

NET

SCHEME NEWS



"...our stories are singular, but our destiny is shared..." – Barack Obama

As Shakespeare put it, "All the world's a stage" and the stage is where we tell our stories. Every day, every one of us is writing a story of, and for, ourselves and others through how we plan and live our lives. While we are crafting the scenes, characters and actions in our stories, we are shaping and changing how others are portraying theirs. Together we create and experience the rich and complex narratives of life.

As educators, we have a profound role in enabling our students to craft and tell a great story of, and for, themselves. In so doing, we seek to know who and what they are and we seek to help them express their voices. In this issue of the NET Scheme Newsletter, apart from the articles contributed by teachers and NET Section colleagues about how they design learning experiences that help students craft and tell their stories, we have students sharing their personal learning stories and reflections in which they give voice to what matters to them.

In her story about her debating journey, Kaur Rableen reminisces about how she developed her confidence and competence as a debater with the support received at HKTA Wun Tsuen School, the experience of which has prepared her well for a new chapter of learning at Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section). Grace Ho and Chloe Fu, P6 students at Baptist Lui Ming Choi Primary School, share with us how they have learned and benefited from the range of memorable experiences provided under the NET Scheme, including the puppetry competition and the production of their video for the PNET Scheme's 15th Anniversary Conference. The "100th Day of School" is a popular theme chosen by schools taking part in the NET Section's Development of Text Sets (DTS) project. In his story, *Learning through Text Sets*, Jason Leung, a P3 student at SKH St Peter's Primary School, recalls how he and his schoolmates celebrated their 100th day of school in P1 and how he has developed his interest and competence in using English with the challenging experiences provided by the DTS project. From conquering the stage to dedicating himself to the theatre was one life-changing experience for Tommy Lo, an S5 student at SALEM-Immanuel Lutheran College, who talks about this experience in his story, *My Life-changing Love Affair with 'Speak Out – Act Up!'*.

The articles contributed by our NET partners give vivid descriptions of how they create opportunities for students to find and express their voice and at the same time to contribute to others' learning. In *Giving Kids a Real Reason to Write*, Ms Kanyu Wong, the NET at Carmel Alison Lam Foundation Secondary School, depicts how her students are encouraged and equipped to be authors writing for a specific audience - students of their sister primary school in Cambodia. "To us, it is a chance to let our creative juices flow. It allows us to put what we've learned in our lives about human values to good use." This remark, made by one of Ms Wong's students, speaks volumes about the value of the Let's Be Authors Programme and its impact on the students. Arguably the Internet is the best tool to get one's voice heard. In *Student Voices Online*, Mr Stephen Richards, the NET at SKH Lam Woo Memorial Secondary School, discusses the importance of encouraging "second-language students to open up and express their thoughts and feelings" and shares his experience of harnessing the Internet to enable his students "to pursue their interests, work at their own pace and develop their capacity".

The creation of opportunities for our students to find and express their voice is always a passion of our NET Section colleagues. In *Student Voices through Postcards*, Mr Gary Knight, the Advisory Teacher supporting SKH Fung Kei Millennium Primary School, introduces the voice of two P2 students, Hoby Lee and Havel Pang, reflecting on a Space Town Literacy Programme learning activity of writing and exchanging postcards with another primary school.



'Shorts on Stage'
2017

Competitions provide the stage where students learn and shine. One such star student is Rachel Li Hatch from Jockey Club Ti-I College, who won a Speak Out – Act Up! Superstar Award this year. She said, “It was my first time to take part in a drama performance and I was totally shocked that I won a prize, but I’m really happy because now I’m no longer the only person in my family without an award.”



Our puppetry competitions have developed from an experiment into another resounding success this year. Thanks to the great teamwork both on and off the stage, our student performers found the experience not only exciting and memorable, but also inspiring. Austin, from Shatin Government Primary School, commented that the experience inspired the team’s creativity.

From a digital storytelling competition, Clipit has grown into a platform that fosters a learning community engaging not only different local schools, but also international schools and various other communities. The FilmLabs, held with support from Chinese International School and South Island School, have provided rich learning experiences for hundreds of local primary and secondary students since they were first introduced in the 2015/16 school year. Also, with the development of this community comes the inspiration that has led to the production of a documentary titled “One Education, Two Systems”, a student-led project that examines the similarities and differences between the local and international school systems. The film, which premiered at the Young Achievers’ Gallery at the Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre on 18 April 2017, presents the voices of the local and international school students involved in an exchange programme that enabled them to experience and reflect on what school life was like for their counterparts. Their voices are genuine and revealing and definitely worth examining further.

