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Telling Project

■ Story in this issue

Time to talk
Public speaking
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Our Morning
Sharing
Sessions

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TIME: 19:00-21:00

CONTENT



2 Teacher Story Telling Project

10 More Than Just Rules

11 Why Are These Rules a Safety Net Rather Than a Form of Control?

12 Time to talk: Public speaking competition 2026

16 Our Morning Sharing Sessions

24 Beyond Jurassic Park

26 How to Control Your Emotions

28 Christmas Around the World: Festive Foods from Different Countries

30 Korean Language and Culture Club

31 I Can't Stop Myself

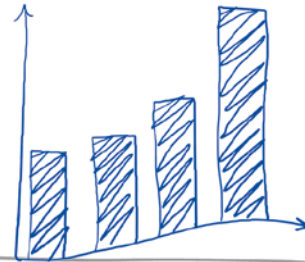
32 If I Could Go Back to One Day in the Past



Teacher Story Telling Project



Every teacher has a different side to them beyond the classroom, and in this feature, our students set out to discover more. By interviewing four of our teachers, they gained a better understanding of their personalities, interests, and experiences. These interviews give us a chance to see the people behind the lessons and learn what makes each teacher unique.



Blueprint of a Mentor: The 29-Year Journey of Mr. Poon

Yik Fung Wong 1C (31) and Yiu Lung Wong, Gavin 1C (32)



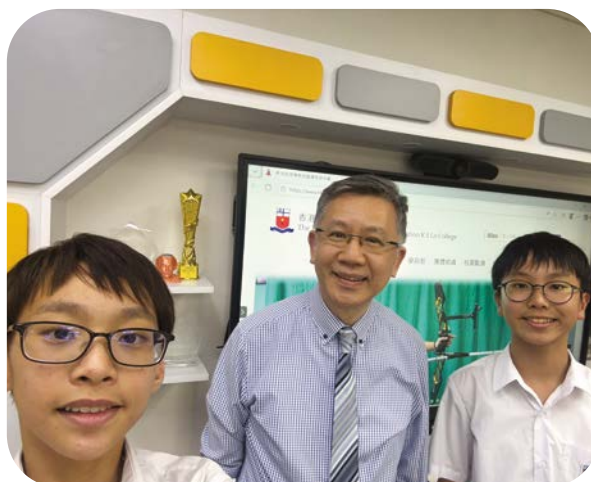
To most students at our school, Vice Principal Mr. Poon is the familiar face of Computer Literacy (CL) and Design & Technology (DT). But behind the formal title lies an experienced teaching career built on a simple, hidden passion: understanding what students need.

Long before he was a Vice Principal, Mr. Poon was a secondary school student navigating a very different academic world. “Back then, Information Technology wasn’t common at all,” he recalls. “Most teachers just wrote on chalkboards, and classes could be quite dull. But I had one teacher who truly put his heart into it.” Instead of pure teaching, this teacher built physical models to explain complex concepts. Crucially, he invited Mr. Poon to act as a “Little Teacher” to assist his struggling classmates. “Helping others gave me my very first taste of success,” he smiles. “That was the spark that made me realize teaching was my true calling.”

This early experience shaped his entire teaching philosophy. Decades later, a brilliant but introverted engineering alumnus specializing in AI was on the edge of

abandoning his final graduation project due to immense pressure. Seeing the student’s struggle, Mr. Poon offered a piece of timeless advice: Failure is the cornerstone of success. Inspired by those words, the student found his courage, completed his project, and graduated. “Years later, he told me that whenever he faces a tough obstacle, he still uses that advice to renew his determination,” Mr. Poon says softly. “Knowing that a casual remark had such a lasting, meaningful impact on a young life—that remains the most unforgettable moment of my teaching career.”

It is this deep care for student growth that explains his secret dream subject. If he could teach anything outside the DSE syllabus, Mr. Poon would instantly choose Psychology. Having spent nearly three decades observing human behavior, he is fascinated by the motivations and emotions behind our actions. “Learning about the challenges of growing up is not just about gaining knowledge; it’s about acquiring wisdom that protects you for a lifetime,” he explains. He hopes to use scientific insights to guide students toward understanding themselves and others better.



Of course, a DT teacher's mind never truly stops building. In his spare time, Mr. Poon brings his love for problem-solving home through DIY projects and assembling furniture. It is a passion that started during his own school days, when a simple DIY soap-making class turned into a chaotic, "volcanic eruption" of oil and water.

"It made my school life so much more colorful," he laughs. Time flies when you are passionate about what you do. Having dedicated more than 29 years to our school, Mr. Poon continues to use his unique blend

of logic, technology, and psychology to build a better blueprint for us all.



Rapid fire questions

1. Tea or coffee?	Black Coffee
2. MBTI?	INTJ
3. Years of teaching experience?	35 years
4. Favourite movie?	Inspiring ones, like Forrest Gump
5. Favourite food?	Any Delicious Chinese cuisine

"You Don't Have to Do It Right" : Discovering the True Colors of Ms. Tse

Ho Fung Chow 1D (16), Chit Hui 1D (21) and Tsz Ho Wong 1D (31)



Walk into the 1D English classroom, and you may hear a familiar reminder: "Use SolidMemory!" The voice belongs to Ms. Maggie Tse, an English teacher who always encourages students to learn step by step. To many of us, she is a patient teacher with cheerful reminders and clear instructions. However, after interviewing her, we discovered that behind the classroom door is a teacher with interesting hobbies, warm thoughts, and a very special way of looking at learning.

"I want to share fun with others," Ms. Tse says with a smile. This is one of the reasons she became an English teacher at K S Lo. For her, English is not only a subject in textbooks; it



is also a tool for connecting with people, especially when she travels. “It makes chatting with others more convenient,” she explains, before laughing, “although I don’t have enough money to travel abroad often.”

But teaching is not always easy. When asked about the hardest part of her job, Ms. Tse pauses for a moment. “Some students always say they can’t do it, and they don’t even give it a try,” she says, shaking her head. That is why one of her favourite lines in class is, “You don’t have to do it right.” It may sound surprising, but this sentence is full of encouragement. Ms. Tse believes that making mistakes is better than giving up, because trying is already the first step to learning.

Her “golden quote” is just as meaningful: “Teaching others also allows you to learn.” Instead of seeing teaching as only giving knowledge, Ms. Tse sees it as a chance to grow with her students. This is what makes her lessons special: she does not only want students to remember words, but also to become braver learners.

Away from the classroom, Ms. Tse has some secret hobbies. When she has enough time and energy, she enjoys cooking Japanese food at home. “It is simple to prepare,” she says. Her favourite character is Jagabee from Calbee, which she even uses as her WhatsApp icon. During the interview, she showed us the logo and smiled. “It looks very cute and seems like it will be eaten very soon,” she joked.

