



4th June 2021

#### FOREWORD

Welcome to the final issue of *PEN*! It feels like this academic year has been quite a roller coaster ride – we were learning from home, then on campus, then back at home, and then back on campus. At home, we mastered our Zoom and Google Classroom skills; while at school, we learnt about multimodality and presented our ideas in a variety of creative ways. We learnt quite a lot in our English lessons, as well as how to show love and care to ourselves and those around us. We might have started off the year with some goals, but now we may have achieved even more than we expected!

Remember all the knowledge we learnt across the 3 modules this year. Recall all the learning skills and strategies our teachers and classmates shared with us this year. Now, let's apply all of these as we prepare for our Year-End Assessment. With good self-management, planning, preparation and practice, we can give it our best effort yet. Afterwards, we can enjoy all the exciting Post-Exam Activities that are coming our way.

what feels like the end is often the beginning The end of the year isn't really "an end". Rather, we can think of it as the "beginning" of using everything we learnt in the past year to become a smarter, wiser and better version of ourselves! Please enjoy our final issue of *PEN* for 2020-2021 as the entire English Panel wishes everyone a happy and healthy summer ahead!

TEACHER ARVIN ROBLES PANEL HEAD, ENGLISH

DO YOU KNOW THAT IT IS ALREADY THE LAST ISSUE OF **PEN?** ALTHOUGH WE ARE APPROACHING THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, THERE ARE STILL A LOT OF EXCITING AND FUN ACTIVITIES GOING ON ON SCHOOL CAMPUS: THE GRADE THREE'S BUILT A TOWER USING SPAGHETTI AND MARSHMALLOW WHILE THE GRADE FIVE'S WERE KEEPING THEMSELVES UP WITH TECHNOLOGY CHANGE DURING LESSONS. READ THE REST AND SEE WHAT THE OTHER GRADES HAVE BEEN DOING.

PLEASE ALSO START PREPARING FOR THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF THE YEAR - THE YEAR-END ASSESSMENT. LET'S GIVE IT OUR BEST EFFORT!!

TEACHER PHOEBE YEUNG
(DEPUTY PANEL HEAD, ENGLISH)

#### IN THIS ISSUE

GRADES 1, 2 AND 3



GRADES 4, 5, 6, 6+ AND EPA



**FEATURED WRITING:** 

GRADE 1



**BOOK CLUB** 



TRIVIA AND STRANGE FACTS



**JOKES AND RIDDLES** 



AROUND THE CAMPUS



Grade One students are learning about different ocean animals. There are lots of interesting animals in the oceans. Let us share some fun facts with you! Hammerhead sharks have their eyes at the end of their lobes. Walruses are enormous because the layer of fat can keep them warm in cold weather. Leatherback turtles are the largest turtles in the world. Aren't they all wonderful creatures? ©





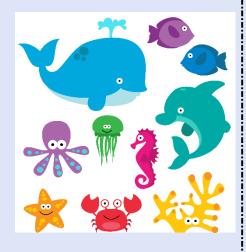


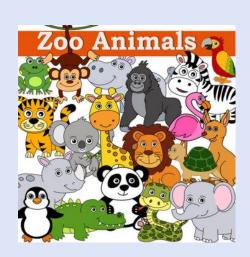
It was the Second Term English Week from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May and we had a great time! We chose our favourite animal and made a headband. We even wrote animal riddles to challenge our family and friends. We can't wait to show you the lovely photos. ©















Grade Two has been learning a lot about poems and stories recently. Up till now, they have learnt about fairy tales, folktales, fables, haiku and acrostic poems.

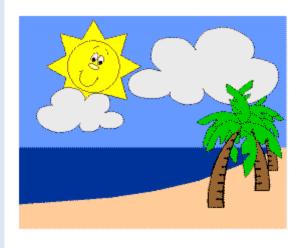
Did you know that haiku are poems from Japan? A haiku consists of 3 lines – the first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables and the last line has 5 syllables. Have a look at the picture below for an example.

Grade 2 is also preparing for their upcoming project which is a short story using 3 haiku. Students will present their work by reading out their passages and presenting their work to their classmates.

