

Living And Studying experience in the UK

Lucas Tan, 14, a former student of HGC

Moving to a new country and adapting to a whole new environment is never easy. For me, the biggest challenge is to speak English all the time non-stop! I really need to thank my friends, teachers and my parents. Having their support is the source of energy for me to move forward.

I am a boarder which means I am living in school (boarding house) 24 hours by 7. There are 3 boarding houses in my school: Oxford, Cambridge for boys while Queens's is only for girls. I am lucky enough to stay at Oxford, which is a newly built building, and that made me even more excited and happier than I expected. I am sharing a room with 1 roommate, he is a Spanish student and he is also at the same year as me. While studying here in the UK, I have more opportunities to do sports. In my school, students are required to do 3 lessons of Games and 2 lessons of PE (40 minutes each) every week. The school curriculum here is a bit different from the one in Hong Kong. We have subjects that are not available in Hong Kong, like German/Spanish/French, Theology & Philosophy, Food Technology, Drama, Media Studies and Computer Science. I really enjoy studying abroad. It is not as scary as I first thought, but first you should make more new friends. Don't feel afraid of speaking English otherwise you will never get any improvement. Spend more time at the English corner and expose yourself to English as much as you can!



Brand-new boarding house



Having free Domino's by School



My room name and me and my roommate's name

Fun Facts on Easter

Did You Know?

Did you know that decorated Ostrich eggs have been found in Africa? They are estimated to be over 60,000 years old! Did you know that more chocolate is eaten at Easter than any other time of year?

What is Easter?

Easter is the most important time in the Christian calendar. Easter forms part of Holy week; Holy week consists of Palm Sunday - the week before Easter Sunday, Good Thursday - the day of Jesus' Last Supper, Good Friday - the day that Jesus was crucified and Easter Sunday the day Jesus rose from the dead.

Why do we celebrate Easter?

Christians celebrate the story of Easter and rejoice in the belief that Jesus died for our sins and was resurrected (came back) from death. Jesus was reborn and lives today; he was reborn because God exists and is alive.

Did You Know?

The date of Easter varies each year as it is based on the lunar calendar and the position of the moon. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday after the full moon following March 21st. Good Friday is the day that Jesus died. It is called Good Friday as Jesus died for the good of mankind. Easter Sunday is the day that Jesus came back to life; it is a day of celebration and the day that we exchange gifts of eggs.

Why do we exchange eggs at Easter time, what do they represent?

In Christian faith eggs represent a symbol of new beginnings, new life and renewed faith.

HGT TRIVIA

How much do you remember from this issue of the Holm Glad Times? Take your time to answer all the questions thoughtfully and check them with your English teacher in order to claim your reward.

1. What is Stephanie Au talented at?
2. Find a word in the article by Lucas Tan that means 'a student at a school who sleeps and eats there and only goes home during school holidays'.
3. What material is the outfit presented by Pang Yan Laam made of?
4. Why do we call the Friday before Easter 'Good Friday'?
5. Who was Heraclitus?



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English Assembly 2018 Highlights

On 9 February 2018 (Friday), HGC students gathered with excitement in the school hall to take part in one of the most anticipated activities of the school year – the English Assembly 2018. The aims of this year's English Assembly is to enhance students' awareness and appreciation of English and give students an opportunity to use English in a creative way involving multimodal technology. They were 3 categories of performances: choral speaking/singing (F.1-2), oral presentations about incredible people (F.3-4) and TV adverts (F.5).

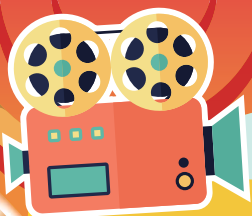
F.1 students kicked off the Assembly singing with very touching songs whereas F.2 students recited poems by some great poets. The most important part of poem recital or any vocal presentation is the sense of the poem which is supposed to be powerfully and clearly conveyed to the audience.

F.3-4 students delivered their presentations about famous people. The contestants introduced various celebrities such as Justin Bieber, Stephanie Au, Kris Wu, etc. and talked about their unique characteristics. Later on, there were some entertaining games like celebrities guessing and tongue twisters for students to have fun with. In my view, being successful is not that difficult at all in life. You just need to know what you are doing and love it. Believing in what you are doing is also important to one's success in life.

F.5 students worked very hard on their TV adverts and this year's theme was teen problems. The contestants produced short films with a strong message to the audience illustrating such themes as teenage dating, peer pressure, self-esteem, substance use etc. At the end of the session, F.6 students sang farewell song and expressed gratitude to their teachers and students.

Through the English Assembly, we hope that the students will not only be the attentive audience, we want them to be performers displaying a range of talents through the medium of English. After all, HGC's got talent!





Presentation of a Successful Person

Rise To Fame: Justin Bieber

4D Esther Lui, Kelly Poon, Marker Wong, David Tang

Before getting famous, Justin Bieber had put his songs on his YouTube Channel. The more songs he posted on the Youtube Channel, the more he became famous. Justin went from an unknown, untrained singer to a superstar in two years. His Vevo Channel has over 30 million subscribers now.

