



Welcome to our Newsletter!

Contributions from all of you are very welcome. Please speak to your teacher or our Academic Manager Rachel if you wish to take part in the next issue. It is a fantastic opportunity to show off your English skills and the experience may enhance your CV.

Chinese New Year

A Story of Chinese New Year in Manchester

Chinese New Year 2018. Manchester. An Italian pizza maker walked around the city, looking for traditions and eastern roots to discover. Apparently loitering in front of Town Hall, he was absorbed in a children party, where families enjoyed the dragon parade before moving to carousels.

In Falukner street, beyond the arch, a slapdash stage was set over the parking lot and Chinese children proposed some uncoordinated and tender dances. Waiting for fireworks, along the bustling street, people could write their name in Chinese and taste some traditional food.

But what are the real roots of this celebration? It was created around 2,000 years ago by the Qin dynasty who created the zodiac signs, which in order are: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, roaster, dog and pig.

There are some funny legends about the choices of animals, but the truth is beautiful as well. Indeed, the zodiac derived from astrology, with a particular attention to the second winter-new moon that coincide with the new year.

2018 is the Year of the Dog, and people who were born in the Year of the Dog are regarded conservative and full of justice, reliable and genuine.

By Gian Luca (Italy)



Manchester has one of the largest and oldest Chinese communities in the UK. China Town in Manchester shows a part of this traditional Chinese culture. Here, you can enjoy traditional Chinese food and have a look at some of the interesting products sold in the supermarkets.

In the past, our students have enjoyed drinking bubble tea in China Town – an unusual yet delicious Asian drink. We recommend you give it a try!



Interview

Interview with your teacher—Rick

Why did you become an EFL teacher?

I wanted to travel and this gave me the chance to do this. I worked in Spain for 3 years and I loved experiencing new cultures and talking to people from all over the world.

What were you like in school?

I loved drama and I took part in lots of performances during my time at school. I was very energetic and I was always the first one to stand up to perform!

What do you like to do outside of work?

I go to Spanish classes every week because I want to maintain the level of Spanish that I learned when I was working in Spain. I am a very social person and I enjoy meeting with drinks for a drink or two at the weekends.

Who is your role model and why?

My current role model is Ryan Gosling because I really enjoyed his performance in 'La La Land' and because he is beautiful and plays the piano.



How would your best friend describe you?

Clumsy.

What would your autobiography be called?

A Life in the Form of a Book.

If you could describe Communicate in 3 words, what would they be?

Teaching the world.

Film Reviews

All the films I told you about in the last news letter were on the big screens in January, (by the way if you are looking for a good cinema : Vue in The Printworks is a gift, a fiver for any film, can we ask for better? And if you are going on a Monday, it's only £4). So most of them are not in the cinemas any more! While waiting for the DVDs, why not watching a series? Do you want my suggestions? Really nice of you! Here you are: a Danish/Swedish out of ordinary crime series: *Bron/Broen* and dystopian series about dictatorship and women's place in the society: *The Handmaid's Tale*.

Bron/Broen

First tip: Watch it. Second tip: Watch it in Danish/Swedish with subtitles, it really adds some charm to the series!

This series is basically a serial crime drama/thriller set in Denmark and Sweden. There are 4 seasons with 10 episodes in each and one crime is resolved in each season. Crimes linked Denmark and Sweden, which brings the police of these countries to collaborate. The actors are good, so are the different scenarios and shots.

Each plot is really complex (yet easy to follow) with lots of suspense and plot twists (you can never expect who the murderer is). Above all, the main characters have fascinating personality and mysterious background stories!

You will just get absorbed, frightened by (and curious about) the mad and eerie serial killers and attached to Saga (the Swedish) and Martin (the Danish). If you like shivering and solving enigmas, this series is for you!



The Handmaid's Tale

This series is still on-going, only the first season is available!

It's a dystopian fiction where humanity faces a big fertility issue. It's set in the USA and we follow the story of June, a Maid, into a new society. Indeed a new government has arisen and it has slowly turned into a dictatorship where women are divided in 3 categories : The Wives, The Marthas and The Maids.

