

an anthology of young writers @ ying wa primary school

Fire in FLAME

Volume II 2012

We are creative writers



Ying Wa Primary School

Fire in Flame

Volume II 2012

Foreword

It has been a great year since the birth of the first issue of Fire in Flame in 2011. There was so much to reflect on and so much to describe in the past year. And I am, as always, delighted to see our young writers showing their talents and enthusiasm in putting those memories, ideas and imaginations into words in their course of learning and growing.

Compiling texts into a book takes a lot of time and effort. But it is a happy task as our boys' writings always give us a smile in our hearts. Their different forms of work not only reflect what they have learnt and experienced, but importantly, they capture the aura of childhood, something valuable but ephemeral.

It is a gift to all that this second issue is produced. I would like to thank all those who made the production of this book possible. This series of anthology is a treasure to all Ying Wa boys, parents and teachers. It is a record of a journey; a production from hearts; and, a collective project.

It is the fire in the flame of Ying Wa spirit.

Peter H C LEE

English Panel Head

Contents

Foreword

Poets' Tree

<i>A Day</i>	John Ho (P.6A)	10
<i>A Nightmare with a Madly Mammoth Musty Beast</i>	Ocean Huang (P.4D)	13
<i>A Nightmare in a Spooky Place</i>	Henry Poon (P.4C)	14
<i>I Wish I Would Be...</i>	Steve Tang (P.4A)	15
<i>Children in Four Seasons</i>	Felix Cheung (P.4C)	16
<i>Sunset</i>	John Ho (P.6A)	17
<i>The Wonder of Life</i>	Steve Tang (P.4A)	18
<i>The Crazy Natural Scenery</i>	Helios Cheng (P.2C)	19
<i>My Acrostic: JUSTIN CHEUNG</i>	Justin Cheung (P.2E)	19
<i>Four Seasons</i>	Isaiah Lam (p.2D)	20
<i>Alaska Snoopyaurus</i>	Matthew Chan (P.2D)	21
<i>Nightmare, Go Away</i>	Noddy Chung (P.3A)	22
<i>A Wish for the World</i>	Horace Lee (P.3B)	23
<i>I Love You Mum!</i>	Matthias Chan (P.3C)	24
<i>Nightmare in the Sky</i>	Max Leung (P.3D)	25
<i>Nightmare in America</i>	Boris Wong (P.3D)	26
<i>Nightmare Alone in the Dark</i>	Abriel Lau (P.3E)	27
<i>Nightmare in the Space</i>	Edwin Tsang (P.3E)	28
<i>A "Weird" Dream</i>	Steve Tang (P.4A)	29
<i>A Dinosaur</i>	Kieran Wong (P.4A)	30
<i>A Boy's Nightmare</i>	Adrian So (P.4B)	31
<i>A Vacation to Japan</i>	Hanson Chan (P.4D)	32
<i>Wishes—Rotavirus, Rotavirus, Go Away!</i>	Colson Yang (P.4D)	34
<i>The Missing Book</i>	Matthew Ng (P.4D)	35

<i>Marvellous Wishes</i>	Michael Cheng (P.4E)	36
<i>A Devil Attacked All Audience</i>	Tang Yik Seng (P.4E)	37
<i>The Owl and the Pussy Cat III</i>	Sean Leung (P.4D)	38
<i>A Nightmare</i>	Jeffery Lai (P.4E)	39
<i>School</i>	Peter Ho (P.4E)	40
<i>Nightmare</i>	Elliot Ho (P.5A)	41
<i>If I were a Bird</i>	Johnson Li (P.5C)	42
<i>I Love Nature</i>	Kong Chi Fung (P.5D)	43
<i>Goodbye to Ying Wa</i>	Timothy Chiu (P.6B)	44
<i>The Fantasy</i>	Bosco Yung (P.6B)	45

In the Yingwathian Theatre

<i>Better Late than Never</i>	Hugo Au (P.4D)	47
	Sean Leung (P.4D)	
	Adrian Wai (P.4D)	
	Ben Wong (P.4D)	
	Colson Yang (P.4D)	
<i>Escape Route</i>	Chris Pang (P.4C)	53

Mosaic Prose

<i>Life Without I.T.</i>	Jason Chan (P.6D)	60
<i>Love our Animals</i>	Marius Lau (P.4B)	61
<i>Tom and Jerry, My Favourite</i>	Herman Wong (P.1C)	63
<i>Who is Miss Frizzle?</i>	Moses Mui (P.1D)	63
<i>Muzzy</i>	Donald Pan (P.1D)	64
<i>Doraemon</i>	Marcus Wong (P.1D)	64
<i>A Letter to Steve Jobs</i>	Bryan Mak (P.1C)	65
<i>My Dream Home</i>	Matt Leung (P.2B)	66

<i>A Letter to NASA</i>	Joshua Chung (P.2C)	67
<i>My Dream Home</i>	Adam Mok (P.2E)	68
<i>My Favourite Festival</i>	Arthur Ho (P.3A)	69
<i>A Letter to Woody</i>	Elvin Lam (P.3D)	70
<i>A Letter to Ultraman</i>	Jason Siu (P.3D)	71
<i>Night at the Toy Shop</i>	Kieran Wong (P.4A)	72
<i>In a Jungle</i>	Marius Lau (P.4B)	74
<i>My Memoir; My Life Story</i>	Marius Lau (P.4B)	75
<i>A Letter to God</i>	Mordecai Leung (P.4B)	77
<i>A Letter to God</i>	Wilfred Wong (P.4B)	78
<i>A Letter to God</i>	Justin Li (P.4B)	79
<i>A Secret Garden</i>	Kelvin Lo (P.4C)	80
<i>A Secret Garden</i>	Jonas Wong (P.4D)	81
<i>An Exciting Trip to the Sea</i>	Hugo Au (P.4D)	82
<i>My Memoir</i>	Colson Yang (P.4D)	84
<i>A Trip to Europe for Eight Days</i>	Jonas Cho (P.4D)	86
<i>Work Hard, Play Harder</i>	Sigmund Luey (P.5D)	87
<i>A Narrow Escape</i>	Alvin Fan (P.6A)	88
<i>My Worst Experience</i>	Michael Yip (P.6A)	90
<i>My Adventure</i>	Michael Yip (P.6A)	92
<i>In a Jungle</i>	David Burd (P.6B)	94
<i>A Narrow Escape</i>	Tristan Wan (P.6B)	97
<i>A Dense Forest Adventure</i>	Felipe Wong (P.6B)	98
<i>A World Inside a Book</i>	Michael Lam (P.6C)	100
<i>The Animal</i>	Chapman Chow (P.6C)	103
<i>An Encounter with an Alien</i>	Herman Yau (P.6C)	105
<i>Life Without I.T.</i>	Ernest Chow (P.6C)	106
<i>Life Without I.T.</i>	Chapman Chow (P.6C)	109
<i>Facts about Islam</i>	Jason Wu (P.6D)	111

Novella Novelty

Sam Foy and the Eternal Amulet

John Ho (P.6A)

113

The Chronicles of the Pearl of Alaska (Part I)

Chris Pang (P.4C)

132



Poets' Tree

Poetry is '**a game of knowledge**', a bringing to consciousness, by naming them, of **emotions** and their hidden relationship.

By W.H. Auden

Fire in



A Day

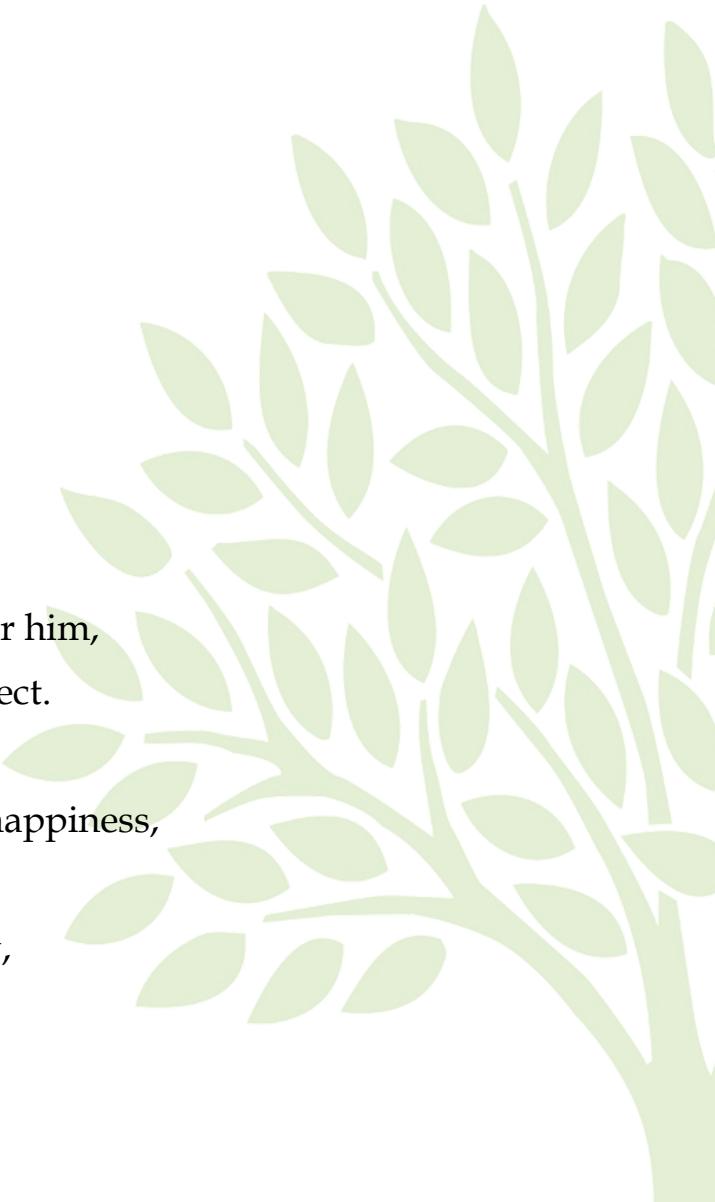
John Ho (P.6A)

1st Runner-up, Poet of the School, Hong Kong Budding Poets Award 2011-2012

In the still road, the first bus's wheels spin,
Kids slide out the bus,
Some are showing their uvulas,
Some are wandering in "Wonderland".
The principal stretches her mouth,
Teachers wave to them.
Janitors point thermometer guns at their foreheads.
Prefects look at them from head to toe.
Then...cars honk others,
Students push through pedestrians.

Students go to the learning Island in lines,
Others go up like birds in the sky.
Some find ways through sea of people.
Prefects open their mouth wide,
Grab their shirts, and yell "Stop!"
Echoes of giggles fill every corner.
A P.1 boy checks his bag every two steps.
Some want to see who's faster, his friend or him,
But are caught red-handed by a fierce prefect.

The classroom is filled with laughter and happiness,
Class clowns are ready for their shows,
Classmates are buying tickets for the show,



They are all flying freely.

Ring a bing!

It's half past eight!

Learning time!

The boss starts to boss,

The classroom is a museum,

Students put their noses in books,

Naughty ones whisper.

A teacher stands in front of them, pointing at words.

A PowerPoint appears behind.

Some feel bored,

And decide to talk.

One throws a paper plane with his name on,

Clever ones answer questions with their hands straight up in the air,

One begs for a toilet break.

Ring a bing!

Again the bell rings!

Students scream for delightfulness,

Snacks appear on their hands.

Some beg for one,

Some beg for all,

But some have none.

Card games, chess games, all sort of games.

The unfortunate ones read aloud in the hall!

Ping a pong!

A table-tennis match has just begun!

Ring a bing!
Again the bell rings!
Students put their noses in books,
Naughty ones whisper.
A teacher walks in between rows, pointing at pictures.
White words appear on blackboard behind.
Many feel bored,
And decide to talk.
Two throw a paper plane with their names on,
Clever ones answer questions with their hands straight up in the air,
Two beg for a toilet break.

Ring a bing!
Again the bell rings!
Everyone quickly packs their things,
it's the end of the school today.
Students hurriedly write on their handbooks.
Students stuff things in bags.
They line up for their parents
Some show their uvulas,
Some are still wandering in "Wonderland".



A Nightmare with a Madly Mammoth Musty Beast

Ocean Huang (P.4D)

Merit, Hong Kong Budding Poets Award 2011-2012

It was half past midnight,
So dark except for the moonlight.
I had a horrifying, hair-raising nightmare.
Ghastly ghosts were dangling in the air
And glaring phantoms were wriggling everywhere.

The wind wailed in the wild wistfully.
I saw a madly mammoth musty beast
Which was as enormous as a mountain at least.
It was fantastically fabulously famished.
It chased me down.
I tripped over a stone and fell onto the ground.

I screamed from fright.
I fainted and could not fight.
I trembled frantically.
I wanted to resist daringly.
Suddenly, the beast vanished in the air miraculously.
A stream of tide threw me up.
I was a pup splashing around in an extraordinary tub.

Then a beam of light woke me up—
I found myself stuck in my bed like a foolish dub.
My mum gave me a big warm hug.
I grinned at her with a gleeful mug!

Nightmare in a Spooky Place

Henry Poon (P.4C)

Merit, Hong Kong Budding Poets Award 2011-2012

I dreamed that I arrived in a spooky place,
As I walked in, a ghoulish ghost began to chase.
It chased me as fast as a leopard, all the way to a farm,
I wondered if it wanted to do me any harm.

Suddenly, I glanced at its devilish face,
It seemed to want my blood for a taste.
I heard a loud scream coming from a room,
There emerged something bright out of a tomb.

Bright as the sun,
Even the ghost was stunned.
I walked towards the light,
And it became increasingly bright,

The light became brighter and brighter and I
couldn't see,
Even the ghost was no longer with me.
I heard a loud bang, which sounded like a
warning,
The last thing I heard was
“Good-morning”.



I Wish I Would Be...

Steve Tang (P.4A)

Merit, Hong Kong Budding Poets Award 2011-2012

I wish to be a marvelous medicine,
To free sick people from pain inside.
Lighting up their lives,
And give them sunshine.

I wish to be a silly raindrop,
To irrigate the arid land with a plop.
Making joke sometimes shouldn't be stopped –
To soak a lady's top!

I wish to be the tiniest micro-organism – Euglena¹!
To be as green and bright as a perfect pea.
Being a new foodstuff for all who starve,
And save the whole world with a laugh.

I wish to be “A wish for everyone”,
To help them solve their very own problems.
Bringing peace in their soul,
And be unique and never grow old!

¹ Euglena—A common unicellular alga of freshwater ponds.

Children in Four Seasons

Felix Cheung (P.4C)

Commendation, Hong Kong Budding Poets Award 2011-2012

Don't just ask children what they've learnt today,

Sit beside them and listen to what they say.

Instead of attending after school lessons,

Children enjoy doing silly things in different seasons.

In spring, they like singing in the rain,

Or go cycling down the muddy lane.

In summer, they enjoy swimming in the red hot sun,

And spend the whole day with friends having fun.

In fall, they like flying kites at the countryside, Or go to the playground
and play swing and slide.

In winter, they enjoy making snowmen and snowballs,

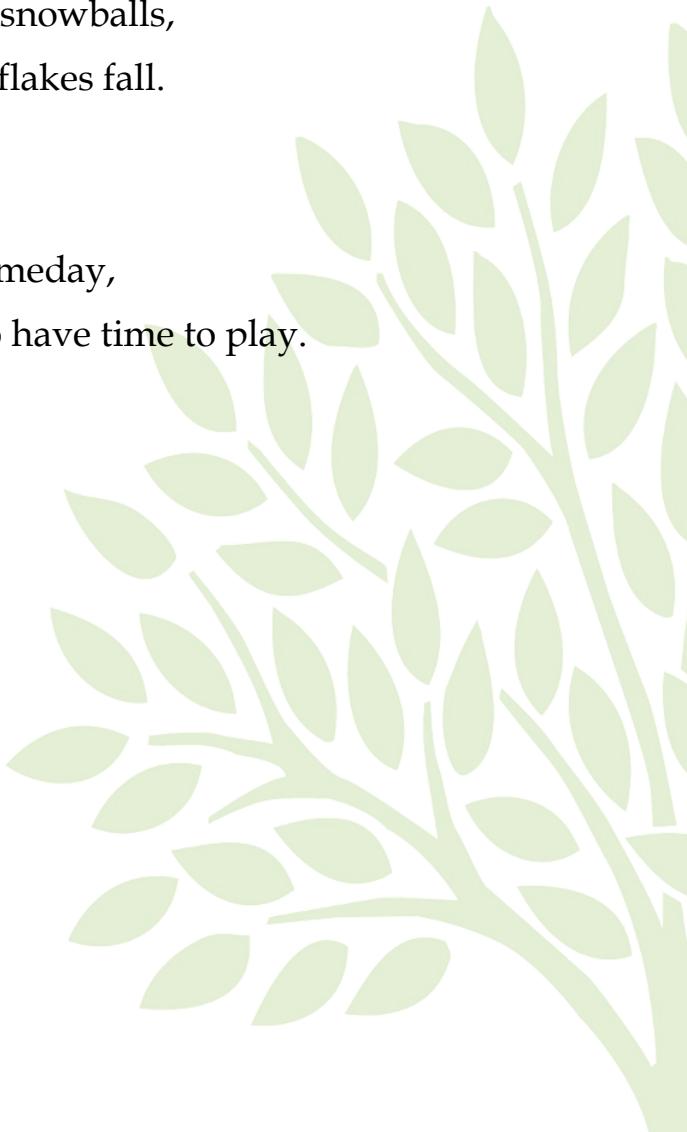
And go skiing or snowboarding when snowflakes fall.

Don't just force children to read textbooks,

They want to go outside and take a look.

They may be lawyers, doctors or bankers someday,

But today, they are just children and need to have time to play.



Sunset

John Ho (P.6A)

High mountains pointed to the red sky,
The orange sunset glowed behind.
Reflection of the frosted hill pointed,
Crystal clear pond, a small blue boat,
Sails on the silent Lake.