Surprisingly, Ms. Tse also has a soft spot for animals. When she was young, she wanted to keep a dog, but like many children in Hong Kong, she could not have a pet at home. Now, her dream pet has changed. “Nowadays, I want a cat more,” she says with a small sigh, “because I don’t have enough time to walk a dog.”

Ms. Tse may not travel around the world often, and she may not have her dream cat yet, but she brings curiosity and kindness into her classroom every day.



Rapid fire questions

1. Cats or Dogs?	Cats
2. Ocean or Mountains?	Ocean
3. Reading or Video Games?	Video Games
4. Favourite Food?	Mashed Potato
5. Favourite Sport?	Swimming

More Than Just Dynasties: The Unexpected Universe of Mr. Chow

Yuen Kiu Lam 1C (6), Yee Sen Lee 1C (8) and Hau Yu Wong, Saglad 1C (11)



Walk through the corridors of our school, and you will easily spot Mr. Chow. Always surrounded by laughing students, he is the definition of a kind and gentle Chinese teacher. To most of us, he is a teacher always living in the ancient world of literature, carrying writings and heavy textbooks everywhere on campus. However, once the school day ends, a completely different person emerges.

While Mr. Chow spends his school time discussing ancient Chinese dynasties, his free time belongs to a much more modern world: basketball, video games, and Pokémon cards. “Stephen Curry is my absolute role model,” Mr. Chow says, his eyes lighting up with enthusiasm. “Curry

was really short as a teenager and everyone doubted him. But he never let it down him; it just lit up his passion. After years of hard work, he became an NBA superstar.”

The basketball court isn’t his only playground. During our interview, Mr. Chow grinned and pulled a rare, glittering Pokémon card straight from his pocket, showing it off with a confident smile. On quiet weekends, he also solves complex puzzles. “It trains my brain and forces me to think differently,” he explains.

Surprisingly, this love for logic dates back to his childhood. Long before he fell in love with Chinese History, Mr. Chow’s dream was to become an engineer. As a student, he was fascinated by calculations and analyzing computer data. So, why did he choose the Humanities over Mathematics?





“High school math became way too complicated!” he confesses with a timid smile. “That was when I started exploring Chinese History. For me, this was literally another universe, filled with dramatic battles and fascinating stories that completely captivated me.”

The desire for engagement is exactly what brought him to our school. Attracted by the school’s philosophy to create a loving campus, Mr. Chow puts it into practice by prioritizing students’ health over grades. He enjoys participating in the school’s post-uniform test Activity Week to strengthen his bonds with students.

“Being a teacher isn’t an easy job,” Mr. Chow whispers with a laugh. “But finding ways to turn education into captivating games makes me more creative. Seeing my students fully engaged gives me a great sense of fulfillment.”

Behind the piles of books and worksheets lies a teacher who isn’t just relatable— he is a reminder that learning, much like a good puzzle or a rare Pokémon card, should always be fun.



Rapid fire questions

1. Cats or dogs?	Dogs
2. MBTI?	INTP
3. Spending money or saving money?	Spending money
4. Favourite food?	Ice cream; Wan Chuen
5. Favourite book?	Different kinds of novels

Beyond the Canvas: Painting the Everyday Joys of Miss Li

King Lui Lei, Kelly 1D (9) and Sum Yee Tan, Sammi 1D (12)



To most of us, Miss Li is a VA teacher who teaches us how to draw, colour, and create. However, after interviewing her, we discovered that her life is much different than we imagined. Today, let's jump into Miss Li's world and find out!

"My school life in K S Lo is very busy but interesting!" Miss Li says with a bright smile. As both a Visual Arts teacher and a Form 1 class teacher, her day is packed with different tasks. She prepares lessons, designs posters for school activities such as the Annual Performance, and spends extra time taking care of her Form 1 students. Sometimes, her desk is covered with worksheets, drawings, and colourful design drafts.

In her busy life, there is one thing that makes her truly happy: watching her students grow.

"Some Form 1 students were very close to me," she says, laughing softly. "But when they become Form 2 students, they ignore me!" Although she says this jokingly, her eyes still show how much she cares about them. For Miss Li, seeing students change from shy children into more independent teenagers is one of the best parts of being a teacher.

However, teaching Visual Arts is not always easy. Some students enter the art room already believing that they cannot draw. Others think VA is not important because their families or society may see drawing as unnecessary. When Miss Li talks about this, her voice becomes more serious.

"Actually, VA is used to cultivate the sense of beauty," she explains. "You may not be able to draw beautiful pictures, but you must know what is beautiful and what is not."





After a long school day, Miss Li has her own simple way to recharge. “A cup of coffee and a piece of cake can cheer your day up!” she says happily. We can almost imagine her sitting quietly with a warm cup of coffee in her hands after hours of teaching. At home, she also spends time playing with her cats. As a cat-lover, Miss Li finds comfort in these small peaceful moments.

Among all the memories at school, receiving gifts from students touches Miss Li the most. Sometimes, the gifts are not perfect. The lines may be uneven, the colours may go outside the edges, and the handwriting may

be a little messy. Still, to Miss Li, these gifts are precious.

“Even though they may not be pretty, I can still feel that the students put their whole hearts into them,” she says. “They can feel that I care about them, and they respond to me with these gifts.”

For a teacher, care may not always receive an immediate reply. Sometimes, students may stay quiet, look away, or pretend not to notice. But when Miss Li receives a handmade card or a small gift, she knows that her care has reached their hearts.

Rapid fire questions

1. Cats or dogs?	Cats
2. What sports do you like?	Cycling
3. What's your favorite song?	Rice Field by Jay Chou
4. What's your favorite anime?	ONE PIECE
5. Bubble tea or ice cream?	Bubble Tea

More Than Just Rules

Sum Yau Chan 5A (1)

School rules play an important role in creating a positive, fair, and respectful learning environment. One of the most important expectations is honesty during exams. When students cheat or change their answers dishonestly, they go against the values of academic integrity and weaken the purpose of assessment, which is to measure real understanding and highlight areas for improvement. Cheating is also unfair to students who work hard and can reduce the value of the school's qualifications.

Respect and politeness are just as important. Treating classmates, teachers, and school staff with courtesy helps reduce conflict and creates a safe, supportive atmosphere. In an environment like this, people feel valued, respected, and able to do their best. These rules help build a school community based on trust, fairness, and mutual respect.

The school's environmental guidelines also show a commitment to sustainability and responsible use of resources. Simple habits, like turning off lights and electronic devices when leaving a room, help save energy. This matters because much of the energy we use still comes from fossil fuels, which contribute to climate change. Students and staff are also encouraged to use air conditioning wisely, since it consumes a lot of electricity. Wasting energy not only affects the environment but also increases costs for the school. By following these guidelines, everyone can play a part in reducing the school's carbon footprint and promoting a more environmentally aware school culture.

