



HOMANTIN GOVERNMENT  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

# Inspiration

By Careers Team  
**2010/11**  
**Issue 1**



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## Words from the Principal

I am delighted to be able to introduce this magazine which is the product of an innovative project initiated by our Careers Mistress, Miss Leung Ka-man, with the assistance of the NET Ms Joanne Davies. The high standard of this publication is a credit to all the students involved and to the teachers.

It has been a very worthwhile experience for the students who worked in their own time over the summer holidays to interview members of our alumni about their careers. Not only did they learn first-hand about the experience of these alumni, they also gained confidence in social skills and team work. In addition, through the translation of their interview notes, they have improved their written ability in English.

The result is an inspirational magazine from which all our students will be able to benefit. Reading these articles, students will learn more about the world of work from the experience of their “big brothers and sisters”.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to those members of our alumni who have given their time to share their career experience which will be of benefit to all the students of Homantin Government Secondary School through this project.



## **Words From the Editors**

**Rome isn't built in one day. Building your future career is exactly this case. Every one of us possesses a dream. In fact, sometimes searching your own dream is not the most difficult thing but having your dream come true. If you already have a goal or a dream, do not hesitate. Start your "Building Programme" from today onwards! Though you may encounter difficulties on the path of pursuing it, still, don't limit yourself by whatever obstacles come in your life.**

**We are honored to have our alumni share their unique experience and path to success. We hope that this magazine can provide you with some inspiration on planning your future as well as learning from the successful alumni. We hope that we can all fulfill our aspirations and have a bright future.**

**February 2011**



Our Editorial Board

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# “Healing Hands”

Being a doctor is definitely everyone’s ideal job. Doctors are considered as heroes since they cure ill people and save lives, but do you know, other than great knowledge in medical science, what do you need to become a doctor? How does modern technology help doctors with their jobs? We are honored to have our alumnus, Dr. Cheuk-man Tong, who is currently the Department Head and Specialist Consultant in the Nuclear Medicine Department and Clinical PET Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, tell us more about his job.



Q: What are the main duties of a doctor?

A: Doctors are responsible for finding out why patients are sick, taking care of them and giving them the right treatment. Here in the Nuclear Medicine Department, the technology has more applications in the diagnosis process. We use radioactive drugs, with specialized machines, to determine the possible diseases our patients have. After that, we determine the most suitable way to help and cure them.



Q: What characteristics are essential for being a doctor? Or what do you think will help our schoolmates to become a doctor?

A: First of all, you must be flexible and able to think quickly. A doctor always has to deal with emergencies. You also have to make decisions in limited time and ill-equipped situations. A doctor must be friendly too, since you need to communicate with other doctors and patients. Without good communication skills, you will not be able to work with your colleagues efficiently or build good relationships with patients. Other than that, you have to know how to deal with stress. Facing life and death every day, knowing how to adjust your mentality is indispensable. Last but not least, you have to be enthusiastic towards learning. Doctors are required to keep learning while working. You will be knocked out if you are not eager to learn.

Q: How much does a doctor earn in Hong Kong?

A: Young doctors, just after the internship, also known as resident trainees, earn around \$50,000 per month. When a doctor becomes a specialist, with 6-8 years of experience, he/she earns around \$80,000 per month (figures include allowances).

Q: How would you foresee the medical industry?

A: We are currently lacking doctors in Hong Kong, especially specialists in Nuclear Medicine. People are now more aware of their health, which will put more stress on our public medical system. We need more doctors to serve the community, particularly doctors who are willing to explore new medical technology.



Q: Being a doctor for more than 20 years, is there anything special that you would like to share with our schoolmates?

A: Of course there is! One of the most remarkable things was the introduction of the PET (Positron Emission Tomography 正電子斷層掃描, special for cancer investigation) service to the Hospital Authority. Nuclear Medicine was a new and not a popular specialty in Hong Kong 20 years ago, so it was difficult for me to ask for funding to buy a PET machine. Luckily, after years of effort, the Government finally agreed to fund us and let us install the first Hospital Authority PET machine at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I think it's definitely a great lesson of "never giving up".