“Scaling New Heights with the NET Scheme” was the theme of the PNET Scheme’s 15th Anniversary Conference. We hope, apart from fond memories, the snapshots shared of this memorable event can help build a bigger picture of how we can scale new heights with our commitment to collaboration and innovation.

To quote Shakespeare again, we all have our “exits” and “entrances” as life’s drama unfolds for each individual.

EXITS & ENTRANCES

We feel blessed to have had years of top-notch service from our Advisory Teachers, Mr Allan Wood, Ms Margaret O’Brien and Ms Kay Beadman, and Regional NET Coordinator, Mr Phillip Weber. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their unwavering support for, and remarkable contribution to, the NET Scheme. We wish them all the best with their future endeavours.

Each of the stories presented in this issue projects a certain voice. Together they tell the story of how in our different capacities we are striving to enable our students to learn and shine. The work we do during our students’ formative years is shaping and preparing them for their future. Every story is contributing to a future we all share and take responsibility for. Let’s keep writing and sharing good experiences.

Joe Leung, Chief Curriculum Development Officer, NET Section

Long-serving
NETs

Forum

15th Anniversary Conference photos

PNET Scheme



Parallel Sessions



Learning through Text Sets

Hello. Here I want to share with you my learning with my NET, Mr Eagers, my English Section in the past three years. I also shared teachers (perhaps including you) at the PNET and it was a fun experience!



I was so excited to be on the stage with all the professionals!

experience of how I have been teachers and the teachers from the NET my experience with many guests and Scheme's 15th Anniversary Conference

When I started Primary One, I was scared and my teachers seemed to be able to read my mind and they told us all not to worry. They said,



Sharing my favourite things with Mr Eagers!

"School is like your second home!" and "Learning is fun!" We were also told that there would be a big celebration on the 100th



Were you there at the conference too?

day of school when we would bring 100 things to share with our schoolmates. "Sharing Multiplies Joy", something we also learned in our first unit. Before the celebration, Mr Eagers encouraged us to make friends with 100 people, including the principal, our schoolmates, teachers, clerical staff and janitors. We also read

many stories about celebrating the 100th day of school. At the end of the unit, we made a little booklet about our favourite people, places and things at school.

Loving Our Experience with the NET Scheme



We learn a lot of interesting things from our NET, Stephanie Shouksmith, who helps us improve our English. She is always keen to talk to us and she uses fun and interactive ways to help students learn and speak English, such as English Corner games and the English Clubs. We also joined the puppetry competition, which was held by the NET Section. We learned how to change our voices to show different emotions without showing our faces. The experience was unforgettable and we had so much fun making the puppets with our NET.

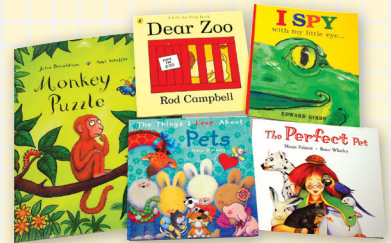
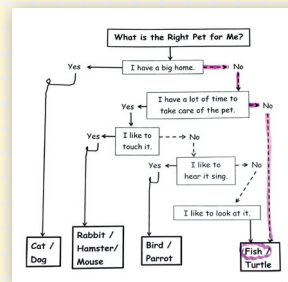
Our individual writing tasks are made easier because our NET and local teachers always do some class writing practice with us to help us use the vocabulary, phrases, idioms and

My Debating Journey from P5 to Now

I am Kaur Rableen. I spent my primary school days at Hong Kong Taoist Association Wun Tsuen School. When I was in P5, one day Mr Ross, the NET at the school, came to me and asked me if I was interested in joining the debating team. At that time, I had no idea what debate meant. Mr Ross simply summed up the word debate in two words: "formal argument". I thought it would be a new experience so I said, "Yes". Later on, we found out more about debating. Mr Hafiz, the teacher who coached me, wrote some wonderful scripts and taught me to debate very well.

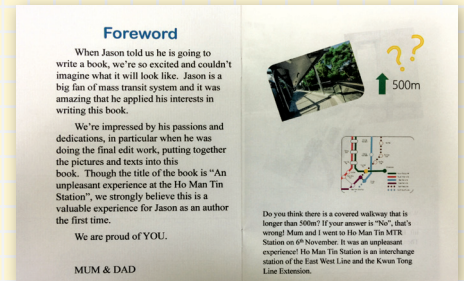
When it was time for our very first debating competition, I had butterflies in my stomach. I had no idea what our opponents would be like and what they would say. When it was my turn, I took a deep breath and, remembering what I had practised, I recited my script confidently. We won that match, but we still weren't quite getting the hang of debating. Mr Ross introduced an important part of debating afterwards – rebuttals. From then on, it was pretty much the same. We would get a new motion, search for information, write scripts and rebuttals and practise.

