

Fanling Lutheran Secondary School

ENGLISH EXPRESS

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'2012'



2012 2012 2012 2012 2012

EDITORIAL

When this magazine is handed to you, it is already summer time— a season of exams and ice cream. Since 2012 is half way gone, what's the most shocking news or event so far? Disasters? Elections? Or sport games? No matter what, 2012 is surely an eventful year. And this is the reason why we have chosen the theme '2012' this year, for knowing more about the world and getting ourselves prepared.

This magazine is actually a big step for all of the English Society members. From the very beginning of the making of this magazine, all of us have been through many trials and overcome many obstacles. Finally, some of the very interesting articles are here. For those who like to read about FLSS, the interviews with our Maths teacher Mr. Wong and English teacher Miss Wong are must-read for you; for those who like to know about the showbiz news, you can stop by the article on Westlife; for those who like predictions and supernatural things, information on Doomsday is here for you; and for those who are just looking for something to kill time, the whole English Express is just right for you.

This magazine holds the effort and hearts of all the society members and teachers. Through this topic of "2012", we hope that our readers can enjoy reading English, receive different insights from the articles about the things that have happened and most importantly, get ourselves prepared and equipped for the things that will happen.

Portia Lee

Chief Editor

The English Society

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An Interview with Mr. Wong Ka Wa

by Mennie Sam, 5D

2012, the year of the dragon! What impressed you most, the natural disaster in Japan, the prediction of Doomsday this year or anything else? For me, the answer is none of the above. One thing sounding marvelous and worthy of happiness has happened beside us. One of our teachers who is so handsome, generous, cheerful and always carries his students along with his mathematical mind, *got married!* Beyond all doubt, everyone can guess who he is, YES, he is Mr. Ka Wa Wong!!!

I interviewed Mr. Wong, in hopes of getting more information and sharing his happiness. Thank you Mr. Wong for sharing a lot of things and here comes the interview!



Mennie: Good afternoon, Mr. Wong! How did you meet your wife and how did you propose to her?

Mr. Wong: We were primary school classmates, and we met in university again. How did I chase her? Haha, I asked her out for meals and I gave her a hand-made gift as a birthday present. As for the proposal, just like other men do, I prepared a diamond ring and said those three words in a romantic environment.

Mennie: Why do you want to have your own family?

Mr. Wong: Because I love her and want to lead a new life with her.

Mennie: Is there any particular reason for you to choose to get married in 2012?

Mr. Wong: No special meaning indeed, I just thought that it's about time we got married after 5 years of dating.

Mennie: How did you feel on the day before your wedding?

Mr. Wong: I was very anxious and worried about the rundown, at the same time, I was happy that I could live with my wife after the Big Day.

Mennie: Was there any impressive moment during the process of the wedding?

Mr. Wong: The most impressive things were the happy smiles shown on our parents' faces and all the blessings from the guests. Some of whom were my very best friends or relatives, but because of our busy lives, we were not able to see each other very often.

Mennie: Did our schoolmates congratulate you on your marriage?

Mr. Wong: Sure. I am glad that students from all my classes sent me blessings; some even gave us wedding presents. Also, it's nice to see those who came back to school and took photos with us on our Big Day.

Mennie: How do you feel as a husband?

Mr. Wong: I have to take care of my wife's and my own families, and we try our best to go back to our "parents' homes" at least once a week. And, I love my wife and have to take care of our new family.

Mennie: Where did you go for your honeymoon?

Mr. Wong: We went to the Maldives for our honeymoon. It is really a paradise.

Mennie: How will you reply if your students ask you for red packets in the coming years?

Mr. Wong: I will say "Happy New Year!" ...haha... =]

That was romantic indeed, all of us were astonished by this good news. We hope that Mr. Wong will have a hearty marriage life, as the old saying goes, "The happy union lasting a hundred years, will forever tie concentricity."



This year, we know that there are some new teachers in FLSS. Through this chance, we can know more about Miss Nicole Wong.



1. What is the first impression that comes to your mind when you hear the word “2012”?

Actually, I thought of the scenes in the movie ‘2012’ immediately as it was a movie with a lot of scenes of “a combination of disasters” which gave me an idea of how 2012 might be.

