

ILCian Post

English Department

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ENRICHED ENGLISH LEARNING AT ILC



ILC students have many opportunities to participate in activities outside the classroom where they use and develop their English. A wide range of activities is available to them if they wish to take advantage of them. As well, three members of staff are native speakers of English and they are available to students for informal conversation and to give specific help on request.

Students can attend some of the activities on a regular basis, such as those offered in the English Learning Centre after school each day. Others take place at different times throughout the year e.g. drama workshops and competitions, Speech Festival, inter-school debating, excursions and the Overseas Summer Program.



This copy of the ILCian Post shares with you, through words and photographs, students involved in some of these activities. Enjoy!

Some activities are school-based and others are off-campus. However, all of them give students the chance to use English for real purposes, such as competing, gathering data, conducting interviews, engaging with literary works and discovering new information, to name a few. Students have been delighted to discover that they can communicate effectively in English in situations such as interviewing and talking with English-speaking tourists or exploring how the 'South China Morning Post' is compiled.



English Learning Centre (ELC)



Welcome!



What's on in the ELC?

The ELC is open after school with different activities each day. Movie Monday is when students sharpen their listening skills as they watch and discuss English language movies.



Shrek



Nothing is better than hot chocolate on a cold day!



You'll never guess this word!

Tuesday afternoon is the popular EL Cafe when the ELC is transformed into a coffee shop. Students indulge in drinks and snacks as they chat, play games and just enjoy one another's company. The hot chocolate is delicious and especially popular in winter!



I will be bankrupt.

He could probably get a job as a barista now.

Wednesday is a surprise day, with activities varying from week to week—sometimes karaoke, sometimes scrabble, sometimes—who knows what? Thursday is Games Day and the tables are covered with a wide range of games surrounded by students chatting as they play.



Everyone's here today.



Game Day in the ELC



Girl talk



Sometimes, we have to queue to play the games.

The ELC provides a relaxed, informal setting for students to use English, to apply what they learn in class, to make mistakes and to learn from their peers and others, all while having fun at the same time.



They even stopped talking for a few seconds!



You still haven't convinced me that you're right.



A bit of debate never hurt anyone.



Fun and games at EL Cafe

March in the ELC					
Lunch (11:30) After School (4:00)	Monday Chat with Mr. Anthony Make Monday Clue	Tuesday Chat with Mr. Anthony The EL Cafe	Wednesday Chat with Mr. Anthony Anything Day	Thursday Chat with Mr. Anthony Game Day: Your choice	Friday Chat with Mr. Anthony
Lunch (11:30) After School (4:00)	Monday Chat with Mr. Anthony Make Monday: The Incredible	Tuesday Chat with Mr. Anthony The EL Cafe	Wednesday Chat with Mr. Anthony Anything Day	Thursday Chat with Mr. Anthony Game Day: Taboo	Friday Chat with Mr. Anthony
Lunch (11:30) After School (4:00)	Monday Chat with Mr. Anthony Make Monday: National Treasure	Tuesday Chat with Mr. Anthony The EL Cafe	Wednesday Chat with Mr. Anthony Anything Day	Thursday Chat with Mr. Anthony Game Day: Taboo	Friday Chat with Mr. Anthony

Check the calendar

Performing Drama



What a gentleman—so sweet! (S2)



Even the MCs get in on the act.



I try to be a good mother to you three little pigs. (S4)

Following the workshops, S.2, S.3 and S.4 hold drama competitions at their English Assemblies. Students in each class write their own script incorporating poems, songs, rap or dance.



The audience is eager for the start.



Singing in the rain (S3)



2C—rehearsing and rehearsing



Costumes and....



props—all part of the drama. (S2)



It's hard work for the judges



Dancing our way through the drama

As well, they design and make props and costumes, rehearse in their own time and finally produce an entertaining performance for an audience of fellow students and teachers.



A moment of high drama—will she survive? (S3)

Oral Training

As students in S.7 and S.5 prepare for their public exams, they have the chance to refine their discussion skills at after-school practices with native English speaking members of staff. Not only do they practise discussions, but they also receive constructive feedback on their skills.



S.5 speaking practice



A sense of humour lightens the discussion.



S.5 students planning their discussion



It's actually quite hard work.

Speech Festival



Practising together

Every year, ILC students enter the Speech Festival where they participate with thousands of other students from all over Hong Kong. They are rewarded with certificates recognizing their efforts and some of them are fortunate enough to be placed as winners or runners-up in their sections.

Students devote weeks to preparing, practising and polishing their performances in their own time and under the guidance of members of the English staff. Apart from certificates and prizes, they gain confidence as well as valuable experience in pronunciation and speaking clearly with expression and feeling.