Ultimately, these rules are important because education is not only about academic success but also about developing character. By following them, students learn to become responsible, ethical, and considerate members of society.



Why Are These Rules a Safety Net Rather Than a Form of Control?

Hong Ying Ng 5A (8)

This is a common situation in our school: some students arrive late and are punished as a reminder, while others forget to switch off their phones or use them without teachers' permission. As a result, teachers have introduced certain restrictions on electronic devices and other aspects of school life as part of the rules students are expected to follow. Although some students complain about these school rules, I believe they are necessary because they are beneficial to students rather than controlling them.

First of all, some students believe that being required to switch off their phones and use their own iPads only for learning purposes limits their right to use their personal devices. I understand why this may seem like a form of control rather than protection. However, have we ever considered what would happen if everyone kept their phones switched on during lessons? If a phone suddenly rang in the middle of class, it would interrupt the lesson and distract everyone. No one wants to be disturbed while trying to focus. Requiring students to switch off their phones helps to prevent unnecessary disruptions and creates a better learning environment where everyone has an equal chance to concentrate in class.

Similarly, restricting the use of iPads to learning purposes is also a way of supporting students. School is a place for study, so students should focus on learning rather than entertainment. We can use our iPads for leisure at home, but class time is valuable because it is when we receive guidance and knowledge from teachers. In addition, research suggests that people's attention spans have become shorter in recent years. This shows that mobile devices can negatively affect teenagers' concentration. Therefore, limiting iPads to academic use at school can help reduce distractions, improve focus, and increase students' productivity. This is not a form of control, but a measure designed to protect students' learning.

Secondly, punctuality is also very important for students. As the saying goes, "Punctuality is a virtue." Arriving at school on time allows students to settle down, get ready for lessons, and begin the day in a calm and prepared state. By contrast, arriving late makes students rush into the classroom, leaving them unprepared and less ready to learn. This may affect their ability to concentrate and even influence their academic performance.

Moreover, rules about punctuality help students develop the habit of being on time. This is an important quality not only at school, but also in the workplace in the future. Employers often judge whether a person is responsible based on punctuality. If someone is always late, others may think that he or she cannot manage time well or act responsibly. As a result, that person may create a poor impression and lose valuable opportunities. Therefore, requiring students to be punctual is not a punishment or a form of control. Instead, it teaches us an important life skill and helps prepare us for the future.

Finally, rules requiring both boys and girls to keep neat and tidy hairstyles are also important. A tidy appearance helps create a positive impression on others. If someone looks untidy, people may judge that person negatively. In addition, students' appearance contributes to the image of the school. When students look neat, they appear more disciplined, professional, and energetic. Having rules about tidy hairstyles helps students present themselves well, strengthens the school's image, and prepares students to understand the importance of personal presentation in the future.

In conclusion, the rules mentioned above are not meant to control students. Instead, they are designed to benefit and protect us. They help create a better learning environment, encourage good habits, and prepare us for the future. Therefore, these rules should be seen as an important and necessary part of school life.

Time to talk

Public speaking competition 2026



In May, our school held the Time to Talk Public Speaking Competition for Secondary 4 students in the English Cafe. It was a meaningful in-school event that gave students a chance to share their thoughts, experiences and ideas through a three to four minute speech. The topics were all closely related to teenage life and free time, including teen rights, the importance of free time, favourite moments with parents and friends, how they spend their free time, and exploring creativity in their free time. Through this competition, students were able to express themselves, build confidence and connect with others through their words. We are happy to share the three winning speeches, which stood out for their thoughtful messages, personal touches and confident delivery.

We hope these winning speeches will inspire more students to take part in similar activities in the future. Events like Time to Talk are a great chance to share your ideas, build confidence and develop your speaking skills. More importantly, they allow students to express themselves and learn from one another. If you ever have the opportunity to join a school event like this, don't be afraid to give it a try. You may discover your voice and surprise yourself with what you can do.

Importance of free time for young people

Ho Kwan Chan, Aden 4A (13)

Good afternoon everyone.

I am delighted to be here today to talk about something that can truly change the way you think about “time”; more specifically, free time. Let’s be honest: free time is not just a luxury for us young people; it is essential for our mental well-being and can even shape our future success.

You might think I’m crazy, but I genuinely believe that the small pockets of free time we have after school and on weekends are what keep us truly engaged with life. Whether it’s hanging out with family, reading quietly by ourselves, or watching a movie with friends, these moments are valuable investments in our mental health and academic performance. Research clearly shows a strong link between good academic results and a healthy social life. When we allow ourselves time to relax and socialize, we return to our studies more refreshed and motivated. In other words, free time helps us handle the pressures of school more effectively. Having free time is just as important as studying.

Furthermore, free time plays a crucial role in shaping our future prospects, especially when we want to explore interests that school doesn’t teach. Hobbies and extracurricular activities are often underestimated, yet they can be incredibly valuable. By developing these passions, we not only broaden our knowledge but



also build important life skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Skills that will benefit us long after graduation.

Even if you’re not particularly passionate about school, you can still create a bright future for yourself by dedicating your free time to developing real expertise in an area you love.

To sum up, free time is so important for us teenagers because it gives us the opportunity to recharge, grow, and discover our potential. It helps us keep going when life gets tough and opens doors to opportunities we might never find in the classroom.

So, everyone, please do not underestimate the power of free time. Use it wisely. It might just change your life.

Unplug , Recharge, and Grow

Hoi Ching Li, Kimmy 4A (2)

As Anne Lamott once said, “Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you.” Unplug to work again. I believe this quote is especially meaningful for students like us. We are always busy with homework, tests, and deadlines. Sometimes, we forget that we also need time to rest and recharge.

Today, I would like to share how I spend my free time. Have you ever felt trapped in a non-stop routine, rushing from one task to another without time to pause? In today’s fast-paced world, many students use all their energy trying to do well in school, and I am no exception. That is why I truly value my free time.

Among the many things I can do, reading books and magazines is what I enjoy most, as it is a way for me to unplug. I consider myself someone who likes to reflect on daily moments and small happenings. Whenever I read, it develops my critical thinking, makes me feel calmer and more peaceful, and helps me clear my mind. It gives me a break from stress.

The types of books and magazines I enjoy most are those that express deep feelings or offer encouragement. They remind me to keep pursuing my passion without doubting myself and to stay confident. In a way, this leisure habit supports my mental well-being. Through the messages they convey, I gain strength and validation. I

realize that I am not alone in my struggles because the words I read make me feel seen and understood.

