

KYC Post

2016-2017

Cultural exchange:

NCC students visit KYC



NCC

This year KYC hosted two students from Niagara Christian Community of Schools (NCC), Isaac and Jose for two weeks. The boys attended lessons, providing students with an authentic English language experience. KYC teachers and students showed them unique places in Hong Kong, such as Mong Kok, The Peak and Cheung Chau. Fun was had and friendships were made.

Exchange students

Canadian student, Isaac

Interview with Isaac

by Bee Lee Sheung Yin,
Chocolate Wong Yuen Yi &
Steffi Wu Yue Wah (3B)

1. Have you adapted to school life in KYC during these two weeks?

Yes, but there are too many floors to walk up and down!

2. What do you think is the biggest difference between KYC and NCC?

At KYC you seem to have more pressure, whereas at NCC we are much freer.

3. Do you think HK people are friendly?

Yes. They always help us when we have difficulties, for example with language problems.

4. Did you have any difficulties when you first went to NCC?

Actually, no. The transition was easy.

5. Why do you think some Hong Kong students want to study in Canada instead of Hong Kong?

Probably because Canadian schools are more relaxed than Hong Kong schools.

6. What kind of special festivals do you have in Canada? What will you do on that day?

We have Canada Day and we usually celebrate with fireworks.

7. Will you recommend Hong Kong to your classmates when you go back to Canada?

Yes, because the weather is nice and the people too!



Brazilian student, Jose

Interview with Jose

by Bee Lee Sheung Yin,
Chocolate Wong Yuen Yi &
Steffi Wu Yue Wah (3B)

1. Have you adapted to school life in KYC during these two weeks?

Sure. Students at KYC are friendly. They always take photos with us. XD

2. What do you think is the biggest difference between KYC and NCC?

The learning atmosphere and teachers at KYC are very serious and strict. Also, students at NCC are more interactive than the students in KYC.

3. Do you think HK people are friendly?

Yes. We went to Victoria Harbour and Hongkongers looked happy and nice.

4. What is the difference in the food culture between Brazil and Hong Kong?

It's totally different. The food in Brazil is usually meat and rice, whereas the food in Hong Kong is more varied and you have a lot of local, street food, like fishballs.

5. What difficulties did you face when you first went to NCC?

The biggest challenge was the language and communication skills, but it was fine after a few months.

6. Why do you think some Hong Kong students want to study in Canada instead of Hong Kong?

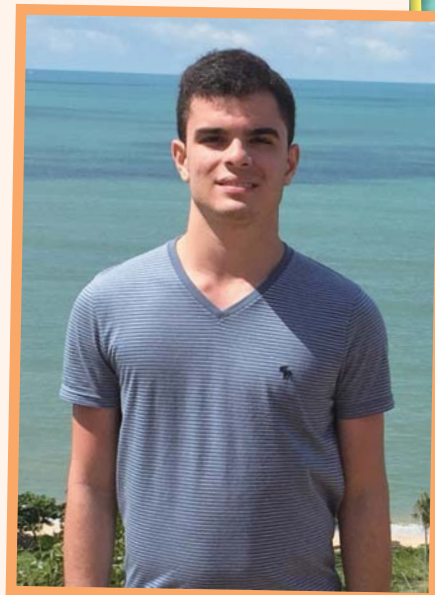
They probably want to learn English. When you are immersed in a language and you have to use it, you learn more quickly and it's authentic language usage.

