

KGC Newsletter

Issue 8, October 2002

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Halloween Party 2002 at KGC



Photo by Stanley

Japanese Animation Coming to North America "Spirited Away"

By Yasuko



Do you know who Hayao Miyazaki is? You may never have heard of him, but I think you may have heard of his movies. "My neighbors Totoro", "Kiki's Delivery Service", or "Princess Mononoke", these are some of his famous movies in North America. Hayao Miyazaki is one of the greatest, and most famous animators and directors in Japan. He became famous with his first movie called "Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind". Most of his movies have already been translated into English video, but never shown in the theaters and the movies were not famous in North America. Princess Mononoke is relatively new, but it had never been shown in theaters in North America. His movies are usually based on Japanese mythology, so they might be hard to translate into English or other languages to make them easy to understand, but his latest movie has been translated into English and other languages. This movie is called "Sen to Chihiro no Kamikakushi", which translated into English means "Spirited Away". This movie is also translated in other languages such as Spanish and has been translated for some European countries. It is about a 10-year-old girl whose name is Chihiro, and her parents who go into a different world because of her father's curiosity, to a place where humans are not allowed to enter. They went into a world, where only gods and monsters live, and it is ruled by a witch. Chihiro's

parents were turned into pigs because they ate the gods' foods. Chihiro could not survive in this world because she is a human, and monsters in that world eat humans. In order to survive, Chihiro has to have contract with Yuba-ba the witch and cannot complain about her work. Chihiro tries her best to get a job. She signed a contract, and Yuba-ba took her name away because she said "Chihiro" is a luxurious name, so she changed Chihiro's name to "Sen". Can she change her parents back to humans? Can they go back to their world? Watch this great movie and find out!



Cruising To K.G.C.

In our school most students take a bus to school; only a few students drive cars to school and most of them are boys. I tried to find out more about the advantages and disadvantages of owning a car for international students. Therefore, I interviewed two students Jason (level 4 student) and Dong (level 6 student) who drive cars to school.

Through this interview, I found out there are some disadvantages for international students who own a car. Generally, students have to spend \$400 dollars each month for their car's parking fee, gas fee, and insurance fee. However, students who do not have a car only pay \$83 dollars for a two-zone monthly bus pass. As you can see, driving a car to school is more expensive than taking a bus to school. In addition, Jason told me that driving a car could be more risky than taking a bus, because driving a car can be very dangerous.

On the other hand, I also found out there are some advantages for international students who own a car. For example, Dong thinks having a car is very convenient for students who live in Vancouver. They can easily and quickly go wherever they want. If you want to go to



Happy cruising Jason and his car

Burnaby Mountain, you must have a car, because there are no buses that go to Burnaby Mountain. Moreover, students who have a car will have a lot of fun while they are living in Vancouver. Jason told me that he likes to take some friends and drive around on holidays. He very much

enjoys having a car. When I finished this interview, I felt although for international students to use a car is very expensive, some students still want to own a car because having a car is very convenient and they can have more fun while they are living in Vancouver.

The 12 Earthly Branches

By Daniel

Once upon a time, the emperor of heaven saw that the people on earth were always forgetting their age, and this always caused many problems. So he decided to create a circle of twelve animals. However, there were so many animals on the earth. It was very difficult to choose only twelve. So the emperor asked all the animals to come to heaven on a certain year, month, day and time. The first twelve animals that would come to heaven would be chosen to be in the circle. Of course, this story is just a fairy tale.



time, and the ox is ruminating; from 3A.M to 5A.M is tiger, and the tiger is looking for food; then The Jade Hare is pounding the medicinal herbs to pieces; the dragon is going in the sky; the snake begins to move around; the heavenly horse is running in heaven; the sheep is eating grass; the monkey is active and lively; the rooster is going home to rest; the dog is defending the thieves; and the pig is sleeping. People created the circle of twelve animals according to the order of the animals, and they called the twelve periods rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig. You can see the two views very clearly; the second one has some bases and is more believable.



you may be confused with the little mouse. At first, the mouse and the cat were friends and neighbors. One day, the cat asked the mouse: "Can you wake me up tomorrow because tomorrow is the day I will go to heaven to report for duty, and we can go together." The mouse said: "Ok! I will wake you up." However, the mouse thought: I won't wake him up. So I can join the circle. The next day, the mouse went to heaven by himself. Consequently, he was



the first of the twelve animals. He was very happy, and went back to tell the cat. The cat knew the mouse didn't call him, and he was very angry. The cat caught and ate the mouse. From then on, the cat and the mouse became enemies. Now, when a cat meets a mouse, the cat wants to catch and eat it.

