



PEN

PRIMARY ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

FOREWORD

Happy New Year, boys and girls!

Can you believe that 2022 is finally here? We hope that everyone's Christmas and New Year Break was refreshing and that everyone is ready to take on this exciting year ahead. In this month alone, we have our Mid-Year Assessment, the Second Term and before we know it, we will ring in the Lunar New Year as well!

In this issue of *PEN*, some grades introduce us to their second module of the year, while some share with us the fruitful end of their first module. We also get to look back at the fun activities we experienced during the first term English Week.

As this is the first issue commemorating the first month of a brand new year, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our students and their families excellent health, lots of great learning, plenty of joy and a rewarding year ahead!

TEACHER ARVIN ROBLES
(PANEL HEAD, ENGLISH)

~ Welcome to the year 2022~

Did you all have a relaxing and warm, yet fulfilling Christmas break? At the beginning of the year, it is always a good time to plan ahead and set a few New Year resolutions for yourself to achieve. Here are a few tips for you when you are setting your resolutions:

- ★ Set a goal that is specific and achievable and make a plan on how to achieve it.
- ★ Persevere and keep working on it. Success is just around the corner if you don't give up.

Remember: It's not just the end goal that matters, it's the journey along the way.

TEACHER PHOEBE YEUNG
(DEPUTY PANEL HEAD, ENGLISH)

IN THIS ISSUE

GRADES ONE, TWO
AND THREE



GRADES FOUR, FIVE,
SIX, SIX PLUS AND EPA



FEATURED WRITING



FUN FACTS



JOKES AND RIDDLES



AROUND CAMPUS



Grade One

Grade One students have started their new module and are excited to learn everything about space. Some students have been sharing everything that they know and have shown that they know many planets. How many planets can you name?

Grade One students have also been preparing for their upcoming exams by doing a lot of revision. This will be their first time doing their Mid-Year Assessment, so be sure to encourage our Grade One students to do their very best and give them some helpful advice.

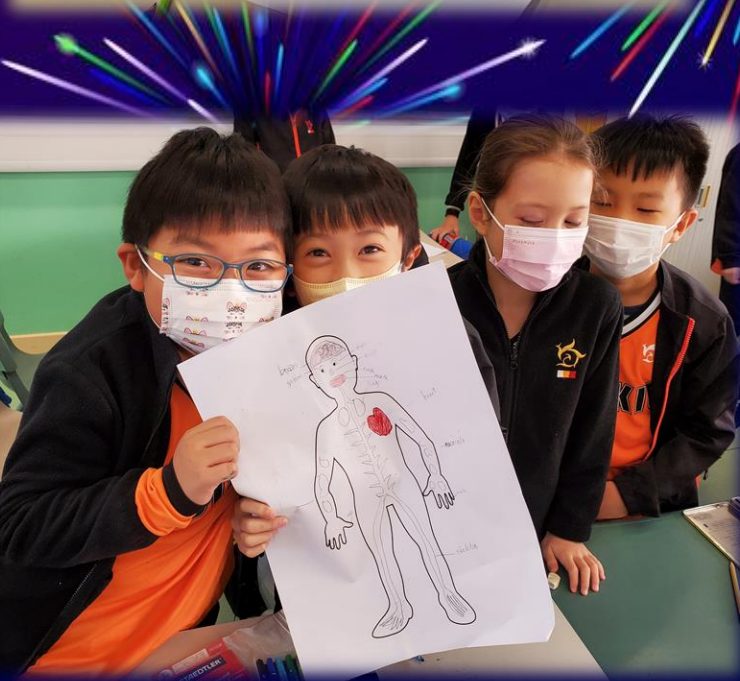


Grade Two

We have started the new module, “Me, Myself and I”. This is a science-based module. We are going to learn to tell the names and functions of different parts of the body and organs. We also learn to identify the food groups on the Food Pyramid and the importance of maintaining a balanced diet. We will design healthy meal plans and understand why exercise is important for our health.

To show our prior knowledge of this topic, we completed a challenge. We were given a blank body template. We had to write and label as many body parts as we could! This was quite hard but it was an exciting task! With good teamwork shown among the students, we achieved a lot! See our masterpieces! We really could label a lot!





