St. Joan of Arc Secondary School

English Week
2006-2007

To love, to enjoy and to explore English.
"To love, to enjoy and to explore English", was the theme of English Week this year. In order to enhance student's interests in learning English, different marvelous and interesting activities were held during the week. To spice up the activities, all our English society members really did a great job and we tried our very best to make our English Week a success. We are really proud of what we did.

To summarize the activities, we had Treasure Hunt, Film Shows, Language Games, English Café, Book Club, Storyboard, Public Speaking and Book Sharing. All of them were enjoyable and intriguing activities. I think participating students had a great time with them!

With the aim to explore English in fun ways, this year, we had an innovative and creative attempt, the Rap Show. Six S2 students, who were the first SIA rappers, participated actively and exhibited their creativity by composing raps. Doesn't it sound great? Their performance was amazing! They were just like real rappers, rapping and dancing confidently. For me, it was really an unforgettable experience.

Besides, all your enthusiastic support gives us the drive to do better next time. Hope you will eagerly join the functions held by English Society.

Enjoy reading this newsletter!

Eva Law  6 Wisdom
Chairlady of English Society
Objectives:

1. To arouse students’ interests in hip-hop culture and some basic proficiency in English Language to perform English raps.
2. To introduce to junior form students the joy of public-speaking.
3. To broaden students’ horizon in fictional and non-fictional materials through games, activities and book sharing.
4. To arouse students’ interests in learning English through language games and film shows.
5. To develop leadership skills.

The kicking off of the English Week by Fr. Kim (Supervisor) and Mr. Lau (Principal)

S1 boys reciting this year’s English Week theme

S4 & S6 English Week leaders

To love, enjoy and explore English
PUBLIC SPEAKING (External and Internal Activities)

Teacher-in-charge – Ms Hsu

Speak Up Speak Out participants:
Chris Wan (3 Faith), Billy Cheung (3 Faith),
Jason Ng (3 Hope), Wilson Wong (3 Hope).

A group of four S3 students had the opportunity to participate in the English Festival 2007’s Speech Jamboree – Speak Up, Speak Out event. Based on the theme of “Our Hong Kong”, these boys delivered compelling speeches illustrating the different facets of what they believed defined and made Hong Kong unique from other places in the world. They had the opportunity to present their talent and compete against eight other schools at the Speech Jamboree held on the 12th of May. In addition, the four boys were able to display their talent during the English morning assembly held the day before the competition, where they had the chance to perform their speech to their fellow-classmates and teachers.

The boys’ success is reflected through their confident performances and endless praises from their teachers, fellow-classmates and judges. Their ability to overcome fear and build strong self-confidence are all results of their hard work and a true display of SJA spirit.

3 Hope – Wilson Wong

It was my pleasure to join the English “Speak Up, Speak Out” contest. Although we didn’t get any prizes, I thought we were very successful. Teachers spent a lot of time to train us and helped us through our difficulties. I would like to tell them that all their training was worth it. During this activity, I learned how to express myself in English and how to use my tone to keep my audience’s attention. I am able to write a well focused and logically organized essay, all the while learning new vocabulary and improving my English skills.

Lastly, teachers spent lots of time and effort training and preparing us for the event and never gave up on us. We had a successful contest because of our teacher and you gave me the confidence to stand on the platform and deliver my beautiful speech. Thank you very much.

3 Faith – Chris Wan

I have participated in the Speak Up, Speak Out competition and it was a big event. On that day, eight schools joined and all the participants were well prepared. Before I presented my speech, I felt very nervous as it was my first time. Through the competition I have learnt how to give a good presentation and gained more stage experiences. Also, I learned a lot from the other participants. I hope that I can join the competition again and have more great memories.

3 Faith – Billy Cheung

About three months ago, I joined a public speaking competition. When I was on stage, I was really proud of myself and I felt that my team members along with my own performances were great. Before going on stage, I felt like “my hands were tied and I was afraid”, whereas when I was on stage I felt very excited and enjoyed the competition. I saw the audiences clap for me and it gave me a pleasant feeling. I think this feeling can’t be easily found in other ways, so I hope I will be able to join the speaking competition again.

3 Hope – Jason Ng

I think that the speech festival is a very good experience for students because this kind of competition helps us to improve our English skill. I have learnt how to write a detailed speech and learnt how to make my speech interesting. It has taught me how to be brave when standing in front of lots of people and making a speech. I am confident in myself and am no longer afraid to stand up to present my speech in front of people. I think it is a good experience and taught me how to be a confident speaker.
Public Speaking Competition 2007

The most memorable English week activity for S1 students was the public speaking competition held on 18th May, 2007.