Being a doctor is not a piece of cake, but if you have enthusiasm and passion, nothing will be an obstacle for you when pursuing your dream.

Do you think you are eligible to be a doctor? If yes, take action now and get yourself prepared for the upcoming challenges!



Dr. Tong and our reporters



Positron Emission Tomography



# Protect the Citizens and Serve the Community!

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Whenever we speak of one of the most challenging jobs, what immediately springs to mind is police officer. As you may be aware, the police are often putting their lives in jeopardy for the sake of saving people from danger. However, other than patrolling on the street, we are much honored to have our alumnus, the Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Richard Tang, tell us more about the job, so as to let students have a better understanding of it.



**Q:** What is your daily routine?

**A:** Well, as I am responsible for the personnel matters and training, my job is to co-operate with the other 8 senior directory groups, in order to manage the entire police team and to discuss the latest developments. Apart from that, once the government has carried out any new policy, I'll then need to start planning to train our police the right way to enforce the law.

**Q:** Do you usually work in office or outdoors?

**A:** To be honest, I could stay in my office every day and just have meetings with the senior directory groups. Yet, in an attempt to communicate with the frontline and have a better understanding of their difficulties, I cannot just sit in my office all day but to go to different districts to get to know more about their hardships. Added to that, with a view to closely liaising with the Police Department in the Mainland and overseas, I also have to visit them frequently.



Mr. Richard Tang

**Q:** What special requirements do students need to have if they are interested in becoming a police officer?

**A:** First and foremost, good communication skills are needed. In fact, no matter you are a police officer or not, you always have to deal with different kinds of people. Only by having good communication skills can you thrive in social interactions. That clearly explains why students need to be interpersonally intelligent and resilient. Furthermore, students have to have teamwork spirit. This is a crucial quality of being a police officer since police are a team and you cannot work as an individual, not only co-operation is crucial but also convincing others to trust you. Last but by no means least, students who are equipped with organization skills are also eligible for the job as well.

**Q:** What can I do if I would like to apply for the post of a police officer? What are the entry requirements?

**A:** In respect of the ways to apply, there are actually two ways to join the Hong Kong Police Force, either as an inspector or a constable. To join the Police Force, you can submit the application through the Government Vacancies Enquiry System by using an application form downloaded from the web. Normally, applicants are expected to have certain educational level and be proficient in languages. This can be checked from the website of the Hong Kong Police Force. What's more, I think students' participation in extra curricular activities is very important as well, especially in sports. Therefore, I earnestly encourage students to engage in various activities, as it truly shows how eligible you are.



Mr. Tang, thanks for your time!

**Q:** How long does it usually take to get promoted?

**A:** Usually, a police constable needs to gain at least 10 years of work experience before getting an opportunity to become a junior manager or a report-room duty-officer. And for the inspector, it normally takes around eight years to get promoted.

**All in all, not until you make every endeavour can you succeed. Students should seriously ponder whether your ambition is to become a police officer. After careful consideration, seize the day and persist with it!**



Mr. Tang took a photo with our reporters happily!



Michelle presented a thank-you card to Mr. Tang.

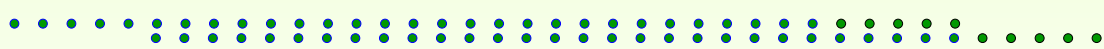
# The Future Adventure of Your Career : Auditor

**W**hen asked what they would like to be in the future, seldom would students pick “auditor” as their dream job. It is because prior to reading this article, most of us misunderstood that being an auditor must mean having a great



Ms. Carmen Leung and Mr. Henry Leung with the reporters

interest in Mathematics. However, the fallacy has to be rectified as we are honored to have our alumnus, Mr. Henry Leung, who currently works as an auditor, tell us more about his job.



## Mission For An Auditor

With the prevalence of the Mainland enterprises entering the market, the demand for auditors increases sharply. Frankly, the responsibilities of a professional auditor are mainly to communicate with clients on a daily basis and support them in performing the statutory audit process, follow up with them with some analysis to ensure that the statutory audits are completed, and liaise with the clients in relation to the findings of the statutory audits.

