

# FR CSS Voice

2018



Designed by: Lee Yi Lam 5D



# Words from the Principal

## The Lord's Prayer

Dr Chan Chun Ping



This year we have been learning The Lord's Prayer at our school. What follows is the context that Jesus taught His disciples how to pray.

"Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of His disciples came to him and said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught His disciples."

Jesus said, "This is how you should pray: Father, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon." (Luke 11:1-2)



We usually like asking questions starting with, 'HOW,' just like that disciple asked Jesus how to pray. Nevertheless, The Lord's Prayer begins with "Father" or "Our Father in heaven" (Matthew 6:9) and ends with "For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours. Now and for ever. Amen" (Matthew 6:13). Jesus taught us WHO we are praying to. If you know and believe that we are praying to the almighty and holy God, who created the world, you will definitely say "Amen" with all your heart. Our God also loves us just like a father loves his son or daughter. He knows our needs and gives the best to us. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow" (Matthew 6:34).

With the help of the Internet and technology, we can easily find the answers for many questions, especially the 'how' type of questions. However, the future is uncertain to most of us. There are a lot of changes due to ever-growing and changing technology. Is there any eternity in the world? This question is worthy of further exploration.

For myself and the other teachers at FRCSS, we believe Jesus loves us and he is the almighty God. Therefore, we always bring the needs of the school and students to God in our prayers. There have been prayer meetings every Thursday morning this year. Some students might worry about their academic results, others might find it difficult to choose appropriate subjects. Your needs are in our hearts, and we put your worries in our prayers. I believe that our Lord Jesus would have mercy on you. It is a beautiful picture to see Christian students, teachers and myself praying in unity. I am looking forward to praying with all of you again in the future.

I hope that you know who we are praying to and that our Father in heaven loves all of you. May the blessing and mercy of God be upon all of you.

## Students' Prayers

# WALKING WITH JESUS

by Wu Pui Lam, Dreyllien from 5B

Lord, thank you for giving us a new day. We would like you to guide us in the new school year, giving us the courage to seek improvements. Also, may you grant us perseverance in learning, especially for those F6 students, who are experiencing stress from their exams right now. Last but not least, we would like to hand our lessons over to you.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

by Yim Tsz Ting, Elaine from 5C

Thank you Lord. It's a pleasure to study at FRCSS! I really enjoy studying here and I've met a lot of friends, teachers and schoolmates. Most of them are really nice and friendly! The most important thing is that I have you in my life and I would like to thank God for sending those nice friends, classmates and teachers to support me! I feel really thankful for that.

by Zhou Ka Yi, Anna from 3C

Dear Lord,

Thank you for giving us a nice environment to learn and play at FRCSS.

Thank you Lord, for teachers and friends, and your love that never ends.

Please give us the courage to do what is right. Help us to live in peace and act respectfully,

And give us the strength to be the best we can be.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

by Yuk Ho Lam from 4C

Dear Lord,

Thank you for giving us a nice day!

Our examinations will come soon. May you guide us to allocate our time well so that we can prepare well for these exams.

Lately the weather has been unstable. Lord, please protect us and give us good health.

Last but not least, may your blessings and grace be with us!

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



# Thanksgiving Story

by Chau Ling Yin, Levin from 5A



Fortunately, they all agreed to be in my team. The process of election wasn't easy at all. It was wax and wane.

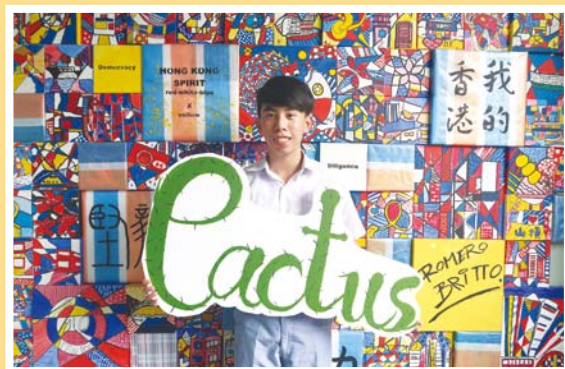
After all those hours of preparation and advertising, the results were out. We lost by merely thirty votes to another team. I tried my best to hold back my tears, but they sneakily came out of nowhere. We stood far away from the vote chart crying our eyes out.

But in the end, it was all good. I learnt a lot about leadership, the proper protocols and etiquette for holding meetings with other people. And most importantly, I learnt about friendship; the feeling of connection cannot be described in words.

I dearly cherish all of these moments in my life created at FRCSS. It is sheer happiness being a part of this family.

In the blink of an eye, five years have passed. A chubby little boy who didn't like school at all has become a teen who is reluctant to graduate, but if I had to choose one event that I am really grateful for, without any hesitation, it is running for the Student Union election.

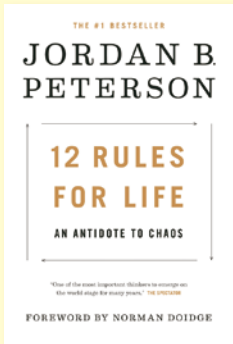
At the end of the Form 4 semester, our Vice-principal asked me if I wanted to run for the Student Union, and I was really happy that he invited me. So I gave it a shot and went to find teammates. I didn't want to choose people because they are my good friends but because of their ability and their attitude, so I went up to people who I thought would be a good fit for the position.



# Book Recommendations

## 12 Rules for Life by Jordan B Peterson

by Saturn Chung from 4B



Professor Jordan Peterson, who now presides as a lecturer in Toronto University, was a former Associate Professor of Psychology at the notable Harvard University. He has spent his whole life pondering foundation and fundamental questions about our lives. As a result of being perplexed and bewildered about life, he has created twelve rules for life.