The smoky clouds sank,
Just above the colorful trees.
Red, orange, yellow were not clear,
Behind the snow white gliding fog.
Chilling winds ran smoothly across,
At its side, the green plants dance.

Time flashed by,
The full moon rested on the tip of the ice mountain.
Stars sparkled quietly while the sun began to sleep.
Dark blue night covered the dim orange set.
The moon took its place while the Sun went to rest.

The Wonder of Life

Steve Tang (P.4A)

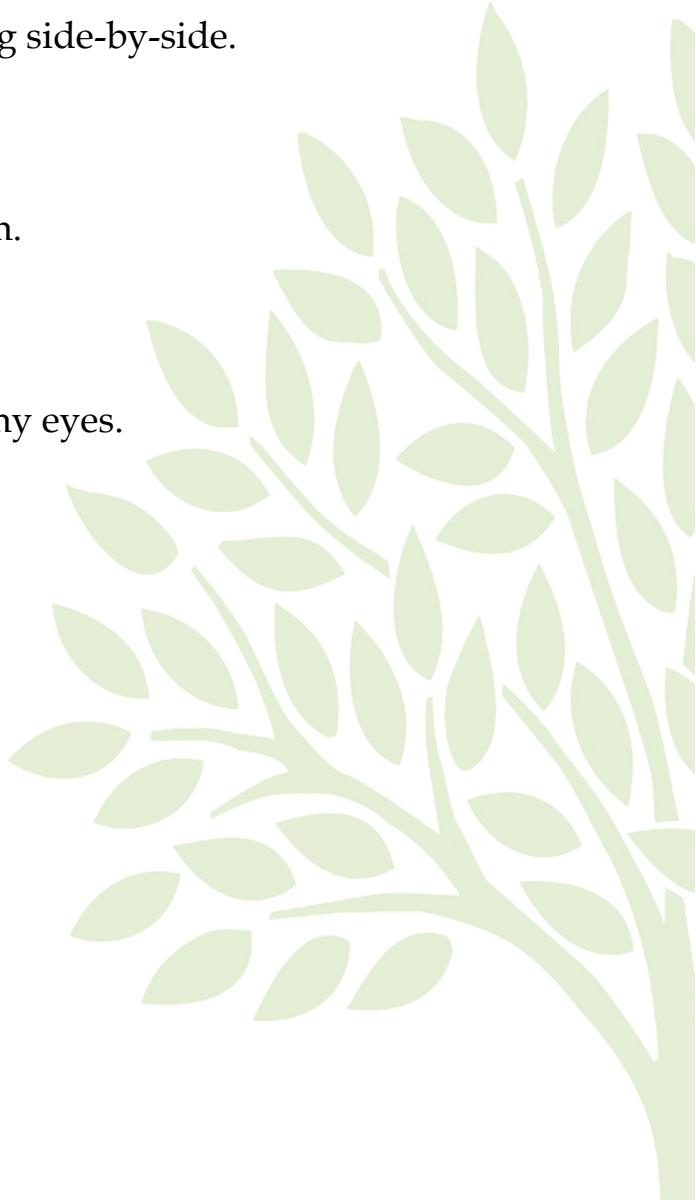
People say kids can't understand the wonder of life,
But I think I can try.

A green bean does not look alive,
Once it sleeps on wet bedding,
Tiny green leaves are the miracle of life.

It's easy to explore the wonder of life,
As you see a caterpillar, later it can fly.
I can't understand why
They eat throughout their life.
What inspire me are the butterflies fluttering side-by-side.

Once I was wandering in the countryside,
I found little tadpoles swimming in a stream.
I brought them home
And somehow I was surprised,
'Cos the little froggies crawling in front of my eyes.

I ask Mum what's her wonder of life.
She scratches her hair
And hugs me tight.
She whispers in my ears
Saying, the wonder of life is...
Seeing me grow up with pride!



The Crazy Natural Scenery

Helios Cheng (P.2C)

The Crazy Natural Scenery

Floating cloud looks like a deer

Outdoor water is crystal clear

Reddish sun is shining here.....Oops.

Extremely heavy rain is pouring like the tear

Small waves are lapping against the pier

Terrible typhoon makes me fear

Speedy wind is moving into the top gear

My Acrostic: JUSTIN CHEUNG

Justin Cheung (P.2E)

Justin Cheung is my name.

Unlike others, I'm not plain.

Studying in Ying Wa is what I aim.

Teachers and friends are my polishing flame.

Intelligent ideas are all in my brain.

Next, I want to prove all my strengths.

Class 2E is my second home.

Headmistress Mrs. Lam is not alone.

Extremely hard-working is what we can show.

Unique character is something in our bones.

Never give up is our common tone.

Great 2E, we aren't on our own.

Four Seasons

Isaiah Lam (P.2D)

Four Seasons

The green grass grows.

The flowers blossom

The birds chirp and the butterflies dance.

This is spring.

The gentle breeze blows.

Plants grow taller and flowers grow bigger.

The lions roar and the monkeys bounce.

This is summer.

It becomes a bit dry and chill.

The leaves change their colour and fall.

The insects and animals gather and store food.

This is autumn.

The weather gets very cold and dry.

The fields are silent and white.

The birds sleep and the animals hide.

This is winter.



Alaska Snoopysaurus

Matthew Chan (P.2D)

Once upon a time

There lived a Snoopysaurus in Alaska.

She is my pet who likes to climb.

Everybody calls her Muska.

She likes to go to school.

And get to know friends, cool!

She has a lot of friends.

They live at the Pot Street end.

Friends are here,

Friends are there.

Muska lays an egg on the ice land.

It rolls and rolls to the riverbank.

It just happened to be picked up by Mrs. Lam.

She names it "The Pearl of Alaska," Oh Man!

Nightmare, Go Away

Noddy Chung (P.3A)

I fall asleep

I am trapped in a dream

I fear you come closer

I scream, hoping someone hears.

You have just passed by.

You laugh at me

You feed off my screams

You refuse to hear

I pray silently

I pray to God

I wish for His hands

I know He will win at the end

My nightmares disappear in His glory

Because—

My God never leaves me

My God always keeps me

My God is able to

comfort me.



A Wish for the World

Horace Lee (P.3B)

A Wish for the World

The gunshots have all faded
And the tanks all rolled away
All the jets flew away
People say the war is over.

I hope that in the future

That we make up our minds
To stop the war and fighting
And bring peace to the world.

I hope that in the future

The sickness know as hate
Can be stopped from spreading
Before it gets too late.

I hope that in the future

All the people of the land
Can give each other helping hands
And grind the ways toward bright.

I Love You Mum!

Matthias Chan (P.3C)

My mum is an alarm clock. She works seven days a week and never stops.
What a reliable and durable clock! Look! The alarm is on again.

"Hurry up, Matthias!"

Thanks mum for fixing my routines every day!

My mum is a magician. She knows when I've lied and never gets wrong.
What a shining and incredible magic! Look! She sees through me again,

"no more tricks, Matthias!"

Thanks mum for bearing my weaknesses every day!

My mum is an angel. She fills my days with sunshine and rainbow we
laugh, We cry, We learn and play.

Thanks mum for bringing dreams and wisdom every day!

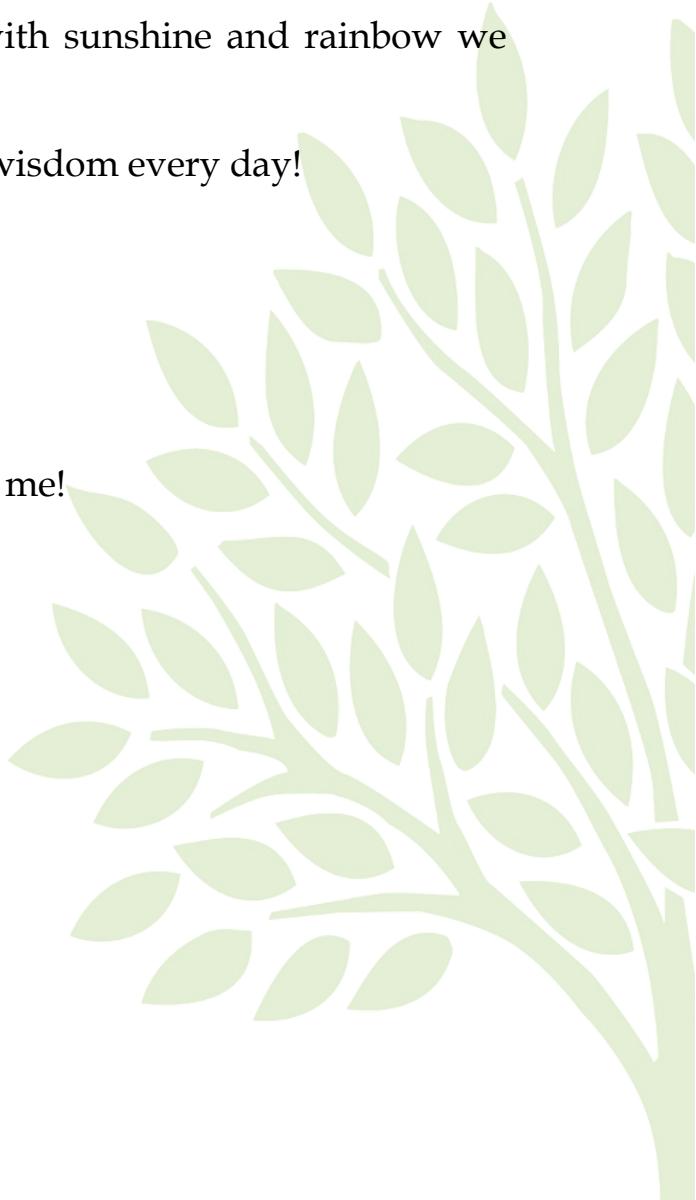
Why I love my mum so much?

Her warm hugs ease my fears.

Her tender kisses wipe my tears.

Thanks mum for always being there for me!

I love you mum.



Nightmare in the Sky

Max Leung (P.3D)

Once upon a time,
A child was in the countryside.
He looked up the sky,
And he found the leo hanging high.
Suddenly, the leo opened its mouth wide.
It turned into life.
It asked for food so it would not die.
The child wanted to hide.
But the lion could not let him say 'good-bye'.
The child then started to cry,
"Why? Why?"
The child prayed for God's guidance.
He took the Pearl of Alaska out and asked the lion to try.
The lion was happy to have 'an egg' to fry.
The Pearl of Alaska broke when it was on fire.
Thousands of stars spread in the sky.
The lion was angry, then roared and cried,
"You tell a lie..."
The child woke up at that time.
He was enjoying Christmas fireworks,
Lying on his daddy's shoulders.

Nightmare in America

Boris Wong (P.3D)

Last night, I got a nightmare,
I was very scared,
The nightmare was about America
I asked my mum where America was,
Mum said America was very far
Why were you scared to be there,
I was afraid in the air,
I couldn't sleep for losing your care,
I heard there was a bear,
You left me there to study and stayed at aunty Maya's,
I was afraid I couldn't make friends there,
And dad would bring me to cut the hair,
I didn't want to lose my hair,
When I woke up it was just a nightmare,
Parents wouldn't bring me to America.



Nightmare Alone in the Dark

Abriel Lau (P.3E)

Last weekend, I had a nightmare.

I crept alone in the dark,

Here and there.

A monster suddenly appeared

Wanted to tear me apart.

I quickly hid myself behind the tree

Hoping the monster couldn't see me.

Unluckily, I was found,

It leapt towards me.

"Don't kill me because I still want to meet mummy and daddy."

It shook its head,

Started to grab me with its sharp, stinky hands.

I cried and cried

And thought I was about to die.

It scratched me – I was killed...

But, it was not real.

Father woke me up and found me screaming

Oh! It was only a dream!

Nightmare in the Space

Edwin Tsang (P.3E)

I drove a super fast yellow racing car,
It zoomed like a rocket and went to Mars.
Oh there! A huge dirty monster
Chased after me like a fierce tiger!

I went to the Botanic and Zoology Park
In the gloomy dark.
Oh there! I saw two giant dinosaurs
Playing on a giant see-saw.

I saw a white and ugly ghost,
It popped out of my bed like a toast.
I screamed out loud,
And almost broke my house in house!

I rode on a creepy pirate ship,
The captain gave me lots of chips.
The stupid parrot started to sing.
And the old ship began to sink...



A “Weird” Dream

Steve Tang (P.4A)

I dream almost every night,
Let it be sad or happy,
Dreams all are silly situations,
all full of adventures.

There is always a dream,
that you've never thought of.
I would like to write it down,
as you are surely interested in it.

It started with a voracious crocodile,
rushed into a shopping centre frantically,
ate up a golden ring by accident
then bolted into the deep forest.

The shoppers called the police,
Siren came and they searched for the crocodile,
They ran into the Canadian wilderness,
And finally found the crocodile family.

It was a tragedy at last,
the crocodile was caught,
and was put into the Wetland Park.
Inside a teeny-weeny glass room.

A Dinosaur

Kieran Wong (P.4A)

Our teacher's got a dinosaur,
She keeps him in her bottom drawer,
He can't get our; he knows the score,
But, as the silent minutes pass,
You'll hear his muffled dino-roar!

She shrunk him down to mini-size,
With mini-scales and mini-eyes,
With scary patterns on his thighs,
And mini-teeth like spikes of glass,
To bite and tear and terrorise!

She feeds him desks and cloakroom hooks,
She feeds him mice and bats and rooks,
She feeds him smiles and dirty looks,
She feeds him lumps of iron and brass,
And children who forget their books!

His nature's red in tooth and claw,
With powerful legs and crushing jaw,
His belly drags upon the floor,
And—if you muck about in class,
You'll meet our teacher's dinosaur!



A Boy's Nightmare

Adrian So (P.4B)

Last night, a boy had a nightmare.

He was in a peculiar forest

That creatures were mean and impudent.

“Don’t be so insolent.”

He was angry like evils.

He clenched his hands

With a wrathful spark in his eyes.

They shot each other venomous glances.

He transformed himself to a soldier in a jiffy,

But the creatures fought against him madly.

fought against him madly,

fought against him madly,

He lost finally.

He lost his family.

The miserable boy was terrified.

“Get out!” he screeched.

He woke up with sweat at his back.

What a horrible nightmare!

A Vacation to Japan

Hanson Chan (P.4D)

I was on my way to Japan
For a long, relaxing vacation.
I tricked my teacher Ms. Chan,
Saying I was going for an injection.

The aeroplane crashed on a deserted island
where I started to make my camp.
I found some food and some diamonds
And even a magic lamp!

A genie flew out and gave me three wishes,
I had so many ideas,
“Give me some lemon tea and fish!”
The genie was laughing with tears.

“That is all you want, some food?”
“Of course not, I have one more.
This is going to ruin your mood.
But unlimited wishes are what I wish for!

I want all the money in the land
With gold, silver and all the jewels
I want cash and coins where I stand
Filling my swimming pools

I'll buy a computer and all the toys



And Ferraris and Lamborghinis
I'll build a cinema to enjoy
And buy an iPhone and iPod twenty-three.

I'll live in all the best hotels,
Playing all day with no work at all,
I'll eat at all the best restaurants, well
At least, until the moment I fall.

I think I have lots more wishes to make
But, a little silence breaks into my mind
Before I can take a break—
Get me out of this icy island!

Wishes – Rotavirus, Rotavirus, Go Away!

Colson Yang (P.4D)

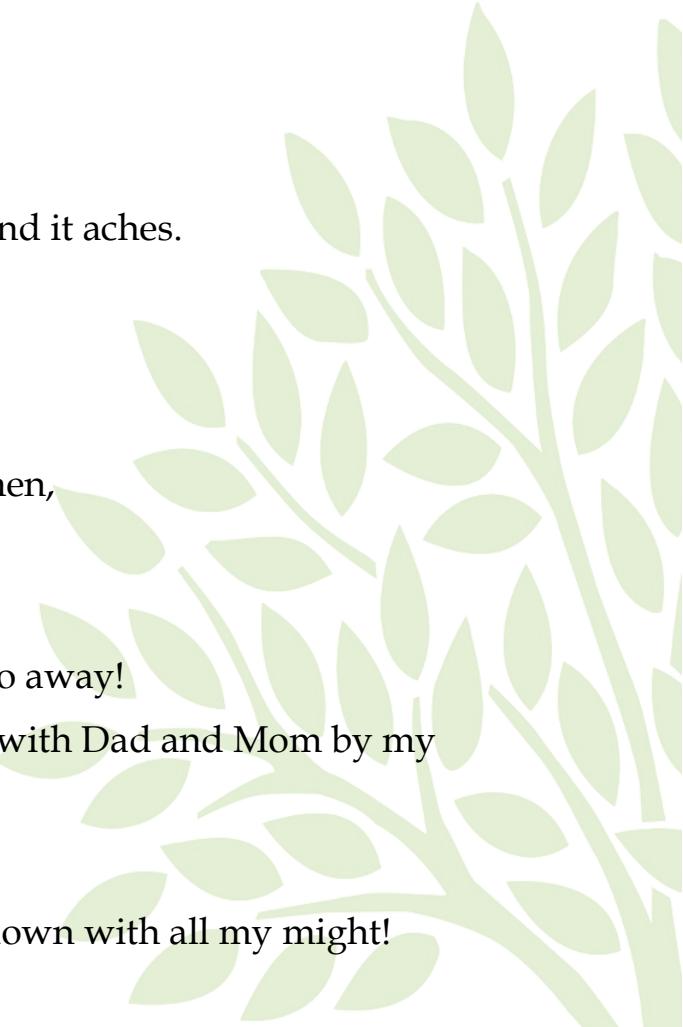
Rotavirus, rotavirus, I hate you! You stink!
I wish I could flush you away in the sink.
Why visit me in such a beautiful atmosphere?
Rotavirus, rotavirus, you're an absolute catastrophe!

Rotavirus, rotavirus, I hate you! You tummy bug!
Christmas should be a season to rejoice and a show of hug,
Families and friends exchange gifts with goodwill,
But now, you make me sick and totally ill!

I'm having a fever and a chill,
I'm nauseated and vomiting all and all.
I have a tummy ache and a headache.
Endless sour liquid pours out of my throat and it aches.

