

What's UP?

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Issue 4

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Review: A Love So Beautiful

5A Christina Cheung

'I love you.' 'I don't love you.' 'Then.....I shall think of another plan.....'

Perhaps most of us, especially girls, have said these words before. Boys, I know that you must be curious about where these words come from. Why are the girls going crazy for them? So, let me tell you! These words come from a recently great hit Chinese TV series, called 'A Love So Beautiful'. It talks about the love story between a cool genius, Jiang Chen, and a cheerful girl, Chen XiaoXi. Jiang Chen has an outstanding performance in all aspects, like academics, music and sports. He is also very handsome and tall (188 cm, or even taller!!!) Being a perfect guy, Jiang Chen is very popular among the girls. Chen XiaoXi is no exception. XiaoXi is a joyful girl with nothing special in appearance and academic results. But, she is talented in drawing. They have been neighbors since kindergarten and XiaoXi has had a crush on Jiang Chen for quite a while. At first, Jiang Chen makes no response to her infatuation. However, when time flies, he gradually finds her cute.



Whenever one of them comes across difficulties, the other four (his friends) will immediately give him a helping hand, no matter what it is. Many people think that the friendship in school cannot last long. We have our own busy lives and we have little time to stay together. Once, I believed this. But after watching this drama, I learnt that friendship will not fade away if both of you realise the importance of the precious relationship.

There should not be any excuse. See, Wu BoSong is the champion of the Olympic Games. He is very busy with his training and participating in competitions. But he can still maintain the friendship with them. So, why can't we?

'The reason why memories are beautiful is because no one can go back.' This is the main message of the drama. Whether you can find your true love or



not, secondary school life is definitely one of the most precious memories in your life. We should try our best for every moment and do what you want to do in order not to regret in the future. So, to all the clumsy girls like Chen XiaoXi, don't fret because you can find your 'Jiang Chen'.

Tabi Kaeru (The Travelling Frog)

5A Kianna Leung

Tabi Kaeru (travel frog), a mobile game, has recently gone viral everywhere including the social media and app stores. People of all ages and gender are also captured by the adorable appearance of the main character of the game – a frog which makes the game turn into a pop culture. Now that a lot of people have started playing the game, it is not simply a trend in Hong Kong anymore. It has become a revelation of how Hong Kongers' see their lives when playing the game.



Tabi Kaeru is a simple game and that is why so many people including me can be quick learners while handling this game. All we have to do is to act like a mother (though the game was originally set to let us have a taste of being one's wife rather than their mom. But most people take good care of the frog and see it as their son) and equip the frog with all the necessities on a trip like food and daily basics. Then, we can leave the frog to go on their own adventures. The variety of food and necessities might affect the time when the frog is going to come home. But for most of the time, when they will appear on the cave-like 'home' page is still a mystery. While the frog is enjoying its trip, it will be generous and thoughtful enough to send you some postcards and that is how you know where it has been. The frog will visit different well-known tourist spots in Japan, such as Nagoya Castle and Beppu hot springs. Receiving postcards is such a soothing and happy thing to do. It makes us feel like we have been on a journey to Japan with the frog together. It is also the most exciting part of the game as for the other times when the frog is finally home, it will ignore you completely and read its book or cut wood. If you think your touching of the screen can change what the frog is doing, you are most probably

wrong. Despite your unwillingness to only watch it sleep and eat or continue with whatever its monotonous routine is, that is the only thing that you can do. If you have a bit of luck, you might get to see its friends like a butterfly or a snail coming for a visit. These friends might return you a favour if you feed them. If you are wondering where you can get the food to support the frog and its friends, you should understand that there is no free lunch in this world, both in reality and in the games. No pain, no gain. You must work hard to earn and collect three-leaf clovers to pay for their necessities.



Now that you know how the game works, does it sound a little boring? Indeed, the game does not have a captivating storyline or thrilling fighting scenes. However, it becomes a fad as it provides Hong Kong people with a chance to escape our hustle and bustle lives. We are always buried in the heavy workload and we might even lack rest at times. Under this situation, traveling can only be a luxury to us. Tabi Kaeru shows us a relaxing lifestyle and that is what we all yearn for. By playing this game, we are only reflecting our hope onto the frog. We all wish to travel around the world, slow down and read the books we like and get away from all of our pressure but I am afraid that these could only happen in the game. To think on the positive side, at least we got to obtain this kind of satisfaction and comfort in Tabi Kaeru!

