

A school trip to KFBCG

by Federica Tortune

On 21st May, a group of English Ambassadors from our school visited Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden. We were also joined by Mr Ilnur and Mr Lo.

During this trip, we were given a chance to observe some characteristics of the wildlife in Hong Kong. The Farm also serves as a rescue centre for injured wild animals. On Kadoorie Farm, these animals can not only get the cures they need, but can also enjoy a realistic enclosed space similar to their own habitat. Some of these animals are reptiles and mammals that are very rare to spot nowadays. Also, the greenhouse and the surroundings of the garden are filled with many different and beautiful plants from many parts of the world. One cool thing in the greenhouse is this plant is connected to a machine that makes sounds from the vibration given off the plant.

In addition to all of this, we received a talk about snakes and had the chance to see a snake from Africa right in front of our eyes, and we even touched its last-lost skin.

What I have learned during this trip is that it is very crucial nowadays to protect the environment and conserve flora and fauna. KFBCG's three core programmes - Nature Conservation, Holistic Education and Sustainable Living - are constantly evolving as they address different aspects of the challenge to live in harmony with nature.

I wonder why there are only a few centres like KFBCG. I believe that Nature should be respected and taken care of more especially in a place like HK that has a lot of environmental problems.

I'd totally recommend this to my friends because I think it's a very interesting place to see. Also, the guided tour was very comprehensive and informative.



Follow us on Instagram @englishcorner.hk

ISSUE NO. 4

JUN 2018

Interview with Mrs. Ma

Mrs. Ma, one of our best teachers, is retiring at the end of this school year after having taught Chinese for 37 years. Federica Tortune, also known as Gabe, caught up with her to find out about her life experiences as a teacher and the challenges she has faced in her teaching career.

Gabe
Mrs. Ma



What inspired you to be a teacher?

Well, I think as a Christian I've always wanted to spread the word of God. I think it is very important. As a Chinese teacher, I just want my students to learn Chinese, to love Chinese, and this is my will.

Did you want to be a teacher when you were young?

When I was young, I didn't think that I would come into teaching as I thought that teaching was hard and relentless.

Have you ever thought of a different career? If so, what is it?

Perhaps, I dreamed of being an editor, because I am passionate about reading and writing, so I thought that this job would suit me better.

What do you think is the best part about your job?

Showing my students the path of life leading to God and teaching them real-life skills are the best part of my career, which I found rewarding indeed.

How did you get interested in teaching? Like what made you change the idea from being an editor to being a teacher?

I have found the job satisfaction here and it is always good to see that students are learning and we, the teachers, are making good citizens.

What do you think is the worst part of your job?

Students' lack of motivation and irresponsibility I would say!

What did you hope to achieve by being a teacher?

First of all, I want to teach students how to be responsible for their lives and studies, and want them to find their ways when they grow up. And last but not least is I want to help them become a life-long learner themselves.

So are you happy with your job?

Yes, I derive great satisfaction from teaching. I'm very much happy and content with my job

Even though the students are not really... willing to learn?

Some students want to learn, and I can change them, which makes me feel proud of my mission. But nowadays, students find the learning process meaningless and tedious, and they are always asking the questions like "Why am I here? Why do I need to go to school?", which I find very weird. The key thing is "being responsible". The students used to be very responsible compared with the present ones. They were aware of what it was like being a good student and they would do whatever they were supposed to do, and be whatever they were supposed to be. But now, things have changed considerably. They are a bit lost, and they don't exactly know what to do.

When you are not working or when you are at home from school, what do you normally do? How do you spend your time?

Church, family, reading, and learning to play musical instruments.



5 TOP TIPS to improve your English in summer

- 1. Make English friends.**
Find ways to meet native English-speakers in HK. Go to Stanley Market or the Peak to meet English-speakers from all over the world.
- 2. Get online**
Join chat rooms or forums in English, take an online English course, or find a pen friend to practise your English while learning about different cultures.
- 3. Listen to authentic English**
Listen to English pop songs, follow your favourite pop singers' album and listen to audio and video news available for free online.
- 4. Get a vocabulary notebook**
Keep all the things you've learned in one place, either a notebook or an app on your smartphone. Be persistent to do it.
- 5. Whatever you do, have fun!**
Play games, do crossword puzzles, sing songs, read comics, and don't worry too much about making mistakes - making mistakes is often the way to learn best!

