



# PTA Bulletin



Issue 2 /2020-21 (Nov 2020 - Feb 2021)

Home and School Together

## Welcome Back Message

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,



Welcome back. We hope that you had a wonderful time with your families during the Chinese New Year break and are well rested; ready to take on Term 2! We are so glad that we are finally back on campus after many months of being online.

This is a very unique year for each and every one of us. This year and last year, schools in Hong Kong and around the world were taken online. This is something that has never been done before on such a massive scale. So pat yourself on the back for pushing through it and doing the best you could despite the circumstances! And keep your hopes high for this coming year!

That being said, we are not yet out of the water. It is crucial that everyone continues to take safety measures seriously. Let's work together to keep our school and Hong Kong safe!

This is the year of the ox, which symbolizes the strength and endurance of one's character. We hope that all our students can embody these characteristics in 2021. Here's to a year filled with success and triumphs.

Sincerely,

The PTA Team Teachers

## Dr. Carter's Column

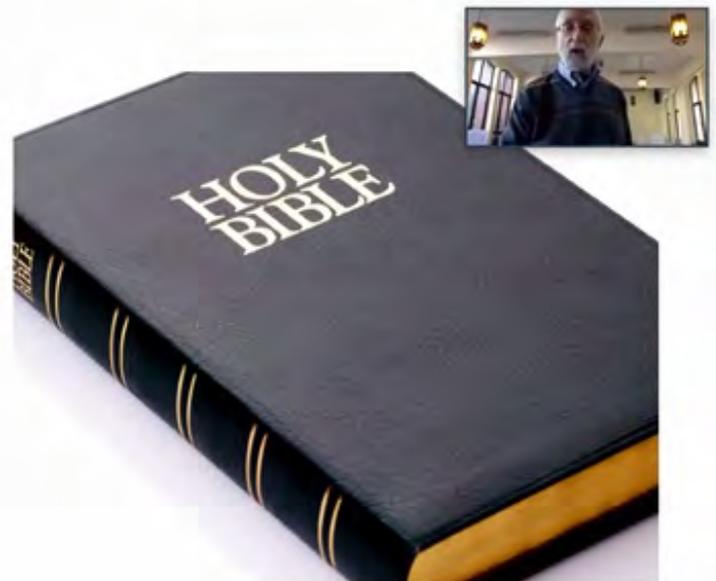
Chinese New Year

Perhaps you were able to see some of the students' work during the Student Council Chinese New Year online celebration on 10 February. The presentation introduced the history of the Chinese New Year. Then came Bingo with appropriate CIS and CNY terms on the cards, and then there was a twenty-question quiz about CNY customs. The Student Council worked hard, despite the online setting, to present a good event.

Hong Kong has taught me much about Chinese New Year. Colours, flowers, food, a cleaning day, family meals, a "hot mouth" day, etc. There can be much celebration---and much to try to understand.

There is a challenge in such a celebration. That is, how shall we at this time in the 21st century understand things such as dragons, and colours that bring luck? What meaning can there be when this is the year of the ox, not the goat or the dog? When families around the globe, and in Hong Kong, do not have enough food, how much should we spend for flowers and plants for our homes? How do we teach or interpret these things for our children?

Teaching and interpreting is also a question in CIS Bible Assemblies. Students can learn from the Bible the geography and culture of Jesus and other historical people---an emperor in Rome while there was an emperor for the Han dynasty in China. But how shall we at this time in the 21st century teach and interpret the idea in the Bible that God shows love through the death of Jesus? In assemblies leading up to Easter (4 April) students will have some chance to consider this. The Cross of Jesus can be interpreted as a Sign of Success, because God is showing love for all people, for those who suffer and for those who celebrate Chinese New Year.





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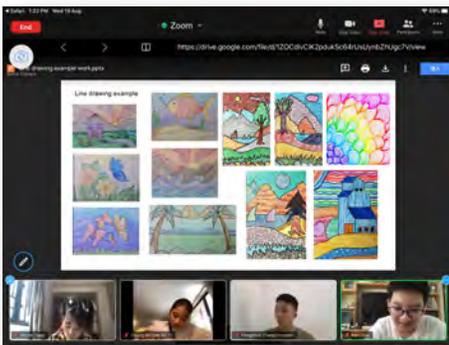


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## Online Lessons on Zoom

CISHK started the 2020-21 school year with online Zoom lessons in August. Regular face-to-face lessons were resumed in late September. However, due to the fluctuation and spike of new cases, Zoom lessons were resumed in early December until February 2021. Despite the continuous disruption, teachers worked hard together to meet learning goals.



Online lessons during the suspension of face-to-face instructions



Students enjoying Laboratory work during their Physics lessons

## Students' Works

2021 Feb 2

I have sorted out many plastic phone cases, some of which have never even been used. Then I threw some uncommon ones. Next time I have to wait for the phone to break before buying a new one.



