

Primary English Newsletter (PEN)

At a Glance

Grade 5 Show

I can now tell you the title of the upcoming Grade 5 show!

It is called *BadTime* Stories and the theme is on environmental awareness and protection. The Grade 5's have all received their scripts and character parts and rehearsals are currently underway. Measurements for costumes have also been collected. It's all very exciting!

As always, this year's show will be spectacular in its medley of drama, dance and song. Thus, please keep **July 4th 2014** free so you can come and enjoy the show with us!

Difficult Tongue Twisters

Here are two really difficult tongue twisters as listed on Yahoo. Have a go!

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.

A big bug bit a bold bald bear and the bold bald bear bled blood badly.

The third issue of PEN for this academic year brings the festive air of Christmas with it. It also heralds the last PEN we will have for this calendar year. Soon it will be January 2014!

In this PEN, you will read that all Grade levels are in the transition stage of Module 1 and Module 2. Currently, projects are being finalised and presentations graded. Module 2 brings a variety of exciting topics including Animal Habitats, Inventions, Science topics and Natural Disasters to name a few.

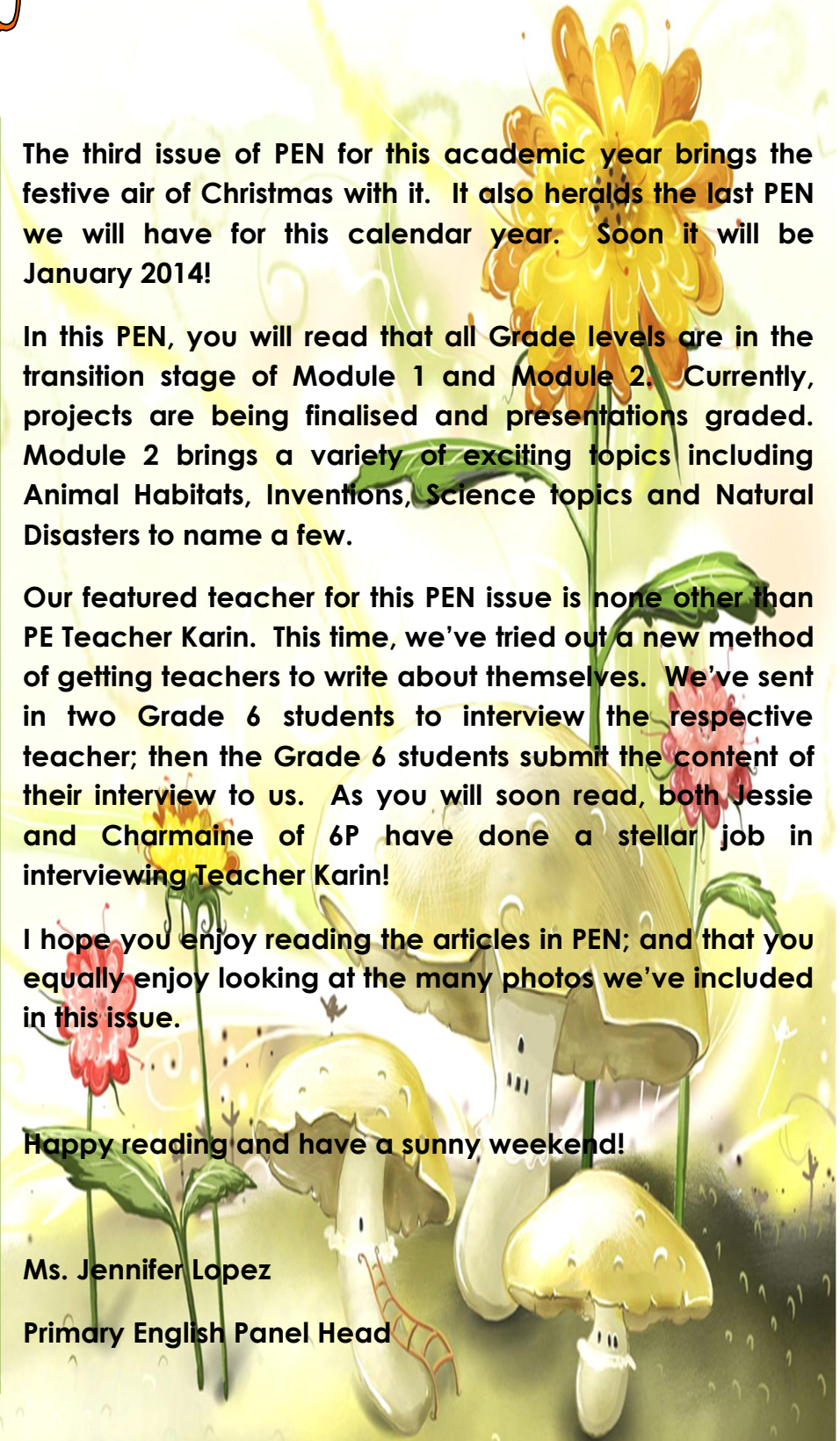
Our featured teacher for this PEN issue is none other than PE Teacher Karin. This time, we've tried out a new method of getting teachers to write about themselves. We've sent in two Grade 6 students to interview the respective teacher; then the Grade 6 students submit the content of their interview to us. As you will soon read, both Jessie and Charmaine of 6P have done a stellar job in interviewing Teacher Karin!

I hope you enjoy reading the articles in PEN; and that you equally enjoy looking at the many photos we've included in this issue.

Happy reading and have a sunny weekend!

Ms. Jennifer Lopez

Primary English Panel Head



Grade 1 ~ My Dream Home

Our Grade One students learnt about different rooms in a home in Module 1. They were able to tell the functions and things people do in rooms like the living room, dining room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom.