Another unit that I liked a lot was the unit on "Pets". We read many books about animals and how to choose the perfect pet. Although I love dogs, I learned that a dog might not be the perfect pet for me because the place where I live does not allow dogs. I also learned that taking care of dogs requires a lot of time, which I could not afford. Do you want to know what my perfect pet is? It's a fish! Mr Eagers showed us some Facebook posts and sample letters and then I wrote a letter to my parents asking if I could have a fish as my pet. They said, "Yes!"



I am now in Primary Three and the most recent unit we had was "So You Think You Can Write?" We read books about what authors and illustrators do. Our teachers encouraged all of us to participate in the "So You Think You Can Write?" competition and they helped us make our stories better. Although I did not win, I learned a lot. I also had the chance to publish my first book on a topic that I am interested in and I am very proud of it. I will keep writing stories and I believe I can be a writer one day and publish my work, just like what I am doing now - having my article published in the NET Scheme newsletter.

Finally, I would like to thank Ms Winnie from the NET Section, Mr Eagers and all my English teachers in the past three years. I know all of you have worked so hard to choose engaging books and design fun activities for us.



Jason Leung, P3 student, SKH St Peter's Primary School

My first book. My parents kindly wrote the foreword. They also helped me print this nice copy for the competition.



more complicated sentence structures. Our final grades in English are also better as a result. Learning about idioms from our NET has been especially fun. For example, if something is very expensive, you can say that it costs an arm and a leg.

Our favourite unit this year was when we learned about space. We really enjoyed making the planets out of play dough and our model of the solar system was the most beautiful in the whole class.

We think that the NET Scheme is great and filming the video for the PNET Scheme's 15th Anniversary Conference was a really memorable experience for us both.

Grace Ho and Chloe Fu, 6D students, Baptist Lui Ming Choi Primary School



I will never forget the first final we were in. I was a bundle of nerves, but Mr Ross encouraged me and told me to get into "Rableen mode", as he would say. I did my best and so did my friends, and in the end we won. There was an award called "The Best Speaker", and they had chosen me out of all the amazing debaters there. I felt so happy. It was on that day when I realised what debating actually meant, not because we won, but because we had worked as a team.



Now, debating means a lot to me. Through debating, I've learnt the importance of teamwork. I've also learnt how important it is to be confident. I am grateful to Mr Ross for the training he has given me. If it weren't for him, I would not have learned how to debate. I am also thankful to Mr Hafiz for the coaching and the time he spent on helping with the drafting of the scripts. Now I'm an S1 student studying at Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section). It has been a new experience to write my own script for the inter-class debate at school, but with the training I had in primary school, I think I have done a pretty good job.

Kaur Rableen, S1 student, Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section)

Student Voices through Postcards

For the P2 students from SKH Fung Kei Millennium Primary School in Hung Hom, the new Space Town Literacy Programme has provided an opportunity for their voices to reach far beyond their classroom.

The Space Town unit, "A Tale of Two Turtles", follows a big book story involving a postcard exchange between two characters. Two NETs have collaborated and brought this idea to life as students wrote and exchanged postcards with another primary school across the city.

Hoby Lee from P2C class said, "I enjoyed the postcard activity because I can make new friends and can learn and share more about Whampoa." Havel Pang, also from P2C class, said, "The postcard activity gave me a chance to communicate with other students and learn something new." The NET, Mr Joe Dawson, said, "This has been one of the most successful activities in the entire Space Town Literacy Programme. Once the students found out they were creating 'real' postcards that were going to be read by other students, the atmosphere in the classroom changed. Even students who are usually not enthusiastic about English became tremendously motivated and produced some of their best written work to date. The students were equally excited to receive the postcards from their pen-friends."



NET Mr Joe Dawson and his students

Through an authentic postcard exchange, this Space Town activity has provided opportunities for students across the city to connect and communicate. It has hugely increased their enthusiasm to write and share their voices with the world.