2. We know that this is your first year in FLSS, how do you feel about this school?

I think FLSS is a school full of support and care. Not only from the Principal to us or teachers to students, but other departments like the staff members of the General Office or the janitors are all very caring and give us lots of mental support. I think this is very important for a person's growth.

3. Have you ever met any difficulties in teaching? How to solve them?

Well, of course I have encountered a lot of difficulties in teaching. Sometimes, I feel that time is not enough for me to do everything. I feel that the quality of my teaching is declining and that makes me very worried all the time. In order to solve this, I sometimes make a week schedule and decide what I need to do first. Prioritizing my work is very helpful. Also, I like making a clear ‘To-do’ list so that I know what to do and I can plan my time better.

4. Doomsday is predicted this year, do you believe it? Why?

Indeed, I don't believe it as I cannot see any special differences in our daily life. Some of my friends said ‘Doomsday’ is definitely coming as earthquakes are happening very often this year. They said it's a sign of ‘Doomsday’. However, it's not convincing enough to say ‘Doomsday’ is coming only because of the earthquakes.



5. If Domesday comes, what do you want to do the most?

If that day really comes, I only want to stay at home with my beloved family. After all, they are the most important people to me and I'm sure it's a must for me to stay with them.



6. Can you tell us any unforgettable events during this year?

I guess it's the day that my grandmother could go back home from the hospital. She had a stroke last October and she could not go back home. Now, we have arranged nursing support for her and she can be at home. I am so pleased to see that!

7. Finally, do you have any comment for our classmates/readers or wishes in this year?

I hope that 2012 is the year you can reflect on your life. Since people believe that 'Doomsday' is coming, we should think carefully what we can do to make our lives more meaningful and fruitful. Sometimes, it's important to show care and love to the people around us. Don't just do so on their birthdays or festivals. Cherish the people around you and learn to appreciate your precious life.



Top 10 of 2012

by Portia Lee, 5A

During the Easter holiday, I held a mini survey about what hot topics have caught FLSS student's attention during the past few months, and to my surprise, the arrangement of the 10 topics I put on the survey gave me a new impression of FLSS students. Let me share the top 10 of 2012 in the eyes of FLSS students as a small summary of the first half of 2012.

1. The Chief Executive Election

The election of the Chief Executive has stimulated widespread discussion both in the society and in our school. The 'black history' of the candidates, such as the C.Y. Leung mistress case and Henry Tang's palace-like basement case, raised discussion and criticisms among our students. People tend to focus more on these news than the policies the two candidates have drawn up. The school has even prepared a simulation of the election for our students to let us have a chance to express our will. Just like a lot of people in the society, our students seem to support C.Y. Leung more. I wonder how things will turn out when C.Y. Leung embarks on his work.



2. Doomsday?

Many people know that 2012 is predicted to be the end of the world. The surveyed students hold different attitudes towards this prediction; some believe it; some take it as a joke. But after half a year has passed, do they still have the same feelings?

There are rumors saying that experts in Mayan culture have clarified that the so-called "doomsday" is no more than the first day of another year. Who is right and who is wrong? It's up to you to make the decision.

3. HKDSE

The nightmare for a lot of students, not just FLSS students. The first year of HKDSE takes place in 2012. FLSS students have a lot of preparation to do and our teachers put in all their effort into supporting them. May a good result befall and comfort our students.



4. Conflicts between China and Hong Kong

"Locust", "dogs", "mainland pregnant women", "free driving scheme"...these words always remind us of the conflicts between Hong Kong residents and mainland residents. I've received some comments from the students saying that this isn't a problem that happened just now since "a meter of snow doesn't come from a cold morning".

5. *Corruption in Hong Kong*

Not many students pay attention to this topic. However, the reputation of Hong Kong is built upon its neat order. News point out that Donald Tsang has used a large amount of public money to go on trips and paid an unreasonably low cost to go on a luxurious yacht. Is that still “a piece of cake”? Won’t the future of Hong Kong be affected? Maybe FLSS students should pay more attention to it.