#### Beaches

By Kaitlyn Guenther

Sand scatters the beach
Waves crash on the sandy shore
Blue water shimmers



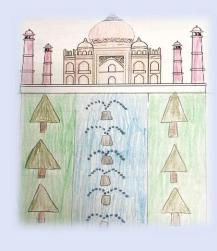




We have been learning about the New Seven Wonders of the World. So far we have learnt about the Great Wall of China and the Taj Mahal. They are both amazing structures.

The Great Wall of China is the longest man-made structure in the world. It is made of packed earth and rocks. There are different stories and rumours about this place. Do you know the secret ingredient of building it? People believe it was sticky rice! We do not know if it is true or not but we had a good laugh in class!

The Taj Mahal is one of the most beautiful structures in the world. It is made of white marble and some precious stones. It glows pale pink in the sunset.







### Have you tried to build a tower before? We used uncooked spaghetti and marshmallow to build the most interesting towers ever! ©









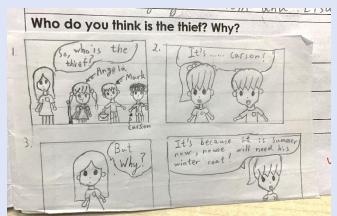






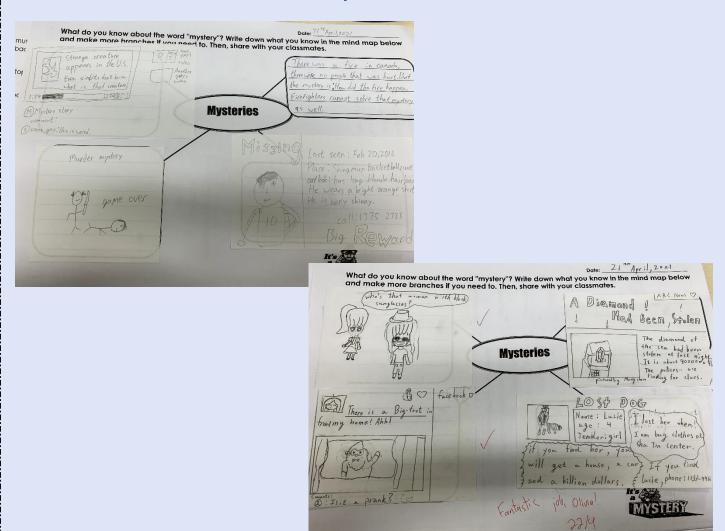
What was that sound? Did you see that shadow? Oh, it's just Grade Four Module 3! We are learning about mysteries and monsters. It's a very spoOoOoky module. So far, we've solved the mysterious case of the "Speckled Band", learned about Sherlock Holmes and explored the world of unsolved mysteries.

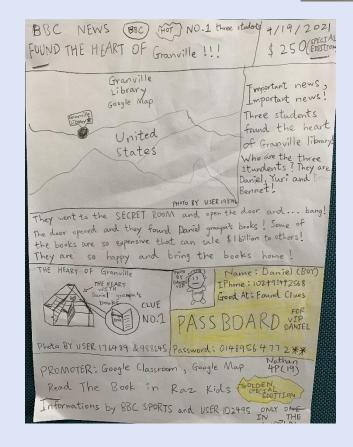
But how do you solve a case? How do you look for clues? In Grade Four, we have been using multimodality to crack each case. What is multimodality? Multimodality is an approach that allows students to focus on their strengths and choose the best method for them to complete the task. Students are given the freedom to decide how to finish the assignment through different methods. So far, we've seen filmed news reports, Instagram posts, magazine covers, newspaper articles and movie posters. The options are as boundless as our students' creativity!

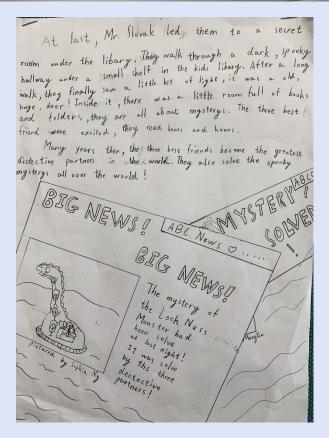




#### Here are some examples of our students' work!









Hello everyone! Grade Five is learning about some amazing and interesting topics! We are incorporating STEM education and English together to really spice up our learning! Do you know what this picture is on the right? Are you attracted by the colourful dragon? Why is it there? Is it magic?!