Gary Knight, Advisory Teacher, NET Section

Primary Puppetry Competition 2017

Fifty primary schools joined in this year's highly successful "Story to Stage" puppetry competition, which was held between 25 and 27 April 2017 at the Young Achievers' Gallery, Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre. The competition consisted of five sessions and prize-giving ceremonies were conducted at the end of each event. Not only did the performing students and their NETs and LETs join, but 51 parents also came to support their children. It was agreed among the Puppetry Project Team members that the standard of the performance of the participating schools had reached new heights this year. It was evident that the participating teams' English language and higher quality. The appropriate use of backdrops the performances. Students enjoyed not only performing in the tent but also watching other student teams' performances. They were highly engaged throughout the competition. Here are the competition winners:

Session 1



Buddhist Lam Bing Yim Memorial School
(Story: Be Smart! Never Start! - The Trial of Mr Nick O'Teen)

Session 2



Holy Angels Canossian School
(Story: The Origin of Kentucky Fried Chicken)

Session 3



St. Antonius Primary School (Story: The Selfish Giant)

Session 4



Emmanuel Primary School (Story: Pokemon Island)

Session 5



Canton Road Government Primary School
(Story: The Boomerang Bottle)

"I like using puppets because it is so much fun and interesting."

Alexandra, TKDS Fong Shu Chuen School

WORDS FROM STUDENTS

"Through performing the different characters, we can learn English more happily when using puppets."

Jeanna, HHCKLA Buddhist Wisdom Primary School

"I think this puppet show is fun and we can learn more about how to work with friends. It is teamwork."

Wincci, Yuen Long Po Kok Primary School

"It helped with our writing. It inspired our creativity."

Austin, Shatin Government Primary School

"It is interesting because you can use your hands instead of your body to perform on stage."

Alex, St Francis of Assisi's Caritas School

Patricia Wong, Assistant Project Manager, NET Section

'Speak Out – Act Up!' Improvised Drama Competition

The ninth 'Speak Out – Act Up!' Improvised Drama Competition was held between 14 and 28 March in Sheung Wan, Tuen Mun and Shatin Town Halls and attracted teams from 79 secondary schools from throughout Hong Kong. Students in groups of 4 - 6 were asked to perform a 4 - 5 minute improvised drama skit based on the topic of a country.



The NET Section was grateful to have the help of nine experienced adjudicators who judged in the seven sessions and gave advice on the students' English language skills and dramatic techniques. Mr Scott Wilkins, who runs his own professional theatre company specialising in educational theatre and is an experienced judge of the competition, said, "Improvised drama is a fantastic way for students in Hong Kong to practise their English in an environment that rewards risk-taking and encourages expression and creativity. This competition has been a platform for students to really push the limits of their English skills in a fun way and the confidence gained from that will be priceless to them."

Four team prizes and three individual prizes, as well as the first prize, were given out in each session. This year it was so hard for judges to decide on a couple of individual prizes that ties were awarded and extra prizes given out. A small audience participation prize was also given to teams who were able to guess three of the teams the judges would choose.

Rachel Li Hatch, from Jockey Club Ti-I College, who won a Speak Out – Act Up! Superstar Award, said, "It was my first time to take part in a drama performance and I was shocked that I won a prize, but I'm really happy because now I'm no longer the only person in my family without an award."

Schools new to the competition took part in two 3-hour drama workshops in early December as well as a briefing session in October. Teachers then trained their students in the skills of improvised drama over a period of four months. The NET Section welcomes your participation next year. Please look out for information at your school in October. For more information on the 'Speak Out – Act Up!' Improvised Drama Competition, please refer to: www.edb.gov.hk/net/enet/speakoutactup.

Gina Green, Regional NET Coordinator, NET Section

Prize list for 'Speak Out – Act Up!' 2017

★ Team Prizes ★

First Prize

1st Prize

CCC Hoh Fuk Tong College
Sacred Heart Canossian College
The ELCHK Yuen Long Lutheran Secondary School
SKH Tsang Shiu Tim Secondary School
Hoi Ping Chamber of Commerce Secondary School
LKWFSL Lau Wong Fat Secondary School
PLK Tang Yuk Tien College

Other Team Prizes (in no particular order)

Dramatic Technique

South Tuen Mun Government Secondary School
King's College
Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School
Buddhist Kok Kwong Secondary School
Kau Yan College
SKH Lam Kau Mow Secondary School
Christian Alliance S C Chan Memorial College

My Life-changing Love Affair with 'Speak Out – Act Up!'