I am isolated in a single hospital room,
With drip infusion in my arm,
Doctors and nurses see me every now and then,
Dad and Mom cheer me up day and night.

Rotavirus, rotavirus, I hate you! Go away! Go away!
With rest and rest, with doctors and nurses, with Dad and Mom by my
side,
I'm not afraid! I'm not dismayed!
Rotavirus, rotavirus! I'm going to beat you down with all my might!



The Missing Books

Matthew Ng (P.4D)

John's comics and the story books,
Before bedtime, he wanted to take a look.
He liked to spread them on the floor,
On the sofa, at the door
On the desk, everywhere in the flat.

When the clock's arm hit ten,
The books started to play again.
They chased each other,
From the floor to the sofa,
From the door to the desk.

Captain Basketball woke up suddenly,
Because they were noisy.
They were chasing each other like crazy.
When the books saw their captain,
They hid behind the curtain.

The next morning
John was crying
Because he couldn't find his books,
He opened the curtain and took a look.
His mum thought that it was just a joke!

Marvelous Wishes

Michael Cheng (P.4E)

Wishes are goodish and modish,
Wishes heal mischief and blemish!
Will you wish treasures to exist
or a powerful fist?
Wishes are neither foolish nor childish!

I wish for a blue sky,
And a wing so I can fly,
See – a peaceful hill
Growing with a spring daffodil!
Whistles in the wind, wild and wise.

I wish for a clear deep sea,
And a yacht to set me free.
I will see a whale,
Telling me a tale.
I will cry out “Whoopee! Yippee!”

Now, let's visualize your wish,
Make it splendid and astonishing!
Give it a try!
Embrace your dream to comply!
Nourish, polish and accomplish your
wish!



A Devil Attacked All Audience

Tang Yik Seng (P.4E)

(I)

In the horrible gigantic concert hall,
We couldn't expect what we saw.
First we saw a teeny tiny little crack,
But soon we saw the extremely long neck,
 My brain got highly 'burned',
 None of the staff was concerned.
This shouldn't be a part of the serenade,
Everyone was drinking salty lemonade,
To solve this wasn't a piece of cake,
Actually, they had no choices to pick.

(II)

This enormous and nasty monster,
Came to me closer and closer,
What I did was to close my eyes,
Until the monster wasn't by my side.
 The hall was full of weird ray,
 So the babies started not to play.
All of our brains pulled terribly tight,
No one wanted to think about this horrible sight.

(III)

The devil ran through the seats,
Soon it leaped over the streets.
The monster was unluckily hungry,

So it ate the hopeless people greedily.

Oh! This city seemed like a desert,
All of us were hurt...

Anyway, I do not care,
Since this was a mere nightmare.

The Owl and the Pussy Cat III

Sean Leung (P.4D)

"I want that ring!"

The owl said loudly just like a howl.

The pig looked down at his thigh,
And started eating a pie.

The owl and the pussy-cat waited.

They waited.

They waited.

They asked God,

"Can we pull the ring out with a rod?"

"To you, it will be carried,
And you will be married."



A Nightmare

Jeffery Lai (P.4E)

One rainy night, I dreamt of a man
Singing and cooking with a pan.
He looked scary with strong arms,
But I thought he would not harm.
He asked me what I'd like to eat,
And I said I wanted to eat something "sweet"!

He gave me poisonous food,
To let me think he was good.
I tried a few bites and I felt dizzy,
The man was a bad bully,
He covered my mouth
and pointed to the south.

The police were coming,
He was running and screaming.
I made a big shout
And escaped from his house.
Suddenly I woke up in bed
And I saw Mum cooking breakfast with Dad.

School

Peter Ho (P.4E)

Oh, my school had a little liar,
Who lied to his mother for a dryer
Who lied to his classmates for a pencil,
And lied to his teacher for a stencil.

He lied to him and her,
And he lied to them.
He lied to everyone,
Even the hot Sun.

One day, his house was set on fire.
He saw a choir.
He shouted, 'Fire!'
They only whispered, 'Little Liar!'

He was burnt into ashes,
His parents gave cashes,
He was buried into the ground.
He lived underground.

Everyone thought he felt regret.
In his last breath, he said,
"There's a fire in your house!"
But not even a blouse
Was on fire.
That's just the last thing he said.



Nightmare

Elliot Ho (P.5A)

When I was small,
I always had nightmares.
But they disappeared
On the last day of the year.

I have races with my mates,
and run faster than them always.
No one cares about it
as if it's their fate.

'On your mark, set, go!'
Another race started.
I ran very fast as usual,
but something was abnormal.

My legs became stone.
I was scared and alone.
All mates ran past me quickly,
but I was fastened helplessly.

I dashed to the line at once
when my legs were free.
My first time to lose in a race
so my mates laughed at me.

'Knock! Knock!'

Someone knocked on the door.

Though it was just a nightmare,

I don't want it anymore.

If I were a Bird

Johnson Li (P.5C)

If I were a bird, I would be able to see things no human has seen.

I could fly to where no human has been to.

I could build nests where I could lean on.

If I were a drop of rain, I could make rainbows and cheer people up.

I could fertilize the soil to help plants grow more healthily.

Not only that, I could also provide clean drinking water for African children who live in difficult realities.

If I were a tree, I could grow fresh fruits for everyone to eat.

Tired people could sit under the shadow with gratitude.

And I could produce oxygen for people with good attitude.

I Love Nature

Kong Chi Fung (P.5D)

I love

Nature, in all its beauty and grandeur

Its lushness and fresh scent give me joy and pleasure.

The blue majestic sky keeps a watchful eye

Giving its radiance, in the mighty sun up high.

I love the wild animals nestling in its bosom

The myriad flowers with their bright colorful blossoms.

Underground rivers, spring and crystal waterfall

Towering tress stand tall, encompassing them all

I love the rising sun spreading its brilliance and charm

Sharing joy to everyone, and its life-giving warmth.

The star-studded sky is such a cool enchanting view,

While the radiant moonlight sets a lovers rendezvous.

Unity and cooperation - the key towards protection,

Responsible individuals protect it from nature's destroyers,

Everyday be a man in performing our responsibility to our

Nature.

Love and conserve it, then thank God for this great bounty.

Goodbye to Ying Wa

Timothy Chiu (P.6B)

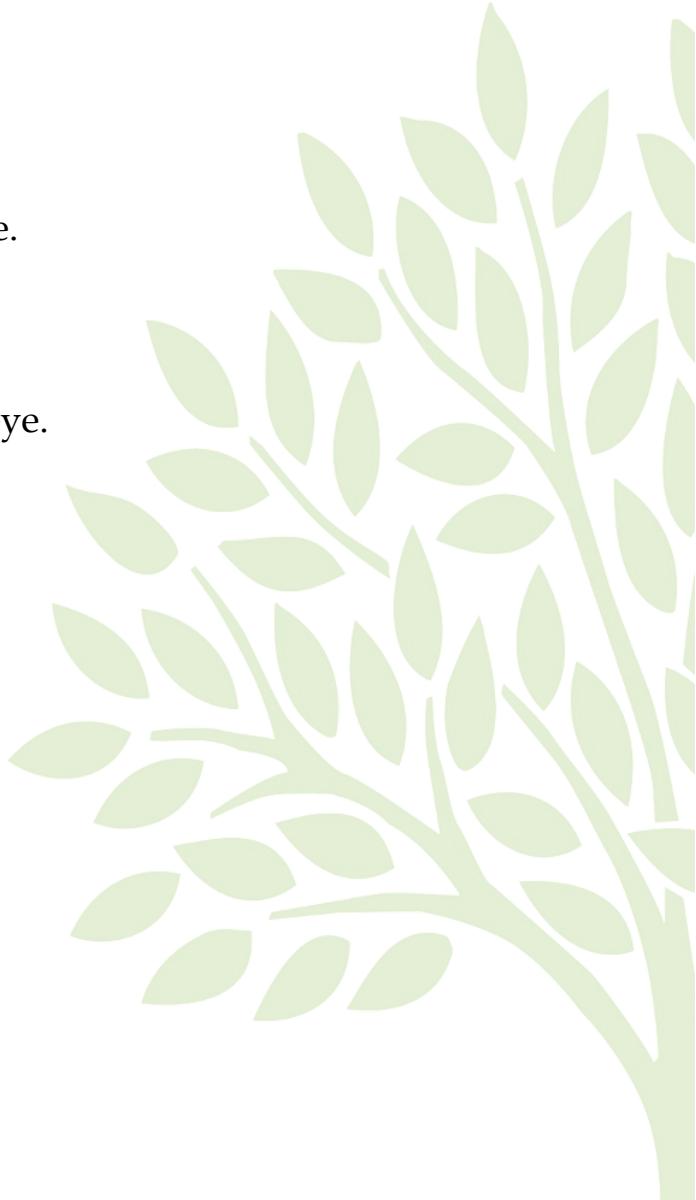
The last day of school,
It wasn't very cool.
A lot of cheers and tears,
Memories lasting for years

I looked back those years,
I had wonderful time with my schoolmates.
My friends and I will miss them all,
Everyday I will give them calls.

My school life in Ying Wa is fun
Learning more and more knowledge
All my lovely teachers,
Although sometimes shouted like a creature.

I thank you all for staying with me.
The school bell rings, it's time to say good-bye.
We said thanks and started to cry.
Ying Wa, Ying Wa, Wa Wa Wa.

This is the Ying Wa spirit
always stored in my heart.



The Fantasy

Bosco Yung (P.6B)

The fantasy of Halloween
In Autumn when the nights are cool
The nights turn long and moon is full
The creatures moving in the night
Give children reason to have fright

Ravens ,snakes, spiders and Bats
Ghosts, Witches and of course black cats
All of these creatures can be seen
Because tonight is Halloween

This is the night I always dread
Because tonight is the night of the dead
Yet I am brave and venture out
Trick-or-treat is what it's about

The sound of wind in Autumn
Makes me frightened and awesome
Hopefully nothing would happen
That's only a dream in a lesson.

In the Yingwathian Theatre

**All the world's a stage, and all
the men and women merely
players.**

By William Shakespeare

Fire in Flame



Better Late than Never

Hugo Au, Sean Leung, Adrian Wai, Ben Wong, Colson Yang (P.4D)

"*Better Late than Never*" was written for The 4th English Radio Drama Competition for Schools in Hong Kong and Macao.

Characters in the Play:

Ryan	Sean Leung
Mum	Hugo Au
Grandpa	Ben Wong
Jonathan	Adrian Wai
Minister	Ben Wong
Narrator	Colson Yang

Scene 1

Narrator: There's an idiom which says "Better Late than Never". Ryan, an ordinary college student, has always lived his life to this principle. However, from this day on, this might never be the same again.

(Sound: Alarm)

Ryan: What? 11:00? Mum must be so mad at me! (Short pause)
Ouch! How come my head aches so badly? Never mind, gotta hurry to the church or Mum will probably say "no video games" again.

Narrator: As Ryan walked to the church, he still felt like a thousand needles pinning into his head.

(Sound: Church bell)

Ryan: Oh it's started, I'm late again!

Narrator: Ryan took a deep breath before he entered the church. There was a strange sadness in the air. The look on everyone's face seemed slightly unusual. Ryan saw his parents and he waved at them at once, but no one noticed him, not even his little brother Jonathan who was quite a sharp-eyed boy. People were all very attentive to what the minister was saying...except Ryan, who was sitting at the back alone and busy checking messages on his phone.

(Music: Amazing Grace)

Minister: Tragedies remind us that life is precious, and life is short. How we live our life is the most important choice we ever make. We believe in eternal life so we gather to pray for the faithful departed today. Now, you may come up to bid one last quiet goodbye to our beloved friend.

Narrator: When everyone stood up, Ryan did the same and walked with the queue slowly. He wanted to join his parents who were standing near the altar. As he walked closer, he was shocked to see an open casket lying there.

Ryan: No, wait, what's happening? Was it Uncle Sam? He was diagnosed with cancer but he still looked quite healthy last week at Christmas dinner...or.... could it be Aunt May? I've never seen Mum looking so heart-broken.

Narrator: Ryan turned his face away from the casket at first, it took him a minute or so before he could look into the casket.

Ryan: This...no, it isn't true. I must be dreaming. (Shouting)
Mum!!! Dad!!!

Narrator: Ryan couldn't believe his eyes, for the person he saw in the casket was his very own self...as if sleeping soundly. Now, he recalled what had happened yesterday.

Scene 2

(Sound: Door bell)

Mum: Ryan, please go get the door, it must be Grandpa. He's come all the way from Yuen Long for your birthday, don't make him disappointed.

(Sound: Computer games)

Ryan: You can't leave me alone and let me do things I like even on my birthday, can you?

Mum: It's your birthday today, but that doesn't mean you can play games for hours and hours. Come join us for lunch.

Ryan: Alright, I'm almost there to the next level! Give me a minute.

(Sound: Door knocking)

Jonathan: Ryan, teach me how to spell "family" please. I need to do my English homework.

Ryan: Did you learn anything at school?

Jonathan: I did, but I forgot.

Ryan: Okok, I'll help you later. (Speaking very impatiently)

Mum: How could you be so mean to your little brother? Come on, let mummy help you, it's spelled as f...a...m...

(Sound: Door bell again)

Mum: Sorry. (to Jonathan) Wait, I'm coming!

(Sound: Footsteps)

(Sound: Door opening)

Mum: Hi Dad, good to see you!

Jonathan: Granny!!! I miss you so much. Are you here to take me to the park? I want to play on the swing.

Grandma: Haha, yes, sure, but first I need to meet the birthday boy. Hello Ryan, happy birthday.

Narrator: Grandma gave Ryan a big hug.

Ryan: Thanks Gran. Well, didn't Jonathan say he wants to go to the park? You should take him there now.

Grandpa: Of course, so I'll see you at lunch?

Ryan: Hm...probably not, I've got some work to do.

Grandpa: Alright, we won't disturb you then. Let's talk at dinner.
Goodbye.

Ryan: Bye.

Narrator: After his family left for the park, Ryan went straight back into the room and continued with his game.

(Sound: Phone ringing)

Ryan: Hey what's up Dan?

Dan: Ryan, Steve has got the new game finally! He asked us to go to his place to try it out.

Ryan: I wish I could! But Granny's here today for my birthday.

Dan: Oh right, sorry, happy birthday. So I guess I'll see you on Monday then.

Ryan: No no no wait, they won't be back until 5 for dinner, I should be able to squeeze some time now.

Dan: Cool, see you at the bus stop say, in 10 minutes?

Ryan: Cool.

(Sound: Hanging up the phone)

Narrator: Before leaving, Ryan took a post-it note and wrote something for his mum.

Ryan: Mum...I... need... to go out.... for discussing some important business with Dan, I'll be back before 5. Ok, this should work.

Scene 3

(Sound: Traffic)

Narrator: While waiting for the bus with Dan, Ryan opened the red packet given by Grandpa.

Ryan: 100 dollars? What can I possibly do with this?

Dan: (Laughing) Your grandpa must be joking with you.

(Sound: Phone ringing)

Mum: Ryan? It's Mum, do you have any idea what time it is now?
When can we expect you to be back?

Ryan: I told you I have something important to do, didn't you read my note? I'll be back before 5!

Mum: This is unbelievable! Dinner's ready and Grandpa can't stay here for too long.

Ryan: Then you should start without me. Birthday's just another day for me to hear your nagging. It isn't worth celebrating!

Narrator: Ryan hanged up the phone and Mum was crying at the other end.

Dan: Are you ok?

Ryan: Sorry pals, need to go.

Dan: No problem, see you back at school.

Narrator: Ryan took the bus and the only thing he could remember about that ride was that a truck moved very fast towards them suddenly.

(Sound: Car crash)

Narrator: Ten minutes later, the ambulance came and Ryan was taken to the hospital.

(Sound: Ambulance siren)

(Sound: Emergency room)

Mum: Ryan! Ryan. Wake up please. (Crying)

Doctor: Sorry, we've done our best.

Mum: No....no.....(Crying more hysterically)

(Sound: Church bell)

(Song: Tears in Heaven)

Narrator: Now, standing there in the church, Ryan's tear fell. Grandpa was holding Jonathan in his arms tightly as they were bidding farewell to Ryan.

Jonathan: Why is Ryan in the box? Granny, please wake him up, he said he'll teach me how to spell "family".

Grandpa and Ryan: It's "f...a...m...i...l...y".

Ryan: I'm sorry Mum, Dad, Granny and Jon. I love you.

Narrator: In the end, Ryan couldn't help but wonder if it's always better late than never.

[The End]

Escape Route

Chris Pang (P.4C)

Characters in the Play:

Robber(R)

Robber 2(R2)/ Camera man(C)

Bank guard (BG)

Main policeman chief (MPC)

Newsman (N)

Camera man(C)/ Robber 2(R2)

Hover ship owner (H)

Scientist (S)

Scene 1: The robbery

lighting: dim, with spotlight on the robber as he enters on left stage.

Sounds: spooky, soft music with a hushed silence as the robber comes in on L stage.

Setting: a big, empty stage with a “bank” sign, and a safe.

The robber enters the silent stage, and spots a huge safe. Holding out a wrench, he hammers open the safe, and takes all the money away.

R: (whispers) the treasure is ours! (*Laughs*) Let's see... a priceless diamond statue? We're going to be rich!

R2: SHUSH! Do you want the whole world to hear you?! (*Shushes 1*)
(*Alarms ring*)

R2 No! I must leave before they catch me! (*Runs off to L stage*)

BG: (*Running in from R stage*) Stop, thief! (*Shouts*) You're only making this harder for you, you know! (*Spots the safe*) (*Exclaims*) Holy

mackerel! (*Examines the artifact gone*) That is one special thief! (*R sneaks up while the G looks at the safe, and hits the G*) This has got to make the -OOFF!!! (*Falls down, out cold*)

Scene two: The police investigate

Lighting: bright, all spotlights on, with camera flashes everywhere.

