

Primary English Newsletter (PEN)

At a Glance

Grade 1:

Can you tell what are in common among the five animal groups? Check it out.

Grade 2:

Do you want to take the challenge of labelling the different parts of our human body? Go now!

Grade 3:

Have you ever experienced a leave hunt? The third graders have just had one. Go and share their joy!

Grade 4:

Do you know there were volcanic eruptions in Hong Kong some 140 million years ago? Go and find out more.

Grade 5:

What did the fifth graders think people need and what did they invent to cater to their needs? Go and take a look at their inventions now!

Grade 6:

Have you ever visited the Green Concepts Building? Do you know who Charles K. Kao is? The 6th graders are happy to share what they have experienced and learnt with you. Check it out.

Congratulations to our debate team and Teacher Arvin, the coach of the team in the Secondary Schools Debating Competition, 2015-2016! In March, they beat Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau Primary School. Coming up, they will play Diocesan Girls' Junior School after the Easter Holidays. If everything goes well with them, they will go to the semi-final. I wish them good luck in the second round!

I appreciate the effort the team put and time they spent on preparing for the debate. What preparation is it? It can be topic exploring, discussing the topic with friends, looking through books, going online to get information. All these help support their argument.

You might ask why debating. We are living in a world where we communicate with others through different ways, like emailing, whatsapping, writing letters or talking to each other face to face, all the time. Of course, debating is one of them though it is a formal one. It builds self-esteem and confidence in us. If we can speak well publicly and send our messages and thoughts clearly and convincingly, we have a valuable tool that can help us in our lives.

Basically a debate has 2 teams. They are an affirmative team and a negative team. Each team consists of three speakers. The 1st affirmative speaker begins the debate, and is then followed by the 1st negative speaker. This pattern is repeated for the second and third speakers of each team. Each speaker speaks for a set time. A warning bell gives them a little time to sum up and finish before a final bell.

In the 1st round, our team debated the motion that "Dogs should be allowed on Hong Kong public housing estates". The 2nd round motion is "Playing computer games as part of free time activities is good for primary school age children." It is, indeed, very controversial. If you feel interested in it and want to share your thoughts, please do not hesitate but approach our team now. It will help them a lot.

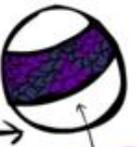
By Beatrice Chiu, the English panel (Primary Division)

Grade 1

MAMMALS

- give birth to 'live young'. 
- have hair or fur 
- mammal mothers nurse their young with milk.
- Warm-blooded

REPTILES

- have scales, not fur. 
- they have dry skin. 
- usually lay eggs, sometimes live young 
- Cold-blooded.



BIRDS

- have feathers & wings 
- lay eggs 
- Warm-blooded

AMPHIBIANS

- live on land & in water.
- Cold-blooded.
- lay eggs.
- moist skin.
- webbed feet. 

FISH

- breathe underwater using gills.
- have scales and fins.
- Cold-blooded.
- lay eggs. 

The G1 students are having lots of fun learning about animals. They have learned a lot about the five animal groups, namely mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians and fish, and they are able to tell what are in common among them. Do you know what the answer is? Let me tell you. They all have a backbone.

In addition, they are using what they have learned to write animal riddles. Everyone had fun writing riddles and guessing their peers' riddles. Do you want to try this below?

WHO AM I?

