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GCCITKD
東莞工商總會劉百樂中學
LAU PAK LOK
SECONDARY SCHOOL

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百樂園

Interview with NETs

Introduction

We are grateful to have additional Native-speaking English Teachers this year. With the help of our student reporters, they shared their views and skills in nurturing an English-rich environment.

Would you like to share a memorable moment when it comes to English language teaching at our school?

One of my most memorable moments from teaching was when I first tried an in-class vocabulary sentence builder activity, that I read about online to make dictation more fun. The students and I work together in lessons to make funny and creative sentences built around the vocabulary they need to learn. It really increased their class participation, and it's something most of them now look forward to every week! I often try to experiment with new teaching techniques. It's important to diversify how students study so they don't lose interest.



Mr. Prentice

What can our students do if they want to be exposed to more English not only at school, but outside school?

The best option I can think of is to attend language exchange events (but they don't happen as much at the moment because of the coronavirus). So instead, students should try and engage with as much English media as possible at home. You can watch TV series, movies, or play games with Cantonese/Chinese subtitles but, make sure you try to learn 1 or 2 new English words a day from it. In a month you'll have 30+ new words! You can then try using some online applications to practice speaking. It's important to use it or you will lose it. Technology is an excellent tool to aid our learning if we use it correctly, so I encourage all students to explore what's available and then use it (just make sure you check with your class teacher first if the application is safe to use).



Did you have any teaching experience in Hong Kong before joining LPLSS?

Yes, I did. Last year I taught at a primary school and a university at the same time. It was challenging and sometimes exhausting, but I loved the experience. I rather liked the university. It would be great to see students from LPLSS joining there.

When you recall your study life, how did you overcome the difficulties when you learned English?

I had some enthusiastic teachers that guided me through my English studies before. One teacher who I loved showed me something called the 'grammar-translation method' for learning English. It suited me perfectly, as a linguist. I remember translating hundreds of sentences into English and perfecting my

grammar step-by-step over time. Nothing was too difficult after months of doing that. I also went to live in the USA for 3 months when I was about 18. This was an important time for me, as my speaking skills accelerated thanks to being in an all-English environment. One tip I have for students who really want to become fluent English speakers is to embrace any opportunity they get to spend time in a Native-speaking country. It makes all the difference!

What would you expect to achieve in Lau Pak Lok Secondary School?

Well, I hope to have a positive experience and help all the students I teach to become a better version of themselves. I would like them to enjoy the learning process and believe in their potential for success.



Ms. Elvira





Mr. Jonathan

You always can successfully engage students in different English activities. What is your secret?

I think it is normal for a teacher to want ALL their students paying attention in class and participating in the lesson, so I am no different in that sense. I think the key to engaging students in a lesson is first to make the teaching material interesting to them, second, to make the material understandable and the activities achievable for the students, and third to ask questions that enable the students to tell me what is happening rather than me just giving them all the information.

No one likes to be given a task that is too difficult to complete.

Why do you think it is advantageous to have three NETs at our school?

One benefit of having 3 NETs is that it forces students to speak English because they know we will not use any Cantonese with them. Another benefit is that it gives students confidence that they can communicate effectively with foreigners and develop good relationships with us. The students at Lau Pak Lok get to experience how their study of English has a direct practical use in their daily lives at school, and thus probably in their futures too.



English Writing Workshop for senior students

To enhance students' writing skills and critical thinking, an ongoing writing workshop has been organized since September. Here are some excerpts from our students' good works.



6D

Chow Kar Yue, Natalie

Among all the disadvantages of reporting students' class rank, creating a competitive learning environment should deserve a mention. Reporting students' class rank will definitely encourage students to make comparisons between themselves and their peers because ranking means their school results will be displayed and known by other students. In this aspect, some of the students will become selfish and choose not to share their notes and work with other classmates for the sake of maintaining their high rank in the class. Not only will high achievers become selfish, but some low

achievers may also lack motivation to study hard. Furthermore, the social circle of students will be limited if the school does not abolish the policy of reporting the class rank as the high level students may spend all their free time doing revision so as to prevent themselves from lagging behind. As for those low-achievers, they may fail to enlarge their social circle because they fear failure, so that they will not attempt to step out of their comfort zone and meet more "higher-ranked" friends. Consequently, reporting students' class rank is not conducive to students' social and mental well-being.