Grade Three

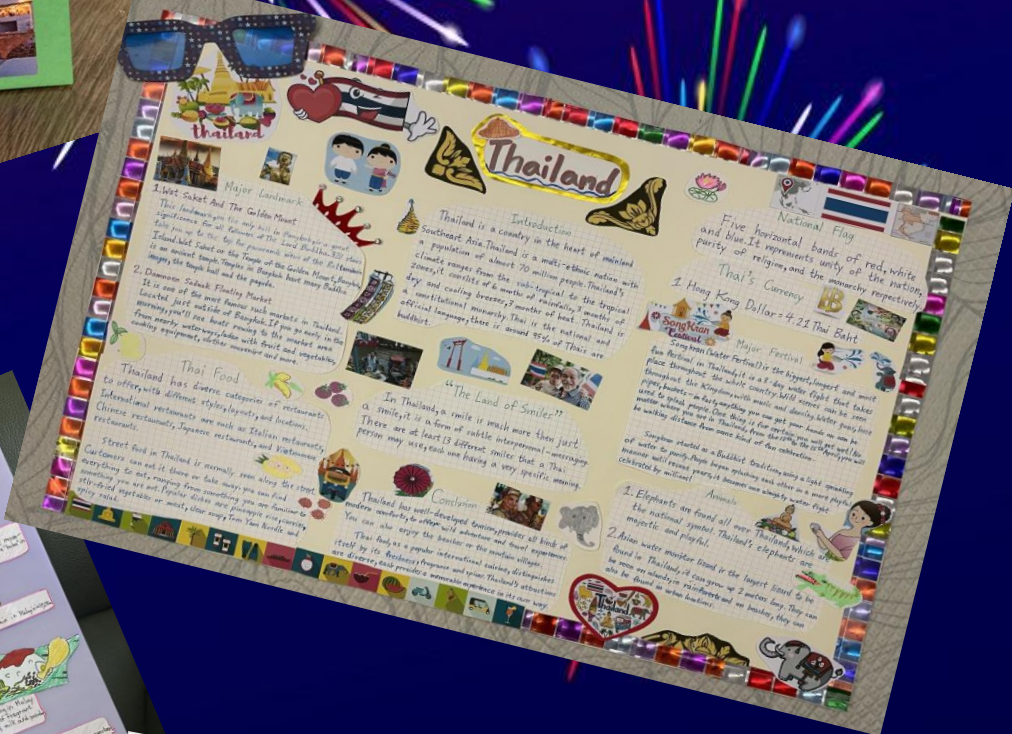
Come aboard the “Grade Three Airlines”, as we take you on an exciting journey around the Globe to learn about the various landmarks, cuisine and culture of different countries.

Featuring countries from various continents, the focus of Module 1 for Grade Three was to stimulate students’ interest in learning about other countries around the world.

At the end of the module, students took part in a project where they had to create an information board or brochure about the country of their choice and present the information in a short video.

It was very exciting to see the work from the students.

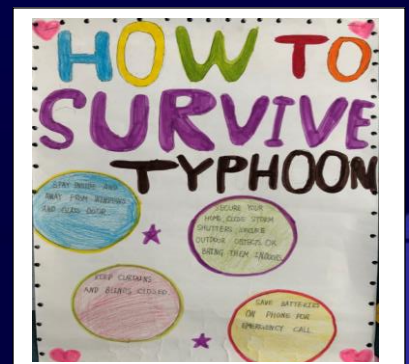
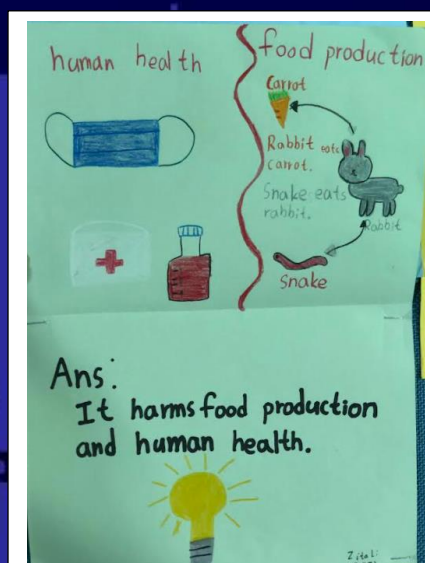
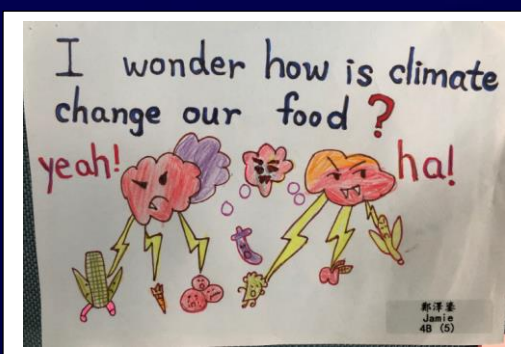