Engaging with literature gives me more than comfort. It fuels my inspiration and nourishes my inner world. Opening a book feels like pressing a restart button, washing away days and weeks of stress and pressure. Reading is how I heal, how I grow, and ultimately, how I find myself. When I feel overwhelmed or unsure of myself, reading eases my worries and improves my mood. It also keeps me grounded and helps me become a more optimistic person.

I believe free time should not be wasted. It should be meaningful. What I choose to do in my free time encourages self-reflection. It reminds me that life is not only about getting perfect grades or always being outstanding. It is also about self-acceptance, inner peace, and facing challenges with a positive attitude.

So, how do I usually spend my free time? I spend it reading because it is so precious to me. It is not just a hobby. It is a way to slow down, reflect, and reconnect with myself. Through consistency and curiosity, I am building myself step by step. For me, reading is a journey of growth, a force for change, and a guide that continuously shapes who I am.

Free Time is not wasted time.

Ho Wun Yau, Nancy 4A (9)



For young people in Hong Kong, each day often feels like a relentless relay race. We have been taught to believe that free time is the enemy. My life used to reflect this mindset: it was filled with school, tutoring, music lessons, and then a mountain of tasks. But I am here to argue that this way of thinking is wrong. Free time is not wasted time. It is essential time. It is the fuel that keeps us going. Let's look at why free time is so important for teenagers.

In fact, free time is when we discover who we truly are and who we want to become. In those unstructured hours, we have the rare opportunity to pause and ask ourselves, "Is this path really right for me?"

Now, some people might say, "We are too busy just surviving the present. We do not have time to think about that!" That is exactly the problem. We need free time to plan for ourselves. Take me as an example. I used to have many dreams. However, while I was trying to perfect every aspect of my life, everything started going wrong. But one day, when I was feeling bored during my free time, I began reflecting and comparing

my current reality with my future dreams. I realized that true mastery comes from singular focus. I finally found my direction. Therefore, free time is definitely not wasted time. It is a time for strategic self-reflection. If we never stop to check our compass, we might end up working extremely hard for a future we do not even want. That would be a real tragedy.

I also want to highlight that we are now living in a mental health crisis. We are not machines designed to optimize productivity twenty-four seven. We are human beings. We can set our academic work aside and exercise during our free time. One good suggestion is cycling, which is accessible in many places, from Tin Shui Wai to Tuen Mun. It allows us to enjoy the scenery, feel the breeze, and escape the concrete jungle. This can feel like a free therapy session. Using free time to maintain a healthy mental and physical state, instead of filling it with meaningless busyness, is surely a better choice. Isn't that great?

So, I want to leave you with this: we need to stop viewing free time as a reward to be earned only after all the work is done. Free time is a necessity, not a luxury. Use your spare time to become healthier and more self-aware. And to my fellow students here, the next time you have a free afternoon, do not fill it with guilt. Go be bored. Go exercise. Go rest.

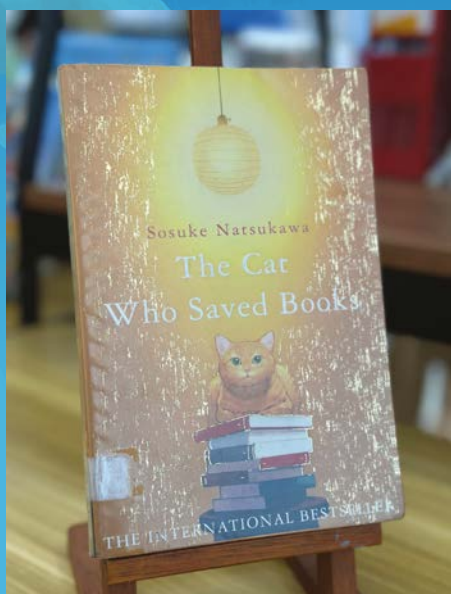
Because in those empty spaces, we do not lose time. We find ourselves.

Our Morning Sharing Sessions



During several morning book-sharing sessions, students went on stage to introduce books they found interesting, meaningful, and worth reading. Through their presentations, they shared not only the stories and ideas in these books, but also the reasons these works left a strong impression on them.

The selected books cover a wide range of genres and topics, from heartwarming fiction and timeless classics to photography, science, and reflections on the modern world. We hope these student reviews will inspire more readers to discover a new book and enjoy the pleasure of reading.



Why The Cat Who Saved Books Is a Story Worth Reading

Yiu Lung Wong, Gavin 1C (32)

Books do more than tell stories, they shape the way we think, feel, and understand other people. This is one of the central messages of *The Cat Who Saved Books*, a touching and thought-provoking novel by Japanese author Souke Natsukawa.

Natsukawa is both a physician and a novelist, having graduated from Shinshu University Medical School. He is best known internationally for *The Cat Who Saved Books*, a bestselling novel that celebrates the value of literature, imagination, and empathy. He also wrote *The Cat Who Saved the Library*, which again features the memorable talking tabby cat.

The Cat Who Saved Books tells the story of Rintaro, a teenage boy struggling with grief after the death of his grandfather, a man who deeply loved books and spent his life collecting them. Lost and unhappy after this painful loss, Rintaro meets a talking tabby cat named Tiger. Tiger explains that he is a

protector of books and that many stories are in danger of disappearing because society no longer values them as it should. He asks Rintaro to join him on a mission to save them.

It is in chapter five that one of the most memorable moments appears. In this chapter, Rintaro meets a scrawny elderly woman who represents the soul of an 1,800-year-old book. She challenges him to explain why books are still valuable in a society that often treats them as nothing more than ink printed on paper. Rintaro's answer is powerful. He explains that books carry tremendous value because they offer knowledge, wisdom, and important life lessons. More than that, they teach people how to care for others. As he says, books are filled with human thoughts and feelings — with suffering, sadness, happiness, and joy. Through reading, people are able to experience the emotions and perspectives of others.

This idea is what makes the novel so meaningful. At its heart, *The Cat Who Saved*

Books is not only about saving stories, but also about preserving empathy, imagination, and human connection. It asks readers to reflect on important questions about the role of books in modern society and whether people still make enough time to read and think deeply.

The novel is also, in many ways, a coming-of-age story. As the story unfolds, Rintaro changes. Through his journey, he grows in empathy, builds friendships, and develops a deeper understanding of himself and others. This personal transformation gives the novel both emotional depth and lasting impact.

Overall, *The Cat Who Saved Books* is a charming and heartwarming read, but it also carries a serious message. It stands as a quiet criticism of a society in which many people no longer have the time or freedom to read, where the flow of information can be controlled, and where market forces often decide which ideas survive. In reminding us of the importance of stories, the novel encourages readers to value books not just as objects, but as powerful tools for understanding humanity.

