



英国中文教育促进会

U.K. Association for the Promotion of Chinese Education
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2012 REPORT FOR THE 10TH NATIONAL MANDARIN READING COMPETITION IN SCOTLAND

The Scottish division of the competition was organised by the UK Association for the Promoting of Chinese Education (UKAPCE) on the 25th of February 2012.

Glasgow Chinese School, the UK's largest Chinese Community School with over 700 students, worked partner with APCE, along with other support schools ---St. George's School for Girls in Edinburgh and Edinburgh Alba Cathay Chinese School.

On the day of the competition, there were 251 foreign and overseas Chinese students in total taking part in the Scottish regional division. There were five Chinese schools in the Scottish area taking part in the competition. Aside from Glasgow Chinese School and Edinburgh Alba Cathay Chinese School, there were also the Glasgow Oriental Dance Group, Newcastle Mandarin Chinese School, and Aberdeen Chinese School.

There were also 16 local English schools participating in the competition, namely the High School of Glasgow Junior School, Edgbaston High School for Girls in Birmingham, Dollar Academy, West Primary School in Paisley and Kelvinside Academy. Another 11 public schools of Glasgow took part, included Williamwood High School, St. Ninian's High School, St Ninian's Primary School, Bearsden Academy, Airdrie Academy Glasgow, Kirklandneuk Primary School, Kilwinning Academy, Anderston Primary School, Millersneuk Primary School, Auchinloch Primary School and Wester Cleddens Primary School.

The competitors were divided into four categories according to their language background: non-Chinese foreign language students group, fostered children or of a mixed Chinese origin group, Chinese Cantonese and other dialects group, and Chinese Mandarin group. This year, the Glasgow Chinese School and the Glasgow Oriental Dance Association presented a wonderful Han Chinese umbrella dance and Mongolian chopstick dance.

Although the climate outside the venue was very cold, the competition was heating up with excitement and anticipation. The students from the High School of Glasgow Junior School read and sang in Mandarin, reflecting the happiness they had in their learning. The adult non-native learners expressed in the famous poem by Li Bai, 'Thinking of my Motherland' their understanding which was full of humours and was a bit different from the traditional one.

Students recited and sung "Beijing welcomes you", once again allowing us to appreciate the beautiful theme of the 2008 Beijing Olympics: One World, One Dream. "The Yangtze River, Yellow River Song" is the admiration of the descendants through thousands of years of Chinese history. From students recitation of the "Three Word Poem", "Buddha Heart Sutra", "Chinese Idioms and Their Stories", "Li Bai's poem", "Hua Mulan", "Peach Blossom Spring" and so forth, the audience was able to understand the Chinese culture, witty fables, and humorous wisdom. It was as though we saw the display of an old painting scroll, demonstrating the 5000 years of dazzling Chinese glory.

The competition will also take place in Manchester and London in June. For more details or the result of the competition, please go to www.ukapce.org.uk or email readingukapce@gmail.com