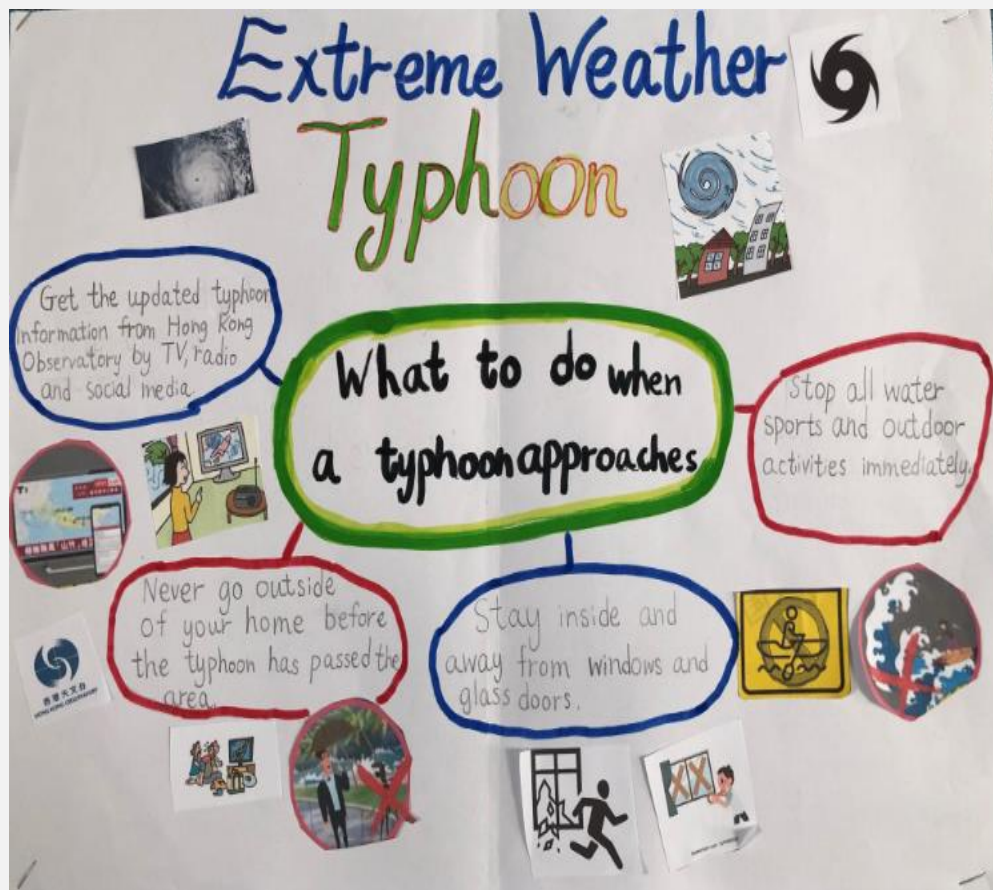
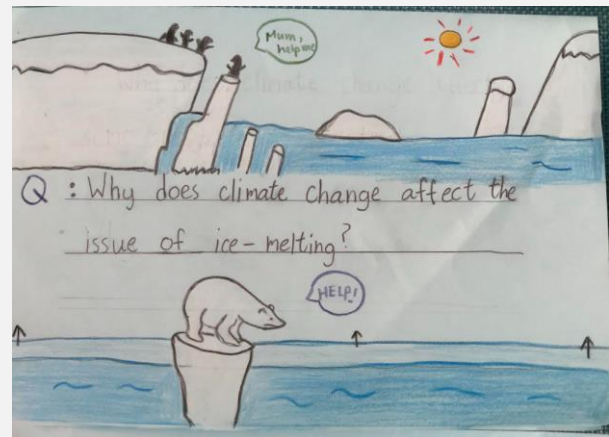
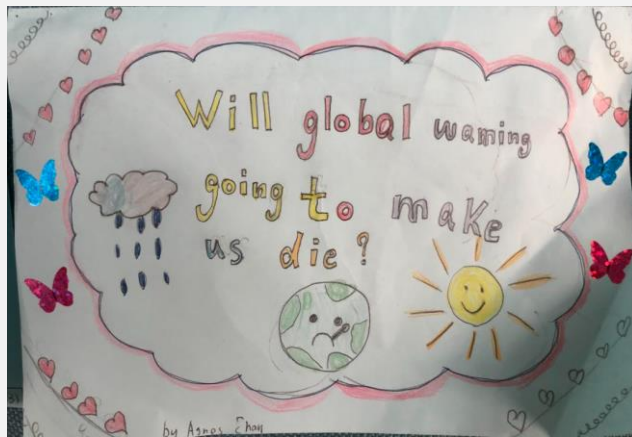


