

What's UP?

STFA LKKC ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

6th
ISSUE



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F.1 Drama Competition

5B Cherry Cheung

Fulfilling school's aim of 'learning English through drama', F1 students had a chance to be expressive on stage on 11th May. Adapting the scripts given in class, they designed the scenes and performed in front of all junior students. They did not disappoint as everyone enjoyed the show. However, this could not have been achieved without the help of the backstage crew. So for now, let's see what our interviewee reveals about the operation behind the curtains!

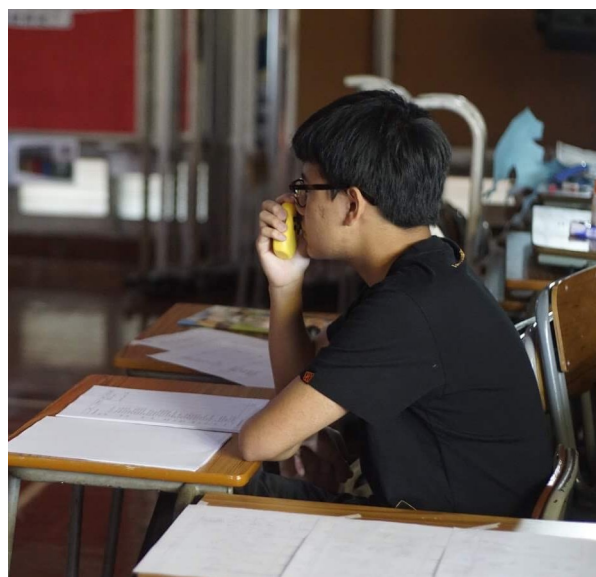
R: Reporter H: Holmes

R: Congratulations! The performance went well without a hitch! So, now that the show has ended, how do you feel?

H: First of all, I am very proud of the Form 1 students. As the chairperson of the Drama Club, I understand how hard it can be to give life to an act sometimes. They have done an extraordinary job! To be honest, I am quite glad that it has ended as I was really exhausted. I have spent days sleeping at 3 to prepare for the working script!

R: Wow! That sounds really tough. Is there any other hardship that you have encountered during the preparation?

H: Of course. The limited rehearsal time and equipment are one of the biggest concerns. Classes had to go up on stage one after another quickly to ensure that the practice could finish on time. What was worse was we only had one set of microphones. After the masters of ceremony said their lines each time, we had to take off them immediately and swiftly passed them to the actors.



R: That must have stressed you out! I feel nervous for you.

H: True. While we were taking care of the mic and time management, we also needed to pay attention to the spotlight, lights and curtains. We had to cooperate with the F1 teachers as well. There were lots of matters to look after.

R: I see. Seldom do we show gratitude to the backstage crew. Now that I know more about their struggles, I



honestly feel impressed.

H: Yes, our tasks are connected. I feel that the actors are escalating rockets and we would be the roaring engine supporting them. We are inseparable and we must look out for each other.

R: Interesting. So, can I say that participating in a drama show can train students to be more supportive and alert?

H: Sure! I have learned to be a more responsible man through drama. Great power comes with great responsibility. If the leader running the show is not willing to work hard, the group will falter. That's why teamwork is also important to us.

R: Drama does seem to be a challenging form of art. I am happy to be able to learn more about it. Thank you for doing this interview. I hope that more students can be interested in drama and excavate their potential. Last but not least, cheers to both the winning classes, performers and crew again!

Thoughts on the show

Kiki Wong (Chair of Drama Team) ----- It's such a great accomplishment!

Miss Wong (teacher in charge) ----- The Form 1 students demonstrated their potentials in terms of acting, directing and creativity under the guidance of the Form 1 English teachers. Moreover, I am particularly proud of the Drama Team and Club Committee members and helpers who helped actualize the crazy ideas of the Form 1 kids with their professional knowledge as well as commitment to excellence. :)



Stephen Hawking, Scientist from the Future

4C Hugh Chen

Regarding the sorrow passing of the well-known scientist Stephen Hawking, I decided to write a passage about Mr. Hawking's inspiring life. Hopefully you guys will enjoy it and be able to know more about this genius that has contributed a lot to mankind. Peace!