Chinese New Year

5B Cherry Cheung

Chinese New Year was once my least favourite festival. It is awkward. What am I supposed to say besides 'kung hei fat choy' and 'be energetic like dragons and horses'? I never understood why we have to keep saying blessings to each other. It is not like saying it aloud would make people's dreams come true but we just do it for the red packets. As materialistic and philistine as it may seem, it is undeniable that receiving red packets and giving them is a crucial part of the festival. As a teenager, I would say this tradition of the elders granting the young generation lai see is good for us. There is a deep meaning behind each present given in the red envelope. The money is said to be able to 'ward off evil spirits' and is believed to protect the children from sickness and death. There are even legends for the origin of red packets.

However, if I am being realistic and honest, it only means more pocket money for me. When I was younger, I did not get the chance to keep the money myself. My parents would lock the money up in some kind of imaginary bank and said that they were going to help me save it for later use but before I knew it, the money was usually gone. So, I got smarter in the nick of time. Now I know to keep an eye on the amount of the money I got in the bank. Though I have my lai see under my control now, I still try to avoid using any of them at the moment. It is always better to save for the rainy days. Many a little makes a mickle, and who knows? It may be useful in the future!

Receiving red packets and opening them can be surprising and fun. You scream at the sight of the content no matter what it is and I think that is why 'e-money' can never replace the value of an actual red packet. If you get fortunate and run into a friend who's so generous, you can get ready for a feast with that money. But rarely would that happen. You may receive \$10 from a relative you only get to meet annually during some special occasion or anniversaries or worse, chocolate coins. Although after all, sometimes it is the kind intention that counts, receiving a lot of lai see can indeed make us feel satisfied and fulfilled. It is also important for us to know how blessed we are while adding up the sum of red packets.

Despite the fact that I still find it embarrassing to have to repeat the same blessing to different relatives, I now enjoy the holiday more. It is the most suitable and precious time of the year for a family reunion. It also provides us with a vacation to forget about our overzealous schoolwork for a while.

For the year of dog, wish you all good health, good grades and good luck! May fortunes find their way to you!

Turnip Cake Filled with LOVE

5D Kathy Chan

I believe that everyone must have eaten turnip cake (for almost EVERY meal?) during the lunar new year holidays. Turnip cake is not really a "cake", there are no bittersweet chocolate chips or juicy fruit. Instead, this savory dish is a traditional new year dish that is made with turnip, dried shrimp and Chinese sausage that my mum, who's a traditional housewife, makes every lunar new year.



She makes the cake as the same way as most would probably do:

1. Add grated turnip and water to a wok or large pan and bring to a simmer. Pour them into a large mixing bowl to cool.
2. Heat the pan over medium heat and add a couple tablespoons of oil. Add the shrimp, mushrooms, and sausage and cook for about 5 minutes.
4. Add rice flour, cornstarch, salt, sugar, and white pepper to the mixing bowl with the radish and cooking liquid. Mix well until the dry ingredients are well-incorporated. Add in the cooked dried shrimp and Chinese sausage and mix well.
5. Pour the batter into a well-oiled loaf pan. Place the pan into a steamer with plenty of water and steam over medium-high heat for 50 minutes.
7. Remove the pan from the steamer and let the turnip cake set for about 30 minutes. It is finally done!

When the turnip cake is set, my mum likes to cut the cake into several slices and fry them on both sides until they are golden and crispy. They are always served with XO sauce!

There is a tradition of my home that my mum also likes to make several turnip cakes and give them to friends as a blessing. She once mentioned that it was the sense of success which motivated her to do it every year when she saw the smiles on their faces and received positive comments from them.

I have tried many turnip cakes in different Chinese restaurants but I don't think they are as tasty as those made by my mother even though they all are actually cooked in the same way. Maybe it is because of "the motherly love" that is sprinkled into the cake? Attracted by "the motherly love", I try to remember this taste as I am worried that one day if I leave home, I can no longer eat something as unforgettable as this.

Anyway, just be grateful for what our mothers (of fathers!) have done for us and remember every moment spent with them!

Interview with the F.2 students about the training camp

5B Cherry Lam

Joining a camp has always been a pleasant experience. I still remember how excited I was at the night before setting off for my first journey. F.2 students were no exception when they participated in the 3-day training camp in October last year. Today, we are glad to have two schoolmates, Candy Chung and Wing from 2B to share their incredible time in the camp.

R=reporter | C=Candy | W=Wing

R: Hi girls! Do you still remember the 3-day training camp that you guys joined last year in October? What did you do?

C: How can I forget? It is one of the most memorable experiences in my secondary school life.

W: Yes. Unlike other camps that we took part in before, this training camp emphasized discipline. Every morning, we had our marching exercise under the lead of our instructors. When we didn't follow their instruction or had loose posture, we would be punished to do push-ups.

C: Although it was in October, the weather was still hot. With the fierce sunlight, the ground was as hot as a frying pan. After doing push-ups, our hands turned red, not to mention how tired we were.