Grade Four

Are you still wearing T-shirts and shorts in the month of January? Have you noticed that our winter months are getting shorter and shorter? Our planet is warming up at an alarming rate. In Module 2, the Grade Four students are learning about climate change and how this change in the global temperature has an adverse effect on all of us! Throughout this module, students will learn about the causes and effects of global warming, and how this phenomenon leads to other severe weather like flooding, droughts, high winds and mudslides.

We hope that by learning about this topic, we can raise everyone's awareness on global warming and we need to take immediate action to protect our planet. After all, Earth is the place we call home.





Grade Five

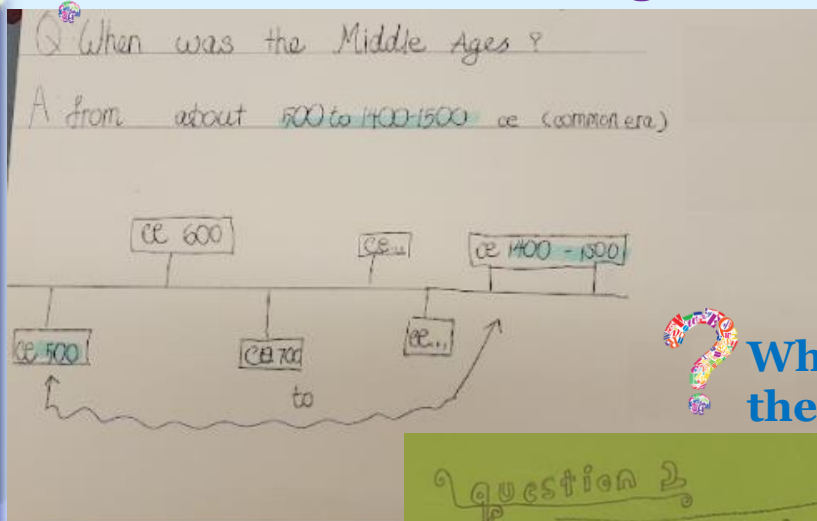
The Middle Ages

Welcome to the Middle Ages, a time when wars were frequent and death was common!

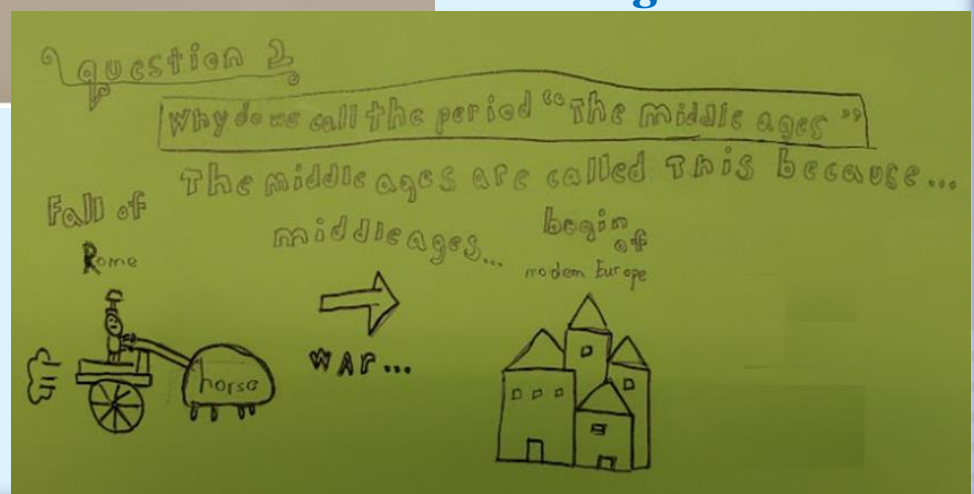
Our Grade Five students have immersed themselves in the Middle Ages. They brainstormed loads of questions that they want to know, from basic questions like when were the Middle Ages and where the Middle Ages took place to more in-depth questions like why the Middle Ages were called the “Dark Ages”, and the list went on.

