

GLITTER

Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Mrs. Wu York Yu Memorial College

JULY 2021 VOL.38 FREE



Open Our Eyes

Reach The Sky

Be Our Pride



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WYY STUDENTS WON THE 2020 CANADIAN ENGLISH WRITING INVITATIONAL CONTEST



Wong Yung, Jacqueline, from 5C and Lee Hoi Ying, Cosine, from 5A participated in the 2020 Canadian English Writing Invitational Contest organised by The English Association of Asia. Much to our great joy, they won the Championship and the Silver Award, respectively, for their efforts!

“I thought little about winning the territory-wide contest as I don’t really have confidence in my writing skills,” said Jacqueline. With little expectation of winning, Jacqueline’s main goal was simply to try her very best.

Her essay was a response to the motion “Schools are supposed to prepare for students to face the real world, but schools cannot meet the objective.” She wrote an article opposing the statement, pointing out that “peer competition helps prepare students to face the challenges of the workplace”. She also argued that “peer cooperation helps students acquire team-building and interpersonal skills ...while nurturing important morals”. She was highly commended for her argumentation skills.

Jacqueline added that a positive attitude towards school always leads to a fantastic school life. She encourages us to participate in various competitions to broaden our horizons and we can achieve more than what we have ever imagined. Also, to improve our writing skills, she suggests we write often and expose ourselves to an English-rich environment. “Challenge yourself to prove that you are worth the rewarding result,” is the final message she wants to impart to her fellow students.

Cosine, the other prize-winner, was also overwhelmed by the fruitful outcome. “To be honest, I was really nervous before participating in the contest,” Cosine said with a broad smile. As it was an inter-school competition, she did not have much hope for winning a prize either. Cosine’s writing topic was “Do you prefer e-books or printed books?” It was a blessing to her when Cosine realized that she could pick any writing genres for her topic. Cosine chose to write a blog entry as she loves writing in an informal style and fancies adding idioms and slangs to her writing.

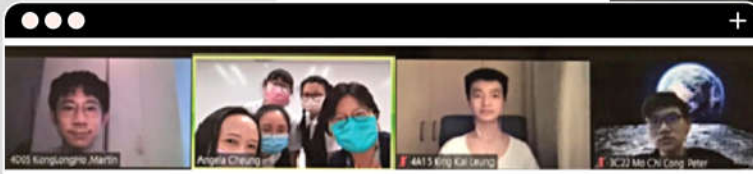
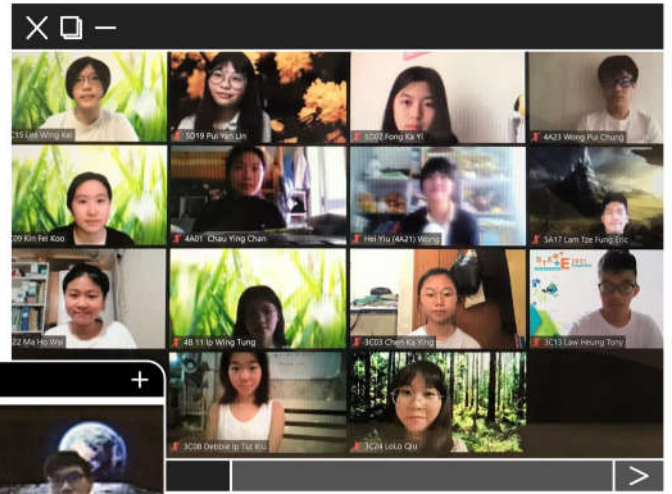
In fact, Cosine also rejoiced at the given topic. It was almost perfect for her because she loves reading. She prefers reading printed books because she likes their smell and thinks they are less harmful for the eyes than e-books. Cosine also thinks that it’s cool to read a book and chill while sipping a nice cup of coffee. To

polish our writing skills, Cosine suggests we read more in our spare time since reading expands our vocabulary and teaches us to communicate accurately and efficiently. Apart from reading, Cosine likes to learn English in other fun ways, such as watching dramas or movies. She thinks these activities help her learn vocabulary in meaningful contexts. “If reading is too boring,” she said, “we should seek out books on topics that interest us.” For example, Cosine loves reading novels that are based on films. Since she usually already knows the story’s plot, she can focus on the book’s writing style and vocabulary, thereby gaining more enjoyment from her reading experience.



