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# Talking Points: how old should you be for your first date, and why?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Ginny Wong | May 02, 2018



By Crystal Lai (F.4A)

I think 19 is a suitable age for a first date. You're seen as an adult at 18, but I feel like some people are still immature when they have just turned 18.

After being an adult for a year, a person might become more mature, and more able to decide what should and should not be done on a first date. That would make going on a date a more fulfilling experience for me.

At that age, I would also be wiser and my boyfriend would not be able to cheat on me. Hopefully!

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## Talking points: should students have to pay to sit public exams?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | March 14, 2018



Financial Secretary Paul Chan's latest budget might pay the fees for the next DSE. But is it a good thing? Photo: Sam Tsang/SCMP

By Miko Wong Wing Man (F.4A)

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Absolutely! Public exams are very important for students. They don't just get a certificate; their future may depend on the exam results. For example, students need to get good HKDSE results to get into university. If public exams are "free", they may suffer in terms of their recognition around the world.

Also, the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority pays people to mark each DSE paper. It would be a waste of time and money, if there were students who weren't taking the exam seriously.

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# Talking Points: should parents hold on to your lai see money for safekeeping?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | March 07, 2018



By Sunnie Ng (F.4A)

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Yes, they definitely should. Our parents have far more life experiences than us, so they know how to use the money in a more worthwhile way. Take my parents, for example. They would deposit my money in a bank account and use it for future expenses, such as fees for extracurricular activities. There's no doubt that teenagers (myself included) are not mature enough to manage their money. That's why we should give all our lai see money to our parents.

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By Anais Leung (F.4A)

Honestly, I don't think it's a good idea, because students would order meals from many different restaurants, and schools would not be able to cope with the chaos. Campuses would be packed with delivery drivers at lunch time, resulting in arguments and all sorts of other problems.

Before schools give the green light to delivery services, they should figure out how to deal with such problems first.

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Talking Points: should Mandarin be a compulsory subject in secondary school? Columns.

#### Talking Points: should Mandarin be a compulsory subject in secondary school?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | February 07, 2018



By Paco Hau (F.4A)

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Sure! Such a move would enhance students' competitiveness and offer them better job opportunities. Mandarin is already the most popular second language among Cantonese speakers. It will probably soon replace English as the world's international language.

Nowadays, most companies here hire workers who have a good knowledge of Mandarin. If you speak it, you are likely to get a higher salary and have more opportunities to work abroad. It could be just the ticket to a successful career.

After all, all Chinese people should learn their native language; it would be weird if they cannot speak Mandarin.

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# Talking Points: things my parents don't know about my social media use

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | January 24, 2018



#### By Hazel Lui (F.4A)

Many parents think that social media is a waste of time, but they don't really know how we use it. I, for instance, use it to talk to my friends every day.

I can use apps like Snapchat to check what my friends are doing, no matter where they are. We send each other photos on Snapchat until we get a "streak". The fire emoji next to a friend's name is special – it means we're talking every day, which helps make our relationship stronger. Isn't that a good thing?

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#### Talking Points: should basic self-defence lessons be included in the PE curriculum?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | January 17, 2018



By Alice Interliggi (F.4A)

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Absolutely! I think everyone should learn how to protect themselves. Learning self-defence promotes discipline, encourages students to respect each other, reduces bullying, and prevents fights in school. After all, who will want to fight when everyone has an equal chance of winning?

Basic self-defence lessons could come in handy outside school too. Young people could use their skills to defend themselves instead of fighting.

Introducing self-defence lessons to our physical education curriculum is good for us and society as a whole.

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**Reply email** — My Cousin's Coming Trip to Hong Kong

By Ip Tsz Siu Sylvian (F.1A)

Dear Peony,

How are you? I'm fine these days. I hope you are doing well like me.

I read the email you wrote. After knowing you are going to visit Hong Kong this summer, I made a plan for your two-day trip. I hope you'll like it. I'm sure that you will learn more about Hong Kong.

For the first day, after you go to the hotel you booked, I'll meet you outside the hotel at around ten o'clock in the morning. We can have lunch in a Chinese restaurant near the hotel. As you mentioned that there are dim sum restaurants and Cha Chaan Tengs everywhere in Hong Kong, I suggest that we can have dim sum there. I have tried dim sum so many times before. They're delicious and I'm sure that you will not be able to stop eating once you've tried them. People usually have dim sum as afternoon tea in Hong Kong, and you must try the shrimp dumpling, or 'Har Gow'.

Then, we can go to Ladies' Market in Mong Kok. We can get there by bus or MTR. To be honest, both of them are pretty fast. You can buy souvenirs in Ladies' Market. There are so many options that you won't be able to make a decision about how you should spend your money. You can definitely find your favourite one.

You may ask me what you can learn about Hong Kong by going there. Going there, you can find that Hong Kong is a shopping paradise. You can find different kinds of products, more than you could even dream of.

After that, we can have dinner at Goobne Chicken near Ladies Market. I want to try a special dessert there. My friend said it was amazing and it melted in his mouth. He also said the sweetness kept on coming and

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Home / Over To You / Columns / Talking points, should the government spend millions of dollars on the New Year's

#### Talking points: should the government spend millions of dollars on the New Year's Eve fireworks display?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | January 10, 2018



By Henry Chan Cheuk Hang (F.4A)

It's undoubtedly worth it. From an economic standpoint, the spectacular fireworks display attracts a lot of tourists, offering great opportunities for local businesses. From a social and cultural perspective, the fireworks represent the beauty and prosperity of our community. This display can be interpreted as a celebration of a year of hard work and effort by the people of Hong Kong. Therefore, it's obvious that the New Year's Eve fireworks display is beneficial to our society.

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### Talking Points: should airlines ban laptops from passenger cabins for safety reasons?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | December 20, 2017



By Heidi Tsang Chiu (F.4A)

I don't think it's a good idea. Banning laptops from passenger cabins will bother a lot of people. Passengers use their laptops to work on the go, and even when they fly, they still need to stay in touch with their colleagues or customers.

A laptop helps them to write down notes, to prepare presentations, and to work even when they are not at their desk. Instead of banning laptops, passengers should be reminded to not use any electronic devices when the plane is taking off, during turbulence, or when landing. never stopped. We must try that out.

In the evening, I recommend going to Victoria Harbour, near Tsim Sha Tsui. We can enjoy the sunset or the night view. It's just as beautiful as you can imagine. I'll bring my camera to capture the spectacular scenery. You'll learn that Hong Kong is a very beautiful place.

For the last day, we can have brunch at the Capital Café. It's far, but it's worth going there. It's a habit for people to have breakfast in either a Chinese restaurant or a Cha Chaan Teng. We can have scrambled eggs with French toast and milk tea. They are the classic food to eat in Cha Chaan Tengs, which are very tasty.

Hong Kong is a very busy place where everything is fast and crowded. We can go to Mong Kok and go shopping there in the afternoon. It's going to be hard and challenging, but you can find almost everything there. You'll be able to tell the difference between Canada and Hong Kong. If we are lucky, we can eat tasty street food there.

For dinner, we can have wonton noodles. It's an amazing local food. The wontons are bouncy and juicy. We can also drink iced lemon tea.

That's my plan. Do you like it? Please write back to me soon. I want to know what you think. I'm looking forward to showing you all the things I've planned.

Cheers, Samson Food review — A popular dessert in Hong Kong

By Jasmine Cheung Ka Man (F.1B)

The Best Dessert For All Seasons

Mango and pomelo mix is a well-loved dessert in Hong Kong. As a foodie, I like to eat all kinds of food, especially desserts. I gave it a try in a dessert shop called Hui Lau Shan, which is a very popular shop among people in Hong Kong. The shop has many different kinds of desserts, but the most popular ones are mango desserts. Mango and pomelo mix is a winning product in Hui Lau Shan.

It looked like it was just some milk with some fruits. It was served with mango juice, mango and pomelo, with some coconut milk added to it. I loved the pomelo, which came to balance the sweetness of the dessert. It was handmade by the shop. It was smooth and milky. The serving size was medium.

It tasted syrupy. We can eat it in all seasons because we can always find sweet mangoes all year round. It had a fragrant smell. To accompany this dessert, you can drink a cup of hot tea.

It was good value for money. It only costs HK\$20. Considering its taste and price, it was worth eating. I would recommend this dessert to my friends because it was tasty. The best thing about it was that the fruit was fresh and delicious.

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Home / Over To You / Columns / Talking Points: should we raise the tax rate to 50 per cent for people who make mo

# Talking Points: should we raise the tax rate to 50 per cent for people who make more than HK\$10 million a year?

Hate it when you can't talk back? Well, you can with Young Post. Have your say and share with students around Hong Kong

Compiled by Jamie Lam | November 01, 2017



By Rachel Lo Hoi Yuet (F.2A)

We should not raise the tax rate because it is not fair. People earn more if they work harder. They should not be punished for that. A higher tax rate will make people not want to work as hard. Think about this in terms of being a student. If a student gets 100 points on his exam, they have to give their parents money. And if the student gets 90 points, they won't have to pay. Which would you rather be, the student with 100 points, or 90 points?

Reply email — My Cousin's Coming Trip to Hong Kong

By Chan Wai Fung (F.1C)

Dear Peony,

Knowing that you're coming to Hong Kong, I'm so glad that I can finally meet you. How happy I am! Let me tell you about some popular tourist hotspots and restaurants we will go to.