The students used various ways to look for answers to the questions, for example, researching online, reading books as well as discussing with friends. Then they presented their answers in different ways, like using timelines, drawing comics and pictures. Let's have a look at their work.

When was the Middle Ages?

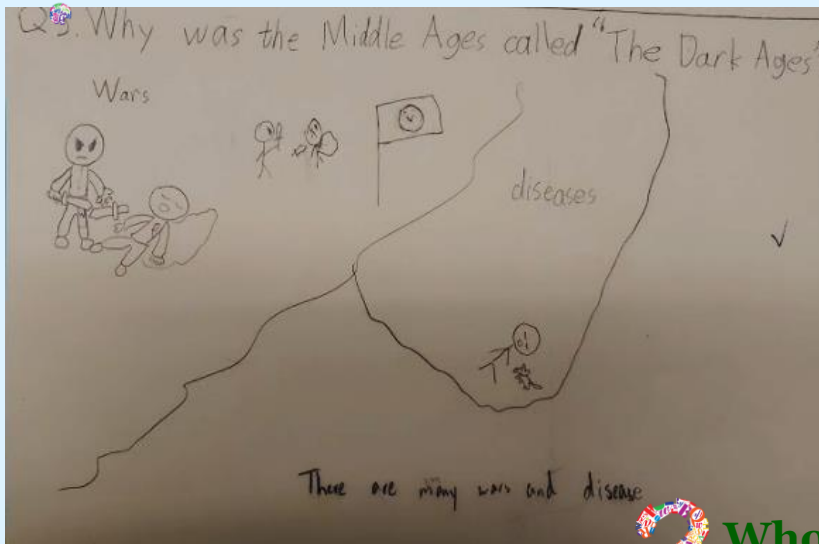


Why do we call that period the Middle Ages?

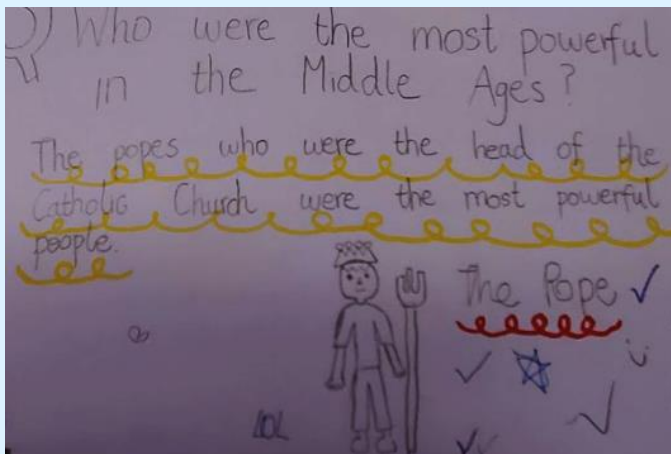




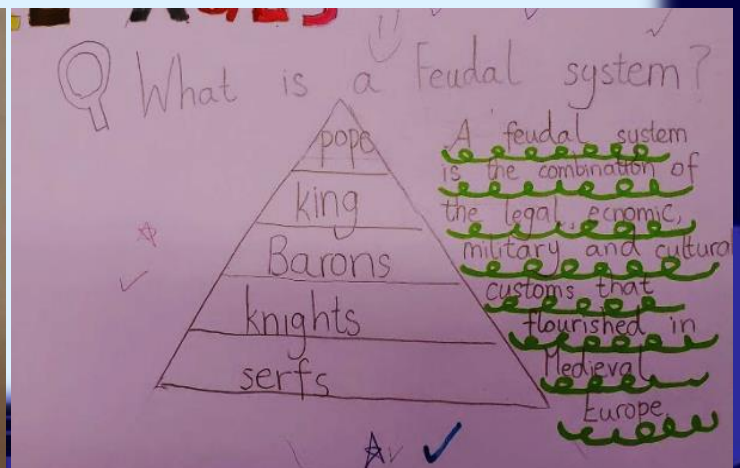
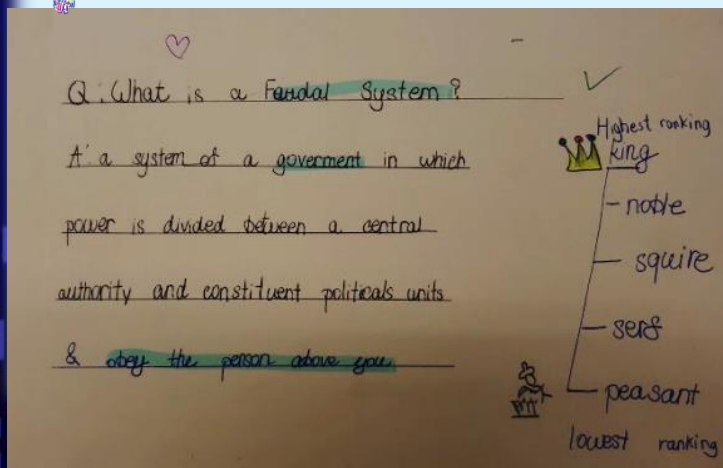
Why were the Middle Ages called the “Dark Ages”?