Listening to the two contestants, they seem to have one thing in common - both of them enjoyed their time preparing for the contest and were pleasantly surprised by their results. So do read more and become the next WYY writing award winner!

AN INSPIRATIONAL TALK WITH PROFESSOR SO AT CUHK – “SOCIAL ROBOT” COMMUNICATION AND THE PATH TO SUCCESS



Have you ever been greeted by a robot at a shopping mall? Have you ever chatted or interacted with a robot? Do you think robots can help enhance human communication? Glitter members were very fortunate to have the opportunity to interview Professor Catherine So, Professor of Educational Psychology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), who was recently appointed by the International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) as a Global Senior Leader and their only representative in Hong Kong. She shared her unique path to success in our unprecedented face-masked interview with 3 Glitter members at CUHK while others attended the meeting simultaneously via Zoom due to the constraints of the pandemic.



Her unpredictable path to success

Though Professor So received her doctorate degree from the prestigious University of Chicago, her academic path was not as smooth as one might expect. For instance, she aspired to be an architect in senior secondary but had to give up her dream due to unsatisfactory results in the HKCEE. Luckily, she was able to take Psychology as one of her Advanced Level subjects, which paved the way for her to become a scholar and conduct important psychological research.

Originally knowing nothing about Psychology, Prof. So learnt in her very first lesson that “Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviors”. She was inspired to follow this path as she has an inquisitive and exploratory nature and was interested to learn more about how the human mind works. The summer after her freshman year at CUHK, she had an internship in the Clinical Department of Shatin Hospital. However, the emotionally loaded work had helped her to realize that she was not suitable to be a clinical psychologist and was more interested in taking up an academic career path.

Hand gestures as the means of communication with ASD children

Professor So’s initial area of research, in both her doctorate degree at the University of Chicago and her research as an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the National University of Singapore, concerned the use of hand gestures in children’s language acquisition development. After returning to CUHK as a professor, she began researching Special Educational Needs (SEN). Prof. So was particularly interested in the communication challenges faced by children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and wanted to help them by employing her knowledge in hand gestures since this is the most significant and earliest mode of communication in human development.





Online and home-based robots for Autism Behavioral Intervention (RABI) for children with ASD

Prof. So found that SEN support services are in high demand in our society, but that the waiting time for the assessment and therapies can take more than one and a half years, which can result in a failure to offer appropriate intervention for SEN children during a critical period of time in their development.

To help children with ASD identify the subtleties of communication and respond appropriately, Prof. So developed the RABI curriculum in 2015, in which social robots are employed to treat the disorder. The robots are programmed to offer human-like social cues repeatedly in the same predictable and controllable format with clear and structured information, which can help children with ASD reduce their social anxiety as they do not need to consider socio-emotional expectations when interacting with robots. By deploying social robots, Prof. So has found that autism severity is reduced and that social and behavioral functions are increased. It has also been found that ASD children generalized learned gestures appropriately to novel settings. With the support of the Sustainable Knowledge Transfer Project Fund (SKTP) offered by CUHK, Prof. So has expanded the program and established a social enterprise to serve the wider autism community since 2019.

Future Developments

On being appointed as INSAR's only HK representative, Prof. So remarked, "CUHK will be the research base promoting and leading autistic research and academic links in Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region. We aim to build an autism behavioral and social communication database, eventually providing tailor-made and evidence-based intervention therapies to each individual with autism." She would also like to extend the services to other SEN children, such as children with Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or gifted children. Her future work will be dedicated to creating a network for local and international institutions and scholars to foster global research collaboration.