6. *Elections Overseas*

Aung San Suu Kyi and Ma ying-jeou have been through keen elections. TV and newspaper had them on the front cover for some time but students don’t seem to remember somehow. Aung San Suu Kyi was elected as a member of parliament on 1 April and Ma ying-jeou defeated Tsai Ing-wen and James Soong and was elected as the President of Taiwan on 12 January, flipping the world history to a new and uncertain page.

7. *Middle-East affairs*

Our students don’t seem to be interested in the things happening in the Middle-East. The armed conflict in Syria and terrorism in Iraq caused quite a lot of trouble but it looks like our students are too busy to read about them.

8. *London Olympics*



The attraction of the London Olympics doesn’t work much on our students. Is it because the Beijing Olympics did such a great job that our students don’t have that much passion about it? For your information, the London Olympics will start on 27 July with 205 countries joining and 26 kinds of sports going on, enough to give the world some fun and “inspire a generation”.

9. *Basketball New Star- Jeremy Lin*

I never thought that Jeremy Lin’s news was not among the top three since all the guys were still Jeremy-ing even at school. There’s also a morning sharing at the hall before the holidays. The heat didn’t seem to last long after all.



10. *Death of Whitney Houston*

It’s not hard to predict this result after a few surveys because a lot of students asked me who Whitney Houston was. She might be too old for our students even though she was once a diva on the stage with her immaculate voice and her great hits like “I Will Always Love You” and “The Greatest Love of All”.

Expectations on our future leader

by Christy Tse, 4E

In 2012, many big events happened. In Hong Kong, the biggest event is the Chief Executive Election. This election attracted many people from different sectors and this enhances their awareness about fair competition. Now, we know that Mr. Leung is our new Chief Executive. Whether he is or is not the choice you have in mind, the result has become a historical event. Therefore, what we can do now is to give our Chief Executive some practical advice.

On the social level, it is a shame that many people still live under the **poverty line** in this **international financial centre**. They work hard but they can only earn a little. Making ends meet is a big challenge to them. So, I think Mr. Leung must focus on **the seriousness of the disparity between the rich and the poor**. Feel what they feel, listen to what they need. Then find out what **the causes and solutions** are to prevent the polarization of the rich and the poor.

In education, I hope that the government can put in considerable resources. For example, purchase some new, high- tech teaching materials which can arouse our interest and efficiency in learning. Also, the government can sponsor school activities so that students have **the opportunity to further develop their interests**

Although Mr. Leung is considered as a communist and is facing many expectations from different interest groups, he must **insist on his beliefs and do what he should do**. Moreover, Hong Kong needs the direction of the Chief Executive. So, we should give more supports to him.

Finally, we hope that Mr. Leung can accept our suggestions and try his best **to improve our quality of life and build up a brilliant future for Hong Kong**.



Ολυμπιακοί Αγώνες(Olympic Games) by Vincici Leung (4C)

Londoners are *under starters orders* as the city gets ready for the 2012 Olympic Games, which will begin in the summer of this year .

In 2012, London is hosting the Summer Olympic Games for the third time. Britain also hosted the Summer Games in 1908 and 1948. The 30th Summer Olympisc will take place in the capital of the United Kingdom, London, from 27 July to 12 August 2012. Everyone is looking forward to seeing this big event .

The 2012 Olympic will use a mixture of new venues, existing and historic facilities, and temporary facilities, some of them at well-known locations such as Hyde Park and Horse Guards Parade.

The main venue of this Olympic Game is the Olympic Park which is situated to the east of the city adjacent to the Stratford City development. It will contain the Athletics' Olympic Village. Also there are several of the sporting venues including the Olympic Stadium, Aquatics Centre, Riverbank Arena, Basketball Arena, Copper Box and London Velopark .

As this is the third time for Britain to hold the Olympic Games, I think London will put on a good performance for the whole world, and let the London summer Olympic Games be the most memorable one ever.