Four representatives from each class took turns to talk about topics chosen for 2 minutes. Although public speaking is challenging for junior form students, all the participants’ performance was really rewarding for their English teachers and themselves. Students could speak fluently and confidently in front of the audience and their speeches were interesting, inspiring and valuable.

Through the competition, students have built up their confidence in English speaking. Their motivation in learning the language is enhanced. Therefore, joining English activities is an enjoyable and fruitful experience to improve our English skills. We look forward to seeing more and more students actively participating in school English activities and enjoy learning English.

ELT RAPS (External and Internal Activities)

We Have A Say...

Names of the SJA Rappers:
1. Richard Chu (S.2 Wisdom)
2. Winson Tang (S.2 Wisdom)
3. Alan Lun Liong Shing (dancer) (S.2 Wisdom)
4. Raymond Yan Wai Yin (dancer) (S.2 Wisdom)
5. Choi Chung Man (S.2 Hope)
6. Ip Cheuk Chun (S.2 Hope)

A group of six students who called themselves The Reformers participated in the English Festival 2007 organized by the Chinese University of Hong Kong funded by SCOLAR. The group performed their rap “SJA We Have A Say” with 24 other groups from 24 schools across the territory at YCH Wong Wha San Secondary School on May 19th, 2007. During the English Week, they were given the chance to perform again in the presence of their fellow-schoolmates.

The Reformers were awarded certificates by the Chinese University and a trophy from the school for their keen participation.

The Reformers reflected that the activity was a success as it enhanced their teamwork and proficiency of oral English.

Rap Show 2007

21st May was a great day for our S2 students. All S2 classes gathered at the school hall and performed for one of the most eye catching English Week activities, Rap Show 2007.

The activity kicked off with a fun introductory session by our student helpers. The classes then took turns to perform and battled for trophies. With creativity in mind, all of them had prepared interesting and meaningful lyrics in advance. The audience could not stop clapping and cheering for their buddies’ fluent raps and great dances. The performance by students from 2 Wisdom and 2 Hope, who called themselves ‘The Reformers’, was the climax of the day.

‘This is really an unforgettable experience of mine. I have learnt how to play with English words and cooperate with others,’ one of the S2 performers commented in an interview.

Indeed, the huge success of this function should be attributed to the valuable suggestions given by our teacher advisors, the hard work of participants and the whole-hearted support by the audience, who were completely immersed in a joyful English-learning environment.
On 12\textsuperscript{th} May, a group of 3 Faith students took part in a Reading Fair named ‘STORY BOARD IN ACTION’ held at Tack Ching Girls’ Secondary School. The exhibition involved game stalls, drama performances, quiz shows, story telling corners and book exhibitions. It was an inspiration to all our students who attended as they had an opportunity to broaden their horizons in the reading world; students learnt to work in a team in school and learnt from others from different schools.

On the 12\textsuperscript{th} of May we had a wonderful experience at the Reading Fair. The experience was out of this world. We gained a lot from this activity. We found ourselves speaking in English confidently by the end of the day. Our interpersonal skills improved as well.

\textit{Samuel Yau (3 Faith)}

I learnt a lot of vocabulary.

\textit{Billy Fung (3 Faith)}

The storyboards were amazing! The students’ works were wonderful - no I must say incredible! I learnt to be creative and active from other school students.

\textit{Billy Cheung (3 Faith)}

After attending the Reading-Fair, I have changed my mind about reading. I had this fixed idea that reading is boring but have now realized that reading can be a lot of fun! I guess it took Story Board in Action to bring about this change in me!

\textit{David Choy (3 Faith)}

Being at the booth and directing other students to play the games and explaining the materials of our board helped me absorb the information from the assigned reader in a better way.

\textit{Ravin Wong (3 Faith)}

From this activity I got to know about other interesting books so now I know which book to read!

\textit{Ronald To (3 Faith)}

What I learnt was team spirit and cooperation and realized that without which, work remains an unfinished business.

\textit{Chris Wan (3 Faith)}
As the chairman of the Book Club, I was responsible for holding a game stall during the English Week. It was a successful event with many juniors going to the SAC to play the board game. We used one of the Roald Dahl’s books—Matilda as the main theme of our board game. It was a game similar to Monopoly in which students could act as Matilda and rolled the dice to go through the story of the girl who possessed supernatural power. On their way, Matilda faced different obstacles which might block her way to the destination but they also had chances to move forward. Competitors were expected to answer questions about the story of Matilda. It is an interesting book suitable for lower form students and I believe the game will stimulate students to read more English books.