Way to go! ☺

Our first graders also had a chance to design their dream home. Let's take a look at their work and see how they like it!

Jin



My favourite room is the living room because I can watch TV there and it's very comfortable.

Chloe



My favourite room is the play room because there are many balls that I can play with.

Ava

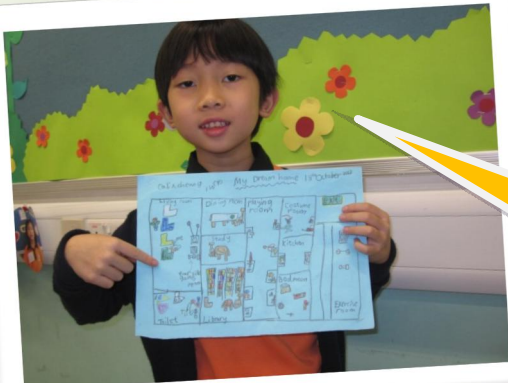


I love my dream home because there's a garden. I can also swim in the pool!

Louis



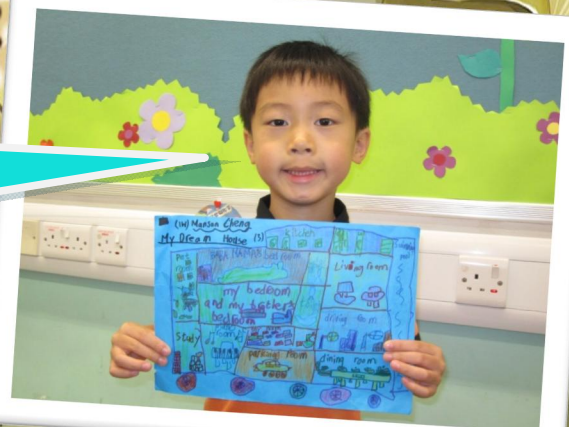
My favourite room is the study because I can play computer games and read books there.



Calix

I like the living room the most because I can jump on the couch and I can play video games there.

There's a driving room in my dream home. My home can fly up into the sky!



Manson

Grade 2

We have been recently working on a new text type: information report. An **information report** is a piece of writing telling specific information of a subject.

Students are reminded that if they want to write a good information report, they should organise their writing in paragraphs; it is always easier for readers to look for information. And there should only be one main idea in each paragraph. They should never write about their personal ideas in their report too.

So before writing, students brainstorm for ideas in group discussions. They also look for information from books. Then they sum up and fill in the graphic organiser and use it for the report.

Topic: _____	
Why do people celebrate it?	
When do people celebrate it?	
Where do people celebrate it?	
How do people celebrate it?	



The poster features a decorative border of orange swirls and stars. The background is a soft, light green with faint illustrations of a yellow chrysanthemum, pink flowers, and mushrooms. The title 'Mid-Autumn Festival' is written in a cursive font. Three paragraphs of text describe the festival's significance, date, and activities. The author's name is at the bottom left.

Mid-Autumn Festival

People celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival because one day Hou Yi went away and Chang Er drank a magical drink and flew up to the moon.

People celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival on 15th August in the Chinese calendar and 19th September in 2013.

People celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival in parks, houses, gardens, beaches and Disneyland.

People celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival in many ways. They play with lanterns and light sticks. They drink Chinese tea, eat fruits, see the full moon, go on picnics and sing songs.

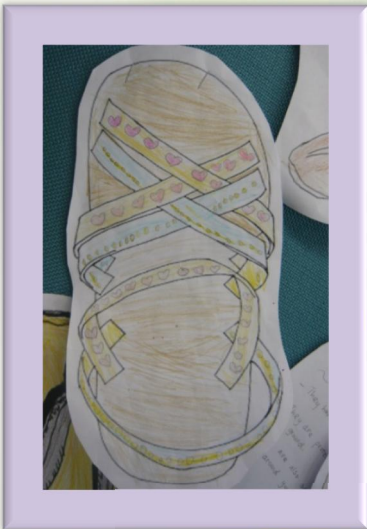
* Written by Zoie CHEUNG (2B)

Grade 3

Different Countries – Shoes around the World

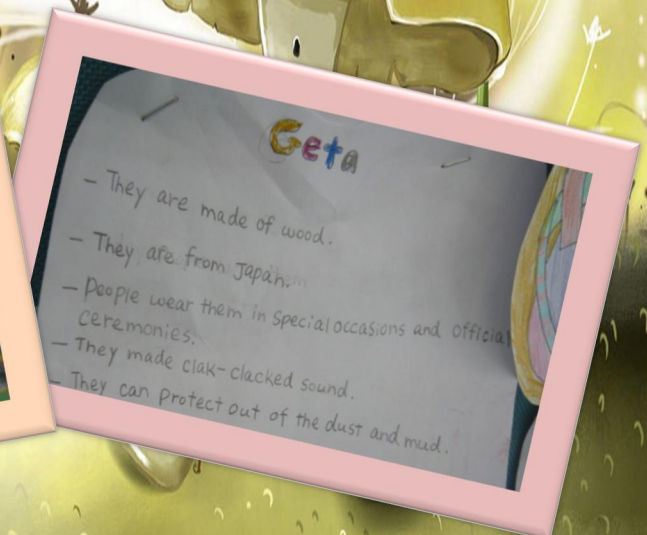
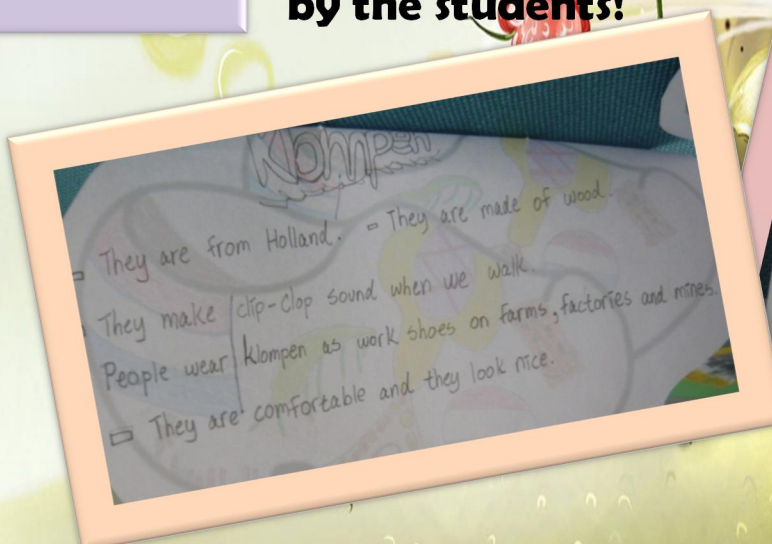
Our third graders are currently having their Module 1 “Different Countries”. In the past few weeks, students read a book called “Shoes Around the World”. They worked on various activities about different kinds of shoes.