For Day 1, I'll pick you up at the airport. Then, we'll have lunch in a dim sum restaurant. We'll have barbecued pork buns. They taste sweet. In the afternoon, I'll take you to SOGO in Causeway Bay by MTR .We can go shopping, buy souvenirs and take photos. Afterwards, it'll be time for dinner. We'll have deep-fried chicken wings. This is a famous dish in Hong Kong because they are very crispy. We'll end our first day by visiting the Avenue of Stars in Tsim Sha Tsui .We can get there by MTR. We'll take photos, see the statues of superstars and see the beautiful view of Victoria Harbour.

For Day 2, we'll start the day by visiting the Peak on Hong Kong Island. We can get there by bus. We can eat local food, take photos and see the beautiful skyline. At around 12:30 p.m., we'll have lunch at a Cha Chan Teng. We'll have milk tea to drink. It is well-known in Hong Kong because it tastes bitter and sweet. After lunch, I'll take you to Ocean Park in Wong Chuk Hang by MTR. We'll go on thrill rides, visit aquariums and buy souvenirs. For dinner, we'll go to a dim sum restaurant. We'll have spring rolls. This is also a famous dish in Hong Kong because they taste good. We'll have a great meal before going to the airport.

I hope you like the itinerary which I've planned for you. I'm looking forward to seeing you in HK soon.

Best wishes Samson

Hardly can teenagers survive without drinking water, rather than drinking alcoholic beverages. I am of my firm belief that legal drinking age has no reason not to be raised to 21, with a view to the justifications

above. Isn't it fantastic to see our teenagers become pillars in the teenag-

ers again? To summarize, raising legal drinking age to 21 is a must!

By Ng Lok Yan (F.1D)

Last year, Joe adopted a dog called Buddy from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The next day, Joe took Buddy to the park for a walk. He pulled Buddy with a leash. Buddy was naughty, uncontrollable and hysterical. It ran around the park. "Hey, Buddy, stop!" Joe yelled, but Buddy ignored Joe's instructions. It continued to run. As a result, Joe was angry and exhausted.

In the evening, when Joe was preparing dinner, Buddy kept jumping up to steal the food from the kitchen worktop. "Hey, Buddy, don't steal the food!" Joe scolded Buddy. Suddenly, Buddy smashed a dish. Joe was very angry. "Buddy, get out!" Joe yelled and Buddy left the kitchen.

A month later, Joe went to a pet training school called Pet Expert. "My dog is very naughty, uncontrollable and ignores my instructions." said Joe. The trainer thought his pet needed more training. So the trainer taught Joe how to manage and communicate with his dog. The trainer demonstrated how to give the dog rewards and instructions with simple gestures. Two hours later, Buddy was still naughty and disobedient. There was no improvement.

After two months of training, Joe and Buddy improved their relationship. Joe learnt to be patient, attentive and responsible. Buddy's behaviour was very good and followed Joe's instructions. It became quite obedient. Joe always took Buddy out for a walk and played with it. They got along well and lived happily together. infatuated with alcohol for personal ecstasy and enjoy the state of being free from control. Likewise, teenagers aged from 18 to 21 have the similar thinking – there is no ban and it is legitimately allowed. That means they can get out of control. It is not an overstatement to say that the addiction to alcohol among teenagers aged from 18 to 21 has its origin in the lack of tough control over consumption of alcohol for them. Imagine a scenario: you used to get drunk every night. You used to drink on the street or even in the university. You used to fool around with your bad company when you get drunk. However, the legal drinking age has raised to 21, which amounts to the ban of drinking on you. Will you still drink every day and show no fear to the serious consequences, like imprisonment now? The answer is simple – No!

The opponents may argue that the ban may inflict serious yet irreversible harm to our economy, given that our reputation of free trade will be blemished and local economy has a possibility to go down as a consequence. Their arguments, albert seemingly unassailable at first glance, are fundamentally unjustifiable when examined closely. The government's regulation of products and economy is a panacea for keeping citizens abstain from hazard posed by unhealthy products, like alcoholic drink. In contradistinction to the understanding of opponents, our economy will in all likelihood to be more blossoming in the not distant future. Our teenagers, as I have mentioned, are the prospective pillars in different aspects, be it engineering or finance. Should we not guarantee that they are healthy and conscious enough, how can they continuously contribute to our society by working laboriously? Keeping refrained from alcohol, they can put more efforts into daily work and then work efficiently.

Teenagers can concentrate on working and developing into a heavyweight in different aspects. Is there any international company or conglomerate refusing to invest in Hong Kong, which is a place full of talents and conscious elites? It comes no surprise that our economy will not face a catastrophe but an opportunity.

Short story — An unforgettable hiking trip

#### By Lee Chun Hin (F.6E)

Flip through the newspaper and you might well discover the tragedy that many adolescent's crime, if not all, is committed after they get drunk and lose their consciousness. Browsing through the Internet, photos of teenagers drinking beer and wine in a flamboyant way is never impossible to be found. It is not surprising that drinking is inextricably affiliated with crime; what in fact comes as a surprise is that our teenagers, the prospective pillars, succumb to the seduction of alcohol and commit crime ultimately. Isn't it farcical if we continue to adopt a wait-and-see attitude on this issue of great concern. To my knowledge, therefore, I would like to elucidate on the reasons of implementation of this policy in minute details below.

The justifications for the urgent implementation of raising legal drinking age to 21 are threefold, with easier discrimination of teenagers of paramount significance. The current minimum drinking age, which is just 18, is probable to fail to protect our children from alcohol. It is common knowledge that children may grow to be a mature man in appearance in just 14 under the influence of publicity, giving rise to apocalyptic consequences. Alcohol sellers - be it convenience store or supermarkets - stand little chance in successfully discriminating a 14-year-old boy from a mature man. Lamentably, thousands of alcohol drinks are consumed in this way perennially due to the difficulty in distinguishing them. Raising legal drinking age to 21 makes all the difference - under age children hardly grow as mature as their counterparts in 21 years old, nor could they pretend to be a 21-year-old man. Given that a 21-year-old man is fully mature and no longer act like a boy, how can a teenager who is psychological immature talk like a 21-year-old? Therefore, it is understandable that raising legal drinking age to 21 can entirely impede teenagers who are physically immature but aesthetically mature to purchase alcoholic drinks again.

If we can put a stop to underage purchase of alcohol, we can eradicate the addiction among teenagers aged from 18 to 23 to alcohol by raising legal drinking age to 21. Had it not been for the ban of selling drinks to underage teenagers, they might well drink out of control and finally get By Chui Nga Lok (F.2A)

Last Saturday, something unforgettable happened. That day, the birds were singing, the flowers were smiling and the trees were waving in the breeze. "What a perfect day for hiking!" Yelled Molly. I replied, "Visiting this country park in Sai Kung is definitely a great idea." The day was a little chilly so we were bundled up in thick coats.

We hiked up the hiking trail. When we arrived at the peak, the sun was already right above our heads. We had a big feast with our sand-wiches and chicken wings. After our meal, Molly went for a little walk while Jack and I packed up our belongings.

After we packed the things all nice and tidy, we discovered that almost half an hour had passed but Molly had not come back yet. We decided to search for her. Surprisingly, I heard the screams of Molly down the hill. We rushed down the hill to check out what was going on. The sound was getting closer and closer. When we arrived at where we heard the screams, we saw Molly lying on the ground. She was passed out. There was a huge viper next to her. Jack tried to throw rocks at it while I tried to drag Molly away from it. Suddenly, the viper moved faster than ever. "Jack! Move!" The viper moved in front of Jack and tried to bite him. Bang! To everyone's shock, the viper was dead after the gunshot. "It's the forest guard!" The viper was dead but Molly's wound seemed bad. Then, the three of us carried her to the hospital just down the hill.

When she woke up, it was already 5 p.m. We sat on a bench on the rooftop and watched the sunset. At that moment, the view silenced the words.

At last, she thanked me and Jack heartily. After that, our relationship became closer. We became good friends. What an unforgettable experience for the three of us. By Sin Lok Tung (F.2B)

Last week, I had an unforgettable trip with my friends. We went to France! The view was beyond words. Nothing is comparable to the view there.

Our first stop was Paris, which is the capital of France. When we landed at the airport, it was already six in the evening. We took a photo there with the beautiful sunset. We also met another group of travellers from Hong Kong. What a coincidence! We exchanged our phone numbers and went to the River Seine together.

When we arrived at the River Seine, I couldn't believe that the view would be so breathtaking. We strolled along the river and talked to each other on the way. They are older than us. They told us a lot about the history and culture of France. We learnt a lot about France. Then, we went to a Michelin-starred restaurant for dinner and we tried some amazing and authentic French dishes. It was unforgettable.

The next day, we went to the Eiffel Tower. Although it was early in the morning, there were many tourists. After an hour, we successfully climbed to the top of the tower. It was definitely a moment to remember because the view was stunning. It's a must-go destination. After visiting the Eiffel Tower, we went to Cathedral Notre Dame de Paris. The famous writer, Victor Hugo, wrote a fictional book based on the cathedral. It is magnificent and holy. We didn't go inside because we didn't have enough time. We still had to hurry to Montmartre which is a very nice place. When you are there, you'll find everything is slow-paced. I love all the things in Montmartre. Don't miss out Montmartre when you travel to Paris!