* “under starters orders” means being ready for the signal to start*



Highlight of the 2012 London Olympic

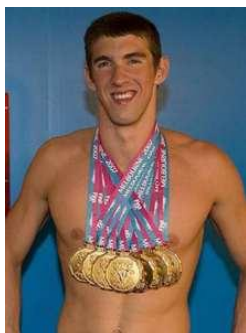
Men's 110m hurdles

Do you remember the last Olympic Games held in Beijing in 2008? Our best athlete Liu Xiang who has broken the world record of the 110m hurdles men's race in 2006 withdrew from the race because of his leg injury. It made many Chinese people feel really disappointed, as it was the first time the Olympic Games were held in China . I have heard that he has recovered from his injury since then. Will he win the 110m hurdles again in the London Olympic Games? Let's await his performance in the Games and hope he can win the gold medal for all Chinese people and himself.



Men's swimming

The genius of men's swimming---is Michael Phelps who has had the best results in swimming all over the world. In the 2008 Olympic Games, Phelps won his eighth gold medal in the men's 4×100 m medley relay, breaking Mark Spitz's record of seven gold medals won in a single Olympic Games, which had stood since 1972. Phelps has said he will compete in the 2012 Summer Olympics but it would likely be his last Olympics. For the 2012 Olympics, Phelps has stated he will never do eight events again and will try new ones. Although he will not get the eight medals again, let's hope he can get the best result in the new events.



Medal Table

In the 2008 China Olympic Games, the USA was the winner of the highest number of medals in the medals table. Although the winner was not China, China got 51 gold medals and the USA came second, with 36 gold medals. It is the first time that China got more gold medals than the USA. It made many Chinese people proud of their motherland. Were you among them too? The 2012 London Olympic Games is coming, let's hope China can get even more gold medals this time!

Overall Medal Count		Presented by 			
					TOTAL
	United States	36	36	36	110
	China	51	21	28	100
	Russia	23	21	28	72
	Britain	19	13	15	47
	Australia	14	15	17	46

The medal table of 2008 Olympic games



The medals of 2012 London Olympic Games

Beijing had 'One World, One Dream', Athens went for 'Welcome Home' and Sydney chose 'Share the Spirit' and London's organising committee, with exactly 100 days to go until the Olympic opening ceremony, have unveiled 'Inspire a Generation' as the slogan of 2012 London Olympic Games. Let's see whether these Olympic games can inspire all generations over the world!

OLYMPIC PREPARATION IN LONDON

by Morris Liu, 5B

Perhaps there were too many natural disasters in the previous year, so the talk of Doomsday has been in the limelight of the media with everyone having their own predictions. Will Doomsday come true? Or is it just a joke? Maybe we should stay in reality rather than making guesses about unrealistic hearsay. So, is there anyone who still remembers the grand occasion that is about to come? Hope that you haven't forgotten this big event.



YES! It's the London Olympic Games 2012! It's London's third time to hold the Olympic Games. All the preparation is moving into top gear.

VENUES

The Olympic Stadium

This time, the athletes' home is moved from Beijing to London, and the 'Bird's Nest' has become a 'Bowl', which is the stadium for the London Olympic Games, located in Stratford, east London. The upper part of the arena is wider than the lower part and that's why it looks like a bowl. It contains 80,000 seats. Both the opening ceremony and ending ceremony will be held here, along with track and field events.



The Stadium is at the heart of the Olympic Park on an 'island' site, surrounded by waterways on three sides. Spectators will reach the venue via five bridges that link the site to the surrounding area.

MASCOT

Apart from the different kinds of constructions for matches, there's also something else important to the London Olympics. **Wenlock** and **Mandeville** are the mascots of the 2012 **Olympic** and **Paralympic Games**. When the stadium was about to be finished, the last two pieces of iron strips from the construction materials were taken and designed to form the shape of the two dolls, which are today's Wenlock and Mandeville. They symbolize two animated athletes who love learning and making new friends, and of course, they love the Olympic Games! The authorities hope that they can inspire the teens through the Olympic Games.



Wenlock & Mandeville

Let's take a close look at Wenlock—the mascot! The idea of the names of the mascots came from a town called Much Wenlock in Shropshire. In 19th Century, Baron Pierre de Coubertin was invited to Much Wenlock for the Much Wenlock Games. The Baron was inspired by the games. Afterwards, he started to organize a more modern Olympic Games.

