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LTSS NEWSLINE



Lock Tao Secondary School 樂道中學 英文報 English Department

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Principal, Mr. Chung Lui Pong (Right), with Ms. Mary Tong

*"Children are born with wings,
teachers help them to fly."*

Principal's Message

Welcome to our newsletter of the 2015 to 2016 academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to show my sincere gratitude to my devoted working team, supportive parents and students. There is a saying, "Children are born with wings, teachers help them to fly." It is my personal belief that every student can excel his/her best in various aspects, providing that he/she is nourished with love and proper guidance. On 23rd November, an alumni who graduated school in 2000 came back to visit us to share her great success. She has recently obtained a master's degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. I believe provided with appropriate encouragement and guidance through holistic education, our students are capable of enriching their lives with vibrant colours.

A Message from the Editor



Dear Readers,

I am happy to present you with a newsletter called LTSS: Newslime. Our goal is to create a news forum for parents, students and teachers to exchange information on all aspects of Lock Tao Secondary School and Learn English in

fun and interactive ways. Our newsletter team has a lot of interesting stories to tell about our school life. These amazing stories will show you that learning English can be full of fun.

Tell us more...

The future scope of LTSS: Newsletter is open to suggestions. I would strongly encourage you to submit original writings and opinions written in English, telling us whether you try any activities recommended in the articles and your various experiences in the school. We are going to keep you informed on oncoming events organized by Lock Tao Secondary School, as well as introduce our staff to you. The success of this newsletter depends on your support. I would appreciate your feedback through emails. My email is ec@locktao.edu.hk.

Yours truly,
Mr. Eric
Editor





This is our beloved English Panel Chair, Ms. Celine Chan, at the English Action Room.

The Kaleidoscopic Learning Journey



It is with our deepest pride to present the first issue of our newsletter to you. Hoping to foster an English-rich learning environment for our students, the English Department has been organizing many activities based on their talents and interests.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Project WeCan, which allows us to have extra resources funded by Prince Jewellery and Watch and Partnership Fund for the

Disadvantaged to hold more fruitful activities for our students. The English Band, English Ambassador Programme, English Campus TV Reporter Programme and English Kitchen, to name a few, aim to arouse students' interest in learning English, enhance their language proficiency, boost self-confidence and help develop generic skills.

Each student is a gem in the eyes of teachers. Each shines and is precious to us. By putting them together, we have created

a kaleidoscope. The spectacular and unexpected patterns created often stun us.

You can look into the kaleidoscope of students' learning journey by reading this newsletter and share the joy and fun with us together!

Lastly, I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Eric Chan, our Editor, and the editorial board.

One Step Closer to the International Stage

World Robot Olympiad (WRO) was first established in 2004 and the 2015 tournament was staged in Doha capital of Qatar. At present, it has become an annual event in the World Youth Science and cultural exchanges for young people all over the world. Each year, teams of youngsters get the opportunity to learn Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects and develop their creative and problem solving skills through various robotics challenges mostly using Lego robots.

This year LTSS team competed in the WRO – Open category "Robot Explorers", which is aimed at providing students with knowledge on scientific machinery

and program accomplishments certainly prepared to increase their interest and teamwork of technology areas. Participating teams are required to design and program robots, and complete different computer Robot Challenge.

With persistent hard efforts, our LTSS team won the 3rd Place in the challenge and represented Hong Kong to participate in WRO2015 International Tournament in Doha, Qatar.

Let's offer our heartfelt congratulations to our LTSS team. It is one small step for the LTSS team, one giant leap for Lock Tao Secondary School.



All LTSS team members are having a photo with their robot before the competition. (Left: Mr. Ng Kwun Ming, Ngai Ho Lam, Yip Hoi Chun and Yu Wing Lam)



LTSS team has received a trophy and medals from the adjudicator.



