

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my concern about energy saving in Hong Kong and make suggestions on what students can do at school to help with the situation.

Because of the intensified global warming, global temperature is rising uncontrollably, and the glaciers are increasingly melting. It is obvious that more extreme weathers occur, and they cause severe damages to humans and animals. However, not many students in Hong Kong are environmentally conscious enough, especially on energy wastage. As a responsible student and citizen, we should take actions at school at the first step of saving energy.

In a school, the largest energy consumption is from air-conditioners. Air-conditioners are turned on throughout the year in some schools, even in winter. They emit huge amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and intensify air pollution. In fact, air-conditions are not necessary all the time. Students can turn on the air-conditioners only when the air temperature is higher than 25.5°C, which is suggested by Hong Kong Observatory. When the weather is a bit hot or wet, I strongly recommend they turn on the fans and exhaust fans instead. It is more environmentally friendly.

Secondly, it is irresponsible of the students to leave all the electrical appliances on while leaving the classroom. Among the electrical appliances being forgotten, lights, fans and projectors are the most common. It is definitely wasteful. Therefore, they should make a list of the electrical appliances and check them all before leaving the classroom. Else, they would be punished by their class teacher, such as having to draft a report after watching a video about environmental protection so that they can fully recognize their wasteful behaviour and the importance of saving energy.

In conclusion, using the air-conditioners at the right time and checking the electrical appliances before going out are really essential to saving energy. If we had not wasted so much energy, the earth would not have been so sick. Therefore, it is time students took action now to protect our environment.

Yours faithfully,

Chloe Liang