Here is another story about how the twelve animals were chosen. The decision for choosing the twelve animals depended on the time of the animals' activities. In ancient times, a day was divided into twelve parts, and each part consisted of two hours. From 11 P.M to 1 A.M is rat time, and the mouse is very active during this time; from 1 A.M to 3 A.M is ox





The dragon figures have a special place in Chinese hearts, because dragon is the national emblem of the Chinese Empire. Dragon occupies a very important position in Chinese mythology. It shows up in arts, literature, poetry, architecture, songs, and many aspects of the Chinese conscience. When I was a little boy, my grandmother had told me many stories about dragons. In fact, nobody has seen the real dragons. The origin of Chinese dragons is unknown, but certainly pre-dates the written history.

(These brilliantly colored large stoneware vessels are one of the most popular wares of the Ming period.)

A very popular tourist site in Beijing is this Nine-Dragon Wall in BaiHai Park. After hundreds of years, the colors of the ceramic tiles are just as brilliant. It is named "Nine Dragon Wall". The wall was built in 1756. It is 21m long, about 15m high and 1.2m thick. It is faced with 424 7-color ceramic tiles. At the center of the wall, there is a giant dragon, flanked by four dragons on each side. In addition to these nine large dragons, the wall is covered from edge to edge with many smaller dragons. In all, there are 635 dragons. There are nine main dragons:

1)Haoxian

A reckless and adventurous dragon whose image

can be found decorating the eaves of palaces.

2)Yazi

Valiant and bellicose; his image is seen on sword-hilts and knife hilts.

3)Chiwen

Chiwen likes to gaze into the distance and his appearance is often carved on pinnacles.

4)Baxia

Baxia is a good swimmer and his image decorates many bridge piers and archways.

5)Pulao

Pulao is fond of roaring and his figure is carved on bells.

6)Bixi

Bixi is an excellent pack-animal whose image appears on panniers.

7)Qiuniu

Qiuniu loves music and his figure is a common decoration on the bridge of stringed musical instruments.

8)Suanmi

Suanmi is fond of smoke and fire; his likeness can be seen on the legs of incense-burners.

9)Jiaotu

Jiaotu is as tight-lipped as a mussel or a snail. His image is carved on doors.

The Dragon is the symbol of the Chinese race. Chinese around the world, proudly proclaim ourselves "Lung Tik Chuan Ren" (Descendants of the Dragon).

The Secret Message!

By Leslie

Once, in a school a strange incident happened: Because of some structure problems, there was only one light in the long and narrow passageway in the dorm. In the evening, when the wind blew, the light would shake. It looked very scary. So the girls in that school were afraid to go to the washroom in the evening. One day, a girl who lived on the main floor of the dorm ate some stale food. Before night, she had gone to the washroom three times, and she worried about how she would go to the washroom in the evening because going to washroom at night was really scary. The next night, because she was very nervous, she always wanted to go to washroom. However, she was very afraid, so she tried not to go to the washroom. Finally, she decided to go to the washroom, but she didn't want to bother her roommate, so she decided to go to the washroom alone. It was one o'clock in the early morning, when she decided to go to the washroom. There was nobody in the passageway at that time; there was only a light flickering. It looked more fearful than earlier. Just as she sat on the toilet, suddenly, from behind her, a hand jutted out holding two pieces of toilet paper. One was white, the other was blue. Then, a voice behind her said: "choose one." At first, she was very scared, then after knowing seeing a human hand, she started to calm down. Again the voice said: "Choose one."

"Who are you? Why do you bother me?"

"Choose one."

"Why?"

"Choose one."

