



# Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon)

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## Episodes

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### ANNUAL SPEECH DAY 2007/2008

Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) held its Annual Speech Day (2007/2008) on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December, which was the culmination of yet another hugely successful year of scholarship and wide-ranging achievements.

Parents, honoured guests, staff and students were treated to inspirational speeches by our Principal, Mr. Fung Kam Cheung and the guest of honour, Judge Derek Pang Wai Cheong in addition to a variety of outstanding performances by the students.

The ceremony began with the procession of the Official Party to the stage and the playing of the Chinese National Anthem. Mr Fung then delivered the Annual Report, which highlighted our school's academic and extra-curricular successes as well as our excellent pastoral care and cross-curricular achievements. Mr Fung also lavished praise on our PTA and alumni for their great contributions towards the betterment of our school. He then concluded by thanking our Assistant Principals and staff for their dedication and hard work in making this year such a success.

After the presentation of certificates and prizes, Judge Derek Pang Wai Cheong addressed our school. He started off his speech by relating the story of how he and his friends had hiked up a hill in Quarry Bay to brew and drink tea. His intent in sharing this event was to instil in our students the appreciation of the simple things in life and to resist taking them for granted. He then went on to surprise our students by mentioning that he had not done so well in the HKCEE and A levels, yet managing to overcome those setbacks by working hard and eventually excelling in his chosen profession. This was indeed an inspiration to all of our students. Judge Pang then threw down the gauntlet to our students by urging them to relish the opportunities provided to them and to embrace the qualities of hard work, humility and hope.

Our School Oriental Dance Team performed a dance for our guests and audience followed by a French role-play by a trio of French students from Form 5 and Form 2. Our heroic Speech Festival champions performed their winning speeches in both Chinese and English Solo Verse Speaking. This was followed by a wonderful performance of Whitney Houston's number one hit song, *The Greatest Love of All* by our school choir. The day's event ended on a high with the whole hall singing our school song. Another successful Speech Day had come to an end.

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Mr. Fung's Annual Report



The School Choir Sings



Oriental Dance Team on Stage



Guest of Honour - Judge Pang



## Parents' Night cum 17<sup>TH</sup> PTA Annual General Meeting

The end of 2008 saw the all-important presidential election in the USA, but on 14 November 2008 on the other side of the world at 22 Hoi Fan Road in West Kowloon in Hong Kong, two elections, albeit modest ones, were due to take place – the School Management Committee Parent Representative Election and the PTA Executive Committee Parent-members' Election.

Shortly after 18:30, the principal, Mr. Fung Kam-cheung, extended a warm welcome to the parents gathered in the school hall for the important events and thanked them for their presence and their support. Proceedings commenced with the PTA Chairlady's report for 2007-2008 in which Mrs. Gopalakrishnan highlighted the PTA's work and contribution to the school. Certificates and souvenirs were presented and then the elections got underway.

For each election, candidates were introduced and invited to address the assembly. Electors then cast their votes by secret ballot for the candidates of their choice. Just after 20:30, the results were announced. Receiving 56 votes to Mr. Sakhuja's 23 votes, Mr. Khimding was declared the SMC parent representative. The race for the PTA Executive Committee proved to be a tight one as there were just a few votes separating the four parents who were elected: Ms. Sharma Kusum (106 votes), Mrs. Rosalie Nicomedes and Mr. Desmond Tsang (96 votes each) and Mr. Khimding (91 votes).

Parents' Night cum PTA AGM demonstrated the true spirit of home-school cooperation. The parent-teacher conference provided a wonderful opportunity for dialogue, and parental support for the school and our students was evident in the voluntary donation campaign that raised a total of \$2,660.



### PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2008-2009

Post	Name of Parent / Teacher
<b>Chairman</b>	Mr. Eddy Fok Chun-hung
<b>Vice Chairlady</b>	Ms. Jenny Cheng Lai-ling
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Mr. Fung Kam-cheung
<b>Honorary Treasurer</b>	Mr. Chan Kam Wing Ms. Hung Fei-kei
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	Ms. Sharma Kusum Ms. Josephine Chung
<b>Committee Member</b>	Mr. Chang Ching Mr. Khimding Ran Bahadur Mrs. Rosalie Nicomedes Mr. Desmond Tsang Yuk-leung Ms. Yuen Ka-chung Mrs. Tsang Wu Yuk-kwan Mr. Prasad Manoj Kumar Mr. Tam Chi-hin

PTA Executive Committee Members, 2008-2009

# Halloween Party

The Student Activity Room was filled with all sorts of ghouls, goblins, ghosts and other scary creatures as it was the venue for our Halloween Party. Organised by the English Club in conjunction with the English Department, the Halloween Party was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October in Room 111. The room itself was eerily decorated with cobwebs and spiders and other nasty critters.



The Party Getting Started



Scary Skeleton

There was a Halloween costume contest for the Form 1 students and they didn't disappoint anyone as they all came out in their spookiest costumes hoping to win one of the prizes for the best outfit. A matching game was also organised for the students to learn some of the names of the monsters and characters from horror movies. Students who correctly matched up all the names were eligible for a lucky draw prize. Of course, every student entering the venue was treated to sweets and candy.

All of the students had a great time and their eager participation in this event was evident to all. We are looking forward to next year's party to see what kind of spine tingling adventures will occur!



Diabolic Duo



Scream Sisters

The Halloween Gang







S

This year's Sports Day was held with the preliminary rounds and finals on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2008 respectively at the Shamshuipo sports ground. Students in house shirts and shorts were found everywhere in the sports ground trying to do their best, not only to strive for chances to show off their stamina, but also to fight for points for their houses.

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The sports day started with a flag raising ceremony and the singing of the school song. After the opening ceremony, the sports ground was then filled with athletes from the four Houses – Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, anxiously preparing themselves to compete in the upcoming events while students and parents cheered them on.

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It was splendid to see the eye-catching banners and flags of different houses and their cheering teams who chanted slogans and burst into thunderous applause while their house members competed in the track and field events. Blue House claimed the best cheering team award for their exhilarating performance in spurring on their team's athletes and their fascinating dance performance.

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Competition was especially keen as the participation rate was high this year. Green House showed their prowess by beating the other three Houses, capturing the Overall Championship this year.

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On Sports Day Finals, amongst a whole host of impressive performances, a promising result of eight new records was established in 200m Boys B grade, discus Boys C grade, shot put Boys B grade and long jump Boys C grade.

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Individual champions were: Khan Faiq (Boys' A Grade – Red House), Fok Brian (Boys' B Grade – Blue House), Cruz Gerald Angelo (Boys' C Grade – Green House), Poon Sze Wan M Shamime Akhtar (Girls' A Grade – Blue House), Poon So Man (Girls' B Grade – Green House), and Gurung Shrijana (Girls' C Grade – Blue House).

The highlights of the day were the teacher-parent-child relay and the inter-class 4 × 100 m relay events, during which students cheered at the top of their voices as they witnessed their parents, teachers, and classmates dash past the finishing line.

In the closing ceremony, the Guest of Honour, Dr. Louie Hung-tak, Lobo, Associate Professor of the Department of Physical Education, Hong Kong Baptist University, presented the trophies. He encouraged students to participate in sports to enhance their competitiveness for the ever-changing needs of society.

The school would like to thank all those who made this day such a resounding success.







# 60<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival



This year's speech festival saw a total of 40 students take part, which was a slight drop in numbers compared with last year, but in terms of results, we had one of our best years. Chung Wing Yee (4A) and Flores Maria Teresa (4F) were our speech festival **champions** this year in the solo verse speaking. We also had 4 students winning second place, namely, Nicodemes Athena Margareth Vailoces (3E), Tsui Yuen Ying (4A), Lau Yee Lee (4C), and Ong Ling Na (4A). In addition, we also had 4 students winning third place: Wong Wai Mak (4C), So Yuk Yu (4C), Tsui Yuen Ying (4A) and Tong Wun Chun (4B).

Our students also managed to achieve the rare and prestigious distinction of getting the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the solo verse speaking competition on the same day! This was specially recognised by the judge at the competition who was surprised that the top three were from the same school. She even took a picture with the three winners (Flores Maria Teresa, Ong Ling Na and Tong Wun Chun). They deserve to be congratulated and commended for their remarkable achievement!