He thinks that we are ambivalent about rules. However, he thinks we need to implement rules into our lives. He thinks that because we have had an absence of rules for so long we need rules to, 'raise our gaze,' and 'elevate our standards'. He wrote this book for the prosperity of our civilization.

This book is powerful, like the Analects, except it is aimed at modern standards.

Peterson grew up in the wilderness of the northern prairies of Alberta in a town infested with drunks who passed out on the pavements covered in snow at three in the morning. Hypothermia and death often ensued due to the extratropical climate in the Canadian prairies. He had many friends that took recreational drugs, which caused him to contemplate the key to finding genuine friends. Following his best friend's suicide, he tried many ways to help his friends who were on the path to self-destruction by confronting them and persuading them. He tried to find friends who were functional and who were focused on finding their potential and unleashing it.

In modern societies, teenagers and millennials appear to have stopped valuing friendships earnestly and sincerely. Some people view this as dysfunctional. If we choose our friends with care and caution, our lives can be one step closer to bringing us fulfilment.

## First They Killed My Father by Loung Ung

by Moon Fong from 4B

This book is about the political history of Cambodia between 1975 and 1978. It is unusual because it is written from the perspective of a child – Loung Ung. She was a child born into a family of rice growers. Her father was a government worker.

During that time, a political organisation called the Khmer Rouge wanted to change the form of government, so they staged a coup. They wanted Cambodia to be a communist country.

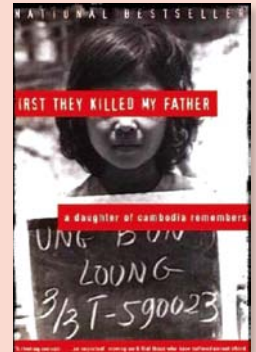
Pol Pot was the leader of the Communist party, which killed many people in Cambodia. He announced that people had to dedicate their money and their farming skills for the good of the country to help the country become stronger.

One night, Loung Ung's father was caught by the police and he never returned, hence the name of the book, *First They Killed My Father*.

After reading this book, I felt sad because I asked myself why the Communist party had to do this. They made the perfect imperfect. People were enjoying their lives, and the Pol Pot regime destroyed so many people's lives and caused so much suffering. Many Cambodian people lost their families.

From reading this book, I now know much more about the history of Cambodia. Before, I had only heard the name of the country but knew nothing about it.

It seems to me that men do not learn much from the lesson of history and this is the most important of all the lessons of history.



## The Shining by Stephen King

by Papyrus Tsang from 4B

I think *The Shining* is interesting and intense at the same time. I like the horror genre, especially if the books are spooky, so I think this book is particularly interesting.

The plot revolves around a family who go to take care of a hotel and many strange, creepy things begin happening after they arrive. At first, the son becomes possessed by an evil spirit, then the father becomes possessed too and he tries to murder his family.

After reading the book, I feel released and I want to read more. I have learnt a few things about the trust between friends and family and how sometimes that trust can be challenged and you always need to choose between trusting and not trusting.

I have also learnt not to be distracted or confused by unimportant issues and to focus on core values. In the book, the son Danny becomes confused by the ghost and cannot call for help.

The last thing I have learnt is how to be brave. One of the main characters in the book, the mother, is being chased by her husband who is possessed by a ghost. The mother ends up facing her possessed husband who is holding a knife, prepared to fight back. The scene is really unforgettable and I want to be brave like her. I know I can't escape things in life and I need to face every challenge all by myself.





## In Order to Live by Yeonmi Park

by Kwan Kwun Hung from 4B

This book is divided into three parts and twelve chapters. The name of the book comes from a famous quote from Joan Didion, 'We tell ourselves stories in order to live.' The writer, Yeonmi Park writes of miserable stories of living in North Korea. Eventually, she goes on to live a brilliant life. She currently lives in New York City and is a student at Columbia University.

The first part is set in North Korea which is a closed, socialist country. It always gives people the impression that it is poor and like hell. And, according to Park, it is. However, before 1990 it was prosperous. The government provided everyone with jobs, paid everyone's salaries and distributed rations for most food and consumer goods. Furthermore, the government also offered free medical treatment. Everyone had enough to eat. No one was suffering or starving. Unfortunately, in late 1991, the Soviet Union collapsed and the North Korean Government didn't provide food aid anymore. At the same time, many factories collapsed, so a lot of people lost their jobs. The North Korean economic future became very gloomy.

In Park's generation, there were always shortages of materials and Park was always hungry. Due to the terrible state of the economy, there was not much entertainment in North Korea. For instance, there were always blackouts (electrical shortages) which meant that the TV was not on most of the time. Instead, Park made paper dolls and card games with the limited materials that were available.

In this section of the book, Park also tells secrets about North Korea. For example, the government had previously announced that Kim Il Sung, the great leader of North Korea had died of a heart attack, but Park reveals that it was because of a kind of depression.

The second part of the book is about China. Through a broker's help, the writer, Park and her family arrived safely in China. At the beginning, Park was confused as to why the broker was willing to help them escape without asking for any fees. However, after she escaped to China, she knew why. On the other side of the Yalu River, there were some brokers waiting to collect them. These brokers were working as businessmen in human trafficking. They sold North Korean women like a product, to some men who were disabled or poor, as wives.

Park and her family were no exception. The Chinese segment of the story shows how desperate the situation was for Park's family. They did not suffer anymore but in order to save her mother's life, Park was forced to do immoral things. For example, she was raped by one of the brokers. Afterwards she was kidnapped by a powerful person. Despite her disgraceful experience, she finally managed to cross Gobi Desert to Mongolia where she was saved by a South Korean ambassador. Thus, she started her new life in South Korea.