Taking part in 'Speak Out – Act Up!' has played a role in inspiring me to be an actor and to devote myself to the theatre. I started taking part when I was a secondary one student. Our very first topic was "A Skeleton in the Closet". My teammates and I had no idea where to begin as we didn't understand the meaning of the idiom, but we only had one week to rehearse. To us, this was a rather challenging competition. That year we won "The Best Use of Language" prize and we had a lot of fun!



I will never forget the fear when I was performing in front of the audience in the competition the first few times. I was not good at drama, and English was difficult for me back then. Yet I enjoyed watching other teams from different schools perform, and their skills, language proficiency and most important of all, their passion amazed me. The students' love of theatre kindled my enthusiasm for English drama.

Creativity

CNEC Christian College
St Louis School
Wah Yan College, Kowloon
Jockey Club Ti-I College
Liu Po Shan Memorial College
St Teresa Secondary School
Gertrude Simon Lutheran College

Teamwork

Lai King Catholic Secondary School
St Mark's School
Shun Lee Catholic Secondary School
Tin Ka Ping Secondary School
Buddhist Hung Sean Chau Memorial College
LKWFL Lau Wong Fat Secondary School
CUHKFAA Thomas Cheung Secondary School

Use of Language

Yuen Long Merchants' Association Secondary School
HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No 3 Secondary School
NLSI Lui Kwok Pat Fong College
Christ College
Bishop Hall Jubilee School
CCC Kwei Wah Shan College
Queen's College Old Boys' Association Secondary School

First Prize Winners



PLK Tang Yuk Tien College



The ELCHK Yuen Long Lutheran Secondary School



CCC Hoh Fuk Tong College



LKWFL Lau Wong Fat Secondary School

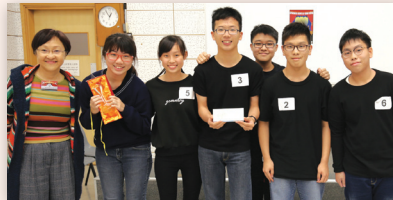


Hoi Ping Chamber of Commerce Secondary School

Audience Prize

(no certificates awarded for this prize)

CNEC Christian College
Buddhist Sin Tak College
Sing Yin Secondary School
Confucian Tai Shing Ho Kwok Pui Chun College
Valtorta College
Helen Liang Memorial Secondary School
Salesian English School



SKH Tsang Shiu Tim Secondary School



Sacred Heart Canossian College

★ Individual Prizes ★

Speak Out – Act Up! Superstar Award (best overall performance)

HKWMA Chu Shek Lun Secondary School – Faizan Qurrat-ul-Ain
HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No 3 Secondary School – Asif Kainaat
HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No 3 Secondary School – Feroz Nanab
Methodist College – Cheung Ka Hei, Estella
Gertrude Simon Lutheran College – Ng Hei Yuen
St Teresa Secondary School – Chan Ka Tan, Sherman
Liu Po Shan Memorial College – Law Cheuk Nam, Samuel
Ying Wa College – Wu Zhan Kang, Stephen
Jockey Club Ti-I College – Li Hatch, Rachel

Speak Out! Star Award (best use of English)

CCC Hoh Fuk Tong College – Ameer Hamza Khalid
Raimondi College – Choi Kin Hei, Kenneth

The ELCHK Yuen Long Lutheran Secondary School – Cheung Kai Wang

CCC Kwei Wah Shan College – Giselle Paguyo
Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School – Adrian Chao
China Holiness Church Living Spirit College – Yeung Hoi Ching, Summer
PLK Tang Yuk Tien College – Yau Hiu Nam, Phoebe

Act Up! Star Award (best acting)

Yuen Long Merchants' Association Secondary School – Law Tik Tung
Tuen Mun Catholic Secondary School – Fan Tin Chi, Danny
St Louis School – Yu Hon Chun, Timmy
Ying Wa College – Lai Hei, Lachlan
Ning Po No. 2 College – Lam Wai Ho
The YWCA Hioe Tjo Yoeng College – Tsang Yuk Wah
PLK Tang Yuk Tien College – Lai Hin Wang, Mathew

Now, when I am on the stage, all I feel is satisfaction and excitement. I feel that this is where I belong. Sometimes I wonder – what if I hadn't joined the 'Speak Out – Act Up!' Improvised Drama Competition in the first place? Would I still love acting? Would I still be who I am now? Would my world be as amazing without acting? Thanks to the NET Section, this competition has given me the precious chances to act, to improve my English and to meet many brilliant people who share the same dream as mine. This is my last year participating in the competition and I would like to thank all my supportive friends who joined the competition with me – Elaine Tang, Marty Leung and Connie Fung. Without them I wouldn't have been able to achieve anything. Thank you!