Who is Stephen Hawking

Stephen Hawking was born on 8th January 1942 in Oxford. Despite their families' financial difficulties, Stephen's parents were both graduates of the Oxford University, where his father studied medicine and his mother read Philosophy, Politics and Economics. His parents met each other and fell in love when they were working in a medical research center during WWII. Stephen had two younger sisters and an adopted brother.

When Hawking was 21, he was devastated when he was told that he only had 2 years to live (which later proved to be evidence-less) and he had lost all hope for life. He felt there was little point for him to continue his studies. Luckily, with the love from Jane, his professors and his family, also after seeing a boy dying of leukemia in the hospital, he realized that there were others worse off than him. Therefore, Hawking walked away from the shade of death and decided to live the life of his own. As a result, the one and only physicist was inspired to continue and further his studies.

Interesting facts about Hawking

Here are some fun facts of Hawking that may be unfamiliar to you guys.

Hawking wasn't doing well at School

Even though the intelligence of Hawking was widely recognized and accepted by his teachers and school-mates (he was called the 'Einstein'). Hawking's results weren't really outstanding among his classmates. Nonetheless, it didn't stop Hawking from being one of the greatest physicists. So if you think that you have mediocre results, don't worry. As long as you have the dedication, you can be good at something.

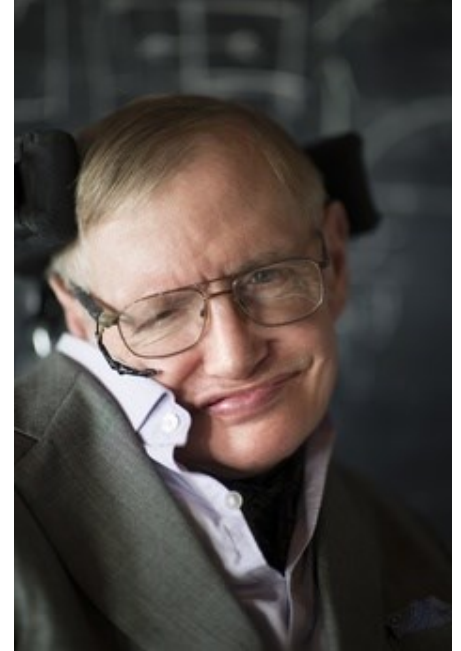
Hawking wasn't supposed to be a physicist

Hawking's dad is a doctor who graduated from Oxford University. As a result, he wished his son to follow his path and be a doctor as well. Hawking, however, wished to study Mathematics in Oxford but found it unavailable. As a result, Hawking majored in Physics

instead and found his passion.

Hawking was quite popular in university

Don't be fooled by the appearance of Hawking. He was actually quite popular back in the times where he could still walk and talk! He was part of the school's rowing team and was responsible for controlling the steering and the speed. Still, Hawking admitted that it was a very time-consuming hobby and had reduced his time spent on his studies.



Hawking was... an author?

Yes indeed! Hawking and his beloved daughter Lucy Hawking wrote a series of book called George's adventure. The aim of the book was to explain heavy scientific concept to children and inspire them to take part in science.

Hawking believed in the existence of aliens!

Hawking was a huge supporter of the existence of alien life. During NASA's celebration in 2008, he even went up on stage and expressed his thoughts on the subject. He predicted that in the vast universe, primitive life should be very common and intelligent life like humans were rare. He had also pointed out the risk that humans might be terminated by the diseases carried from the aliens.

Conclusion

Stephen Hawking was truly a legend and changed our view to the universe significantly. I hope you guys will be able to know the influence of Hawking on mankind as well as more of his personal life. Remember, being average in studies doesn't make you "ordinary" as a person. Live a life of yours to the fullest!

MUSIC

A Turning Point of a Pop Star Life**5D Kathy Chan**

*"There's a light inside of all of us
It's never hiding,
you just have to light it
It's the one thing that you gotta trust
It's like a diamond, you just have to find it
So if you ever feel like giving up
Yeah, just remember that*

*We were all meant to fly
Spread your wings across the universe
It's your time to
It's your time to shine
There's a light inside of all of us
Soon you'll find that
It's your time to fly
Your time to fly"*



May I start by quoting the lyrics from "Fly" by Avril Lavigne? It's finally time for me to share my love and admiration towards Avril Lavigne with you all! Here I shall introduce her background to you guys.

Avril Lavigne is a Canadian pop star with smoky eyes as her icon.