7. What kind of special festivals do you have in Brazil or Canada? What will you do on that day?

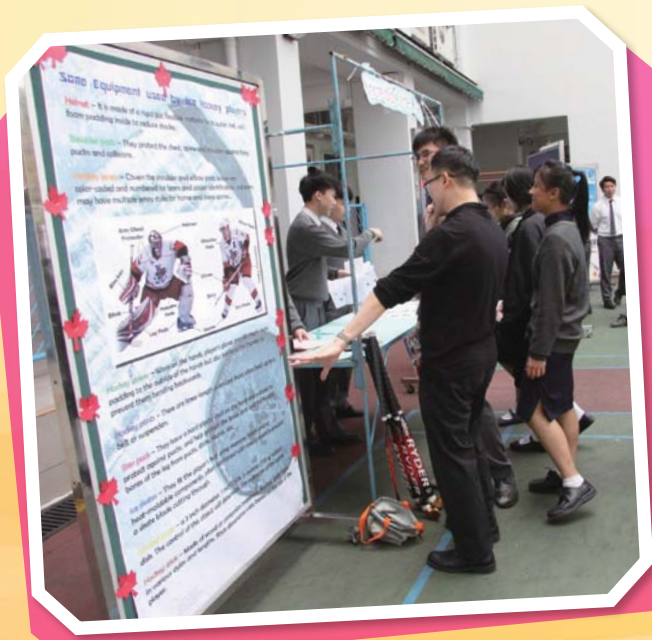
We have Carnival in Brazil. It's celebrated like Easter or Christmas where we eat special local cuisine.

8. Will you recommend Hong Kong to your classmates when you go back to Canada?

Yes, the weather in Hong Kong is very nice; it is not too hot.



A cultural exchange of sports





English activity day



Letter to the editor

by Ivan Lui Ho Wan (6A)

Topic: Many foreign countries are encouraging their citizens to travel around their home cities by bicycle. However, it is said that the conditions in Hong Kong do not favor cyclists.

Dear Editor,

It is widely acknowledged that cycling has become more popular in Hong Kong. Cycling, regarded as a sort of sports, can benefit our health. Cycling also brings a positive impact to our environment if it is adopted as a means of transport by alleviating some adversities we are facing. Nevertheless, before we jump to the conclusion that cycling can bring a myriad of benefits to us, it is imperative to consider the feasibility of advocating a cyclist-friendly culture, since Hong Kong does not seem to offer conditions which favor cyclists.

First and foremost, there are insufficient cycling facilities in the territory. As we all know, the tracks available for cyclists are rather inadequate. They are mainly concentrated in the New Territories, with almost none in the CBD. Therefore, this only offers the choice of cycling to the citizens who are living near those tracks. Thus, the unevenly situated cycling tracks fail to meet the needs of people living in different districts. Other than the trails, bike racks are also uncommon, as we can see many bicycles usually parked along the sidewalk, indicating that the parking lots are inadequate. Therefore, the insufficient facilities have been too much of a hindrance for traveling by bicycle to become prevalent.

Secondly, the road environment in Hong Kong is too complicated and dangerous. There are numerous traffic jams at most intersections in Hong Kong, especially during rush hours. It is too dangerous for cyclists to travel when drivers pay little attention to the road side and cyclists. Moreover, road users, especially truck and bus drivers, have difficulty recognizing the presence of cyclists as the rear-view mirrors of these vehicles cannot give clear and full images of what is behind or beside them. Therefore, accidents can easily occur if drivers are unaware, creating a poor and dangerous environment for cyclists.

Thirdly, there is a lack of consciousness about cycling as a means of transport. To Hong Kong people, cycling is only a kind of sports or leisure activity to be done during weekends or public holidays. This concept is deeply-rooted among Hong

Kong people. Seldom do citizens use cycling as a means of transport. Besides, not many citizens have their own bicycles, preventing the popularization of cycling.

In light of the aforementioned problems, the government, playing an important role, can actually do something to improve the current conditions. A few measures are suggested as follows.

Firstly, regarding the insufficient cycling facilities, the government should put more resources towards this issue. They should first investigate the possibility of setting tracks in different parts of Hong Kong and consult citizens for detailed opinions. By doing this, citizens around Hong Kong would have the choice of travelling by bicycle, generalizing cycling as a means of transport.