**Lo Ho Cheung, Tommy, S5 student,
SALEM – Immanuel Lutheran College, Tai Po**



Lo Ho Cheung, Tommy (right)
with Leung Chi Lok, Martin (Marty)

Student Voices Online

Many students are rather passive and lack the confidence to express themselves in English. However, they do have things they want to say. One way to encourage second-language students to open up and express their thoughts and feelings is to involve them with IT projects that allow them to pursue their interests, work at their own pace and develop their creativity. During the past couple of decades, I have been exploring different ways of using IT to get students to express themselves in English. The projects have involved creative writing, collaborative writing, online peer feedback, video production and even music composition and recording.



Getting Started

You can think of your own interests and your goals for your students and work from there. For example, if you are interested in current affairs and want your students to develop their critical thinking skills, getting students to develop an online school newspaper might appeal to you. If you are a foodie and want your students to develop more confidence in speaking, you might cooperate with your school's IT team to produce a cooking show. The possibilities are endless.

Here is a brief introduction to the projects I have developed. If you would like more information or would like to collaborate on a similar project, feel free to contact me.



Online Discussion Forum

<https://engp.wordpress.com/>

Students suggest different discussion topics, I formulate discussion questions based on these topics and post the questions online and then students post their responses. This site is public, but if you want a more controlled environment, it would be easy to set up something similar on your school's e-learning platform.

Creative Media Studio Team

<https://cmestudio.wordpress.com/>

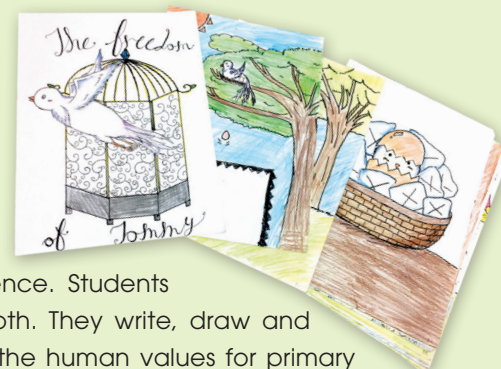
This is an extra-curricular activity involving a small group of students who work on multi-media projects. Studio Team productions are not always in English, but the work is done in an English-language environment. The

Giving Kids a Real Reason to Write: Let's Be Authors Programme



As the name suggests, the Let's Be Authors Programme allows students to become authors, and to write for a specific audience. Students either become a writer, an illustrator or both. They write, draw and design a picture story book about one of the human values for primary

school students, such as empathy, trust, love or freedom. The books are then printed and donated to our sister primary school in Cambodia.



This is about how our teenagers see the world. What do human values mean in their eyes? If they were to pass on a positive message to the young, which message would be dearest to their hearts? With all these in mind, this programme was born. Unless the students are writing about a totally imaginary world, then part of their lives, cultures and experiences are bound to be infused into their stories. Their audience, the children from Cambodia, possess a very different cultural background from our teenagers in Hong Kong. Despite the differences between the writers and readers, I believe when communicating about values like love, sympathy or honesty, we are more alike than different.



Let the students tell you, in their own voices, about their feelings and choices in this programme:

students prefer to work on short films on issues they are interested in. We also have a music video channel on YouTube as some of the students in our school are talented musicians and like to express themselves by composing and performing original songs or by doing arrangements and covers of existing songs. If you would like to get your students into video production, the NET Section's annual Clipit competition is a good place to start.

We Made It! Video Project

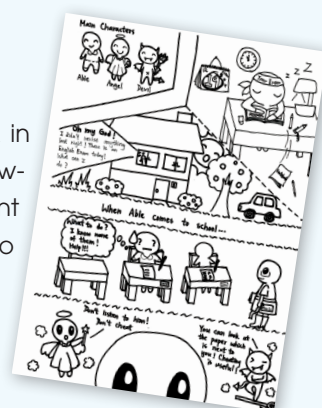
<https://engp.wordpress.com/student-work/video-projects/>

This was a form-wide activity in which we had all Form Two students in our school work in small groups to produce short videos. In order to minimise the problem of students from low-income families being disadvantaged by not having access to the necessary equipment and software, we provided camcorders to students and had them use freeware for video editing.