# No Pain No Gain!

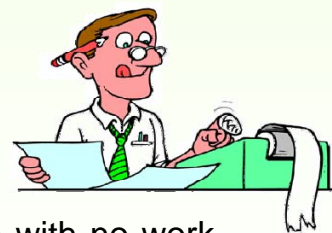


Mr. Henry Leung

Gone are the days when you could leave the office at 6pm every day. Nowadays, various kinds of jobs require their staff to work over-time. Likewise, an auditor also needs to work over-time, especially when it is in the peak season (January – July). They often have to work from 9am – 11pm! Although you may be deprived of some of your leisure time, Henry stated that you would unquestionably gain invaluable experience and this was worthwhile for your future prospects. "I do not find my job boring," he added. So, if you do not want your future as simply sitting in an office and working like a photocopying machine, auditor - a job filled with challenges and excitement - should be in your option list.

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## Reward For Your Hard Work



With respect to the salary, normally a freshman with no work experience can probably get around \$10,000 per month, but with excellent promotion prospects. After becoming a qualified accountant, the monthly income will sharply increase. For instance, the monthly salary range of an auditor with 3 to 7 years experience can be around \$30,000 to \$45,000!

## Get Prepared!

Diligence, perseverance and determination are the recipe for success. To become an excellent auditor, you have to make sacrifices. Once you have become an auditor, you will have to work for more than 14 hours a day in the peak season, go on 2-3 long business trips a year , each of which usually lasts for a month, and some short ones taking 2 weeks of time. Hence, think before you leap. In fact, being an auditor is not that strenuous in comparison to many other jobs. Other than having sustained endeavours, a distinguished auditor must also have good interpersonal skills as teamwork is always a must. All in all, only by persisting and devoting yourself totally to the job can you achieve your goal. Embrace the challenges!



## Don't judge a book by its cover : Being a Banker may not be like its appearance

In recent years, subjects like finance and management have been extremely popular among students in university, since they believe that related jobs, such as bankers and insurance agents, are of a high salary and promising future. However, our alumnus Ms Tinner Kwok , who is working as an Assistant Banking Manager, revealed that the job may not be as easy as amateurs think, and she advised students to consider seriously before entering the industry.

### **Sales or Operation**

Tinner pointed out that the banking system is basically divided into the sales and operation sections. The primary mission of the sales team is to “make money” for the bank, such as selling investment products or insurance products to clients, while the duty of the operation team is to deal with the administrative work. Although the nature of their work is quite different, both teams share a common goal: to satisfy the needs of their clients.



## **The Job Can Be Demanding**

**“In fact, working in a bank can be very strenuous, especially when working as a sales-person, as you have to meet a certain quota in order to keep your job safe.” Tinner said. “Besides exerting yourself to meet the quota, you also have to take lessons to keep your licences valid, so that you are qualified to sell particular financial products to clients. You actually have to learn constantly in this field and this can be really hard for fresh graduates,” she added.**

**Yet, the road is not always that smooth for a fresh graduate. What you cannot avoid are the long working hours and endless conferences. Working as a clerk may allow you to be a nine-to-fiver, but to bankers, that is another story. Tinner recalled when she was working in a branch of a bank, she had to work from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm every day and attended meetings four times a week on average.**

**And don't forget there's a saying “Customers are always right” -- clients may be the ones who give you a lot of challenges in your**



**job. Even when some clients make harsh demands, bankers still have to restrain their temper in order to provide excellent service and satisfy the clients' needs.**



Being a Banker may not be like its appearance

## Hard Work Will Still Pay Off

Arduous as the job seems, the salary of bankers, especially for the sales team, is relatively high. Generally speaking, a fresh graduate can likely have \$10,000 a month. Moreover, for the sales team, there are always opportunities for promotion, as long as you can meet the quota.

Besides, Tinner also said that some clients may praise you for your great performance, so this becomes an incentive for her to keep working in the industry.

### Be Bright, Be Sociable!

*Quick tips from Tinner for schoolmates who aim to enter the industry! Pay Attention!*

#### 1) Qualifications

While holding a degree is the basic requirement for entering the industry, you must have some licences from various associations as well, such as the Hong Kong Securities Institute and the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers, enabling you to sell products like insurance legally. It would probably be an advantage for those who apply for posts in banks.