Secondly, more signs should be placed along the roadside. Since there are not enough signs on the road to remind drivers to be aware of cyclists, so accidents occur occasionally. More reminders can be put to further separate two types of road users for the sake of safeguarding cyclists' personal safety, providing a comfortable environment for them.

Thirdly, with respect to the inadequate civil awareness about cycling, the government should encourage a mindset among the citizens through community education. Many citizens may not recognize the benefits of cycling, so few people possess a bicycle at home. Through advertising on TV or social media, the advantages to personal health and environment brought by cycling can be advocated. This can eradicate the deeply-rooted mindset that cycling is merely a leisure activity, making the general public less resistant to it, enabling the government can promote a cyclist-friendly culture.

All in all, the consequences brought by cycling as a means of transport can be profoundly beneficial. Besides the advantages to personal health and the Hong Kong environment, a new image of being a cyclist-friendly city can be forged as well. It is hoped that the government can improve the current situation and make cycling as a means of transport more feasible.

Yours faithfully,
Ivan Lui Ho Wan

Judgment Day

by Lenis Chiu (5C)

It was a good day; the sun was shining brightly onto the blue sky. The jewellery shop was the most famous jewellery shop in the town because of its high quality jewels.

'May I have a look at this beautiful ruby ring?' asked a young lady.

'Sure madam. Let me put it on for you,' smiled the seller.

As the seller was putting the shiny ruby ring on the young lady's finger tip, the door opened with a bang! Everyone stopped what they were doing and looked to the door. What they saw totally shocked them. Three masked robbers with guns came in.

'Don't move! If you don't want blood splattered on you!' shouted the robber with the jump suit.

'All we want is the money. You will be safe and sound if none of you do anything stupid,' yelled another robber who was holding a hand grenade.

People were terrified and handed all their valuable things to the robbers. It took a short time for the robbers to fill up bags. Once their bags were full, they turned on the machine guns and the shop was soon bathed in blood. Blood reflected the light of the display cupboard, as bright as ruby.

'That's what a jewelry shop should look like,' laughed the one with the black mask.

Things started to go wrong after they left the shop.

'Weeeeeeeeeoooo... ' a most familiar sound to them. The police were here.

'No! Cops!' shouted the one with a cap, who began to run.

'Run! Both of ...' he never made the 'you' out before he went down. The other two were shocked. Until then, they thought they could get away with the robbery. The robber with a black mask fired a few shots towards the police cars and they started to run to the pre-arranged meeting point.

They soon got into their get-away car. Once they were far away from the police, the robbers started to count what they had taken. They had stolen a lot this time, maybe enough for them to retire. They laughed and drank wine in the car. One of them looked out of the window and suddenly noticed that they were heading a different way to their planned escape route.

'Peter, where are you taking us?' asked the robber with the red jump suit.

'Who is Peter? You mean the stupid guy?' laughed the mystery driver. He slowly turned his head to the back.

'What... How come you are still alive?' stuttered the robber with the black mask, his eyes covered in horror.

'Ten years ago, three robbers broke into a house took everything and killed a couple, right?' said the driver.

'You are the little boy!' shouted the man in the black mask. He tried to open the door but found they were locked.

'You guys killed my parents! You owe me two lives!' growled the driver and he sped up the car which was rushing to a broken bridge.

'No! Stop it!' the two robbers screamed.

'Gentlemen, it is judgment day!' laughed the driver. Things were flying in the air when the car rushed into the sea. The three of them sunk into the sea, never to be found. Their story became stories in novels and movies to serve as a warning to others.

Bad people do evil things and always think they can escape from the law. They thought they knew everything. What they didn't know is that one day those people would pay for what they had done.

A Short Story

Communication is Key to Happiness

by Eva Lee Hiu Yee (5C)

'Is this pretty and suitable for me, Chris?'

Mary had already asked this question, about a hundred times.

'That's good for you, Mary!'

I had already repeated the answer, about a hundred times.