COOK YOUR WAY INTO ENGLISH



This year we are lucky to have our English Panel Chair, Ms. Celine Chan, to be in our English Club. Every Locktaoian knows Ms. Chan is an excellent cook. She can cook any dishes you name. I would say she is one of our renowned chef at Lock Tao Secondary School.¹ In our first regular English Club meeting, Ms. Chan taught the students to prepare several kinds of desserts for the coming "Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Annual General Meeting and Dinner Buffet". Some club members had not made any desserts before, but after Ms. Chan's guidance, they all became professionals. All in all, the students had a wonderful time learning English and making desserts. This reminds me of an idiom "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach"; I guess we can say "The way to a student's learning is through the stomach too".

1. LTSS has several superb cooks and I would let you guess who they are.



Our English Club members are very serious when they come to the learning session. You can tell from the look on their faces.



Who says learning English can't be fun? They are all wearing great smiles on the face. I can't wait to taste their dishes.



The Leaders of Tomorrow

We invited one of the world's largest international volunteering organizations, Service Civil International (SCI), to host Youth Leadership Training for a group of S.4 and S.5 students in October. We had SCI trainers from India, Italy and Finland to cultivate the students' leadership skill and expose them to the authentic use of English language.

Nominated by the subject teachers, students had to complete numerous assessments before they could participate in the training. Our English Panel Head, Ms. Celine Chan and Native-speaking English Teacher (NET), Mr. Eric, believed that providing students with opportunities to explore their strengths and weaknesses could foster students' holistic development to advance learning.

During the training, students showed their confidence in communicating with the foreign guest speakers and pleasure in understanding cultures of other countries. They were taught different thinking approaches, lateral thinking and systems thinking. As one of the students commented, "You will be surprised by how much you can do with these approaches. It's really fabulous."

Although this was our first year to work with SCI, we received positive feedback from the students. Parts of their comments are extracted for you.



Thank you very much for our beloved principal, Mr. Chung Lui Pong (The second person on the left), taking time off from his busy schedule to greet the trainers and students.

Comments...

The SCI trainers have given us practical suggestions on how to promote our social and communication skills which are important components of being a good leader.

Ngai Ho Lam (5A)

I've learned the importance of teamwork. I could see how one's decision affected the whole team, which got me to think twice when making decision. In addition, I have built up my vocabulary and confidence through the program.

Wong Chung Wah (5A)

I learned more about myself and understood the importance of open and true communication.

Xu Shixiong (5A)

I learned how to be a responsible leader and value each member's contribution to the team.

Chin Yin Tung (4A)

Being a leader is not as easy as I think. This training really got me to reflect on my strengths and weaknesses that I need to improve upon.

Liu Tsz Ching (4A)

Every decision we make can have direct and indirect consequences to our Mother Nature. We should think deeply on how we can protect our environment for our next generation.

Chung Kai Ho (4B)

I've learned that we are able to narrow down the income gap between the rich and poor, and reduce the inequality in the world. Everyone can make a difference.

Yip Long Him (4B)



Students are practising the strategies learnt from the SCI trainers, for example, brainstorming and elaborating ideas for their presentations.



SCI trainers are playing games and chatting with the students.