Who was the most powerful in the Middle Ages?



What is a feudal system?



Grade Six

Throughout Module 1: Health and Wellness, the Grade Six students have been learning about the importance of overall health and wellness, including mindfulness.

The students learnt about the challenges faced by Cruz in the Raz-Kids reader, “What’s Next?”, a schoolboy who took on so many commitments that he had no time to relax or do the things he once enjoyed. Eventually, he even ended up becoming sick. It wasn’t until he opened up and shared his problems and concerns with others that he finally found a way to start making positive changes in his life that allowed him to feel better and happier.

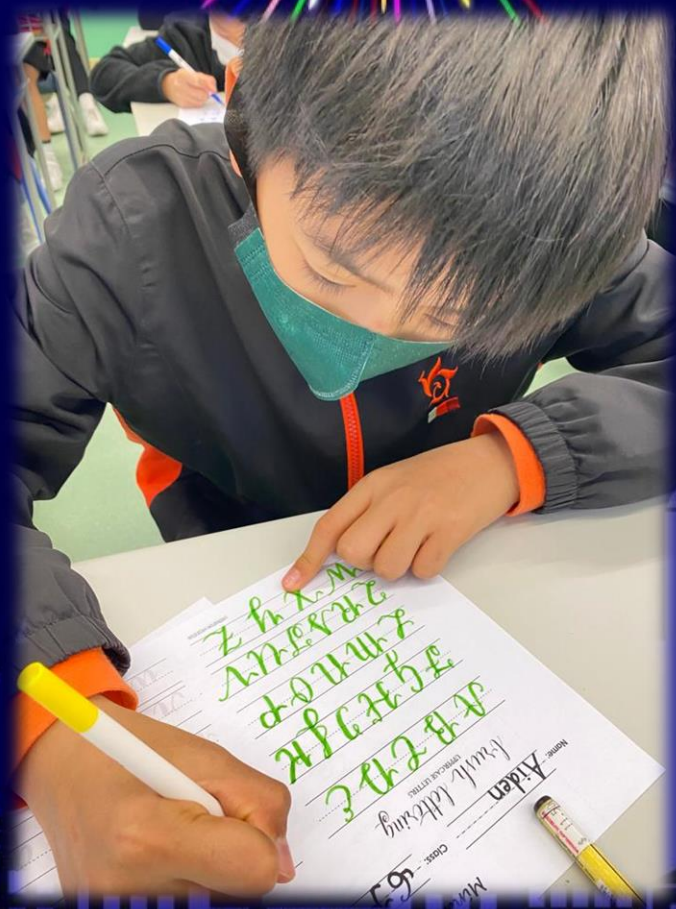
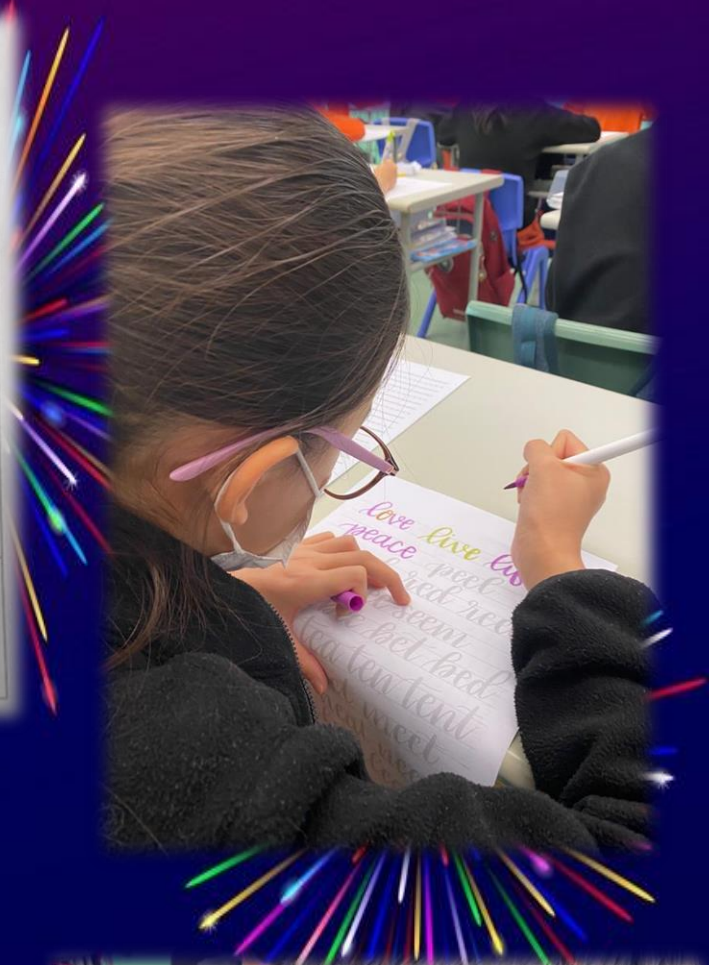
Later, the students took part in some discussion activities where they shared some of the pressures that they face in their daily lives, while others tried to offer advice on how to cope.