#### 2) Language Ability

English and Putonghua are equally important, because bankers nowadays have to serve foreign and the Mainland clients.



Ms. Tinner Kwok was sharing her work experience with our schoolmates.

### **3) Personalities**

**Personalities always matter while deciding whether you are the perfect match with the job. For a banker, the ability to deal with pressure is a must, as working in banks is rather stressful. Also, being careful and prudent is necessary as well since mistakes are not acceptable in a bank. However, possessing the above is simply not enough. When you are working as a team and facing a bunch of clients every day, communication becomes the most important process and tool in your life. So, if you are bright and sociable as well, then I should say “Congratulations” to you! You generally have the qualities of a banker. Remember, having all the academic qualifications does not necessarily mean you are the perfect one. Always consider whether your personality is suitable for the career before entering the industry!**

**Think twice! Act wise!**



Ms. Tinner Kwok is a charismatic leader.

## Measure Your Success By Your Own Hands: A Surveyor

With a view to having a bright future prospect, many of our students would decide to be a doctor, a solicitor or an auditor after graduating from university. Yet, becoming a surveyor is certainly another desirable alternative. In fact, there are four different kinds of surveyors including building surveyors, general practice surveyors, land surveyors and quantity surveyors. Mr. Jimmy Yip would be glad to give us more information about his current job — being a Building Surveyor.



Mr. Jimmy Yip was interviewed by our reporters.





## Your Responsibility

A professional building surveyor delivers complete building solutions, and his responsibility is mainly divided into three parts: project management, building maintenance and building control. You may choose one as your major duty as normally you are only required to work on one from the above. In the first place, project management means to provide professional management services to clients such as real estate developers, building owners and individual private sectors. Other than that, if you major in building maintenance, you will have to be an all-rounder and capable of fixing problems ranging from simple to complex repair work. For instance, simply repairing part of the building drains and gutters is as comprehensive as repairing the external curtain wall system. Apart from always repairing stuff, you are required to have a broad knowledge of the technical and legal aspects of a building if you want to be a building control surveyor, as only when you are fully acquainted with the building regulations can you prepare or approve building plans with major building elements and also ensure the building is safe enough.

## Where To Study

There are three universities in Hong Kong providing a degree which is designed to cater for those who are enthusiastic about becoming a surveyor. They are the University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the City University of Hong Kong. These programmes are usually comprised of three main components in the first year (building surveyor, general practice surveyor and quantity surveyor), and then you may opt for either one to study specifically starting from the second year. Diligence can make up for the lack of background knowledge. Why don't you create your own study plan and put it into practice?



Michelle chatted happily with our previous Head Prefect, Mr. Jimmy Yip.

## The Path To Success

Want to obtain a chartered licence to practise surveying in Hong Kong? Then you should follow the tips from Jimmy! Done in steps, you are recommended to join the two-year training programme, which is organized by the government, in order to gain all-round work experience when you are a fresh graduate. After that, you should complete case studies, work with experienced surveyors and pass the interview. This process would take approximately 3-10 years, so, unremitting effort is always needed. Only after you have become a chartered surveyor can you receive a higher and stable income. For instance, you may earn about \$20,000 to \$40,000 after gaining chartered status. Your future is now in your hands, go grasp your dream and do not idle your precious time away!



**ACTION ALWAYS SPEAKS LOUDER.**

## **A Pioneer to protect our mother Earth: An Environmentalist**

With a view to raising the environmental awareness of the public, a lot of measures have been implemented by the Hong Kong Government in recent years. However, have you ever thought of getting your hands in it? If you do, how much do you know about this job? We are pleased to invite our alumna Ms Polly Chik to share her work experience of being an environmentalist with all of you.



**From left to right: Winnie, Janice,  
Ms. Polly Chik and Maisy**

## **What is the work scope of an environmentalist?**

Polly is now working at a non-government environmental association in Hong Kong. "There are many departments in the company and we are mainly responsible for managing and monitoring the Mai Po Nature Reserve. Moreover, we also pay heed to the marine environment and the climate change. Sometimes, we will give some opinions to the government about the ecological conservation too," said Polly.