I am Chris. I guess you could say I'm an underprivileged girl. My mum died when I was young, so I lived with a single father who was really hard working and did his best to raise me. Although my marks at school were really high (in order to get the scholarship), I lacked confidence. Since I lost my mum, I never talked to anyone, except Mary, a wealthy girl who never bullied me. In order to cheer me up, she invited me to go shopping with her.

'Then let's buy these, one for you and one for me! We are best friends right?'

Not giving me time to reject the gift, she whipped out a credit card and swept in on the machine in lightening speed. As Mary was paying money for the jewellery, I suddenly heard a loud shout, at the front of the door.

'Put your hands up and drop the stuff in your hands; otherwise I will kill all of you!'

Mary and I were both petrified; our faces turned white and we looked at each other. I tried to calm myself down and put the stuff on ground. My eyes looked at the robbers' faces. I felt the robbers were surprised and I also felt some strange connection, like I had met them before. The robbers took all the jewellery, and put it into a black bag. They turned towards the entrance and one of the men murmured

'This way. Quick!'

I was the first one who took out a phone. My shaking hands pressed 999 and I said frighteningly 'I am at the ABC jewellery shop, the robbers have just gone and no one's injured.'

'Mary, you stay here. I am going to catch the robber!'

I ran out as fast as I could. I am very sensitive to people who steal from others. I chased them easily as they were old and could not run fast.

When I caught one of the men, he struggled. His eyes were full of guilt and sadness. At that time, the police came and yelled

'Put your hands up!'

The black gun was ready to kill them if they didn't cooperate.

Suddenly, I pulled the mask of the man in order to see who he was. I became petrified. Yes, I was absolutely petrified. The man was not another stranger, it was my dad!

'Dad? What are you doing?' I asked, in shock. I could not believe that my father was involved in a criminal case. My dad dropped to his knees and sobbed.

'Sorry, Chris, I am a bad guy.'

I shook my head. 'I know you are concealing the truth, because if a man who really loves his daughter, and works really hard, just to give her the best, I am 100% sure that he is a good man. Dad, please tell us the truth!' Even though I was a strong girl, I couldn't stop my tears from flowing. My father was the best father in the world. He hugged me tightly.

'Chris, I saw you were crying at night. You said you really want to get into university, but I don't have enough money. I thought if I stole some jewels, I would be able to raise the money for you study.' My father hung his head in shame. Never had I seen him like this before.

'Dad, I can do it by myself, you are so...' I was touched by his intention. My dad apologized to the victims in the jewellery shop. He explained his motive and they tried to understand. I forgave him and said that he was the best father in the world.

'Dad, why didn't you talk to me? We could have figured something out, but not this!'

'I know. Communication is better than resorting to being a criminal. I will never do this again.'

My dad realized that we should try to be open and honest with each other. Communication in families is important to happiness because we can overcome obstacles together.

Blog Entry

by Cain Lam Ho Him (4A)

Hi everyone! I feel glad and honored to have won the Best Debater of the Year Award. My friends always ask me “What is the point in debating?”, or “Is debating easy or not?”, or “What is so fun about debating?” Well, I am going to talk about debating. If you have the same questions I have mentioned above, read on!

Some people may think that debating is boring and meaningless, but it isn't.

It is very meaningful! The motions we debate are usually controversial issues in Hong Kong or from around the world. For example “A Judicial review is not beneficial to Hong Kong development”, or “The Environment is more important than economics in the world.” So debating is good for Liberal Studies since you can learn what is happening in the world through debating.

No matter if you are for the motion or against the motion, you need to define the meaning of the motion that will be beneficial to your argument. After that, you need to collect useful information and do research. Then, you have to write your points on a note card and rehearse until you do not need a notecard to elaborate your points anymore. It sounds easy but it isn't. I think the most difficult part of preparing for a motion is researching since we always need to question the reliability of the sources. Thus, not much information can be used. Sometimes it is a little frustrating.