Finally, to bring Module 1 to a close, the Grade Six classes took part in some relaxation and mindfulness activities. During the fortnight of activities, the teachers swapped classes to lead the students in a variety of activities and exercises that they find useful to help recharge after a stressful day or to bring some positivity into their lives. The students had a go at doing something constructive with their hands, like origami, colouring or mindfulness handwriting. They also did some positive self-reflection writing, and had a go at relaxing with meditation.



Self-Talk	1. Think of something you like about yourself 2. Write an adjective to praise yourself 3. Do this two more times	1. I like that I am good at English 2. smart 3. active (kind of); creative
Reflection	1. What did I learn today? 2. Why did I learn this?	1. I learnt how relaxing is good for our body 2. Because we all should relax once in a while
Reflection	Which activity did I like best? Why? I liked the Relaxing music the most because it was very relaxing.	
Extended Learning	1. What questions do I still have? 2. Where can I get answers to those questions?	
Evaluation	My overall feelings today: I feel very relaxed.	

Self-talk	1. Think of something you like about yourself 2. Write an adjective to praise yourself 3. Do this two more times	hard working creative friendly
Reflection	1. What did I learn today? 2. Why did I learn this?	Today, I learn how to relax and be the pond because I need to stay positive.
Reflection	Which activity did I like best? Why? I enjoy relaxing music the most, because it got me a step closer to good meditation	
Extended Learning	1. What questions do I still have? 2. Where can I get answers to those questions?	
Evaluation	My overall feelings today: Relax, because today I have lecture class, next day is basketball and furthermore stressful activities, and today's class made me feel better	

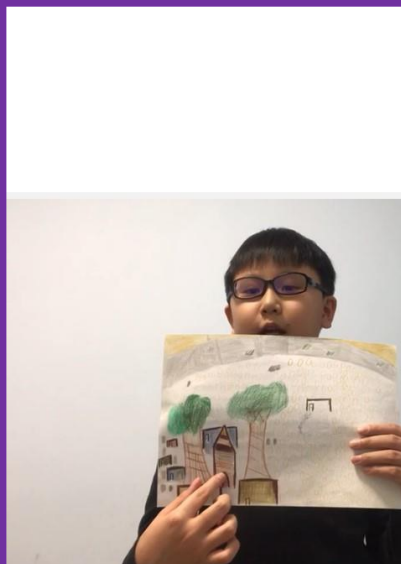


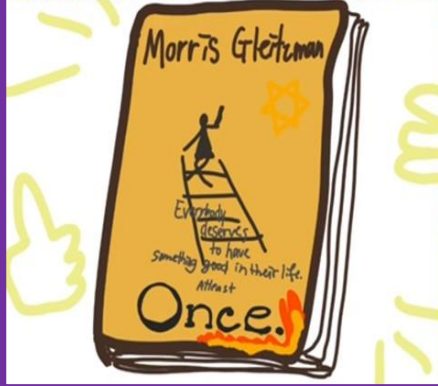
Grade Six Plus

At the end of Module 1, Six Plus students shared their first few months of learning through their individual project. They chose either one of the two novels we learnt, **Holes** or **Once**, and they recreated five significant plot points from the novel via illustrations. Some of talented Six Plus students drew these by hand, or did so with the help of software apps, or a hybrid of both.