On the third day, we went to Toulouse. There were many churches but I thought Cathedral Notre Dame de Paris is always the best and the most unique. We bought some souvenirs there such as little Eiffel Tower keyrings and some postcards for my friends. The postcards show the Louvre Museum which is a well-known museum in the world. There were a lot of famous paintings. We planned to go there but we forgot about it. Article — Learn Effectively, Independently and Continuously

By Yeung Yik Lok (F.6E)

This knowledge-based society has a high requirement on us. However, studying in secondary schools has a much greater complexity than learning in primary schools. It is of paramount importance to develop suitable strategies in order to achieve higher in the future. You are strongly advised to construct a study schedule, develop self-management abilities and develop a lifelong passion for learning.

The significance of a study schedule is two-fold. Speaking about the physical aspect, the schedule can maintain an appropriate work-life balance because having a good rest becomes your routine. Most students in Hong Kong, if not all, suffer from insufficient sleep due to heavy work-load. If they had set up a timetable, they would have been healthier. Spiritually, a learning schedule improves your calmness and avoids frustrations. This is because it eliminates the situation in which you are unable to complete all the tasks. The overall mental quality is greatly improved.

When it comes to the operation of the timetable, self-management skills are absolutely essential. Being able to self-control means that you are more adapted to society since no notifications would be provided after your graduation. The self-management abilities also prevent you from going astray. More importantly, your personal quality is boosted as you become less reliant and more independent. Autonomy is always better than heteronomy, isn't it?

Furthermore, we are obligated to be a lifelong learner, not a typical person who quits studying after graduation. It is the enthusiasm that continuously encourages us to learn. Learning is the easiest form of transcendence, which is required to break through the soaring resistance in our lives. Apart from that, it is essential to keep learning because the world varies from day to day. New things emerge every now and then. If we do not have the will to learn, our flexibility decreases and we may not be able to adapt to the changing world.

Learning is difficult, but the fruits after the obstacles are stunning. Acquire the three items aforementioned and you will have a bright future. The community keeps shaming the weaker students albeit they are still talented. It is public knowledge that the higher the expectation, the more painful the feeling is. When students face obstacles, they would have this thought in their mind, "If it had not been for the fierce competition in this metropolis, my talent could have been spotted and I could have triumphed most students by now." With this thought, they lose faith and give up fighting to be one of the best students.

Nonetheless, it is still not too late to reverse the deteriorating situation. There are two stakeholders who need to hold responsibility to bail the NEETs out of the abyss. First and foremost, it is of paramount importance for the government to provide spiritual support to the NEETs. As we have already noticed that NEETs lack self-esteem, they do not have much motivation to reinvigorate themselves. They are very much dead fishes wishing to be alive. Thus, the government should offer them support, ranging from home visits to moral education. Their assistance can definitely help those NEETs to rekindle their enthusiasm.

Alongside the spiritual support, parents can strike a better work-life balance so as to seize the opportunity for more face-to-face communication with their children. At the age of 20, teenagers are nothing but a bird without wings. They may need mental support when they have no idea of the methods to tackle the problems related to the HKDSE or coping with stress. However, with more interaction and heart-to-heart talks, they can gain more knowledge.

By and large, the situation of NEETs, although formidable, is in no way insurmountable. Not only do parents and the government hold the responsibility to ameliorate the problem, teenagers themselves also need to put their best foot forward. This can mend their broken hearts and rebuild their self-esteem, paving the way to the journey of triumph. On the last day in France, we went to Nice. We had some local food there such as socca and salad nicoise. I bought many sweets at a confiserie, which is a sweet shop. My favourite consisted of different kinds of candied fruit. They were very mouth-watering. After our last meal, we went to the airport. It was time for us to say goodbye to France. France is a very romantic country. When we were in the Departure Hall, we met the group of travellers from Hong Kong again. I was overjoyed. Is that the arrangement of our destiny? We took a photo together with the sunset as the background again.

Next time, I'll visit France again. I'm looking forward to that day.

Article — King of Comedies

By Lan Wun Lung (F.2C)

In 1962, Stephen Chow was born to a middle-class family in Hong Kong. Commonly known as the 'King of Comedies', Chow Sing Chi is a well-known Hong Kong film star and specializes in comedies. As Hong Kong's 'King of Comedies', Stephen Chow makes our city proud as he demonstrates true humour and generosity.

Due to his diligence, he was admitted to TVB's acting classes after he graduated from San Marino Secondary School. Although he faced some difficulties throughout his filming career, he had a nevergive-up attitude in pursuing his dream.

Always striving for excellence, Stephen Chow's achievements include winning the Best Actor Award in the Hong Kong Film Awards, the Best Picture and Best Director in the Golden Bauhinia Awards for 'Shaolin Soccer' in 2002. In addition, he has won the Best Director Award in the Hong Kong Film Cities Society Award for 'Mermaid' in 2017. Furthermore, in 2013, his film 'Journey to the West: Conquering the Demons' became the highest-grossing Chinese film of all time. Moreover, he has established his own film company since he showed determination and a positive working attitude to keep pursuing his dream.

All Hong Kong people now know him for his humor and generosity. He remains a perseverant role model to this day. He has inspired many others to be courageous in order to overcome difficulties. Jeff, a typical Hong Kong NEET who hides himself at home and locks himself in a closed area, uses the computer and cellphone around the clock. Jeff revealed that he was aged 20 and had no motivation to be what he wanted to be in society in the future. I am convinced that Jeff is not the first case of being a NEET, nor will he be the last. In this report, I am going to take a closer look into the reasons why NEETs are increasing in numbers across the territory. And some remedial methods to contend with the problem.

The reasons why NEETs are prevalent nowadays are fourfold, with the devastating setbacks they face being the most patent one. The vast majority of NEETs are at the age of 20. To put it differently, they are the graduates of secondary schools but they failed miserably at the final stage to enter a new world – the HKDSE. They might at first think they were nothing but a social loser. This slowly builds a stumbling block to their career development. Adding fuel to the situation are the NEETs' fragile hearts. Given the fact that teenagers have not gone through many hurdles before, they are usually not tough enough to overcome obstacles. When time passes by, the stumbling block will turn into frustration, resulting in them falling into a boundless abyss.

What also casts light on the phenomenon is the general public's lack of sympathy for teenagers. Little do we know about their feelings. The days when the entire family sit on the sofa and watch AFVs are long since gone. Nowadays, parents need to fight against their heavy workload around the clock. Other than that, teenagers need to live up to their parents' expectation. It is indisputable that youngsters face a lot of arduous words. However, what is more deplorable is that parents cannot maintain intimacy with their children. The helpless feeling creeps out and pushes teenagers over the edge. Once when they can no longer withstand the pressure, they opt out and choose to be a NEET, feeling desperate and self -abandoned.

Apart from the helpless feeling and insurmountable setbacks, the cut -throat competition in the metropolis also wastes a lot of talents. In this competitive city, only those talented talents will be the centre of attention.

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Guide — A mini guide to selfie stick use

By Chan Tsz Ching (F.2D)

Selfie sticks are widely used as a tool for modern living because of its various functions, so it is essential for us to learn about the use of them. Below are some tips on how to be a smart and safe selfie stick user.

#### The history of the selfie stick

The selfie stick was invented by a Japanese photographer, Hiroshi Ueda, in 1983. In 2005, the selfie stick was reinvented by a Canadian inventor Wayne Fromm. The term 'selfie stick' became popular in 2013. However, since it was getting more popular, several museums banned the use of it in 2015 to prevent potential damage to art and artefacts. That is the history of selfie sticks.

#### Why people like using selfie sticks

Using selfie sticks can include more people in photos. We are able to take photos with it over the top of crowds and get a better shot of the background. Besides, when we use selfie sticks, we can avoid asking strangers to help take photos for us. We can also avoid taking blurry photos caused by shaky hands.

#### How to operate selfie sticks

First, you should connect your smartphone with a Bluetooth device cable. Second, you need to adjust the screw mount till your device feels secure. Then, place your smartphone sideways and expand the brackets so they fit securely around your device. After that, you should open your camera application and select the front-facing selfie camera option. Finally, you need to extend the handle as far as possible for a better view of the surroundings and click the camera button located at the bottom of the stick to take a photo.

#### **Conclusion**

Being a wise selfie stick user, we need to know how to use it smartly and carefully. Do not use it mindlessly in crowded places and wave it around as we may hit or obstruct others.

#### Conclusion

As teenagers are our social pillars in our near future, we should show care towards them, instead of blaming them or pointing fingers at them. It is sincerely hoped that we can encourage them to work in society again and they will no longer hide themselves at home through the above suggestions. Article — Meaningful voluntary work

By Mak Kwan Wai (F.3A)

In this modern society, it seems to be a growing trend that not many youngsters are interested in doing voluntary work. Some of them even think it is a waste of time. As a result, the public awareness of the needs of the needy is decreasing. Are you concerned about the needs of the needy in Hong Kong?

Walking down the streets, we can discover that some elderly people are walking alone. These elderly people usually live alone too. If there is not enough care, it is dangerous for an elderly to live alone. Besides, we need to give a helping hand to the victims of child abuse. When a child is always being beaten by his parents, he will be afraid to communicate with others because he lacks confidence.

The situation will become more and more serious if we do not tackle the problems now. Fortunately, there are some ways that Hong Kong people can offer to help.

We can show concern for the elderly by visiting homes for the elderly. We can also join SAGE (The Hong Kong Society for the Aged) to help provide the elderly with housing and health. In addition, we should also visit the victims of child abuse to show them our love and concern in order to help them build up their confidence.

We can support charities to serve the needy by participating in some fundraising activities to help them. There are lots of fundraising activities we can hold, for instance, flag-selling days. The public are encouraged to support this meaningful event by donating generously on flag-selling days. Moreover, holding a talent show is a nice way to help charities. A talent show can also provide a chance to display spectacular and diverse talents. Everyone can have a great time. The money raised from ticket sales can be donated to charities.