17 students also received merits and 4 got proficiency certificates. All of these confirm the fact that our school is full of students with the talent and desire to excel in the speech festival. Special thanks must be given to all the teachers who devoted a lot of extra time to coach the students. Next year we hope to achieve even greater success in the competition.

## English Solo Verse Speaking (Non open)

Chung Wing Yee (4A):1<sup>st</sup>  
 Flores Maria Teresa (4F):1<sup>st</sup>  
 Athena Margareth V. Nicomedes: (3E)2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Tsui Yuen Ying (4A):2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Lau Yee Lee (4C):2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Ong Ling Na (4A):2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Wong Wai Mak (4C):3<sup>rd</sup>  
 So Yuk Yu (4C):3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Tong Wun Chun (4B):3<sup>rd</sup>

## English Public Speaking Solo

Tsui Yuen Ying (4A):3<sup>rd</sup>



# Annual School Picnic



The weather was hot and sunny on 7th November, 2008 but it did not restrain students' enthusiasm for attending the annual school picnic day. Early in the morning, many students had already arrived at school with bulky shopping bags. All students were accompanied by their class teachers to go to the picnic sites in the coaches arranged by school. Some students barbecued, picnicked at the country parks, while others played guitars, ball games or even hide-and-seek with their friends. Some students decided to enjoy the harmony of nature by walking along the nature trails.

The annual school picnic proceeded smoothly and safely. Teachers and students were able to know more about one another by spending time together outside classrooms. It was not only an enjoyable day for teachers and students, but an educational one as well.





# School Special Events / Activities

Event / Activity	Committee/Organization	Date	Participants
Class of the Year Award	Discipline Committee, Counseling & Guidance Committee, Environmental Education Committee, Football Club, Basketball Club and Health & Sex Education Committee	September 2008 – March 2009	Whole School
"Real Friends Project – Training Trip on Adventure Ship 'JC Huan'	Guidance & Counselling Committee	10/9/2008	S.2-S.5 Selected Students
Inter-class Display Board Competition – Say "No" to Drugs	Guidance & Counselling Committee cum Discipline Committee	10/9/2008 – 6/10/2008	Whole School
Inter-school Cricket Competition for senior team	Hong Kong Cricket Association	13/09/2008 – 10/12/2008	Senior Cricket Team
Canoe Training	Water Sports Club & LCSD	14/09/2008 - 26/10/2008	Water Sports Club members
Donation Drive for ORBIS Exhibition about Eye Care	Health & Sex Education Committee	17/09/2008 – 19/09/2008	Whole school
Visit Hong Kong Museum of History	Chinese History Department	26/09/2008	S4 Chinese History Students
World Water Monitoring Day	Environmental Education Committee and Water Services Department	29/09/2008	Selected students
Dress Special Day for the Community Chest	Guidance & Counselling Committee	30/09/2008	Whole School
One Person One Flower Scheme	Environmental Education Committee and Leisure & Cultural Services Department	October – November 2008	Little Gardeners and Environmental Education Ambassador
Inter-class Cleanliness Competition	Health & Sex Education Committee Discipline Committee	Oct 2008 – March 2009	Whole school
Making a Rainbow Life Program 2008-2009	Guidance & Counselling Committee	9/10/2008 - 20/12/2008	All NAC students
Life Skills Education Camp	Vocational Training Centre Careers Committee	11/10/2008	S4 Students taking Hotel Operations
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps Annual Parade	Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	12/10/2008	30 Air Cadets
Student Ambassadors Scheme	Guidance & Counselling Committee and HKPA Peer Worker	14/10/2008 – 16/12/2008 (Every Tue and Fri)	Student Ambassadors and Volunteer Students
Hip-hop to healthy living	Discipline Committee and EDB	14/10/2008 – 17/01/2009	S.2-S.4 Selected Students