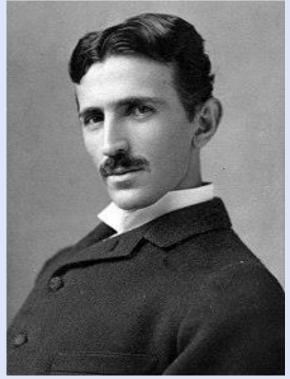
With today's technology, we can use 3D printing to make many things! One of the most advanced printers can even

print food! Who needs a professional cook anymore?! Let's just code our carrots and pies and sit back while it gets squeezed to life!



Look at this machine making full composites like a burger, which has many layers! Can you name all the layers in the burger? (Patty, cheese, pickles, etc.) I wonder what else we can do with this technology. What would you want to make if you had a super 3D printer?

#### **QUIZ TIME!**



Nikola Tesla - Father of electricity

When you think of Tesla, who do you think about? These famous people and their legacies are always going to be intertwined by their names.



Elon Musk - CEO and founder of Tesla Motors

Sometimes when we think of one famous inventor or successful person, it's hard to not also think of their most famous adversary. Here's a good example!



When I say Apple, you say
Microsoft! When I say Jobs,
you say Gates!

Jobs! Gates! Jobs! Gates!

Steve Jobs on the left and Bill Gates on the right at a conference





In this module, apart from learning about Ancient Egypt, students are also revisiting how to write a narrative. They've had writing lessons on how to describe a **character** and a **setting** using their senses. They have learnt how to add **rising action** in

their plot, include the **climax** of the plot, and order the **sequence of events** which lead to the characters **resolving the problem** in the story.

The Grade Six teachers are impressed by how descriptive and creative our students are, especially in their sensory description of the setting of a narrative. Look at some

of their amazing work below!

#### Nancy Lan, 6C

Little Red Riding Hood looked up at the emerald green trees which were skyscraper tall. The grass was muddy and twigs under her feet crunched. Birds sang like an orchestra and bugs buzzed around her. The whole forest was filled with flowers that smelled like perfume. Little Red Riding Hood wiped off the sweat on her forehead with her handkerchief. She tiptoed and reached for a ripe apple, as her teeth sank in, the sweet and sour taste of the apple juice filled her mouth.

As I walked through the forest, golden beams of sunlight showed through gaps between the branches of the trees, the warm scent of summer filled the air. I heard rustling leaves and cicadas chirping. I saw trees all around.

Violet Lai, 6P

In the dark and humid forest, I walked slowly, listening to the chirping sounds from the birds and the smell from the flowers. Suddenly, I heard footsteps behind me! My mouth was dry with fear and my heart couldn't stop beating fast!

Declan Cheung, 6P

Little Red Riding Hood marched into the damp forest. The forest was filled with good-smelling flowers. There were a lot of trees so sunlight could barely get in. Suddenly, she heard footsteps of someone, she felt like someone was following her...

Ingrid Yeung, 6P

#### Kayla Lee, 6C

As Little Red Riding Hood stepped into the forest, dozens of birds greeted her while golden rays of sunlight pierced through the trees. She took a breath of fresh air and started to walk. The smell of fragrant flowers invaded her nose, Little Red Riding Hood took a ripe apple and ate it on the way to her grandmother's house.

In the emerald green forest, the sound of chirping birds echoed through the humid air. The fruity smell of sweet fruits hovered.

Jayden Yeung, 5W (VSS) Strolling through the forest, all I could see were the plants and trees. The earthy smell of the soil and the sweet aroma of flowers filled my lungs. Birds were chirping in the treetops and wolves were howling in the distance. Apart from those noises, everything else was quiet.

Sing Ho, 6W



In preparation for their final project, Six Plus students got a taste of what it takes to teach a class of students... by taking on the role of Student Teachers!