Polly's mission is to share the experience in managing Mai Po Nature Reserve with the people managing the nature reserves in the Mainland. "As you know, Mai Po Nature Reserve was established in 1983 and we have solid experience in managing the reserves. Therefore, we can share our experience with them," she said. Polly is participating in a 5-year project now. Each month, she needs to work in the Mainland for about three to four days. 'When I am in the Mainland, I usually work outdoors, but if I work in Hong Kong, I only work in the office. My working hours are usually from 8:30am to 5:30pm.' she added.

## **Is it an interesting job?**

Certainly! Polly indicated that the availability of various kinds of tasks places her job in the "non-boring" category. Added to this, she said that she faces a lot of challenges when she is working. In fact, this brings her satisfaction when she has puzzled them out. So, if you are interested in protecting the environment and would like to have a meaningful job, being an environmentalist should be considered as one of your choices.



**What are the prospects in this industry?**


Polly believed that the prospects in the industry are brightening in the coming five years. As different scales of environmental organizations have been established in recent years, it is not difficult for graduates to find a related job. "The key of finding the related job is to keep reading about the news of different environmental organizations," Polly said.

Is any special requirement or educational background required?

According to Polly, no special requirement is needed working in an environmental organization. Besides, your working position depends on what you have studied at university. In other words, no matter what subjects you are studying, you can also work in an environmental organization and become an environmentalist.



Being an environmentalist is not as hard as you have thought! As long as you want to devote yourself to protecting the Earth, there is always a road for you!



## The most glamorous dream for girls ever: Being a Flight attendant

Wearing a neat uniform, standing on high-heels, carrying a luggage case with impressive make-up: this is what every girl wants as her life-long job. This is what we usually dream of. However, what we see is not exactly what it is. Being a flight attendant is not simply about being glamorous. Luckily, our alumnus Ms Patty Fung will tell you all about it!

**(Patty – P, Janice – J, Isaac – I, Kathy – K)**

J: First of all, could you briefly tell us more about your working scope?

P: Certainly, I work on flights and we work according to rosters. Usually, a flight-attendant in our company flies 70 hours every month.

I: Why did you choose to be a flight attendant after you graduated from the university?

P: I majored in Hotel and Tourism Management in the Chinese University. However, I was not so used to the long working hours in hotels. So, I preferred to be an air-hostess—a job which I can really take a rest and relax when I am having days off and I do not need to deal with my job outside working hours.

J: As far as I know, after the candidates are admitted, they have to attend training. What is the training about?

P: The initial training is about safety and service and it takes 6 weeks. We have to study various things, including first aid, the operation of emergency equipment such as how to extinguish fires, how to evacuate from the aircraft in case of emergency, the skills of make-up and grooming, languages, and how to deal with passengers under different circumstances. In fact, we need to attend safety training every year to refresh our memories and take an exam to renew our licence, which is required by the Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department.



**The most glamorous dream for girls ever: Being a flight attendant**

K: After you have become a flight attendant , do you think the job is different from what you or other people have expected?

P: It's really different from what others think it should be. Being a flight attendant is not just walking around and serving food and drinks. We need to wear high-heels all the time, and it is very tiring. Moreover, we need to push and pull the dining carts which are packed with meals and bottles of drinks. I think you can imagine how heavy the carts are. Also, we may need to help passengers to put their hand-carries onto the top shelves. This would hurt our arms and shoulders easily . Besides, we sometimes need to clean the toilets, and keep them clean and dry, which is always considered to be an awful job. Therefore, being a flight attendant is not as easy and glamorous as others think. You need to be really tough!



“Being a flight attendant , you need to be tough!” said Ms. Fung.

K: Have you ever had any unforgettable experience in your career of being a flight attendant ?

P: Yes! I remember that once a passenger told me that his legs were painful and he asked whether I could help. Then, I found a seat for him with more space so that he could relax and stretch his legs. A few months later, when I actually had forgotten that passenger already, my boss gave me a thank-you letter from that passenger. That is quite touching because my little help really means something to the passengers and they are grateful!