Interesting Facts

He is a left hander
He is a Christian

The Best Presentation 2018

There are a couple of interesting facts about his life. He is a left hander. His mother bought him a left-handed guitar for his birthday when he was five years old. Justin also claims himself as a Christian. He was baptized by a pastor of Hillsong Church New York in a NBA players' bathtub in 2014. Since then, he always shares his faith on media.

Justin Bieber did a lot of good things to help the people in need. He supports a number of charities. On Valentine's Day 2011, Justin surprised a six-year-old fan and brain cancer sufferer by flying her to New York, where he spent the afternoon playing board games and eating cupcakes with her.

We can learn several things from Justin Bieber. First, he has a kind heart. He has done a lot for charity. Second, even though he did a lot of wrong things, he admitted his mistakes publicly. Lastly, he works hard. He keeps producing a lot of international hits.

Giant in Stature: Yao Ming

4E Lai Yan Tung, Yola

Yao Ming is an incredible person who was the tallest active player in the NBA. Do you know how tall he is? He is 2.29m tall. He loves playing basketball as everyone knows. But actually, he has lots of hobbies too, such as listening to music, doing lots of charity work and spending time with children.

Yao Ming

Athlete (basketball player)

YAO MING

The Best Presentation 2018

Why does he become successful? He was the only player outside the United States to lead the NBA in All-Star voting. He was selected to be the NBA All-Star team eight times. Furthermore, he raised the first Chinese athlete to become an international superstar. That's why he becomes famous. He is such a charming person that I admire most.

What I learned from him is not only his ability but also his modest and hardworking attitude despite his wealth and fame. Appearing in public, Yao Ming is dressed up formally and neatly. I hope I can be him when I grow up.

Great Heights: Stephanie Au and her passion for swimming

4E Vincy Lam Kam Ying

When Stephanie was young, she didn't think she wanted to be a swimmer and she was unaware that she had talent in swimming. After having received an award in Eastern District competitions, she started training frequently. As she was trained hard, she managed to join the Olympic Games, where all athletes wanted to participate.

Stephanie Au

Beijing Olympic Games
-broke the Hong Kong record of 200m and 800m freestyle

Beijing 2002

The Most Creative Class 2018

Everyone goes through hard times at some point of their lives. Stephanie also needed to overcome it. After she had taken the HKCEE, she went to University of California, Berkeley. Not only because of the discrepancy of the culture, but also the alienation of studying in a boarding school, she felt like studying in a desert island. The hardest one was when she dropped out school for one year to go to Shenzhen for training. She said that there was purgatory. Everyday, she swam around one thousand meters. It was exhausting for her to swim one thousand meters. She couldn't play any smartphone and computer games so she couldn't contact her family. The swimming training was like a military training which was a tight schedule.

Anyway, it is important for us to learn her persistence. Her story teaches us the following: the more you invest, the more harvest you reap.

"There is nothing permanent except change." - Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher.

Fashion Show

The model is wearing a striped, long-sleeved shirt. The shirt is matched with a large, black, tuxedo and a pair of straight trousers, which are made of newspaper. The footwear is simply a pair of trainers in black. He is also wearing a belt, a trilby and a bowtie to match with the outfit.

Material such as plastic bags, newspaper, and cardboard were used to make the outfit and accessories. They were collected from our home and school's recycling bins.

I remind you that this outfit is not for rainy days because it is made of newspaper. We hope you like this outfit.

Angel, our model, is wearing a light blue, striped, V-neck T-shirt and a brown plain trench coat. The light blue, striped T-shirt is made of plastic bags, which is creative! Moreover, the brown plain trench coat is made of newspaper, which is unique. The top is matched with a pink ruffle skirt. The footwear is simply a pair of plain boots in brown colour. She is also wearing a necklace, which is made of old toys, to match with the outfit.

Materials such as newspaper, discarded clothing, plastic bags and old toys were used to make the outfit and accessories. They were collected from students' home.

I promise you that this fashionable outfit is suitable for any occasion. We hope you can be more confident when you wear this dress.

The model is wearing a gorgeous wedding dress with a charming rose on top. The rose symbolizes love which matches with our theme. At the back of the dress, there is also a big dreamy bow. The bottom of the dress was ruffled and split. This design gives a hint of elegance and makes the dress look fabulous.

She is also wearing a veil with cherry blossoms. A necklace and earrings are embedded with gemstones. She is wearing a ring with a fascinating butterfly.

Material such as newspaper, color paper, plastic bags were used to make the outfit and accessories. They were collected from our homes.

I promise that this dress will make you the most beautiful lady in the world. We hope you enjoy our performance and like our design.

Felix is presenting to you an outfit for graduation dinner. He is wearing a blue, plain, hooded jacket. The top is made of garbage bags which are comfortable.

The top is matched with a pair of yellow, checked, straight trousers which are made of red packets. The footwear is simply a pair of flowered trainers in red. He is also wearing a green hat to match with the outfit.

Materials such as newspapers, garbage bags and red packets were taken from our home. I promise you that this outfit is cool for graduation dinner. We hope you enjoy this fashion show.



Pang Yan Laam 2D(22)



Cheng Hiu Lam 2D(05)



Wing Tsang 2E(29)



Felix Yuen 2B (19)

"There are two great days in a person's life -- the day we are born and the day we discover why." - William Barclay, a Scottish theologian.