In groups of 3 or 4, the Six Pluses chose one chapter from our newest reader, *What Makes Me Me*, which expands our students' learning about genetics to concepts of human biology and cognitive psychology. To teach the class about their chapter, the group had to create and deliver a 35-minute lesson plan, which included 2 clear lesson objectives, a physical or kinaesthetic warm-up, a multimodal teaching of the chapter, a spelling list of 8 to 10 words as well as a reading quiz and a listening quiz (which could be done either on paper or on any platform).

#### Let's start with a quick Warm-up

Yellow, black, red, green Blue, red, yellow, black Black, yellow, red, green Red, black, green, blue Blue, green, yellow, red Yellow, red, black, red



Six Pluses didn't simply embrace this unique experience, they excelled in it. Their lesson activities were highly interactive, engaging their students' multiple intelligences and skills.

Reading quizzes were either done on paper – which were modelled uncannily after our own

school papers – or on Baamboozle. Listening quizzes assessed students' listening comprehension on video clips which, of course, were created by the students themselves! Not only did the "students" enjoy the stimulating lessons, they also received tailored feedback from their Student Teachers during and after the lesson.





The Six Pluses aren't just awesome students... they make fantastic teachers, too! Hopefully, one day, they will return and inspire another generation of Six Pluses! Let's wish the Six Pluses all the very best in their secondary studies.











We want students to be totally excited about their learning, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. EPA allows our students to develop creative passions and increase students' motivation, bringing them hope and joy...

Our students stayed motivated during this exciting time!

And we've got two thrilling updates on EPA. Check them out below!





Right now, our Fifth Graders are busy preparing a video drama as their "Annual Grade Five Performance." The students work to master their English through performing, and the EPA teachers have provided students with this opportunity through drama, voice, singing and movement activities.

While there are many challenges and obstacles during the pandemic, the assembly of the drama is going smoothly. The teachers have started leading them into recording sessions that will transform FOUR beautiful tales, in which more than 170 Grade Five students are taking part in, into digital dramas. Stay tuned for more details about the July premier of this year's Annual Grade 5 Performance, "We Are Not Alone!"







Primary students were very excited about the  $2^{nd}$  Term English Week which ran from Monday  $4^{th}$  May - Friday  $14^{th}$  May. We celebrated English Week through fun activities both in the classroom and on Google Classroom.





Some events included making animal headbands with riddles, playing word Sudoku, sharing fun facts and watching an interesting video on

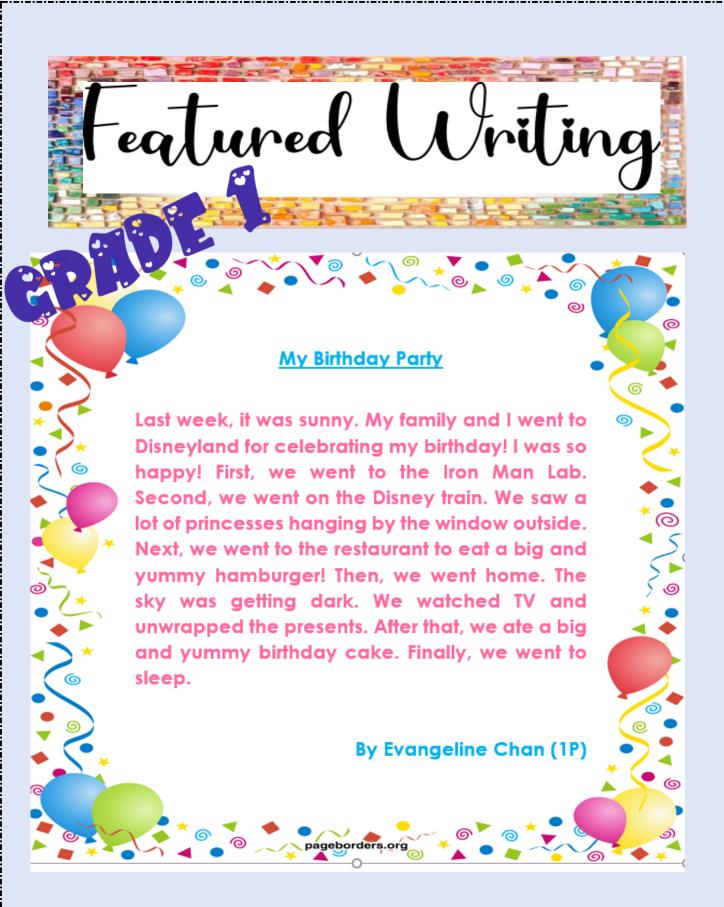
Google Classroom.



