# Primary English Newsletter (PEN

#### At a Glance

Our English Week of Term 1 is over. Please take a look at the pictures to see if you are there. In addition to pictures, we have lovely acrostic poems from G. 3.

Students of different levels have been working on different topics, like G. 1'Home', G. 2 'Thanksgiving', G. 3 'Different countries', G. 4 'Protecting rainforests', G. 5 'Secret and Spies' and G. 6 'Discrimination'. December is always a month of parties and activities in many places all over the world. It is an amazing month of a year, isn't it?

The lighting in TST and the commodities and fashion on sale in different shops tell us that Christmas is just round the corner. Coincidently, the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our school also falls in December. Many teachers and students can feel strong festive atmosphere permeating in school.

Do you have any ideas about what programmes we will have on 13<sup>th</sup> December this year? Here I would like to give you a clue. There are 2 grades, G. 1 and G. 5, going to perform in English.

Performance is a powerful art form. It calls up different emotional reactions in different people. It has the power to make people get shocked or delighted or moved. I might not be able to know how you feel after watching the G. 1 and G. 5's performance, but I am sure your response is instinctual and unique. A successful performance shapes both the performers and audience's understanding of life. 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! ©

Grade One

The 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!

Wilson

I like my dream home because there's a gym room there and I can do exercise there. My favourite room is the play room because there are many balls that I can play with.

Poseidon

I like my dream home because there's a swimming pool. I can dive there.

Jasmine

Sally

My favourite room is the study room because I can read my favourite books there. One of the festivals we are learning in Grade 2 is the Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving Day is a harvest holiday. It is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November every year. On this day, people give thanks for plentiful food, good health and blessings they have been given.

Grade Two

This year, our Grade 2 students used this wonderful time of the year to write some thankyou notes to show their love and gratitude to the people they love or who once gave them a helping hand.

After that, students got a chance to share the thank-you notes with their friends by interviewing each other.



#### Different countries

Grade Three

The first module is Coming to an end. Throughout the module, our students have learnt many interesting things about different Countries. To summarise what they have learnt, students Create information board for a Chosen Country. They have been working on their group projects in Class. Let's have a look at some of their fabulous information boards!





## Grade Four

Children, have you ever counted how many pieces of paper you waste every day? Ten, twenty or even more? Due to our excessive use of paper, more and more trees are being cut down; as a result, the rainforest is disappearing.

To raise awareness in protecting the rainforests as well as animals living there, our Grade 4 kids performed a short skit in class. The skit was an interview between a news reporter and an animal. Not only did they prepare their own scripts describing the characteristics of their chosen animals, like their appearance, habitats and diet, but they also made props and costumes to make their performance livelier.

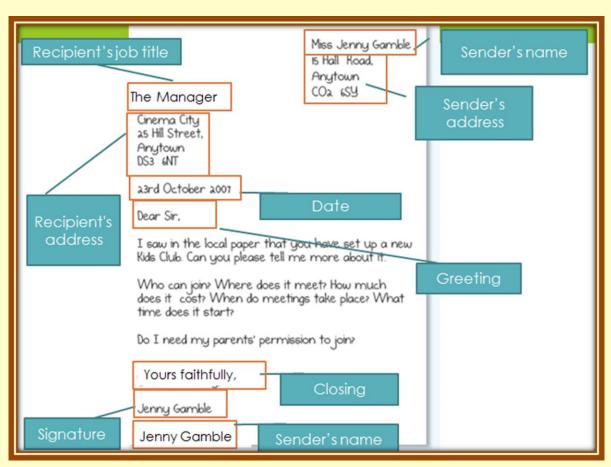
Through the performance, they know better that if we don't treasure the environment and protect the earth, all animals, plants and humans will soon be extinct.



### Grade Fíve

The Grade Fives are currently enjoying the Module "Secret and Spies". In their writing lesson, they are learning to write a formal letter.

A formal letter is usually used when writing from one company to another, or for correspondence between organisations and their customers, clients and other external parties.



There are different components of a formal letter:

Before writing on their own, students took part in Class Writing. They contribute different ideas and refine sentences suggested by their classmates. After that, they completed a graphic organizer, and then proceeded to write the first draft. Then, they exchanged their work with a partner and gave each other comments. The comments told the writer what he or she did well, and what he or she could improve on. At the end, the writer refined his or her work based on the comments received and finished the good copy.

