

# What's UP?

*STFA LKKC English Newspaper*

It's a special issue of *What's Up?*! For this academic year, we continue with the online version. Even though we have paused delivery of our issues in person, it doesn't mean we will stop delivering the news to you!



## **New teachers**



## **Global leadership**



## **Summer idioms**

We are happy to introduce to you new faces in our school. Besides the Form 1 students, here are some of the new teachers!

### **Interviewing a new teacher: Miss Mak Cheuk Yin**

**5A Yan Ming Sum**

*Q: As an alumnus, how do you feel going back to LKKC again? Are there any changes?*

Miss Mak: Of course, I am very happy to come back here again. Lots of teachers who taught me before are still here, which makes me feel welcomed. Meanwhile, the changes are also huge, because there wasn't a lot of IT stuff a few years ago, but all the students in Form 1 and 2 now have a tablet for learning. Senior students can also borrow tablets from school.

*Q: Why did you choose to become a teacher?*

Miss Mak: First of all, I like VA very much, and I hope to bring the joy of painting and creating to every student. Whether I am studying VA in LKKC or studying or creating art in university, I think that art is a joyful thing. Therefore, I hope everyone in my class will enjoy doing Arts. Also, I was inspired by Miss Chan who made me fall in love with Arts. She invited me to study Visual Arts, and I liked it very much. At the time when I was teaching in a college, I tried different teaching methods. I felt that I was quite suitable to teach, therefore I decided to become a VA teacher.



*Q: Why did you choose to teach in LKKC?*

Miss Mak: I didn't expect to come back for teaching at the beginning, but I met some high school students during my internship here last year to see how they have grown. Luckily, the school needed another teacher, because Miss Chan went to study for a year. So now I'm here.

*Q: Have you ever encountered any difficulties in teaching?*

Miss Mak: The difficulty that I encountered is that my students are relatively passive and they do not respond to my questions actively. I will encourage them to be proactive.

*Q: Can you share your most memorable experience in LKKC?*

Miss Mak: Well... the wall outside the school was painted by my classmates, and there are some unforgettable memories. As the wall was large, we painted it for a few months or so. I was a Secondary Four student at that time. I needed to help lead some juniors, parents, teachers and classmates to paint it together. This activity trained not only my leadership skills, but also improved my relationship with my classmates.

*Q: Do you have any expectations on your students?*

Miss Mak: As I said earlier, I hope my students can answer my questions more actively in class. I hope that everyone will earnestly complete the VA homework. From my point of view, as long as you work hard and concentrate in class, your homework will not be bad at all. Also, I hope the students will enjoy the interesting learning process.

*Q: Do you have any advice for our students?*

Miss Mak: I think that students should participate in different activities. LKKC is a pleasant place. There are many types of activities for students to try as they cover ethics, intellect, physique, social skills and aesthetics. Our VA and PE records are excellent, while other clubs, class performances, and sports day posters are not even existent in other schools. Therefore, students should cherish the things they're enjoying now. As long as you participate in extracurricular activities, you will definitely gain. Although studying is very important, it will be a pity if you miss many experiences and beautiful memories. Why don't you try different things and discover your potential while you are still young?

## **Interviewing a new teacher –Mr Cheung Yin Chun**

5A Lau Hei Tsz

L: Lau Hei Tsz C: New teacher Mr Cheung

*L: Hi, Mr Cheung. Thank you for today's interview. Let's start with an easier question: which levels and subjects are you teaching?*

C: I am teaching Chinese language but there's no class for me to teach. I focus on the Form one homework class.



*L: Oh I see. May I ask—why did you choose to be a teacher?*

C: It's a good question. My secondary school teacher influenced me to be a teacher because of their passion. So this is the main reason why I want to be a teacher.

*L: As you know, Covid-19 has made many teachers resign from their jobs. What is your motivation to still become a teacher?*

C: I think education is a necessity. I want students to acquire more knowledge and to make the society more modern. Also, I would like students to learn to be independent and know what they want to do for themselves, instead of people telling them what to do, which is a lifelong education.

L: *Have you taught in any other schools before teaching in LKKC? Why did you choose this school?*

C: Maybe it's because LKKC is in Tuen Mun and I live in Tuen Mun. It's not too far for me. Also, LKKC gave me the position of a teacher assistant.

L: *Oh I see. So can you share how you overcame difficulties you met during the Covid-19?*

C: I think it is when I was still studying at university during the Covid-19 pandemic that I used zoom to study and do other things such as group projects and meet with my professors. There were difficulties that I needed to overcome but all I had to do was to be more hard-working because it was not face-to-face. You have to ask questions immediately so you need to prepare a lot of things when you study, such as potential technical problems or study problems. I had to be hard-working to control myself.