The light on Wenlock's head is similar to the light on London's black cabs. And Wenlock's head is designed according to the shape of the Olympic Stadium, while his eyes are a camera lens which record all the things he sees. Wenlock wears five rings on his hand, which represent the five colored rings of the Olympic Games and symbolize the friendship between athletes.

AS A MEMBER OF AUDIENCE...

Undeniably, London is an experienced games organiser. This is the third time for London to host the Olympic Games. All the constructions like the reconstruction of major roads and stadiums are well-done. We can't deny that London can handle the Olympic Games very well. However, as a member of audience in Hong Kong, I find that the atmosphere is still very quiet. No advertisement, a lack of reporting and discussion. It seems that the public is not ready for the Olympics! Shall we offer our heartfelt enthusiasm once again like the Beijing Olympic four years ago? London has prepared very well for the Games; we may all pay the highest attention to it! So, just stay tuned and get ready to get glued to the television on **27th July, 2012!**





Big News of showbiz in 2012



By Joanne Fung & Mennie Sam, 5D



There are many different types of news about showbiz around the world in 2012, such as the death of the Music Queen Whitney Houston, the comeback of the famous Korean boy band, Big Bang, the appearance of the talented teen, Greyson Chance... Some of them are happy but some of them are sad. But showbiz keeps evolving. Now, I would like to talk about the disbandment of WESTLIFE and the birth of ONE DIRECTION, the two big changes in Showbiz.



WESTLIFE was an Irish boy band formed in 1998 and they are famous in the United Kingdom. At first, their name was not "WESTLIFE", it was "WESTSIDE", but they have changed the name in 1999. They have many famous songs, for example, "MY LOVE", "SEASON IN THE SUN" and "YOU MUST HAVE HAD A BROKEN HEART" Most of their songs are about LOVE, since everyone needs love in their life. Their voices and the lyrics can convey this important message to everyone so their songs can attract so many people. However, they are going to disband in 2012 after their farewell tour. It's bad news to all of their fans. But they had a farewell tour in Hong Kong in March 2012. Their fans in Hong Kong could enjoy Westlife's concert one more time before they disbanded.

Apart from the disbandment of WESTLIFE, I am going to introduce a new boy band to all of you, they are ONE DIRECTION. One Direction is a British-Irish boy band consisting of Niall Horan, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne,

Harry Styles and Louis Tomlinson and their average age is 19 only.



“WHAT MAKES YOU BEAUTIFUL” is the song that made them famous and this song also won the Best British Single award in the 2012 Brit Awards. Now, all of their songs are really popular such as, “UP ALL NIGHT”, “ONE THING”

Why could they become so famous in such a short time? Undeniably, charming appearance is a reason, but I think their personalities are important too. Although they are all young, they have put much effort and gone through a lot of difficulties in order to reach their goal. They are our role models and influence us positively by their voices and attitude.



PLEASE

😊ENJOY THE MUSIC AND LEARN FROM
THE MUSIC😊

Predictions of Doomsday

by Charmaine Chan, 4D

2012 seems to be just another number, another combination, another year. But to some groups of people, 2012 could be **the coming apocalypse**.

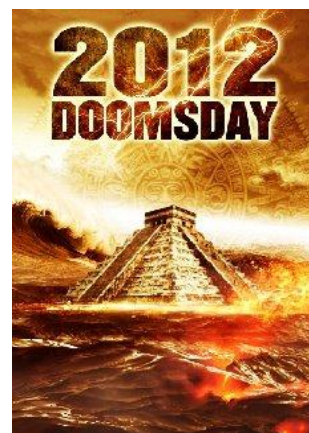
The Bible once mentioned the term “**the Day of Judgment**”. This indicated the day of Jesus’ return and the end of the world.

Scientists nowadays have been trying to figure out how the world ends. What will we face? Diseases? Wars? Or disasters? The last one has been widely thought to be true among all of the possibilities, because of how frequent the disasters have been happening this year.

There are **loads of unknowns** for us in these coming days, and reaching into **the myths and legends** of Doomsday might be able to give us some sorts of answers.