Students learnt the cultures of the countries in the book and they discussed the characteristics of the shoes. Students also learnt to introduce the unique shoes on a fact sheet, using the simple present tense.



After completing the fact sheet, students were invited to disguise themselves as shop keepers and introduce how special the shoes were in their shops. This activity helps students a lot with their presentation skills!

Students had so much fun in the lessons promoting the shoes! Let's have a look at the fact sheet made by the students!





Babouches

- They are made of camel hair.
- They wear Babouches outdoor.
- They are soft and comfortable.
- They wear Babouches because they are to slip on and off.
- They come from Morocco.

Geta

- They are tall wooden Geta.
- They keep the dust and mud out of our feet.
- They make clip-clop sound.
- They are from a place call Japan
- When people wear Geta with tabi socks in cool weather, it will be warm.

3C (287) Tiffany



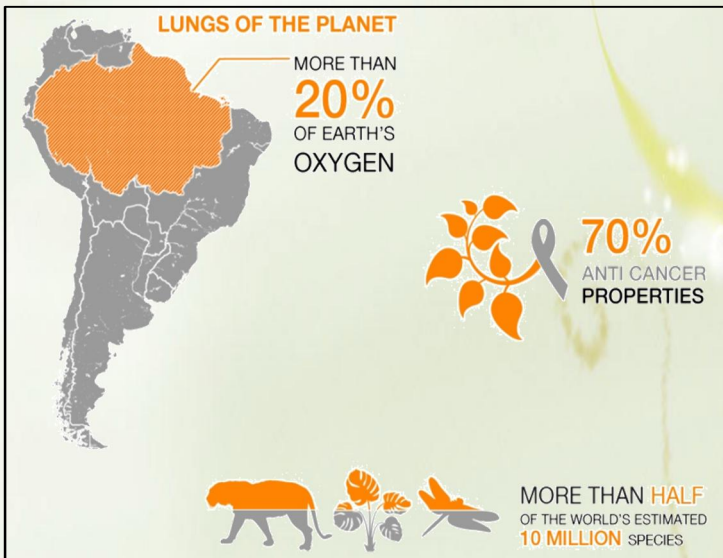
Klompfen

- They are comfortable and they look nice
- They are made of wood
- They are clip-clop sound when I walk
- They are from Holland
- People wear them as work shoes on farms and in factories and mines

Grade Four

It's been a long module but the end is finally in sight! To wrap up our Rainforest module, all the Grade Four classes took a trip to Ocean Park.

Ocean Park is not just a theme park, oh no! Hidden away under the rides and



displays are giant machines keeping the train moving up inside a mountain, work rooms where animals are cared for, and secret classrooms that can only be entered through winding staircases. Our classes went to one such secret classroom!

After arriving at Ocean Park, we made our way to the express train. This is a funicular railway, which means that a cable attached to the car pulls it up. Funicular comes from the Latin word "funiculus" which means "rope"! Do you know of any other funicular railways in Hong Kong?

First, we walked through the rainforest area after getting off the train. There are models of Yanomami houses as well as descriptions of the influence rainforests have on the world, especially the Amazon rainforest,