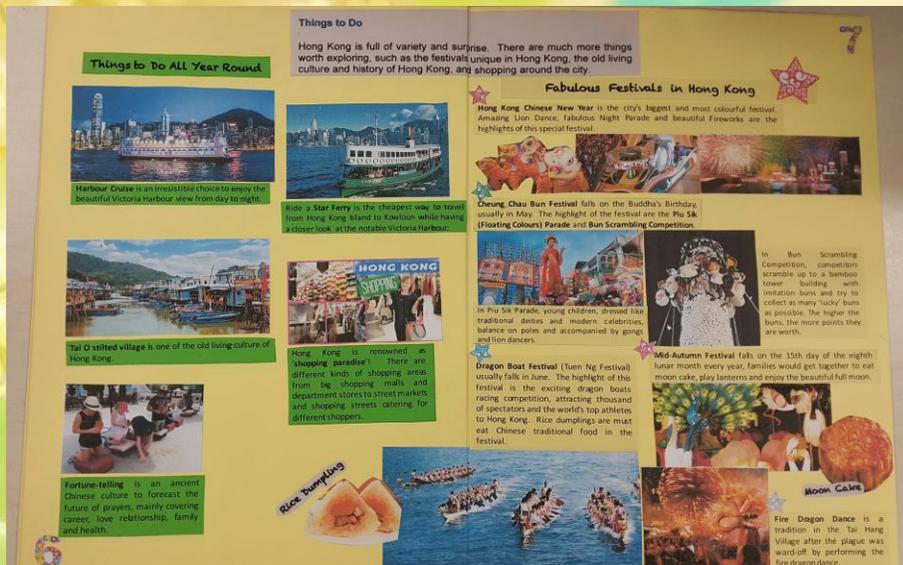
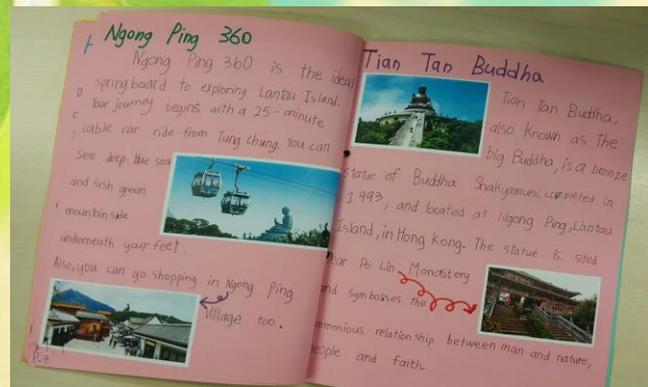
I am an egg-laying
mammal from
Australia

We are looking forward to working on our project—creating an animal booklet and presenting it to our classmates!

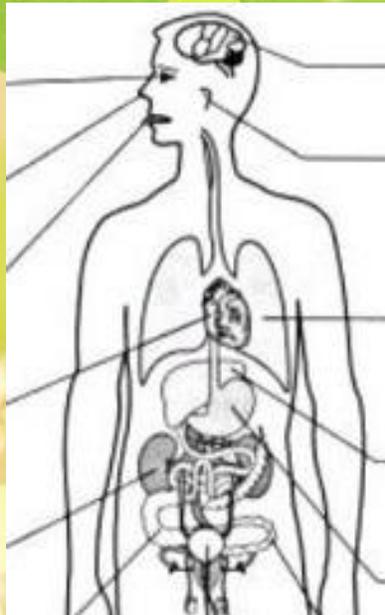


Grade 2

The second graders have finished their brochures introducing Hong Kong as their project. Most of the brochures were well coloured and rich in content. They talked about transportation of Hong Kong, things to do and food to eat in Hong Kong and so on. The standard of their work is very high, like those done by professional magazine editors.



Now they are moving to another module, Me, Myself and I. It is about different human body parts and the functions of them. Human body can be very complex as it has cells, tissues and organs, but with the help of books like The Human Body, and some illustrations, G. 2 students find it interesting to learn. Do you know which is our largest organ and helps to clean blood? The answer is liver. Do you want to take challenge to label the diagram below? Enjoy!



Answers from left to right: eye / nose / tongue / heart / kidney / large intestine / brain / ear / lung / liver / stomach / small intestine

