

#### **4E Lau Yu Kiu, Chelsea**

##### **Lee Wai Sze's Legendary Life**

Lee Wai Sze is a successful athlete in Hong Kong. Although strong and hard-working, her life has never been easy.

Lee Wai Sze was born on 12th May, 1987 in Kowloon. She grew up in Ngan Tau Kok, sharing a 200-square-foot public flat with her parents and two siblings. Her family was not well off. When she was in Form 3, she was recommended by her school to enter the Hong Kong Sports Institution. Her talent was then spotted by the Hong Kong Cycling Association.

As a professional track cyclist, Lee works extremely hard to achieve her goal. Every day, she receives intensive training, spending long hours on a bicycle. She also discusses skills and techniques with her coach. In order to gain more knowledge about cycling and to improve her performance, she keeps reading books in the field of cycling. The greatest success came in her life in 2012 when she won the bronze medal in the women's keirin at the London Olympics. It was the first medal in cycling won by a Hong Kong cyclist.

People often become arrogant when they are famous or have a successful career. Yet, Lee has not. She once said, "Modesty leads to progress, arrogance makes you drop behind."

In a mega sporting event held in Brazil, she congratulated her competitor who knocked her down and she felt happy for her opponent. She is always humble. She does not feel jealous of others even though she loses. This is impressive and I believe that everyone should learn from her.

Lee is a tough cyclist. During a training session in 2006, she had a serious bike crash which left her with a broken wrist and three operations. Her coach told her that a full recovery was impossible and even asked her to give up. When she was considering whether to quit, she received support from her family and friends. In the end, she decided to make a comeback.

It was a tough time for her to recover and continue with her career. Yet she was optimistic and persevered in the face of adversity. “My injury is a minor setback in the grand scheme of things,” she said in an interview. Though she was asked to quit, she chose not to give up. She was also confident and believed in herself. In the end, she overcame all the obstacles - she continues to get awards in cycling, and now she is still shining after the injury. Her performance has been remarkable.

With her determination and modesty, Lee's life is bright and has become our role model. She never gives up even if she encounters difficulties, and therefore she achieves huge success in her career. Her persistent spirit is inspirational. She is indeed the pride of our city.