Here is an example of a student's work:

The Manager Spy Outfitters 21 Durham Lane Meadow Park Mickey Maloney 11 Cook Street - Terraceville 5 June, 2006 Dear Mr. Mickey Maloney Thank you for lettering us know about your complaint. We are Very sorry for your uncomfort, at your mission. I had spooken with the manager in the factory. He add mited that there was an mistake on your boots, but we knew it already before goy bought it. The machines were broken, so we asked some staff to make some boots and soled it in a low prize. We mentioled that on On 10 June, 2006 the machine will be fixed. We suggest you to buy another new boots on that day. Your sincerely, Mrs. Michelle Leyng

By Michelle Leung 5M

## Grade Síx

November is always a hectic month for all students in the primary division of Pui Kiu College as they go through lots of projects and tests.

Taking assessments as learning, G6 students continued to learn even more on the topic of discrimination in Module

In Module 1, students learnt about a famous activist, Martin Luther King, in America as well as one of the

oldest peoples known to man, the Aborigines, in Australia – home of kangaroos and koalas.





1.

The Aborigines are the indigenous people of Australia and were thought to number in the millions prior to the arrival of the first English settlers fewer than 300 years ago.

The British newcomers looked down on Aborigines whom they saw as savages. Their cruel campaign of murder and oppression coupled with the foreign diseases they brought resulted in only a fraction of the

Aboriginal population surviving in Australia to this day.

Despite advances in our ways of thinking, the Aborigines continue to face levels of discrimination unthinkable to most people living in modern, civilised countries. Unemployment is at an all-time high within Aboriginal communities. The difference in wages and living conditions between Aborigines and other Australians remains huge. Aboriginal children are seemingly set up to fail as their level of education falls unacceptably short of the national average.

**G.** 6 students learnt about and discussed the infamous Alice Spring hostel incident that a group of Aborigines attending a life-saving course were asked to leave supposedly because other guests had complained about them staying there.

Fortunately, it hasn't been all doom and gloom as G. 6 students also learnt about Cathy Freeman, a gold medallist who sprinted her way to victory at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

But Cathy Freeman isn't famous for her skills on the track alone; she is also an Aborigine. When Cathy accepted Australia's 100<sup>th</sup> gold medal, she said she did so not only for her



country but also for her Aboriginal people. Cathy Freeman is the first Aborigine to receive such an honour. And as she ran a victory lap carrying both the Australian national flag as well as that of the Aborigines, she became a symbol of hope not only for her own people, but for people of ethnic minorities all over the world.



G. 6 students were deeply touched by Cathy Freeman's story and, in class this week, they will have the opportunity to write a letter to this inspirational woman.

Englísh Performíng Arts (EPA)

## **English Week**

November 16 – 20 was a great day for our grade 1 & 2 students. All grade 1 & 2 classes gathered at the school hall and performed. Their performance was amazing! They were just like real rappers, singing and dancing confidently.

All our Grade 1 & 2 students really did a great job and they tried their very best to make the English Week a success.