We also got to look at some animals such as extremely tiny monkeys,

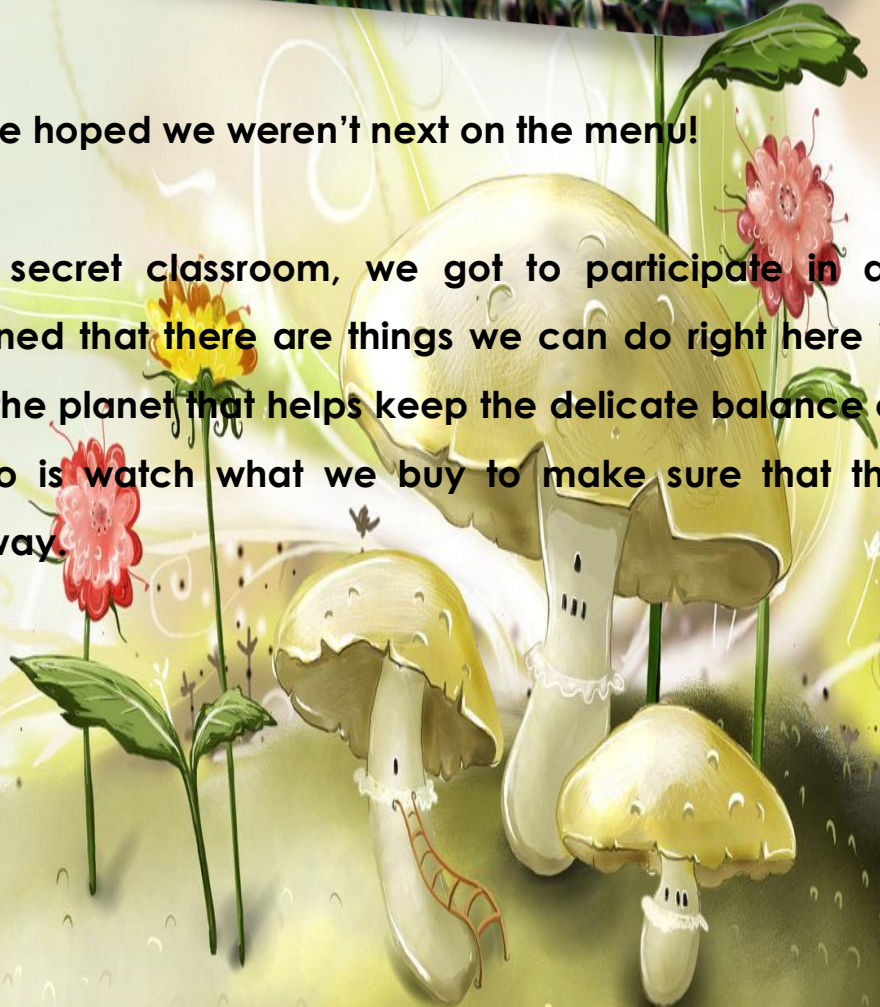


brightly coloured macaws and toucans, and huge reptiles! We even saw an enclosure where we knew a snake had to be hiding somewhere ... because it had recently shed its skin, leaving it hanging from a tree branch!

Eventually we made our way through a hidden door to the secret classroom. We all had to step onto a special cleaning mat to make sure we didn't accidentally bring in any bacteria that could harm the animals we were about to see. We went down a long hallway with animal rooms on both sides and laboratory technicians preparing food for the animals. We hoped we weren't next on the menu!



When we finally arrived at the secret classroom, we got to participate in an interactive drama where we learned that there are things we can do right here in Hong Kong to protect an area of the planet that helps keep the delicate balance of nature stable. All we have to do is watch what we buy to make sure that this resource is used in a sustainable way.



GRADE 5

How do you keep in touch with family and friends? Do you write letters, emails, speak on the telephone, text using a mobile phone, or use a social networking site such as Facebook?

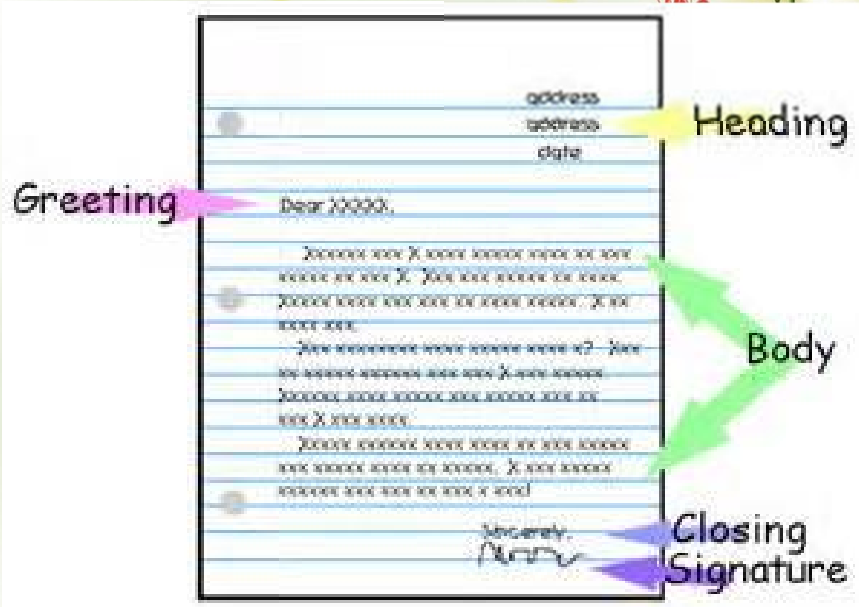
Our Grade 5 students have been learning to write **formal letters**. Formal letters are letters to people who we don't know on a personal level. We may need to write formal letters for many different reasons. For example, we may write to find out information, to apply for a course, to make a complaint, to give information or to send an apology.

It can be helpful to look at examples of different kinds of letters that other people have written to get an idea about how to lay out your letter and the kind of language to use.

Before writing a formal letter, ask yourself:

- Who am I writing to?
- Why am I writing?
- What do I need to tell them?
- What do I want them to do?

Remember that when you write a formal letter, it's important to have all the information you need with you, such as **dates**, **names** and **addresses**.



A Formal Letter to Mickey Maloney

The Manager
Spy Outfitters
21 Durham Lane
Meadow Park

Mickey Maloney
71 Cook Street- Terraceville
Phone: 07638281 Fax:07638285
Email: mickeymaloney@spink.net
7 June, 2006

Dear Mr. Maloney,

I am writing connection with your letter of 2 June, 2006. We are very sorry to know that your shoes had been worn out within 3 days and your feet have been bruised and blistered. How are your feet now?

We are pleased to send you a pair of brand new boots. In addition, please accept our VIP membership card for which you can enjoy 30% discount at each shopping for the next 2 years.

We will check the product more carefully and often. We promise you will enjoy the shopping experience with us!