They then gave a detailed presentation that not only summarised the novel, but also gave a balanced review of what they liked or didn't like about the book. Six Plus were able to show how much they enjoyed the book, and how deeply they understood its ideas, characters and intricate plot details.

Check out some pictures of their work below.





Hector Zeroni was sitting on his bed, listening carefully to his "teacher", Stanley Yehats. He had tried to learn English for almost ten million years, but there was not any improvements. He was very nervous, but also excited to have such a good teacher. He tried to memorize every alphabet Stanley had taught him. He wrote them on a piece of paper. The only sound in the dark night was the pencil scribbling and Stanley talking patiently to Zero.



Resolution



Stanley left the bus and found he was dazed and had a dry throat from the heat. He saw two trees by a cabin. Other than the two trees there was no sign of any plant life. Besides six large tents, boys were digging. They were as tired as the wings of a bird. Stanley went inside the air-conditioned building. A fierce man was eating sunflower seeds and said that they are his substitute for smoking. He introduced himself and commanded Stanley to always call



EPAEPA

The use of English Language is very important. Thus, English Week gave our students the opportunity to enhance their speaking, reading, writing and listening skills through various activities.

15th to 26th November, 2021 was an exciting 2-week period for our Grade One to Grade Six students. With the aim to explore English in fun ways, our Teachers prepared amazing and creative activities for all our students. Here's the list of different activities our students and teachers were involved in:

- Storytelling
- Charades
- Riddles
- Mime
- Mad Libs
- Draw, Don't Tell
- Pictionary
- Dance Jam
- Set



English Week

It was definitely an amazing experience for all our students.

The English Teachers had plenty of fun unlocking students' creativity to make this English Week a success.

We really look forward to seeing more and more students actively participating in English activities and enjoying learning English.



Featured Writing –

Grade 6

MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY

6B Lam Cheuk Yin Cherry

There are so many different holidays in a year. I loved all of them, but my most favorite holiday is the Christmas holiday.

Before the Christmas holiday, shops on the streets will put up Christmas decorations to make the atmosphere nice. Not only the shops, but I also decorate my house with a gigantic blue Christmas tree, Santa, and reindeer stickers. That's one of the best parts of the holiday.

When Christmas arrives my family will cook some delicious and appetizing foods, such as pasta, salads, or even turkey. I will help my mom cook and help my dad wash the utensils that he uses to cook. It is cold inside the kitchen, maybe it's because of the cold weather.

After dinner, the most exciting and enjoyable part is opening presents. My mom and dad will buy me a special present when it is Christmas and I never know what's inside the box, I believe that's the most entertaining part of the whole Christmas holiday.

Last but not least we will take a lot of pictures. Then print the best ones out and stick them on the lovely “memory wall”.

Overall, the Christmas holiday is my favorite holiday of the year because I can spend time with my family.

Fun Facts

Happy New Year, everyone! How do you celebrate the New Year with your family? Here are some interesting New Year traditions from around the world!



In Finland, people predict the coming year by casting molten tin into a container of water, then interpreting the shape the metal takes after hardening. A heart or ring means a wedding, while a ship predicts travel and a pig declares there will be plenty of food.

To drive off evil spirits for a fresh New Year's start, it is tradition to burn effigies (muñecos) of well-known people such as television characters, in Panama. The effigies are meant to represent the old year.



You'll find round shapes representing coins all over the Philippines on New Year's Eve to symbolise prosperity in the coming year. Many families display piles of fruit on their dining tables and some eat exactly 12 round fruits (grapes being the most common) at midnight. Many also wear polka dots for luck.

Jokes & Riddles

**AN IPHONE
AND A
FIREWORK
WERE ARRESTED
ON NEW
YEAR'S EVE.**



**One was charged and
the other was let off.**

**WHY WAS 6
AFRAID OF 9
ON NEW
YEAR'S EVE?**



Because 9, 8, 7 ...

**CELEBRATING NEW YEAR'S EVE
HAS LOTS OF PROS, BUT
WHAT'S THE BIGGEST CON?**



THE CON-FETTI!

**DID YOU HEAR THAT DRACULA
PASSED OUT AT MIDNIGHT ON
NEW YEAR'S EVE?**



THERE WAS A COUNT DOWN!

Around Campus