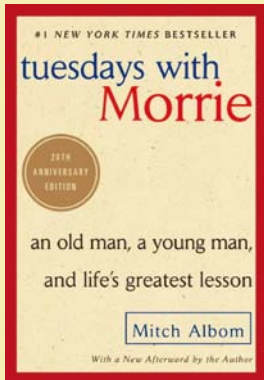
The last part of the book is about Park's life in South Korea and the United States. Though she and her mum successfully settled in South Korea, they still experienced a lot of hardship there. For example, they faced racism at school. In spite of that, with Park's hard work, she was able to study at university. She once took part in a trip to America to help those in need. On the trip, she was impressed by the modern life there, which was totally different from that in South Korea. Eventually, thanks to her outstanding performance at university, she was granted a chance to study at Columbia University, the USA, where she gained real freedom.

After reading this book, I greatly appreciate the writer, Yeonmi Park, who experienced things that I believe many girls cannot bear. Countless times standing on the edge of the cliff, she did not give up her life and the opportunity of getting an education. However, in Hong Kong, many teens take things for granted and are not grateful for what they have. Ironically, Park, in such terrible circumstances, was able to get into Columbia University, one of the top universities in the United States. If Park can do it, why can't I? Her story encourages me to work harder. Finally, I would like to remind everyone in Hong Kong how lucky we are. We must be grateful for what we have right now.



## Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom

by Kat Ho Nam, Harrison from 4B



*Tuesdays with Morrie* is a true story about Mitch Albom and his college professor Morrie. After he graduated from college, Mitch promised Morrie they would stay in touch. In 1994, Mitch knew that Morrie was suffering from ALS so they decided to meet every second Tuesday. Within a few months, Morrie taught Mitch many things about the world relating to regrets, death, family, how love goes on, forgiveness and so on. This story is really touching and meaningful. We can all learn a lot from it.

Here are some ideas I have learnt from this book. Firstly, Morrie said, 'Aging is not just decay. It's growth.' Most people fear aging because they haven't found the meaning of life. They are unsatisfied with their lives. If they found the meaning of their lives, they wouldn't fear aging anymore.

Furthermore, Morrie advocated not wasting time earning money to buy things such as cars, property, toys and so on as he said that offering others what you have will be more meaningful.

Also, Morrie taught us that family is important. During his final months, his wife and sons supported him so much. They gave him support, love, caring and concern.

In addition, Morrie taught us to forgive ourselves as well as others before we die. He told Mitch a story about him and his friend Norman, who ended their relationship. Although Norman tried to reconcile, Morrie didn't accept it. Later, Norman died of cancer. Morrie regretted that he never forgave him.

This book taught us about some life lessons. You might also read this book and discover other life lessons.

## Wonder by R. J. Palacio

by Fung Yau Ting from 4B

The book, *Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio is about a little boy named August, who only has one eye and wants to go to school and learn like other students of his age. This book is a true story.

August was born with only one eye. His parents are surprised because August's sister, Via, is a healthy girl. Luckily, August has a loving family and his mum says that August is just a wonder. She wants him to go to school to gain an education but going to school every day is a challenge for August.

However, he never gives up even though he only has one eye. He still fights to overcome his challenges. He doesn't know everything but he tries to learn from his mum, dad, sister and friends.

In the end, August has grown in many ways and his mum continues to encourage him.

His mum often says to him, 'My son, you are a wonder to me. I'm proud of you. You are a wonder.'

This book taught me that even if you are born with a disability, you should still fight for your dreams and not give up. I also learnt that if you keep fighting, success, confidence and friendships will find their way into your life.

I highly recommend this book because it can teach us how to find our life goals. It is also motivational to think of August when you are feeling down, because the book can help you to feel brave. August keeps struggling with his disability, so surely we can keep struggling when we have no disability.



# Interviewing teachers



**Interview with  
Ms Megan Ireland**

by Chan Hiu Tung and Yuk Ho Lam from 4C

**Interviewer:** Good afternoon, Ms Ireland. Thank you for having an interview with us.  
Do you have any brothers or sisters?

**Ms Ireland:** Yes, I do. I have one brother and I have one stepsister and one stepbrother. My stepbrother and my stepsister are older than me. Actually my stepsister is older than me and my stepbrother is the same age as me. And my brother is five years younger than me.

**Interviewer:** I heard that Australians eat crocodile and kangaroo. Have you tried it then?

**Ms Ireland:** No, I have never tried kangaroo or crocodile. If I have a chance...actually no, I really don't want to try either because I think kangaroos are beautiful and I don't want to eat them and I think crocodiles are ugly and I don't want to eat them either. Thinking about it makes me feel sick.

**Interviewer:** Which books or films do you like?

**Ms Ireland:** I have so many books that I like. I read two books every week. There is a book called *The Zookeeper's Wife*. It is a true story about a couple who had a zoo in Poland where they hid lots of Jewish people during World War II and they managed to save a lot of Jewish people. I think the book is an incredible story.

**Interviewer:** Which country do you want to visit?

**Ms Ireland:** Which country? I want to visit Morocco. It is at the northern part of Africa and south of Spain but also I want to go to Iceland.

**Interviewer:** Have you been to any other countries before?

**Ms Ireland:** I have been to New Zealand, Fiji, Canada, Cambodia, China, The Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Japan, Indonesia, Costa Rica, Cuba, France, Germany, Switzerland and Spain.

**Interviewer:** Okay. Do you have any pets?

**Ms Ireland:** At the moment no. Um...I used to have a cat in Indonesia but then I moved to Canada and I took her with me but then I couldn't get her out of Canada. I couldn't get the right paperwork for her so now she lives in Canada.