Visit to University of Hong Kong cum Hiking to the Peak

Visit to Sam Tung UK Museum



Disneyland Visit



One Person One Flower Scheme



## School Special Events / Activities (Continued)



Student Ambassadors Meeting with NAC



Visit to the Hong Kong Observatory

Event / Activity	Committee/Organization	Date	Participants
Visit to the University of Hong Kong cum Hiking to the Peak	Careers Committee, Junior Police Call and Photography Club	19/10/2008	Selected students
Canoe Polo Competition	Water Sports Club & Hong Kong Canoe Union	19/10/2008	Water Sports Club members
National Day Quiz	Moral & Civic Education Committee	20/10/2008 - 31/10/2008	Whole school
STEP – South Asian Teens Enhancement Program 2008-2009	Guidance & Counselling Committee	23/10/2008 - 20/12/2008	All NCS and Returnee students
Textes en Fête (French Speech Festival)	French Department & French Club	01/11/2008	S.2, S.3 & S.5
Inter-school Canoe Racing	Water Sports Club & Hong Kong Canoe Union	2/11/2008	Water Sports Club members
YDC School-Company Partnership Programme	Young Entrepreneurs Development Council and Careers Committee	5/11/2008 – Feb 2009	S4 and S5 Selected Students
Boat trip – dolphin watching & visit Tai O	Travel & Tourism department	17/11/2008	S4 and S 5 T&T students
English Book Exhibition	English Department Reading to Learn Committee School Library	25/11/2008	Whole school
Know Our Elections	Moral & Civic Education Committee	27/11/2008	S.4
World Aids Day	Health & Sex Education Committee	1/12/2008 - 2/12/2008	Whole school
HKFYG 6 <sup>th</sup> Youth Adventure Race	Water Sports Club & the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	7/12/2008	Water Sports Club members
Sing Tao Inter-school Debate	English Club	13/12/2008	S.3 & S.4
Exhibition: “Building Together: 160 years of Hong Kong French Common Heritage and Perspectives”	French Department & French Club	16/12/2008	S.3
Greening For The Chest	Community Youth Club	18/01/2009	CYC Members
Geography Field Trip to Mai Po Marsh	Geography Department	19/1/2009	S. 4E
Prefect Exchange Programme to Queen Elizabeth School	Discipline Committee	21/1/2009	School Prefects



ORBIS Pin Campaign



Adventure Ship



Hotel Operations Life Skills Education Camp





Souvenir presentation

# First Staff Development Day

Ongoing professional development is a high priority for teachers. On top of participation in intensive courses and induction programmes to keep abreast of the latest development in educational issues, all teachers are arranged to take part in three mandatory staff development days each year. On 16 October 2008 the staff of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (WK) had their First Staff Development Day with the main theme of 'crisis management'.



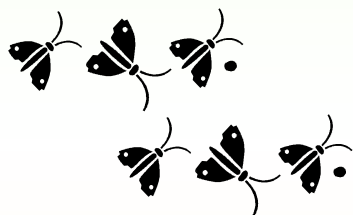
Group Presentation

What is a crisis? A crisis can be precipitated by various incidents such as the suicide of a student or a member of staff, sudden or accidental death, a violent incident, an infectious disease or a natural disaster. Through the slide presentation of Mr. AU Ka-keung, Senior School Development Officer (Guidance & Discipline) and Mr. WONG Chi-hang, School Development Officer (Guidance & Discipline), participants were introduced to what was involved in crisis management: preventions, interventions and postventions. The talk aimed at providing a framework, which contained some useful guiding principles and a recommended course of action so as to help the school act quickly and responsibly in case of a crisis.



Guest speaker – Mr. Au

All staff then grouped together to explore the possible actions that could be taken against scenarios of possible crises that might arise in schools. Participants were invited to practise using the guiding principles to work out the necessary response mechanisms. Hopefully all staff will be more proactive in identifying crises and become better prepared when a crisis does occur at school.



## French Speech Festival

Textes en fête was a French Speech Festival organized by l' Association des Professeurs de Français Language Etrangère de Hong Kong. It was held on 1 November 2008 in the Baptist University of Hong Kong. It was one of the best activities I have ever joined in school. I enjoyed participating in such activities because I could get together with different kinds of people but all of us shared similar interests. We played a game in groups where there should only be one representative from each school in each group. In that way, it was a bit awkward at first, but after a while we were all able to have lots of fun despite not knowing one another. I realize that I can actually increase interest, curiosity and motivation to learn a language if there is fun in it. Then fluency or ability in a language would come naturally afterwards.