Doing voluntary work not only helps the needy, but also offers a lot of benefits to us. Being considerate is one of the highlights. When we know more about others' feelings, we can give them care and support.

#### living price.

Moreover, parents also take the blame. Contrary to the Western parenting style, parents in the East are likely to afford anything they can for their only kids. They are spoiled and take everything for granted. By living under the shelter of their well-off parents for a long time, they cannot stand on their own feet and just rely on their parents. When facing setbacks in life, they may give up easily as they lack self-dependency. On no account should we ignore bad parenting styles which is a curse of the rising number of NEETS.

#### Solutions

The above considerations shed light on the problem of NEETS in Hong Kong. It is high time for us to take the plunge to solve the unfortunate situation for the sake of our youngsters.

Firstly, it is important for the government to organize more practical training. In the view that NEETS lack hands-on skills and work experiences, the retraining programme can provide a golden chance for them to work with others. It is our belief that the NEETS still have a certain determination to contribute to society. However, they lose their motivation to start again because they are just not compatible with society. Therefore, the training course can build up their confidence and they can start to believe that they can do much better and make good use of themselves in order to contribute to society. What is more, the work experience can even sharpen their competitive edge when they want to get a new job. It is conducive to giving them opportunities to find a job.

Secondly, school comprises a large part of a teenager's life. It can also plays a significant role in carrying out some counselling services. School can employ more social workers who can talk to those hidden youths and give them some advice to overcome the obstacles in their daily life. In addition, they can even provide some personality tests which can find out their strengths and shortcomings. This can help those youths know more about themselves and more importantly, they can find out their indispensable value and make a contribution to society. It is obvious that social counselling can shed light on the students' future again. By Chan Chung Wan (F.6E)

#### Introduction

Nowadays, the skyrocketing number of NEETs has become an alarming blow to all citizens and sparked off controversy in the territory. They are always viewed with scorn by everyone as they are regarded as lazy and averting their responsibility to work. However, are they the main culprits of this phenomenon? What should we do to help them? This report aims to explore the reasons behind the increasing number of NEETs and some feasible solutions in order to lend them a helping hand.

#### **Reasons behind the increasing number of NEETs**

There are many reasons which contribute to this phenomenon, with the ossified education system being the main one. It is known to everyone that the education system always exerts tremendous pressure on to students. In the hope of getting a result with flying colours, they have no choice but to cram for the exams round the clock. The teenagers, who have bad academic results, usually have low self-esteem when facing the cut-throat competition. They are not willing to face the exams and just hide themselves at home. On top of that, schools always focus too much on the scores of the student's academic performance, while sports and home economics are not incorporated into the curriculum. This makes them stand no chance to develop other skills and interests. Many NEETS, being unable to catch up with the pace, can only stop pursuing education. They cannot receive proper and adequate education in their hometown.

Besides the ossified education system, what has added fuel to the proliferation of NEETS is the soaring living price. The government should bear the responsibility of not taking a proactive role to help these people. As we all know, the blue-collar jobs are always under-paid. Teenagers who get a low salary and live on the breadline may find it hard to adapt to this society. Under the circumstances of the current economic trade which is dominated by high-ended industries that require high-educated cannot find jobs so easily. They may need to work for more than 20 years in order to pay the overwhelming property prices. It is crystal clear that teenagers are unwilling to seek jobs in society due to the soaring

On the other hand, we can learn to be humble too since serving others can lower our arrogance. By being considerate and humble, we can gain success more easily in the future. It is time for us to help the needy now! Act now! Letter to the editor — Global warming

By Tang Chi Kin (F.3A)

Dear Editor,

I would like to show my concerns about the decreasing number of teenagers doing voluntary work. As we know, the needs of the needy require our attention. In this letter, I will suggest how Hong Kong people can offer help to the needy and discuss the benefits of doing voluntary work.

Firstly, I would like to raise the public awareness of the needs of the needy. Some Hong Kong people are facing two main problems. The first one is the loneliness faced by the elderly. Grown-up children of the elderly have left home. The elderly have become reclusive, lose touch with society and suffers from social isolation. We need to help the elderly to reintegrate back into our society. The second problem is the unacceptable living environment of the poor. Many Hong Kong people want to own their own flats. However, the disadvantaged cannot afford the expensive rents and have to live in subdivided units because of their poverty. Subdivided units are unsafe and uncomfortable because most of them do not adhere to structural and fire safety regulations. The living environment there is cramped too.

Secondly, I would like to talk about the ways to offer help. One of the above problems is that the elderly has lost touch with society. This has become more severe. We have to solve the problem as soon as possible. Therefore, we have to find solutions. For instance, we can do voluntary work to help the elderly and show our care. Young people can teach old people how to use apps on smartphones and communicate more with the elderly. In addition, to improve the living standard of the poor, we can donate money, clothes or handcrafts to raise money for the poor.

Last but not least, I would like to mention low-carbon diets. Local food is a good choice for diets. A lot of carbon dioxide is produced by planes when food is transported from other countries to Hong Kong. Local food is more environmentally-friendly as it produces less carbon dioxide during transport. Therefore, choosing local food is better than choosing other countries'. You can use the methods above to combat global warming.

Speech — The importance of following school rules

By Chung Hoi Fung (F.6D)

Good morning Principal, teachers and fellow students,

On behalf of the Students' Union, I'd like to welcome all of you to our school. I'm sure we all want to achieve success and have an enjoyable school life, so I'd like to give you some advice this morning.

Firstly, I suggest that you follow the school rules. The importance of following school rules is that it helps create a harmonious and disciplined learning environment. Following the school rules can help reduce conflicts in school. For example, you shouldn't talk too loudly because the noise will annoy other students who are studying. Also, following school rules can help create a better learning environment. For instance, you shouldn't bring your smartphone, toys or comics to school. It will be difficult for you to concentrate in class if you bring these types of entertainment to school.

The second piece of advice I'd like to give you is to make new friends. Making new friends is a very important aspect of secondary school life because a good friend can help you when you are in trouble. Imagine you are struggling from a very difficult maths question. Your friend gives you some hints so that you know how to finish that question. Building good interpersonal relationships is a good way to enjoy your school life. For example, you can join the Sports Day with your friends and enjoy the school activities. It is beneficial for you to build close relationships with teachers too. Teachers can give you a lot of advice for your future. They can also help you to deal with your difficulties.

You have to study in this school for six years. It seems like a long period of time, but time flies, so please don't waste your precious time at school. Enjoy your school life by making friends and joining school activities. I hope my advice can help you achieve success and you can have an enjoyable school life.

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#### 3. Suggestions

3.1 Exploring one's potential

It is true that a secondary school diploma no long guarantees a job now, since universities produce thousands of graduates every year. Teenagers should discover their interests, understand their personalities and develop their marketable skills which will help them secure a position in the job market. One way to achieve this is to do unpaid jobs to gain work experience. This helps youngsters to stand out from the crowd and compensate for the lack of a degree.

#### 3.2 Learning to be positive

They have to learn to be positive. The hidden youths are not motivated enough to rejoin the society. It may take a period of time for them to get a job but they should not give up easily. They should reflect on their performance after every job interview and make necessary improvements. They should bear in mind that no one will remain permanently jobless if they keep trying.

#### 4. Conclusion

Overall, the problems of hidden youths should be addressed. People in the society should not stigmatise these young people. The public need long-term sustainable efforts to support our youths. Every one of us can help our youths lead a brighter future. To sum up, we can still do something easy to solve the serious issue of global warming. Why not start to act now?

Yours faithfully, Chris Wong Chris Wong By Wen Sin Laam (F.3B)

It seems to be a growing trend that not many young people are interested in doing voluntary work. Some even think it is a waste of time. I think it is because the public awareness of the needs of the needy is too low. I will talk about volunteering to raise the social awareness of volunteering.

Firstly, there are many needy people in Hong Kong. They include the elderly, teenage mothers, the homeless and the disabled. It is dangerous for the elderly to live alone as their health is not good and no one can take care of them. In addition, there are more and more teenage mothers in our society. Teenage mothers have a hard life because they need to raise their babies alone and give up their studies. The homeless are poor too. They have no shelter and family. They cannot find stable work. Besides, disabled people have low self-esteem and may not want to talk to others. They cannot live a normal life.

Secondly, I want to talk about the kinds of voluntary work teenagers can take part in. Apart from visiting homes for the elderly, we can provide more care and allowance to teenage mothers. We can also help the homeless to find stable jobs and permanent shelter. Moreover, we can encourage them so that they can regain their confidence.

Thirdly, people can join fundraising activities to support charities serving the needy. In addition to joining flag-selling day and secondhand book sales, we can donate money, old toys, old books or old clothes to charities.

Finally, volunteers can enjoy many benefits by doing volunteering work. For example, we can help people in need, make a contribution to the society, meet new people and make friends. As a result, we can By Lee Yee Man (F.6C)

#### 1. Introduction

This report focuses on Hong Kong NEETs. NEETs are young people who are not in education, employment or training. Many of these young people spend their time at home playing video games or surfing the Internet. The reason why teenagers become NEETs is that their strengths are underdeveloped. They have never had a regular job. Therefore, this report will discuss this phenomenon, analyze why the number of NEETs in Hong Kong is rising, and give recommendations on what can be done to help these youths in the future.