Sounds: Cameras, footsteps

Setting: the same stage, but with tape marked “police” everywhere

N and C enter L stage and go to the MPC, who enters R stage to interview him. They take positions at angles around him. C takes pictures and says nothing. N holds out a mike to MPC.

N: Hello, chief

MPC: Greetings.

N: What do you feel about this robbery?

MPC: (*Folds hands*) the robber is very smart, too smart, I'm afraid, and strong, since he disabled 3 guards, all the security cameras, and the motion sensors, and the trap system! Obviously, I'm assuming that he is alone. Unluckily for him, he missed a spy camera on the lock, (*pointing at the lid*) and it sent the alarm. Or else, we wouldn't even know about this until the morning guards went on duty! (*Sighs*)

N: Do you think that we should improve security on all our banks?

MPC: (*Exclaims*) Of course! We would also need a foolproof trap system to trap the thieves.

N: Have our forensic scientists got any improvement in their research?

MPC: Yes! (*Smile*) Even though the robber wore gloves, our scientists captured a powder-filled shoe print mark in their research. We are currently tracking the whereabouts of the powder.

N: What news have we gotten from the only guard who tracked down the

robber?

MPC: It was like this: the robber, after disabling “all” the guards and cameras, entered the safe room. (*Pantomime tip-toe with fingers*) Using a wrench, he pried off the lid (*pointing at the open safe*), and stole the statue. Then, the spy camera sent the alarm, and the guard chased after the thief. Just when he was surprised, the robber hit him out cold.

N: Thank you. (*N and C leave at L stage*)

Scene 3: The robbers' lair

Lighting: A light is on, but dimly.

Sounds: Loud rock music

Setting: a wild house: the potato chip, food, and plastic bags are on the floor, scattered about. Two amps are there, blasting music. Two whole tables are overturned. There is a chair next to a table, the only things in order. On the desk, there is a computer.

The two robbers enter L stage, carrying their bag of loot.

R: (*Plopping himself on the chair in a wild manner*) Yes! We stole the STATUE and survived! I should celebrate. (*Picks up some wine bottles*)

R2: Not so fast, brother. We need to escape to the mainland. The police are checking on us right now, and your “cover job” at the flour factory isn’t helping. (*Points at shoe print*) We need a transport to get us out of here, an escape route.

R: I think I have a plan. One of my brothers owns a hover ship at the harbor; she’s a bit run-down but runs ok. (*Excitedly*) I think that is our ticket to freedom.

R2: Well (*grunts*), get her ready in, oh, 30 minutes or so.

R: Okay, brother, all in a day’s work, and we’re rich and free, eh?

(Stretches)

(Pounding noises at R stage.)

R2: Not exactly, you see? (Shrugs)

MPC: (In a menacing tone) Surrender, thieves! You are surrounded!

R: Let's go! (Run through L stage)

R2: You aren't catching us! (Pulls a funny face)

(MPC charges in, brandishing his gun)

MPC: (Shouts) Blast it! He escaped! That darn thief! (Curses) Wait, there's a note here... (Picks up a note and reads aloud) THE RIGHTFUL PROPERTY OF DAN AND JAKE FLETCHER. Clearly a fake, but at least we know there are two thieves involved. (Shouts into a walkie-talkie) Get forensics and searchers up here! We've got some rather difficult jigsaws to assemble. (Looks down) Well, looky here! (Picks up a small recorder.) Next time, thieves, here's a tip: keep your toys in the toy box. (Smiles)

Scene 4: The office

Lighting: Bright, and simple

Sounds: Computers, and machines

Setting: Typical box-office, with two chairs and a table. A stack of papers are on the desk.

MPC and S enter R stage. S clutches the recorder. They take a seat at opposite ends of the table.

MPC: (Clearly annoyed) What's so important? (Bellows)

S: (Patiently) we have clearly decoded the recording-

MPC: (Interrupting) what does it say??!!

S: It appears (Grin) that our thieves are going to leave by a hovercraft owned by a friend.

MPC: (Anxiously) did they state their harbor position?

S: Oh yes, Area H, hangar 4. About ten minute ride from here, as long as you use a speed patrol car.

MPC: (*Grins*) let's pay our friends a farewell visit. (*Rubs hands*)

S: I agree. Let's invite some friends too...

(*MPC and S exit R stage*)

Scene 5: Escape route-blocked

Lighting: A side spotlight, with an evening effect

Sounding: Water splashing, and motors

Settings: There is a stack of crates near R stage, with two amps blasting music

R, R2, and H enter L stage, while MPC, BG, S and N appear. MPC carries an automatic rifle, S carries a pistol, BG carries an electrifying stick, and N carries a camera. They take positions around the crates.

S: So, here's the plan: newsman (points to N), you distract them with your camera flash, then police chief (gestures to MPC) and the bank guard (points to BG), being soldiers, will fight and capture them. Then, I'll contact the guards on guard, okay?

MPC, BG, N: Yes, sir!!

R: Is our transport ready? (Threatening tone)

H: Um... (Nervously) yes. It's at the dock, all warmed up.

R2: Very we-

N: Smile! (Flashes camera at H)

H and R: OH! (Surprised)

R2: What have we here... (Pushes away a crate covering N) a cowering shrimp dressed as a newsman! Ha! Ha! Ha! (Removes revolver)

MPC and BG: Make that three cowering shrimps! (Knocks down R2, and R) Do you think we look like cowering shrimps? (Smile)

H: I surrender! I didn't know anything, police! I was only told that my

friend wants to take a trip with his companion! Please spare me!

BG: Very well.

N: Camera man! Why are you here? My companion... I can't believe it!

MPC: Neither can I.

C: FREE ME! (Shouts)

S: The coast guards are coming!

[The End]

Mosaic Prose

Short stories
are like
heaps of
leaves piling
up, weaving
in a bucket.



YWPS

Life Without I.T.

Jason Chan (P.6D)

Champion, Junior Group, The Hong Kong Schools English Writing Contest 2012

Today, our world has changed a great deal with the aid of information technology (I.T.), which has penetrated almost every aspect of our daily lives. As we live in the information age, we have become too dependent on I.T. and therefore it is difficult to imagine a life without I.T. However, what would happen if we have to live without I.T. one day?

First of all, the world would return to the Stone Age. Internet would be unavailable in the absence of I.T. Without Internet, we would go back to snail mail and could not experience fast and easy communication. Besides, storing, organizing and managing huge amount of data would be a nightmare. People would take hours instead of minutes to search for information.

Furthermore, organizations would be unable to conduct business through electronic media and improve their operational efficiency through automation and innovation. Last but not least, research and development in science and technology could only be a dream, if not impossible.

A life without I.T. would be tough and painful. It is virtually impossible to conceive a life without the convenience and benefits of I.T. We should continue to make breakthroughs in I.T. to provide benefits to our future generations.

Love our Animals

Marius Lau (P.4B)

2nd runner-up, SCOLAR and OCEAN PARK Creative English Language Environment for Students in Hong Kong Project Writing Competition 2012

Dear Max,

How are you? Are you busy with your studies? Last month, our school arranged a workshop about protecting our nature and environment at Ocean Park. It not only gave us a lot of valuable knowledge about the nature, but it also let us know more about how to love our animals.

During the workshop, teachers explained precisely about the panda's family. They let us know more about panda's habitat, characteristics, behavior and feeding habits. Besides, teachers also taught us how to classify between a giant panda and a red panda. It is very interesting to learn about them.

Moreover, teachers showed us all the different species of sea creatures, for example, jellyfish, starfish, dolphins, turtles etc. But the one I like most is penguin. However, I couldn't take a glimpse of them this time at Ocean Park as our schedule was extremely tight.

After this field trip, I realized that protecting our nature, animals and environment is very important. We need to learn how to love our animals properly. As we have Human Rights, I think that they should have their own "Animal Rights" too! We should stop all kinds of mistreatment to the animals and we have to give more love, patience and care to them.

I know you love animals very much. If you have time, I would like to invite you to Ocean Park, which is a very good place for us to broaden our horizon. I am looking forward to your reply soon.

Best wishes,
Marius

Tom and Jerry, My Favourite

Herman Wong (P.1C)

My favourite cartoon character is Tom. It is from a popular cartoon series "Tom and Jerry". It is a cat. Tom is good at driving. It can drive up to the top of a building. Tom always plays tricks on Jerry. Jerry does not like Tom but I like it very much because it is very funny. It is naughty like me. Tom is sometimes lazy. It sleeps anywhere it likes. Sometimes Jerry picks its whiskers to wake it up. Tom is very determined. It always tries its best to catch Jerry although it always fails to do so. Learning from it, I will never give up when I face difficulties. Just as what Ying Wa boys always do.

Who is Miss Frizzle?

Moses Mui (P.1D)

My favourite cartoon character is Miss Frizzle. She is a primary school teacher. She teaches science. She has a magic school bus. She can control and drive the bus. When Miss Frizzle presses a button or pulls a lever in the control panel, the bus turns into strange things such as a guitar, a pizza, a spider, or a helicopter. Sometimes it can even shrink into a size small enough to go into a human body. Miss Frizzle always brings her students to field trips with the magic school bus. I like her because her teaching method is very creative. As Miss Frizzle always says, "Fake chances, make mistakes, and get messy!" I learnt not to be afraid of difficulties and mistakes.

Muzzy

Donald Pan (P. 1D)

Muzzy, a furry, greenish-blue extra-terrestrial, is my favourite cartoon character. I like him most because he always helps people. Muzzy is very kind, smart and helpful. Not only is he good at controlling his spaceship, he is also good at eating metallic indigestible objects like parking meters, clocks and prison bars. He rescued the king from the computer and he managed to send all of the princess' duplicates back into the computer. Without Muzzy, Bob (the gardener) and Sylvia (the princess) would have never been able to get married. From Muzzy, I learned that great happiness comes from helping others.

Doraemon

Marcus Wong (P.1D)

My favourite cartoon character is Doraemon. He has some magic tools in his pocket to satisfy all wishes. I like his magic tool 'Time machine' because it can take me to the future and back to the past.

Doraemon always has a positive attitude to face problems. He is good at solving the problems and helping the people in need. He is kind, hard working and smart.

I like Doraemon very much. I also want to learn his positive attitude to solving problems from him.

A Letter to Steve Jobs

Bryan Mak (P.1C)

Dear Steve Jobs,

How are you in heaven? Thank you for designing the iPhone. This has changed the world of mobile phones. I think everyone likes the iPhone because I can see a lot of people playing on it in the MTR.

I like iPhone too but I don't have my own iPhone. I use my Mum's or Dad's iPhone. I like to play iPhone games. I only play educational games and I only play during weekends. Am I good?

I want to be as smart as you and I want to design more and more new things for everyone! But for now, I am just six years old and what I can do is – studying hard.

Best regards,
Bryan Mak

My Dream Home

Matt Leung (P. 2B)

My dream home would be a three-decked luxurious cruise ship, completely made of glass.

The first deck underneath the ship can be transformed into a submarine so I can explore the mysteries of the sea. The living room and the kitchen are on the next deck. There is a big television, on which I could watch movies and play computer games. I keep all my favourite food inside the enormous fridge in the kitchen with plenty space to hold parties.

The bedrooms are on the top deck with a glass roof. My bedroom is very neat and tidy. My books are arranged neatly beside my bed. During the day I can do my homework in the bright sunlight. I can enjoy the sunset while reading my books and sleep underneath the twinkling stars. My pet dog, Bob, wakes me up in the morning and helps guard the bedrooms.

Outside, at the front of the ship, there is an outdoor swimming pool. I swim there every morning and sunbathe when I have finished my homework. My dog, Bob, swims with me, too. At the back of the ship, there is a heliport with my personal helicopter to take me to all the cities in the world that cannot be reached by boat.

I want to live with my dear mum, dad, and brother in my dream home. I want such a home because it is run by wind power and solar energy. It is very environmental-friendly.

A Letter to NASA

Joshua Chung (P.2C)

Dear NASA Administrator,

How are you? My name is Joshua Chung I am a Primary 2 student of Ying Wa Primary School in Hong Kong.

I hope you have already had a wonderful Christmas. I am sorry to tell you, my Christmas was miserable because of my asthma problem. As you know that Hong Kong has a serious air pollution problem, many people have got asthma or other diseases because of this. When I go to places with a lot of cars or many people, I can hardly breathe. However, if I go to the country park with many trees and plants, I feel the fresh air surrounding me.

Although some people are already working very hard to fight against this air pollution problem (they use 3Rs-Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), it is still not enough as there are really too many cars, factories and chimneys. To solve the above problems, I decided to invent a Space Vacuum Cleaner. It works like a satellite in the space. It detects serious carbon emission areas then it vacuum-cleans the carbon dust and other poisonous chemicals.

Could you please help me send it to space and operate it at NASA? I am sure that it will help many people and save the Earth. Thank you very much! Wish you a Happy New Year.

Best regards,

Joshua

My Dream Home

Adam Mok (P.2E)

My dream home looks like a castle. It is very big and beautiful. There are ten bedrooms with king-sized beds. There is a huge living room with a 56-inch TV and a cosy couch. We can also see the beautiful sea view through the big windows.

There is a beautiful garden outside my house. I can smell the aroma of flowers. There is also a big swimming pool where I can swim every day.

I want to live with my dad, mum and brother in my dream house because they are my beloved ones. I want to share my happiness with them every day.

I hope that I can have such a dream house one day because I am living in a small flat at present and I want to improve my living condition.

My Favourite Festival

Arthur Ho (P. 3A)

Among all the festivals throughout the year, I like Christmas the most. Christmas Eve is on the twenty-fourth of December. The following day is Christmas Day and then we have Boxing Day on the twenty -sixth of December.

Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Chris. It is also a time for families and friends to gather and express love and blessings to each other. People usually decorate their houses and have Christmas parties. People exchange Christmas cards and gifts, too.

For me, Christmas is a time to play! It is because I have a long holiday. My family starts preparation early. We decorate the food for the Christmas party. We have turkey, Christmas puddings, Gingerbread man cookies and cakes. We go to church and sing Christmas carols. For kids, Christmas is a wonderful festival because Santa Claus will ride on his sleigh and bring gifts to us!

I play and eat a lot in the parties. I receive many Christmas gifts and unwrap them on Boxing Day. The whole city is full of love and joy!

A Letter to Woody

Elvin Lam (P.3D)

Dear Woody,

How are you? How is Andy's new college life? Thanks you for inviting my brother and me to your new home, Toy Story Land, In Hong Kong Disneyland during the Christmas holiday. I was so glad to meet your three good friends, Jessie, Rex the dinosaur, Mr. Potato Head Slinky Day and the toy soldiers.

It was so amazing that they created different interesting and exciting games for us. We played the slinky Dog Spin, which spun very fast to catch its own tail. It's a bit silly ha-ha... I also joined Andy's troop to play the Toy soldier. Moreover, Parachute Drop it was a high-flying adventure. When the Sergeant yelled, "Go! Go! Go! ", I held the rail tight or otherwise I would be flung way up high from the parachute. It was so thrilling! However, I didn't have the chance to play Andy's speediest toy car "RC Racer" because my mum stopped me.

She thought it was too crazy to ride, as it was a 27 meter-high U-shaped coaster. Actually, I was not scared at all and I was so disappointed! Have you tried that before? You can see the picture we took with you that day. We were so happy! You are so lucky to have this fabulous home. May I stay at your home together with your friends again in the coming Chinese New Year holiday? I really look forward to hearing from you soon!

Cheers,

Elvin

A Letter to Ultraman

Jason Siu (P.3D)

Dear Ultraman Seven,

How are you? Did you have a big New Year feast with your Ultraman friends, Melbus, Ace, Zero, May and Taro? Did you count down to welcome Year 2012? I did count down with my family but my heart plummeted to the deepest hole on earth when I counted to Zero...

I thought of the "Pearl" displayed in my school, Ying Wa, My principal brought it from Alaska last year. We called it the "pearl of Alaska". Since then, the "pearl" has grown bigger and bigger. It even cracked and a hole was formed. One day, I was astonished to find many eggs had hatched out from it, On the shells of the eggs, we found unknown words carved, As you are the so-called "Salted Eggs Ultraman" you should be an expert of eggs. According your experience, are they alien eggs? I am worried if this is a sneaky plan of the aliens. They may blame us for taking away the "pearl". They may then claim we are the looters of their artifacts and they will arrest us red-handed. If there are babies hatching from the eggs, it will be more terrible. The babies may eat up our chairs, desks and boards. They may drag us into the "pearl" and trap us there for eternity!

When I think of the aliens' plot, I shiver. Could you ask all your Ultraman friends to help and bring the "Pearl" and the eggs to your M78 Planet? You are the only hope for us. I am sure our principal will reward you with 1000 shiny cards! Thanks for your help and happy 2012!

Yours sincerely,

Jason Siu

Night at the Toy Shop

Kieran Wong (P.4A)

Once upon a time, there was a very poor man called James who lived in New York. Even though he had enough money to keep fit and went to the swimming pool every day, he could not pay for his house expenses! So, he wanted to find a job.

First, James applied for a position of being a detective at the police station. He thought he would be powerful when he caught thieves. However, after working for a month, he found it troublesome to find clues. He thought, "The clues could be anywhere!" So, he started to look for a job that would make him feel powerful, but without the troubles that made him feel tired.

James then applied for being a construction worker. At first, he felt powerful by driving the bulldozers and he could run anywhere in the construction place, but he was always dirty after work and he needed to take long baths. After three months, he quit. James could not make up his mind! Suddenly, an idea popped into his head. "Maybe, James thought. "I could be a guard in a toy shop!"

So, James got the job and went to the toyshop at exactly five o'clock. He didn't want to ruin the chances, and he also didn't want to get fired! After five minutes in the shop, he fell asleep. Suddenly, he heard many noises coming from his left.

