

School Canteen Green Initiative

5E Lo Kwan Yi

Good morning, teachers and schoolmates,

I am Chris Wong from 5A. Have you watched any recent news reports? If you have, you should be aware of some of the environmental problems we are facing. A recent news report has mentioned that the main landfills will be full very soon if Hong Kong citizens do not cut down on rubbish disposal. Because of this, we should assume responsibility for reducing the use of disposable cutlery like chopsticks and plastic spoons.

We should take part in protecting the environment by following this green initiative. Students should use their own cutlery at school at lunchtime because it is reusable and this can help to reduce the amount of waste.

Please bear in mind that it is not environmentally friendly if we use disposable cutlery every day. Our school has 500 students and we use around 5,000 pieces of cutlery in two weeks. The cutlery dumped will all be sent to the landfills. If we still don't change our lifestyle, the landfills will be full in a short period of time. It is possible to extend the landfill to handle the large amount of rubbish, but it is not a good method since it will damage the surrounding environment. Extending a landfill site is not in line with the principle of "sustainable development" because it is our responsibility to protect the environment and natural resources.

You have some concern about the new policy "BYOC", Bring Your Own Cutlery, don't you? Bringing your own cutlery to school every day and using them at lunchtime may cause some trouble since you need to wash and clean it every day after use. However, it is just a minor inconvenience. You may complain about its inconvenience but you also need to think of the need to do so. We should think about the future. If we keep on throwing away so much rubbish, more and more landfills will be full soon. Eventually, more places will be developed into landfills. At that time, there will be fewer rural areas and country parks.

Students should be responsible for our society and environment. Please take action before it's too late. Remember, bring your own cutlery to the school canteen at lunchtime. Thank you!

Teacher's Feedback : Good to raise awareness of the rubbish problem at the beginning. Lots of convincing ideas add strength to the argument. (Mr. Ng Zi Soen)