Creative Writing Website

<https://longzijun.wordpress.com/asianvoices/>

This website came about because I was trying to think of ways to get students to read more. I thought it might be a good idea to put their writing online so that they could easily read one another's work. I also hoped that if students knew there was a real audience for their work, they would be more motivated to create interesting poems and stories. I later opened up the website to young writers in Hong Kong and then expanded it further to become a website for young Asian writers. You might be interested in introducing some of the poems, stories and creative non-fiction there to your own students, and you can consider setting up a similar kind of online showcase of student work.



Creative Writing Peer Review System & Collaborative Story Writing

The school where I now teach has just started experimenting with online peer reviews (using Google Docs) in Form One English classes, and the teachers seem quite pleased with it. The online collaborative writing activity involved giving readers a choice on how to continue a story and then having them (1) write that continuation and (2) give the next reader/writer two choices regarding how to continue.

Stephen Richards, NET, SKH Lam Woo Memorial Secondary School

zijun01@gmail.com

"To us, it is a chance to let our creative juices flow. It allows us to put what we've learned in our lives about human values to good use."

"We feel very grateful and excited as we have never written a story which can be printed out and we are happy we can share something about life through the story."

"I feel happy and nervous, happy because they can read my story but nervous too as I am afraid they won't like it or they won't get the main point in the book."

"I chose the theme 'Cooperation' because I think teamwork is very important. So many children don't know this and they only think about themselves."

"We chose the theme 'Honesty' because we think everyone must be honest or people will not trust you anymore."

"The most interesting part of writing a book was drawing the pictures because we like drawing and painting."

"The most difficult part in this programme was to input the screenshot into Microsoft Word because when I input the photos, it sometimes corrupted the whole file and I needed to do it again."

"The most difficult part of making this book was setting the target level. At first, we set the target level for Primary 3 students but we thought we should use harder vocabulary. Then we worried that they had not developed the English ability to read this book so we had to change the target level again."

"The most memorable part of this experience was that we had to change the story, pictures or settings many times and it took a long time to finish."

"In this project, we learned the spirit of working in a team and the need to pay attention to our words and our grammar."

"In this project, we learned how to write an educational story and how to think from others' viewpoints."

Now that our books are in the printing stage, our next step is to produce audio e-books. As long as we have a real purpose to use English as a tool to communicate, who knows? Maybe having live storytelling sessions would be a good next step for us.

Kanyu Wong, NET, Carmel Alison Lam Foundation Secondary School

NET Section Film Projects 2017

Clipit 2017

The NET Section's Student Film Competition celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2017. Information about Clipit including winning student films is available at <http://www.hkedcity.net/clipit/>.



Highlights

Competition partners this year included HKEdCity, the Hong Kong Maritime Museum (HKMM), the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao (EU), media partner Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) as well as South Island School (SIS) and Chinese International School (CIS) Film and Media departments.

Participating in the Film-it Section offered primary and secondary students/teachers an opportunity to visit the HKMM and/or access educational materials from the museum via curator sessions.

Participating in the Snap-it Section offered secondary students/teachers an opportunity to visit the EU Office and/or to request a school visit from an EU officer to help trigger ideas, develop a focus and access EU resources.

The NET Section offered numerous workshops and FilmLabs to support teachers and students.

FilmLab@CIS

On Saturday, 22 April, the second annual FilmLab@CIS was held at Chinese International School from 09.30 to 17.00. More than 100 people were in attendance including 80 local and international school students, along with accompanying teachers, administrators and parents.

The day-long FilmLab provided local primary and secondary students with an opportunity to gain more film making insight and expertise as well as to interact in English with Hong Kong IB students in an enjoyable and meaningful way.



A big thank you to Alison Wong (CIS Head of Film and Media) and her students for a fantastic day ... and much appreciated pizza!



Photos – <https://goo.gl/photos/L7k9HPBwKqbWLFt8>

Photos – <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9AlgRloMOnnek9EYlpFeWFkdTQ?usp=sharing>

1-minute films (Topic = 'The Handshake') – <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B7i7Cboq2SIhS196cVBZSzFTaEU>

FilmLab@SIS

On Saturday, 29 April, the second annual FilmLab@SIS was held at South Island School from 09.30 to 14.00. More than 80 people were in attendance including 62 local and ESF students, along with accompanying teachers, administrators and parents.

The half-day FilmLab provided local and secondary students with an opportunity to get help with their Clipit 2017 entries from SIS film students.

Thanks to Iain Williamson (SIS Head of Film and Media Literacy) and his students for a productive day of film making...and much appreciated pizza!