For anyone who loves books — or needs to be reminded why books matter — this novel is well worth reading.



Shop Cats of Hong Kong: A Gentle Tribute to Cats, Culture, and City Life

Jenny Li 2C (13)

Some books tell stories through long chapters and complex plots, while others speak quietly through images, moments, and feelings. *Shop Cats of Hong Kong* is one of those books — a charming and relaxing photobook that

captures the everyday lives of cats living in traditional Hong Kong shops.

The author of this book is Marcel Heijnen, a Dutch self-taught photographer, designer,

and musician who mainly works in Hong Kong. He is known for his documentary and artistic style, blending visual design with street storytelling. In 2016, he began a series called Chinese Whiskers, which includes four books. One of them is Shop Cats of Hong Kong, the book featured here.

This photobook introduces readers to 68 shop cats, each with its own character, story, and place within a local business. Through photographs and short poetic texts, the book presents the daily lives of these cats as they live among shop owners, workers, and customers. The cats are not just pets — they are part of the identity of each shop, acting as companions, mascots, and quiet guardians of these family-run spaces.

One of the most appealing features of the book is the way it tells stories through both image and text. Each cat is paired with its shop, allowing readers to see not only the animal itself, but also the environment it belongs to. The photographs show real old Hong Kong stores, full of detail, character, and history. Alongside them, the short texts and poems offer warm and gentle glimpses into the bond between the cats and their owners.

The book beautifully captures the small “missions” of shop cats and the overlapping roles they seem to play — part family member, part worker, and part symbol of the shop itself. These quiet portraits reveal a side of Hong Kong street life that is often overlooked, yet deeply meaningful. Through these furry companions, readers are invited to reflect

on the charm, warmth, and humanity of neighborhood businesses.

What makes Shop Cats of Hong Kong especially memorable is its atmosphere. The book feels calm, cozy, and comforting. There is a lovely balance of chaos and warmth in the shop interiors, where the cats sit, rest, watch, or simply belong. Each cat has its own distinctive appearance and funny habits, making the book both entertaining and heartwarming.

Beyond its cuteness, however, the book also holds cultural value. It serves as a form of preservation, documenting local Hong Kong shops and the everyday lives within them. As many traditional businesses face change or disappear over time, this book becomes more than a collection of cat photographs — it becomes a tribute to local culture, memory, and community.

In conclusion, Shop Cats of Hong Kong is a delightful photobook that combines adorable cat portraits with vivid and nostalgic glimpses of traditional Hong Kong neighborhood life. It celebrates these cats not only as beloved pets, but also as symbols of comfort, companionship, and cultural heritage. With its honest approach, soothing tone, and lovable subjects, the book is well worth reading. It is especially recommended for cat lovers, readers interested in Hong Kong’s local culture, and anyone in need of a calming and stress-relieving read.



The Little Prince: A Timeless Journey from Reality to Imagination

Hei Tung Wong, Hailey 2D (15)

Some books may be short in length, yet carry lessons that stay with readers for a lifetime. *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry is one such book — a simple but deeply meaningful novella that continues to touch readers of all ages with its reflections on love, friendship, innocence, and the true meaning of life.

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry was a famous French aviator, writer, and poet. He published *The Little Prince* in 1943 while living in New York during World War II. A year later, in 1944, he disappeared during a reconnaissance mission for the Free French Forces. Despite his tragic disappearance, his work has lived on, and *The Little Prince* remains one of the most beloved and widely translated books in the world.

The story begins when an aviator crashes in the Sahara Desert and meets an unusual boy known as the Little Prince. This curious traveler comes from a tiny asteroid called B-612. As the story unfolds, the Little Prince shares his experiences of visiting different planets, where he encounters a series of grown-ups. Each adult represents a different weakness or misunderstanding of life, such as pride, greed,

loneliness, or the obsession with power and status.

Through these encounters, the novella gently criticizes the way adults often focus on appearances, numbers, and worldly concerns while forgetting what truly matters. In contrast, the Little Prince sees the world with honesty, wonder, and emotional clarity.

One of the most important parts of the story is the Little Prince's meeting with the fox. The fox teaches him some of the book's most memorable lessons about relationships and human connection. Through this friendship, the Prince learns that true understanding comes not from what is visible on the surface, but from what is felt in the heart. He also learns that love brings responsibility — when something or someone matters to us, we must care for it faithfully.

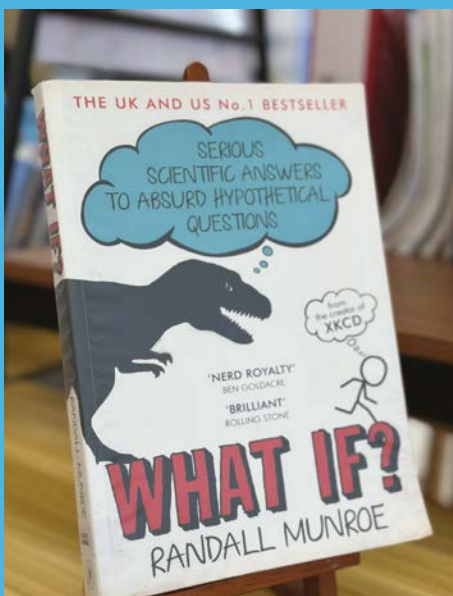
After reading this book, several important lessons stand out. First, real friendship and love require effort. Relationships do not simply exist on their own; they need attention, patience, and care. Second, responsibility is an essential part of love. If we truly value someone, we must be willing to look after

that bond. Third, the things adults often think are important — such as status, power, or appearing busy — may not be meaningful at all. The book encourages readers to question these values. Fourth, we must learn to see with the heart, not just with the eyes. Some truths cannot be measured or immediately understood; they require empathy and deeper reflection. Finally, the story reminds us that connection gives life meaning. Rather than living in loneliness, people find purpose through their relationships with others.

Another reason *The Little Prince* remains so powerful is its celebration of childlike thinking. The Little Prince's curiosity allows him to notice truths that others overlook. His way

of seeing the world may seem simple, but it is filled with wisdom. In this way, the novella suggests that innocence and imagination are not signs of immaturity, but sources of insight.

In conclusion, *The Little Prince* is a timeless and poignant work that encourages readers to cherish the simple joys of life and look beyond appearances. Its wisdom continues to resonate across generations, making it a must-read for anyone who wishes to reconnect with their inner child and reflect on what is truly important. Though gentle and imaginative in style, the book leaves a lasting impression through its emotional depth and universal message.