Happy performers

Conducting Morning Assembly

Every year, a theme is chosen and each level of students is responsible for planning and conducting a Morning Assembly. This occurs from four to six times each year. This year's theme matches the theme of our 25th Anniversary, 'A Journey: Soaring from Good to Great'. However, in the past, themes have included the Beijing Olympics, Language Arts, Festivals and Authors. These assemblies are an opportunity for students to demonstrate their English and presentation skills. Often, the whole assembly is involved with questions to the audience to check their understanding of the presentation—and prizes for the winners!



Poems and Songs



A winner from the audience



Sharing the singing

Competing in the English Quiz

English quizzes for S.1—S.3 students have provided involvement for many students and enjoyment for all as students have striven to defeat their opponents and gain points for their Houses. While teachers have helped students to prepare and train for the quizzes, students themselves have taken leading roles in conducting the quizzes.



I know the answer!



Spellbound audience at an English Quiz



Team work



Even the teachers are concentrating!

Stall Games

As part of their assessment in English, S.6 students design, prepare and conduct English language stall games for S.1 and S.2 students, who vote for their favourite game stall. The school hall fills with noise and excitement as the students compete to beat the language challenges presented to them.



A game of prepositions



Here's a challenge!



What's this?



What's the word?



Can you catch it?



You have to be in it to win it.



Such concentration



Joyful enthusiasm!

Book Fair

Occasionally, publishing houses visit our school with their mobile book displays. Such visits are a great opportunity for students to browse through a wide range of English language books – and to buy if they so wish.



Listen to this!



Queuing up to check out the books



Can I order this book?



So many books!

Interviewing in the Wider Community

Interviewing people outside school is a great opportunity for our students to use English for real purposes. ILC students have interviewed English speaking tourists as well as students at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The most recent interviews with CU students focused on learning attitudes and students followed up the interviews by writing reports to present their findings.



Recording the interview



Which one is the university student?

Excerpts from student reports:

"The Chinese University students gave me some advice. They told me that punctuality and concentration are very important. They also said that time management is significant so you can have time for studying and other activities too."

Chung Chow Ho (S.3 Student)

"I thought interviewing the Chinese University students was interesting. They said that it is important to have good learning attitudes. They are active in class, always ask teachers questions and study after lessons."

Leung Man Yin (S.3 Student)



A good experience

During the interviews with tourists in TST and Central, students also evaluated one another's performance and gave feedback on how each person conducted their interviews. A particular focus was the level of politeness used during the interviews.



Where are you from?



Which places in Hong Kong have you visited?



What are you doing here with my family?



Let's take a photo.

Discovering Information Technology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong

An excursion, which took S.3 students out of the school and into the wider community, was a visit to the Chinese University of Hong Kong where students were able to explore the facilities, including the 'Super Computer Room', and attend an informative lecture delivered in English. Following this experience, they used the knowledge gained to write an argumentative essay addressing the issue of Information Technology in Education.



Listening intently



Experiencing a lecture theatre



Checking out the cafeteria at CU

Other excursions to both the Hong Kong Institute of Education and the Chinese University of Hong Kong have given students the chance to view English language performances based on well-known English literature. These included the Shakespearean drama, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', which was seen by S.1 students. Films included 'The Passenger' and 'Long Life, Happiness and Prosperity', which were viewed by S.5 and S.6 students respectively.



On the campus of the Chinese University of Hong Kong

Summer Overseas Program

Every summer, a group of ILC students travel to a country where English is the main language and where they undertake a program of English study. As well, they go sightseeing, experience local culture and take part in many different and new activities. Of course, they use English for everyday communication.



Travelers

In the last 3 years, students have visited England, with a side trip to Europe, the United States of America and Australia. Who knows where the next tour will go!



Visiting Buckingham Palace



Classroom learning in England



In the English countryside



National Park cookout



St. Croix Lutheran High School in USA



On the Edith Cowan University campus in Perth



Eating out—Australian style

2008 student diary excerpts:

"I tried many things for the first time—feeding a kangaroo, riding a camel and milking a cow. The feeling of milking the cow was really weird, but I felt very happy when I could squeeze the milk successfully."

Lam Ming Yan, Charlene 4A



Host family kids



So cute—and hungry



Learning a useful new skill!

"I could communicate and know many people of different nationalities on this trip, including a French boy who lived with my host family and some Japanese girls. We talked a lot and took lots of photos."

Lam Ming Yan, Charlene 4A

"Going to Australia was fun and interesting. I enjoyed it very much and I learnt a lot from my host parent, the teachers and the staff. I am really thankful to them and without them, the study tour wouldn't have been so fruitful."

Lui Chiu Yee, Kylie 3B



Visiting the Pinnacles in Western Australia

*A Journey:
Soaring from Good to Great!*



Immanuel Lutheran College
South Asian Lutheran Evangelical Mission

Address: Tai Yuen Estate, Tai Po, N.T. Hong Kong
Website: <http://www.ilc.edu.hk> Tel: (852) 26673129
E-mail: ilcidx@yahoo.com.hk Fax: (852) 26650600