R: I'm so sorry to hear that. It seems like the instructors were a group of horrible people and you guys had gone through a very difficult time.

C: Not really. Actually, despite the harsh discipline, our instructors were very humorous and friendly. In the afternoon, we always played games like the "Thrift Store Owner" for relaxation. During the game, when we couldn't finish certain tasks, our instructors always gave us a helping hand. During the break time, seeing our exhausted faces, they also told us some jokes to cheer us up.

W: I still remember how our mentors helped us during the cooking competition on the second night. That was the first time for me to cook and I knew nothing about the cooking utensils. Given the mission to season the wok, I couldn't even start the fire. I was hopeless, wandering around and doing nothing. At that time, my mentor came and asked what happened. Knowing my difficulty, he told me not to panic and taught me the right way to cook. Our mentors were really helpful.

R: After knowing your experiences, I wonder how you guys felt.

C: I felt contented. Although it was tough to do push-ups all the time, I felt the team spirit of our class. Before joining the camp, there were some conflicts between our classmates. We always couldn't understand each other because we didn't share the same goal. But because the camp stressed collaboration through different activities such as class marching, teamwork was cultivated.

W: This feeling reached its peak during the marching competition on the last day. We all didn't want to lose. Therefore, we got to unite as one, not only our steps but also our minds. We shouted out our slogans. Feeling the echo of our sound, I really felt that we were one. At that moment, I started to realize how wonderful destiny is. We all came from different primary schools but we met as a class. We should cherish our precious encounter.

R: The camp seems to be very useful. It can really make us think about the significance of cooperation.

C: That's true. I wish I could go back in time and taste the feeling again.

R: But memories always shine because we can't go back in time. Anyway, thank you for doing this interview. Wish you guys good luck in the year of dog.

Interview with Mr. Yung

5D Albe Chik

A: Albe Y: Mr. Kevin Yung

A: Hi, Mr. Yung. Seeing a new student-teacher in our school, many students are very curious about you. Let's start with our first question. Before becoming a student teacher, what was your job?

Y: I taught English at a university in Hong Kong, and I am now doing research related to education. I am particularly interested in students' English learning experiences in the senior secondary curriculum, and how students can balance learning English for examination and learning English for authentic communication.

A: Oh, why did you choose to be a student teacher in LKKC instead of other schools?

Y: I am actually a graduate here, and I have a sense of belonging to LKKC. Also, on a special occasion, I met Miss Sandy Leung and we talked about the situation of English teaching and learning in LKKC and the school life here. Then I thought it would be good to come back and become a student teacher here.

A: Really? That's big news! Speaking of your secondary school life here, what is the most memorable part to you?

Y: I took Art as one of my electives, and I remember having egg tarts in the Art room. At that time, I also played basketball with my classmates after school. I remember that my classmates always brought the basketball to the Art room and waited for me and some other friends until the sky turned dark.

A: Leaving at night has already become a tradition for the Art students here in LKKC. As what you have said, was Art actually an important part of your secondary school life?

Y: Yes, indeed! I was a member of Chung House and I used to design the decorations for Sports Day. Some of the works can still be found here today. The most memorable one is a warrior holding a sword in the sports field. Its photo can be seen in some school publications.



A: That's marvelous!

Y: Yes. Also because of Art, I met Mrs. Yau. We called her Miss Cheung at that time. She has inspired me a lot in my life and we are still very close. It's a pity that I've come after her retirement.

A: Do you have any hobbies besides Art and basketball?

Y: I love singing karaoke with my friends in my leisure time. Sometimes, I will also join the activities organized by my students in the university.

A: As an English language teacher, will you often read English books or watch English movies?

Y: Honestly, I haven't got much time to do so recently. But when I have time, I love watching movies that are inspiring and philosophical, just like the recent famous movie, *Along With the Gods*.

A: I love that movie too! As I know, you are now teaching two classes, right?

Y: Yes, I am now teaching 4A and 5D. Most of the students are smart and attentive, and they are engaged. It is a wonderful experience teaching them.

A: I am really glad to hear that. The last question, can you say a few words to the students in LKKC?

Y: Sure. From my own perspective as a teacher of English, I hope students can love English and be confident of speaking in English. At university, students come from different secondary schools, and I of course have met those from LKKC. I realize that LKKC students have the English competence to communicate with non-local students, but they tend to be less confident. So what I want to say is: trust yourself, and maximize your opportunities to use English for authentic communication. Make friends with people from different parts of the world, and you will realise how big the world is.

A: Thank you so much for accepting to do this interview.

Y: You are welcome.

What's Next ?

- Easter Holiday
- Interflows between Sister Schools

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