The Mayas were people fascinated by numbers. They were known for their theory of time and predictions of the future. They created the Maya calendar, which did accurate **predictions of eclipses** and some major events which took place in the universe and centuries ahead of their own time. This is also why it’s so frightening to know that the Maya calendar ends on a certain date.

The Maya calendar has lasted for 5000 years. It began on 11-8-3114 BC and ends on 21-12-2012 AD. This frightening discovery was found in the Maya’s book of history. According to their legends, the Mayas believed that that will be the day when the god of destruction, conflicts and natural disasters will return to his home-- his temple. The Mayas have also foreseen a visitor from the under- world coming for a visit.



If their predictions are not flawed, then there is a big possibility that we might face grave danger that day. Looking back on the news these years, we have had countless natural disasters surrounding us and we have also had chaos all around the world. For example, the Japan tsunami and nuclear incident, the Libya war, the Middle East chaos, the China's Jasmine Revolution, the Wall Street event, to cite but a few. Could these be the gods' implication?

According to the Mayan's calendar, they predicted that a day of mythology would take place. A Maya chief mentioned the elders once told him that 21-12-2012 AD might not be the end of the world but changes will still occur on the face of the Earth. They considered this change to be a cleansing for the world and that the world would be a better place afterwards. These all sound very terrifying but the Mayan chief informed us that the Mayans believed that for there to be creation, there has to be destruction first; for there to be birth, there has to be death first. So according to this theory, the Mayans believed even if their gods summon an ending, there would have to be a new beginning. A discovery made by scientists confirmed this logic. The Mayan's time cycle would not just suddenly come to an end. Even if it does, there would be bigger cycles, indicating that time would never come to an end.

Maybe 2012 would be our Doomsday, maybe it would not be. But either way, the Mayan calendar had the function of sending us a message, which is the Earth is fragile. And we should cherish and take care of it, while we still can. The Mayan calendar might just be a scary story, but it sends a message and we ought to take it seriously.



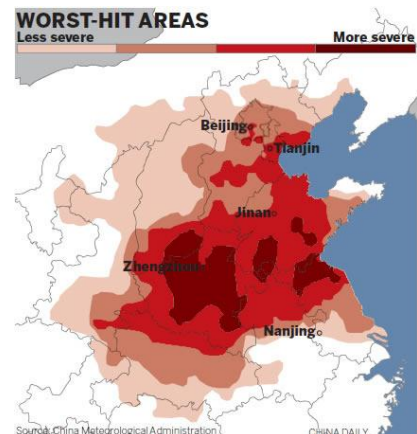
Doomsday through Natural Disasters

by Bowie Chow, 4A

Do you believe Doomsday is about to come? 21 December 2012 is thought to be Doomsday on Earth as the occurrence of natural disasters in 2011 was terribly frequent. Earthquake, tsunami, flooding, etc, caused severe casualties. Those tragedies have made people trust the prediction. However, is it a rational decision that we should just wait for Doomsday desperately?

October 2010 to March 2011 – China Drought

The drought impacted eight provinces in the northern part of China such as Hubei, Shandong, Shanxi, etc. It was the most serious drought that happened in China in 60 years. Due to the widespread lack of rain and snow, the drought began and affected 35 million people. 4.2 million residents faced a drinking water shortage.



January 2011 – Queensland Floods

A series of floods struck Australia. 75 hundred million ton of rainwater fell in 72 hours. It was the worst flooding in Australia in about 100 years. Three-quarters of the state of Queensland was submerged. This disaster affected at least 70 towns and over 200,000 people.

March 2011 – 3.11 Earthquake and Tsunami

The 9.0 magnitude earthquake occurred on 11 March 2011 in the north-western Pacific Ocean. It was the most powerful earthquake to happen in Japan. A Tsunami was also triggered and swept numerous buildings away. This catastrophe claimed over 15,000 people's life and 26,000 people were injured because of this.





April 2011 –The U.S.A. Tornado

On 14-16 April, more than 200 tornadoes happened in the U.S.A. which led to serious destruction and killed 38 people. An exceptionally destructive tornado outbreak on 25-28 April affected a number of cities in the U.S.A., especially in Alabama. 356 tornadoes were caused in three days and over 300 people were killed.