This sometimes shocking series is nevertheless really addictive and not outrageous, and it shows and reminds us how easy it can be to see and let a dictatorship be established and also that women's rights are easily flouted.



By Maud (France)

Women's Tea and Coffee Club

We welcomed our biggest turn out at the Women's Tea and Coffee Club this month! As we enjoyed Patisserie Liberté so much last month, we decided to go back.

Ladies from the Tea and Coffee Club



"It was my first time joining the women's conversation club and it was a great experience, it was really exciting to meet lots of students and make some new friends. I had a vanilla cake with strawberries and also ordered hot chocolate. It was huge and everyone was looking at it! It had lots of cream on top and it was really delicious!"
(Shahad, Saudi)

Ti-Chu (Taiwan), Elmira (Kazakstan)



"Last time I went, I got a chocolate brownie with vanilla ice-cream and mmmm, it was amazing. You have to have it!" (Itziar, Spain)

"I chose a cake a cake that was like coffee and cream in layers it's a typical French cake. It was delicious you should really try it." (Noemie, Switzerland)

When we went last time it was the biggest group we've had, there were so many students, so it was really nice to talk and meet new students. I had a sandwich and it was lovely, very fresh, and of course I had a cup of tea. The tea there is really good.
(Morsal, Afghanistan)



Itziar (Spain), Noemie (Switzerland)

UK Social Customs

Talking to Strangers

- You don't always have to be honest because British people always ask you 'are you okay' or 'how is your day'. It's okay to lie a little bit and say that you are fine, even if you're not!

School

When you arrive to class, you should say 'hello' and when the class finishes, students should thank the teacher. When new students come to school, we should introduce ourselves and welcome the new student.

Queues

It is very important to not push into queues. For example, when you are waiting for the bus, you shouldn't try to get on before other people if they are there before you. People in England think this is very rude.



Public Transport

Saying thank you when you travel by bus is polite. When you get off the bus you say 'thank you' to the bus driver.

Public Places

- When you want to pass someone in a public place, you should say 'sorry' and you shouldn't push pass someone who is in your way. It is more polite to say 'excuse me' or 'sorry'.

By Intermediate Students

Student of the Month

... of February was Hisham! His teachers said, “**He is so passionate about learning English and is one of the hardest working students we have ever seen! He is always asking questions in the classroom which is really helping him improve his English. He is a pleasure to teach!**”. Congratulations Hisham and keep up the good work!



We Recommend ...

IELTS™

English for International Opportunity

IELTS Speaking Club - Thursday 11.00 - 11.30

Do you get nervous in the IELTS Speaking Exam? Are you sometimes unsure about how to answer the questions? Or how long to speak for? Or how to take your speaking to the next level?

Come to the IELTS Speaking Club, every Thursday. It is **FREE** and gives you the chance to practise speaking for the IELTS exam. One of our IELTS teachers will be there to give you advice and feedback on your speaking and you will have the chance to interact with other IELTS students. You will be given real IELTS questions so you know exactly what to expect in the IELTS exam.

What are you waiting for! Book your place at reception now!

Photo Competition


Do you like taking photos? This is your chance to show your photos in the monthly newspaper!

This month's winner was Natalia who took this fantastic photograph of street art in Manchester.

The title for next month is **'Snow!'** - please send us your photos by email to office@communicateschool.co.uk



Useful Info

Do you know who to contact when:	
... you have an emergency and need to contact the school out of hours?	Call our emergency number 07482660030
... you have a problem with accommodation?	Contact Dora or Federica at the reception
... you want to write an article for the school newsletter?	Speak to the Academic Manager Rachel
... you have a new phone number or new address?	Email the new details to office@communicateschool.co.uk
... you need help with a personal issue or have a complaint?	Speak to the School Manager Camilla
... you missed a class and you want to know about homework?	Contact one of your classmates or if not possible, email the reception
... you want to change your timetable?	Speak to the Academic Manager Rachel

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