In a word, whatever she asked, the answer always was the same "Choose one." At last, she really didn't know what she should do, and she said: "Ok. I will choose the white one." Then, the voice sounded again: "White is three days, and blue is seven days." Then, the voice and the hand disappeared. She asked: "What is three days or seven days?" but there was no answer. When she turned back, there was nothing there. She ran to the dormitory as fast as she could. When she arrived at her dormitory, she told her roommates the whole thing, but they only laughed at her. They told her she was just jumpy. Then, they talked about "the hand", and her roommate told her not to be worried about what happened and that it must have been a joke played by her friends. The next day, she and her roommates didn't think about the thing that had happened the night before. However, after three days, suddenly the girl died, and nobody knew the reason. On her medical record, the doctor wrote: there was not enough information to know the reason for her death. From then on, nobody went to the washroom at night.



SPICE UP YOUR LIFE - Color your hair!!

Nowadays, a lot of students like to change their hair color for different reasons. I always change my hair color. Sometimes I like it red, orange, brown etc. This time, I changed it to blonde. In my opinion, changing your hair color can change your mood. I interviewed some KGC students and asked them why they changed their hair color?
Walter (a student who is in level 6)

JoJo: "Hello, Walter. I see that you changed your hair and added a little dark red. It looks very nice, and it suits you. When did you change your hair color?"

Walter: "Oh, I changed my hair color when I studied at level four."

JoJo: "Can you tell me why you wanted to change your hair color at that time?"

Walter: "At that time, I felt upset because I didn't pass level 4 at the first month. When I was in China, if I felt upset I wanted to spend money instead of being upset, so I changed my hair color to change my feeling."

Jojo: "Do you want to change your hair color back to your natural color?"

Walter: "In my opinion, when I go back to China, I will change it because I don't want my mother to know that I colored my hair because my mother wouldn't approve of it. I never colored my hair in China. On the other hand, I will keep my hair color in Canada because my friend told me: "You look like a real man when you color your hair."

Jojo: Thank you. You look very handsome. I think you should keep it.

Amory (a student who is in level four)

Jojo: "Hi, Amory."

Amory: "Hi, Jojo."

Jojo: "I like your hairstyle and your hair color because there are many colors in your hair. Where did you get it done?"

Amory: "Oh, in the hair salon. Just opposite the Superstore. It is on Kingsway. It is a Chinese hair salon, and the proprietor comes from the same city as me."

Jojo: "That's interesting. How much did you pay?"

Amory: "Because we know each other, he

gave me 30% off."

Jojo: "Oh. That's very good! I want to know why you wanted to change your hair color?"

Amory: "Personally, I want to become fashionable, then I can meet more beautiful girls. That's my main reason."

Jojo: "Oh! That's great. Did you have good success?"

Amory: "I think it is no use because girls don't like me. They just like my hairstyle."

Jojo: "Don't give up. I think one day you will find a beautiful girl!"

Amory: "Thank you very much. By the way, your hair color is also very beautiful."

Jojo: "Oh really? Maybe one day I will go to the hair salon that you introduced. Can you get me 30% off?"

Amory: "No problem!"

Jojo: "Thanks, keep your hair color and continue trying to meet beautiful girls."

"So, as you can see, by coloring your hair- you also color your life."

Interview by JoJo

Being Happy on Thanksgiving !

By Ryan



Every Thanksgiving is a happy day, and everybody wants to thank the people who have helped them. Let me tell you an interesting story about Thanksgiving. When Thanksgiving was coming, a teacher said: "In a couple of days, Thanksgiving will be here. What are you thankful for?" Tony said: "I want to thank my mom for cooking delicious food for me everyday." "You are a good boy", the teacher said and asked "who do you want to thank Daisy?" "I want to thank my dad for allowing me to study in Canada." Daisy answered. "You are a clever girl, Daisy, and how about you, Daniel?" The teacher asked. "I am thankful that I am not a turkey because people eat a lot of turkeys on Thanksgiving." Daniel answered.