Grade 3

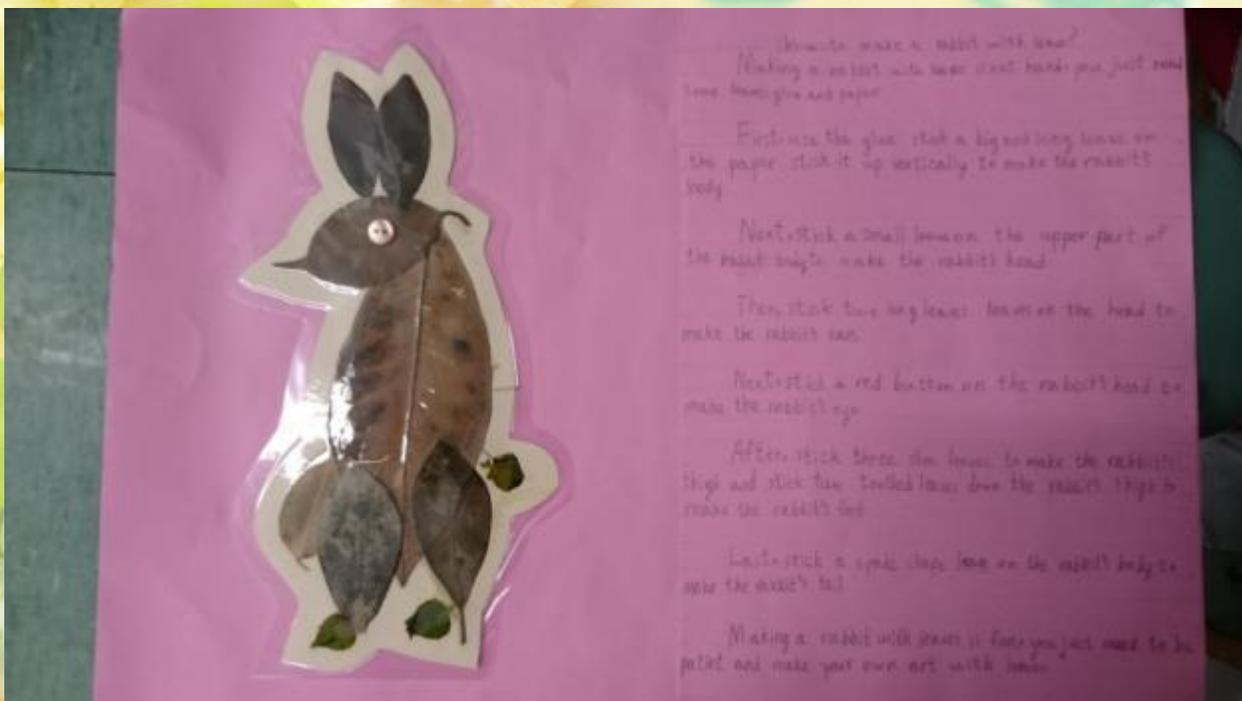
Our Grade 3 students have almost finished their second module 'The World of Plants'. It is a fantastic module. It provides them with many interesting activities.

To learn more about plants, they went to Sha Tin Park for their excursion. They were so excited for being so close to the nature. They took photos with the plants and checked the features of different leaves. The shapes, sizes and colours of leaves from different trees amazed them. They love plants, so they only collected leaves found

on the ground. Besides the fabulous leave hunting, they also enjoyed using different facilities of the park.



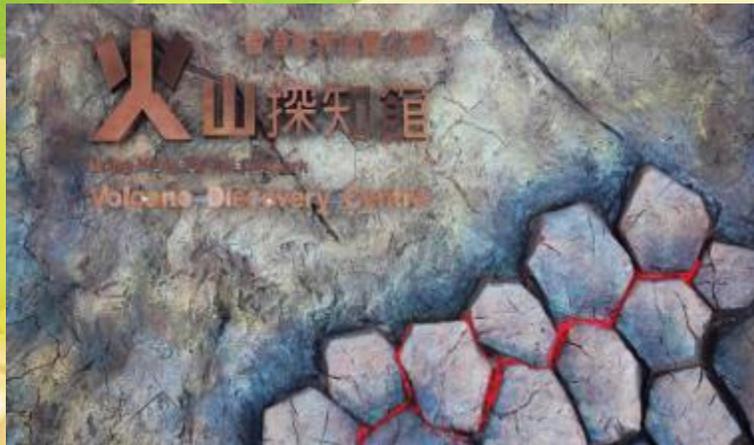
After the excursion, all Grade 3 students needed to complete a project about leaves. Many students chose to produce a product made of plants. They listed the steps to show how they completed their work in their procedural writing. It is amazing to see plenty of their creative leaf art work. Let's have a look at their smart work below!



Grade 4

It is a blessing to live in Hong Kong because people don't have to face natural disasters frequently. Hong Kong's natural disaster risks are mainly caused by storms, floods and wildfires. However, can you imagine Hong Kong experienced volcanic eruptions 140 million years ago? At that time, a super-volcano erupted and created giant hexagonal rock columns in Sai Kung.