What I enjoy most in debating is the time I stand on the stage and present my points to the audience and my opponents. Although, it is very hard to be confident speaking English in front of a group of people because everyone is looking at you and listening to you. If you stammer or feel afraid, you feel like a loser! However, it is also a precious opportunity to prove that you have attributes and skills to overcome it anxiety. ‘Believe in yourself, and you will not feel overwhelmed anymore,’ I always tell myself when I am on the stage.

I remember my first experience of attending a debating competition. When I stood on the stage, I was so afraid and I couldn't help but stammer without saying a word. It was a shameful experience for me but afterwards, I decided to be brave and practised speaking English for three minutes every day. It has become my daily routine and my speaking skills have become better. Therefore, debating is a great chance to improve your English speaking skills as well. I was lucky to be rewarded this time; I think I still have many things to improve, so I will do my best in each debate.

Whether you are an expert or just a rookie in speaking English, you can debate! It is a great chance to speak English more often and to improve your English skills. Oh, I nearly forgot to tell you that debating can improve your listening skills as well. You listen to your opponents' speech for points to rebut. Hence, debating is doubtlessly beneficial to your English learning in both speaking and listening.

To kill two birds with one stone, why not try debating?

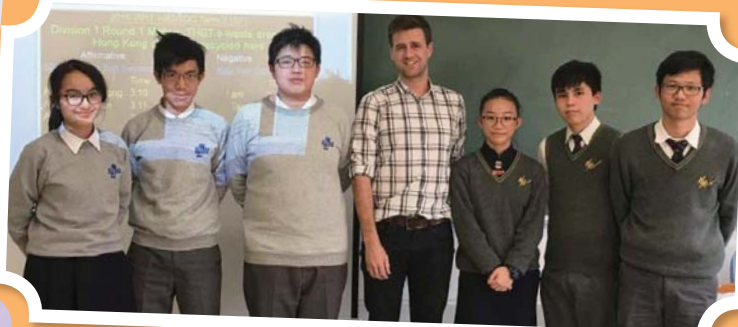
Posted on 6th March 2017, 21:45

8 comments

English Debate Team

Kau Yan College continued their success in the Hong Kong Secondary Schools Debating Competition this year, winning two rounds in Division 1. The team is coached by Mike Choi and consists of Zebe Lam Tsz Ching (1A), Jerry Ma Xue Lin (2A), Anton Wang Caibaitong (2B), Lisabella Yuen Wa Fung (4A), Elim Cheung Yi Lam (4D), Daniel Tang Ho Lam (5A), Kingston Woo Chun Hin (5A) and Stanley Yu Chi To (5A). Two debaters, Jerry Ma and Stanley Yu were awarded 'Best Debater' at two of the competitions.

Congratulations to the whole Debate Team!



English Drama Improvisation

This year the English Drama Club once again entered the 'Speak Out-Act Up' improvised drama competition and we are happy to report that the team won the team award for 'Best Dramatic Technique'. The team were given a prize of a trophy and book vouchers. The team consisted of Jess Li Mei Yan (5D), Charis Chow Nga Man (5D), April Tse King Ching (5D), Stella Char Cheuk Chan (3B) and Izzy Huang Ji (3B). The girls put in great effort and time to prepare for the competition and they performed admirably on the day. Congratulations on your success English Drama Team!



The Journey to New York City

by Hanson Lee Lap To (1A)

Context: This story is based on the Novel *James and the Giant Peach*, by Roald Dahl. James has escaped his evil Aunts and is trying to get to New York with his friends.

James and his friends were on their way to New York. The Grasshopper said, 'The seagulls are very strong so the peach is moving as fast as a rocket. I think we will arrive in New York tomorrow.'

James asked, 'What should we do after we arrive in New York City? I will definitely have a meal in a good restaurant!'

While James and his friends were chilling out in the peach, Earthworm heard something 'What's that noise?' He went outside and took a look at the sky. 'Oh my worm! Meteorites!'

James and the other insects cried 'What?'