June 2011 – Puyehue-Cordón Caulle eruption

After half a century, Puyehue-Cordón Caulle in Chile erupted again. During the eruption, there were about 240 earthquakes per hour. A large amount of volcanic ash was also ejected to the sky. This screened out the sunlight and lowered the visibility. The safety of air flight was affected and brought tremendous financial loss.



In 2011, the occurrence of natural disasters increased noticeably. The seriousness of those catastrophes intensified. Most of them were also unprecedented. However, does this mean that Doomsday is about to come? No one can confirm the answer. There is only one thing I am sure – it seems to me that the environment wants to notify us. It reminded us of the significance of environmental conservation. Since most people always think that they can control the natural resources in order to fulfil their unlimited wants, they constantly destroy the environment. For instance, they deforest to get wood and make furniture, they build oil rigs to get petroleum under the seabed, they mine for minerals, etc. These actions damage nature a lot, causing the escalation of the problem of climate change. Therefore, nature always warns humans to be concerned more about environmental protection through natural disasters. If we don't ponder deeply over this matter and just wait for Doomsday desperately, Doomsday may really come soon.

So, we now must change our habits and behaviour. Here are some suggestions for you.

- 1) Use public transport instead of private cars
- 2) Encourage tree planting
- 3) Avoid water wastage
- 4) Reduce energy consumption



Don't waste time! Let's change our habits and save our Earth! :D

Nuclear Power in 2012: a 'Blessing' or a 'Curse'? *By Jackson Choy, 5B*



There is an ongoing debate about the use of nuclear energy. Proponents, such as the World Nuclear Association and IAEA, contend that nuclear power is a sustainable energy source that reduces carbon emissions. Opponents, such as Greenpeace International and NIRS, believe that nuclear power poses many threats to people and the environment. Let's take a look at the views of both sides.

Proposition

China's attitude towards the use of nuclear energy is clear. From the strategies and actions implemented in the past few years, China will continue to stick to the policy of developing nuclear power, and nuclear power will occupy an increasing proportion in China's power generation. Hence, we know that the future of Chinese nuclear market is clear and the construction of nuclear power plants will eventually be up to speed.

Probably most people will think of the consequences of radiation and all those side effects. And when compared with water, nuclear is not that scary after all. Water can be very dangerous too, and it is proven to be more dangerous than the nuclear radiation. The 311 Tsunami in Japan killed 15844 people and yet nobody was reported dead due to nuclear radiation exposure.

How about the influences of the nuclear power to the environment? Nuclear waste is much safer than plastic bags! The strongest Radioactive Cesium has a life of 15 years, but plastic will remain FOREVER! So nuclear power is far better than plastic. Furthermore, fuel creates carbon which will cause global warming, but nuclear will not. Nuclear wastes will turn into an inert state after they pass their half life, and that inert state will have no effect on our environment whatsoever.

In conclusion, nuclear power is more environmentally -friendly than any other fuels available. Of course, wind and tidal power is still cleaner. How about solar energy? There are two known solar power systems that I have heard of, the one which collects solar heat using tunnels, which are clean and safe. And the other one is using solar cells, which

is rather inefficient. Production of photovoltaic cells creates toxic wastes, and if that photo cell is broken, it'll be a toxic waste too. I think we should admit that Chernobyl and the WW2 nuclear bomb effects are already history. And I believe that we humans have evolved



especially the Russian and the Japanese. Also, when our fossil fuels run out, we have no more reliable energy but nuclear power. So, nuclear energy is, somehow, acceptable.

Opposition

Recently, Japan and Germany are moving rapidly away from utilizing nuclear power out of fear that another meltdown like the one in Fukushima a year ago may reoccur. Over two hundred nuclear power plants may be shut down in those countries during the next few years, at a cost measured in the hundreds of billions. Why do people have such fear of nuclear power? The answer is clear—the disasters brought about by nuclear energy.



There are so many anti-nuclear protests over the world and you may want to ask why those people hate this energy so much. The main concern of them is that it will be a massive disaster if those nuclear plants have any big problems and they believe nuclear energy will eventually lead us to the end of our civilization.