Of course, this is just a joke. Do you know why people eat turkeys on Thanksgiving? Let me tell you the history of Thanksgiving. In

1621, pilgrims took a ship which was called "The Mayflower" to get to the United States, and they were faced with a lot of problems. The American First Nations People gave the pilgrims some houses to live in and food to eat, and then these pilgrims chose one day to give thanks to the American First National People. The pilgrims hunted a lot of turkeys for food on that day, so eating turkeys remains tradition until today. In the United States, President Abraham Lincoln had declared that Thanksgiving was celebrated on the 4th Thursday of November, and it continues until today. However, Canadian Thanksgiving is celebrated on the 2nd Monday of October. I hope that every KGC student may help as much as possible as other people, and you may have a happy Thanksgiving every year. Let me share a recipe which you can cook on Thanksgiving for people who have helped you.

Furmety

Ingredients

- 1 cup cracked wheat
- 1/8 tsp. ground mace
- 1 quart milk
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- additional brown sugar

Directions

In a large pot, bring the water to a boil and add the wheat. Lower heat to simmer, cover, and continue to cook for 1/2 hour, or until, soft. Drain off all the water and add the milk, cream, salt, mace, cinnamon and sugar. Continue to simmer, stirring occasionally, until most of the liquid is absorbed (20 to 30 minutes). In a small bowl, beat the egg yolks and slowly stir 1/2 cup of the wheat mixture into the yolks. Then stir the yolk mixture into the pot, and continue cooking for another 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Serve sprinkled with brown sugar.



Do you like flowers? I think everybody likes flowers very much! People hope that they can get flowers on their birthday or for a holiday. However, do you know the meaning of the different flowers? You know, when you present flowers to your friends or relatives, you need to know the meaning of the flowers that you plan to present because different flowers have different meanings. Sometimes, people will send the wrong meaning to someone when they send flowers. Today let me tell everybody some information about the different meanings for flowers.

CARNATION

Carnation: (General): Being attracted by a beautiful girl!
(Pink): I will never forget you!
(Purple): An unstable change!
(Red): My heart is trembling because of you!
(Solid Color): Meaning to agree!
(Striped): Deny a woman's love; sorry, I cannot bring love and happiness to you!
(White): Represent for loveliness: innocent and worthy of love. Also represent for a chaste love. Great gift for a woman.
(Yellow): Represent for denial and don't even care to notice.



ROSE

Rose: (Pink): Completely happy; Believe in me.
(Red): I love you!
(Tea): I never forget you.
(White): Chaste and innocent; I'm your only love; secret and last forever
(Yellow): Lose one's love, and make a jealousy feeling.



TULIP

Tulip: (General): You are a wonderful woman; represent Holland
(Red): Believe me! Announce that I love you.
(Variegated): Your eyes are beautiful!
(Yellow): Hopelessly in love!



After this introduction, I think most people will know the meanings of these flowers. I hope this information will help you to present suitable flowers for your special occasions.

My lovely puppy - Charlie

By Donna Wu

Charlie is a German shepherd puppy. I bought him in Surrey when he was only two months old. Since he came to live in our new house, we have had lots of fun with him, but we also have had some problems. He is my little baby, and I love him very much because he is also my good friend. When I stay at home with him, I never feel lonely.

I remember when Charlie moved to our house, he would not stop barking during the night, so my roommates and I couldn't sleep. The next morning, I woke up very early and took Charlie to our neighbors to apologize for disturbing them, but at that time Charlie just slept.

As time passed, Charlie became familiar with his new home, and he began to

make some trouble for us. As Charlie likes biting things, such as cloths, bags, slippers, paper, shoelaces, and even furniture, we have to keep our room doors closed all the time. If we forget to close our door, our rooms will be really messy. I remember one time, my roommate had forgotten to lock his door. When we came back, we saw my roommate's cloths, shoes, books, socks, and blanket all over the floor. He also slept on my roommate's desk that is very high. We don't know how he got up there.

Charlie is a cute, playful, and smart dog. When I say "sit", he sits. Every morning, he is like my alarm clock and wakes me up at seven o'clock. He is my little baby, and he can cry, smile, and get angry. He is also my angel because he brings happiness to me.



Donna and Charlie



“ WHAT IS A PET ”

A pet is such a special friend,
A friend in many ways.
Sharing love and companionship,
Just looking for your praise.

The clever things they often do
Bring a smile to your face;
And so to them I dedicate,
This small but special place...

Source from www.Nepanetwork.com/keosakes/petpoems.htm