When he opened his eyes, all the toys were moving! Transformers were fighting, bikes were running, and dolls were dressing... The whole

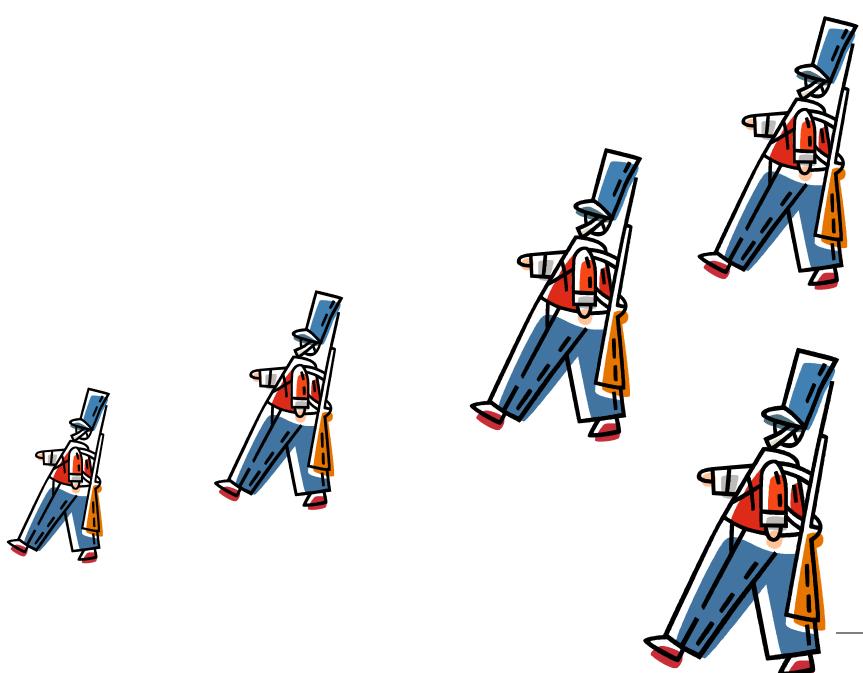
shop had come to life! James knew that if the toyshop was messy, he would get fired because the boss was very strict. He panicked and tripped on a ball, squishing it.

He put the ball back and shouted, "Hey! Can everybody stop?" Even though his voice was loud, the toys could not hear him. Suddenly, the ball yelled with a tremendous voice, "My dum dum wants to speak!"

James replied, "Thank you, blue ball, and can you all keep quiet and get back to where you belong in about... five minutes? My boss is about to come, and he will fire me if he sees toys everywhere! Can we be friends?"

Whispers of pity came from the crowd. Then, the biggest toys yelled, "Yes!" Then, the other toys followed. James said thank you again.

Fortunately, the boss did not see this scene. From then on, James stayed at the job for long! James became a rich man in a year's time and he got a fancy apartment! Also, he liked the toys very much and he longed to see them every day!



In a Jungle

Marius Lau (P.4B)

It was a cold day in winter, my friend and I went to a dense forest to have some fun. When we had just arrived at the winding path of the forest, we could hardly believe our eyes because the scenery was so extraordinary. The steep hill, shallow and clear river with many kinds of small creatures and the scent of blossoms along the river bank made the forest look like a lively picture. Afterwards, we continued our journey happily. We passed by a beautiful waterfall with a magnificent cliff.

All of a sudden, we discovered a poisonous cobra hiding in the bushes. To our astonishment, we began running frantically in all directions. While we were trying to find the way to escape, we spotted a chimpanzee swinging on the tree and a leopard was leaping in front of us. I felt the cold wind running down my back. My legs were trembling with fear. My friend asked me in a low voice, "We'd better crawl down and slowly creep back to the river bank!" I had no choice but to follow his suggestion. When we were about to wash our faces at the river bank, we saw an alligator gazing at a buffalo which was grazing. I was absolutely sure that the alligator was starving.

Suddenly, we saw a squirrel hopping into a tree hole and heard some howling sounds around us. We tried desperately hard to get out of there. Fortunately, we found the way back to the path. We were totally dead beat and heaved a sigh of relief. When we were heading back home, I realized that a wasp stung me over my face. What a horrible adventure in the jungle!

My Memoir; My Life Story

Marius Lau (P.4B)

My name is Lau Chi Long. I was born on 18th November, 2002. My parents wanted to find a simple but meaningful name for me. The word “Chi” means no matter what I do, I have to use my whole heart to fulfill it. Until now, my mother still keeps reminding me about it. The other word “Long” means brightness, cheerfulness and positivity. My parents wish me to be a happy, joyful and optimistic person. I am the eldest child in the family. I have one sister who is younger than me. We never have any quarrels and we love each other very much.

I have serious short-sightedness. My mother said that it is hereditary. Besides, I also have a congenital crack over the cervical spine on C1-C2. Despite this, I am still a healthy and happy boy.

When I was in kindergarten, everybody laughed at me as I was so short and immature to face the interviews of the primary one. My mum was dreadfully worried about me, so she applied to ten schools for me to try. In the end, I was accepted by all the schools. My mum was full of joy and so was I! Finally, we chose the best of the best—Ying Wa!

I still remember that the first time I participated in the Swimming Gala was while I was in Primary 2. When I was about to change my swimming suit, we realized that the suit was missing! I was absolutely disappointed. At the last moment, one of my classmates had a spare swimming suit. However, my classmate was a bit overweight. When I put it on, I found out the suit didn’t fit at all. It was almost falling down. Fortunately, I still got a gold medal in freestyle and a silver medal in

breaststroke. How lucky I was!

This is the end of the memoir but not the end of my life. I believe there will be more exciting challenges ahead!

A Letter to God

Mordecai Leung (P.4B)

Dear God,



I wish that the world could be in peace. Right now, there are floods, fights, earthquakes, blizzards, train to train crashes, and many more. I hope that the world wouldn't have these terrible disasters.

I sometimes wish that the world leaders would listen to the people's cries and voices. I wish that there would be no more government protests because it will only lead to an all-out civil war.

I like fantasy wars in books but not real wars because in real wars, people have to fight, there is no fun and safety and millions of people are killed.

I really wish this world does not have dangers and fear. Amen.

Love,

Mordecai

A Letter to God

Wilfred Wong (P.4B)



Dear God,

This is the first letter that I have written to you. I hope that you know the language of humans. God, it is about Christmas time. I would like to say Merry Christmas and Happy Birthday to you!

If I had three Christmas wishes from you, I would wish for: no war on earth; every country to be peaceful; and no robbers, thieves or burglars. No one will think bad things or be wicked. Neighbours are all friends with each other. When one of them has no food, the others will share some of their food with them. They would all care about each other.

My second wish is that I would want people not to use too much energy because resources are limited. We should use some energy that can be reused because we care about nature, otherwise one day we won't see the lovely animals.

My third wish is about my family and me. I would wish that my mum can always have good sleep. I would want my father to do more exercise to keep fit because his tummy is getting bigger. I would want my baby sister to listen to what we say and be a good girl. Fourthly, I would want my grandmother to be healthy and play with me. For me, I want to have more family gatherings to have fun. God! I hope that my wishes will all come true!

Love,
Wilfred

A Letter to God

Justin Li (P.4B)

Dear God,

I am writing to You as I want You to know what I'm praying for.

I have many wishes and I would like to tell you some of them. First, I would like to pray for my parents and relatives. I wish they won't be sick or die. It is because they all love me, care about me and teach me!

Secondly, I would like to pray for my best friend, Nick. I wish him to be in the same class with me every year. We have been in the same class since Primary 1. Let me tell you a secret (maybe it is not a secret to you...Ha-ha!) We have the same birthday that is 3rd January! God, thanks for your arrangement!



Thirdly, I wish for world peace. Many people die in wars and disasters. If the world is peaceful and people love each other, everyone will be happy. Therefore, I wish there is world peace.

I would love to write and share with You more about my wishes sooner. Please wait for me!

Sincerely,

Justin

A Secret Garden

Kelvin Lo (P.4C)

I found a secret garden in a forest. It was Incredible.

Inside the secret garden, there were a lot of beautiful flowers. I could smell it in a hundred miles away. I could see a lot of trees, too. They were so tall that they could go through the sky. There was a basket of fruit, such as oranges, apples, bananas, watermelons and pineapples. I could hear the blue humming birds singing in the sky.

Suddenly, it started raining. The lightning roared like a lion. I could taste the salty rain drops on my tongue. The clouds were as dark as chocolate. I fled inside the house.

In the house, it was very warm and beautiful. I could see a soft bed and beside that there was a door. When I opened it, there was strong light shining on me. I found my self in a palace, I explored it. I could see a lot of things, such as an enormous wardrobe filled with a lot of beautiful clothes, a room of beautiful paintings and a room for having dinner. The dining hall was very large and splendid. After that, I went back to the secret garden.

I was too tired so I fell a sleep on the bed. When I woke up, it was morning already. The tiny little rain drops shimmered under the sun. Everything became normal again. Suddenly, a strong wind passed by. The trees bowed to me. I saw a dog with eight legs and it was in colour. I was very surprised. At last, I went back home, but I would never forget this secret garden.

A Secret Garden

Jonas Wong (P.4D)

It was a cold windy dawn, A treasure map hid in my mailbox. Unbelieveable – Treasure in Mr.Bean's garden! I decided to have a marvelous adventure.

I ran as fast as a leopard towards this secret garden. I opened the gigantic grey gate cautiously. I mistakenly stepped on a stone. I rolled and rolled and rolled down the path. At last, I descended on a mysterious place. It was dark and I could not see anything, I panicked. My torch was the guide leading the way. Enormous plants stood as straight as lampposts. When a fierce wind blew, the trees were the band playing amazing music. The crunchy green leaves were like parachutes that fell slowly and scattered on the grass.

Thousands of colorful flowers were under the trees. Some were as large as footballs; some were as tiny as bees. Fingers of breezes caught the flowers and they wiggled with laughter. The lovely scent was in the air. I heard some horrid noise, A shimmering green frog with red spots hopped into the peculiar pond with some floating lotus, suddenly, cold water splashed into my mouth. The frog vanished.

There was a soggy and murky tree hole on a tremendous tree which was full of bats, "Plop! Plop!" The cruel bats flew out quickly, "The treasure is in the hole." I screamed. I jumped into the hole and crawled for hours. At last, a bright light came from the other side. When I came out, I saw my mother sleeping in our garden, What a secret garden!

An Exciting Trip to the Sea

Hugo Au (P.4D)

Look at the sunset! The setting sun looks like a round yellow yolk smiling at me... Summer is always important to me as I can get closer to the sea!

On a bright sunny day, my parents and I went to the Cheung Sha Beach to play sea sports. We took a bus to Cheung Sha Beach. I saw the long coastline and I knew the sea was waiting for me. Impatiently, I ran to the beach and lay on the warm sand.

We put all our things in the lockers and took a board to the sea and surfed on the waves. A coach taught me briefly how to surf. I stood on the "Stand Up Pedal Board" and started to surf. It was so cool!



Next, I learned how to windsurf. When the wind blew, the windsurf started to sail. The wind blew on my cheeks. It was very refreshing!

After that, I tried the kayak. I rowed the kayak far away from the beach. Though it was very strenuous, laborious and tiring, I could feel the freedom!

Later, I swam with my father and mother in the sea. The sea was warm and SALTY! I drank some of the sea water when the waves struck me. It was super salty. Yuck!

At sunset, I saw some cows walking on the beach. Some were lying on the soft sand and some were eating grass. Even cows like sand!

Later, we went to a Thai restaurant. We ate papaya salad, lettuce with meat, coconut and many other special foods from Thailand. They were yummy!

I felt excited and thrilled to play water sports. It was the first time for me to play it. I hope I can go to have fun at the beach soon!

My Memoir

Colson Yang (P.4D)

I am Yang Kwok Sum, Colson. I am nine years old. I was born on 8th January, 2002, in Tuen Mun Hospital, Hong Kong. Why did my parents give this name to me? According to my parents, “Kwok” is according to the genealogy of the Yang family. “Sum” in Chinese means “being treasured”. That means I am the treasured person in the family. Colson, is the direct translation of my Chinese name.

During my early childhood development, as told by my parents, I was labelled as a late developer as I failed in the childhood intellectual development assessments, particularly in the area of speech development when I was two years old. My parents were so worried that I could not speak a complete sentence compared to other kids of the same age. They were afraid that I was dumb. As my parents were planning to seek professional speech therapy, one morning when I woke up, I uttered some words and a sentence to my mother and she cried out loudly to my father, “Can you hear that? Colson is talking to me!” They hugged me tightly and kissed me. Since then, I have talked and talked like a parrot at home, sharing with my parents the daily events of my school life.

As I am the only child in Yang family, my parents want to give the best of everything to me. First, they tried to move from Tuen Mun to Kowloon as most of the famous kindergartens are located in Kowloon Tong. Luckily, after being interviewed by several kindergartens, I could enter Kentville Kindergarten, which is a renowned kindergarten in Hong Kong. I received a high quality education and enjoyed a happy school life in Kentville. My academic foundation was well-built there.

Soon it was time for Primary One admission interviews, my parents and I were very impressed by the talk given by the Ying Wa Primary School Principal, teachers and the school boys. Moreover, my mother's name has a "Ying" and my father's name has a "Wa" and they go together to spell "Ying Wa". That is the reason why my parents highly recommended me to be one of the Ying Wa boys. Fortunately, I could be one of the successful boys to study in Ying Wa among the one thousand and seven hundred candidates that year.

During these three years in Ying Wa, how the devotion and enthusiasm of my school Principal and teachers enlighten our school life and makes our study interesting. With the encouragement of my teachers and my parents, I showed great progress in my academic performance. I won school awards in Chinese and English, conduct and learning awards and the awards for the best student ambassador and so forth.

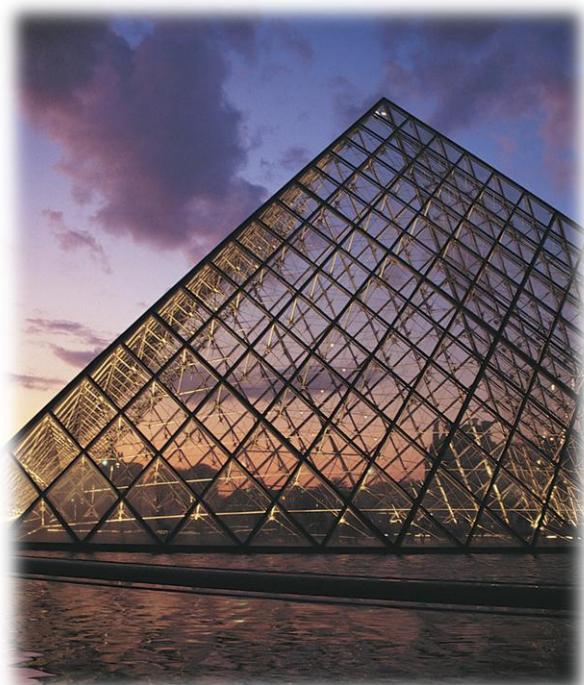
Life is full of curiosity and challenges. I will study hard and keep positive thinking in my life's journey.

A Trip to Europe for Eight Days

Jonas Cho (P.4D)

Last summer, Mom, dad and I went to Europe for ten days. (The first day and the last day were for travelling.) I went to Italy, France, Switzerland and Britain. What I want to talk about is the Louvre Museum in France.

That day was the greatest day of my life. When I saw the Louvre Museum's appearance, I asked myself, "Is it the work of an alien?" Actually, the glass pyramid at the entrance of Louvre Museum was designed by a famous architect, Mr. Pei Leoh Ming. After I entered the museum, the guide brought us to the basement. It was huge and it was like a castle. Then, we went to see the Venus. It was very lively, but she didn't have arms. Then, I went to see the painting—Mona Lisa. It was very weird that she looked at me all the time from different angles. Finally, I went to see The Winged Victory of Samothrace. It was an angel with no head and arms standing in front of a ship.



I saw a lot of paintings, too! I liked The Last Supper most. All of them were very great! I was very lucky to go to Europe as a nine-year-old. This trip gave me a lot of good memories. I will watch the videos again when I am free.

Work Hard, Play Harder

Sigmund Luey (P.5D)

I hear very often parents telling their children to work hard and to study hard. Teachers also tell their students to work hard on revision and prepare well for exams. Bosses expect their workers to work hard too. Every day, I can see different people working hard on different jobs, like teachers, policemen, salesmen, security guards, cleaners, bus drivers, taxi drivers and others... Many proverbs encourage people to work hard. For example, "You reap what you sow", means that you will be rewarded if you work hard.

No one likes to be called a "lazy pig". We all like to hear parents and teachers praises, "What a hard-working boy he is!" I believe it is important to work hard and not to be lazy, but I think it is equally important to find time to relax and play. "Work hard, play harder" is what we should keep in mind while we are working hard. This desire to play harder at the end of our work can drive us to work harder and finish our work earlier. We could use it as a reward for our hard day's work.

After all, the proverb "All work and no play makes a dull boy" tells us that without time off from work and without time to play harder, a person will become dull. Ying Wa boys are not dull. We all know when to work hard and when to play harder.

A Narrow Escape

Alvin Fan (P.6A)

William was an ordinary grocer who ran a grocery store in the middle of a busy street. Every morning, he would go to the bank, withdraw some money from his bank account and have another boring day at his grocery store selling fruit and vegetables. One morning, William went to the bank to withdraw his money as usual, but he had no idea what was waiting for him that day.

He passed the newspaper stand, bought a newspaper and carried on with his journey. On the headlines were, 'Two murderers escape from top-security prison.' 'Hmmm... They do look quite vicious,' muttered William and he proceeded to the bank, slightly worried.

At the bank, he had just withdrawn a thousand dollars from his account when two men, who he recognized as the murderers that had escaped from prison, burst in. They each brandished an automatic rifle and one of the robbers yelled. 'This is a robbery! Take out all your valuables and put them in this bag!' The other robber overpowered the security guards and gladly entered the bank's vault. The robbers stared at their loot, and as they looked at their hostages, William, terrified, dropped the money he had withdrawn. He ran towards his grocery store, with the money-seeking robbers in hot pursuit. William ran into a room, shut the door behind him and the robbers fired.