When she first emerged on the music scene at the age of 17, she was known as a young, pop-punk tom-boy, preferring to entice the record-buying public with her powerhouse voice, high-spirited melodies, and straight-talking lyrics.

Over the course of her career, she has scored a string of international hit singles, toured the globe on multiple sold-out tours, earned eight Grammy Award nominations, won eight Canadian Juno Awards, and sold more than 35 million albums and 20 million tracks worldwide.

Her latest album in 2013 is named Avril Lavigne, which the single "Here's to Never Growing Up" released was an international success, reaching number one on the Taiwan and Philippines charts... But wait, now is already 2018. Where has she been in these 5 years?

There came a turning point of Avril's path-she had been suffering from the a severe case of Lyme disease that left her so exhausted at times that she couldn't get out of bed. It was the first time that she felt so close to death. She had to make a stop to her music career and that was the worst nightmare ever of her life.

It took a super long time for her recovery, taking tons of antibiotics, being surrounded by the specialists and top doctors all the time... Can you imagine how hard that period meant to her? She faced the biggest threat ever that she could even barely stand, which led her to wonder if she could still sing and continue her life as a musician.

Fortunately, god put her back on the right track finally and she has 100% recovered! As she has been greatly inspired and supported by all of her fans and family since her battle with the Lyme disease, she wants to express herself and start her second life through music. The big news is she is releasing her new album VERY SOON!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Avril has already stepped into the last week of recording! Although it took me almost

half a year to wait for her new album, I am still looking forward to her enlightening and reflective music. Avril's fans, stay tuned for our QUEEN!

"I would say just be yourself. Do what you want to do and don't let anyone change you. Know who you are

as an artist and where you want to go stylistically and stick to your guns. Fight for who you are."

- Avril Lavigne

Opening a New Chapter of K-pop: NCT

5B Cherry Cheung

What will pop up in your mind if you hear the word "K-pop"? Repetitive chorus? Distinctive moves? Lack of talent? The Korean music band NCT formed by SM Entertainment which has made their successful debut in 2016 is going to shake this notion.

NCT stands for Neo Culture Technology which is a term coined to describe the group's concept of having an unlimited number of members divided into multiple sub-units based in various cities worldwide. Members can interchange or rotate among different groups and new members can be added anytime. Under the title of NCT, there are now 3 sub-units with 18 members. The first unit NCT U consisting of 6 members debut in April of 2016 with two digital singles "The 7th Sense" and "Without You". After the unveiling of this group of long-awaited boys, the two songs topped the chart with a nice compliment from Billboard calling the group "enthusiastic rookie" and "aesthetics". Following the fruit of success of NCT-U, the second unit NCT 127 with the number "127" representing the longitude coordinate of Seoul launched their official debut stage on 7th July, 2016 which has perfectly shown the commitment and effort of the 7 members. The third unit NCT DREAM is a 7-members teenage group with members' average age at 16.8 years old. This refreshing concept builds the group's energetic and optimistic image which contributes to its accomplishment that they were chosen as the official ambassador for the 2017 FIFA U-20 World Cup Korea.

Apart from the special formation system of NCT, there are several features making the group enthralling.

1. Perfect Balance between Musicality and Popularization: K-pop is often portrayed as a form of cliché that only people who love sweet-sounding and catchy music would listen to it. Indeed, it is not hard to discover that "public-friendly" songs (which are easy to sing along) gain their popularity. Many singers may follow the trend and produce those kinds of songs as to make themselves

famous. But NCT never makes a compromise. In fact, the group strikes a perfect balance between musicality and popularization. The 3 units are dedicated to experiment different music genres. NCT U is even the first Korean idol group to encompass Trap and Future Bass into their songs. These songs mesmerize the world with their charisma and beauty which enables the group to take over the chart beastly.



Unique Concept: NCT is a group with a unique concept that emphasizes "Dream". The group clearly sees that at some points, imagination and possibilities are trapped within the limit of reality which makes people frustrated. This is the reason behind the usage of Dream as the main idea of the super rookies. Consisting of 18 young boys, NCT is armed with vividness. Meanwhile, the youthful souls may also face obstacles on their way of pursuing their dreams just like you and me do. In dreams, we can unleash our vision and potential. In other words, dream is the connector between the three sub-units. In dreams, they empathize with each other and communicate with the audience through music. This distinct concept allows the group to construct a tight bond with the mass.