Join our school's summer English programme conducted by our new NET. Come and have fun in August.

Have you ever thought of helping the elderly in Hong Kong?

3E students designed some gadgets for the elderly to make their lives a lot easier. Let's take a look and get enchanted by their surprising inventions.



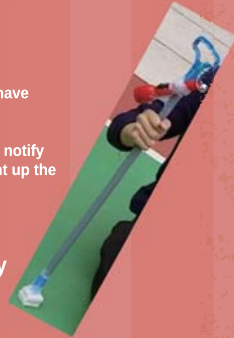
Walking cane

As most elderly can't see clearly when it's dark, they may have accidents and their family are not aware of it.

Our walking cane has a ring that can make a huge noise to notify their family or people nearby. There is a torch that can light up the way when it is dark.

Materials used: a torch, a ring and a walking cane

by Nicole, Kenny, Andy, Tyronne and Tony



Magic Clamp

We find that most elderly have spinal problems and they can't bend down to pick up rubbish at home. They may even be very worried when they are alone at home and feel helpless when doing housework.

The Magic Clamp can help the elderly pick up rubbish or items on the floor easily. It is convenient for them to clean their home. Not only can it help to do household chores, but it can also reach things from far corners. Apart from that, it is simple to use and very useful. The elderly just need to pull the rod and get things done.

Materials used: an old clamp, magazine papers, pieces of cloth, a plastic bottle, iron wire

by Vicky, Alfa, Jacky and Zoe



Cleaning Shoes

Since the elderly cannot bend down and clean the floor easily, the gadget can help the elderly clean the floor easily. The 'Cleaning Shoes' are convenient to use and the elderly can do exercise at the same time.

Materials used: cardboard, Velcro, straps, duster papers

by Bella, Anson, Chianta, Alice and Yuki



Chopspoon

We find that most elderly have problem with eating. Therefore we invented this gadget to help them use chopsticks, forks and spoons more easily.

The Chopspoon is two-sided, one of its sides is just a simple pair of chopsticks and the other side is a spoon. It is easy to switch the tool and it helps to train their hand muscles.

Materials used: a pair of chopsticks, a spoon and a plastic bottle stopper

by Ricardo, Markus, Sam, Carmen and Mandy

S.5E A TV Commercial on Teen Problem

Students: Kimmy Chan 5E (2)
Ada Cheng 5E (6)
Joyce Fung 5E (8)
Kathy Ho 5E (10)
Tina Li 5E (17)
Cherry Yu 5E (29)

Part-time jobs

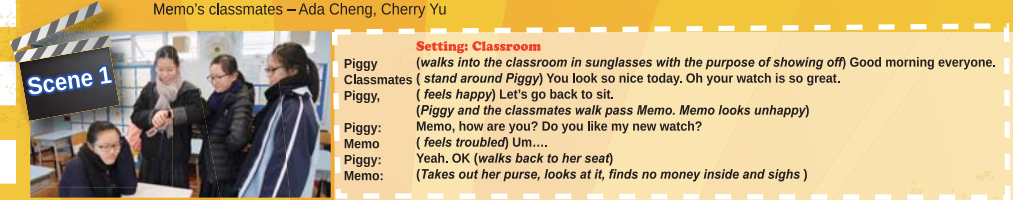
Introduction:

This year, the action plan for the S.5 Popular Culture Module is to produce a TV advertisement on one of the teen problems that has caused public concern. Before shooting, students had to write up their own script. In lessons, they learnt the main features of script writing, such as using a storyboard, making up dialogues and slogan to convey the core message to their schoolmates. After finishing the script, they started shooting the video in their own time.

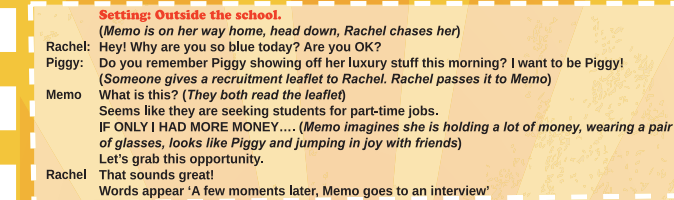
The video was produced by Kimmy Chan, Ada Cheng, Joyce Fung, Kathy Ho, Tina Li and Cherry Yu from 5E and won the **Most Creative Award** in the 2017-2018 English Assembly. Through the video, they tried to raise students' awareness of the negative effects of doing part-time jobs.