There are numerous reasons explaining why physical beauty is getting more and more influential. One of the most significant factors can be attributed to the widespread use of the Internet and social media. In this day and age, TV commercials and advertisements on the Internet shape the concept of beauty and people are bombarded with ads and videos of celebrities coupled with beauty products. For instance, people have extensive exposure to celebrities and models such as Anson Lo and Keung To, the members of

Mirror. You will see their ads ranging from fitness centres, food, or even HIV vaccines. It is no exaggeration to say that I've seen the celebrity, Jiang Tao, more than I've seen my own family! There is no doubt that people are likely to pay more and more attention to their appearance because of this idol effect. People are getting more and more obsessed with beauty. People try their best to dress themselves up and beautify themselves so as to impress others.



6D

Ko Man Yee, Coco



5A

Fong Kai Sum, Sheldon

My friend, David, is a famous elite footballer at my school. Everybody always compliments him on his extraordinary football skills and labels him as a "sunshine boy" owing to his energetic appearance and optimistic personality. Moreover, he does perform well in both study and sports. Therefore, he is respected and liked by most people. However, I could not believe he was suffering from depression. At first, he was suddenly unmotivated and unwilling to do anything to improve himself. He did not come to practice football. He did not hang out with me during holidays. He was frequently absent from school. I was shocked and I

started to try to convince my best friend to have a conversation with me. I eventually knew what was going on with him. He felt apprehensive and extremely depressed because he was overwhelmed by those unrealistic expectations on him. He could not accept the fact that he disappointed people, including his parents, teachers and fellow classmates. He could not accept the inevitable failures of life. Therefore, after he was pressurised by those countless expectations for a long time, he got depressed and he could hardly escape from the monster of depression.

Many parents are dissatisfied with the current education system in Hong Kong, which they consider too rigid and ossified. There is a widespread impression that the local education system adopts a conventional school curriculum which emphasizes rote-learning instead of autonomous learning and creativity. Students just learn how to follow the teachers' instructions to complete

their work. The opportunity for independent thinking and learning how to creatively apply the knowledge they have acquired to solve problems has been deprived. Moreover, the education system in Hong Kong stresses the importance of academic subjects and ignores students' personal growth and development in subjects like Art, Music and Physical Education.



4D

Cho Hong Ni, Honey

English Speaking Day

In order to establish an English-rich environment within the school and maximizing students' use and exposure to English, an English Speaking Day is held every Thursday. The Principal, Vice Principals, English teachers and teachers from outside the English Department all get involved to support this activity. Each week a different theme is selected (e.g. shopping, Internet use, movies, etc.) and teachers and our English Ambassadors will interview students and strike up a conversation.



Giving a speech in English



Meeting the scary clown



Playing Halloween Kahoot Quiz in the lesson



Halloween Game Booths



Halloween is fun!



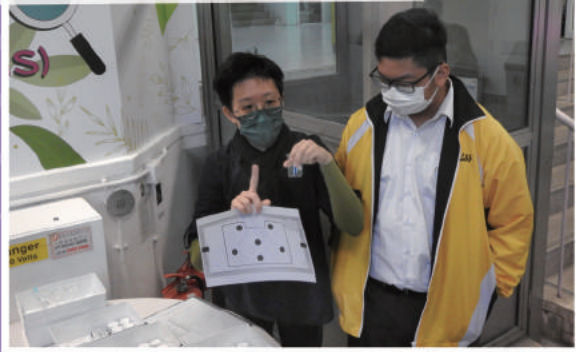
Introducing the Halloween activities in the morning assembly

科學學習領域

生物科科技研習空間(BIS)

生物科科技研習空間(BIS)是透過申請優質教育基金的資助，改建部分有蓋操場空間而成。透過水耕種植活動，讓初中及高中修讀生物科的同學，親身了解水耕機的使用方法與運作，讓植物得以茁壯成長。同時，學生對生物成長的特性和變化，亦會有進一步的認識。另外，下學期將會安排中三級學生成為水耕大使，帶領中一級及中二級同學學習使用水耕機種植植物，藉此培育學生的領導才能。

老師正教導學生如何在水耕機的種子盒分佈種子。



從觀察植物的種子發芽、插枝和繁殖的過程，讓學生學習植物的生理構造及成長變化。



學生利用鑷子將種子轉移到培養介質上。



老師將生物樣本透過電子白板及顯微鏡展示給學生，讓學生更清楚了解細胞構造。



學生透過與蘇卡達象龜的互動過程，培養出對待動物的耐性和愛心。



飼養蘇卡達象龜

為了讓學生對生物學有更深刻的認識，特別安排學生親自飼養蘇卡達象龜。學生可藉此認識到生物的外貌、行為特徵及成長過程，從而學習到辨認生物和了解動物的習性。此外，能夠訓練學生的觀察能力，領悟到生命不斷成長的過程。