What If?: When Absurd Questions Meet Serious Science

Tsz Yau Kwok, Tristan 1B (22)

What happens when impossible-sounding questions are treated with real scientific thinking? That is the idea behind *What If?*, a book by Randall Munroe that turns ridiculous hypothetical situations into entertaining and surprisingly educational discussions.

Randall Munroe is an American author, cartoonist, and former NASA roboticist. He is best known as the creator of the popular webcomic XKCD. In 2006, he left NASA to

become a full-time artist and writer. Munroe has become famous for explaining difficult scientific ideas in a simple and humorous way, often using stick-figure cartoons and everyday language to make complex topics easy to understand.

In *What If?*, Munroe answers strange and absurd questions with serious scientific reasoning. The book is filled with deeply researched responses to imaginary situations

that at first seem too silly to deserve an answer. However, this is exactly what makes the book so enjoyable. By applying real science to bizarre questions, Munroe shows readers that learning can be both funny and fascinating.

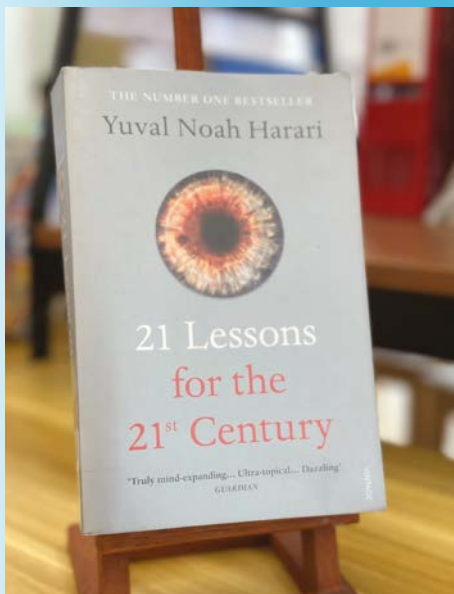
One example comes from the film 300, in which so many arrows are shot into the sky that they seem to block out the sun. Munroe explores whether this would actually be possible and calculates how many arrows it would take. Through different attempts and scientific reasoning, he shows that, under very specific conditions, something like this could hypothetically happen. This combination of logic, humor, and imagination is one of the book's greatest strengths.

What makes What If? especially appealing is the author's writing style. Munroe explains complicated scientific questions in a clear and simple way, making them much easier for readers to understand. His humorous tone also keeps the book lively and engaging, so readers remain interested even when the explanations

involve serious scientific concepts. Instead of making science feel intimidating, he makes it entertaining and approachable.

Another reason the book stands out is the sheer creativity of its questions. For example, Munroe asks: if everyone on Earth stayed away from each other for a few weeks, would the common cold disappear? He also considers how many LEGO bricks would be needed to build a bridge capable of carrying traffic from London to New York — and whether that many LEGO bricks have even been made. These unusual questions capture readers' attention immediately and encourage them to think about science in new and unexpected ways.

Overall, What If? is a highly entertaining and thought-provoking book that combines science, humor, and imagination. It proves that even the most absurd questions can lead to interesting discoveries when examined seriously. For readers who enjoy funny books, strange ideas, and easy-to-understand science, this is a book well worth reading.



21 Lessons for the 21st Century: Thinking Clearly in a Fast-Changing World

Sze Yu Lai, Charlotte 2B (05)

From hypothetical questions to real-life challenges, 21 Lessons for the 21st Century by Yuval Noah Harari is a book that encourages

readers to think deeply about the world we live in today. Rather than focusing on the distant past or far future, this book explores

the urgent issues of the present and asks how humanity can respond wisely to rapid change.

Yuval Noah Harari is a widely known writer of popular science and history. He is the author of several bestselling books that explore major ideas such as human evolution, intelligence, consciousness, and free will. In *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*, Harari turns his attention to the modern world and the many social, political, and technological challenges people now face.

The book is written as a series of 21 short essays, each focusing on a key issue of the 21st century. These essays are grouped into five broad themes and cover topics such as technology, politics, truth, education, religion, and resilience. Together, they help readers make sense of what is happening now and consider what may lie ahead.

One of the strengths of the book is the way it connects global issues to everyday life. Harari discusses how technology is changing society and reshaping the nature of work, while also examining how people search for meaning, learn to adapt, and understand themselves in an uncertain world. The book suggests that in a time of constant change, the ability to think clearly and remain mentally flexible has become more important than ever.

One particularly striking chapter is “Liberty.” In this chapter, Harari explains how big data can collect enormous amounts of personal information and use it to predict people’s behavior, preferences, and emotions. This raises an important concern: if outside systems

know us so well that they can influence our choices, it may become harder for people to feel that their decisions are truly their own. The chapter therefore highlights the importance of protecting privacy and personal data, not only for security, but also for preserving human independence.

The book’s central message is that surviving and thriving in the 21st century requires critical thinking and self-awareness. Harari argues that modern technology, including artificial intelligence and the constant flood of information, can confuse us and shape our opinions in ways we may not even notice. For this reason, he encourages readers to question what they are told, reflect on themselves honestly, and avoid relying blindly on outdated beliefs or simplified stories about the world.

Overall, *21 Lessons for the 21st Century* is a thoughtful and relevant book that offers practical and philosophical insights into the modern age. It helps readers reflect on the challenges of living in a world shaped by rapid technological development and information overload. For anyone interested in understanding today’s world more clearly, this book is both valuable and worthwhile. Readers who are curious about Harari’s ideas but find English difficult may also consider starting with translated editions, which are often available in libraries.



Outside the walls of Jurassic Park, the real dinosaur world is far more awesome than Hollywood could have ever imagined.

While the movies brought us nail-biting escapes from terrifying creatures covered in scales, today's science reveals an ancient world where dinosaurs roamed the Earth with colorful feathers and lived complex lives.

First, let's talk about T. rexes. The name *Tyrannosaurus rex* means "tyrant lizard king" in Latin. You might believe dinosaurs could roar like they do in the movies, but paleontologists say that is unlikely. Why? Because dinosaurs' closest living relatives are birds and crocodiles. Research shows that most dinosaurs probably produced low-pitched booms, hisses, or hoots rather than open-mouthed roars. Some may

have used crest resonance to amplify their calls. Pretty cool, right?

Next, let's talk about the scary, venom-spitting *Dilophosaurus*. According to the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum, the fossil record shows no openings in the skull for venom glands, nor any hollow fangs needed to inject venom like snakes have.

They also didn't have frills. Today's frilled-neck lizard from Australia has one, but an expansive skin frill requires special structures, such as elongated hyoid bones or strong neck muscles, to support it. Fossils of *Dilophosaurus* show no signs of these attachment structures. In addition, real *Dilophosaurus* were much bigger than the ones seen in the movies. Hollywood got their scale wrong.