**Interviewer:** Could you tell us about your happy memories of your childhood?

**Ms Ireland:** Well...When I was a child, we moved around because of my father's job. So I went to 9 different schools. It is probably a significant thing from my childhood. I had to make new friends very quickly. I think this made me into a person who likes travelling.

**Interviewer:** So did you have some favourite cartoons when you were young?

**Ms Ireland:** You mean on television? I loved 'Tom and Jerry' and 'Looney Tunes'. Have you heard of them? Also I loved 'Foghorn Leghorn' and 'Kimba, the White Lion'. The latter one was a very famous cartoon when I was young. It was the first colour animated television series created in Japan. Kimba is a white lion. Kimba always strives for peace and justice. He learns that communication and understanding brings peace.

When somebody did something bad, he always fixed the problems. I liked it because it was about finding justice in the world. Also, I love cats and big cats, like lions, jaguars and so on.

**Interviewer:** Could you give us some advice on how to improve our English?

**Ms Ireland:** Yes, of course. Practise, practise and practise. It's like dancing. If you want to learn to dance, you dance. You do it. You practise. Keep practising every day. Keep speaking and listening to movies in English or songs in English. Listen to the news and many things as you can in English because the sounds of English will go into your mind. Just like when you were a baby, you didn't learn Cantonese by writing. You learnt from listening to your mum and dad. They repeated many words. You heard them and one day, you copied the words you heard. The other thing that is important is to do things that are not specifically learning English, but doing other fun activities where you must speak English. Doing activities in English or going to another country and speaking with people who only speak English will help you a lot and you can immerse yourself in English.





## Interview with Mr. Chu Ho Yin

by Kwok Chi Hin 4D

**Interviewer:** Why did you choose to work at your alma mater?

**Mr. Chu:** I think I came back for three reasons. The first reason is because of the opportunities. My previous class teacher introduced this job to me and the job description fits what I learnt at university, so I accepted the offer. The second reason is because of love. I love this school, the teachers and the students because they have shown me love over the past six years. The third reason is that it is a precious opportunity to learn in this job. So these are the reasons why I chose to work here.

**Interviewer:** What are your best memories from when you were studying here?

**Mr. Chu:** I remember two scenes from secondary school. The first one was when my classmate and I went to the study room in the public library every day after school. We prepared some mock exam papers for each other and we would help each other to do the revision. This taught me that classmates are really such good partners in preparing for the DSE examination. The second one was when I joined different leadership programmes. I think these programmes were, 'once in a lifetime' types of experiences. Later, I took up some leadership posts in the school, such as Head Prefect and Head BBS. I think it was very good for me to learn how to hold meetings and also how to be a good role model.

**Interviewer:** What electives did you study? Why did you choose those electives?

**Mr. Chu:** I studied chemistry, biology and economics in secondary school. The reason I chose these three subjects was that I liked them, and I achieved good results in those subjects back then.

**Interviewer:** What were your major subjects at university? Were there any groups you were inspired to join?

**Mr. Chu:** My major at university was social work. There were a lot of subjects to choose from, such as psychology, sociology, social policy, and there are some electives such as mental health, youth, children and families. I chose to take courses in mental health and youth because I want to serve those underprivileged people. Also, I thought I would like to serve teenagers because I can build close relationships with them easily. So I chose these two target groups to serve.

**Interviewer:** Tell us one of your biggest challenges in your work or studies. How did you handle it?

**Mr. Chu:** I think the biggest challenge in my studies was that I hated reading, but my major required students to read a lot, such as books and journal articles if we wanted to get great results in examinations or in the subject. First I tried to force myself to read books. But then I found that it was interesting reading books

and journal articles because I learnt a lot from these types of resources. I learnt things that I hadn't learnt in secondary school such as how to give advice to others, how to indicate or access people's needs and also how to help people. There are some methods we learnt to do this effectively. I learnt these methods from books and articles. So I discovered that I actually liked reading books after completing university.

**Interviewer:** Which verses in 'The Lord's Prayer' do you connect with the most? Why?

**Mr. Chu:** I think the line, "give us today our daily bread," is the most impressive for me because I truly believe that the grace of God is sufficient for me. He gave me the chance to study at university and join different activities at university. One of the organisations I joined was the Campus Crusade for Christ. People who join this organisation are willing to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others. They are faithful and they have the initiative to spread the gospel. And being part of the group really inspired me to be a Christian just like them. In fact, serving in this group took up quite a bit of time but God is good. His grace is enough for me so I was able to make it all the way through my studies and work at the same time.

**Interviewer:** We know you became a Christian when you were here. Would you like to share your story with us?

**Mr. Chu:** I truly became a Christian when I was in Form 1. I found that God is love. When I was studying in primary school, I found that I was not confident and had a lack of love because of my family, and I had few friends. I felt very lonely while I was in primary school. But when I studied in secondary school, the pastor invited me to church and to join the fellowship. I have learnt what the love of God is from my brothers and sisters in church and my teachers. I really believe in God because I can really feel the love.

**Interviewer:** Do you feel like you are in a family in church?

**Mr. Chu:** Yes, I feel it. I have become a part of that family and I can invite others to join this family as well.

**Interviewer:** As a graduate, what do you advise us to try in secondary school?

**Mr. Chu:** I want to share four qualities that I believe are of value with the students. The first one is to be hardworking. I hope you guys are more hardworking at your studies. The second one is to be brave. We need to be brave when facing challenges. The third one is to show initiative. We have to take the initiative when learning, or to explore unknown areas. The last one is to be innovative. We have to try or do something we have never done before - in a new way! And you will grow up during the process of discovering new things.