J: What have you learned from your career?

P: My EQ has been trained up a lot. I get a better temper after getting along with different people since we always encounter “difficult” passengers. We have learned a lot of “skills” when dealing with them.

I: As an air-hostess, you always have to travel to different countries. Does this affect the relationships between you and your family?



**The most glamorous dream for girls ever: Being a flight**

P: Undoubtedly I have less time to get along with them generally but I have always tried to spend more time with them when I am having holidays.

I: What characteristics should a student have if she wants to be a flight attendant ?

P: First of all, I think they must be optimistic and be able to think in a positive way. If they are pessimistic, they will find that it is a hard job because they cannot take rest regularly. They have to be well-mannered because they need to meet many passengers who may sometimes be annoying. Moreover, they have to get used to listening to others because they need to know what the passengers need in order to offer a helping hand. One more important point is that they need to get used to being under time pressure and have to be detail-minded and attentive.



**The most glamorous dream for girls ever: Being a flight attendant**

J: How about the basic requirements of their academic results?

P: They need to have at least a F.5 educational level.

Also, they need to be good at Cantonese, Putonghua and English. They will have a higher chance to be employed if they know more languages.

J: How much does a junior flight attendant earn?

P: They basically earn \$12,000 and some allowances will be given to them in foreign countries where they are going to stay. Actually, everyone has to work for at least 70 hours every month. The one who works for more hours can earn more.



Janice, Isaac and Kathy were chatting with Ms Patty Fung happily.

# The Builder of A Show

Assistant Programme Officer

When the red light is on; when the “On Air” signal is sparkling, the show is on. However, the start of a programme is not only from putting the lights on. Indeed, what we usually listen to on the radio isn't simply the lovely voice of a DJ, but also the contributors whose faces or voice are unknown to listeners — Assistant Programme Officer.



THE STUDIO ROOM



This is where an Assistant Programme Officer always works.



We are lucky to have a few hours to figure out how a radio programme runs and have a veteran Assistant Programme Officer “show” us his work. Stay tuned!

When we arrived at RTHK, it was about 9a.m. There was still an hour before the programme started, but everyone had already been very busy preparing everything for the show. Mr. Ching was already sitting in a studio, focusing on recording and editing a sound clip for the show to be used later on. We were impressed when we saw his fingers moving quickly in the last minute, and the clip was done in the next minute.

In fact, an Assistant Programme Officer is like a magician behind a radio show. They contribute their ideas to the show, determining the nature of a show as well as the content of each episode. Basically, they have to prepare everything for the



show, even the very little details. I was very impressed to receive a rundown distributed to the guests of the show, filled with detailed information and inspiring questions. I was even impressed to know this was done by Mr. Ching’s own hands, getting to know how much effort he has put into this live show.

“I love my job since it’s always fresh and fun. What I’m working on is different from day to day. It’s not boring,” said Mr. Ching.



Mr. Wilson Ching

The job sounds perfect to those who need freshness and embrace challenges, but what are the difficulties of it? “Assistant Programme Officers always have to meet deadlines. Time is tight before the show is on air. So, they have to come up with new ideas under pressure,” Mr. Ching answered.



Oh pay attention! Mr. Ching just shared some of the qualities which an Assistant Programme Officer should possess. “One who aspires to be an Assistant Programme Officer should also be perceptive, active and creative. It’ll be better if he is a graduate of Journalism, with the basic concept of working in the field,” he added.

And most importantly, how much can a fresh graduate earn from this occupation? \$12,000 to \$14,000 is the range. After knowing all these, just don’t let the job leak from your hands if you really want to work in this field. Opportunities won’t wait for us; it’s we who should seek the opportunities!