PROFESSOR SO'S AWARDS

2020

Nurturing Social Minds Competition Award, The Yeh Family Philanthropy

2018

Hong Kong ICT Awards 2018: Smart People (Smart Inclusion) Merit Award

2017-18,13-14

Researcher Excellence Award, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2015-2016

Young Researcher Award, The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Three Glitter members paid a visit to the CUHK campus with Ms. Angela Cheung for this interview. CUHK is indeed a heavenly place, especially the scenic spot named "Pavillion of Harmony" at New Asia College, where one can see a fantastic view of Tolo Harbour and the Pat Sin Range beyond. Viewed from a certain angle, reflections of Tolo Harbour and the sky on the pond water and the real scenery are joined as one, contributing to a piece of "soulful architecture". Therefore, we grasped this golden opportunity to take a "Mirror of the Sky" photo there! Hopefully, we can get involved in Professor So's programmes at the CUHK campus real soon!

TVB VIDEO SHOOTING AT WYY



We are so privileged that Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) paid a visit to our renovated Biology Laboratory to shoot a promotional video on 20th November 2020 and broadcast it on 30th November 2020. The whole 5A Biology group participated in the video shooting. The purpose of the video was to demonstrate the contribution of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to the education industry.

Mr. Wong Yik Teng, our Biology teacher, designed a special situation for the Biology group, which was definitely exciting and fascinating for both the students and the viewers on the video shooting day. In the situation, the 5A students played the role of the staff working in the Forensic Science Division and investigated a murder case. 5 DNA samples were provided to students: one was the victim's, one was the bloodstain on the victim's clothes, while the others belonged to three suspects. Students had to find out who the murderer was using gel electrophoresis. Through this process, the public could witness the application of high technology in our school and appreciate how we make learning Biology more interesting and exciting through STEM education.

Cosine Lee, one of the students of the 5A Biology group, said, "This is a brand new experience for me. The most impressive part was the transfer of the DNA sample from a tube to the gel using a micropipette. This process had to be shot more than four times." Besides learning science, students have also learnt about the entertainment industry and how some film scenes have to be shot numerous times in order to look flawless.

Because of the generous contribution from the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, we can now enjoy high-tech equipment in the Biology Laboratory and could have this once-in-a-blue-moon experience that we will never forget!

Congratulations!

Our school, partnering in a joint school team with 2 other secondary schools, has been selected as one of the World's Top 12 Potential Teams in the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM) this year and has been granted USD\$5,500 in team research subsidies sponsored by the renowned conservation group Revive and Restore. The competition is an annual worldwide premier synthetic biology competition organized by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

WYY Team Members

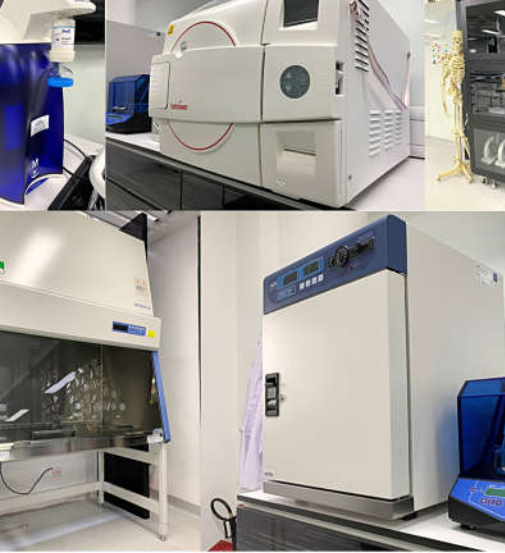
6B Leung Chung Ki

5A Chan Ka Ho Feng Meng Yao Kwong Chun Wai Lam Tze Fung Shum Wai Yan

5C Ma Ho Wai Yeung Ka Ki

4A Wong Hei Yiu





OUR BRAND NEW BIOSAFETY LEVEL 2 BIOLOGY LABORATORY

LABORATORY

We are proud to announce that we have a brand new Biology Laboratory at our school. After renovation, it has officially become a Biosafety Level 2 laboratory. It can now be used for biotechnology research and is the most advanced laboratory in our district.

STUDENTS' FEEDBACK

When asked about the newly renovated Biology Laboratory, the majority of the students replied that the renovated Bio Lab is brighter and gives everyone a sense of 'professionalism'. They think the lab's new environment makes them feel more motivated and eager to learn more about Biology and Biotechnology.