#### 2. Causes for the rising number of NEETs in Hong Kong

#### 2.1 Education

Teenagers nowadays lack adequate education. In an era of a knowledge-based society, being a university graduate seems to be a prerequisite of finding a job. If their education level is not high enough, it is definitely not easy for young adults who have a low education level and no work experience to find a job in our society. To cut costs, companies tend to have reservations in employing young graduates as they do not want to invest in training up inexperienced young workers.

#### 2.2 Addiction to video games and surfing the Internet

Kidults rely too much on digital devices. This is a problem which cannot be ignored by society. To adolescents, digital devices are indispensable. By accessing social networking sites, like Facebook and Whatsapp, teenagers can be in contact with their friends. The Internet is so convenient that young adults can surf the Internet anywhere, anytime. They can contact their friends online, so they will have less face-to-face communication. The hidden youths are too shy to express themselves in job interviews. They are so frustrated that they withdraw themselves from society. This explains why the number of NEETs in Hong Kong is rising. Lastly, Hong Kong will become safer if the legal drinking age is raised to 21, as not allowing youngsters to drink can reduce their risk of committing crimes. People, especially teenagers, usually lose their minds and become more aggressive after they drink alcohol. Therefore, there are higher chances for crimes, especially violent crimes, to happen. If that is the case, after they sober up, they will regret what they have done but it is already too late. Also, teenagers may easily drink too much and fall unconscious as they are not drinkers. They are putting themselves into dangerous situations because some criminals may rob or even rape them if they are drunk. Therefore, to prevent them from accidents and committing crime, the government should put setting up the law at the top of the agenda.

When it comes to issues about teenagers, we must not watch the situation with folded arms. In fact, we must try our best to take good care of the next generation as they are vulnerable. Hence, I firmly believe that there are only benefits of raising the legal drinking age to 21.

> Yours faithfully, Ghris Wong Chris Wong

broaden our horizons. It is a fulfilling and rewarding job.

In Hong Kong, there are many people in need. We can do many things to help them. For example, we can join flag-selling days, teach children English or visit homes for the elderly. Doing voluntary work is beneficial to both the beneficiaries and the volunteers. Let's join and enjoy doing voluntary work together. Speech — International Save the Earth Week

By Wong Tsun Ho (F.3C)

Good morning, Principal, teachers and fellow students. I am a 3C student of the Environmental Club. During this International Save the Earth Week, I would like to share with you how students and teachers can protect the environment at home and at school.

Let's start by talking about the consequences of damaging the environment. First, there will be extreme weather because our planet is sick. For example, people always use air-conditioners, causing the cutting down of many trees. There are so many cars on the road as well. Second, global warming will lead to a higher world temperature. Therefore, we will have less clean air to breathe.

To prevent these natural disasters, I would like to suggest how to protect the environment at home. At home, students should turn off the tap when it is not used. They should also turn off the lights when leaving their rooms. Teachers should turn air-conditioners to 25.5°C or use fans. They should also turn off computers when they are not used.

In addition, we can also save the world by taking measures at school. At school, students should turn off the lights when leaving the classrooms. They can also use fans when it is not that hot. Teachers can use public transport to go to school.

To sum up, we should adopt a low-carbon lifestyle in order to protect the world. Hope we can all cooperate to join hands to ease the worldwide environmental issues. Thank you for your listening. Letter to the editor – Raising the legal drinking age to 21

By Tina Kwok (F.6B)

Dear Editor,

'Raising the legal drinking age to 21' has stirred up so much attention in Hong Kong recently. As a teenager, I strongly support this proposal because it can benefit us — teenagers and our society. In the following, I will express my view on this issue and give three reasons to support my stance.

First things first, prohibition of drinking alcohol until people are aged 21 is good for young people's physical and psychological health. Having a healthy body is vital to everybody. However, drinking too much alcohol is harmful to us since there are a lot of chemicals that can affect our mind and our growth. It is very common to see that people with alcoholism usually have mental problems. Besides, adolescents may easily rely on beer to release their pressure. Almost most of us are facing many big changes during adolescence, such as suffering academic, parental and peer pressure. Although youngsters may have buddies with them when going through a hard time, some vulnerable students may run away by drinking beer and wine. As teenagers may not have enough self-discipline and know how to express their feelings properly, implementing this rule will be a benefit to society.

The second reason is that youngsters are impulsive. Puberty is a time for them to learn interpersonal skills and build up the right moral values. Sadly, in general, they do not have their own judgement and are too impulsive. They sometimes do not think twice before they act, especially when they are emotionally unstable. At the same time, their peers have a big influence on them. So, they will follow their friends' behaviour even though it may be illegal. Once they have hesitation, their friends will mock them. That is why teenagers try drinking alcohol. Hence, it is urgent for the government to set up a stricter law in order to create a healthy environment for teenagers. Having a lifelong companion is one of the spellbinding things in our life journey. No matter whether you are cheerful or frustrated, there is always a group of friends who are willing to back you up and give you hope when you encounter any difficulties. Especially for F.6 students, a pal can be your motivation to struggle through the overwhelming DSE as you are with your friends overcoming the obstacle together. Studies are important but friendship is also of the same value.

Overall speaking, adapting to a new environment of secondary school life may be a challenging task for newcomers. But remember 'where there's a will, there's a way'. After the first few months, you can definitely find your own way to a fruitful school life! Article — Doing Voluntary Work

By Sunny To (F.3D)

It seems to be a growing trend that not many young people are interested in doing voluntary work. Some of them think it is a waste of time. However, there are so many poor people who need our help.

Firstly, I would like to raise the public's awareness of the needs of the needy. Homeless people can't find jobs because they do not have address and phones. Therefore, they are unable to get jobs and earn any money. Also, there are some disabled people who do not have any money to buy medicine for treatment. A large number of the elderly live alone because some of them do not have any children so they don't have any family support. Moreover, low-paid workers may need to live in subdivided flats because they do not have much money. In addition, they need to wait for public housing and their children have nowhere to study.

Secondly, there are some ways that Hong Kong people can offer help. We can try to give love and care to the elderly, for example, we can visit them. We can also buy food for them, go to see the doctor with them. We can teach them how to use smartphones too. In addition, we can donate some old clothes or blankets to the homeless. We can donate cellphones too. Disabled people cannot move well, so we can help them to find social workers. We can help single mothers by teaching their children and helping them with their homework, especially English.

Finally, I would like to talk about the benefits of doing voluntary work. Giving is receiving. I think we feel happier when we help people. We can also learn a lot, such as communication skills, problem–solving skills and teamwork.

To sum up, let us join together to offer a helping hand and fill our society with love.

Letter to the editor - Hong Kong's Buskers

By Anais Leung (F.4A)

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my view on a recent article in the Hong Kong Daily, which claimed that most of Hong Kong's buskers are an embarrassment. I personally believe that the street performers are an embarrassment to Hong Kong. Furthermore, I deem that buskers should be licensed and regulated.

First and foremost, I believe that most of our buskers are an embarrassment. Most of the buskers infringe on people's rights. People have the freedom to choose whether they want to listen to or watch the buskers' performances. Yet, buskers block the paths and people cannot avoid listening to their music or watching their performances. In fact, the street performers have a varying quality of performances. For instance, we are more likely to hear a busker at Sai Yeung Choi Street in Mong Kok singing a classic pop song in an unsatisfactory way. Some of them are just too loud and cause noise pollution. Some people think buskers in Hong Kong cause an awful nuisance. As a result, I believe that most of our buskers are an embarrassment.

To improve the quality of buskers, I deem that buskers should be licensed and regulated. Buskers in Hong Kong need a well-structured licensing scheme. Some buskers are treated like beggars, so the government should recognize street performers. Also, the government should give them an identity. This can encourage Hong Kong's street performance culture and weed out acts of poor quality. There is an estimated 300 or so active street performers in Hong Kong. Most of them can be found in some of the city's most crowded areas such as Tsim Sha Tsui, Mong Kok and Causeway Bay. Nevertheless, the buskers have no identity. Licensing and regulating them is the most proper management of buskers.

I have some further suggestions regarding the ways to improve the quality of busking in Hong Kong. Not only can the government help Speech – A welcome speech to new students

By Lui Lok Sze (F.6A)

Good morning Principal, teachers and fellow students,

On behalf of the Students' Union, I'd like to welcome all of you to our school. I'm sure we all want to achieve success and have an enjoyable school life, so I'd like to give you some advice this morning.

Have you ever been punished by your teacher for breaching school rules, ranging from being late to forgetting to submit your homework? You must have found it annoying to follow strict rules, right? But have you considered the possible consequences of violating the guidelines, which may lead to chaos in our school? School rules demand us to hand in our homework on time, to be a responsible student and not to run in the corridor for the sake of our safety. It is no exaggeration to say that schools are a miniature society. If we have been taught about the concept of obeying school rules, we'll also follow the laws in society as a civilized and law-abiding citizen. So, do you realise the importance of following school rules?

Similarly, following school rules also means mutual respect. As we all know, speaking foul language and violence are prohibited in our campus. With clear regulations, we understand controlling our temper is essential and using violence cannot solve problems. If you don't want your conduct marks to be deducted, why don't you respect others in all aspects, including your verbal and body language? A harmonious schooling environment can lead to an enjoyable school life.