A visit to Mr. Ching in RTHK

# I want to be.....

**Michael Liu 1T**

*I want to be a doctor when I grow up. It is because a doctor is a person to save people's lives. My mum always says she wants me to be a doctor when I grow up because she wants me to save those people who are in need.*

**Celeste Ho 1T**

*I want to be a doctor when I grow up because I want to help those patients who do not have money. If I become a doctor, I will know the patients' condition and I can do my best to help them. I think it will be a good job to me.*

**Tom Wong 1T**

*I want to be a pilot when I grow up. It is because I like flying in the sky. Being a pilot needs bravery because plane accidents may happen. Being a pilot may be quite dangerous, but I still want to be a pilot in the future. Now, I will work harder and harder to make my dream come true.*

**Kelsey So 1T**

*Actually, I think my dream is quite common—I want to be a movie star when I grow up. I think movie stars should be very brave, so I'm learning to be braver now. And I also enjoy being on stage. If I can become a movie star one day, I will try my best to be the greatest star in the world.*

**Germaine 1T**

*I want to be a policewoman when I grow up because I think I'm brave. I like taking challenges. Being a policewoman needs to be brave and have logical thinking. I think I can deal with it. Nowadays, some Hong Kong citizens may meet unfairness. I want to help them solve these problems. I am not afraid of difficulties. I think it is not difficult for me to catch thieves and robbers. I will punish these people seriously! Now, I will be more hard-working so that my dream will come true one day.*

## CAREERS EXPO 2010

“Well begun is half done,” as the old saying goes. This is always a golden rule if you want to achieve success. Developing your career is of no exception. Therefore, with a view to exposing students to different careers, the Careers Expo 2010 was jointly organized by the school, the Alumni Association and the Parent-Teacher Association. On that day, over twenty alumni and parents from various industries, including beauty and care, catering, hotel management, nursing, pharmacy, etc., attended the Careers Expo and shared their experience with our senior form students. Let's have a look at what students learnt and how they felt about the Careers Expo 2010.



Our Principal, Mrs. Ho Au Pui-kuen, gave the opening speech in Careers Expo 2010.



Over 20 alumni and parents came to the Careers Expo 2010.



Our Principal, Mrs. Ho; the Chairman of the Alumni Association, Dr. Tong and the Careers Prefects.

## Reflections

The alumnus in my group was Mr. Kenneth Lee - a solicitor. After the sharing session, my impression of this field has changed. The future of lawyers is not very good because the legal market in Hong Kong is getting smaller. Therefore, we need to get the legal degrees in different countries so as to upgrade our competitiveness in the legal market if we really want to become lawyers in future.



Ulrich Wong

As a S6 student, it was my honour to participate in the sharing session in the field of beauty and care. The host was Ms Cheung. The advice I found most important is that we have to think about our personal interests when deciding our job. Ms Cheung told us that it would be painful if we do things that we do not enjoy repeatedly every day. Thus, considering personal interests is very essential.

Winnie Lo

## Christine Hung

In the Careers Expo 2010, I joined the sharing session of the hotel management group. After this sharing session, I am even more interested in hotel management as this field can let me meet people from all over the world and broaden my horizons. Better still, I believe that I can make friends from different countries and widen my social network when working in this field.

I was in the group of Chinese medicine during the sharing session, and the parent was Mr Chek. From my point of view, Chinese medicine is marvellous. I remember Mr Chek was asked why many foreigners loved Chinese medicine more than Western medicine. He answered that foreigners thought that Chinese medicine would have fewer side-effects. I agree with Mr Check and this is also one of the reasons why I think Chinese medicine is marvellous. I hope I can join this field one day.

Ken Lau



Careers Expo

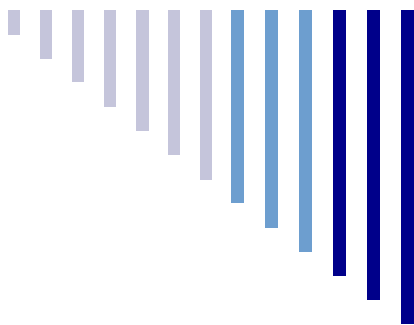
I attended the sharing session of nursing and the alumnus Miss Chan shared with us the basic requirements of nursing, types of nurses, salary and particular character traits required. In fact, it was a very precious opportunity for us to know more about the career. For the sake of achieving our goals and having a bright future, we must put more effort to study. Since a university degree is a basic requirement for most of the jobs, we should try our best to get into the university. Finally, I would like to thank all alumnus as they spent their precious time to share with us. Thank you!