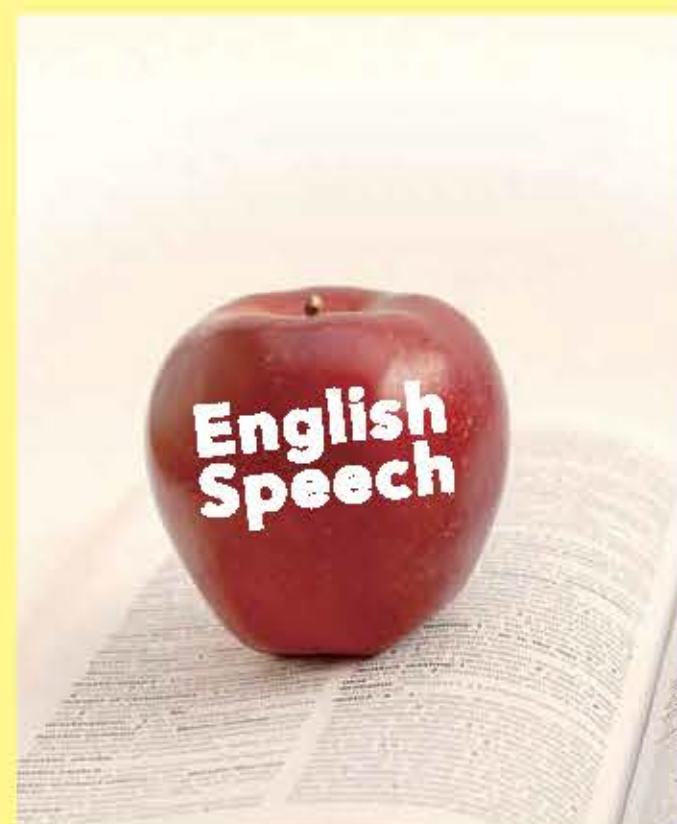


We are taking a group photo with the SCI trainers before waving goodbye.

A Step Forward in Improving ... English



(Left) Yu Man Hin, Mr. Eric and Lau Tsz Kwan



Every year, many of the best and top secondary school students in Hong Kong compete in the "Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association (English Speech)", and there is no exception of Lock Tao, having 37 students participated in the program this year. More importantly, this is our first time to have two S.5 students, Lau Tsz Kwan and Yu Man Hin, competed in the Public Speaking Solo (Open classes) category thanks to the strong encouragement of our school NET, Mr. Eric. It is thrilling to see students strive their best in the competition. This category is open to both native and non-native speakers of English. It is certainly a big challenge for them to overcome obstacles and gain ultimate success.

With a given topic, students are required to (1) write their own speech, (2) present their ideas in a precise and concise way, and (3) show full confidence through appropriate intonation and eye contact.

Lau Tsz Kwan and Yu Man Hin will share their speech with you as follows. We all hope that more Locktaoian will join the Public Speaking Solo category in the future.

The Speech...

Topic: Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes
Context: Meeting of old girls and boys of the school
Your Role: Head boy/girl invited as the guest speaker
Target Audience: Ex-pupils of the school, and present sixth formers and their teachers
Time Limit: 5 minutes

Good morning everyone. It's my honor here to share my experience or some of you may call it mistakes with you. Before I begin, I would like you to think if there was anything happening in the past that made you feel like digging a hole to hide yourself in. Was it because you wore the wrong uniform to school? Or was it the time when you called your teacher mommy? If you were there, have you ever thought what you could do to escape?

This brings us to the topic like Oscar Wilde once said, "Experience is simply the name we give our mistakes". Is it true? Everything has two sides which depend on how we see it. Like a glass of water, it can be half empty or half full. I know it is hard not to focus on your mistakes. We are taught in school, in our families, or at work to feel guilty about failure and to do whatever we can to avoid mistakes. This traditional moral teaching stops us from setting higher goals for ourselves and being independent when overcoming difficulties and mistakes. Let's take J. K. Rowling, the author of Harry Potter series as an example. She had been a single divorced mom living on food stamps before she wrote the series. Did she think it was her mistake that she was a single parent at that time? Never. Did she think it was her mistake that she was broke? Absolutely not. Did she dwell on living in a place without heater during poverty? Sorry, she didn't. She took all these

unfavorable experiences as her motivation and being her initiative in writing the Harry Potter series. Even she was rejected by twelve book publishers, she turned each rejection into experiences. Look at her now! She is one of the richest writers in Britain and has sold over 300 million books worldwide.

I know it won't be easy to change our thinking way in just few days, but you can start from a small step. First, you can accept responsibility makes learning possible. Second, you can't change mistakes, but you can choose how to respond to them, and finally you can make a reflection and learn from them.

I would like to end today's presentation with a quote from one of my favorite role models you all know, Steven Job, former CEO of Apple Incorporated. He once said "Sometimes when you innovate, you make mistakes. It is best to admit them quickly, and get on with improving your other innovations." It inspires me and I hope it inspires you too. Thank you very much for listening.

