

# Super Quiz

Alan Wong

Students at St. Paul's College love challenges, but what they love more is to challenge others, especially teachers.

On the third day of English Week, an epic event was held on the podium during lunch time – The Super Quiz. Seven groups of teachers and students sat behind tables, hands ready to pounce onto the button to answer the upcoming question. Students exuded concentration and anticipation, teachers sat still with confident smiles on their faces. An intense atmosphere built up rapidly at the podium; the audience held their breath as the host, Mr. Ryan, announced the next question.

The Super Quiz is a friendly, yet competitive general knowledge match between teachers and students from different staff rooms and forms respectively. The questions can be about anything, ranging from entertainment to art to science. Aimed at testing how well rounded our students and staff are, the questions are nothing if not difficult and tricky. Every group has ten questions to answer during the first half of the competition, and fifteen more questions are asked in the 'lightning round' – competitors who first hit the button answer.

The audience listened attentively whenever Mr. Ryan spoke, as if they themselves were taking part in the Super Quiz. Cheers erupted when one team answered a question correctly; or worried gasps escaped team members when one failed to hit the button first. The intensity did not subside until the very end of the event. The Super Quiz was a super event of the English Week!



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## Spelling Bee

Jason Li

The English Week in early March was undoubtedly successful with numerous schoolmates having a blast joining the different invigorating activities held by the English Society. Among these thrilling activities was the Spelling Bee, which remains as one of the prime events organised by the Society each year. This year, the Spelling Bee was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2013

After the 3:30 school bell had rung, a rush of Form One students bolted up the stairs towards the podium, screeching with excitement and looking forward to their first Spelling Bee. As they placed their bags aside and waited patiently on their seats, helpers from the English Society began to introduce the rules of the game in detail. The participants' enthusiasm was overwhelming as they let out cries of anticipation and joy after hearing how the game was played. With the vocabulary list in hand, a member of the English Society, Gabriel Kwan, started the Spelling Bee.

Staring at the lengthy vocabulary list, Gabriel read out words one by one. As the words came, the participants would look up, eyes rolling and wrote letters in the air with their fingers, hoping they could make out the spelling of the word by judging its pronunciation. "L-i-g-h-t-n-i-n-g". "S-u-b...s-u-b-m-a-r-i-n-e!". Most of them managed to stutter the spellings out carefully with some assistance from the helpers. After successfully spelling the words out, they would sit back, grinning with relief.

After a rather easy first and second round (all participants were safely through), the competition entered the 'sudden death' round. The participants trembled in anticipation as they might be eliminated if they spelled a word incorrectly. As the words became

more challenging, many participants who failed to spell correctly were, eliminated. "Oh, no! I knew that word!" They would shout with frustration. However, their faces still remained gratified for they knew that they had given it their best shot.

Finally, the game entered its climax as three remaining spelling experts had to compete among themselves to become the champion. Each of them knew clearly that a single mistake they made would pay the price – being eliminated. So, these students spelled out the words with prudence, thinking twice before they spoke. After an intense thirty-minute battle of wits, wisdom and poise, the Spelling Bee eventually ended with Randhawa Mankiratpal Singh from 1E emerging as the winner. The first and second runners-up were Justin Tsui from 1D and Cyrus Liu from 1F respectively.

The Spelling Bee ended with some students cheering with joy and some feeling depressed about their loss. Despite this, they all had great fun spelling the words, and the teachers and helpers were surprisingly elated about their enthusiastic participation and high focus during the game. Thanks to everyone's hard work, the Spelling Bee this year, was another great success of the English Society.

We now look forward to another competitive and successful Spelling Bee!

# English Society Newsletter



## Tongue Twister: Peter Piper pecked, err picked, ahh pickled, I mean...

By Gabriel Kwan

As the first event of the English Week, the Tongue Twister was a taste of just how fun things were going to get. We brought out the big guns, enlisting the help of Mr. Spencer and Mr. Crozier to set even the most quirkiest rhymes to rights. But of course, all the big guns in the world wouldn't have made a mite of difference if our Form 1 and 2 students hadn't been there to take up the challenge!

The contest took place on Tuesday, gathering a small crowd of spectators with lunchboxes in their hands and eagerness in their expressions. It was run on an elimination basis, which meant that the team that could wrap their heads (and tongues) around the most twisters would emerge triumphant. The beauty of it all was that there simply is no preparation involved – your team either gets the twist, or strikes a miss. Our judges were very lenient though, and it resulted in a good time for everyone, even for those of us looking on.