2021 Feb 3

Today I was a little thirsty on the way out shopping, so I bought a glass of water and threw it in the trash after drinking. I should bring my own kettle next time I go out.



2021 Feb 4

Today I went out for dinner with my family. After eating, I found that there was still a lot of food left, so I asked the waiter to give me a disposable plastic box, without wanting to waste food. Next time I go out to eat, I need to control the number of orders and prepare a lunch box.



Pancy Pun's Plastic Waste Log, grade 9-10 students SWLO project.



A comparison between Virus and Bacteria by a grade 8 Science student, Karlie Luk

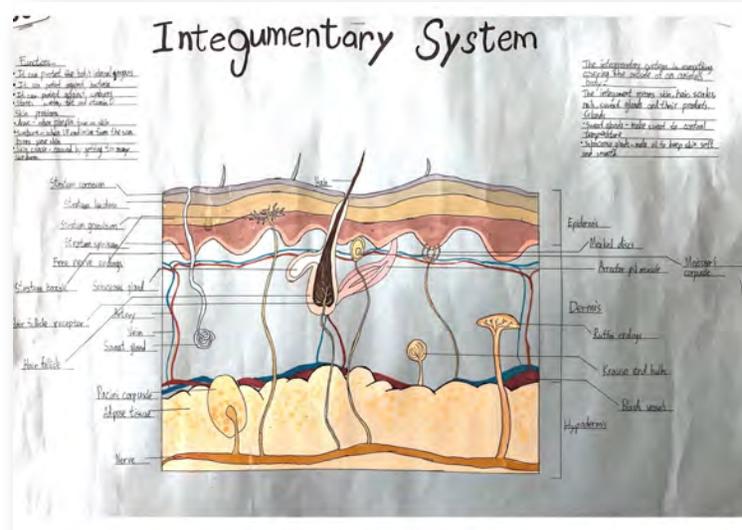


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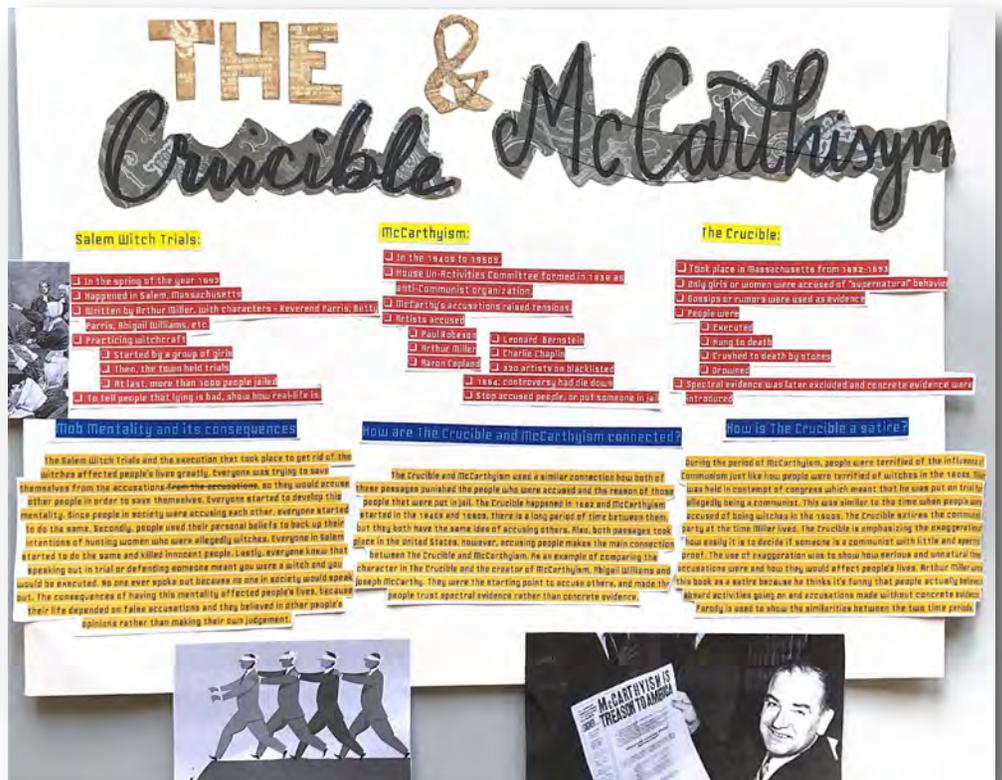


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Projects from Science Students



The Grade 11 English students studied the Salem Witch Trials and The Crucible by Arthur Miller. After that, they learnt about the political event of McCarthyism and the Red Scare which inspired Miller to write The Crucible. Through relating these events, students learnt about allusion in literature and how real life events inspire great works.



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During Zoom lessons in Chinese Studies, the students needed to draw pictures to explain the context of the poem.