Lastly, in the Jurassic World franchise, you might notice a dinosaur with bluish-gray skin and white and blue stripes running along its body. That's Blue, the Velociraptor.

In the movies, Velociraptors appear larger than a human and have scaly skin. In reality, a real Velociraptor was roughly the size of a large turkey, which is about half a meter tall. The movie versions (around 1.8 meters tall) are much closer in size to a Deinonychus or Utahraptor. Instead of scaly skin, Velociraptors had feathers. These were used mainly for insulation, mating displays, balance, maneuvering, and covering nests, not for flight. This is supported by quill knobs found on Velociraptor fossils.

The "raptor hands" (also called bunny hands or zombie hands) shown in the movies are also inaccurate. Theropods like raptors couldn't turn their hands forward. When at rest, their palms faced each other, like those of birds.

Ultimately, the scaly creatures we saw in the movies were not accurate. From the oversized, non-feathered raptors to the extremely keen-sighted T. rex, what appeared on the big screen was altered for entertainment.

Yet as we leave Jurassic Park behind, we're left with a truth that is even more amazing: dinosaurs really did rule the Earth, and their fossils prove it. They remain the greatest animals to have ever walked the planet.

How to Control Your Emotions

Hei Yiu Leung, Hazel 3D (12)



In today's fast-paced and stressful world, the ability to control one's emotions has become increasingly important. Whether facing academic pressure, family conflicts, or personal setbacks, learning to manage our feelings is a vital life skill. In this article, I would like to share several practical methods that have helped me control my emotions and explain why they work.

Deep breathing is one of the simplest yet most effective techniques. When I feel overwhelmed or upset, I take a few slow, deep breaths, inhaling through my nose and exhaling through my mouth. This method helps calm my mind and body almost immediately. For example, I often become emotional over small things, such as arguing with my parents or receiving a disappointing test result. In those moments, I stop what I am doing, focus on my breathing, and gradually feel my anger or sadness fade. Breathing gives me a short pause to regain control before reacting impulsively.

Drinking a glass of cold water can also serve as a quick physical reset. I remember one time when I got a poor result in my Mathematics exam. I felt extremely frustrated and was on the verge of tears in class. Since I couldn't cry there, I drank a bottle of cold water. The sudden cold sensation helped me calm down, clear my mind, and start analyzing my mistakes instead of dwelling in

disappointment. This simple action proved surprisingly effective in shifting my emotional state.

Another useful approach is to engage in activities I enjoy. When I feel down, I often listen to my favorite songs by SEVENTEEN, such as "Don't Wanna Cry" or "Fallin' Flower," or watch a good movie. By focusing on something I love, I can temporarily escape from negative thoughts and reduce my stress levels. Doing what we enjoy not only distracts us from our problems but also helps us return to a more positive and balanced state of mind.

Of course, these methods are not perfect solutions for every situation, especially when dealing with deeper emotional issues. However, they have consistently helped me handle daily challenges more effectively.

Controlling our emotions is not just helpful, it is essential for success and well-being in modern society. By practicing simple techniques like deep breathing, drinking cold water, or doing enjoyable activities, we can better manage our feelings and respond to difficulties in a calmer, more rational way. I strongly encourage my peers to develop these skills early, as good emotional control can lead to better relationships, improved academic performance, and greater personal growth.



Christmas Around the World: Festive Foods from Different Countries

**Tsz Ki Mok, Gigi 2C (15) and
Sum Lok Wong, Sanna 2C (19)**

Christmas comes once a year, and for many families, the holiday is not just about presents and decorations, it's also about delicious food! Different countries have their own special Christmas dishes that make the season extra special. Let us explore some interesting and tasty Christmas cuisines from around the world.

Sweden: Jansson's Frestelse

The first dish we looked at comes from Sweden. It is called Jansson's Frestelse, which means "Jansson's Temptation". This traditional Swedish Christmas dish is made with potatoes, onions, and anchovies baked in cream. It has a crunchy top and a soft, creamy inside. Some people say it has a strong smell because of the anchovies (which are a type of small, salty fish). When I first saw it, I thought "Eww... it smells like a mix of onions, potatoes and spoiled fish!" But many Swedes love it and enjoy it during their Christmas celebrations. Would you try it?

Mexico: Tamales

Next, we went down to Mexico. There, a very popular Christmas food is tamales. Tamales look a bit like rice dumplings wrapped in corn husks or banana leaves. They are made from masa, a special dough made from cornmeal. Inside the dough, you can find many different fillings such as meat, cheese, vegetables, or even sweet fruits. The whole package is





steamed until it is soft and tasty. Tamales are often made together with family members in the days before Christmas, it's a fun way for everyone to spend time together!

France: The Yule Log (Bûche de Noël)

For dessert, let's go to France! One of the most famous Christmas cakes is the Yule Log, or Bûche de Noël. It is a spongy chocolate cake rolled up and decorated to look like a wooden log.

Did you know that this cake has a very old history? Long ago, people in Europe had a custom of burning a large log in the fireplace during winter to celebrate the return of the sun and longer days. Later, when houses had smaller fireplaces, it became difficult to burn a big log indoors. That is why people started making a cake that looked like the yule log instead! It is both tasty and full of history.

England: Christmas Pudding

Another classic Christmas dessert comes from England. It is called Christmas Pudding, also known as plum pudding. Don't be confused, there are actually no plums inside! A long time ago, the word "plum" was used to mean raisins or dried fruits.

Hundreds of years ago, in the 14th century, Christmas pudding started as a simple savoury porridge, not a sweet dessert at all! Over time, people added sweeter ingredients like almonds, apples, and raisins. Today, it is a rich, dark pudding with dried fruits on top. Many families in England enjoy a slice (or two!) after their Christmas dinner.

Christmas is a wonderful time when people from different countries celebrate with their own special foods. Some dishes may smell or taste unusual to us, but they are full of tradition and love.

What about you? What special food does your family usually eat during Christmas? Is it turkey, roast goose, mooncakes, or something completely different? We would love to hear about your favourite Christmas dishes!

Korean Language and Culture Club

Ching Yu Ho, Yunice 2C (3)



At KSLO, we now have a Korean Language and Culture Club. The club is led by Mr. Bright and assisted by Ms. Lee, a Korean teacher who helps us understand the language and various aspects of Korean culture. The main objective of the club is to introduce students to Korean language and culture in an engaging way.

Korean culture has gained worldwide popularity in recent years, largely thanks to K-Pop and hit dramas like Squid Game. K-Pop, or Korean Pop music, has taken the world by storm with its impressive choreography, high-quality music videos, and talented artists. Groups such as BTS, BLACKPINK, BIGBANG, TWICE, and EXO have not only achieved massive commercial success but have also built huge international fanbases known as “fandoms.” Fans like ARMY and Blinks actively support their idols by attending concerts, following their activities, and showing dedication both online and offline.