SAFETY COMES FIRST

Since our renovated laboratory has achieved the Biosafety Level 2 standard, all Biosafety Level 2 precautions are strictly followed. A Biological Safety Cabinet (BSC), an autoclave, and water purification systems have been installed. All pathogenic agents are handled under the supervision of our qualified laboratory technicians.

All procedures with the possibility to produce infectious aerosols or splashes are conducted in the safety of our Type A2 Biological Safety Cabinets or other physical containment equipment.

Besides the rigorous safety precautions, the laboratory really *does* look more stylish and modern! The geometric designs decorate the laboratory and the colour tone is mainly black, white and grey, which further reinforces the sense of seriousness and professionalism. It currently looks like a university laboratory rather than a secondary special room.

GRATITUDE TO TWGHS

Thanks to the Biosafety Level 2 standard, all WYY students can safely study Biotechnology in this laboratory. The standardized equipment can also help us to carry out more complicated experiments. The room looks bright, clean and brand-new, so Biology students can better enjoy the lessons and be more focused and attentive in class. We must express our deepest gratitude to the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals for the generous grant that made our new Biology Laboratory possible!

MS. CHIANG HIU MEI A SPARKLING WRITER IN WYY

Our dedicated Chinese teacher cum sparkling writer

Instantly recognizable as a dedicated Chinese teacher, Ms. Chiang is making a mark not only with her students but also with the general public.

After a lot of blood, sweat, and tears, she has published a book called *Beyond the Dream*. More than 12 thousand copies were printed and schools have even employed her book as a teaching material!

Ms. Chiang has been named as one of “the 20 most anticipated Chinese novelists of the young generation” by *Unitas Lifestyle*, Issue No.434.

Asked about how she hopes her effort will influence others, Ms. Chiang replies that she hopes these writings will encourage people to care more about others and to “put themselves in others’ shoes”.

The balance between being a teacher and a writer

Even though life is busy, Ms. Chiang can still handle the work well. For instance, she always does all her work at school so that she can spend weekends on writing and she also sacrifices time from other things like entertainment or shopping.



Writing means.....

Why do people write? Ms Chiang believes that writing is a special communication platform that belongs to all of us. Writing not only spreads great thoughts but also acts as a bonding tool for society.

Asked about *Beyond the Dream*, Ms Chiang says she hopes that people will learn more about Tuen Mun and how to better appreciate literature and movies. By reading this book, readers can learn more about love, mental disorders, and life in Tuen Mun. In Ms Chiang’s eyes, these writings allow readers to enter others’ innermost world with empathy.

Ms. Chiang strives to create a unique writing style and make beautiful sentences. She modifies her writing incessantly until it is full of her personal characteristics.

“I don’t want to be a “copycat””, she says.



THE FIRST STEP INTO THE WORLD OF WRITING

Ms. Chiang's writing journey began as a secondary student. Studying Chinese literature in secondary school, she fell in love with the world of peace, gorgeous sentences, and catchy content. Her love of books drove her to study in the Department of the Chinese Language and Literature at CUHK, where she was exposed to the legendary classics.

As a result, she gained a bunch of 'nutrients' during her 'developmental stage'. Finally, she was keen to share her thoughts in books. Asked why she chose writing as her medium, she replied that she is quite an introverted person who prefers to express innate thoughts on a page rather than show off to others. Thus, she has been writing creatively for years.

Yet why did Ms. Chiang choose to be a teacher and an author at the same time? She smiled and said she had no thoughts of being an author at first. But after realising that merely teaching students vocally isn't influential enough, she decided to pick up the pen. "I didn't 'choose' to be an author, it is only a career extension," she says. In the eyes of Ms. Chiang, teaching writing in practice is better than just teaching by word of mouth.

“YOU ARE A LEGEND YOURSELF!”

Many people are living in the world, but only the ones who exert their strength can spark light and illuminate the world. 'You are a legend yourself' is the motto of Ms. Chiang and she wishes all of us will find our interests and shine on the world stage.

FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

Questioned if she would continue to write new books in future, she replied yes because writing can continuously help her be more proficient with words. Ms. Chiang revealed some ideas about her upcoming books, including a picture book about a strawberry's life and a novel with an artist and a stage performer as main characters.