We all know that nuclear power has the potential to destroy our planet because it can be used as a weapon in war. Once the countries that have nuclear power technology start a war, it must be a nightmare to us.

Nevertheless, some experts have said that our planet itself doesn't have enough fossil fuels or energy to sustain our development and they believe that nuclear energy could help us escape from that situation. In other words, it also means that we humans have a huge consumption of energy and we need nuclear energy to meet our demands. However, this is totally ridiculous.

Why don't we try to reduce the amount of energy usage instead of using such dangerous power? Let's take Hong Kong as an example, in present-day Hong Kong, all places are still brightly-lit when the sun goes down. We all know that Hong Kong is honoured as the "Pearl of the Orient", but is there any reason that we need to waste our energy to earn that honour? The answer is definitely no! If we properly use the energy, we can easily stay away from nuclear energy.

Clearly, we still need more energy to sustain our prosperity, and we can use some renewable energy such as wind power, tidal power, etc. Advocates of nuclear energy may want to argue that the energy has really low efficiency and it's not enough to sustain our needs. But now, in some countries like the UK, there is a new energy that is called biogas power. Biogas can be used as a fuel in any country for any heating purpose or electrical purpose. Furthermore, by converting cow manure into methane biogas instead of letting it decompose, we would be able to reduce global warming gases.

To sum up, as we are in the tense situation of using energy, we should be more critical and think about what we can do to help ourselves to get out from the dangers. Now, it is now clear that we can easily survive and sustain without using nuclear power.

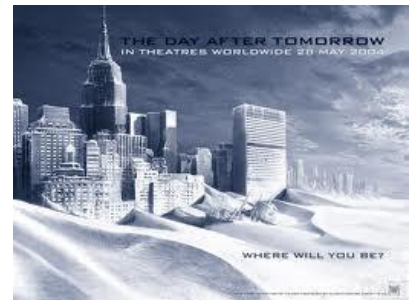


Visible Doomsday

Do you remember when you first heard about Doomsday in 2012? In fact, the beginning of this “doomsday tide” started with the movie *The Day After Tomorrow* in 2004. And it is the movie **2012** that continued the tide. Let’s have a look at these two movies.

The Day After Tomorrow

Close your eyes. Imagine that the whole world was covered by the colour white, everything you could see was just



snow, snow and snow. Even the Statue of Liberty was drowned by snow.....Is the scene familiar indeed? YES! It is the famous scene from *The Day After Tomorrow*. The film is about the main character Jack Hall, who is a meteorologist. When he is analyzing ancient meteorology, he finds out that if the climate changes, the world will fall into the glacial epoch again. He runs to warn the world, but the whole world, including the U.S. government, doesn’t believe him. Unfortunately, what Jack predicts becomes reality, and the world starts to fall into a disaster..... This film in 2004 was the first film about global warming and global cooling. It astonished the world, not just by the exquisite trick drawing, but also the shocking message about Doomsday. Actually, *The Day After Tomorrow* can be regarded as the ‘pioneer’ film about Doomsday.



2012

After ***The Day After Tomorrow***, a lot of films about climate change came out. Undoubtedly, films about Doomsday have awaken people's concerns about the problems of our world. Then came to the film **2012**. The film talks about the predictions of the Maya becoming true, and the whole world falls into disasters. The whole universe fights for survival. This film has stirred up the hot topic of the 'Mayan's prediction', and people have started to discuss Doomsday again.

After watching these two films, I have found three messages in the film. First, start to have an eco-friendly life. As we can see what will happen when Doomsday really comes, waiting passively is not the only thing we can do. We should start to protect our beautiful world through little steps. For example, something as simple as recycling plastics bottles after use. Second, do care about people around us, and don't wait till the last minute to do so. Last but not least, seize the day. In the film, the 22 of December 2012 will be the last day of the world. If it is to come true, lounging away the day will become a waste of time. Just go and do something worthwhile!

Without doubt, ***The Day After Tomorrow*** and **2012** are meaningful. If you have not seen them before, I would definitely recommend these two films to you. Go and see what messages you can get from them!