Talent: NCT blows our minds with limitless talents that their performance can never be neglected in the crowd of K-pop. The group is renowned for its smooth blend of songs and in sync choreography. Here are a few recommendations to showcase their talent.

NCT — Black on Black |

NCT DREAM — My First and Last |

NCT 127 — Cherry Bomb |

NCT has recently made their comeback with the album "NCT 2018: Empathy" with 13 tracks, most of which have become megahits. The album is now available on major music streaming platforms. Check them out!

P.S. Here's a list of some of my NCT favorites.



NCT U—The 7th Sense	MY ULTIMATE JAM!!!!!! I really love the future bass vibe and the dope rap
NCT 127—Limitless	An urban R&B song with poetic lyrics. It makes you feel the spirit and hope
NCT DREAM—Dunk Shot	Simple reason: Overwhelming sweetness! I feel like I'm fully charged after listening to the song.
NCT U—Baby don't stop	Simple reason again: my head keeps nodding whenever I listen to this song.

MOVIE

Avengers III: Infinity War

5D Albe Chik

Speaking of "MARVELous" movies, *Avengers III: Infinity War* is totally on the list. The Marvel movie is a recent big hit that almost everyone is talking about. For Marvel fans, they can even watch the movie over and over again. But do you know how the series of Marvel movies started off? Let's put everything on a timeline.

The first Marvel movie was *Iron Man* premiered on May 2, 2008, then followed by *The Incredible Hulk* on June 13 in the same year. Throughout these ten years, the Marvel movie series got more and more crowded as an increasing number of characters were introduced into the silver screen. And in the movie, there are more than 40 characters from 18 movies. It is insane, right? Imagine forty superheroes inside one single scene! Famous Marvel heroes, such as *Iron Man*, *Captain America*, *the Hulk*, *Thor* and *Spiderman*, are all included in the film. The scale of *Infinity War* is so gigantic that the battlefield is not only on Earth, but the whole universe! The movie is about Thanos, the main villain of the film, trying to collect the six infinity stones and the Avengers stopping him from doing so. It's because if he succeeds, he can kill half the universe with just a snap of his finger. Uniting all the superheroes' force and power is the only way to stop the disaster from happening. The fighting scenes are breathtaking. I don't even dare breathe while watch-



ing.

The other reason for the huge success of the film is that it is not only an action film, but a touching and educational film. When I watched the movie, I couldn't stop my tears from falling. (Spoilers alert!) In our past impressions, the ending of a superhero film must be the villain being defeated and everyone lived happily ever after. But this is not the case in the *Infinity War*. Many of the superheroes were put to rest in peace. Some of them were even considered "unbreakable" and "undefeated" before, but



they still died in the hands of Thanos. The ending is distressing with all those unexpected deaths. Seeing your favorite character being killed is beyond words. One of the most heartbreaking scenes to me is when Scarlet Witch needed to destroy the mind stone. The only way of doing so was to sacrifice her love, Vision, as Vision and the mind stone were connected. I could feel her emotions when she killed the love of her life.

The movie is also inspirational. Compared to other villains, Thanos' reason for destroying the world is neither naïve nor foolish. The universe has only limited resources, unable to keep up with the growing number of creatures. Lots of creatures are living in poverty. Thanos thinks every creature will die due to hunger eventually. Killing half of the population randomly can make the rest of the creatures live in wealth and happiness. Thanos's action may be cruel but it is actually something worth thinking about. Is it worth killing half of the population to save the remaining half?

To conclude, *Avengers III: Infinity War* is totally worth recommending. If you haven't seen it, go to the cinema now and I am sure that you won't regret it!

GAME

Pokemon, but not Pokemon GO!

5C Justin Hom

"Do you like Pokemon?" Some would say "Yeah! I always play Pokemon Go! Pikapika!" As a Pokemon fan, where it has nearly occupied half of my life, I'm happy to see Pokemon finally become popular globally. But how much do you really know? You may say Pokemon is just a CARTOON. But in fact, Pokemon started as a game! The Pokemon console series is indeed my favourite among all, and I would like to share some secrets about it. Why is it so interesting?

Let me first briefly tell a story. The game series made its first installment in 1996 with the "Red Version" and "Green version", created by Satoshi Tajiri, head of the developer Game Freak. Also later involved in developing the legends "Mario" series and "Zelda" series, Satoshi was fascinated in collecting and studying bugs and insects when he was young (as an Easter egg, there IS a bug-catcher NPC called Tajiri in the series). This passion inspired him to the "Pokemon" series, where some elements in the series reflect insect collecting. The hero of the TV anime, Ash (Satoshi in Japan), is also named after him.