# Success Crowns Effort

## Film Review on *Annabelle: Creation*

by Billy Lee from 2D

The film I have watched is a horror film called *Annabelle: Creation*. It is a prequel to *Annabelle* and is directed by David F. Sandberg. The film is set in a big house in England.

*Annabelle: Creation* is about the Mullins opening their home to provide shelter for Sister Charlotte and six girls left homeless by the closing of their orphanage. Despite having been told not to enter Bee's locked bedroom, Janice and her friend do not listen. And so, the film officially begins.

The main characters are Janice and Annabelle. Janice is my favourite character. Although she has poliomyelitis, she does not give up trying to survive. Also she wants to be friends with Annabelle, who is a demon. This is why she is my favourite character.

My favourite scene in the film is when Janice follows the paper and goes to Annabelle's room. When she looks around the room, the music box makes a sound by itself. When the sound ends, Annabelle appears and wants to seize Janice's soul. The sound effects make me scared but they are stunning.

It has a bad ending because in the end, Janice's spirit is possessed by the ghost. No one finds her and her friend is worried about Janice's safety.

After watching the film, I have learnt that listening to advice from others is important. The reason for this is that the house owner tells Janice and her friend not to go into the room but they do not listen. Consequently, it leads to a bad ending.

*Annabelle: Creation* is a film for someone who likes horror films. I would recommend this film to people who like horror films.



## Film Review on *Wonder*

by Crystal Ho from 2D



This film *Wonder* is a drama film directed by Stephen Chbosky. This film is fantastic and I have learnt lots of things from it.

This film is about a boy called Auggie Pullman, who has a rare medical facial deformity—mandibulofacial dysostosis. His classmates call him 'Ghost Face' and because of this, he is completely lacking in confidence. But two of his classmates do not discriminate against him and become friends with him. His family encourage him to confront his classmates and prove he is just an ordinary child.

I like Jack Will. He is Auggie's best friend because he supports him. He plays with Auggie, eats with him and never thinks Auggie has a 'Ghost Face'. He's a genuine person and sees Auggie with his heart.

My favourite scene is when Auggie's mum says to Auggie, "You can't change the looks of others, but we can change the way we look at people." I like this scene because we need to look at others with our hearts and should not judge by their looks. We should not be superficial.

I have learnt two things from the film. First, we should treat everyone genuinely and establish good relationships with others. The second thing is to be yourself. You are who you are. You need not care about what people say and just ignore their discussion about you. If you persist in being yourself, people will agree with you one day.

I like this film very much because it can encourage anyone who is deformed to strive to accept themselves if they are born different or become hurt in accidents. *Wonder* makes people accept other people who are handicapped. It also helps handicapped people accept themselves and let other people know they are as normal as anybody. This film impresses me.

I recommend this film to everyone, but especially to some friends who are having a difficult time now. I hope they will eventually realise that after a storm, the rainbow comes. Every problem has a solution. Kindness, happiness and love are contagious. Your friends, teachers and family will help you, so don't run away from difficulties.



## Future Car Design Competition

by Lui Shing Kam, Chris from 3B

### What it is

My future car is called “KAM”, named after the designer, Professor Lui Shing Kam. The car has a streamlined shape, which can reduce aerodynamic drag, making it faster than any car in the world. It is the most efficient, safest and smartest car of the future, starting the new age of transportation.

### What it looks like

The car looks like a rocket. The body of the car is black and red. And it is streamlined so it is not only fashionable but also runs extremely fast. Inside the car, you feel like you are in a space station as the top of the car is made of glass. The most special part of the car is that there are no wheels.

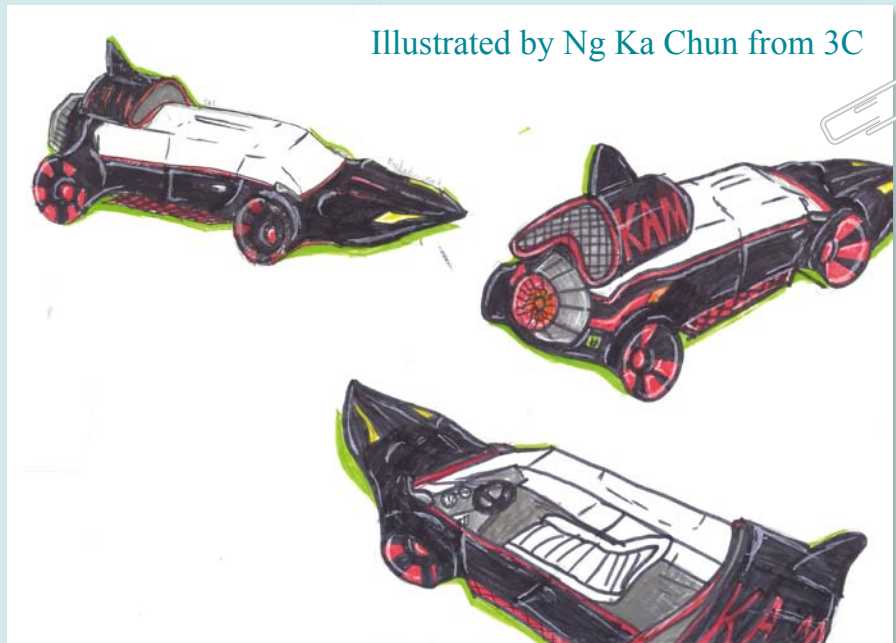
### What it does

KAM can fly in the sky so the problem of traffic jams does not exist. There is also a driverless mode which allows you to take a rest when it is driving you home after a whole day of work. The automatic parking function will be very useful when you can't find a parking space. The car will automatically search for a parking space and if it cannot find one, it will just float in the sky until you are back!

### Why you designed it

KAM runs on solar energy, which is a clean, renewable resource causing zero damage to the environment. It also saves money as the drivers do not need to buy fuel. I designed it to save the environment from petrol cars. In addition, it was designed to provide a cheaper and faster way for workers to commute to work. It can travel at 800km per hour and does not cost you a single dollar for fuel.

Illustrated by Ng Ka Chun from 3C



by Anthony Wong from 6A

Dear Ms Chan,

Hello Ms Chan. How are you doing? I am experiencing something really unrealistic but it's actually happening. I am in a future world. I can't wait to let you know more about this place so I want to get back to school to share this with you.

I woke up as usual this morning to discover that I wasn't in my own room, but rather in an unfamiliar house. I was shocked to see what was happening as I saw that cars were flying in the sky and a planet was floating in my room. All the things I've seen here in this world are totally different from where you are. Although I couldn't find my smartphone when I woke up, the planet told me that a robot could help me out with anything. It taught me to use some simple magic to teleport, pick things up remotely and the best one is how to create wonderful meals with a simple gesture and a spell.

Everything there was awesome but I soon found out that there were problems with inequality, even in this magical world. I saw a beggar lying cast aside a path in the largest park in the city. Two policemen came along with robots and one said, 'Leave at once or force will be applied.'

The man in worn-out clothes and shoes ran away quickly.

The other policeman commented, 'He was lucky that he saw us. If he had been seen by the others instead, he would have been beaten to death.'

'Why,' I asked.

'Lives are not worth a cent here, and even a piece of sheet metal is worth about two RD (a local robot currency: Robot-oriented Development) which costs more than a slave.'

The news broadcasting on the wall was saying that law enforcers were carrying out actions of 'Poverty Wipeout'.

Anyone who reports on any poor citizens will be awarded 20 RD.

It doesn't aim to provide any welfare or benefits to the underprivileged but instead to turn them into slaves and sell them. Another slogan was being broadcast by a reporter, 'For our city, for our brighter future.'



I must be honest with you, Ms Chan, that I do like the quality of life here but I despise this culture that sees being poor as a sin and they tackle the issue of poverty by taking innocent lives. I can't wait to come back to our city, where I belong and can find a less unjust society.

Chris



# AFS Intercultural Fair

by Chu Yan Ni from 1A

I was so happy to join AFS Intercultural Fair last November. Without a doubt, I learnt so many things from the event. First, I made some new friends who joined AFS with me. They are from the same school as me but in different classes.

Second, I gained much more confidence in speaking English. Before I joined the AFS event, I didn't believe that foreigners could understand my English. After the event, I started to speak English more confidently and now I feel that I speak English better than before. I am so happy about my improvement.

When I walked into the gate of Maryknoll Fathers' School in Kowloon Tong, I was extremely scared because there were so many foreigners. Although we are all human beings, they looked so different. Our English Teaching Assistant, Ms Chen, just said, "Don't be scared." She also encouraged me to try to speak with them. I didn't try at that time because I was too afraid. Later on, I did step out of my comfort zone and tried to speak with the foreigners when playing the games there.

Before I left, a young woman gave me a bag. I opened it and I saw a booklet which is about student exchange programmes organised by AFS. Their aim is to help students improve their English by providing them with more chances to speak with foreigners. After reading this booklet, I started to consider joining their exchange programmes.

On the whole, this intercultural fair was so amazing and I believe my friends have the same opinion as me. If you want to make foreign friends and want to improve your English, you must join the AFS intercultural fair next time. If I go next time, I will definitely be more confident about speaking English.



# Debate Competitions



by Barry Lau from 3B

I'm glad that I joined the English debating team. I've learnt a lot of extra knowledge on the topic of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and organ donation. Although the topics of the competitions were very hard, we overcame the obstacles every time.

When we were preparing our first debate, we had a lot of pressure because we only had a few days to read, research, think, prepare and practise our speeches.

At the beginning, I thought I couldn't do the speech as fast as I needed to be under the time limit. It was very hard to speak fast in English but I practised once and then again at home and I managed to do it. We all tried our best to finish the work and finally, we all did it. We worked together every single day. I find it easy to do challenging things if I have perseverance.

On the day of the competition, we were extremely nervous because it was our first debate competition. When I was speaking, my heart was beating very fast but in the middle of the speech, I felt less scared and more relaxed. I think if we treat the debate competition as a dialogue between our friends, we will feel less daunted and find it more enjoyable.

by Amanda Leung from 5B

This year is my second and final year in the English debate team. I am quite thankful that I have joined the team because I find that debating is an interesting and exciting academic experience for students.

By doing the research about the topic, I have learnt lots of new phrases and sentence patterns. It has really helped me to improve my English too. Also the topics are all about social issues and I have become more aware of some problems that society is facing.

Teamwork is one of the most important skills I have learnt. In the debate team, everyone has their own role in the team. If you are the first speaker, you have to identify the motion, or you may be the third speaker and have to summarise your case. However, you need to know your teammates' points well so that you can do the rebuttals. Communication is a must.

I am grateful that I have two lovely, talented teammates: Candy and Dreyllien. Also Ms Liu and Ms Ireland helped me a lot with my debate scripts and rebuttals. Working together as a team makes the debate successful.



# E-reading Scheme



by Huang Sze Nga from 2C

I think e-reading is good because it can improve my English vocabulary. The e-reading app, *Kids A-Z* is easy to use and there are many interesting books for me to read online. I can listen to the sound recording of the books and learn the correct intonation. I can obtain a lot of knowledge from the books too. After using the e-reading app, I have become more confident and I am less likely to stammer when I am speaking with a foreigner. I can learn a lot of vocabulary and use it for writing and speaking now. I like e-reading and I will recommend my friends use it.

by So Hei Wai, Vivien from 2C

*Kids A-Z* provides us with a good way of improving our English. It mainly consists of two parts, reading and listening. There are a lot of stories and articles for us to read. You can read the stories with the provided audio together. This system helps us to improve our pronunciation. After finishing the stories, there is a quiz for us to test our understanding of the story. By doing the exercises more, we are able to improve our capability of understanding the language. E-reading can also save our busy English teachers' time as students can practise by themselves.

by Kenneth Huynh from 2C

The e-learning app can help students to learn more words outside the English lessons because it has the listening section and reading section plus some multiple-choice questions available for readers.

The listening section can help students to say the words clearly and the reading section helps students to learn new words. The multiple-choice section can help students understand the text they have read. Also e-learning can increase students' interest in reading as the books are so beautifully designed. Plus there is a system for motivation with the stars that we get for each book we read. In our class, some students have read lots of books using the e-learning app at home.

by Lai Sze Wai from 3B

When I heard about the e-reading scheme at the morning assembly, I thought it would be fun. I have loved reading since I was small. When I started to use this app to read English books, I thought that there were so many books available and they looked interesting. Some books even helped me learn new things about animals, the ocean etc. I like this e-reading scheme because it can not only help us learn more English, but also help broaden our knowledge.



by Yim Tsz Ki from 3C

The app, *Kids A-Z*, makes it easier for me to read because I can read online anytime.

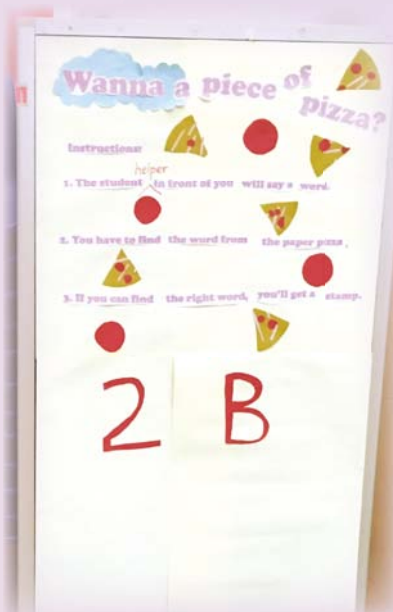
E-books are rich in content, adding many multimedia elements such as images, pronunciations, videos, etc. and they are not as boring as paper books. The school also gives rewards to students who have read the required number of books so I love this reading programme.





# English Fun Day

by Lau Wing Him from 2B



Two weeks ago, our English teachers asked us to create an idea for a game booth. We were split into groups of six people and each group had to create an idea and present it to the class. Then the class had to vote for the best idea to represent our class on English Fun Day.

My group members and I discussed the concept of our game booth and prepared our presentation but in the end, our game was not chosen. The group who won had a game booth called 'Wanna a piece of pizza?'

The rules of the game are that you need to pick up a piece of pizza which has a word on it, then you have to make a sentence using the word. It took my classmates a week to prepare the game booth and they put a lot of hard work into it.

A week later, our teacher gave us a voting sticker and a little sheet to collect stamps on. After collecting four stamps, we could trade the stamps for a prize. We were also given stickers to vote for our favourite game booth on the fun day.



On English Fun Day, we went to the hall at around 11.30am and it was very crowded. At first, I didn't want to play because it was so overcrowded. Secondly, I didn't want to line up to play at the game booths because there were long queues and they were too long. But after I was persuaded by my friend, I played several games. There were different sorts of games, such as a puzzle game, a shooting game and so on. I just voted for my class as my favourite because they really did a great job and they approached it with a serious attitude. Even though I voted for my class, unfortunately they lost and Class 2C won.



I thought the activities were quite interesting. Usually we just study in the classroom to learn English but on that day, students learnt more English by themselves and had a great experience from it. I really appreciate my teachers holding this activity to increase our interest and it has positively influenced our learning attitude. I hope we will have this activity next year.





## Our Special Guests from Singapore



by Lai Sze Wai, Sarah from 3B

One day, our English teacher told us that some students from Christ Church Secondary School in Singapore would come to our school to have a look and have a lesson with us. We were very excited about these special guests.

On 10 March, 2018, they arrived after lunch. Our principal gave a welcome talk to them first. Then we took them on a tour around the school. We went to the computer room, the art room, the music room and the classrooms. They expressed surprise at our school artwork. Afterwards, we had an English lesson and played some games with the Singaporean students. We both learnt more about each other's home country, so we now know more about Singapore and they know more about Hong Kong. Singapore is a small city and it's very rich too. After meeting them, I really want to go to Singapore. In the end, we exchanged each other's Instagram and they gave us some small presents. We took a lot of photos with the Singaporean students. I thought it was a good experience and a positive way of learning English. I hope they will come to Hong Kong again.



by Lo Suet Ching, Suki from 3B

After the activity, I have met some new overseas friends and I hope we can meet again. If they come to Hong Kong, I will take them to eat at the local restaurants and visit different tourist spots. During the activity, I tried to use English to talk with the Singaporean students. It was an unforgettable experience. I enjoyed that day very much. I hope our school teachers can invite us to join activities like that again.



by Wu Kai Tsam, Nadia from 3B

After this activity, I felt happy. This activity is the most unforgettable one this year because I have made a lot of friends from Singapore. I am still in contact with them. Besides, through this activity, I realised English is important in the world. I have become more interested in learning English. I have also learnt some knowledge of Singapore from this activity.

by Han Hiu Ying, Helen from 3C

After school, we had a gathering with the Singaporean students and I was the host of this activity. At the beginning, we played some board games with them and we were so engaged in the game. After the game, the Singaporean students gave some souvenirs to us. A girl sent me a cute merlion refrigerator sticker. Then, we had a talk with the Singaporean students. In the talk, I learnt more about the Singaporean traditional culture. The students from Singapore were so talkative and nice. We quickly got to know each other well and they were glad to share their stories with us. We spent a wonderful afternoon with them.

by Chung Yan Tung from 3C

I am happy that the Singapore students came to our school and visited us. When I knew they were coming, I was so excited. We had prepared gifts for them. I felt lucky to have a chance to make friends with them. We played games with them and learnt more about each other. If we have this activity again, I would like to join it. I hope they enjoyed this trip too.