Other than the board game, we also invited a bookstore to display some books listed in the World Book Day’s recommended list. These books were sold at a very attractive low price. Four S1 Faith boys went through these books and wrote a report to introduce these books to their schoolmates. I am sure some of our schoolmates would pay more attention to future recommendations made by UNESCO on World Book Day that falls on 23rd April every year.

Teacher-in-charge: Ms Mok (Internal)

Invisible Clues’ Projects

On 23rd May, S3 students took part in the Invisible Clue Reading Fair. In the fair, there were six best projects on display. Students found the fair meaningful since their displays were praised by others. It was an inspiration for all our students who visited the fair as they had a chance to broaden their horizons by learning from other students’ projects on Invisible Clues, one of the non-fictional materials, through games and activities.

Impression On English Week

English is very important in exchanging knowledge and expressing yourself, so you should know how to engage the audience’s attention. First of all, you should take part in English activities!

I am in love with English! During the English week, I have joined all the games and my favorite event is ‘Invisible Clues’ Reading Fair which is meaningful and was the type of event we seldom have! You will learn about investigators’ work and learn more vocabulary about investigations.

Story board in action included games such as, puzzle games, guessing games and different kinds of fun activities.

This event taught me more about lexicon and why invisible clues are important towards solving crimes. ‘Invisible Clues’ taught me to be a prudent, thoughtful and positive person. It made me realize that if you want to reach your goals, you have to work hard and work your way up!

Wong Yin San-Wilson (3 Hope)

Wilson Wong (3 Hope) trying to figure out the mystery behind Invisible Clues

Wilson Wong (3 Hope) trying to figure out the mystery behind Invisible Clues

Teacher-in-charge: Ms Yiu

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Kwan Yat Ling, Alfred 6 Faith
The film show-Finding Nemo was held on 18th May 2007 at the Students' Activity Room during lunchtime. The film show, aimed at arousing students’ interests in English movie was a huge success with reference to the participation rate and students' comments. A great number of Form 1 students and several Form 6 students came for the screening session. Feedback was positive and students showed great interest in watching the movie. On 23rd May 2007, there was a paper folding activity held at the Language Room where students came to fold their favourite marine life. They also decorated a display board with the folded animals. All the students enjoyed the activity a lot and were asking for more films to be shown in the near future. The film show and the paper folding activity were regarded as one of the successful activities in the English week.

Language Games

The game stall, held in language room on 21st May, aimed to provide students with an opportunity to learn English through fun games. Two game stalls decorated with colorfully designed sheets were set up, with two boards showing the rules of the games. In general, students were quite enthusiastic in playing the games. Senior form students particularly enjoyed the games. They found the games very intriguing and interesting. Some said that the games, to a great extent, helped them learn some new English words that they could hardly learn in class. Junior form students, being unfamiliar with the syntactic relationship of the words, found it hard to make a correct choice. However, they said the games really motivated them and helped them realize the importance of English grammar and vocabulary.

Overall, the activity was a success in respect of students’ participation and response.
Teachers-in-charge: Mrs. Rao and Mr. Lee

The English Café was definitely a fun place to visit, where students could enjoy chatting with teachers in English, having mouth-watering delicacies and watching an array of English activities like Rap show and English speech. The English speech, performed by individuals and groups, was able to enthrall the audience. The Rap show, performed by junior form students, displayed students’ talents and potentials. There is no doubt that the response was overwhelming. Some even suggested that activities of this sort should be organized regularly.

Performances in the Café

Teachers-in-charge: Mrs. Rao and Mr. Lee

One of the activities in the English Café was Treasure Hunt which was held on 17 May, 2007 during the lunch break. Junior students were invited to join the fun. The starting point was in the Language Room and the players were required to read the hidden messages at different checkpoints leading them to the last checkpoint where they had to answer a few questions before having their passports stamped. The game was indeed a success as the participants had used natural English acquired in English class!
In April and May, my classmates and I had participated in the “English Language Camp Leader training programme”. It was one of the activities of the English Festival 2007 and was organised by the Hong Kong Community College. We felt it was a valuable learning experience for young people who are green in leadership skills. Let me briefly tell you the training we received from the Camp managers.

Initially, we needed to take a training course on 21st April 2007 at Wu Kwai Sha Youth Village. Through the course, we learned how to be a good leader. For example, we have learned that the elements of being a good leader are to be patient, sensible and enthusiastic. Moreover, we also learned to cooperate with our pals. After acquiring the leadership skills, we had to face our real challenge - being a leader to organise a day camp for the primary students.