As James and his friends were panicking, the meteorites were coming at a lightning speed.

'Guys, calm down. We will be fine! reassured Ladybird. 'Centipede, control the seagulls to change the route. Miss Spider, make a giant web as fast as you can!'

'Got it,' said Miss Spider.

'It's the only time that you can order me!' claimed Centipede.

While everyone was working, Grasshopper sang the song 'Dreams come true' while drinking a cup of coffee that smelled amazing. Meanwhile, Miss Spider made a HUGE web and Centipede used all his strength to control the seagulls.

James said 'Guys, we're saf.....'

Suddenly, Centipede said 'Are you going to say we are safe? Because I STRONGLY disagree with you. We're doomed.'

James replied 'You're right...' when he saw the broken strings. BOOM!

A while later, James awoke and tried to focus on his surroundings. 'Where am I.....' asked James.

'Hey kid!' said a stranger.

'Who are you.....' James asked feeling frightened.

'I am just a citizen of this city,' said the stranger.

'Wow.....' said James, who was stunned.

It was a miracle. James and his friends had arrived in New York City safely.

James began to relax, thinking that he was safe, when he heard a voice that was very familiar.....OH NO!

'JAMEEEEESSSS!' shouted Aunt Sponge.

'YOU BAD BOY!' shouted Aunt Spiker.

Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker appeared as James was trying to find his friends! They smacked and kicked James and said 'Now, you come back to us!'

'I heard that you HATE spiders, right?' said another voice, suddenly.

'Oh my goodness! Spiders! AHHHH' cried Aunt Spiker.

'I think you still remember how I defeated you guys last time!' said Centipede.

'AHHHH!' cried Aunt Sponge.

As James's Aunts were crying, Miss Spider made a long string. It was as long as the distance to the sky! Miss Spider tied them up very tightly.

James and his friends defeated James's Aunts!

Twenty minutes later, the police arrested James's Aunts. James and his friends decided to live in New York City...together, of course.

Into the Future: A regular day

by Jerry Ma Xue Lin (2A)

Dear Diary,

Today was an awesome day, a day that I might never forget. It started off in the morning when I had a sweet prank I wanted to play since it was April Fools' Day. The idea was to hack the software for my dad's fork so when he pushed the button to grab his bacon, instead of grabbing the bacon, the fork would retract. Turns out my dad went for the baked beans first, which got all over his shirt. It was funny to watch.

After the prank, I set off on my jetboots to school. When I arrived, I was a bit late because I had to clean up the mess made by the prank. The first lesson was music. I grabbed my headphones out of the screen and tried to enjoy some music from the 2010s; it was really bad. The worst song was Let It Go, I mean, let what go? Some songs that I thought were okay were Uptown Funk, by Mark Ronson, See You Again, by Charlie Puth and Wiz Khalifa and some other songs.

Suddenly, I think the cord must have snapped, the headphones vanished and I couldn't see the icon on the screen. Now dad is fixing it for me, but I don't think it will work. Not much happened after the music lesson, except Nancy spat milk out of her nose at lunch, it was hilarious!

When it was the last lesson of the day, which was English, the teacher said we wouldn't be using e-textbooks for the day. Instead, we would use paper to learn. At that moment, I thought it was a prank, but he literally gave worksheets out! After distributing the worksheets, we started doing them. I got really dizzy after ten minutes as I am not used to it, but I finished it! I bet I won't do paper schoolwork ever again. E-textbooks are way better and more natural, in my opinion.

After a whole day doing things related to the 2010s, I realised I really don't like that era at all. The textbooks were bad, who would write when you can type? That is weird. However, I don't mind listening to pop music, but I prefer dubstep.