Yours Faithfully,

Matthew Yung

Matthew Yung



A Formal Letter to Mickey Maloney

Miss Jasmine (The manager)
Spy outfitters
21 Durhame Lane
Meadow Park

Mickey Maloney
71 cook street- Terraceville

5 November, 2013

Dear Mr. Maloney,

I am very sorry that the pair of spy boots from our shop had broken. The pair of spy boots even made your toes got bruised and blistered. How are your feet now?

In order to compensate for our mistakes, there are two options that your may choose from, you may get your money returned or you may get coupons from our shop. You may come to collect your refunds when it is convenient for you.

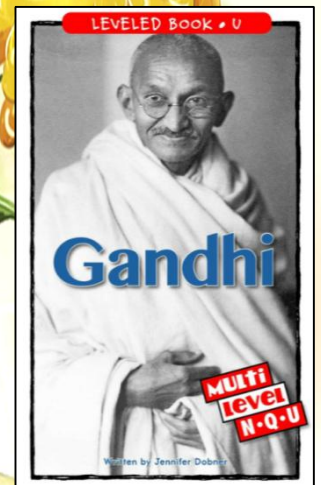
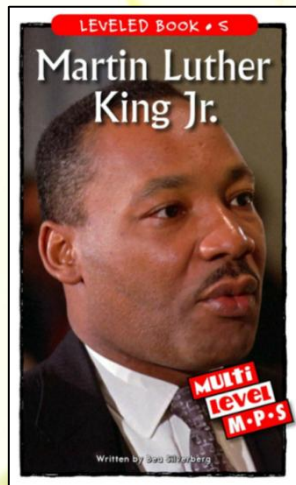
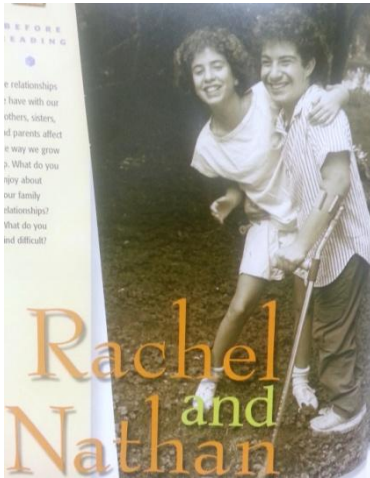
I kindly suggest you to check the products carefully and keep the receipt next time. I am pleased and thankful that you have been recommending our shop to other spies. Hope you will success in your missions and we promise this case will not happen again in our shop.

Yours faithfully,
Jasmine Law
Jasmine Law (The manager)



Grade Six

By the time you read this, Grade Six will probably be in the middle of project presentations, because our first module is coming to an end! We firmly believe that a common theme linking work together makes classes more enjoyable for students, which is why all the work we've done in this first module has in some way been related to people who have fought for rights and equality,



no matter the cost to themselves.

Over the course of this module, we have looked at what human rights are and where they come from, and how their development spurred people to realise that everyone should have equal opportunities. Through our books, we have travelled the world. We've seen Rachel and Nathan deal with disability in Canada, Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks dream of equality in America, Cathy Freeman win races for Aboriginal people in Australia, and Mohandas K. Gandhi in India showing everyone that great change can come about without the use of force or violence.

Since we've covered all the readings for this module, students were able to start work on their final projects. This project combines the theme of the module with the Biography text type we've been looking at in-depth. Throughout this module we've studied about what makes a biography a biography; now students will have the chance to prove that they know how it's done!

ENGLISH PERFORMING ARTS GRADE TWO

Just like Grade 1 EPA, as featured in the previous PEN, Grade 2 EPA integrates students' learning content from their English Modules into lessons on different elements of performing arts.



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Festivals Around the World"), students' understanding of the customs, the cuisine, the decorations and the celebrations



of global festivals are deepened through moving tableaux and short skits about Tuen Ng Festival, New Year's Eve, Halloween, Christmas and many more. Students are also introduced to cultural music and movement from various festivals such as lion dancing (Lunar New Year) and Bollywood dancing (Diwali). Students also get to demonstrate their creativity by presenting their own new festivals, such as "Fireworks Festival", "Minecraft Day" and "No Homework Day".

Module 2, "Hong Kong, My Home", is designed to enable students to learn more about Hong Kong through devising more complex performances, such



as informative dramas, news reports, storybook theatre and travel programmes. Lesson themes range from the present-day Hong Kong as compared to the past Hong Kong, to the various building types and famous landmarks throughout our city. By exploring these themes through activities such as miming, role-play, storytelling, singing, dancing and acting, students can develop more engaging storytelling skills as well as more expressive acting skills.



The final Module in Grade 2 is called "Me, Myself and I" and it aims at raising students' awareness of their bodies as well as how to maintain good habits in their diet and exercise. Highlights of this Module include body isolation exercises to enhance students' body balance and control, a science fiction-style short drama about the organs in the human body (*Exploring the Human Body*), performing a rap song about the systems in the human body (*The Systems Rap*), and verse speaking about sportsmanship (*Champion*). Finally, the 2nd Graders get their



chance to shine onstage as they are scheduled to perform during the Second Term English Day.

Are you ready for the 2nd Graders to perform? Indeed, THEY will be!

Student Writing

Little Sally ~ A Caring Hero

by Sumi Chow

5B

Little Sally was a kind and fair girl. She had many friends at school.

One day, Little Sally was planning to visit her grandmother. Before visiting her grandmother, she went to Seven-Eleven to buy a drink for her. When she was lining up in front of the cashier, she saw an old blind man taking his wallet out of his pocket and a 100 dollar bill fell out. Then a boy in front of her saw the 100 dollar bill and picked up to pretend that it was his. After that, Little Sally tapped his shoulders and found that it was Johnny – his classmate who was always happy when he had money in his hand because he thought he was rich.