L: *Because of Covid-19, many of our students still feel stressed about their academic results and start to hate studying. Do you have any advice for them and inspire them?*

C: Maybe they don't like studying whether there is Covid-19 or not. True, it may not be as interesting compared to playing or playing sports. They are stressed because they just study at home or they cannot play with their friends and the Form Six students are going to have DSE. The society tells them they need to study no matter what. So I think they need to think more about the purpose of studying. It's not for their parents or the society, but for themselves. The knowledge you gain depends on your own effort and your purpose.

L: *Here is the last question. Do you have any expectations for our students?*

C: First of all, it is to be hard-working. And second of all I would like to share a sentence I learnt in my secondary school in Chinese: “成就自己 成就他人.” - "self-actualization—how would you like to choose a form cultivating altruism?" This is important when you grow up. Also, I think the job of teachers is to inspire others too and it gives you a chance to show your talents or to make you have more experience to face the results no matter good or bad. My English teacher in secondary school said that no one would help you if you didn't want to help yourself. You will gain from the hard work, and ask more of the teachers when you face difficulties. They will help you.

L: *Thank you again for this interview, Mr Cheung. I hope our schoolmates know more about you now.*

### **Interviewing a new teacher —Ms. Chan Po Yan**

Q: *Let's start from the beginning of your career. What inspired you to be an English teacher?*

A: I have come across a lot of inspiring people in my life, including my uncle and auntie, who are retired English teachers. When I was in secondary school, they already saw the potential in me that I couldn't see at that time. They inspired me to eventually be an English teacher.

*Q: As teachers always say, learning English is not only for DSE. In your opinion, what does this subject mean to you?*

A: When you step into the field of work, you realize exams are just a teeny tiny part of life. Grades do not limit your level of success at the end of the day.

*Q: Hong Kong students are traditionally known for being better at Listening and Reading papers, do you have any tips for improving other skills in English?*

A: For speaking, practice makes perfect. Not only do I chat with my foreign friends from time to time, but I also communicate with my family in English. Even grabbing a mirror and speaking in English to yourself will do.

*Q: I see. Shall we move on to another topic? Why did you choose to teach in LKKC?*

A: I am a newbie to schools in Tuen Mun. I chose this school because I know that LKKC students are amiable and well-disciplined. On the other hand, I would like to step out of my comfort zone to teach different types of schools.

*Q: Do LKKC facilities or students meet your expectation?*

A: My first impression of LKKC students is that they are eager to learn. Indeed, being open to new knowledge is the first and foremost attitude to be better. Other interesting things about LKKC will be left for my journey to discover down the road.

*Q: Recently, not only is academic stress faced by students a concern, the pressure of teachers is also put into the public's spotlight. How do you deal with pressure, no matter where it comes from?*

A: I am a very positive person and I tend to look at everything on the bright side. Coexisting with pressure is inevitable. Though, the most important thing is to adjust your mindset. Everyone has their own way to embrace stress in daily life, such as listening to music or taking a short walk.

*Q: What are your expectations for your students this year?*

A: I hope my students can strive for the very best and set up a higher goal. For students who are not confident with their English, I hope they can step out of their comfort zone. As I always remind them, 'Every expert was once a beginner.' Thus, you can go from zero to hero step by step. Meanwhile, making mistakes is no big deal. Embrace them and move on from there.





## Summer School for Global Leadership

5C Sienna Chik

Are you interested in understanding your leadership style? Do you want to explore how social problems are affecting and related to society? Have you ever thought about making a difference in the world? Luckily, I had a chance to fulfill these dreams. In July, I participated in the Summer School for Global Leadership 2021 organized by The HKFYG Jockey Club School of Global Leadership and I can't wait to share my memories in those 7 days.

I woke up at 7 am, then travelled to travel to Quarry Bay with tons of office workers in formal attire for an hour and a half, which made me frustrated on the first day. Being the only student in LKKC to join this programme, I was quite nervous and worried about how to get along with my groupmates. With great surprise, I met a girl who had joined other activities with me before and we were in the same group!

After the opening ceremony and ice-breaking activities, we became familiar with our groupmates and were more willing to share with others. We had a great collaboration in both playing the treasure hunt and building a Roman Catapult during the team building session at Sai Kung Outdoor Training Camp.