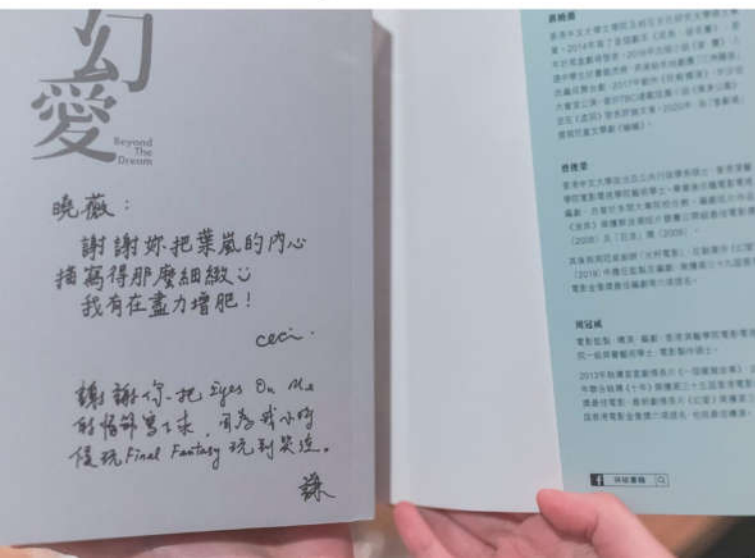
Also, she says that she will chat with several bookshop owners to get a deeper understanding about what readers want before writing her 4th new book. She wishes that these books can provide happiness, share citizens' life and encourage empathy in readers.



SEIZE EVERY MOMENT

When we asked whether she thinks she is now successful, Ms Chiang hesitated for a second and said, "In fact, it doesn't matter if you succeed or fail. It only matters whether you can live your life to the fullest." From her perspective, seizing every moment far outweighs being successful. Ms. Chiang often asks herself, 'If today were the end of my life, would I regret what I've done?'

However, we all sometimes waste our valuable time. Why? The uncertainty of our future comes into play. Therefore, Ms Chiang recommends we think about what we really want to do. After figuring out our path and setting our goals, we'll know what our day should be like.





Dream-chasing Music Sharing Session – Jer Lau @ MIRROR



A project to help students lead a happier life and chase their dreams

Many students feel stressed about their studies. Our school social workers and Guidance Team have thus introduced a project in collaboration with the Asbury Methodist Social Service this year to help our students relieve their stress and lead a happier life through different face-to-face and online activities. One of the activities was called the “Dream-chasing Music Sharing Session” featuring Jer Lau, a member of MIRROR, in which Jer played music and talked about achieving his life goals. Through these meaningful activities, WYY students could relieve their stress and learn to chase their dreams.



Jer Lau’s background and experience

After graduating from college, Jer worked full-time in music. He even sang on the streets of Hong Kong. Later, he took a job as an entertainment reporter to make a living. In 2018, Jer quit his job as a reporter and participated in the ViuTV talent show “The Good Night Show”. Jer was invited to join the group MIRROR as one of the lead singers. In 2020, Jer released his first solo single and music video, “水刑物語”, which surpassed 1.6 million online views! He has also captured several Best New Artist Awards offered by various organizations.

The amazing sharing session and performance of Jer Lau

On the day he visited WYY, Jer shared his experience of achieving his dream in the Q & A session. Jer explained that it was difficult to step out of his comfort zone to start his life adventure. However, his persistence and determination made him succeed eventually. Jer’s message echoes one of his song’s theme, “Everyone can become the light themselves”. Chatting with Jer, all of us learnt to never give up and to have the courage to fight for our dreams. In the end, Jer invited us to sing his song together and the joyful atmosphere was unforgettable. Even the students watching at home sang along with Jer through Zoom simultaneously. His sharing and his performances gave all WYY students an indispensable and rewarding experience. Thank you, Jer!



LET'S MEET OUR ALUMNI AS OUR NEW TEACHER AND TEACHING ASSISTANT!