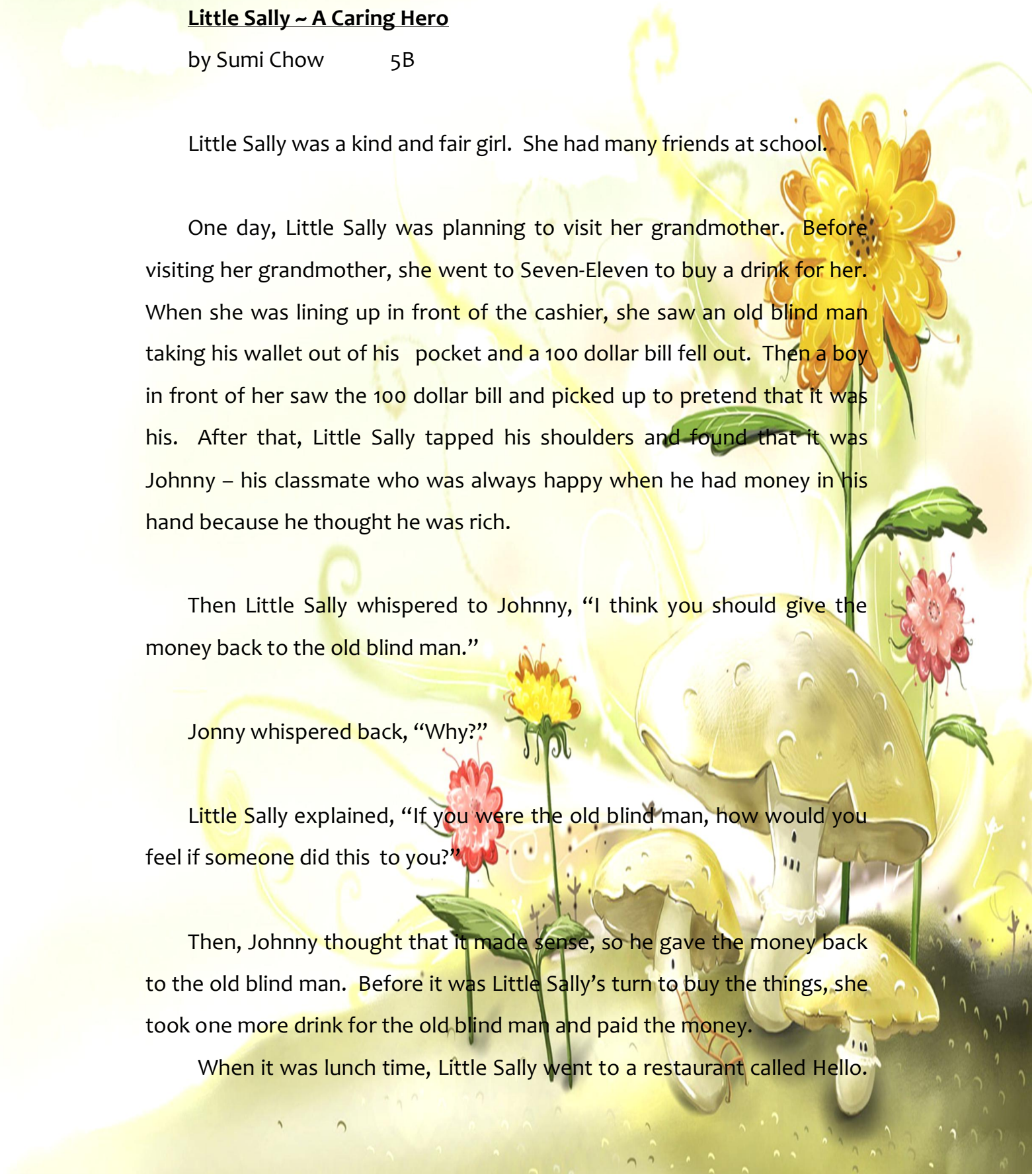
Then Little Sally whispered to Johnny, “I think you should give the money back to the old blind man.”

Jonny whispered back, “Why?”

Little Sally explained, “If you were the old blind man, how would you feel if someone did this to you?”

Then, Johnny thought that it made sense, so he gave the money back to the old blind man. Before it was Little Sally’s turn to buy the things, she took one more drink for the old blind man and paid the money.

When it was lunch time, Little Sally went to a restaurant called Hello.



Along the road, she saw a beggar who had no money and no food. When she was eating lunch, there was a plump and chubby lady eating lunch too. The lady ordered a bowl of rice, a dish of chicken wings, a hamburger and a bowl of salad, but she only ate the bowl of rice and told the waiter to throw the other food away. When the waiter came, Little Sally told the waiter to give the leftover food to her. When she went out, she gave the leftover food to the beggar. The beggar was so happy to get the food.

Then, when Little Sally was crossing the road, she saw an old woman pushing an old man on wheelchair. When the green light was blinking, they were walking slowly in the middle of the road. So Little Sally helped the old lady push the wheelchair quickly to the sidewalk. The couple thanked Sally for helping them.