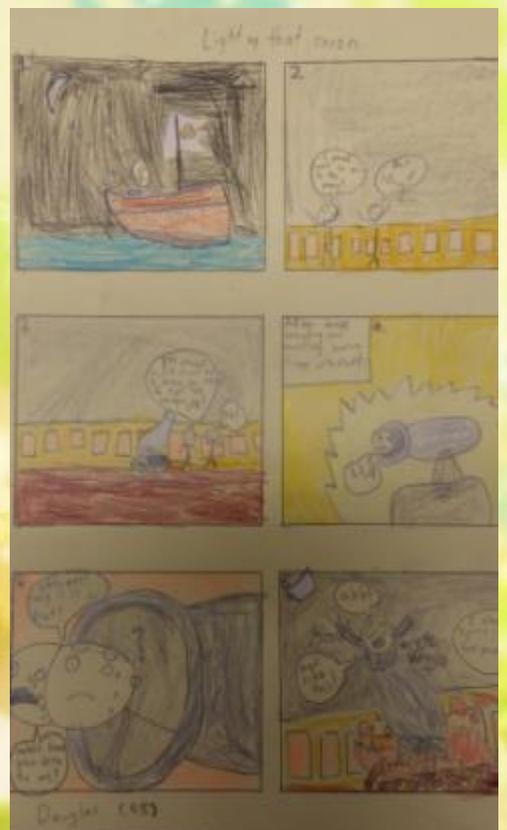
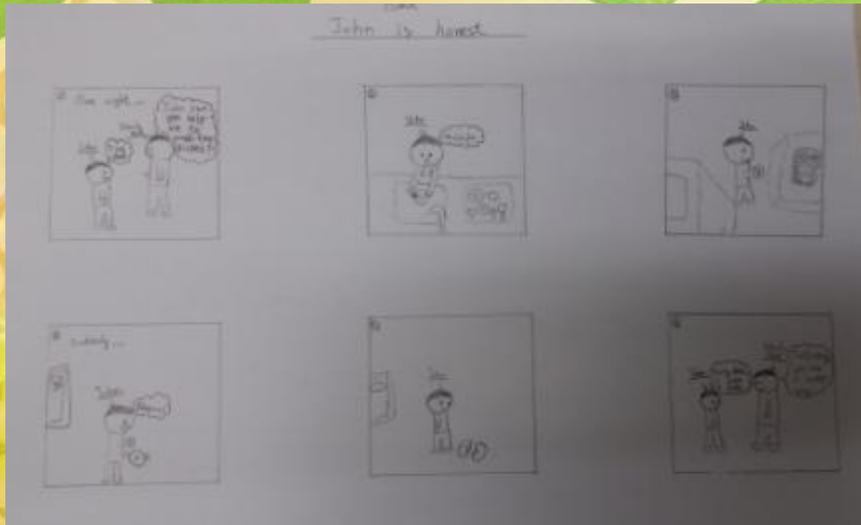
To allow our G4 students know more about volcanology, the structure of volcanoes as well as volcanic eruptions, the teachers took them to pay a visit to "The Volcano Discovery Centre" in



Sai Kung Waterfront Park. It allows students to know more about the formation of the hexagonal rock columns in Hong Kong and around the world. Students could also understand the formation of volcanoes by exploring the interactive installations provided there.



One of the text-types that G4 students are working on is comic strips. As practice makes perfect, so they are asked to create their own comic strips and then share their work with others. Let's have a look at their creative work.



Grade 5

In Module Two, Grade Fives have been learning about different inventors and the process of invention. "Need is the mother of inventions." Most inventions make life easier or more enjoyable. In the end-of-module project, the Grade five students were asked to create their own invention!

To start with, they brainstormed about things that people need and problems that they are facing. Then, they started to prepare materials and did research on inventions. At last, they made their own invention and presented it in front of the class.

Here are some of the inventions they created:



This is the "Non-fall Pencil Case". We observed that students always drop their pencil case. This really distracts them from their lesson. Imagine that if a pencil case falls down during a test, the student has to spend time on picking it up. It's a waste of their precious time! Therefore, we invented this pencil case. We attached a non-slip mat

at the bottom of a pencil case. We had a lot of tests on this new invention. This pencil case really falls down less easily when compared with the ordinary pencil case! Don't you find it useful? ☺

By Calvex Wong, Enzo Chiu, Hollan Chan and Marcus Ho, 5M



Have you ever found it difficult to carry an umbrella when you are holding heavy things with both hands? If your answer is yes, we are sure that you will find our invention—"Umbrella Holder" useful! The Umbrella Holder looks like a little bag. You just have to wear the bag and put the umbrella into the small holes. In this way, you don't have to hold the umbrella with your hand when it rains.

By Chloe Wong, Christie Lui, and Niki Lam, 5M

Grade 6

This month saw the G6 students continuing with the Module 2 theme of the Wonders of Science.

As part of this module, the students went on a guided tour at the Hong Kong Science Park. Whilst there, not only did they get to enjoy some wonderful weather, but they also got to see some interesting exhibits.

The highlights of the visit were the Green Concepts Building and an exhibition showcasing the Nobel Prize winning Chinese-born Hong Kong, American and British electrical engineer and physicist, Professor Charles K. Kao, who is also known as the Father of Fibre Optics Communication.