Over the next few days, we attended several lectures discussing the nature and types of leadership. It gave me an entirely brand new perspective on leadership and enabled me to reflect on how to be a good leader and follower. The workshop related to activity planning for children played a vital role in strengthening our ability to play with children.

On Day 6, we arrived at the HKFYG Leadership Institute in Fanling with excitement as we could finally execute the activity plan we had worked on for a week. Everyone was worried about the reaction of the children there and what would happen in the next few hours. We completed our final presentation in a rush and welcomed those lovely, energetic primary students. At first, our group was quite shy about giving instructions. However, thanks to the enthusiastic response from the children, we were made relaxed and even played with them happily.



Not only did the primary students learn more about global citizenship while playing, but also we discovered the hidden talents of our groupmates. I truly appreciate the creative ideas they contributed and their remarkable resilience to stress.



Last but not least, equipped with the knowledge and experiences gained in the past two weeks, we were required to create an inspirational project tackling poverty and the growing educational digital divide. Our group focused on the biggest fault of the current children-related policy ---- lack of children participation, which leads to uneven distribution of resources and underestimation of the severity of issues. We urged the judges to set up an operation group that organises conferences with children and manage a children-friendly social media platform.

“Little things make a big difference.” Although it seems like our actions are often too small, they are more influential than what we can expect. Therefore, don't hesitate to imagine and spare no effort for the success of any innovative ideas.

“Ask not what others can do for you, ask what you can do for them.” Servant leadership can truly exist if you are eager to develop a strong bond with your followers. We can often observe and understand society better in a lower position.

“Everyone matters in society.” The rich and grassroots, professionals and uneducated, majority and ethnic minority...discrepancy is almost bound to exist in the society. That being the case, everyone should learn to embrace others' uniqueness and avoid leaving anyone behind during the improvement process.

In the end, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my group. Group 5 was the most talkative and cheekiest one but we somehow had perfect chemistry that worked between us. To sum up, the



capstone project would not have been possible without their encouraging response and effective collaboration.

Come and join Summer School for Global Leadership next year if you have the chance! You will gain much more than you can expect. The school is a place where you can learn together and practice to make things perfect. I would say that it was one of the best decisions in my secondary school life. To the junior students, perhaps I will become your group leader as a university student in a few years!

# Not too hot for 10 summer idioms!



Yes, it's hot. It's as hot as fire! You probably know this phrase already but have you ever wondered what other idioms you could use besides this or "I'm melting"? Here are some more for the summer!

## 1. Soak up the/some sun

To enjoy the sun; to sit outside in the sun

E.g. *Let's go to the park and soak up some sun while the weather is nice!*

## 2. Catch some rays

To sit or lie outside in the sun; to sunbathe

E.g. *Yesterday, I lay on the beach and caught some rays.*

## 3. Sun worshipper

One who likes to spend time in the sun

E.g. *He could like on the beach all day long. He's a real sun worshipper!*

## 4. To beat the heat

To find a way to stay cool in hot weather

E.g. *During the heatwave, the shopping mall was packed. I guess many people were trying to beat the heat.*

## 5. Burned to a crisp

Badly sunburned

E.g. *I fell asleep on the beach at noon yesterday and now my back is burned to a crisp!*

## 6. Dog days of summer

the hottest days of the summer

e.g. *It has been at least 30 degrees this week. The dog days of summer are here!*

## 7. In a dead heat

at exactly the same time; tied.

E.g. *The two horses finished the race in a dead heat. They ended the contest in a dead heat.*

## 8. You are my sunshine

If someone is your sunshine, that person is someone who makes you happy

E.g. *My wife is my sunshine. She makes me so happy.*

**9. Come rain or sunshine**

no matter whether it rains or the sun shines; in any sort of weather.

*E.g. Don't worry. I'll be there come rain or shine. We'll hold the picnic—rain or shine.*

**10. To take a shine to someone**

to begin to like (someone or something)

*E.g. She really took a shine to her new neighbor.*

Now see if you can fill in the blanks with the idioms!

1. Don't stay cooped up at home. Try to \_\_\_\_\_ outside!
2. The best way to \_\_\_\_\_, is to stay in a pool with an iced drink.
3. Don't stay in the sun for too long or you'll be \_\_\_\_\_!
4. He is so good to me. He's my \_\_\_\_\_.
5. She will help me no matter what. She'll come to me \_\_\_\_\_.

- Answers**
1. soak up the sun/ catch some rays
  2. Beat the heat
  3. Burned to a crisp
  4. Sunshine
  5. Come rain or sunshine

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