Apart from following school rules, much is now being said that going to school is for acquiring knowledge, but many miss the direction of developing interpersonal relationships. An all-rounded education should not just focus on academics, instead socialization is key to a wholesome development. Communication skills and team spirit can be fostered via doing projects or interacting with peers in school, which are the basic and useful surviving techniques in society when we grow up. Making friends can also expand our social network and gain new perspectives in our own lives. As an old saying goes, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Who would want to be an outcast and spend the rest of their life being alone? To conclude, the prevalence of online sharing activities can bring advantages to both our social life and academic studies and will become more useful to our daily life. improve the quality of busking, but buskers can also develop the culture of busking by coordinating among themselves.

First of all, the government can improve the quality of busking in Hong Kong through official policies. The government can regulate buskers by launching a well-structured licensing scheme. For instance, the Open Stage Scheme and the West Kowloon Street Performance Scheme are the closest mechanisms Hong Kong has to a licensing system. The government can launch some similar schemes to those. By doing so, qualified performers can showcase their talents whereas acts of poor quality can be weeded out. What's more, it helps to promote the appreciation of street performance.

Second, buskers can improve the quality of busking in Hong Kong through self-regulation. Buskers could coordinate among themselves to prevent problems such as noise and the occupation of public space. They can share a spot with other performers and perform for 20 minutes on rotation. Lyson Sze, a freestyle football player in Hong Kong demonstrates how self-regulation can actually work by using such a method. In addition, some buskers can join training courses to improve their singing techniques.

All in all, I personally believe that buskers in Hong Kong are an embarrassment. I deem that buskers should be licensed and regulated so as to help the busking culture to develop in an orderly fashion.

> Yours faithfully, Chris Wong

Chris Wong

Article — Opening Schools' Sport Facilities: a curse or a blessing?

#### By Chan Cheuk Hang (F.4A)

There has been a lot of discussion lately concerning whether schools should open up their sports facilities to the public. Due to the lack of recreational facilities, the authorities have been contemplating opening up schools' sports facilities for public use. However, as a student, I hold a firm belief that schools should not open up their sports facilities.

There are three main reasons why schools should not allow the public to use their sports facilities after school hours. First and foremost, opening up sports facilities incurs monitoring costs or agency costs. Schools are not familiar with the operation of the facilities, so using recruitment agencies is a must. As a result, schools have to face a huge financial burden. It would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for schools to handle the cost of the maintenance of sports facilities without subsidies from the government. Frankly speaking, no one will question the benefits of opening up sports facilities to our society, but it is unreasonable for schools to pay for the extra costs.

Another reason is that it is risky for schools to allow unknown citizens to enter their premises. As long as schools open up their sports facilities, there will be more people entering the school campus, increasing the likelihood that the facilities in the campus will be damaged. Worst still, staff's properties may get stolen. It is impossible for schools to supervise every user and distinguish whether the users comply with the regulations. In other words, the safety of staff and students is not guaranteed. Under such circumstances, it is unwise of schools to open up their sports facilities.

A further reason for not opening up schools' sports facilities for public use is that it will cause controversy if users get hurt when using the sports facilities. Opening up schools' sports facilities is not a commonplace practice in Hong Kong. Therefore, related laws are not yet established. While it is possible that users may get hurt when using the facilities in an inappropriate way, schools cannot avoid legal liability. The controversy over liability may cause disputes between schools and citizens. Thus, it is not a wise move for schools to open up their sports facilities. Article – Having technology at our fingertips

By Lam Chau Ha (F.5E)

Mary is a victim of Internet crimes as she shares a lot of her personal information through the Internet and was cheated unfortunately. However, is that the only thing the Internet brings to us? The answer is obvious. At first glance, sharing through Internet tools is dangerous due to privacy leakage. But when we think about it carefully, it can not only expand our social circle but also enhance our academic knowledge.

To commence with, Internet tools acts as a pivotal role for socializing. Some Internet sharing websites, like Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, to name just a few, provide a place for us to connect with our friends. We can keep in contact with our friends and families who are in other countries in order to maintain family bonding.

Undoubtedly, on through those Internet tools, we can know what our friends have done or how our best friends feel first-hand. We can show how we care for them then and there. Therefore, the Internet has brought people together and help improve the relationship among people.

Moreover, sharing through Internet tools enhances our knowledge. It is evident that there are plenty of learning resources on the Internet, like English videos, listening and so on. However, it is inadequate if we only rely on the English learning page on Instagram or the 'Everyday English' on Facebook. There are still numerous useful pages that we have never known before. So as to ameliorate our language with unremitting efforts, we can benefit from the sharing function of Internet tools. The videos that our friends share on Facebook can be advantageous and we can study conveniently.

Some people claim that over-sharing of personal information may result in Internet crimes and that people can easily fall into online traps. However, in my opinion, with proper use of Internet tools, these tools can be very useful to us. Only if we always protect our privacy can we prevent internet crime. Also, some functions in Facebook like linkage to phone numbers and high security passwords can help protect our personal privacy. As a result, sharing through the Internet will not be so dangerous to us. mobile games, visiting country parks can definitely revive one's mental health. In essence, we can relax our frame of mind instead of escaping from the reality. As a corollary, country parks are pivotal to improving Hongkongers' physical and mental health.

Considering the fact that country parks are indispensable for Hong Kong, what should be done to conserve them?

Doubtlessly, we should take up the accountability in a bid to protect the country parks in Hong Kong. To illustrate, we can attend talks and exhibitions organized by different green groups so as to gain a deeper insight about country parks in Hong Kong. Self-discipline and selfregulation are equally crucial to save our country parks. For example, we should clear all our trash, put out incense sticks and paper offerings. Despite the fact that these reminders are clichéd, rarely do we follow them. Only if we do our bit after visiting the country parks can it stay forever without human destruction. Shouldn't we liberally cherish this treasure? The answer is obvious. Thus, bearing our responsibility is the key to reserving country parks in our territory.

In a nutshell, country parks have far-reaching benefits to our health and Hong Kong's nature conservation. We all have a part to play in safeguarding them with an unremitting endeavour. Taking up responsibility is the most primitive and influential way to achieve this. It is sincerely hoped that country parks in Hong Kong can be retained.

> Yours faithfully, *Chris Wong* Chris Wong

Based on the above-mentioned drawbacks, we can all see that opening up schools' sports facilities does more harm than good. So before the government makes the move, it is really crucial for schools to consider whether they would give the green light to shared use of their sports facilities. Article — Opening sports facilities to the public

#### By Law Yuk Ching (F.4B)

Nowadays, Hong Kong people lack time to do sports because they are too busy with their studies, work or family. Another reason that people lack participation in sports is that Hong Kong does not have enough sports facilities. Therefore, the Hong Kong government should increase the number of sports facilities, especially the facilities for common sports, such as swimming pools and badminton courts. However, there is not enough space for building the facilities. It is suggested that schools should allow the public to use their facilities after school hours and the government would provide some allowances and supportive measures to encourage schools to join the program.

As a student, I disagree with the above policy because it will trigger at least two problems, namely the cleaning and maintenance issues. Who would be responsible for the cleaning of the facilities? The school or the government? If schools are responsible for this, it will increase the workload of janitors. If the government is responsible for this, it is hard to manage the cleaning staff by the school. Also, if the facilities are damaged, who would pay for the replacement? The government, the school or the user? Below is an elaboration of my concern.

To begin with, if schools open their facilities for community use, it will cause a safety problem. Strangers would be allowed to enter the school and thus it would be hard for the security guards to distinguish between actual users and those with a criminal intent. And when students and strangers want to use the facilities at the same time, who would be able to use the facilities first? Should it be on a first-come-first-served basis or priority being given to students? In the end, such unnecessary conflicts only increase the workload of school members like teachers and security guards. Therefore, to avoid disputes, such a proposal should not be carried out.

Next, if the school opens its facilities for public use, there would be problems in collecting money. Which party would be the one to collect money? The school or the government? Or should the facilities be open for free? If it is for free, there would be long queues. So opening the school facilities will create a lot of problems.

In a nutshell, opening school facilities will place heavy burden on schools and cause potential safety problems. It is suggested that the government should think twice before acting.

Letter to the editor – The significance of country parks

By Lee Suet Man (F.5E)

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my view on the significance of conserving country parks and avenues. Flipping through the newspapers, we can acknowledge that Hongkongers are unconcerned about our extraordinary nature. Thanks to the dearth of awareness of conserving the natural environment, almost 100 hillside blazes have occurred lately. I firmly believe that the countryside is undoubtedly vital for Hong Kong and there should be some concrete methods to protect it.

To commence with, keeping country parks can conserve the nature in Hong Kong. There is a multitude of local species of birds and trees in the territory. If their habitats are not retained properly, their life will be put at risk as they no longer have a suitable settlement with abundant resources. It is unsurmountable for some rare species to survive in such unfavourable conditions, let alone the reproduction of those animals. Needless to say, sustainable biodiversity and balanced ecosystems lie in the integrity of country parks which provide a wealth of habitats and resources to animals. Being infamous for attracting an inordinate importance to economic development, Hong Kong has an insufficient number of country parks for nature conservation. If our country parks are damaged, there will be some irreversible effects. We can never get back our country parks and the precious nature. Consequently, Hong Kong will become a 'concrete jungle'. With this in mind, our country parks will be virtually diminished.

Aside from that, country parks are the key to enhancing citizens' physical and psychological health. Arguably, they act as the 'green lungs' of our city, improving the devastating air quality in the territory. Getting rid of a sedentary lifestyle, we can do exercise such as hiking, going for leisurely walks and running in the countryside. Country parks are thus conducive to the promotion of a salutary lifestyle. Mentally, stress can be relieved by taking respite in country parks. We can not only take photos of the picturesque landscape, but also spend quality time with our beloved family and friends. We can leave the dull and fast-paced life to embrace wholesome green lands. Contrary to the indulgence in drinking or playing

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#### Article — Are internships really bad for university students?