Seeing our Form 2 students getting their tongues in a knot, delightfully I might add, got me thinking. The most important thing about learning a language isn't mastering it inside out, nor is it about memorising every word or phrase a language offers. Once you're fluent enough in a language to communicate with others, you've pretty much mastered it. Anything else you pick up is just icing on the cake. The Tongue Twister, then, is a fun and interactive way to practice English. After all, now that you've twisted your tongue so much, flapping it shouldn't be that much of a problem!

## Treasure Hunt

Jason Yu

As one of the major events of English Week, the 'Treasure Hunt', this year named 'The Amazing Race', was of course the most popular competition. We had a record-breaking number of 11 teams applying for 'the Amazing Race'. Not only did participants have a lot of fun in the competition, we organisers also enjoyed ourselves!

This year, the Treasure Hunt consisted of four checkpoints—GP2, tutorial room, the library and the podium. Each destination had its unique and challenging tasks, which were quite challenging for the Form Ones. However, there were some technical issues during the race, resulting in all teams missing the checkpoint at the tutorial room, and the task was 'photo zoom in'. They went straight from GP2 to the library and quickly found the book that they were assigned to, which was actually the third task. They were quite smart in borrowing that book from the library, even though they did not know that the final task was to tell us the author of the book. They were quite lucky since it could have and should have made them go back to the library and look for the book again.

We cannot say that The Amazing Race was very successful, but it was truly a lot of fun to organise, and even to participate in. I assure you that next year's English Week Treasure Hunt will be even bigger, even



# FUNEST DAY OF ALL— English Fun Day

The English Fun Day was held successfully on 9<sup>th</sup> March with the theme of ‘Learning Through Play’, and raised around HK\$7000 for The Cedar Fund, which cares the poor and disadvantaged.



## Game stalls >>>

English Fun Day is a stellar event of the English Society, which is part of English Week. This year we concluded the week with Fun Day. On that day, we set up some game booths targeted mainly at Form 1 and 2 students, including the Ping-Pong, Countdown and the Fishing Game. Our Form 1 boys were especially enthusiastic in all the games. Ping-Pong was the most popular of all games. Our master of game set various tasks where participants needed to say a word related to that category whenever they hit the ball. The game was a barrel of laughs, as some of the boys shouted words that were not related to the category! There was always a long queue waiting to play the game. Our teachers Ms. S.C. Yu, the English Panel Head Mr. K.C. Chan and Mr. W.H. Poon enjoyed the game too and had a relay with students.



## On Location!

Caught in action!  
Never were they so enthusiastic about ‘fishing’!  
Just look at the crowd they’ve drawn!

## More from that day...

Games are not just for fun, they can be educational as well. Here our boys have the opportunity to both play and learn something new. These games may develop a bond with school-mates and eventually lead to new knowledge and intellectual development, which sometimes cannot be done even in lessons. The Fishing Game is exactly an example of this. We provided a basket of objects, representing pronouns and verbs. Students were required to use their imagination to write a sentence linking up all the word that they picked within 2 minutes. It was tense and exciting to see if participants could achieve their goal in the allotted time. Without doubt, games have positive educational impact on all participants. Besides games, we also sold second-hand books at \$20 each; some of the Form 1 boys purchased them and read them immediately! However, I must say that the food counter was the most popular corner of the podium. The popcorn machine always caught the crowd’s attention when they arrived at the podium. We had a great time putting all of the activities together. Hope you enjoyed the day with us!



## The Truth of FUN DAY

*“This was one of the most strenuous events of the English Society. Without a strong and committed team, this FUN DAY would never have happened! A heartfelt appreciation to all those who took part, and all those who made it happen!”*

THANK YOU!!

- Liam Yuen

## So, next year...

“Come along to the Fun Day, which will be open to all, and the fun will continue all day long! You can take part in one of the games, buy a book or get a bag our very popular POPCORN! And you can redeem your prizes upon completion of all the games and participation! What’s stopping you! see you there next year!”

- Jason Wong



## ask the experts >>>

Q: Should I Buy this book?

A: OF COURSE!!! Just ask Mr. Wong

Charity book sale was another exciting event during English Fun Day. We took books which had been donated by teachers, students and, of course, our school library, and we sold them. All proceeds from this event went directly to CEDAR Fund! Not only did we learn, we even got to contribute to a worthy cause! Here at SPC, we focus on all aspects of the individual: intelligence, social awareness and our spiritual needs!



## A special thanks to

**Samson Hui** for making the newsletter  
**Dr. Kennard** for attending the *Super Quiz* and handing out the prizes  
**THANK YOU** for your participation