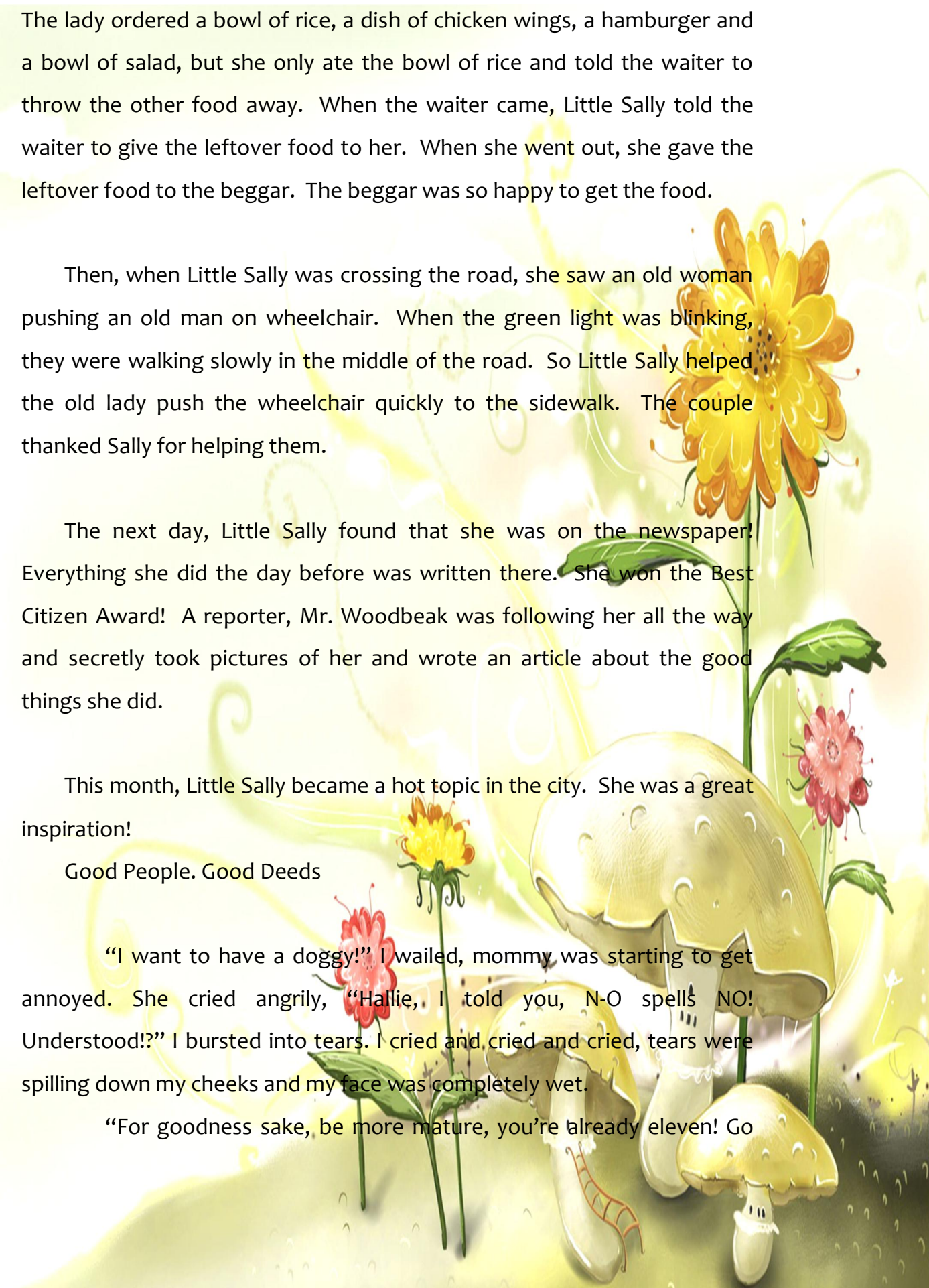
The next day, Little Sally found that she was on the newspaper! Everything she did the day before was written there. She won the Best Citizen Award! A reporter, Mr. Woodbeak was following her all the way and secretly took pictures of her and wrote an article about the good things she did.

This month, Little Sally became a hot topic in the city. She was a great inspiration!

Good People. Good Deeds

"I want to have a doggy!" I wailed, mommy was starting to get annoyed. She cried angrily, "Hallie, I told you, N-O spells NO! Understood!?" I bursted into tears. I cried and cried and cried, tears were spilling down my cheeks and my face was completely wet.

"For goodness sake, be more mature, you're already eleven! Go



and wash your face please! Change your clothes and clean yourself and come out neatly! Can't you just speed up and do as I SAY!" shouted Mommy, losing her temper. I was just frightfully scared and I almost wet myself.