There is no denying that this green initiative may bring some trouble to us. For instance, we may forget to bring our own cutlery. However, I suggest that the teachers can be role models and try to encourage students to take the first step. Students can therefore be made aware of the dire consequences of using too much plastic and having a throwaway culture. They will then become more self-disciplined to bring their own cutlery. Thus, this idea can be of great help to us, and the planet in the future.

All in all, this green initiative is beneficial to our school, Hong Kong and you. I am deeply convinced that we can have a beautiful environment. I hope all of you can support this idea. Actions speak louder than words!

#### By Lau Cheuk Yan (F.4C)

Internships? Is it really a bad thing for students, as it does not give you any money? Employers in Hong Kong claim that fresh university graduates lack industry knowledge and skills. They even think that graduates do not have the passion to solve challenges in the workplace. For that, I agree that all university students should be required to undertake an internship to gain first-hand experience and exposure to the workplace before graduation due to several reasons, which will be explained in this article.

First of all, you can test your knowledge and skills by undertaking an internship. Even though you may have a degree, it does not mean you are passionate about the subject. That's why your future employer may not like you very much. Undertaking an internship is definitely a good thing for university students to do, as it gives you a grounded experience of how the job related to your studies might be like in a workplace. It will be a huge advantage compared with those who do not undertake an internship.

After that, personal branding is important for your future career. If you do well in your internship, you can create a good impression on the company. Then, when you apply for a job offered by that company, you will be put at a higher priority when they hire staff. Undertaking an internship gives you the opportunity to expand your network and professional branding. When you need help, you will have some professionals to ask for advice.

Last but not least, undertaking an internship can help you gain an experience of a lifetime. You should try to undertake as many internships as you can, and try not to miss any chances to try out different types of work. It is helpful for both your future career and your life. To view your future career in different perspectives, undertaking an internship is definitely one of the easiest and effective ways. You can even know more people during the internship and I am sure you are going to meet your new lifetime friends to help you achieve more!

To sum up, undertaking an internship is good for university students since it can test your knowledge and skills, help you build personal branding and let you gain an experience of a lifetime. By Wu Chun Yin, Tommy (F.4D)

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my opinion about why students feel tired and whether a 9:00 a.m. start to school can solve the problem. When it comes to the question of what students think about their secondary school lives, probably most of them are unanimous in their answers – feeling exhausted and overstrained all the time. Therefore, the writer of a recent article in the Young Post contended that an 8:00 a.m. start to the school day is the major culprit for making students feel tired and sleepy. As a matter of fact, under a flawed exam-oriented education system, students need to cope with busy lives filled with school and extra-curricular activities, resulting in the problem of sleep deprivation which is a common phenomenon among students. Therefore, I am in favour of a 9:00 a.m. start to school as I believe thus can solve the problem.

The reason why students feel tired is because of the fierce academic competition among students. It is common knowledge that students face cut-throat competitions during the DSE exams. Burning the mid-night oil and working non-stop every night, most students sacrifice their sleeping time. In fact, teenagers require 8.5 to 9.5 hours of sleep every night according to experts. In stark contrast to this, most students only sleep for 5 hours. As a result, most, if not all, students fall prey to mental and physical exhaustion. It is no wonder they fail to concentrate in class due to drowsiness.

Another reason why students feel tired is because most students do not make sleep a priority. Occupied by a lot of work, students have to finish tons of assignments and take numerous exams. Students from poor families also need to do part-time jobs so as to lessen the burden of their parents. In addition to this, they have to participate in extra-curricular activities and different team sports such as the Basketball team. In order to fit everything in, students choose to put sleeping at the bottom of their priority list and always suffer from inadequate sleep. School magazine article – Be a responsible global citizen!

By Leung Yan Yu (F.5D)

At present, students in my school are given their lunch in a polystyrene lunchbox. What's more, they are also given a plastic bag containing a paper napkin, a pair of disposable chopsticks and a plastic spoon. All these will become rubbish after use. One shocking and unpleasant fact is that we, the students, produce tonnes of waste every day. That is not ecofriendly. So, I support our school's canteen measure to use recycled and reusable food trays and washable napkins starting next month. Students will need to bring their own cutlery to the school canteen for lunch every day. I believe that is a wonderful idea. Nowadays, Hong Kong has many pollution problems, such as land pollution and water pollution. A variety of eco-friendly actions can be used to improve the environment and build a better future.

Reduction of waste is just as important as recycling and reusing waste. In fact, Hongkongers produce tonnes of waste every day. Hongkongers always want convenience, so they tend to use and buy many disposable items. If we carry out eco-friendly actions, we can solve the problem of landfills. It is because less waste will be produced when we reduce the use of disposable items. With less waste produced every day, it can lessen the burden on landfills. It comes as no surprise that landfills in Hong Kong are going to be full soon, so we need to support our school's green initiative.

This green initiative is beneficial to our school. Our schoolmates lack the awareness to protect the environment. To my knowledge, our school has a serious throwaway culture, thus producing too much waste. The school policy can promote the concept of a green lifestyle. It can make our school have a better image and also our schoolmates can change their own lifestyles. We can kill two birds with one stone if we follow our school's new suggestion.

Students may find bringing their own cutlery to school an inconvenience. But, this idea teaches students the importance of environmental protection and every one of us is responsible for protecting it. People's mindset is the root of the environmental problems. As for the public, we can be self-disciplined. For example, after barbecuing in the country park, we should put out the fires by ourselves. In the end, the occurrence of hill fires can be reduced.

All in all, country parks are essential to our lives. We must protect them. Take action now.

Yours faithfully, **Ghris Wong** Chris Wong In view of the above, it is put forth that the starting time of school should be postponed till 9:00 a.m.. This can bring a myriad of advantages which will be discussed below.

One of the benefits of a 9:00 a.m. start to school is that students can have more time to have breakfast. One of the root causes of students feeling tired and sleepy is that with an 8:00 am start to school, most of them do not have enough time to have breakfast. Some would rather sacrifice breakfast time to get one more minute of sleep. To make matters worse, leaving home early for school, students need to battle with the crowds on public transport. All these lead to students' lack of energy. Thus, they feel drowsy and are easily distracted in class. Therefore, if the starting time of school is postponed to 9:00 a.m., students will not skip breakfast which is an essential meal of the day. Students would then have enough energy to cope with their busy school lives.

Another argument in favour of starting school later is that there is a phase delay in teenagers' biological clocks during puberty. Thanks to the hormonal changes during puberty, the time teenagers fall asleep is shifted back by two hours. Therefore, the ideal bedtime is 11 p.m. and the best time for them to wake up is around 8 a.m.. In light of this, starting school at 9:00 a.m. would fit teenagers' sleep schedule and they would feel more energized and awake as their lives synchronize with their biological clocks. With adequate energy, students can more easily deal with their daily routines.

On the plus side, starting school later can improve students' academic results. It is found that students with adequate sleep would perform better academically because they feel awake and alert in class. With adequate sleep and energy, students could concentrate better and take in information effectively during lessons, which in turn makes them spend less time doing revision after school. Ultimately, they can go to bed earlier and get adequate sleep. If not, slower learning as a result of inadequate sleep makes their learning less effective than it should be at school. Students may then need to attend multiple tutorial classes after school in order to catch up with their learning. Consequently, their rest schedule may need to be postponed. This makes students fall into the vicious cycle of inadequate sleep. They have to postpone their resting schedule to attend tutorial classes.

In short, I firmly believe that a 9:00 a.m. start to school will help eradicate the problem of students' tiredness since getting enough sleep is the prerequisite for finishing one's work effectively.

> Yours faithfully, **Ghris Wong** Chris Wong

Letter to the editor – The significance of country parks

By Lee Tsz Ching (F.5C)

Dear Editor,

As we all know, the vast majority of land in Hong Kong is countryside, which is about three quarters of Hong Kong's land. My attention has been captured by a current news article in the Young Post. A total of 85 hill fires occurred in Hong Kong last week. It is such an alarming news to me. Therefore, I am writing to discuss the significance of country parks in Hong Kong and suggest ways people can protect them.

Country parks serve as a place for nature conservation. Country parks comprise of scenic hills, woodlands, reservoirs and coastlines in all parts of Hong Kong. All these components of country parks are scarce and natural resources are becoming rarer in Hong Kong. By conserving nature, we can let visitors enjoy the scenic beauty.

On top of conserving nature, country parks provide people with a place for recreation. There are multifarious activities we can do in country parks, such as leisurely walks, exercising, family picnics, hiking, barbecuing and camping. The public always go to country parks for entertainment and stress alleviation in their spare time. That is the reason why country parks are fundamental to the public's mental and physical health.

Country parks are also a place for outdoor education. There are lots of ways to learn about the countryside. First, through visiting the Visitor Centres, people can gain a better understanding and appreciation of the countryside. Second, people can learn about Hong Kong's precious nature resources and biodiversity in the Woodside Biodiversity Centre. Third, on -site interpretative plates help the public study nature. In view of this, country parks are crucial for outdoor education.

Both the government and the public can help protect the country parks in Hong Kong. As for the government, it can put up signage about the precautions of hill fires. Seldom do people attach great importance to hill fires in Hong Kong. To prevent hill fires, signage should be put up in eye-catching places within the country parks. manager encouraged me by telling me that he had felt very frustrated when he was an intern, but it took time to learn and to grow.