學生正觀察蘇卡達象龜的外在構造特點。



學生正在學習動物的特性及生態環境。



Love Promotes Learning 團隊合作活動

Love Promotes Learning於開學之初舉辦，安排各級學生進行分班團隊合作活動，學生需透過協作以完成多項任務，希望學生能從活動中學習與同學互相欣賞及尊重，培養學生的合作精神，提升班內的凝聚力，增添對學校的歸屬感，建立關愛校園氛圍。

S5

劉希文

最深刻的活動是「快樂建築師」——透過團體合作將印有正向詞語的紙盒疊高成為「正能量塔」，而印有負面詞語的紙盒則丟在模擬垃圾桶內。活動令我明白到要將負面情緒拋諸腦後，才能擁有更多的正能量與同學分享。還有，我們只能用繩索運送紙盒，過程中要組內同學一同努力，調較角度，互相遷就，否則無法用繩索勒緊紙盒，活動能培養同學之間的團隊合作精神，明白到「單絲不成線，獨木不成林」，只要與同學互相溝通，齊心便事成。

S5

吳家慧

令我感受最深的活動是「校園尋寶解密」，組內同學要腳踏小木塊、以繩提起小木塊前行並運送解開密碼的線索，腳踏小木塊前行舉步為艱，幸好得到班內同學支持，最後都能集齊線索，同心協力破解開啟寶箱的密碼。而寶箱內的大寶藏是「一面鏡子」，鏡上映著我們各人的樣貌，原來我們就是劉百樂中學裏最珍貴的瑰寶！透過此活動，讓我們明白要在校園健康成長，留下珍貴的回憶。

「校園學子樂滿Joy」：每班同學在願望氣球上寫上活動後感想或對同學的鼓勵說話，製作獨一無二的祝願板。



「同心齊翻杯」：每位同學都成功翻杯後，將已翻轉的杯拼砌成特別圖案。



「校園尋寶解密」：同學要踏著木方塊運送線索。



「快樂建築師」：同學齊心合力借助繩結提起正向詞語，再疊成正能量塔。



全方位學習日

11月5日為學校的全方位學習日，當天學生能參與不同學會準備的精彩活動，比如咖啡拉花課程、手繪美甲、DIY護膚品及體適能活動，是次新增了曼聯同樂日、泰拳體驗以及「保育最前線：海洋公園探索之旅」，同學都玩得不亦樂乎！

S3

李梓欣

原定全方位學習日是到戶外活動，但因應疫情的緣故，也要改在校內參加不同的學會活動。而我就報名參加了DIY護膚品學會，因為本來我皮膚的狀態比較差，所以便想藉此活動學習一下如何護理自己的皮膚。

我們自製了三款護膚品，分別是潤手霜、精華液以及沐浴露。當中我印像最深刻的是製作精華液，因為它看起來很複雜，但其實做起來很簡單。只需要將不同的材料按份量混合在一起，然後裝入瓶子便大功告成。而這瓶精華液的保濕成份可拯救我乾燥的「沙漠肌」。

經過這次活動，我學習到更多關於護膚品中的成份，以及以較低成本自製護膚品。我希望下次也能參加更多不同的學會。



花環製作活動——同學們正以熱熔槍製作花環。



泰拳體驗——同學踢得十分起勁！



護膚品學會——老師與學生一起自製護膚品



扭氣球學會——同學學習基本技巧後，成功製作不同款式的氣球。



學生會交接儀式



烹飪學會——同學都埋頭苦幹地製作蘋果批呢！



老師和同學們在海洋公園過了愉快的一天。



曼聯同樂日——同學正嘗試施展所學！

S4

何巧怡

在全方位學習日當天，我選擇去了海洋公園。當我坐上旅遊巴的時候，心想：今天一定是十分愉快的一天。到了北極館，企鵝們蹦蹦跳跳的樣子十分可愛。不過，經過導賞員講解，我才發現在全球暖化下，企鵝正面對絕種的危機，原來人類無心的行為足以影響自然界。這次經驗令我反思過往的生活方式，我常因為個人的便利而浪費資源，如常開空調、浪費紙張等，但從未思考當中的後果。當天我才驚覺這些不經意的行為已經對環境造成傷害，更甚影響人類的可持續發展。是次的經歷實在令我獲益良多。

校園剪影



中一ZOOM教學活動：
學生正學習使用ZOOM。



學生看到自己的筆記也不禁喜上眉梢，
這就是中一筆記訓練的成果。



中六文憑試成績優異學生暨上學年
中二至中五學業成績頒獎典禮。



校友與師弟妹分享學習心得。



學生聚精匯神地聆聽摘錄筆記的技巧。



新生家長日：老師向家長講解升中注意事項。



新生家長日：同學之間互相認識。

編輯 名單

顧問

黃慧文校長
歐陽丹鳳副校長
梁淑蓓副校長

編輯

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