



NEWSLETTER
2024-2025

BUDDHIST HO NAM KAM COLLEGE

Horizons



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Collaborative practice, confident performance

Students build confidence, enhance English fluency and foster meaningful peer learning experiences in interschool English speaking practices throughout the school year.



Endless fun, limitless learning

Our English activities offer students immersive experiences that help boost their confidence, improve communication skills, and bring English to life beyond the classroom.



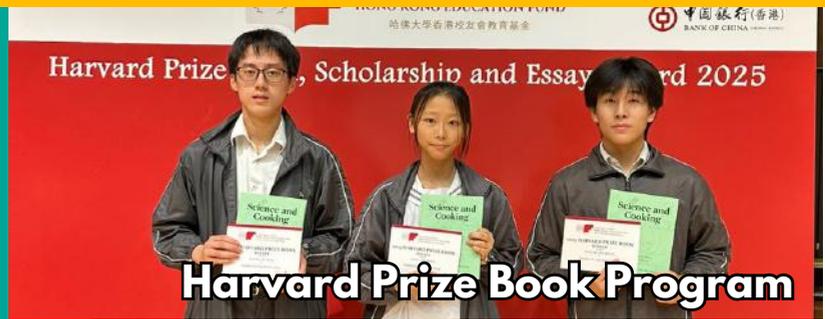
The Heartwork Behind the Scenes

The teachers in the English Department work feverishly throughout the school year, pouring their energy and passion into planning and executing a wide range of engaging activities. Besides teaching in the classroom, they go the extra mile to design meaningful experiences that extend learning beyond textbooks—fostering creativity, communication, and confidence. With unwavering dedication, they strive to create an English-rich environment where students can learn, practise, and thrive in authentic and enjoyable ways. Their commitment is the driving force behind the vibrant, language-filled atmosphere that defines our school.

“Reading is essential for those who seek to rise above the ordinary.”



**READ
TO
SUCCEED**



Harvard Prize Book Program



Story-telling Competition



Reading Buddies



Book-sharing Broadcast



Story-telling Competition Winners



Reading Fest Competition Artwork



Promoting a love of reading is one of the most powerful tools for lifelong success. Reading not only builds vocabulary and comprehension skills, but it also nurtures imagination, empathy, and critical thinking. The English Department has designed a diverse array of engaging initiatives to foster a deeper interest in reading among students. From interactive storytelling and book-sharing broadcasts to a creative book cover design competition, these activities are thoughtfully crafted to make reading both enjoyable and meaningful. Through these efforts, we aim to cultivate a vibrant reading culture within the school and instill in our students a lifelong passion for literature.





Every month, our English Ambassadors and the NET team up to host a variety of engaging activities designed to enrich the school's English-speaking environment. From interactive games and themed quizzes and cultural celebration, these fun and relaxed activities encourage students to use English naturally and confidently. By creating a welcoming space where students can practice speaking without pressure, the team helps boost their communication skills and self-assurance, making English both enjoyable and accessible for everyone.



HALLOWEEN BINGO CHALLENGE



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



POSITIVITY WALL



ENGLISH PONG CHALLENGE

The Positivity Wall is another highlight as students are encouraged to write kind and uplifting messages in English and post them on a colourful wall display. This not only promotes positive thinking and creativity but also gives students a chance to express themselves in English.

We also celebrated Chinese New Year with our students. It is a way to provide a meaningful opportunity to immerse them in rich cultural traditions and timeless values. Through activities such as card-matching games, calligraphy, and storytelling, students gain a deeper appreciation for Chinese heritage. These experiences not only introduce them to the customs of the Spring Festival but also teach important values like family unity, respect for elders, gratitude, and harmony. By engaging in these traditions, students develop a stronger sense of national identity and pride in their cultural roots, fostering a lasting connection to their heritage and community.