The French Speech Festival consisted mainly of singing and drama performances from schools. I really enjoyed the game where we had to be in groups and collect items from a list that was in French. Our school had a singing performance from some S3 girls and a drama performance called L'homme de ma vie' (Man of my life) by Nicole (5E), Thea (5E), Carlo (2E). I ended it by singing 'La Neige au Sahara' (Snow in the Sahara). I was satisfied that everyone seemed to have enjoyed my performance despite my having a sore throat that day!

I think the whole activity was a success! I really enjoyed the refreshments too! It was surely a memorable experience as it was my first, and perhaps my last time to join the French Speech Festival. Basically, I should say it was worth it!

Yumul Raymarc John DE (S.5D)

The activity did not have any slideshows, talks or lectures involved but instead, it had brief introductions and a quiz related to the French organizations here in Hong Kong. It was still fun to do the quiz because the prizes were attractive. They gave winners a set of interesting French books. Too bad I didn't win that!





# 8th Singapore Hong Kong Exchange Programme

Five students of SEK participated in a 2-week educational exchange programme in Singapore in July 2008. Throughout the exchange programme they stayed with their host families to get a taste of Singaporean life and attended schools in Singapore. The Singapore delegation paid a reciprocal visit to Hong Kong from 9<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November 2008. During the visit, three Singaporean students, Atiqah, Jordan, and Jonathan joined our school. This programme has promoted cultural and educational exchange between Singapore and Hong Kong. Here are some reflections from the participants.



Hong Kong students' last day in Singapore

This exchange programme has given me chances to learn how to take care of people, how to understand them and how to satisfy their needs. My English has improved a lot and now I am more confident in speaking English, even in the presence of lots of people.

I have also made many friends and have achieved many unforgettable memories during the programme. Although my buddy Atiqah has gone back to Singapore, I am sure that the friendship and memories between us will last forever.

Ruth Mak Lai Fai (S.3E)

The first thing I have learnt from this exchange programme is that if I want to gain something, I must sacrifice something. I had to give up playing the inter-school basketball match for the school because the time coincided with the farewell ceremony. Secondly, I have learnt to manage my time schedule more carefully because I have to handle my schoolwork, the activities and spending time with my buddy at the same time. I have also got to learn more about the culture, the history and the lifestyle of Singapore.

Joseph Cheng Ka Kuen (S.3E)

My buddy Jonathan took me to many places in Singapore. We had a great time there because we had tried many mouth-watering dishes and many joyous and interesting activities. I can also see the difference in educational system between Hong Kong and Singapore schools. Through talking and staying with Jonathan, I find that he is braver than me and I must learn from him to be brave. Even though I have skipped many lessons, I think this exchange program has taught me a lot about social skills, which can turn out to be valuable assets in life.

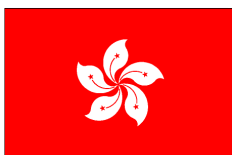
Charles Lau Sai Kit (S.3E)



Sentosa Tour

During my short stay here, I have experienced much warmth, kindness and hospitality from students and teachers of Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School. I could see people of many different races coming to school, learning and playing with one another regardless of race and religion. The night view in Hong Kong is really fantastic!

Atiqah Bte Sawal, Commonwealth Secondary



Tea reception and sharing

During my school attachments in SEK, I have found its way of teaching very efficient and effective. I prefer the way of teaching in Hong Kong to that in Singapore. It has also been really fun to visit the famous landmarks such as Disneyland, the Peak, and the Golden Bauhinia Plaza in Hong Kong.

Jonathan Weng, Boon Lay Secondary School



Learning together with S.3E

Hong Kong and Singapore are much alike but also much different, so we have a lot to learn from each other. The main benefit of this programme is that we have developed friendships across borders.

Jordan Chin, Boon Lay Secondary School







Student Talent Abounds at

# Christmas Talent Show

The incredible talents of many Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School (West Kowloon) students were thoroughly showcased at the school's Christmas talent show on 19th December, 2008. From a variety of dancing and singing performances, band shows to magic show, the line-up was exactly SEKSSWK – a real mix of cultures and styles.

After the challenging audition, 16 student acts were selected and got through to the final contest. Student performers gathered in school hours before the show just to take the very last chance to prepare and rehearse. The magician practised at the corridor, several groups rehearsed dance routines, and some of the band players strummed their guitars while another sang...

The contest finally started with four band shows followed by a series of dancing and singing performances, a magic show and a flute music demonstration. All the performers had given their best on stage so the four judges including Mrs. Tsang and Ms Yuen (Assistant principals), Mrs. Yau (Head of English Department) **Student Talent Abounds At Christmas Talent Show** and Alex (Coach for Modern Dance) had to make a headachy decision on who the winners were.

The prize presentation was the climax of the whole talent show. The marvelous Nepali dance performance by Shrijana (3E) won the 2nd runner-up and the special magic show, which was a very rare act in the school talent show, brought the prize of 1st runner-up to the potential magician Lee Wing Kai (5C). Last but not least, a group of five energetic students, which included Elizabeth (3D), Christian (2D), Rizz (3D), Sheila (3D) and Khimberly (3C), had given the best act in the show and all judges concurred their effort. The five were the overall champion of the whole contest.



Excitement ran through the school all day. Although students could not really judge who the winners were, they supported their favorites by tremendous applause and hurrah. All the audience was very attentive and engaged in the show. It was a great opportunity for students to express themselves in different ways. The show gave them the chance to demonstrate talents they might not have a stage for.

Congratulations to all the winners and thank everyone who has contributed to the Christmas Talent Show. We heartily look forward to the coming talent show.



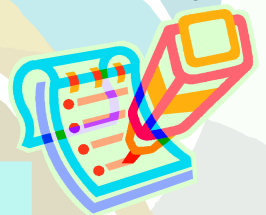
# Debate Competitions

This year there were a lot of activities related to debating within and outside our school. The first event was organised by Queen Elizabeth School as they had invited our school to take part in a friendly inter-school debating session once again. A group of Form 4 and Form 3 students were selected to participate in this meaningful and worthwhile activity. Nicholas Hon Kah Choon (4A), Ong Ling Na (4A) and Joy Ilyn Bartido (4C) represented our school and performed well in the debate. It was an impromptu debate where all the participants had only 15 minutes to prepare after getting the topic. The motion was “Human should no longer eat meat”. Considering it was their first time at this type of debate, they performed very well.

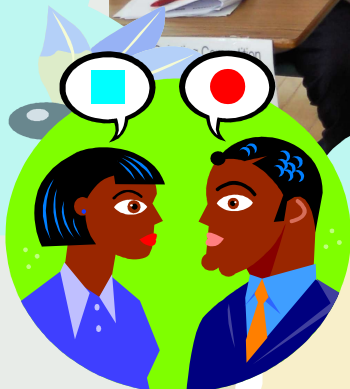
Our school was invited by the Sing Tao Debating organisers to host the first round of this well-known competition after our excellent performance when hosting last year. Our school was represented by Samuel Thurman (3E), who was the master of ceremonies and Saif Ullah (3E), who was responsible for the timekeeping. Sin Man Yee (2E) was in charge of reception. They all performed admirably and the organisers were very impressed with their professionalism.

Apart from hosting the competition in our school, we also had a team of four who took part in the 24th Sing Tao Inter-School Debating Competition. Our school was represented by Gurung Barsha (4C), Nicholas Hon Kah Choon (4A), Francisco Deniece Gabrielle Fuentes (4A) and captained by Samuel Thurman (3E). We competed against Methodist College and the motion was “The government should buy back the Eastern and Western Harbour tunnels”.

We were the affirmative side and all the team members put in a lot of hard work but in the end, we were beaten by a very small margin. The high point was when Samuel Thurman won the prize for the Best Interrogative Debater in that contest. All the team members are keen to gain more debating experience and we will definitely join this great competition again next year.