## Postcards from Luen Wo Market



by Zhong Wai Lam from 1B

I like this postcard activity because I think it was interesting. It was so exciting to write and send a postcard to your friend and to receive one back. At first, I thought it was just writing the postcard and handing in to my teacher so I thought it was boring. But I felt interested when the teacher said each of us had to send two postcards to our classmates or teachers in a mailbox and take a photo to prove the completion of our task. I felt so excited when I received a postcard from my classmate.

by Karen Jiang from 1B

After sending two postcards, I felt so disappointed because one of the postcards got lost but I spent a lot of time writing it. Luckily, the other postcard did not get lost. How do I know that? I know that because I wrote to my primary school teacher and he called my mother. He thanked me and encouraged me to keep studying hard in secondary school. And I felt excited about it. Besides, one important thing I have learnt from this activity is that next time I write a postcard, I will check the address carefully.





# 'Hands on Stage' Puppetry Competition



by Chu Yan Ni from 1A

The puppetry competition was a good opportunity to improve myself. Why? Let me tell you now.

I gained a lot from this competition. First, I learnt cooperation in this activity. We worked together to create the script and to make the puppets and the backdrops. We grew together, learnt together and became part of a team. We helped each other just like a family.

Also, we had a lot of fun and happy memories. When we made the puppets we laughed at each other's puppet. Our puppets looked so cute and funny. Sometimes we quarrelled but we still helped each other because we were a team.

More importantly, my English has improved a lot because of this competition. When we were preparing for the competition, we mainly spoke English with our Native English Teacher, Ms Ireland and our Teaching Assistant, Ms Chen. Some of my classmates could also spot my English improvement. Recently, they have been saying I could speak English very well.

It was my honour to join the competition although it took up all my free time. The only one thing I was disappointed about is that I should have spoken with Ms Ireland in English more so that my English could have improved even more.



by Lee Cheuk Ling from 1B

I am very glad that I joined the 'Hands on Stage' Puppetry Competition this year.

My team members and I prepared and practised for a long time. We all tried our best to play our part in the puppet show. We made a cute puppet for our character, which was really fun. We did our best in the competition. In the end, we won two prizes, one was a Merit award and the other was second place in the People's Choice Award, which was voted by the other contestants. Most importantly, we learnt a lot from Ms Ireland and learnt to work as a team. We have great memories and an unforgettable experience of the puppet activities.



by Yu Suet Hung from 2D

I feel very happy that we won the puppetry competition. In this competition, I learnt some more English vocabulary and how to speak good English. This is helpful for me to be able to speak English more in my daily life. I was so happy that I could make the puppets with my classmates, Ms Chen and Ms Ireland. I look forward to joining the competition again in the coming years and I hope there will be more people joining us next year. Although we went home late every day because of the training, I am so glad that we won some awards and prizes in the competition.



Scan the QR code to watch the video of the puppetry competition.



# Reading Circle



by Candy Chan from 4C

I have never imagined that I could be a tutor for junior form students studying English. However, my teachers have given me a wonderful opportunity to be a tutor recently.

After taking part in this activity, I benefitted enormously from it. First of all, I learnt that patience is really important for teaching others. I needed to lead my group members in reading the book slowly and also explain what the book was about. Sometimes, they could not really understand it at first, so I needed to teach them again slowly and patiently.

Secondly, I think this activity is meaningful and it gives me a sense of satisfaction. This event can help senior form students to improve their English. It is very educational. The happiest moment I had was when I saw my group members make huge progress. I felt very satisfied and pleased. Furthermore, I have experienced the hardship of being a teacher. Teaching is really tiring because I need to teach wholeheartedly. Therefore, I am very grateful to my teachers.

Lastly, I am glad and thankful for having a valuable chance to become a tutor. Teaching is not an easy task.

by Katie Lee from 4C

After joining the Reading Circle activity as a tutor, I had a number of feelings. My first task was to read an attractive English storybook to some S.1 students whose English ability was lower than mine. The purpose of this was to help them learn some new vocabulary in English.

This activity not only helped the S.1 students to improve their English, but also helped me to learn some new vocabulary because I had to teach it to the students and therefore, I had to do some preparation.

I had to learn how to pronounce the words and make sure that I knew all the meanings of the words in English by listening to some CDs and looking them up in the dictionary.

Also, reading the story aloud to the S.1 students helped to improve my confidence and courage. Afterwards, I felt extremely satisfied and successful when they said things like 'You are so funny', 'It is not so difficult to understand the story plots' and 'Please keep reading. I can't wait to hear more of the story.'

The most important thing I learnt was to be energetic. Some S.1 students possibly felt scared, shy and passive, which meant that we had to be more active in the way we communicated to help them engage with the story.

I learnt that I could be patient when I explained the meaning of the words and when I pronounced the words. Also, this activity helped increase my sense of belonging to the school.

The Reading Circle is not only beneficial to the S.1 students but to all the students involved. If there are similar activities in the future, I will be willing to be a volunteer.