Students also came to read the fun articles posted on the 'Notice Board' outside the Staff Room. Our students furthermore benefited from English fun with announcements (songs, trivia, jokes, etc.) over the Public Announcement (P. A.) system during second recesses.



Look at all the FUN featured in the photos above!



# Happy birthday!

#### My Birthday Party

Last Saturday, the weather was sunny. I invited my friends to my birthday party. First, we played games like pin the tail on the donkey and hang man. After that, we were so tired. Then, one of my friends decided to make a pillow fort and see who could stay in it for the longest. So, we made a huge fort. At last, we got to eat the birthday cake. We got a plastic knife, ran back to the table and sliced the cake into eight pieces. After it was digested, we did some exercise and they gave me my birthday present. It was a book for drawing comics! After that, we went home.

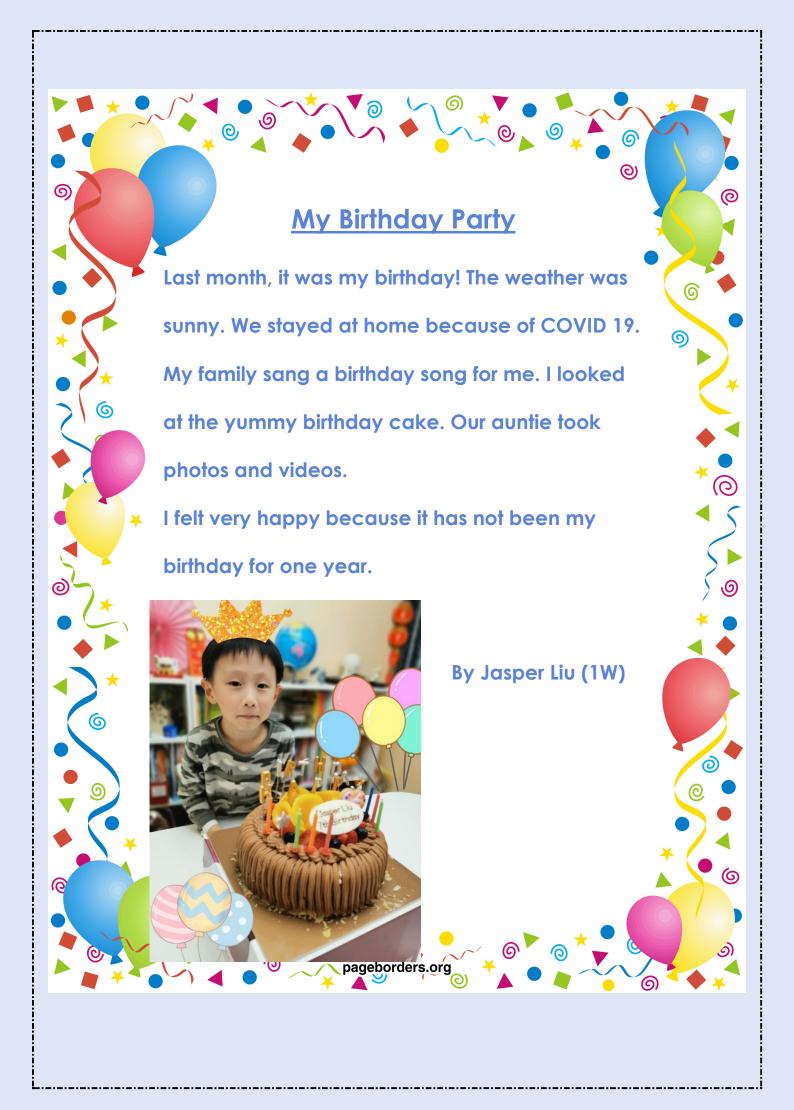
By Zoe Chui (1C)