At the Green Concepts Building, the students learnt about how building design can help us save large amounts of money, electricity, natural resources and protect the environment.



At the Professor Charles K. Kao showcase, as well as enjoy some games, the students learnt about the history of the fibre optic communication that is responsible for many of the technological advances that many of us enjoy every day when

we surf the internet, make long distance phone calls or enjoy online games.

Whilst at the Science Park, the students even had the chance to snap some great photos.



ENGLISH PERFORMING ARTS GRADE FIVE



April... May... June... July!

As the months fly by, the time draws nearer to one of the greatest milestones of a Pui Kiu College student.... The Grade 5 Annual Performance!

From Grades 1 to 4, our students spend 4 years of EPA learning and developing their skills in Music, Movement, Drama and Voice. Then comes the most exciting time yet: the Grade 5 students spend the entire academic year collaborating with the Grade 5 Show Team of Teachers and Parent Volunteers, in conceptualizing, creating and collaborating to bring to the life this year's Annual Performance.

And with great serendipity and consensus, the students have come up with the name of the 2016 Performance, which best embodies the theme explored this year: "This Is Our World!"



There are 4 tales, written by our Grade 5 EPA Teachers, each exploring this theme.



Pui Kiu College G5 Show This Is Our World



“The Students Vs. The World “
centres on how a school reflects what the outside world could be to our students upon graduation.



“Saving the World in Wonderful Ways”
shows how 2 empires search for the same fulfillment, no matter how different or contrasting they seem.



“The Green Office Handbook”
challenges our characters to seek ways to make our world fulfill its greenest potential.



“ Fairy Tales - The Unknown True Story”
warns us not be fooled by well-known tales, and to look at our world with an open heart and an open mind.

So stay tuned for coming updates, as the Grade 5 Students proudly welcome you all to discover how
“This Is Our World!”

Writer's Corner



Family

It was May 13, Tuesday. My whole family was at the funeral for my dad. Most of them were crying, but I was still too shocked to react.

My dad died in a burning house, by that time I just returned from school. I saw him one last time before the house crumpled. He threw something at me, it was a red button on a plain wood, on it was the letters "UNDO".

In the funeral, all I could think of was the red button. Part of me wanted to press the button, thinking that somehow I could save my dad; another part of me thought that the red colour was a warning. But in the end, taking up my courage, I pressed it.

There was a flash, and I was back in the school. The boring teacher was talking, students weren't listening as usual. But when I looked at the date written on the whiteboard, it was the exact date when my dad died! I stood up, and ran to the door.

"Max, what are you doing?" the teacher asked, annoyed and a bit angry.

I didn't answer and kept on running. I ran out of the school and crashed into a guy riding a bicycle.

"Hey!" He yelled when I picked up his bicycle and rode away with it. When I got back home, I saw that the fire was spreading already!

"Dad! Dad!" I yelled. I charged up to his bedroom and saw that he was sleeping! I groaned and started to yell in his ear.

"Hum?" Dad mumbled. But when he smelled the smell of choking smoke, his eyes grew wide.

“Let’s go! I yelled. we ran down the stairs and saw the door. But then I looked up and saw that the floorboards from upstairs were close to falling off.

Almost without thinking, I shoved dad through the door, just before the ceiling fell down. I closed my eyes and let death embrace me.

By Percy (6B)



One Weird Trip

It was a Sunday evening, I was drinking tea as I heard my phone ring. I picked it up, it was my friend Harvey.

“Hey bro, meet me at Downingtown Forest, I want to go for a long walk!”

“Fine, I will be there at six,” I said.

So right after I finished my dinner, I drove off to Downingtown forest. When I got there, I realised there were no street lights to be seen anywhere, so it was pitch dark. I went through my bag to check if I had a torch, but I only had a GPS and a wrench for some reasons. I was too stupid to pack a torch.

Five minutes later, my skinny friend Harvey arrived. When I looked at him, I saw he didn’t bring anything.

“Hey bro, I thought you were working for the army, so you should have a torch!” grumbled Harvey. I didn’t say anything and we set off on our trip.

For a few hours, we were so focused on talking to each other that we forgot where we were. So I checked my GPS, it wasn’t working. I sighed and continued walking. While we were walking, I heard something follow me and Harvey, then I looked back and – everything became black. After that, Harvey and me woke up and found ourselves in a strange car.