In a nutshell, it was an invaluable and fruitful summer break. I realized that passion in the workplace is important and we can melt the hearts of people by our genuine heart. We should treasure every chance to learn! Article — Hong Kong university students undertaking internship: Valuable or meaningless?

By Chan Hiu Yu (F.4D)

As we all know, almost every secondary school student is cramming hard for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) in order to pass it with flying colours. They all believe that with good academic results, they can get in university and finally become successful. However, many Hong Kong employers recently claimed that university students lack industry knowledge and skills. Therefore, it is controversial whether university students should be required to undertake an internship. Regarding this, I would like to suggest that all university students should be required to undertake an internship due to the following three reasons.

There is no doubt that undertaking an internship can help students gain a practical and pragmatic experience, as it is surely essential for students to work in the future. Despite the fact that the knowledge learnt in lessons may help students become more professional in their future related jobs, there are quite a lot of practical skills that can only be learnt in the workplace. Take being a vet as an example, through university courses, you may learn the theories of curing different types of animals. However, you may not know how to handle different complaints of the animals' owners as these practical skills can only be gained through work experience. Through undertaking an internship, students can utilize the practical skills gained when they work in the future. Hence, it is of great importance for all university students to undertake an internship.

It is undeniable that undertaking an internship could help university students quickly adapt to the work environment. This is surely beneficial to the employers. Through undertaking internship, students can get used to the workplace. By taking on an internship, students can meet and communicate with different people and know the responsibilities of the job. Hence, students can be familiar with the nature of their jobs. When they start to work in the future, they can quickly get used to the working environment and the employers do not have to spend a lot of time to train

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them since they have already been familiar with what they have to do. Therefore it could decrease the cost of manpower, increase the level of efficiency and finally facilitate the company's development. Therefore, undertaking an internship should be required for all university students.

Doubtlessly, by undertaking an internship, it can help students secure a job offer as students who perform well and impress their bosses may be offered full-time employment after graduation. With these offers, students do not need to worry about their future after graduation. Therefore, great benefits could be brought to university students if they all have to undertake an internship.

Some may claim that students should not be required to undertake an internship as they may receive no salary. Admittedly, students may gain no money from their internship. However, they can gain experience and skills which are vital for their work in the future. With these invaluable experience and skills, they can find jobs with higher salaries easily after graduation. Thus, whether they receive a salary or not from the internship is not a concern.

Because of the above reasons, I strongly suggest that our government should require all university students to undertake an internship before graduation. Article — Amazing summer internship in a hotel

By Tam Chun Tung (F.5B)

Have you ever thought that you could work in an elegant hotel with lots of honorable guests? Last summer, our school provided an opportunity for us to choose an internship program. There was no doubt that I would choose this job to broaden my horizons because being a hotel manager was my dream job. I couldn't wait to start my journey of being an intern in the hotel.

Fortunately, I got a chance to be an intern at a great and fabulous hotel. The hotel that I worked for was called Four Seasons Hotel. I was really impressed by the huge swimming pool and the grand lobby. The most important thing for me was that there was a Michelin star restaurant in the hotel!

I experienced two fun things in particular. Firstly, it was about my job duty. I had to manage everything in the hotel - reception desk, hotel rooms, dining tables and even the toilets! Although it was really stressful, it was fruitful too. I learnt how to manage time and human resources effectively. I remembered one day, a client told me that he forgot to print the booking form and was very impatient with my colleague. I asked the manager whether we could accept the e-form, luckily the manager approved. The client was very satisfied and wrote me a thank you card to appreciate my proactiveness.

Secondly, I learned how I collaborated with others. Being proactive is important in the workplace because my colleagues are too busy to instruct me in every detail and it can prevent some embarrassing moments. Also, I learnt that I needed to prepare everything in advance. The manager told me that the buffet started at 6 p.m., so we had to call every client on the list to remind them about the buffet. I think it is very useful for me to get things prepared.

In the first place, I thought that there would be a lot of challenges, but in fact, that is not the case. The main challenge for me though was that I had to deal with strangers. To overcome this, my manager told me that it would be good for me to wear a smile and always be polite to every customer. Now I am very confident to meet and talk with strangers. The school. It is sincerely hoped that there will be a dramatic improvement in student academic results. Last but not least, it is generally agreed that school is our second home. More effort will be put into filling our school with love and care. We aim to inculcate correct messages into young minds and provide mental support. When students are on the brink of breaking down, counselling services are the only way-out to fuel their wishes. Plus, we will encourage students to care for their friends and chat with our teachers.

"One small step, one giant leap." So, fellow schoolmates, we are calling for a better school life in an attempt to raise the sense of belonging and to construct a meaningful memory as each milestone of our lives passes by. If you vote for me, I will try my best to voice out your opinions as the Student Union President. That's all I want to say. Thank you. Letter to the editor — The significance of country parks

By Ng Po Shing, Roy (F.5A)

Dear Editor,

As a dedicated environmentalist, I am writing to air my view on the recent news article apropos of the consecutive occurrence of hill fires in Hong Kong last week. The destruction of country parks, which are of high ecological value, is the last thing that Hong Kongers want to witness. For fear of this, the significance of country parks as well as the suggestions to protect them will be elucidated in the following as the advocacy of environmental conservation.

To commence with, country parks play a vital role in ecological conservation. Covering a total area of 44,312 hectares, country parks comprise of a host of beautiful vistas: scenic hills, woodlands, reservoirs and coastlines, to name but a few. Biodiversity places a high degree of reliance on country parks as they provide the habitat for a variety of animals. Endangered animals, including but not limited to Hong Kong, such as the cascades frog, black-faced spoonbill, mule's foot fern, and Chinese bahaba are kept safe under the protection of country parks, albeit being at the mercy of the dynamic weather. After the countless times of destruction we have imposed on to nature encompassing excessive urbanisation, deforestation and land reclamation, shouldn't we preserve the country parks to retain nature's vigor? Shouldn't we at least demonstrate a bit of empathy by not destroying the country parks? Human beings should bear the disrepute of our brutality. In fact, we all owe animals an apology. Now country parks, as the panacea to preserve biodiversity and wildlife, should be profoundly valued under our protection, be it burdensome or effortless.

Incalculable ecological value aside, country parks are of an immense significance for recreation and education of citizens. Living in Hong Kong, which is one of the most competitive cities in the world, citizens would like to escape from the exasperating and stressful reality of their heavy workloads. Country parks are a place of sanctuary for citizens to release tension and loosen up. For example, people can make good use of various facilities including tables, benches, barbecue pits and so forth. Additionally, not only do country parks provide platforms for recreation, they also play an imperative role in education. For instance, the Biodiversity Education Centres as well as community-involved conservation programs have been pioneered with a view to educating the general public. As a result, Hong Kongers' quality of life, such as their physical, mental, and societal health would be boosted by virtue of country parks. Had we not protected country parks well, such enormous values would have vanished for good. It is our responsibility to continue to protect our country parks by any means necessary so as to let it benefit both nature and mankind comprehensively.

On the individual level, all we can do is not destroying anything in our country parks. For example, we should properly extinguish cigarettes butts and avoid producing flammable rubbish. Better still, don't smoke. After doing these, I believe that there will no longer be occurrences of hill fires or land contamination in the future.

It is also worth noting that the government should spare no pains to ameliorate this problem. Through imposing stricter controls, tightening, enacting and enforcing stricter laws on illegal destruction, they will become a deterrent and citizens will refrain from destroying country parks. On the other hand, the government should inculcate the awareness of environmental conservation into people's minds by means of stepping up education and publicity via mass media or other platforms.

All in all, it is hoped that the general public will attach more importance to the significance of country parks and the suggestions aforementioned. The future of both nature and mankind are at the mercy of our own hands. Please fulfill our civic responsibilities, be it wholeheartedly or obligatorily.

> Yours faithfully, **Chris Wong** Chris Wong

Speech — Student Presidency Election

#### By Tse Hi Yi (F.5A)

Good morning Principal, teachers and my fellow schoolmates. It is an honor for me to speak to all of you today. I am the candidate for the position of President in the Student Union this year.

I believe that I am a perfect candidate since I have a tremendous amount of rich experiences stemming from my past positions held and obtained over the years. I have previously been elected as the Vice Prefect and the Chairperson of the Social Service Club. Needless to say, I am striving to excel myself in launching a wide range of campaigns, ranging from visiting an elderly home to holding a walkathon to raise money. One fact is indisputable – we gained positive feedback and I am convinced that I will be at an advantage of becoming the President as I have experience in showing concern and contending with problems in society. Therefore, your concerns will also deserve our full attention. Besides, as the President of the Student Union, it is of utmost importance in possessing leadership skills. Moreover, I am able to cooperate with others, as the Vice Prefect I needed to coordinate the duties between the Head prefect and prefects, thus improving my communication skills. In other words, I am a competent candidate due to the ability of being a team player.

Jared Leto said, "Try and fail, but never fail to try." In this day and age, hardly does a day go by without a student being at the mercy of failures and obstacles, which leads to low self-esteem. If I am successful to be the President of the Student Union, I will come up with many measures to prevent this tragedy. To address the lack of confidence at its root, we will help students to build up their interests. It is crystal clear that all things in their being are good for something. What we need is just a stage to shine. In order to develop their strengths, we will hold a wide spectrum of activities such as competitions, workshops and assessments. . Furthermore, as education is a significant contributing factor to better our lives in the future, we are going to boost the study morale in our school by holding tutorial classes after school and setting up self-study rooms at