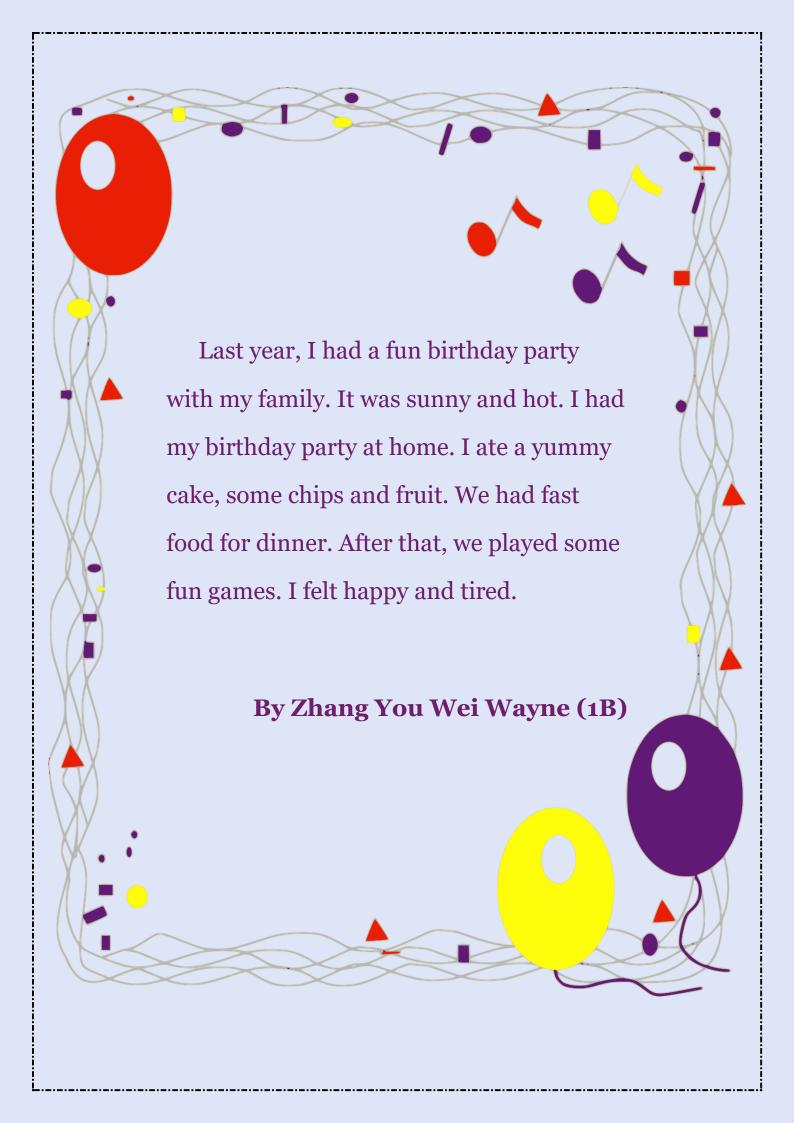
Happy birthday!

Happy birthday!