Soon, a red trail issued from the crack under the door. The robbers kicked the door, and it opened to reveal a mountain of watermelons peppered with bullet holes. But, they also found William standing in a

corner, panicking. The pleased robbers aimed at William but they were both shot in the head by nearby policemen that instant. William heaved a sign of relief. 'What a narrow escape!' he exclaimed.

My Worst Experience

Michael Yip (P.6A)

It all started when I opened that jar.

I was at the department store with my mum to go shopping last week. I was interested in those jars and asked if I could look at them. My mother told me to wait for her until she comes back and left me.

I went and examined the jars with joy. Then suddenly, I saw something moving out of the corner of my eye. I went over to check on it. It was a black jar with silver markings all over it. It was moving on its own, like something was trapped inside and struggling to get out of it.

What I did next was completely insane. I uncovered the jar. The next thing I knew, I was sprawled on the ground. A monster as tall as a three-storey building had escaped from the jar and it was destroying the whole department store. People screamed. I watched in horror as the monster took one of the shop assistants and flung her out of the department store. Then it went off, causing mass panic everywhere it went.

I could've run and gone back home where I'd be safe, but I had started this. I had to end it. Before I could change my mind, I picked up a knife from the floor and charged after the monster.

I leaped at it with my knife and drove it hilt-deep into its ear. When it turned, I stabbed it in the eye and pulled my knife across its neck. I slid down its body and hit the floor running. Behind me, the monster disintegrated into a pile of sand. I caught a glimpse of my mother looking

completely stunned, staring at me across the pile of sand. “What have you done?” And then I blacked out.

When I woke up, I was at the hospital, lying on a bed. I thought I heard police at the door. What? They’re going to arrest me for damaging the department store? This sure is my worst experience ever!

My Adventure

Michael Yip (P.6A)

Last summer holiday, I went camping with my friends. We went to the Amazon Forest and decided to stay there for a week.

One morning, I woke up earlier than usual. I went for a hike around the nearby hill alone. Suddenly, I heard a strange sound. I followed the sound to a cave. I looked into the entrance and saw a pair of glowing eyes in the dark. I decided not to go in there alone and went back to tell my friends.

I was back in an hour with Jason and Sally. We brought our torches to see clearly. Then we explored the cave. There were many ancient paintings on the sides. We went down some stone steps and arrived at a chamber.

The chamber was enormous. I caught sight of a treasure box and sprinted towards it. But then Jason held me back.

“What’s the matter?” I asked him.

Jason didn’t answer me. He pointed a finger towards the corner. I saw a huge dark figure with a pair of glowing eyes. Suddenly, it leapt through the air and landed right in front of us.

“Owooooo!” cried the massive werewolf, which grabbed Sally and intended to tear her apart. I immediately picked up a jagged stone from the floor while Jason tackled the werewolf from behind. The creature

dropped Sally, then looked at us murderously.

"Run!" I told my friends and we scrambled up the stairs. At the entrance, I found a boulder and together we managed to roll the boulder across the entrance. I caught sight of a pair of glowing eyes before the entrance was blocked. We returned to our tent safely and told the others about our adventure.

Although the others didn't believe it, I still discussed about the adventure with my friends. I wonder if the werewolf would break out from that cave and get its revenge.

In a Jungle

David Burd (P.6B)

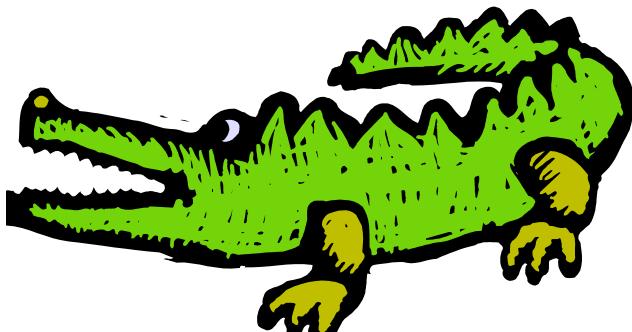
It was a nice summer holiday. So, my friend Harry and I decided to take a trip to Malaysia.

When we arrived, we booked a tour bus to go rafting. My family and I went rafting with me when I was a child.

We got onto the tour bus the next morning. A black man introduced himself. "Hi guys! Do you like rafting? I'm Mr. Sam and..." We went up a steep hill and the path was winding around. It didn't take us long to reach the riverbank. A tall lifeguard and a few people were waiting for us. The lifeguard instructed us how to keep safe while rafting. Then the people gave us some life jackets. We jumped into the rafts. Off we went!

I noticed that the river was very shallow. There were two other men sharing the same raft with us. They were from China and they were very friendly so we had a chat with them. One of them was called "Flip"!

I saw a lot of trees, monkeys and birds on the riverside. I even saw a very colourful parrot. While we were chatting again, I saw an alligator swimming towards our raft. I tried to warn them, but they were too busy chatting. It was too late! The "monster" dragged one of the Chinese guys down to the depths and to his death! "Flip!" cried the other guy! Seconds



later, water started flowing into the raft! Then, I found out that the “monster gator” had bitten a huge hole in the raft. The raft started to sink and vanished a few minutes later. So, we swam, swam and swam... But the lifeguard didn’t notice us.

When we reached the shore, we sat down for a long time. We were all very sad and depressed by Flip’s death. This is where our story began.

That night, we caught a little chimpanzee. Then I saw an old lighter. I was so lucky! We cooked the chimp over a fire. But the Chinese guy was still felt very depressed. After we finished our meal, we slept on the riverside.

The next morning, I found out I was stung by fire ants. Not only that, the Chinese guy was missing! I woke Harry up and we started to look for him... Then, we saw the most horrible and terrifying thing ever! The Chinese was caught by the man-eating beast! We both felt very sorry for him.

Half an hour later, we started walking down the river. While we stopped for a break, I saw a very colourful blossom. I wanted to take a picture of it but my camera got wet while we were swimming. Suddenly, we heard a monkey screaming from the trees. “What was that noise?” asked Harry. “I think... well I don’t know.” I replied. “Oh! Look! Look at that!” shouted Harry. “Shut up!” I roared. There was a leopard leaping around, holding a dead monkey in its jaws. We would have been dead by then if the leopard had noticed us.

That afternoon, while were walking, I kicked over a hive! Then,

trillions of bees came chasing at us! We ran and ran. “Ouch!” screeched Harry. He got stung on his hand! So I told him to hold his hand up while walking as that could reduce the swelling. We walked for another five minutes. Then we came across a waterfall. I nearly fell off the cliff of the waterfall. “Wow! The scenery is so magnificent here!” I said. “Yeah” said Harry. Then I saw some houses down the river. “Finally, we did it!” We both cried.

That was the last time I went rafting in that river. If it weren’t for that “gator”, we wouldn’t have got into so much trouble! Stupid alligator!



A Narrow Escape

Tristan Wan (P.6B)

It was a beautiful day, the sun was shinning, the birds were singing. What a perfect day for a walk! I am Jack Stiller, the chairman of the Daily News. As I was saying, today was a day off, and I was hoping to enjoy it.

As I was brushing my teeth, the doorbell rang. When I opened the door, something hit me hard and I fainted immediately. When I woke up, I was inside a cave. I had no idea where I was and what happened. When I tried to stand up, I found out that I was tied to a steel pole. "I'm being kidnapped!" I thought out loud. Suddenly, I remembered that I had a Swiss knife in my pocket. I quickly cut the ropes on the pole and I was free!

Suddenly, someone came in with a ski mask holding a gun. He didn't notice that my ropes were cut and he said "Ha ha ha! Now you're here you can't run your newspaper, ha-ha!"

When he turned around, I quickly ran out of the open door, the man was shouting and started shooting at me with his gun! The bullets missed my by millimeters. Suddenly, I saw a thin stick that was supporting the cave and I pulled it with all my might. It snapped and the cave started rumbling. I quickly ran out of the cave before it collapsed.

When the police came and arrested the man, I saw that he was my number one enemy, Drills, who always wanted to get me into trouble. "I'll get you next time!" said Drills. And that was the end of him.

A Dense Forest Adventure

Felipe Wong (P.6B)

One day, some of my friends Sam, Tom, Mary, Happy found me. They called me to join their team and go to a dense forest. I thought it would be fun, so I agreed. They said, "We will go to the dense forest on Sunday." I told my mum about all these things. My mum said, "Okay. But you have to do all your homework before you go there."

On Sunday, I had already finished my homework, so I headed to Sam's house because he was the leader of the team. All of us were in Sam's house. The time was 7:00a.m. We were very excited. Next, we went to a dense forest by bus. Sam said, "We are going to Happy Forest. Many people have been there before. The area of the dense forest is 200km²!" We were very surprised when we heard about it.

When we were in the forest, we could hear some of the birds' singing and we could see some monkeys leaping through the trees. Happy said, "I love it here!" "I love it here, too!" I replied.

Out of the blue, we saw a chimpanzee swinging in front of us! We were all scared but Tom said, "Don't be scared. If we don't attack it, it won't hurt us!" So, we didn't move until it was gone. In the Happy Forest, there were many winding paths. There was also a steep hill and a cliff! "We have to be careful. Walk carefully." Tom said.

Then, we saw a river in front of us. Happy said, "Let's splash!" Tom shouted, "Remember! Don't drink the water in the river." Suddenly, Mary was trembling with fear. She pointed at the shallow riverbank. There was

an enormous alligator! Beside it, there was a buffalo! Luckily, they did not notice us. Over the far end, we could see a beautiful waterfall. We just stood there for 30 minutes without saying a word. We were stunned and speechless. The beautiful scenery made us feel peaceful in our hearts.

All of a sudden, we heard something howling! The alligator ate the buffalo! So we ran away as fast as we could. Then, we stopped and took a rest. Tom said, "We are really lucky that we could escape."

It was definitely a thrilling adventure of my life! I would never forget it!

A World Inside A Book

Michael Lam (P.6C)

“What an exciting story!” I said as I was reading my new book from my uncle. It was a book about a world outside the universe. There were scary monsters and aliens in the world. I knew they were fake so I wasn’t frightened. I was quite sleepy so I lied down with the books. “I wonder what would happen if I could go inside that book...” I said to myself.

Suddenly, there was a bright silver light. It blinded me. The next thing I knew was that I was standing on a red ground. There were strange creatures everywhere. There were red ball-like creatures rolling on the ground and some flower-like elves dancing on a purple lake. I looked up at my book and found a similar picture.

“Oh no! I am inside the book!” I thought. Now I knew the creatures weren’t ‘fake’. I just wanted to go back home. I paced forward near where I stood when I came. I didn’t know what to do.

Suddenly, a huge yellow ‘dinosaur’ appeared, I thought it looked like a dinosaur. I looked up in the book and found that its name was ‘Acarosa’. The book wrote, “Acarosa likes to eat creatures with blood.” “Oh no! I am a creature with blood!” I thought. Then, I sprinted towards a tree-like thing. I ran as fast as possible. The Acarosa roared violently. Then, it jumped high and was about to land on me. I quickly ran away. Suddenly, a monkey-like creature came and pressed a ‘button’ on the Acarosa and the Acarosa ran away. The monkey-like creature suddenly said, “Hello.” So I said, “Hello.”

"This is Helara Universe. You come from the Yebana Universe. Do you know?" It said to me. I was surprised. "Yebana! Helara! You don't know? These are the two universes in the super enormous megaverse. I know you came here through the book. The book you are reading is magical. Its author, Alex, came here by accident a long time ago. He wrote about his adventure in a book. If anyone who has the book wishes to come here, he will come here." The monkey explained.

"I can take you home but you must help me first." The monkey said.

I wanted to go home so I agreed. "Well, the energy on the planet, which is similar to oil on Earth, isn't enough for us. And scientists said that we would die very soon under this situation. But we have heard about a powerful energy in the Yebana Universe. Many years ago, we found the energy hidden in something that Alex left. A piece of it can provide energy for ten years." The monkey said as it showed me a piece of paper.

"Oh! That's paper!" I said.

"This is paper? So, you can't help us. Because if we tear off the paper from this book, you will never go home." The monkey said sadly.

"Please take out the pages. I want to save you. I can just live with you." I said as I tore off pages from my book.

"Thank you!" It said.

I wandered around after I tore off the pages. I soon went into a

beautiful cave.

I began to regret because I missed my parents. An Acarosa suddenly chased me.

I screamed as I ran deep into the cave. "Help!" I cried as I ran as fast as possible. The ground was shaking. I ran towards a lake. I saw a sign "To Yebana Universe". Then I jumped into the lake and swam as fast as I could. Suddenly, there was a bright silver light and I couldn't see anything.

When I opened my eyes, I was back home again. The book was still in my hands.

It wrote, "The monkeys on the planet invented a new energy and they lived happily."

The ending had changed! Was the adventure real or not?

The Animal

Chapman Chow (P.6C)

It was a quiet week, much different from the last one. I went camping, but it was more than a usual camping...

I was camping with my friends. Everything was fine and we could not imagine the danger we had on the last day. I went exploring in the morning alone. I was brave enough because I thought that I had enough experience. Suddenly, there was a sound that echoed through the trees. I heard some sound behind me and I turned around. My friends caught up with me and I told them what I heard. We then decided to find out what it was.

We arrived in front of a cave and heard the same sound again. One of our friends started to worry and wanted to leave but the next moment, my stomach lurched as I caught sight of a baby lion. It did not seem keen to attack and if we moved gently, it might not even notice us.

Sweat dropping, heart beating fast, we tip-toed away from the baby lion. Just as I wanted to say "Phew", I felt the paw of the baby lion on my leg. I screamed and my friends shouted, "HELP! SOMEONE COME AND SAVE US!" The lion let go of me and just sat on the grass. It did not harm anyone. In fact, (I thought I was crazy!) I patted its head like a dog. My friends looked at me with fear as if I'd gone mad.

The next moment the police car broke the silence and police were pointing their guns at the innocent lion. I stood between the lion cub and the guns immediately. I spread out my arms and said, "No! Please, it's

harmless although it's a lion. It did not offend anyone." The police stared at each other and I was assured that they were communicating with eye sights instead of words. They seemed to have a decision as they headed back to the car. I was thinking hard when the police brought back a cage that broke my thoughts.

Anger was rising in my body that I could not stop myself from shouting furiously," Did I tell you to do this?"

"Yes, we know kid. But we need to keep it away from people first." interrupted the police. "You will be afraid if you see a lion, won't you?" Obviously, this was not a question but a statement. "And please control your feelings."

Several minutes later, a truck arrived and left with the lion. At the look of my face, he added, "Do not worry, it will be sent to a vet and we will investigate why a wild baby lion is here," said the police. "You all have already had enough shock, haven't you?" But without waiting for a reply, he continued, "We will inform your parents and give you a lift."

We took the police car and went to the police station. The journey took only a short period but it was ages to me. During the ride, the scene that just happened made me perplexed. How could that be? A lion in here? But then, I thought about the lion's behavior. At that moment, I actually felt that I was fond of that lion.

After this camp, I had the kind of feeling that I had not had for years. I was simply enchanted by the lion. I hope that one day, I could meet it again.

An Encounter with an Alien

Herman Yau (P.6C)

"Is it true?" Alex asked. "OK, try this." Bob said and he slapped on Alex's face. "Ouch! That hurts!" said Alex, "I told you that you can't slap, the last time when you did this to me!" "Sorry." said Bob, "at least we know that we are not dreaming!" Yes, in front of them was a strange creature or you can say, 'alien', with its big UFO! Alex and Bob were hiding behind a tree.

Suddenly, "it" turned to the direction of Alex and Bob, although it couldn't see them, but Alex and Bob saw it. Alex looked carefully, it had one eye and two ears liked trumpet, also he had two legs with no toes and three arms, maybe they worked too much.

"I know I should not have come with you," said Alex. He was on a picnic with Bob and their mother and father. Alex and Bob were taking a walk after eating, in the afternoon, and they met the alien.

"I want a closer look at the alien," and Bob ran out to hide behind another tree. "Don't do that!" Alex shouted. The alien heard everything and it let out some green air from its hand. Alex and Bob closed their eyes, when they opened their eyes, they were lying on the grass.

"True thing?" said Alex. "Or a dream?" asked Bob, "secret?" "Yes, of course!" They smiled, and they ran back to where their mother was.

Life Without I.T.

Ernest Chow (P.6C)

One unusual morning, when I woke up I searched high and low for my new iPhone. "WHAT?" I bellowed. "My favourite is gone!" In no time I put on my spectacles and dashed to my dad's bedroom.

"BANG!" I opened the door, panting and gasping. "Dad, do you know where my..." No sooner had I finished what I wanted to say than I heard a sickening thud, 'Thump!' On the floor there was my dad, crying hysterically.

"What's wrong, dad?" I asked. "All of our mobile phones, laptops and desktops are.... gone!" bawled my dad. Just then, my mom came in. "We have searched every single corner of the house, but the gadgets are nowhere to be seen" she added.

My curiosity got the better of me and I decided to find out what had happened. I mounted my momagsonetic (= magnetic + solar + motor) bike (MSM bike) and rode off. On the way, I was astonished to see that the electronic products in some electrical appliances stores like Broadway and Fortress were all gone! On the street, there were groans followed by moans. People questioned why their mobile phones had vanished into the thin air. The sound seemed to be coming from the far end of the bridge, so I headed for it.

As I was zipping along the bridge, I noticed a patch of green light being emitted from the sky. Without a second thought, I sped to the scene with my MSM bike.

It was completely silent there as if I was in a graveyard. Not even a spirit could be seen as the light was sucking the gadgets up. All of a sudden, two 'shadows' from high above 'landed' in front of me.

Yuck! In front of me emerged two ALIENS. “^#-^~!#!%,” they mumbled.

I could hardly understand what they were saying, so I turned on my gizmo – a newly invented earpiece that could translate any language.

“What are you DOING here, human?”

“That is exactly what I want to ask you guys, Mr Alien!” I answered back “And why have all the gadgets of this territory vanished? Why?”

“To REWARD you all for your selfishness!” one of the aliens growled sarcastically in reply.