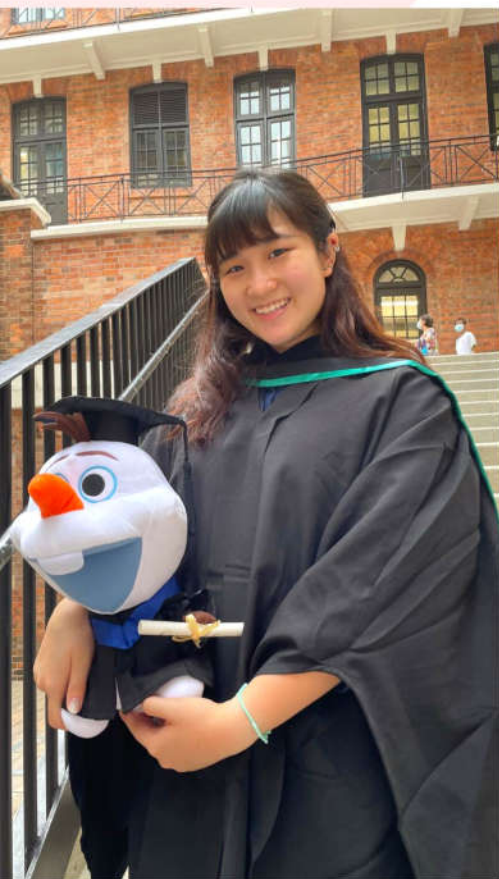
Mr. Cheng Chu Hin

Mr. Cheng has always wanted to be a teacher because he enjoys the process of helping others understand concepts and acquire knowledge. After graduating from CUHK, he started his teaching career at a secondary school in Shatin. However, as a graduate of WYY, he decided to return to his alma mater because he thought teaching here would be more meaningful. And here he is, now teaching English Language at Forms 2, 5 and 6!

Apart from language teaching, Mr. Cheng is interested in IT and is involved in the work of the IT Department. In the future, he says he would enjoy teaching IT in addition to teaching English.

When asked how to learn English in a more efficient way, Mr. Cheng suggests that students subscribe to more YouTubers from English-speaking countries, listen to more English songs and watch English movies as well. These sources can provide students with more exposure to authentic English than they can gain from the classroom.

Mr. Cheng wants to send us all a clear message that it is essential for us as keen learners to set some specific goals for ourselves and explore life beyond the classroom. This is one big step toward achieving success in life.



Miss Lee Ka Ki

After graduating from college, Miss Lee took part in jobs related to social work. However, she found working with students more rewarding and enjoyable than working with social work clients. Therefore, she made up her mind to begin working as a teaching assistant at WYY. We are all very happy Miss Lee made this choice!

Miss Lee finds WYY students to be lively and cheerful. They love chatting with her and are always willing to share their thoughts and feelings. Miss Lee gets along well with students and adds a lot to our school life here at WYY.

For leisure, Miss Lee loves watching Netflix videos and learning English by watching different types of movies, TV dramas, and reality shows. Also, she loves hiking while chilling with her friends to relieve stress from work.

As COVID-19 has been prevalent this year, Miss Lee understands that student life has been tougher this year than in previous years. She ended her interview with a good wish hoping that all students would try their best to work harder and be self-disciplined. But, at the same time, she hopes we can still enjoy our precious school life with our classmates – even while wearing our face masks!



EDITOR'S WORDS

A school magazine created by our concerted efforts, *Glitter* is now presented to all of you. Behind the eye-catching headings, colourful graphics and glamorous content is a lot of hard work by our reporters, editors and teacher-advisors. We published *Glitter* not only to document our school life and experience, but also to spread the spirit of *Glitter*: "Open our eyes, reach the sky, be our pride." We hope our fellow schoolmates can share our passion for exploring the various aspects of our school life and striving for excellence. *Glitter* has always been a way for our WYY community to share changes and special memories. We hope you feel delighted and fulfilled after reading *Glitter*. It is a great honour and rare opportunity for me to take up the post of Editor in Chief of *Glitter* this year. I hope I am able to spread the joy of school life in WYY to all of our readers. I am also grateful for having such helpful teammates for this year's edition of *Glitter*. We truly hope you can enjoy and treasure this edition of *Glitter* and carry our spirit, to open our eyes, reach the sky and be our pride.

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