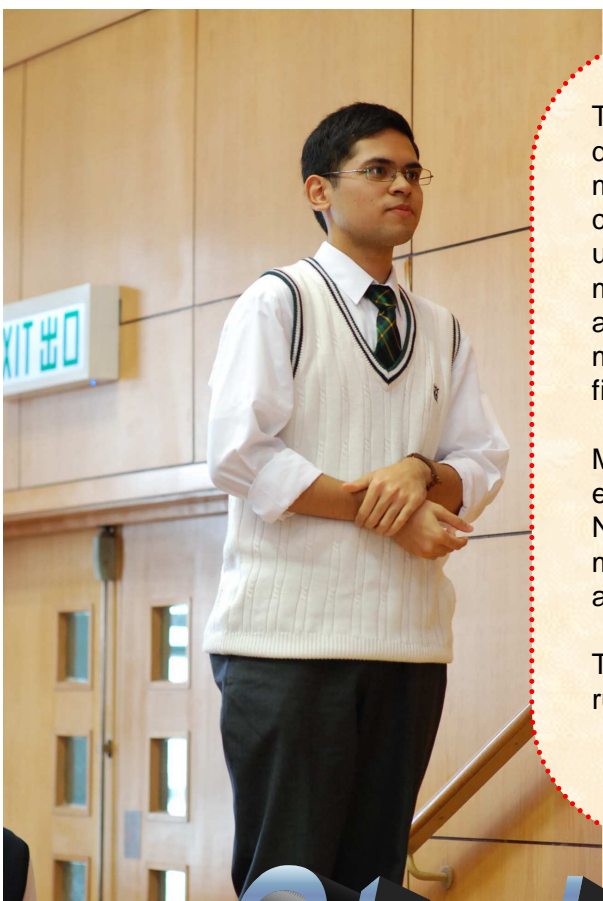


Saif, Sam and Mandy at the Debate



Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate Debate





The day our HKCEE results were released was both the worst and best day in my life. It was my worst day because never in my life had I felt more reluctant than that intense moment. Countless doubts were closing in on me. I was nauseous because I had to carry the burden of uneasiness in the pit of my stomach. But the moment I took a glance at my result sheet, the tender feeling of relief drove all my hesitations away. I passed all my exams well thus making me eligible to continue my studies in F.6. At the end, I felt a sense of accomplishment and finally realized that all my hard work had paid off.

Making this giant leap from Form 5 to Form 6 was tough. I had to adapt environmentally to a new school and academically to a new curriculum. Now that I consider F.6 as being three times harder than F.5, I will make every effort to get good results and at the same time enjoy myself as much as I can.

These new hurdles that I am facing with will surely help me in the long run and I am definitely counting on it!

**Carabio Carl Mitchell**  
(2008 S.5 Graduate)

# Students' Buzz



I never thought I would not fulfill the entry requirement into S.6. I didn't have any other options open when one of my friends suggested I apply for an international school. Then I looked up the list of international schools in Hong Kong and finally got admitted to one.

Each school year has 2 semesters, winter semester and fall semester. To graduate we need a total of 30 credits plus 40 hours of community hours. In each semester, you can do up to four courses. You can choose from a range of courses like Arts, Business Studies and Guidance and Career Education, and more. In each course, for example Business Studies, you could choose to study Accounting and Entrepreneurial Studies or International Business or Introduction to Business or you could do them all. It really depends on what you want to study. Also if within the first week of each semester you don't like the courses you are taking, it is possible to change courses.

I have nothing to complain about my present school life. Even though the fee each month is quite high compared to local schools, I don't regret joining this school at all.

**Aishwarya Gopalakrishnan**  
(2008 S.5 Graduate)



There is not much difference between the transition from Form 5 to Form 6 and that from primary school to Form 1. It is easier in some ways, given that you have changed schools before and know the routine.

It is, however, a slightly more solemn transition than the giddy and exciting one from primary school, because you know that in order to get through the year, you will have to sacrifice a fair amount of precious, idle day-dreaming, a practice that I have not entirely committed to yet.

What you learn in Forms 4-5 may seem like a bunch of trivia that you're being forced to memorize, but it is the fundamental foundation for most of what you will learn during your future studies.

**Mein Smith Louisa Isabel**  
(2008 S.5 Graduate)

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