ENGLISH TRIVIA CHALLENGE



CHORAL SPEAKING PERFORMANCE

BEYOND SCHOOL WALLS



STEAM/LAB TOUR @ CARBON ZERO PARK



SCMP NINA PARK WRITING COMPETITION



ENGLISH GAME SHOW CHALLENGE



SUMMERBRIDGE 2025



AFS INTERCULTURAL FAIR



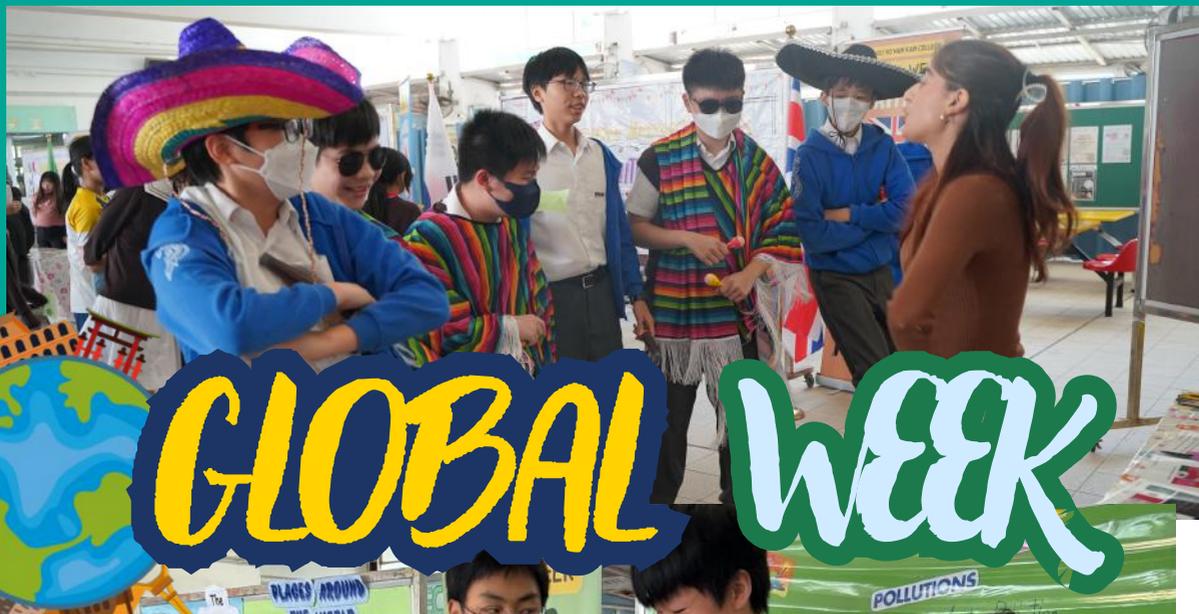
SPEAKING FOR ALL ACTIVITY



TOEIC PARTICIPATION

English learning at our school goes well beyond textbooks and classroom lessons. We actively encourage students to participate in English activities outside of school, giving them real-world opportunities to use the language in meaningful and engaging contexts. Whether exploring geographic landmarks or competing in territory-wide events, our students expand their perspectives through these enriching and memorable experiences. Students should stay tuned for even more fun and fulfilling adventures planned by our English department!

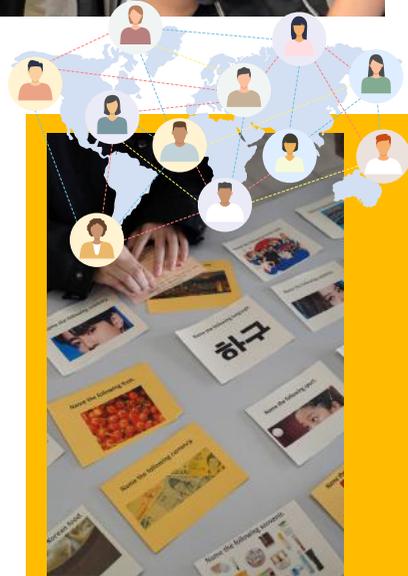




GLOBAL WEEK



Exploring other cultures expands our minds, deepens our empathy, and shapes us into thoughtful citizens of the world.



We celebrated 'Global Week' with an exciting International Fair that brought together students, and teachers to explore and appreciate diverse cultures from around the world. The week was filled with a variety of engaging activities designed to foster understanding and appreciation of different traditions.

One of the highlights was the game booths, where students could participate in fun activities that showcased various cultural games. Each booth was a unique window into a different country, allowing students to learn through interactive experiences.

Adding to the festive spirit, local award-winning comedian Vivek Mahubani graced the stage for a comedy show that had everyone in stitches. His clever humor and relatable anecdotes resonated with students and parents alike, ensuring that laughter echoed throughout the fair.



EMPOWERING VOICES



To encourage our students to speak up and express themselves confidently in English, we provide a variety of authentic speaking opportunities throughout the school year. For our senior form students, we organize interschool speaking practice sessions to help them prepare for the DSE English speaking exam. These sessions allow students to interact with peers from other schools, build confidence, and refine their communication skills in a realistic exam setting.