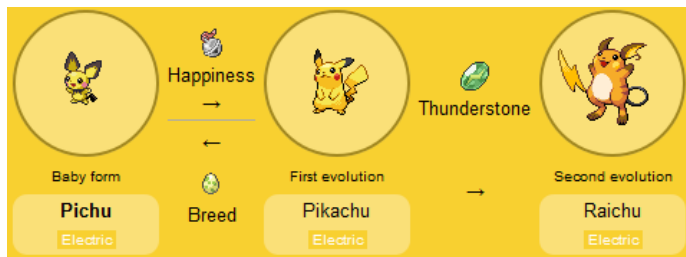
But the key to making the franchise a success is the myth of Mew, a legendary pokemon. Added at the very end of development by a programmer secretly,

even after the debug process, this Pokemon became a rumor between children (it is a "man-made" bug I think), and greatly boosted the sale of the franchise. Spanning also television anime and trading card games, the epitome of RPG game is now the highest-grossing media franchise of all time.

However, what I love about Pokemon games the most is that the feeling of "Reality" in game experience. I do not mean the realistic game scenes, but the whole story setting is based on real lives. In each generation in the Pokemon game series, the protagonist has an adventure in different "regions". The myth throughout the whole Pokemon world is actually not far away from that on Earth, like Mew as the ancestor of creatures... You will enjoy the religious story throughout your adventure with these legendary pokemons.



Apart from myths, the structure of different regions is also based on the real world like natural climates that affect Pokemon Battles for professional players. Also, the designs of each region are inspired by real places, like Sinnoh Region inspired by Hokkaido, or the France-based Unova region.



I would also describe the evolutions of the monsters as a highlight of the series. The Pokemons are based on the theory of evolution (like what we say apes are our ancestors) and there are limitless ways on evolution. Basically, most of the Pokemons evolve when they reach a certain level, but there are a lot of exceptions. Take Pikachu as an example, Pikachu can only evolve by using the game item "Thunder Stone" to Raichu. To evolve Pichu to Pikachu, the player needs to gain a certain level of friendship from Pichu to make it happen.

You may think "Pokemon" is just a game to catch all Pokemons, but that's not true! Besides capturing Pokemons and finishing your Pokedex (Mission impossible as there are over 700 Pokemons), there are other goals

for players. You can train your fantastic, powerful Pokemon team in the game, and join the Pokemon World Championships annually to meet and battle with other Pokemon lovers. Otherwise, you may also enjoy the touching, interesting and carefully-written story in the game. Feel sympathy for the nefarious antagonists like what you feel for Thanos in MCU (mentioned above), or find out the hidden horror content under the skin (It's real that there ARE some creepy encounters in the game! I was scared...).

For those who want to experience catching the legendary Pokemons, I suggest you try out the "Pokemon Omega Ruby/Alpha Sapphire" (3DS), which I believe they are the most catchable legends.

But my favorite version in the Pokemon Series in fact is the DP generation in 2006 ("Pokemon Diamond/Pearl/Platinum"), which is also the first Pokemon game I have played (I have become addicted to the series since then). Not only the coolest Pokemons can be found, but also the warm atmosphere through theme colors and background music. But I will choose "Pokemon Black/White" for the best plot. Evocative dialogues, and regrettable ending... Anyway, I hope you will give them a try. There are available game simulators on your smartphones!

CREATIVE SOTRY—Read one right here:

Check out the English Board to read the whole short story written by one of the students who attended the

#ThanosDemandYourHelpToo... From The 2-year-old Editor

Time Flies. Here we are, the last issue in this academic year!! (I'm like TT...Just like TT...)

Firstly, thanks to all of you who have supported us from our first issue. To all members of this year's committee, thanks for your effort and work you've done for the issues.

For next year, other schoolmates are now being invited to become part of our team! If you would like to be a part of the reporting team or editorial board, e-class Ms. de Guzman and tell her your name, contact, current class (class number) and a short paragraph about yourself.

Deadline: by end of June 2018!

By the way, we don't have the INFINITY GAUNTLET, but you can be our gems.

See updates on our official webpage:
www.lkkc.edu.hk/~whatsup

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