkeeper in my first year. I was only 12, but I was playing in the U17 cups and got the chance to play with the A Grade players too. Last year, I was in the Jockey Club School Football Development Scheme, and I think it was very helpful for new players like me and the Form 1s, as I learned some valuable skills and tactics that helped me in my career. I hope we can have more valuable opportunities like these.

As for this year, I was chosen to be the captain of C Grade, and I am very honored and grateful for this opportunity. My goal this year is to lead C Grade to achieve a better result than last year. As for futsal, although we did lose some key players this year, I still have high expectations for this year's futsal cup, and I hope to make it into the finals again and maybe win.

Lastly, I need to thank Mr. Poon and Chiu Sir for giving me this amazing opportunity to improve. I also need to thank my parents for supporting me through these times, and one extra thank you goes to the MRD Goalkeeper Academy coaches for helping me develop my goalkeeping skills and pushing me this far.



More than an  
**Autograph**





## S1A Chan Ho Lok Nick

This year is my first year joining the school football team. Ever since I joined, I have received countless amounts of support from my senior teammates. The school football team truly feels like family to me.

When I first joined, my initial impressions of the school football team were based on the achievements of the team last year, having made it to the finals of the Inter-School Competition and the 5-a-side Football Competition. Therefore, when I first came here, I could already tell that this football team was not bad at all.

My goals this year are to improve significantly in football and to score a few goals in the Inter-School Competition. So far, I believe I have improved compared to when I first joined the team. I practice my football after school and usually go out to play on weekends. Additionally, I am proud that I scored at least one goal in the Inter-School Football Competition. It may seem small; however, I believe it is the first stepping stone to even more goals and achievements.

The person I would like to thank the most in my football journey is my coaches and my parents. Firstly, my coaches have taught me a lot about football, including different skills in a match and tactics to keep in mind. Secondly, I would like to thank my parents for the amazing support they have given me throughout my football journey. If it weren't for them, I wouldn't have had all these football opportunities.



## S1A Tam Wui Chun Jonathan



This is my first year joining the school's football team. When I first joined, I was shy and couldn't communicate with my teammates. I felt pressured and didn't want to continue playing for the school team. However, I met some seniors who taught me skills and tricks to be a better player. After countless attempts and encouragement from my seniors and coaches, I started to feel more confident. I now really feel part of the football team and the school's football community.

My goal for the year is to improve my football skills and take the time to grow deeper in the football society. I might not play well in some matches, but I feel that I have been improving, and someday my dream of winning the inter-school football championship with my friends will come true. Thanks to my coach and teammates, I have improved a lot, and I will keep trying my best to accomplish my goals little by little.

In my football journey, the person I want to thank the most is my brother. He always encourages me to train with him, even when I lack motivation. He told me that if I didn't try, I could never accomplish anything, and I was really touched by his words. I started to gain my confidence back, and if it weren't for him, I would have never played football again.



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