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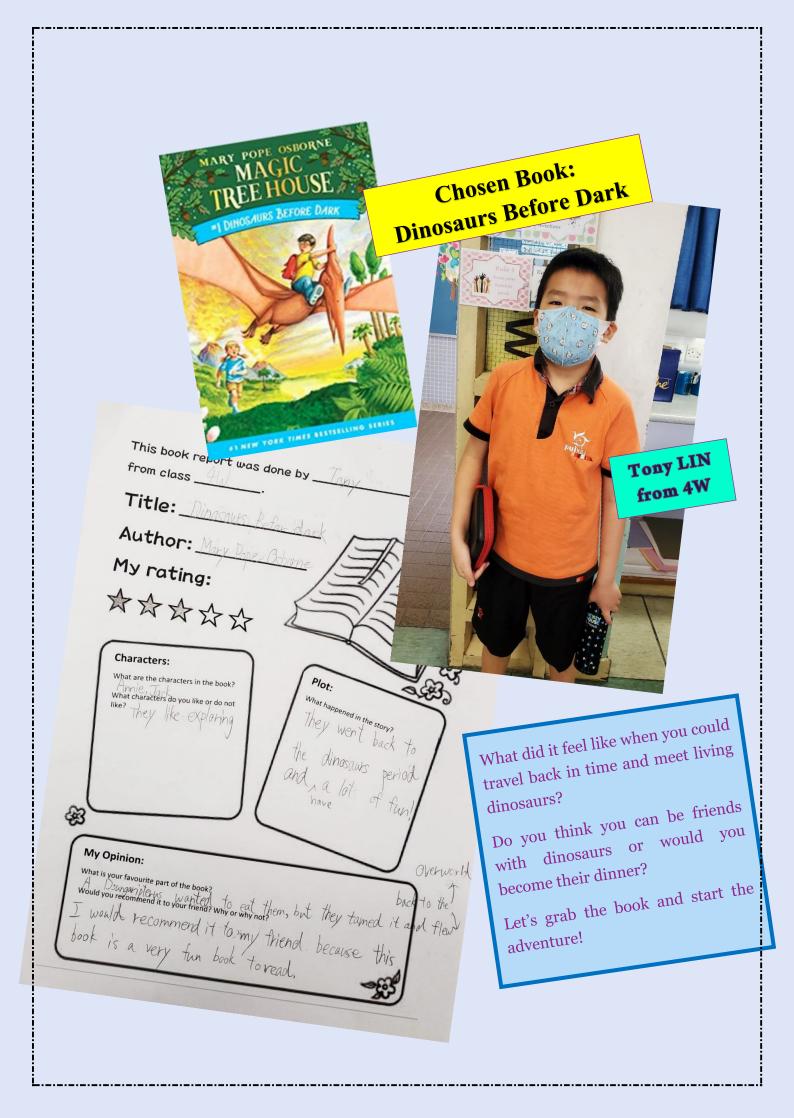




It was sunny and hot last Monday. It was my birthday! My friends came to my house. First, we ate a plate of pasta. It was yummy. Next, we played some exciting video games. Lastly, my parents took a photo of us. It was nice. I felt tired but happy.

By Arthur Ho (1M)

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# Trivia and Strang Facts

It is impossible for most people to lick their own elbow! Try it!



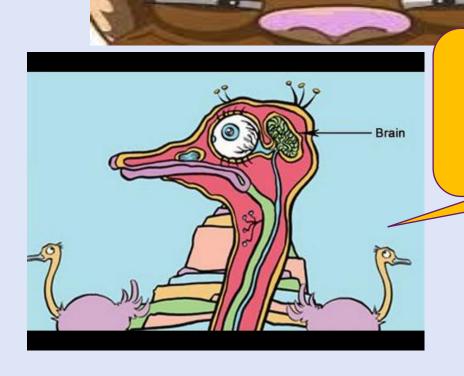




### A CROCODILE CANNOT STICK ITS TONGUE OUT!



## Cat urine glows under a black-light! Meow!



An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

#### JOKES AND RIDDLES

1. What is brown, hairy and wears sunglasses?



A coconut on vacation.

2. What kind of tree fits in your hand?

A palm tree!

3. What did the little corn say to the mama corn?

Where is pop corn?

4. How do we know that the ocean is friendly?





- 1. I'm tall when I'm young. I'm short when I'm old. What am I?
- 2. My pockets are empty but there is still something in them. What is it?
- 3. What goes up when rain comes down?
- 4. If I have it, I don't share it. If I share it, I don't have it. What is it?

teret

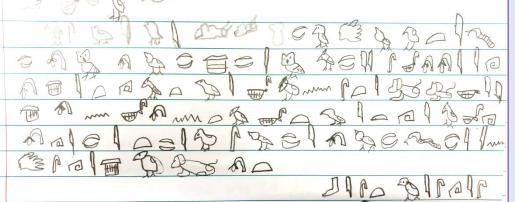
3. An umbrella

S. Holes

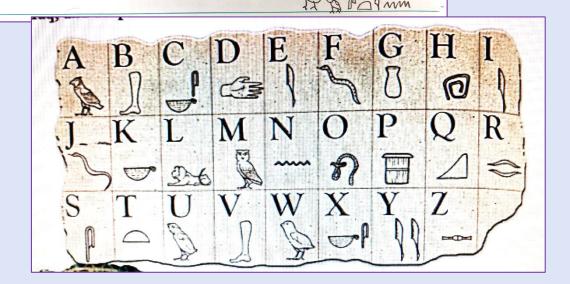
7. A candle

# Around the Campus

























School is so much fun!