Christmas Treats: Brownies

Ingredients

$\frac{3}{4}$ (112g) cup of plain flour
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup (170g) salted butter
 1 cup (200g) chocolate
 3 eggs
 1 cup (215g) sugar
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cocoa powder
 (if using unsalted butter, $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt)

Method

1. Boil water in a pan and reduce to simmer. Place bowl on top of pan making sure it does not touch the water. Melt butter, sugar and chocolate, stirring occasionally.
 2. Pre-heat the oven at 163 degrees C.
 3. Butter the baking pan.
 4. When fully melted, remove from heat and let cool for around 15 mins.
 5. Add eggs one by one gently into the mixture.
 6. Add flour and cocoa powder.
 7. Mix and pour into the baking pan.
 8. Bake for approx. 25-30 mins.
- Tip: Use a skewer/ toothpick to test if cooked. Dry= cooked; Wet= uncooked.



Christmas Treats:

White Christmas

Recipe from www.taste.com.au



Ingredients

500g white chocolate melts
 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups rice bubbles
 100g red glace cherries
 160g almonds roasted and halved
 160g sultanas
 1 cup (90g) desiccated coconut
 1 tsp vanilla extract

Method

1. Line a baking pan (30cm x 20cm) with baking paper.
2. Melt chocolate in a heatproof bowl over simmering water. DO NOT let the bowl touch the water.
3. Fold remaining ingredients into melted chocolate.
4. Pour mixture into the prepared pan, pressing down with a large metal spoon.
5. Refrigerate for four hours, until set.
6. Turn slice onto chopping board. Dip a knife into hot water and use it to cut the slice into pieces.

Anzac Biscuits

Recipe from www.taste.com.au

Ingredients

150g (1 cup) plain flour
90g (1 cup) whole rolled oats
85g (1 cup) desiccated coconut
100g (1/2 cup, firmly packed) brown sugar
55g (1/4) cup caster sugar
125g butter
2 tablespoons golden syrup
2 tablespoons water
½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

Method

1. Preheat oven to 160°C. Line 2 baking trays with non-stick baking paper.
2. Combine flour, oats, coconut and combined sugar in a large bowl.
3. Stir the butter, golden syrup and water in a small saucepan over medium heat until the butter melts and the mixture is smooth. Stir in the bicarbonate of soda. Add to the oat mixture and stir until well combined.
4. Roll level tablespoons of the oat mixture into balls and place, about 5cm apart, on the prepared trays. Flatten until about 1cm thick. Bake, swapping trays halfway through cooking, for 15 minutes or until light golden. Set aside for 10 minutes to cool slightly before transferring to wire racks to cool completely.

Notes

You can change the texture of your Anzac biscuits by doing the following:

Soft and chewy: Omit the brown sugar and increase the caster sugar to 155g (3/4 cup).

Dark and crunchy: Omit the caster sugar. Increase the brown sugar to 155g (3/4 cup, firmly packed). Bake for 18 minutes.



Music, sweet music

by Sherin Siu Tze Ching (5C) and
Kimble Ng Chun Leung (5B)

Recently, we surveyed teens about the kinds of music they love. We wondered which songs and artists inspire them and why. We asked few students from KYC for their opinions. From the results, we found that Ariana Grande and Jason Mraz are popular artists. Ariana Grande is popular because she has a wide vocal range, which enables her to sing songs with great power. As for Jason Mraz, students say his songs are meaningful because his lyrics always contain positive attitudes and remind you not to give up. Some students say listening to Jason Mraz is like clearing your mind.

We also asked about particular favourite songs. Students consistently said the song 'Outsiders' by Against The Current is their favorite. The song contains a positive message to encourage us to think outside the box and to not always be a follower. Try to be the leader instead and be creative and make your life more meaningful.

We also interviewed Jose and Isaac, our exchange students from Canada and Brazil about their listening habits. They both agreed that Bruno Mars is their favorite. They feel that Bruno has a unique voice that attracts people. Also, his songs are rhythmic, which makes you want to dance. 'Talking to the Moon' by Bruno Mars is their favorite song.

We believe that good music is always here to heal your soul or give you power. 'In Music, We Trust'.