In addition, students are given the chance to take part in English morning announcements, where they deliver news and updates to the whole school. They also serve as hosts of the English book-sharing broadcast, introducing their favorite reads and sharing reflections in English with a wider audience. Furthermore, we encourage students to showcase their talents by participating in the Speech Festival competition, where they perform poems, speeches, and dramatic pieces in front of judges and audiences.



We are extremely proud to celebrate our students' achievements received in both solo and group performances in the 76th Speech Festival hosted by the HK SMA. These awards not only recognize their hard work and dedication, but also serve as motivation for others to step forward and take part in future performances. By acknowledging their success, we continue to foster a culture where using English is both rewarding and enjoyable.





ENGLISH AMBASSADORS

Our English Ambassadors are like language superheroes, spreading the magic of words and stories across various English events and activities. They team up with teachers and students to build a cozy nest for learning, guiding students through the wondrous world of language and helping them master the art of communication.

A 5★ AMBASSADOR APPRECIATION

We are proud to recognize Nicole Lee Tsz-tung for her remarkable six-year commitment as an English Ambassador at our school. Throughout her service, Nicole actively participated in a wide range of English-related events, taking on key roles such as emcee and host of various activities. These experiences allowed her to refine her public speaking abilities and grow in confidence. Beyond her contributions within the school community, Nicole also demonstrated excellence in external competitions, including her participation in the English Speech Festival. Her efforts culminated in an outstanding achievement — a 5★ in the 2025 HKDSE Speaking Examination. Congratulations, Nicole, on this well-deserved success! Thank you for your dedication, enthusiasm, and invaluable contributions to promoting English across our campus.

NICOLE LEE
LEE TSZ-TUNG

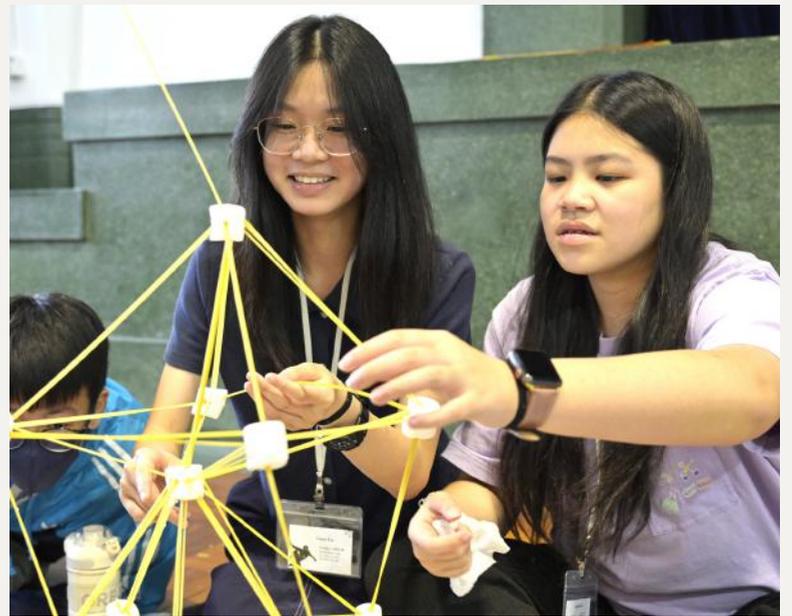
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THE SUMMERBRIDGE EXPERIENCE



Summerbridge is a non-profit organization committed to providing complimentary educational opportunities for highly motivated, underprivileged secondary school students. The organization offers comprehensive year-round programs designed to enhance students' English proficiency, academic skills, and life competencies. Each year, representatives from our school's Form 2 class participate in the Summerbridge program, engaging with peers from diverse regions of Hong Kong. This experience not only improves their English skills but also fosters new friendships and creates lasting memories.



TOEIC "BEST OF THE BEST"

The TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication) is an internationally recognized assessment that evaluates English proficiency in real-world, workplace-related contexts. It serves as a valuable benchmark for students aiming to enhance their academic and career readiness in an increasingly competitive global environment.

Since 2011, our school has proudly participated in the TOEIC program, encouraging students to take the exam each year as a way to assess and strengthen their English communication skills. Thanks to their dedication and the strong foundation provided by our English curriculum, our students have consistently achieved excellent results. In recognition of our long-standing commitment and outstanding participation, our school was recently honoured with the prestigious "TOEIC Best of the Best Award – Hong Kong." This award celebrates our sustained efforts to promote English language excellence over the years. Our Principal and the Head of the Career and Life Planning Team were delighted to accept the award, which marks a significant milestone in our journey of nurturing globally competent, English-proficient learners.