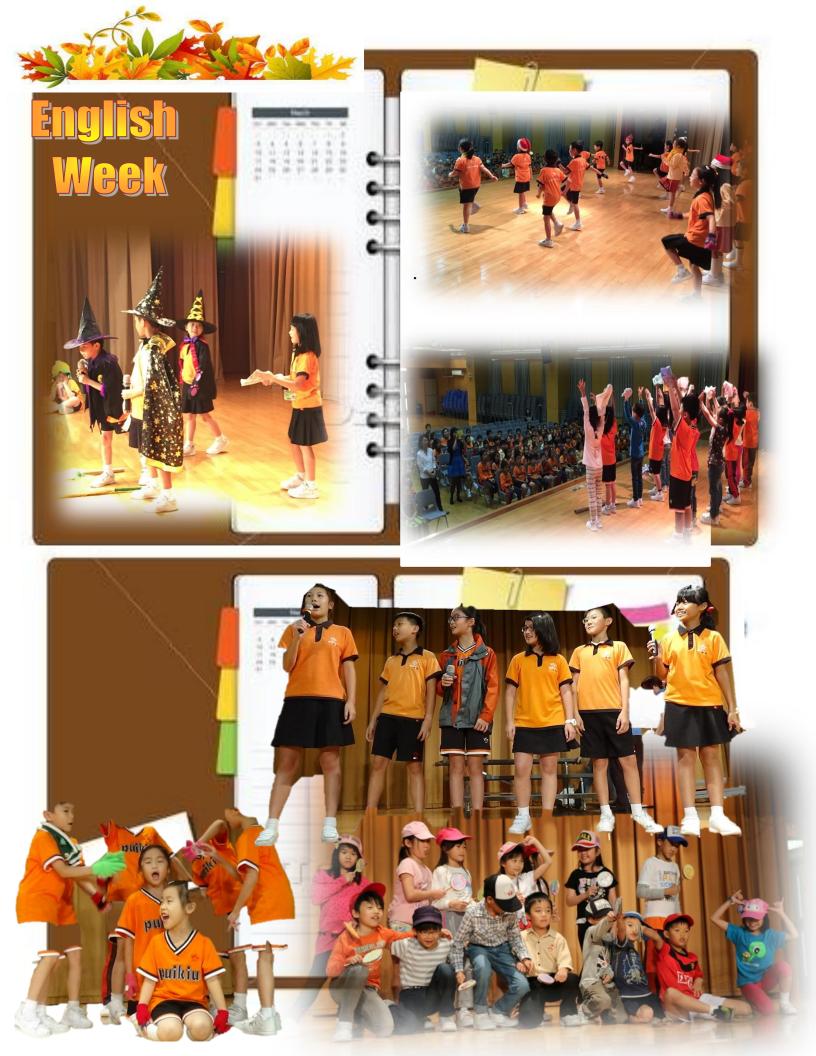
The students were really proud of what they did.

I think the audience had a great time with them! The audience could not stop clapping and cheering for their buddies' great acting and singing and dancing.

The use of English Language is very important among the school children. English week gave our students the opportunity to enhance their speaking and listening skills through music, dance, voice and drama.

Therefore, children must not only practice it during English Language lessons, but also in every conversation regardless place and time. It is also focused to encourage our students how to appreciate the value of English language and how fun it is.

















## Australia

By Yalie Wang (3C)



Australia is a beautiful place.

Up in the sky, the clouds are white.

Sydney Opera House is a famous place.

The air is fresh.

**R**estaurants and buildings,

And beaches,

Like a beautiful hotel.

love Australia.





## **OUTBACK**

Outback is in Australia. Usually it is very hot and dry. Trees and grass are not everywhere. Back to Australia, Aboriginal people make rock paintings. Colourful kookaburra can be found. Kangaroos and koalas welcome everyone to Australia!

By Alvita Chow 3P



Ultra big spaces in Australia So many people Travellers everywhere Rains very rarely A big coral reef Look at the beautiful views I like Australia Always very hot

#### Brazil

Brazil is the biggest country in South America. There are more than 200 million people in Brazil.

People in Brazil celebrate in carnivals. People celebrate in summer. The celebration goes on for four days. People dress up and walk in the big parade. They go to the party too.

There are a lot of lands in Brazil. There are beaches, tall mountains and there are flat land covered with water. There is a forest called Amazon Rainforest, it covers half of Brazil. Amazon River is the longest river in the world.

Brazil is an exciting country. There are many different palaces in Brazil. Do you like Brazil?

By Woo Yuet Chi, Mimi (3W)

## Japan

Japan is in Asia. Its Capital City is Tokyo. People speak Japanese there. What makes Japan a popular travelling destination?

What are some famous landmarks in Japan? One of them is Mount Fuji. It is the tallest mountain in Japan and about 200,000 people Climb this mountain every year! On the other hand, there is another famous landmark Called Hell's Valley monkey Park. It is a hot spring area. Wild snow monkeys love to sit in hot springs to relax.

What festivals do Japanese Children Celebrate? One of them is Doll Festival. It is held on March third. It is for girls. They put on kimonos and have parties. Another one is Boy's Festival. It is being held on May fifth. It is for boys! Boys hang out a big Carp windsock outside the house. The older you are, the bigger your fish windsock will be!

Japan is a safe and Clean Country. The people are polite and friendly. It also has famous landmarks and fun festivals. Don't you think Japan is a marvellous country?

By Jayson Wong (3B)

## Photos Around