“We have been watching your planet for over 20 years and witnessing how your environment and lifestyle have been ruined by the overuse of electronic products. Have any of you ever thought of the disastrous consequences it brings? You’ve been doing so badly that I’ll …err. I mean, we’ll punish you humans. You can’t use any electronic product EVER AGAIN!” the aliens shouted.

“Oh, please don’t punish us, Mr. Alien. We promise not to behave like this anymore.” I begged for mercy.

“You should keep your word then! That’s OK, forgive him, Boss!” the

alien said.

“Okay Okay, I will forgive you, in the name of the Emperor of Mars. Let’s go and give them back the gadgets we collected!” the Boss of the aliens ordered.

In a split second, everything went back to normal.

I sighed with relief, “Phew! Thank God, we’ve just TASTED a brief moment of life without IT. I do hope everyone living on this planet will learn a lesson and use IT properly, wisely and sensibly!”

Life Without I.T.

Chapman Chow (P.6C)

Looking around, you can see how information technology has taken over our usual and natural life. Imagine life without cell phones, computers, televisions, etc. What do you think life would be like?

With the invention of information technology in the recent decades, our lifestyle has become brilliant and convenient. People get used to living in an informative and technological world. It is incredible to think about life without I.T.

Without modern mobile phones as one of the innovative devices, it is impossible for humans to communicate via voice, text and even email anywhere, and interact across vast geographical areas. Besides, people may get lost as they cannot find the place without using global positioning system.

In addition, if computers disappear, there will be no platform for people to surf the Internet and search for information timely and swiftly. People also find it boring and time wasting if they do repetitive work without the help of computers. Moreover, if we do not have televisions as a medium of information, we would no longer know the news around the world, cannot have live information about several events like sports and other events happening on the globe. Neither adults nor kids will have the fun and enjoyment of movies and drama with convenience, by one-touch of the television.

On the other hand, it seems that having I.T. makes us walk the

opposite side from nature. If our life was without I.T., we could live naturally and be more relaxed than ever. Without computer games or the Internet, we could focus more on personal communication and care for others. We could slow our pace down and hope to have a peaceful and quiet life without technology.

It opened a new era when humans started to use I.T. which became important and essential to people, as it changed human living style. It also made our life easier and better. We, however, should not rely on I.T. too much. We should maintain our traditional wisdom and human knowledge, rather than being overly dependent on a machine. While making use of information technology, we should be considerate about keeping our environment green and clean.

Facts about Islam

Jason Wu (P.6D)

Besides Christianity and Buddhism, Islam is actually a popular religion in the world. There are many famous Islamic tales, for example Aladdin, and Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves.

There is a symbol for Islam. It is a crescent moon with a star above it. It usually appears on the flag of many Muslim countries like Pakistan. In the Islamic calendar, each new month begins when a new crescent moon appears.

The Islamic holy book is called the Koran. Muslims believe that it contains the exact word of 'god'. Muslim families live according to the rules set out by their religion. There are rules about how to dress, what to eat, and how to behave. And they mustn't gamble, talk about people behind their backs, be lazy or interfere in other people's business.

Muslims worship in a mosque. They also meet others, share news, and offer support to one another there. They take off their shoes before they enter the prayer hall. Male and female worshipers have separate areas for worship. There are four main positions used for prayers when performing 'Salat', which is a kind of prayer performed five times a day. They are 'standing', 'bowing', 'kneeling', and 'prostration'.

Though there is always mystery about Islam, there are 1.5 billion Muslims in the world. There are 25 countries, mainly located in Middle East, Africa and Asia, where more than 95% of the population is Muslim!

Novella Novelty

“A novella is a written, fictional and prose narrative, usually longer than a novelette but shorter than a novel. The word ‘novella’ derives from Italian, meaning ‘new’.”



Sam Foy and the Eternal Amulet

John Ho (P.6A)

Winner of Fiction, Group 5, Hong Kong Young Writers Awards 2012

Chapter 1 THE TANGGULA MOUNTAINS

An archaeologist walked down the brown painted stairs, he wore rather dirty clothes, and dark brown hair which had not been cut for almost a year, flowed down his head. The dirty poor man walked two steps and made coffee in the kitchen. His house was surprisingly small and full of rubbish: books about the Earth, and nature lay open on his small table.

The archaeologist looked at a sauce-covered calendar and said to himself, “A rock mountain to climb this day.”

He was fit despite his poverty. Muscles flexed while he wore the expensive climbing gear. He took a booklet full of weird looking words and opened the metal door in front of him.

Outside was the famous Yangtze River, not exactly the river but the source, the glaciers of the Tanggula Mountains. The ice cracked while he stood, still looking at his booklet with the weird words. The sparkling ice reflected the sun. High mountains stood still behind the thinking man.

The archaeologist closed the book, and on the cover was written ‘Sam Foy’, that was his name. Sam stopped thinking and started to climb the highest mountains of all. The mountain was steep and sharp, every pull made Sam gasp. He climbed until he saw a cave, with ice dangling inside; it was the most frightening cave Sam had ever seen. He checked everywhere while gasping for his breath, collecting rocks. When he had finished, he made sure everything was collected, and ticked his booklet. He cracked his neck and began to hike again.

After hiking for some time, he found a bigger cave on top of the cave he had just visited, and went into it, checking stuff as usual. When everything was collected, he started hiking back to his small house.

While opening the door, he heard a shuffling noise beneath his feet and "Bang!" a large v-shaped snake burst out of the ground. It started curling up around Sam's foot, his chest then his neck, and started choking him with its long body. Sam was now helpless and hopeless, the big force pulled him off his feet, he tried to pull his way out but the snake was too strong for him.

As the snake was ready to deliver a lethal strike, Sam found a pocketknife between his fingers and jabbed the venomous snake's belly. The icy-blue snake struggled but still looked fine, its head shot straight at Sam's neck and started to eject venom at the poor man. A necklace in the shape of dragons chasing a ball flew onto the floor.

While the snake bit viciously on the archaeologist's neck, the archaeologist was trying to ignore the pain and stab fiercely at the wound he made before. With his last bit of strength, he chopped the vicious snake into two.

He got to his house and wobbled through the kitchen. He tried to grab the bottle of yellow liquor on top of a shelf, but his vision started to blur, he fell down on the wooden floor, gasping for life and breath, but he could not give up.

His wobbly hand cracked the bottle of the yellow liquor, the liquor burst out of the bottle and into the archaeologist's mouth. Then he blacked out.

Chapter 2 A VILLIAN DECIDES TO CATCH AN AMULET

A high-pitched laugh echoed through the dark basement. A man in a purple robe turned around. The sight of his face could scare an elephant. The man's face was half-android, one of his ears was gone, dry blood surrounded the metal tube; his eyes were full of red lines. A long scar was still visible beneath the mechanical face.

He walked around the room still laughing. "Butlerbot," he cried.

A huge armoured android marched forward.

"Yes, sir," a deep, emotional voice said.

"Pack up my things and put them into our best ship, twenty droids are needed, and arm yourself, we have an amulet to catch."

The mad scientist pushed a button in his electronic arm, and a huge container ship floated up until it was high enough to board. Butlerbot came back with a small bag and twenty small different types of droids. The mechanical butler opened the door for the mad scientist and got on the ship, which was heavier than two hundred tanks, followed by twenty metal droids.

The container ship was huge even for an aircraft carrier. It was like a container ship from the outside, but inside was like the biggest warship in the world.

The mad scientist slid into his telepathic seat and began to flip through the switches. "Butlerbot, sail to China ... Shanghai!"

A glowing screen shimmered to life in front of the half mechanical man, "Mr Avoc, welcome onboard."

The new-tech computer reported in a lively voice.

"All systems checked?" Avoc called out, tapping on a touch-screen keyboard.

"Yes, Mr Avoc."

"Good, start engine."

A humming sound vibrated loudly in the ship, and then a huge lift pushed down the container ship until its whole body floated on the sea. They were in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, gliding loudly on the blue sea.

After a few moments, red lights flashed on the big video screen, and then the computer warned Avoc.

"Mr Avoc, we have two aircraft carriers blocking our way," the computer boomed out.

"Ready our anti-ship missiles. I don't want a war here. Ready to fire?" the mad scientist commanded.

"Yes, Mr Avoc, fire when you want to."

"Now."

Three black, evil-looking missiles flew from the side of the ship. They glided smoothly and noisily towards the visible aircraft carriers. Then there was a silent explosion, and the aircraft carriers were gone.

"You like my upgraded version the US anti-ship missiles?" After the explosion, Avoc asked his butler.

"It's very good, and evil, my sir."

"Thank you. Now stop that chit-chat, let's go full speed, I'm bored."

"We're accelerating, Mr Avoc."

The computer replied, "Full speed now."

"Okay," the mad scientist commented and started humming.

Suddenly a loud bang shook the ship. Red lights flashed them along with loud noises. "The ship's left engine is heavily damaged," the computer reported strictly. "A frigate has attacked us; they're well-armed, return fire or escape, Mr Avoc?"

"Well, return fire with the mini missiles," replied Avoc casually.

"Mini missiles are ready, Mr Avoc, but the frigate has already

communicated with other attack ships and five more will come."

"Oh, good, let's have some fun."

After two minutes, Mr Avoc questioned, "Is the mini missile ready?"

"Yes, it's ready."

"Okay then, shoot them and turn to full combat mode."

"But...Mr..."

"Now."

"Okay, Mr Avoc." Hesitatingly, the computer obeyed.

After a few moments of silence, the huge ship began to transform. The deck became wider, and every metal box unfolded, and inside them were different cannons. After the transformation, the old ship was now a shining battleship.

Meanwhile, six frigates had surrounded the battleship, firing missiles at it.

Inside the battleship, nothing bothered Avoc. He waited until the firing stopped and then pressed a red button with a skull on it.

Millions of lightning bolts swarmed around the six helpless frigates. Every corner of the ships was covered with blue explosives, then ... Boom! The whole surface of the ships turned to ashes. All that was left on the sea was black smoke.

"Bravo, my sir, your invention was incredible, amazing," Butlerbot said with a kind of pleasing tone.

"You like it?" the mad scientist asked delightedly.

"Yes, indeed."

"I really don't want to wait. How fast are we going? It's like, taking me a year to get to China. We're moving at 180 kilometres per hour, and besides, we're in China now, Mr Avoc," the computer said automatically.

"Great, where?"

"Shanghai."

Chapter 3 A LONG LOST SOUL ON GELANDANDONG PEAK

An old man wearing an animal skin watched Sam Foy with his large pupils. His white untidy moustache swayed when the wind blew. His hands were skinny and full of bug bites. Beside him burned a weak fire.

Sam lay on a bamboo bed, the snake wound was purple and dry blood covered it. After a few minutes, Sam's eyes opened without power or focus.

"Yes! Yes! You're alive!" the old man yelled. His voice was childish like a three-year old. "Whuhh," Sam muttered in confusion.

"All that carrying, it paid off," the childish old man sang while jumping up and down with happiness. "Yeah, you know you are very heavy. It took a lot of time carrying you piggyback from the metal house to my house. I couldn't go and eat my snakes, and I couldn't play with snow..." The old man talked for so long, Sam got up, "Wait, you saved me from the snake bite?" "Not really, I was trying to catch the snake for lunch, but I saw you. I thought it was better to eat you. You cannot say I saved you. But ...yes, you can say so..."

Along he went, Sam waited for him to stop babbling, but the old man could not stop. He now talked about his life and then about food. Finally, Sam yelled at him.

"Stop! You're so annoying. So you carried me here?"

"Yes." The old man thought for a moment and continued, "But not really, that's only half-true. I actually pulled, and pushed you at times. So it is not an actual yes, as you know you're quite heavy and..."

He kept on talking without reason continuously. Sam sighed. "The weirdest person I ever met." He began to limp towards the table with a

tattered sheet of paper on it.

Suddenly, he yelled with surprise, "Wow! You are Professor Imere! All this time we thought you were lost. So you're actually living here?" The man turned around slowly and sighed, "I was a famous and lucky man before but I've lost all of it, because of this." Imere pointed his crooked finger at the yellowing map, "That is why I have lost everything - the map for the eternal amulet, I have been seeking it for so many years, and it has fried my brain."

"You ... you ... too want to find the amulet the emperor Qin Shi Huang wanted? The amulet containing the medicine to make whoever eats it immortal?"

"Oh, yes. However, there is a lot you do not know. When Xu Fu the court sorcerer sailed out to find the elixir of life the second time, he escaped to an island."

"So you're saying that that medicine doesn't exist?" Sam cut in fast and with a little bit of disappointment.

"Wait for me to finish." The professor's voice had suddenly become normal.

"Actually, Xu Fu had hidden in an underwater cave, which I perceive is somewhere in the Yangtze River. Do not be mistaken, Xu Fu had really found the elixir of life. But he was too old to control his army from getting it. At last, someone really ate it but was eventually killed by the poison. Legend has it that only a person who is not greedy could have it, so it is true. With his last breath, Xu Fu put the elixir of life in an amulet, and hid it somewhere no one knows."

Sam was now standing on the floor, waiting patiently for the old man to finish.

"So, the point is, I want to find it. But I do not know how to find it. I need your help."

"Ok, you know what? I want to find the amulet too, that's why I came here, I need your help since you know so much. I can help you," Sam said. "Deal?"

"Yes."

"And by the way, this thing laid fallen beside you when I saved you." Imere gave Sam a dragon shaped necklace.

"Thank you so much."

They shook hands for a while. Sam broke the silence by asking, "So ... umm ... What do we do now?"

"I don't know," the professor replied childishly again. "What do you do when you've lost your candy?"

"Uh, go find it?" puzzled, the archaeologist answered.

"Yes! So let's go find it now!" the old man said joyfully.

"But uh, we don't have any water or food ... umm, shouldn't we go get ready first?" Sam asked.

"Don't worry, we will find it along the way, okay? Let's go."

"Umm...." Sam hesitated but followed him.

They went out of the cave and on a journey that no one had ever had embarked on before.

Chapter 4 AVOC NEEDS A GIRL TO SOLVE A PROBLEM

Again, the gigantic warship transformed into a container ship to avoid being captured by the police.

"Computer," the mad scientist said.

"Yes?"

"Where's our fake passport?"

There was a silent pause, and then the computer said, "We haven't

prepared it." "What?" frightened, Avoc yelled.

"How long do you need to create a false identification?"

"About ten minutes," the computer tremulously replied.

"Oh no!" When he was scared, Avoc's face twisted in weird ways. He thought for a moment. "Everyone in the world knows about my criminal activities; the police will recognize me without a second thought."

"What about a decoy? Here the police aren't very smart; they wouldn't search our ship." After some quick thinking, Avoc said calmly, "Butlerbot, did you bring the decoy droid?" "Yes, my sir," Butlerbot replied.

"Good, I have a plan. Give it to me to make up."

After a while, Butlerbot brought a jelly-like thing on a freezer trolley to the mad scientist. The liquid-like thing turned to different colours in seconds, just like a fast-forwarded movie. The freezer trolley kept the decoy droid from hardening.

"Butlerbot, make a copy of me," commanded the mad scientist.

The bodyguard poked a few buttons on the trolley and a green beam scanned Avoc.

After a second, a globe-like shape started to form, it grew human-like hands and then a tall faceless human body, at last details were added.

A clone of Avoc appeared in front of Butlerbot, standing still, waiting for a command. Avoc said to his other self, "You'll need to take me hostage in front of the police, but do not really shoot me. When they attack you, try to fight back, but let them catch you, but not easily."

The other Avoc vibrated a while, and then he started walking just like the real Avoc. "Good. Butlerbot, can you please give me the 'mask maker,'" Avoc said to the huge robot. "Yes sir," it replied.

He began sliding it towards the mad scientist, and soon a large tube-like machine stood in front of Avoc.

"Make up whole body: Susan Lewis, a phone, T-shirt and jeans with flip-flops, and long brown hair." Then the mad scientist stepped into the tube, waiting.

"The make-up will begin in three seconds. Three, two, one," a female robotic voice said from the tube.

Avoc held his breath while a body jacket covered his body. Twirling metal brushes painted and added the details on the body jacket. An 18-year-old girl's naked body was now Avoc. Then clothes were put on the body: jacket, T-shirt, jeans ... just as Avoc wanted. After that, a phone was put by a mechanical claw into girl-Avoc's pocket. Finally, a voice changer machine was pasted on the back of girl-Avoc's head beneath the hair. Girl-Avoc stepped out of the tube and a hole appeared next to her; she jumped in and re-appeared on the bridge just before a police officer came in.

The clone-Avoc dashed out of the ship visibly for the police officer to catch. It grabbed the young girl and seized her as a hostage with a gun in his hand.

"Stop," it yelled. "Or she dies!"

The police officer froze for a while, and then five more police officers came and guns pointed at clone-Avoc, sweating in fear.

Clone-Avoc started backing away from the police officer while the passengers screamed, running away. However, unfortunately, it tripped and although it eventually held its ground, but it was already enough time for the police officer to catch clone-Avoc. One of the policemen grabbed its leg, and another one handcuffed it. That did not stop clone-Avoc. It opened fire wildly at the police but failed to escape. A huge muscular body slammed at it. It staggered and fell on its knees. The big policeman lifted up clone-Avoc onto his shoulders and walked away.

One of the policemen took care of the girl, and asked, "Are you

okay?"

"Yeah, I'm more than fine. That was so cool!" girl-Avoc cooed in delight. With the voice changer, her voice was no different from a normal girl's.

"Follow me; we have some questions to ask you."

Chapter 5 RESCUE MISSION

Hiking slippery land in Lantern Shadow Gorge made Sam pray to the gods. Imere had not even moaned after ten hours of hiking, Sam wondered if he was a ghost.

Sam walked for a few steps, then he couldn't stand it - he collapsed on the slope and blacked out.

Imere didn't realize Sam had fainted, so he kept on walking until he saw a cliff blocking his way. Imere thought hard, then started looking for a trunk, but no tree or grass was growing on the land. He looked at the cliff again and then a container ship passed by just below his feet. It honked loudly as it went.

Suddenly a big black titanium arm hit Imere in his stomach. The black figure made Imere unconscious then threw him in a bag. The figure then jumped onto a ship with a great bang. After that, the mysterious man took off his hat and ... it was Butlerbot.