An Embarrassing Experience on YouTube

YouTube is a social media platform that it is also an online video sharing platform. YouTube has over 2.49 billion users. YouTube started on 14th February, 2005 and the most popular person on YouTube is Mr Beast with the most subscribed channel on YouTube with 365 million subscribers. You can use it by sharing videos and photos with a global audience while users can discover, watch and interact with a diverse range of content.

I started using it with my own account on 29th February, 2022 and I posted my first video on YouTube 3 years ago but the latest video I post is already 1 year ago. I had little brain cells and I can't think of much ideas so I stopped posting. One day, I was bored so I decided to watch my old videos and an embarrassing thing happened. I wanted to make an English Channel but, in that video, I found that I forgot to mute my microphone and the whole video was filled with my 9 year old Barbie voice, speaking Cantonese with my family. I felt very embarrassed ever since. After a year or so, I started to regain my confidence in uploading new videos after finding a better editing app.

I have learnt that every time when you are making video content, make sure to watch the whole thing before posting it online, or else, you will regret it. -2A Ian Tsang Tsz-ho

STUDENTS' WORK

Endangered Species

The giant panda is an iconic species, beloved worldwide and emblematic of conservation efforts. Despite their charm, giant pandas are classified as endangered, largely due to habitat loss and low reproductive rates.

Once widespread across Southern and Eastern China, pandas are now confined to a few mountainous regions in Sichuan, Shanxi and Gansu due to extensive deforestation and urban development. They depend almost entirely on bamboo, which is vulnerable to environmental changes, making pandas highly susceptible to habitat fragmentation.

To combat these challenges, significant conservation initiatives have been launched. The Chinese government, alongside organizations like the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), has established nature reserves to protect remaining bamboo forests. Captive breeding programs have also helped increase population numbers and raise awareness, resulting in a hopeful increase in panda cubs born in captivity.

The giant panda is not only just a beloved animal, it also symbolizes the broader issues of endangered species. Efforts to protect pandas highlight the importance of conservation and our roles in preserving biodiversity for future generations. - 2B Jenny Yu ChenJie



An Extraordinary Day

It was an ordinary Sunday in downtown Los Angeles. The sun was shining brightly on the bustling streets filled with people. I was on my way to a local café when I noticed a commotion near a trendy boutique. Curiosity piqued, I stepped closer, only to realize that a crowd had gathered around none other than Sabrina Carpenter!

Sabrina was filming a segment for her latest project. Her laughter echoed as she interacted with fans, signing autographs and taking selfies. Just as I was about to join the crowd, I saw a figure darting away from the scene, clutching a stylish handbag.

My heart sank as I recognized the bag was Sabrina's!

Without thinking, I sprang into action. "Hey! Someone just stole Sabrina Carpenter's bag!" I shouted, pointing in the direction of the thief. The crowd gasped, and Sabrina's eyes widened in disbelief.

"Can someone help me get it back?" she asked. Her voice laced with urgency. I nodded as adrenaline was coursing through my veins as I took off after the thief.

We raced through the streets, my heart pounding as I spotted the figure weaving through pedestrians. I could hear Sabrina's footsteps behind me, her determination matching mine. We rounded a corner, and I saw the thief duck in an alley.

"Stay Close!" I called to her, and we entered the narrow passageway. The thief was cornered, glancing back nervously as we approached, with a burst of energy. I lunged forward, tackling him to the ground. The bag flew into his hands, and Sabrina quickly grabbed it.

As a token of appreciation, Sabrina insisted on treating me to lunch. We walked to a cozy café nearby, chatting and laughing like old friends. I learned about her latest projects and she shared stories from her tours. It felt surreal to be sitting across someone I admired so much.

After our meal, she turned to me with a serious look on her face. "I want to give you something special for helping me. How about a signed album and VIP tickets to my next concert?"

I was taken back. "That's too much! I just did something that anyone would have done!"

"But you went above and beyond." She insisted, her smile unwavering, "You turned a scary moment into something positive!"

I accepted her generous offer, feeling a warmth spread through me. As we parted, I couldn't help but crying and feeling grateful, not just for the tickets or the signed album, but for the unexpected adventure and the chance to help someone I admired and listen to a lot.

As I walked home, I couldn't shake the feeling that this was just the beginning of a beautiful friendship, and who knows? Maybe one day I'd be telling this story to my friends, as a reminder that sometimes that heroes come in all shape and sizes, even when they're just trying to enjoy a lovely day.

- 2A Peter Chan Chi-hin