Lau Tsz Kwan (5A)



Good morning everyone. My name is William. It's my honor here to share my "experience" to you. Wait! Should I call it experience or a mistake? How should we call our mistakes? Experience? Learning? Lessons from the school of hard knocks?

Let me share my story with you and see whether it's a mistake or experience. When I was a primary 6 student, by chance, I got in a traditional Band One school. Everyone was glad about it and wished me good luck by heart, I believe. Do you think it's a mistake or experience? Then, with the mountain of homework and everlasting tests and exams, I got into trouble - I couldn't catch up with my studies and started to lag behind. That time my parents lost their friendly smiling faces towards my failure and started to blame me. They were wondering how come I could get into a Band One school. Was it a mistake? I was really loss of words. What do you think? Do you agree with them?

Without choice, I knew if I wanted to stay in this Band One school, I had to study harder. From then on, I did revision every day and tried to correct the "mistake". Unfortunately, miracles didn't happen to me. With my teachers' advice,

I changed my school and attended to a lower banding one. Then, my parents asked me if this was a big mistake. I asked myself too. What do you think? During these few years in the new school, although people claimed it was a lower banding one, I studied far more happily than before. I could understand the lessons and have peer support in the learning. I experienced the true love and care from teachers and classmates.

No one is perfect! We are only human after all. To me, experience comes whenever you learn something from your mistakes. If you learn nothing, you will likely repeat the same mistake, for the same reasons again and again. Without experience, we are just mindless creatures, doing the same things over and over and wondering why we seem to get the same unfavourable result each time. Without experience, we would never have learned to make fire. One of the greatest gifts humanity has left itself is the accumulated experience of thousands of years of attempts.

I would like to share one of my favorite quotes with you. Thomas Edison once said "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work. Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." You are able to see 10,000 mistakes or like Thomas Edison, 10,000 ways of experiences. From now on, enjoy your mistake and grow on it. Thank you.

Yu Man Hin (5A)

* Lau Tsz Kwan and Yu Man Hin performed well and gained merits in the competition.

Reaching a Quarter Milestone – 20 Years of Collaboration

Our school 20th Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Annual General Meeting and Dinner was held in November for parents and teachers to sit together for one goal - cultivating students' learning at school. LTSS is blessed to have such a dedicated and diligent PTA committee. This group actively promotes a wide variety of programs for both parents, teachers and students to build up a close bond among us.

We had a delightful evening meeting. We were offered fabulous desserts by the English Club and heartwarming music by the English Band. More importantly, we had a lucky draw, which reached a peak of excitement of the day. We look forward to the next PTA Annual General Meeting and Dinner Buffet, where parents and teachers can maintain a true communication and develop friendship.



A toast to celebrate our long-time friendship and many more years to come.



Our English Band was rocking onstage (Encore).



Look at our English Band members, they study hard and play hard.

Guess who made these luscious desserts?

Laugh Your Head Off

Duck walks into a hardware store. "Got any duck food?" he quacks. "Sorry, no," says the owner. Duck leaves.

Next day the duck is back. "Got any duck food?" "No," says the owner. "I told you before. We do not carry it."

Next day he is back again. "Got any duck food?" The owner glares at him. "Look, buddy, we do not sell duck food. We never have and never will. And if you ask me that one more time, I will nail your little webbed feet to the floor."

Next day the duck is back. "Got any nails?"

"We are out of nails today," says the owner.

"Got any duck food?"



Betty Botter



Betty Botter had some butter, "But," she said, "this butter's bitter. If I bake this bitter butter, it would make my batter bitter. But a bit of better butter – that would make my batter better."

So she bought a bit of butter, better than her bitter butter, and she baked it in her batter, and the batter was not bitter. So 'twas better Betty Botter bought a bit of better butter.



Luke Luck Likes Lakes

Luke Luck likes lakes.
Luke's duck likes lakes.
Luke Luck licks lakes.
Luck's duck licks lakes.
Duck takes licks in lakes Luke Luck likes.
Luke Luck takes licks in lakes duck likes.



from Dr. Seuss' Fox in Socks



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