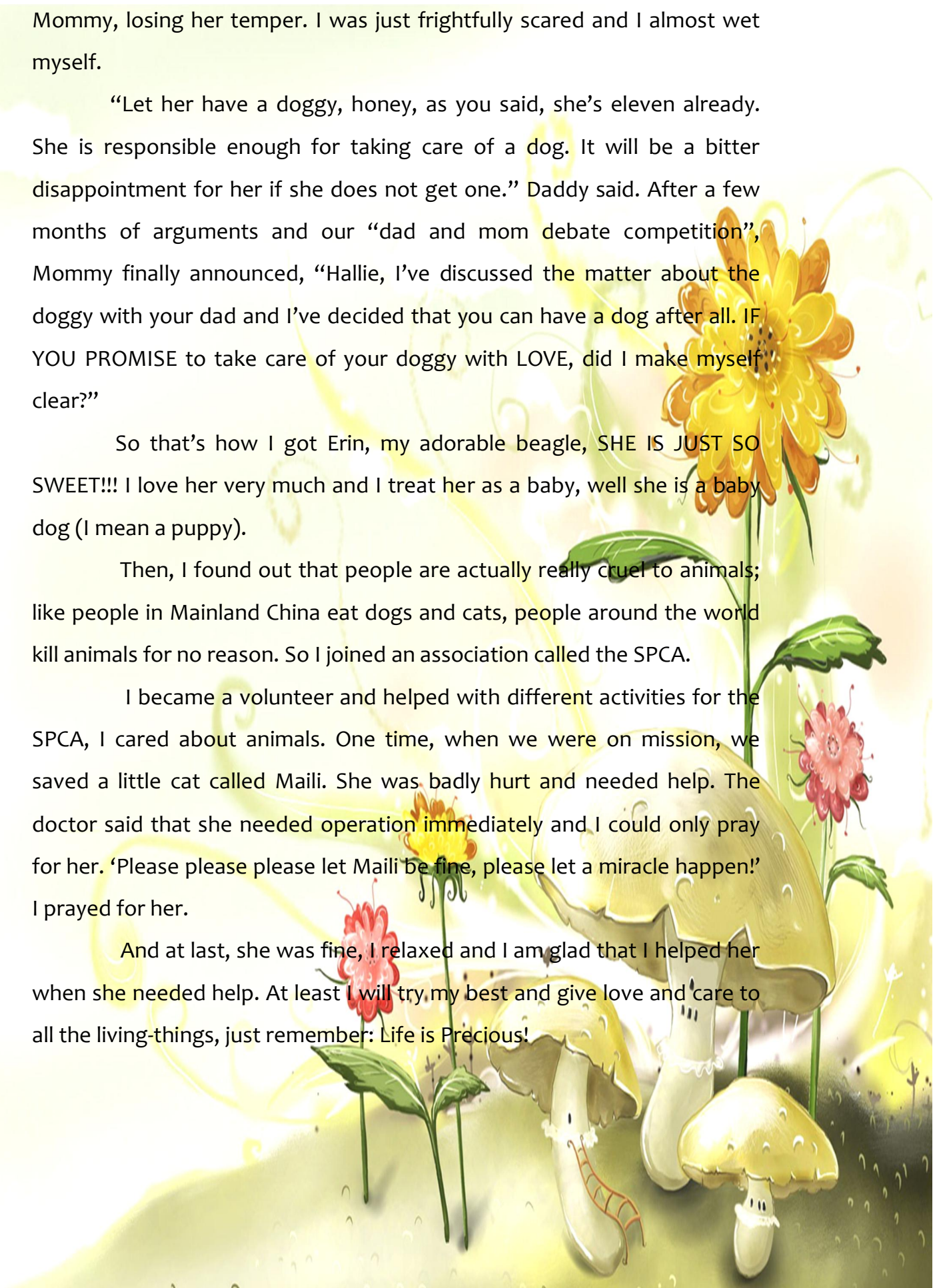
"Let her have a doggy, honey, as you said, she's eleven already. She is responsible enough for taking care of a dog. It will be a bitter disappointment for her if she does not get one." Daddy said. After a few months of arguments and our "dad and mom debate competition", Mommy finally announced, "Hallie, I've discussed the matter about the doggy with your dad and I've decided that you can have a dog after all. IF YOU PROMISE to take care of your doggy with LOVE, did I make myself clear?"

So that's how I got Erin, my adorable beagle, SHE IS JUST SO SWEET!!! I love her very much and I treat her as a baby, well she is a baby dog (I mean a puppy).

Then, I found out that people are actually really cruel to animals; like people in Mainland China eat dogs and cats, people around the world kill animals for no reason. So I joined an association called the SPCA.

I became a volunteer and helped with different activities for the SPCA, I cared about animals. One time, when we were on mission, we saved a little cat called Maili. She was badly hurt and needed help. The doctor said that she needed operation immediately and I could only pray for her. 'Please please please let Maili be fine, please let a miracle happen!' I prayed for her.

And at last, she was fine, I relaxed and I am glad that I helped her when she needed help. At least I will try my best and give love and care to all the living-things, just remember: Life is Precious!



An interview with Teacher Karin

by Jessie To and Charmaine Wong, 6P

Q. What hobbies do you have?

A. Well, basketball, of course, and social dancing. I also enjoy reading.

Q. Oh, I see. Do you have any sport events you like most?

A. Same with hobbies! Basketball and dancing.

Q. So, what kinds of books do you prefer?

A. Oh! I read Chinese books, mostly. I also like the Harry Potter series.

Q. Do you have any recommended books for our students?

A. Not books, but authors. One is from Hong Kong and the other one is from Tai Wan. Their names are Dr. Au Lok Man and Qi Jun(琦君). Dr. Au Lok Man is a Doctor and his books are sometimes about the experiences of being a doctor. Qi Jun(琦君)'s books are mostly about childhood.

Q. Do you have any unforgettable experiences with sports?

A. Yes! Let me tell you a story. When I was in University, I was in the cross-country team. As you know, we have to run up and down mountains, and it is very tiring. So, every time I finish a training session, I tell myself, "I will never come to training again!" Even though these were my words, every time the time for training comes, my feet just naturally bring me to the field to start training. Looking back, I now know that it is because I want to get better results. I learned... The bitterest happiness and the happiest bitter.

Q. It sounds very complicated! Do you mind explaining more to us?



A. Certainly! It is like...you train very hard for a competition. That's bitter. But when you win the competition, that's happiness.

Q. About teaching, do you have any unforgettable experiences to share?

A. Well, I think that most children are just playful actually, not really naughty.

Q. Do you have any lessons to share?

A. Yes, one. I deeply believe that sports can change your life. Let me tell you a story. There was once a kid in grade 7-9 whose grades were poor, and he really, really loved sports. Basketball, actually. In order to remain at his old school for 7 years, he started working hard. He succeeded and stayed at his old school. Later on, he went to Hong Kong University and studied Survey there. That's one of my lessons. I've got two more lessons. One of them is no pain no gain, and...also, you have to love your work to do it well. I start to think of perseverance as something I must have in my life. Oh! Yes! I have one more! In competitions, I think the process matters more than the results.

Q. Thank for your time and patience.

A. No problem! See you next time.



AROUND CAMPUS