Annie Lo



Calton Lee

The alumnus in my group, Ms Lee, is a social worker. I have learnt from Ms Lee that being a social worker is really a meaningful career. As they can help plenty of people, they find satisfaction in helping others. It is really helpful for those who are in need. Besides, their targets include the poor, the disabled, the mentally retarded, as well as the elderly who are living alone. I am eager to join the outreach teams with a view to helping these people. I will study hard in order to enter the university and become a social worker one day.



# TIPS FOR INTERVIEWS

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‘Well begun is half done,’ as the old saying goes. Therefore, gearing up for an outstanding job interview is of great importance when starting your career. Below are some tips which might help you win a good impression from your future boss.

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## **How should I prepare for the interview?**

- ➔ Find out the location of the office in a street directory, so you will be able to avoid getting yourself in a traffic jam or getting lost.
- ➔ Arrive at the interview venue fifteen minutes early, especially during the summer months. In this way, you will have a chance to cool down.
- ➔ Familiarize yourself with the post you are applying for and the background information of the company, in order to show your sincerity.

## **What should I bring to the interview?**

- ➔ Copies and the original of your ID card
- ➔ At least two photos of yourself
- ➔ Certificates / CV / Work Testimonial
- ➔ A blue or black ball pen
- ➔ A pocket-sized notebook
- ➔ Your work that is related to your application (e.g. articles, paintings, designs, etc.)
- ➔ A cell phone
- ➔ Octopus card and some cash

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## **What questions should I prepare for the interview?**

- ➔ What do you like or dislike about your previous job?
  - ➔ Why are you leaving your job?
  - ➔ What are your weaknesses and strengths?
  - ➔ Describe a difficult work situation / project and how you have overcome it.
  - ➔ What is your salary expectation?
  - ➔ How do you handle stress and pressure?
  - ➔ Why do you want to take this job?
  - ➔ What challenges are you looking for in this job?
  - ➔ What are your goals for the next five years / ten years?
  - ➔ What do you know about this company?
  - ➔ Why are you the best person for the job?
  - ➔ How can you convince me to employ you?
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**Interview Tips**

**What is the best way to dress?**

**General Rules:**

- ➔ well-groomed hairstyle
- ➔ cleaned and trimmed fingernails
- ➔ minimal cologne or perfume
- ➔ no visible body piercing beyond conservative ear piercings for women
- ➔ well-brushed teeth and fresh breath
- ➔ no gum, candy, or other objects in your mouth

**Men:**

- ➔ A solid coloured long-sleeved suit such as white, pale blue, dark grey, navy or teal blue or pinstripes are preferable, but avoid noticeable patterns.
- ➔ Conservative Tie
- ➔ Polished leather shoes
- ➔ Very limited jewelry
- ➔ Portfolio or briefcase

**Women:**

- ➔ Solid colour, conservative suit or blouse
- ➔ Knee-length skirt
- ➔ Moderate shoes
- ➔ Limited jewelry
- ➔ Sparse make-up and perfume
- ➔ Portfolio or briefcase



## How should I prepare my CV?

Your CV should include:

- ➔ Personal Details
- ➔ Employment History
- ➔ Education and Qualifications
- ➔ Key Skills / Strengths
- ➔ Referees/References on Request

### Content of Your CV

- ➔ Focus on information which is relevant to your own career goals.
- ➔ Use concise, explicit sentences, avoid exaggerations and a flowery writing style.
- ➔ Do not make false claims.
- ➔ Bullet points are useful to highlight relevant skills and experience and help break up continuous text.
- ➔ Stress your past accomplishments and the skills you used to get the results you achieved.
- ➔ Put your highest level of education first.
- ➔ Put your most recent job first and work backward chronologically in time.
- ➔ Ensure all dates are accurate and include months as well as years.
- ➔ If you are making a career change, stress what skills are transferable to support your new career objectives.
- ➔ Keep to the same tense.
- ➔ Customise your CV for specific vacancies by focusing on previous experience or skills that are relevant to the role.