Characters: Memo (a normal girl) – Joyce Fung
Rachel (Memo's best friend) – Tina Li
Memo's classmates – Ada Cheng, Cherry Yu

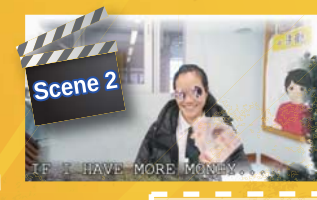
Piggy (a rich girl) – Kimmy Chan
Big Boss – Kathy Ho



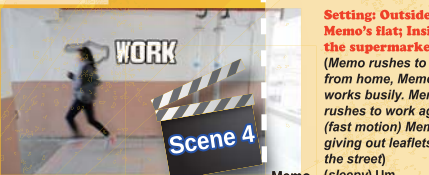
Setting: Classroom
(walks into the classroom in sunglasses with the purpose of showing off) Good morning everyone.
Classmates (stand around Piggy) You look so nice today. Oh your watch is so great.
Piggy: (feels happy) Let's go back to sit.
(Piggy and the classmates walk pass Memo. Memo looks unhappy)
Memo, how are you? Do you like my new watch?
(feels troubled) Um....
Piggy: Yeah. OK (walks back to her seat)
Memo: (Takes out her purse, looks at it, finds no money inside and sighs)



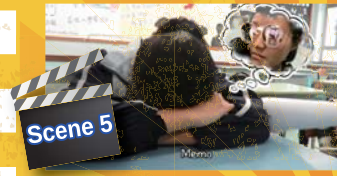
Setting: Outside the school.
(Memo is on her way home, head down, Rachel chases her)
Rachel: Hey! Why are you so blue today? Are you OK?
Piggy: Do you remember Piggy showing off her luxury stuff this morning? I want to be Piggy!
(Someone gives a recruitment leaflet to Rachel. Rachel passes it to Memo)
Memo: What is this? (They both read the leaflet)
Seems like they are seeking students for part-time jobs.
IF ONLY I HAD MORE MONEY... (Memo imagines she is holding a lot of money, wearing a pair of glasses, looks like Piggy and jumping in joy with friends)
Let's grab this opportunity.
Rachel: That sounds great!
Words appear 'A few moments later, Memo goes to an interview'



Setting: In Hippo Company's office
Memo: (the boss is sitting at her desk)
Big Boss: I would like to apply for the job. What positions are offered?
Actually, we have a variety of positions, like salesgirl, waitress...



Setting: Outside Memo's flat; Inside the supermarket
(Memo rushes to work from home, Memo works busily. Memo rushes to work again (fast motion) Memo is giving out leaflets in the street)
Memo (sleepy) Um ...



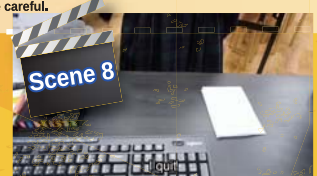
Setting: Classroom
(Memo falls asleep)
Teacher: Memo. Wake up. Wake up. Wake up.
(Memo gets her exam paper from the teacher and is nervous before looking at her marks. She feels sad when she finds the marks are very low)
Classmate: (walks toward Memo and laughs at her)
Ho ho ho. You just have 8 marks. (shows Memo her exam paper)
Can you see that ... 98 marks (showing off) Ho ho ho. POOR MAN (Memo is depressed)



Setting: Inside the supermarket
(Memo goes to work in a sleepy mood)
(In the supermarket. Rachael and Memo are tidying up the goods on the shelves)
Rachael: It is time to go back home. Goodbye Memo. See you at school tomorrow.
Memo: Goodbye (waves to Rachael)
(carrying goods, walking in front of the shelves. Classmate walks pass Memo and knocks the goods down deliberately)
Big Boss: (Boss finds Memo has dropped the goods on the floor)
What's wrong with you? You had better be careful.
Memo: (picks the goods up) OK OK



Setting: Memo's home
(Memo goes back home, feels tired and sleeps in the sofa)
(In Memo's dream, the boss's face appears like the sun, gives advice to Memo)
Big Boss: Oh my girl. I know you have tried so hard to earn money. But remember, we can't buy good health. No matter how much money we have. Time is the most luxurious thing!
(Memo wakes up)



Setting: In Hippo Company's office
(Memo hands in a letter of resignation to her boss and walks away)
The words 'Money can't buy health' appear in the letter.