Sam woke up and found himself alone in a deep canyon. After he blacked out, he could not find the professor.

He got up, lost on a cliff. The map had been in Imere's hand. He was totally lost. A dark figure sprinted by. Sam quickly asked. "Hey, do you know where I am?" The black figure turned around, but then ran away.

"Hey!" Sam yelled again.

He ran, following him. However quickly he ran, the black thing ran faster. However, a few moments later, he came back with a bag on his shoulders, and then ran away before Sam could say anything.

Hopeless, Sam crouched down on the rock. Suddenly he found an old paper, yellow and torn. He kicked it away, frustrated, but then he realized it was Imere's treasure map.

"But how could Imere drop this?" he thought. "It's very important to him."

He tried to recall. "But no, its impossible Imere had dropped the map; no one had even walked past him." Unless...

"The dark figure, duffel bag... he must have caught Imere, so he hid him in a bag, but accidentally forgot the map." He gasped with fear, and then started running towards the figure.

He passed through several mountains, and then the cliff that had stopped Imere stopped him. He wondered, "Where did the figure go?"

He looked around, and saw a huge ship moving through the river, with the figure on it.

He quickly climbed down the cliff, and then spied on the ship, waiting for the right time to jump on it.

The ship was now at his right, middle. Jump! He launched himself in the air.

The wind whistled by when he jumped off the cliff. His hair stood straight. He landed on the ship with an unhappy ending. His ankle sprained in a bad way. He collapsed moaning. He tried to stand up, but could not.

A robot thing floated towards him, Sam tried to get hold of something to help him stand, but there was nothing for him to hold on to.

He struggled and crawled through the containers, finding some sort of a stick. The robot was now close, he needed to be fast. A long sniper

hung loose in one open container. Sam spotted it, and then crawled faster. The archaeologist pulled it out and without thinking, shot the robot in the middle of its eye.

The robot clicked and buckled, then fell on the ground lifeless.

Sam sighed with relief, and then started to walk with the sniper held between his shoulders.

Chapter 6 A 'SHOCKING' CURSE

The professor sat, facing Avoc with an expression that could not be read. They used to be co-workers a long time ago on a science research project, but a serious chemical explosion had blown Avoc's head apart. Fortunately, with advanced technology he had healed himself, but had become mad as a result.

The accident had made Avoc a mad criminal, wanting to take revenge on Imere. Avoc hated him so much that he planted a bomb to Imere's home. It damaged Imere's brain, but failed to kill him. Imere escaped to the Tanggula Mountains, hoping that Avoc would not find him. After this, Imere had found the map to the eternal amulet, and then he had rescued Sam.

"Hello, Imere," Avoc said with ease. "We meet again." "Hello, Avoc! How are you?" replied Imere, smiling. "Good to see you too. Your brain fried?"

"Yes! How do you know?"

"I can tell from your eyes, they are gaping without focus." "How about you, why is your face gone?"

"An injury from your stupid move."

His face twisted in ways so strange it made him uglier, he was filled

with hatred, sadness and disappointment...

"Oh, that one, Poor little guy. God bless me, I got away." The professor started to laugh.

"Now it's my turn to laugh." The machine and the burnt face couldn't hide the happiness on the mad scientist's face. His mouth was smiling. He pressed a button on his chair slowly, with anger and happiness.

Two handcuffs gripped Imere's wrist, a metal helmet was placed on Imere's head by a steel claw and a metal suit with holes in it was put on him too. Then electrical lines were plugged into the sockets.

"What is this? Avoc, I can't move!" Imere cried out, panicking.

"Nothing, It's just a video game." Avoc was now laughing crazily.

Yellow lights ran through the power lines through the metal suit. Shocked, the poor professor screamed with rage. He struggled, but could not move, because the metal chains held him. He tried to get away from the suit but failed.

Electricity continuously ran through the armour, torturing Imere. Imere kept screaming, but Avoc did not care.

The mad scientist turned a dial. On it were the words: "Torture", "Pain", "Worst" and "Insane" Avoc turned the dial until the arrow pointed to "Worst".

Sam looked around the flight deck, checking for clues about where the professor was. He limped towards the bridge.

Sam opened the door to the bridge. He limped in, seeing if there were any guards. Suddenly, he spotted a surveillance room; he hid behind a rubbish bin. Then he spotted a monitor showing Avoc torturing Professor Imere in the control room.

Sam gasped with fear; he slowly walked out of the surveillance room, and then quickly ran upstairs.

Imere bellowed in rage. His eyes poured blood. He felt more and

more pain. His whole body flexed uncomfortably. Saliva flew out of his mouth like water guns.

A crazy laughter filled the room. Avoc twisted the wheel to "Insane", hands trembling. A red button appeared on the chair, just beneath Avoc's hand.

He pushed the button hard, and blue electricity ran through the power lines, and the armour was injected by it.

Imere felt the high power electricity, he screamed for a second, then collapsed. Repeatedly Avoc pressed the button. Every time the blue light went into the armour, the professor trembled.

After some time, the professor's skin was black, burnt. Eyeballs nearly popped out from his sockets. His hair was straight, pointed to the sky, but just a few strands were left.

"One more should do it," Avoc said finally.

He raised his hand, ready to press the button.

Sam tried to hurry up but always ended up falling to the bottom of the stairs. He decided that using an elevator would be faster. He limped to the elevator and waited. Ding! The elevator door swung open, but there was a droid in there. Sam dropped down to the floor without thinking.

"What the..." the droid said.

Before the droid could react, Sam slid into the elevator and closed the door. Sam sighed with relief; he pushed the fourth button on the elevator wall, and then waited impatiently.

Suddenly, the elevator stopped on the second floor, and without warning, the door swung opened.

Sam tried to hide but there was no place. Another droid floated towards Sam, and then it said with frustration, "Uh ... Who are you?"

Sam replied, "You should know me."

Then he punched it in its most important part.

During the fight, the elevator had come to the fourth floor – the control room.

He raced to the door, and yelled, “Stop!”

Sam raced to Avoc, and punched him in the face.

While Avoc flew off the chair, Sam unlocked Imere with a push of the button on the chair.

He lifted Imere, and ran towards the deck of the ship, and then he drove a powerboat off the hangar, away from the ship. Avoc climbed back into his chair.

Butlerbot stood still on the ground beside him. “Sir?”

“They can’t go far, let them go,” the mad scientist said.

Chapter 7 A DAM EATS AVOC’S SHIP

The ship sailed to the famous Three Gorges Dam in two hours. They stopped and waited for the ship lock to lower the ship. They waited for a while, but nothing happened.

“Computer, check the ship lock,” Avoc said, annoyed.

“Mr Avoc, the security guards were playing QQ games on the computer, we cannot download any information.”

“Stupid guards,” the mad scientist shouted angrily, “Butlerbot, see how you can help me,” continued the mad scientist.

“Yes, sir,” it replied.

Butlerbot jumped through the window and sprinted to the control tower.

After a while, Butlerbot came back and reported, “There’s no electricity in that dam now and the guard is checking it.”

“I will not waste my time on this stupid dam!” Avoc yelled.

He pressed a few buttons on his chair and a screen floated onto the

floor.

"Computer," Avoc asked.

"Yes?" it replied.

"Is it possible to shoot through this ship lock?"

"Yes, it is possible, but it will collapse and the rocks will heavily damage our ship. Since we are already damaged by the frigates, the rocks can sink our ship." "I don't care, blast them."

"With what, sir?"

"All of our ammunition!"

"There's a great risk."

"I said blast them!" Avoc commanded fiercely.

"Yes sir." Unwillingly, the computer obeyed.

"And don't forget, turn to battle mode, 1.2.3 ... accelerate!"

The ship changed while it glided faster towards the dam.

"Shoot!" Avoc yelled.

Guns and cannons sprouted out from the deck, jets, tanks slid out from the side, just for the weapons to fire. Millions of cannons fired at once, the noise was so loud that the glass covering the warship cracked.

They kept firing, until the first ship lock collapsed. The huge warship tried to get away from bigger rocks, but it was no speedboat. Rocks, scrap metal, fell on the warship, shattering everything on the deck. A huge rock cracked the whole satellite dish on the control tower, making screens go dark.

The warship raced through the first ship lock, and then the second ship lock exploded to pieces.

The cannons tried to blow away bigger metal or rocks before they reached the warship, but could not. Rocks, shot from the sky like missiles, destroying everything; the whole elevator sank in the sea.

They shot the third ship lock crazily, but the most powerful ones ran

out of bullets. The third gate had not really collapsed; it was broken into two. The two huge gates fell on the warship, making the whole landing deck explode in flames.

Inside the ship red alarm lights blinked crazily. Avoc got hold of his seat, but an alarm frightened him.

“The bridge is collapsing!”

Avoc quickly ran out the door, and sprinted down the stairs, crying, “Butlerbot!” The stairs were collapsing, Avoc limped down the stairs but it was too late. The stairs started to collapse, splitting in half.

Avoc stopped; he looked around for an escape route.

Suddenly a window caught his attention. He climbed up until he could get hold of the window. He shook the frame very hard, trying to break it, but it held strong. Suddenly, the whole bridge fell sideways, making Avoc fly through the air.

He stood up, gripping a metal bar. A steel wall started to fall, and Avoc was trapped.

Nothing to do, he shut his eyes, waiting for his death.

Suddenly a black thing flew to the mad scientist, grabbing him, and jumped through the window just before the whole bridge collapsed in the water.

It was Butlerbot. He grabbed Avoc and sprinted behind the air search radar.

“Sir, are you okay?” it cried.

Bulterbot suddenly realized the ship was nearly touching the fifth ship lock; he grabbed the radio and cried. “Fire!”

However, it was too late; the ship crashed into the fifth ship lock. It tried to crush it, but the steel gate pushed back. A huge wave pushed the ship until it touched the mountains. It turned upside down while falling over the cliff and the whole deck cracked into two, leaving a huge pile of

scrap metal.

Suddenly a small speedboat burst through the waves, with Butlerbot on it. It had broken an entire arm, but it was still protecting Avoc.

It drove the speedboat in front of the Three Gorges Dam. Then it checked Avoc's heartbeat. It sighed with relief, not realising that a huge rock was falling onto him and the speedboat.

The rock slid down the cliff, crushing the speedboat, Avoc and Butlerbot.



The Chronicles of the Pearl of Alaska (Part I)

Chris Pang (P.4C)

Chapter 1 CCTV

"BOOM!" The Pearl of Alaska exploded. The whole school lobby was filled with dust and smoke. Nothing was visible. Bits and pieces of the broken Pearl scattered all over the floor. When the smoke and dust cleared, all that could be seen was a set of footprints left by the monster. But...Where did the monster go?"

This was what we saw from our CCTV the morning the monster disappeared. (In super-bad computer graphics)

The Pearl of Alaska was supposedly an artifact brought from Alaska from Mrs. Lam's trip, and had been "growing" and "letting out" mini-eggs saying "dig it up!" Ridiculous!

We were pretty sure that this was a bad case of make-believe, yet Mrs. Lam the principal still claimed it was authentic. I decided to find out the truth.

Chapter 2 The Confession

As the bell rang for recess, I raced down the stairs to the Principal's Office.

Apparently, the principal was even faster, and called for me first. Anyway, that just suited my cause.

Then, I walked until I was right in front of Mrs. Lam. I asked, "Are the

rumors true? Is the Pearl fake?" Mrs. Lam knew I wouldn't leave until I got the truth, so she told me the truth. "The Pearl was fake. In fact, it was made by crumpling a huge wad of paper and coloring it blue. Then we did different alternative "Pearls" accordingly." I was disappointed, and started to leave, but Mrs. Lam stopped me with her words.

"The Pearl may be fake, but the story is true."

Huh?

Chapter 3 The REAL Story

"A month ago, the Web Security Department contacted us, saying that they detected unusual web activities in our school intranet. We did a cross check, and found a rogue program embedded in the system. We tried to wipe it, but it visualized in the form of a pearl.

And that was how the Pearl of Alaska came to be, with the help of my trip. But that's not all. After scanning, we found that it was very strange. All the algorithms were back-to-front, together with codes that are unrecognizable and surpassing human intelligence. Also, the pearl program has been sending out messages which worry us.

The messages consist of long phrases in codes, describing a huge attack by web in form of a spaceship program. We have tried to reply, but in vain. The messages are hyper-encrypted with codes that change every ten seconds, in which we can barely decode! And that is all we know, and we are worried. The Pearl's existence alone proves how powerful it is, and we have reasons to believe it."

I asked, "But why did you tell me this?"

She replied," Because I trust you. You are good at computers, and

you're a whiz at decoding, right? If so, then you are one of our last hopes. The fate of humanity lies in you and our teachers' hands. No one else will believe us." I felt an outburst of pride. Out of the 900+ students of Ying Wa, Mrs. Lam chose me to reveal her secret! I can't let her down.

In fact, I did have the fate of humanity in my hands just that it was not quite as Mrs. Lam had put it.

Then, the bell rang.

Mrs. Lam then said, "As an emergency situation, I allow you to skip school today. You should start working with our IT teachers immediately to prepare for our arsenal."

Wonderful!

Chapter 4 Working Together

I went up the stairs to the computer room.

Inside, the three poor IT teachers were racking their heads to get the computer programs ready. They didn't even notice me! I found a terminal and sat down.

My teacher who finally noticed me explained that they were trying to make virtual viruses or programs to harm and contain the attack force program by any means possible. I had an idea. "I think we can try to transport it to a different site. A blank, empty site, maybe? It isn't quite used to the web; it might think the blank page is the only place in the web!"

The teachers agreed to carry out the plan, and began to design a hyperlink trap to the future school website. Suddenly, the school bell rang for home.

Rats!

When I got home by bus, saying this to no one thanks to sworn secrecy, I found that I had to do some hard convincing.

I groaned at the thought. I had to, in fact, get mom to take me to school on a Saturday, and a Sunday! (Mrs. Lam's idea)

She wasn't happy about it, either.

After 3 minutes of this impossible battle, I gave up. I'll find the way myself, I thought.

That was the nicer way of saying it. The worse way was sneaking away, of course.

Chapter 5 Sneaking Away

That night, I set my alarm clock for tomorrow-4:00!

The next morning, I got up and ran to my parent's bedroom. I crouched down and shuffled to the fake painting of the Mona Lisa. I reached into a China vase lying nearby and found the secret switch, a special stud. I turned the stud thrice and saw, to my delight, the fake Mona Lisa sliding away, and the safe revealed.

SHOOM!

I'd seen mom doing it once secretly, and had never forgotten it. Then, I entered the codes: W-A-L-T-E-R-/ -1-9-3-8-/ -2-/ -1-2

As the safe opened, I sighed with relief. I felt bad, stealing from mom and dad, but there was no other way to do this. My parents' wallets were locked with voice recognition plus vocal code! From the safe, I plucked away a \$500 bill from the huge bundle, and thought that they wouldn't notice. Then, I reversed the process, closed the safe, and shuffled away, dashed towards the door.

Chapter 6 A Deadly Race

When I got to school, the teachers were barking worried. One of them told me that according to the messages, the attack would begin soon. We all made the preparations to battle the evil spaceship program keen on destroying the Internet from the unknown.

All of a sudden, the pearl program disappeared-with NO spaceship in sight! We were tricked! Drat!

"No! It seems that the pearl program has diverted our attention! Quick! Track the code!" ordered a teacher.

But how did it do it?

He told me that the Pearl program had taken our attention away from the real world events and focus on the web, while the prep work was done. The reason was that we were the only ones who could put together the clues. Special interference, mega asteroids signs, and electromagnetic frequencies rising mysteriously, it all fits!

"NOW, he declared, "we are in real danger. The program probably wants to pave way for its alien counter-parts... we are probably in a deadly race, where the prize is salvation and the price of losing is destruction by an alien race. We are the only hope for humanity." I nodded silently.

Just then, a teacher cried out in triumph, "Target in range, setting course for... (Tap, tap, tap sound of computer keys) London Olympics 2012 sound control system! Estimated travel time in best circumstances with hijack time: 74 hours and 40 minutes, with an accuracy of 91%! Woo! Hoo! "

What? How am I going to manage now?

Chapter 7 Sneaking Away 2

Luckily, mom was out on a business trip and dad was at work, so I just had enough time to bribe a taxi full speed home, hide the money, take a shower and begin to read a book as dad barged in home. Then, I thought, *Oh man, I need to sneak away again.*

Just like yesterday, I set the clock at 4:00 the next morning.

The next morning, I shuffled to dad's iMac. I went on a travel site and booked 5 tickets to 2012 London Olympics site, first class. Then, I opened the secret safe and took \$2,000 and packed. Finally, I left a note:

Dear Mum and Dad,

I am going to London to prevent the world from being destroyed by aliens. I know this sounds ridiculous, but this is real. Sorry about the money, but I need it. I'll be back when I finish. Please don't follow me, in case of danger! Take care of yourselves!

Love,
Son

And I left home. My destination? London.

When I arrived at the international airport, Mrs. Lam and the others were waiting anxiously. As I approached them, I gave them the tickets. Mrs. Lam, looking at her ticket, commented, "I like British Airways. Good food, they have. Wonderful in flight service, too."

Then, we passed customs and on the plane we went.

VROOM!

As we arrived, Heathrow Airport in London was going bonkers. For

one, it was 5:00 pm, but the screens displayed, "Good morning!" Secondly, the computers got the flight names wrong, and British airlines became Pacific airways! The confusion and chaos was endless. People were running around like three million blind mice! I groaned for the 280th time since our arrival. That hacker surely did a lot of damages! Or was it...that meddling Pearl program?

Anyway, as we left the airport, Mrs. Lam hailed a taxi to the Olympic stadium. Vroom! As we stepped out, a teacher said, "Right, our plan is, we are going to use our phones to distract the whatsoever signal the Pearl is supposedly sending to attract the alien invaders. Okay?" We replied yes. Just then, a wind blew in the hottest time of the windless day...

Fire in Flame

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