“What was that?! We need to get out of here!” screamed Harvey.

“Here, use these tools I brought, I’m sure you can get this old car running,” said Harvey in fear.

“Ok, I will try,” I groaned.

Because the doors of the car were jammed, the only thing that we could do was to get the car running, and then get help. We had been trying to use different tools and I finally got the car running.

“Hey, you did it!” shouted Harvey. “Shall we go to the nearest police station now?”

After a few hours of driving in the crappy, old car, we finally got to the police station in Downingtown. I used my wrench to jam open the doors, and then we went inside and got taken care of by the police.

Till now, nobody has found out who kidnapped us on that day and I believe that it will be dragging on Harvey and me for a long time...maybe forever.

By David (6B)



Reset

“Aw man!” I sighed, facepalming myself. “Was I really that careless?”

The final English exam of the year was over. While other people were celebrating, I was the only one feeling miserable.

“It’s okay,” my friend said, patting my back with her hand, “Exams are not everything!”

“But exams ARE very - ”

I couldn’t finish my sentence, as the scenery around me suddenly froze. A blue hue painted the classroom, along with a satisfying “woosh” sound effect.

I blinked, unable to understand the situation. I tried to stand up, but I was shocked. Of course, my body started moving, but another me with the same blue hue just sat there, frozen.

“WHAT IS THIS?!” I cried, dumbfounded, slightly hitting my head to check if I went crazy.

A mysterious button appeared right in front of me, with the words “RESET” in a gleaming red font. Out of my curiosity, I pressed it.

“GEEZ!” I yelled, slamming my hands on a table which suddenly appeared. I could feel multiple eyes staring at me. A red-faced teacher walked up to me, saying, “Please control yourself, miss! You are now in an exam!”

I quickly apologized and looked at the stack of paper on my desk.

“GRADE 6 ENGLISH YEA PAPER?” I muttered, puzzled.

“Woah, it’s 10 AM,” I gushed as I looked at the clock on the wall.

“Right before the exam?! Cool! I guess the reset button brought me back in time. Unheard of, but awesome!” I thought.

I carefully did the paper this time, checking every single detail. When the exam finally finished, I felt like a weight has lifted off my chest.

“Hey,” my friend asked. “How did you do?”

“Quite well,” I beamed. “I almost didn’t correct some really careless mistakes!”

“Ugh, lucky you,” my friend said displeased. “I left so many questions blank!”

“Don’t be sad,” I told her. “Remember, exams aren’t everything!”

“Hm, that phrase sounds familiar, like something I would say.”

“I don’t know, but that was just at the top of my head, so I said it!”

“Fine if you say so.”

As I walked home that day, I was equally surprised and weirded out by the “time-travelling” event during the exams. I decided not to tell anyone or else they would think that I was weirder than I already was!

By Ashley (6C)



Chomping Jin

Jin was a very famous man in Hoppie. He was called a super teenager because of his strong teeth that could chomp through anything. He even saved his girlfriend with his amazing power.

“Jin! Save me! My house is on fire!” Alesa, who was Jin’s girlfriend, shouted loudly at her small device on her hand.

“The fire dragons are so annoying! They still want to take a revenge. This time I will kill one of them. Hope they will take that as a warning. Don’t worry sweetie, I’ll be there in a second,” Jin made a kissing sound at her before he hung up.

Jin and Alesa were neighbors. Jin was amazed of the big fire which was damaging his girlfriend’s house.

”Wow! Why didn’t I notice this earlier?” he mumbled.

Jin chomped through the door and found his beautiful girlfriend standing in a corner surrounded by fierce flames. Jin went out and saw a huge dragon, which was even bigger than the moon, flapping his wings and trying to land on him. Jin chomped through the dragon’s leg which nearly crashed him to death. Ignoring the dragon which was now screaming in agony, Jin chomped through the wall and went to where her girlfriend was.

“Sweetie come on! Quick! Hold my hand! The fire is here!” Jin exclaimed.

“I know! Give me a hand please!” Alesa said while trying to escape the fire and hop into Jin’s arm.

Struggling, Alesa finally made it through the small hole. When she saw the dragon, she went so angry that she nearly exploded. She ordered Jin to kill it right away. Jin didn’t want to brush his teeth for one hour in order to clean the blood, so he used a knife to cut through the dragon’s heart.

At last, Alesa married Jin. They held an enormous wedding and the guests enjoyed the dragon meat triumphantly. The couple lived happily ever after.

By Queena (6C)



Around the campus