May the 5th was the day of our challenge. We were assigned to do the practicum at one of the primary schools in Eastern District. All the nine of us were nervous and excited. We, not only worried about whether we could manage to lead those primary students to participate in the activities, but we also had high expectation on our performance. Unexpectedly, the primary students were motivated to learn and use English effectively under our leadership and it gave this programme a perfect ending. Ultimately, we had done a good job. All of us were delighted and satisfied. We did a self-evaluation of our performance after this event; we still need to improve our public speaking skills and organisation skills.

In short, we realised that being a leader is most enjoyable. We all enjoyed participating in such an amazing programme and learning the necessary skills of making right decisions.

We will never forget this memorable experience.

Watching Jefferson, my classmate, being at such a loss made me nervous. I would soon be left to face 80 students and teachers. Eight of us were going to be leaders of an English day camp. Our job was to guide the primary students to play English games. Two of us, Jefferson and I, were the emcees of the programme.

Fifteen minutes before the activities started, I was still learning my words, but Jefferson seemed well-prepared and was briefing the other leaders.

I admired him for handling the situation so calmly. The primary school students were restless. They didn’t sing the camp song even after the emcee asked them to. They were shy. Jefferson didn’t know what to say. I felt that I would be the same when it was my turn. Luckily, a teacher helped get the students sing. And I asked them to sing louder. Eventually, most of them were singing and enjoying themselves. It was a great step forward for Jefferson and me.

When I stood on the stage, my legs trembled. I tried to say something and, remember what my teachers did in primary school. Once I started speaking I gained confidence from the students. I knew they were listening. I asked a few questions and some of them answered loudly and proudly.

“Everybody wants to know…” the lyrics of the camp song are still ringing in my ears. I was one of the emcees of the English Leadership Camp.

The funniest part was when I had to lead the campers to sing. At first, I was terrified but eventually I got over my fear. The day became more pleasant with the help from the teachers and camp leaders.

I enjoyed the programme very much. Although I didn’t do very well, I learned a lot from the experience, such as leadership skills and how to teach primary school students.
The English Day on 5th July 2007 was terrific! About 160 Primary 5 students from Taikoo Primary School participated in the activities organized by us. Before the show, we were quite worried about conducting the activities, as we have little experience with holding such a big programme, yet everything went smoothly. Every one of the leaders demonstrated great leadership skills and the kids were very active in playing the games. This gave us full confidence and we enjoyed the games with them too. Apart from having a joyful time, this programme taught us how to be responsible leaders and helped us polish our Public Speaking skills. Lastly, we thank Mrs. Rao and Miss Hsu for giving us this valuable opportunity and for training us. Without their valuable help and support we would not have been able to run the activity successfully.

Chris Wong
English Society Committee Member
## Public Speaking

**Winner**
Form 1 Faith Tse Ho Yin, Howard Ng Yeuk Wah, Kevin Lai Ko Ting
Chong Ka Fai, Kevin Chan Wai Hin
Cheng Ka Hin, Calvin Lam Ning Fung
Lau Chi Leuk

**First Runner-up**
Form 1 Charity
Leung Kai Heng, Philip Matsuoka Tatsuki
Pang Chun Leung
Wong Tsz To, David

**First Runner-up**
Form 1 Justice
Leung Kai Heng, Philip Matsuoka Tatsuki
Pang Chun Leung
Wong Tsz To, David

**Second Runner-up**
Form 1 Wisdom
Chong Wing Kam
Hou Chun Kit
Li Pok Ho, Bowen
Hung Kwan Lam

## Invisible Clues Project

**Winner**
Form 3 Faith Lee Cheuk Wang
Ng Hing Kwan, Ken Lam Yaan Wa
Lau Pak Shing
Chan Yu Hon, Lawrence
Chun Ki Cheung
Wu Ka Hay
Ko Tsz Wing

**First Runner-up**
Form 3 Charity

**Second Runner-up**
Form 3 Justice

## Rap Show

**Winner**
Form 2 Hope Choi Chung Man
Ip Cheuk Chun, Michael Leung Ki Tsun
Yu Jun Sun, James

**Winner**
Form 2 Charity
Chin Hinkwan, Albert Chu Kiu Sum, Sam Ho Kam Hei
Wong Wing Hou, Antonio Chu Ho Fung, Richard Liong Shing Lun, Alan Yan Wai Yin, Raymond Choi Chung Man
Ip Cheuk Chun, Michael

## Book Sharing

**Winner**
Form 4 Wisdom
Wong Chun Shing, Jefferson Li Chi Keung, Mark Anthony
Leung Ka Fung, Kelvin
Cheng Yu Shing, Jeffrey Lam Chung Sum, Chester
Fok Lok Hin, Michael

**First Runner-up**
Form 4 Faith

**Merit**
Form 4 Hope

**Merit**
Form 4 Charity

**Merit**
Form 4 Justice