Photos – <https://goo.gl/photos/MW5dGqEcRg9Mucrp9>



“One Education, Two Systems”



In late 2015, Chinese International School student Victor Yin arranged a four-day exchange programme between Chinese International School (CIS) and SALEM-Immanuel Lutheran College (ILC).

The exchange was filmed by a team of students from both schools and developed into a 40-minute documentary, “One Education, Two Systems” (1E2S).

During the Easter holidays, the 1E2S documentary produced by CIS and ILC students was premiered at the Young Achievers’ Gallery (YAG) at the Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre. The premiere was then followed up with screenings and an exhibition open to the public.

When you have time, check out:

- 1E2S exhibition at the YAG in KTESC, <https://goo.gl/photos/ejfkTHwwJZCvJEq9A>
- 1E2S premiere at the YAG, <https://goo.gl/photos/YZKGqB8NU3AWb5JM8>
- 1E2S website including the film, <https://1E2S.com>



Phillip Weber, Regional NET Coordinator, NET Section



Secondary debaters teaming up for the challenges



Mr Ip Kin-yuen congratulated the students on their speeches and presentations



Mr Wesley Wong Wai-chung, SC, shared his experiences as captain of the HKU Debating Club...some years back



A primary student debater speaking with confidence



Congratulations to all the winners of the HKPTU Primary Debating Competition

Adieu, Au Revoir, Goodbye



After 11 years as a NET and 6 years as an AT, I'm taking a break. The last 17 years (yes seventeen!) have flown by. Thanks to all the colleagues, teachers and students who've made work a pleasure. And by the way, I'm not going anywhere. Hong Kong is home now. So see you around.

Kay Beadman, Advisory Teacher, NET Section

Farewell Hong Kong from 'Mr Hello' – Allan Wood

What an amazing and life-changing experience living and working in Hong Kong as part of the NET Scheme has been for me! After 14 wonderful years at the end of my teaching and advising life, it is with a mixed bag of emotions that I pack up my life at this stage in readiness for the next phase.



I knew in 2003 that Hong Kong would be a place where I would be happy and the friends and colleagues I met in those early years helped to ensure that optimistic outlook. My six years as a NET at FDBWA Chau Chin Yau School in Tuen Mun was a wonderful start and to my mind, prepared me well to understand how I might best assist other NETs when I moved on to my Advisory Teaching position.

Thank you to all the NETs, local teachers, students and principals with whom I have made contact and established friendships over these past years – you will be missed – but retirement and new adventures await.

Allan Wood, Advisory Teacher, NET Section



The hardest part about coming to Hong Kong... is the leaving afterwards. YIKES!

What a fabulous 14 years it has been. On arrival in 2003 I worked as a NET in To Kwa Wan. In those days NETs worked in two schools. It was all a bit manic and not the most effective deployment. Later, I escaped and become an Advisory Teacher in 2005.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to the principals, local teachers and, most importantly, to the NETs who have welcomed me into their schools over the past 12 years. Your openness to my visits, ideas sharing, collaborative problem solving, willingness to try suggested approaches and our off-task chats and laughs have all been greatly appreciated. You have made me look more capable in my role than I probably deserve.

Goodbyes are never easy, particularly when you enjoy the job, the people you work with and when you've made many new friends along the way. However, it's time for new experiences. I have so many fond memories to take from Hong Kong. It wasn't always smooth sailing, but life in Hong Kong has been brilliant. Farewell and best wishes to you all.

Margaret O'Brien, Advisory Teacher, NET Section

After five active years as a NET, I have spent the past nine years parked in the Tsuen Wan office as a Regional NET Coordinator in the NET Section of the Education Bureau. I've been fortunate to be able to help support 70+ schools in the Kowloon Region as well as to develop and focus on Clipit (a student film competition), professional development workshops, Seed projects, school-based support, Special Education Needs and the implementation of English curriculum material.

"To keep your balance, you must keep moving." It's time to ride Einstein's bicycle.

Phillip Weber, Regional NET Coordinator, NET Section



Our Newsletter and Proofreading Task Groups

Newsletter Task Group
Teresa Chu (Editor-in-chief), Julien Hawthorne, John Hone, Lionell Horn, Garlanda Kwan, Christine Xavier, Kit Yong

This Newsletter is prepared by the NET Section, CDI, EDB.

Proofreading Task Group
Teresa Chu (Coordinator), Kamla Dilrajh, Gina Green, Julien Hawthorne, Simon Herd, Sala Liu, Anne Macpherson, Christine Xavier

All comments and suggestions on the newsletter can be sent to teresachu@edb.gov.hk.