“江雪”Chinese project from Jenny Kai (Grade 8)



“望庐山瀑布” Chinese project from Vincent Zhang and Yuki Wong (Grade 8)



“一剪梅 紅藕香殘玉簫秋”Chinese Project BoBo Chu (Grade 9)



“生查子·元夕”Chinese Project from Kelly Sze (Grade 9)



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## Chinese New Year Celebration

For this year’s Chinese New Year, we had to get a bit creative with our annual festivities. The Student Council held a CNY Celebration programme via zoom for all the students and teachers to participate. The Chinese New Year Bingo games were hosted by our Grade 12 student Shirleen Zhang. The Kahoot Games were hosted by Grade 12 Hillary Chew and Russo Roldan were very much enjoyed. The teachers joined in and came out as the winners! Finally, students got to see their classmates’ works in the Photography and Art Competition. The competition winners were Grade 11 Jared Tang and Grade 12 Hillary Chew.

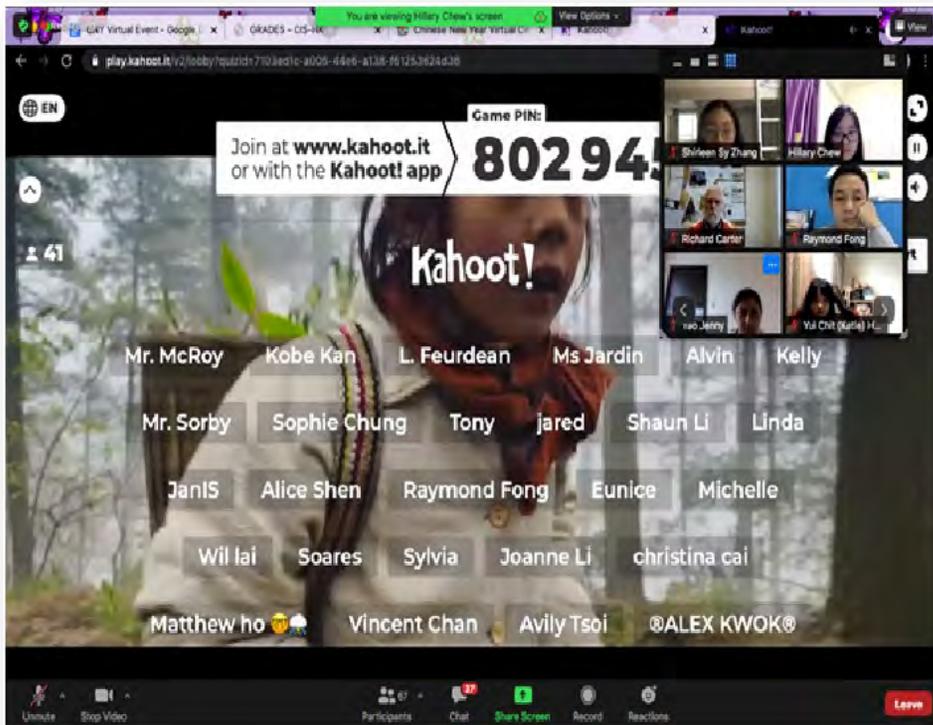


Photo winner from Jared Tang (Grade 11)



Artwork winner from Hillary Chew (Grade 12)





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## Students' reflection on online Learning and their eagerness to be back at school



After resuming in-person classes, I noticed that I participate a lot more in discussions and communicate more freely and with a lot more ease with my teachers. In school, the environment created in classrooms allows me to concentrate. I found it extremely hard to concentrate during online classes because of the distractions I faced at home. Not only that, I also had a hard time finding motivation because I lacked the physical space of a designated work area like a classroom. The lack of on-campus socialization caused difficulties for me to work with other students, especially in group projects. In-person classes have definitely motivated me a lot more and gave me an incentive to learn accordingly. I also feel a lot more comfortable sharing my opinion because I can discuss them with my classmates.

Maryam Ahmed (Grade 11)



Online learning through Zoom has provided me with a lot of benefits. For example, I got to wake up an hour later than normal school days and enjoy a more comfortable environment for learning at home. Teachers have been very trendy with technology and utilized the newest programs to facilitate our learning through Zoom sessions. I personally enjoyed Nearpod sessions where students could work on questions and the teacher could see our responses live. This enhanced the interaction between students and teachers, and it encouraged students to actively participate during class while also showing teachers our learning progress. However, Zoom sessions have made some collaborative projects and group activities difficult, and PE lessons were forced to become workout videos rather than actual physical activities. Despite the few shortcomings of online learning, I found that I can be more attentive and active during zoom sessions than in school lessons. Overall, online learning has been a great experience and I benefited a lot from it.

Hillary Chew (Grade 12)

## School Precautionary Measures for Covid Prevention

- Students must take their temperature before leaving home every morning and record it on their temperature record.
- Parents or guardians must sign this sheet every day.
- If the student's temperature is 37.5 or above degrees celsius, they must stay home.
- Students must wear a mask at all times inside the school premises.
- Students must social distance and avoid physical contact with schoolmates.
- Students must not eat inside their classrooms.

