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Dear Sir/Mdm

Testimonial for Hu Bowen

Hu Bowen is a cheerful and forward-looking student with a keen eye for programming. His interest in Computing started in Secondary 2 and he has never looked back since then the exposure to coding in using Python Turtle.. He started finding information for himself on various established programming websites and he was a standout performer. His programming level was already way ahead of his peers.

As a student, he is always thinking of different ways to present his codes. For teachers who do not know him, they might think he plagiarized from somewhere online, but he was able to explain clearly the intention behind his codes and the rationale for doing so. He was able come out with different solutions for the same problem. I enjoyed the conversations with him on his thinking processes for the certain questions and his approaches, and I have to admit he punches above his weight and I humbly applaud and learn from him as well. He was active on github and other online forums, even taking part in the HACK@AC Capture the Flag.

By the end of his secondary 3 in 2021, the programming content in the syllabus could hardly justify his abilities. I think he really shone when I signed him for Algorithmic Problem Solving and Competitive Programming Training offered by the School of Computing from NUS. He could articulate to me what he learnt and how it made him appreciate the codes better and how he felt challenged by the course. In the training for National Olympiad for Informatics 2022, he was the most responsive student, be it verbal questioning or submission of codes for verification – not to mention he got almost everything correct.

In his course of learning, I tried exposing the cohort to various aspect of computing. He attended all available workshops that I could offer. I then gave him a challenge see how he could have missed out – a website. I suggested that he should design a simple website for his CCA and he will lead a small team of teammates. To balance his load with his academics and as a Student Councilor, I limited him to use only Google site[1]. It looked like a simple website and although he initially did a very simple static website, he found it was not good enough. He apparently set up the framework behind it, by setting up the main site to retrieve information from another site where the data is updated.

Bowen has proven himself to be fast learner and apply what he has learnt. Teaching him was a joy because he is a self-directed learner who displays a lot of initiative. I only need to suggest or give him a direction and a few days later, he was able to share so much more beyond what I knew. At the point of writing this testimonial, most Secondary 4 students are already relieved of any other

commitments but to study – But Bowen is on the unprecedented path of exploring AI for a school project. I must really commend Bowen for his insatiable hunger in pursuing his interest in computing. His initial interest has become a part of him and with invaluable traits of a successful student like self-directedness, initiation and leadership, he would be able to stand tall among the giants.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Mr Chia Chun Keong
Computing Teacher, CCA Parent
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Reference:
1. https://sites.google.com/ctss.edu.sg/ct-ncc/, https://ncctrainingupdater.hubowen.repl.co/