Beyond K-Pop, Netflix’s Squid Game introduced a darker and more intense side of Korean storytelling to global audiences. The survival drama follows desperate individuals who risk their lives in a series of deadly children’s games for a chance to win a huge cash prize. Using familiar Korean childhood games such as Red Light, Green Light, Dalgona, Tug of War, and Mingle, the series explores themes of survival, inequality, and human nature. Its

unique concept and gripping plot made it a global phenomenon and brought even more attention to Korean dramas.

Korean cinema has also received international acclaim. The film Parasite made history in 2020 by becoming the first non-English language movie to win the Academy Award for Best Picture.

In addition to entertainment, Korean food culture is another important part of the club’s activities. Traditional dishes like kimchi, bibimbap, samgyeopsal (grilled pork), tteokbokki, and japchae are not only delicious but also reflect Korea’s rich culinary traditions. In Korean culture, sharing meals and eating together is highly valued, as it strengthens family bonds and social connections. During our club’s annual Korean cooking class, we had the chance to learn how to make kimbap and tteokbokki, which was both fun and informative.

The Korean Language and Culture Club provides students with a great opportunity to explore modern Korean culture. The global success of K-Pop, K-dramas, and Korean films has not only entertained millions but has also helped bridge cultural gaps and increased interest in Korea’s language, traditions, and values. Through this club, we hope to deepen our understanding and appreciation of Korea.

I CAN'T STOP MYSELF

Tsz Lam Zhong , Angela 4B (08)



In recent years, Japanese and Korean pop culture has become very popular in Hong Kong. K-pop idol groups and Japanese idols are especially famous among young people. There are constant discussions about their songs, concerts, and social media activities. This trend has brought new entertainment options to Hong Kong's youth and created a unique social phenomenon.

The rapid rise of Japanese and Korean idol culture in Hong Kong has many causes. First, the entertainment industries in Japan and South Korea are highly developed. Korean idols, in particular, are well-known for receiving professional training in appearance, singing, dancing, and stage performance. Many aspiring idols move to South Korea for rigorous training. This system produces high-quality performances and polished productions that attract a huge audience. Meanwhile, social media allows music videos and daily moments of idols to spread quickly online. This brings idols and fans closer together. Even though Hong Kong and South Korea are far apart, many Hong Kong people have become devoted fans. Social media has made it much easier for young people to follow Japanese and Korean culture. In addition, Hong Kong's multicultural environment makes teenagers more open to foreign cultures. Japanese and Korean cultures are also relatively easy for Hong Kong people to relate to. As a result, these idols are widely accepted and loved.

For young people in Hong Kong, this cultural trend has both positive and negative effects. On the positive side, many young people see idols as role models and become more motivated in their studies and daily lives. For example, Zhang Hao from ZEROBASEONE is known for his good grades. Some fans follow his example and study harder. Others improve their language skills by learning Korean or Japanese. I have always found learning languages difficult—my English has not improved much even though I started learning it at age three. So I think this is definitely a good thing. On the other hand, excessive idol following can cause some students to spend too much time and money, which negatively affects their studies and daily lives. Some even skip meals or argue with their parents just to attend concerts. This is not helpful for developing moral values.

Socially, Japanese and Korean idol culture has enriched Hong Kong's entertainment scene. Hong Kong has built a new concert venue at Kai Tak where many idols such as ZEROBASEONE have held concerts there. This has helped promote related industries. For example, when Blackpink held concerts in Hong Kong, the members helped promote local food. I still remember how cute Jennie looked when she was eating fish balls—they looked really delicious. At the same time, this trend promotes cultural exchange between Hong Kong, Japan, and South Korea. Hong Kong has even begun creating its own idol groups, such as Viva, which have attracted local attention and increased confidence in our own pop culture. However, local pop culture and Hong Kong idols still receive less attention. It remains difficult for the local entertainment industry to grow.

In conclusion, the popularity of Japanese and Korean idols in Hong Kong is a result of active cultural exchange. Young people should enjoy idol culture rationally and maintain independent thinking. Society should also embrace different cultures while working to develop and support local talent. Only then can different cultures live together in harmony in Hong Kong.



If I Could Go Back to One Day in the Past

Hau Yu Wong, Saglad 1C (11)

I have always wondered, what if I could experience one day in the past again? Which day would it be? I have made so many unforgettable memories that it is hard to decide. However, if I really had a chance to go back in time, I would choose the day of my primary school graduation.

On that day, the ceremony marked the end of my primary school life. It was a simple ceremony, yet it holds deep meaning for me. During the ceremony, we received our certificates and sang the school song. I cheered for my friends as they stepped onto the stage. I was truly proud of their success. Then, every student got onto the stage to sing the graduation songs. We sang in harmony as the music played. Tears filled my eyes as I stared at my family and teachers, who had always believed in me. Their firm, encouraging gazes were the biggest compliment I could ever receive. I had finally reached this milestone.

However, you might ask, why do I want to revisit the day of my graduation? To me, I do not want to make any major changes. I simply want my class to be united one last time.

After graduation, we went our separate ways, and we no longer met up every single day like we used to. Our class group chat went silent. Nobody was sharing or staying active anymore. I want to go back in time just to see their joyful smiles again, to joke about our inside jokes one last time, and to take a simple class photo together. Back then, laughing, cheering, joking, and making memories as a class felt normal. Now, it is something that might never happen again.

I would also smile a little longer, take more photos, and stay a bit longer. I wouldn't want to leave this place full of memories, because by the time I return to the present, everything is no longer the same. I would also exchange hugs with everybody, knowing that after this warm embrace, we might become distant like strangers again.

After this graduation, I made some reflections too. I realized that even simple things, like having lunch with friends, chatting, and laughing together, are actually very precious. Once we become distant from our friends, even smiling and chatting with them feels like a dream. I never thought I would miss those casual conversations until I lost them. That is why we should treasure every moment with the people we see every day. They are not meant to stay forever.

I also realized that life is like a never-ending train. In some stages, people enter our lives, and in others, they leave. Every meeting with a person is destined. Rather than seeing goodbyes as a loss, we should always be grateful that we had the chance to meet someone special. I truly believe that every encounter is a gift, and we should be thankful even if people are not meant to stay.

So, if I could go back to one day in the past, I would return to the day of my graduation, just to feel that same warm vibe and atmosphere with the people I rarely talk to now. I still miss the old days and often reminisce about the past, but over time, I have learnt how to cope with this sense of longing.

What about you? Which day would you want to experience once more if you were given the chance?



Visual
Dance



Date: 22nd MAY, 2023
Time: 19:00-21:30
A6 SEAT: