



Canossa School (Hong Kong)

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School Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE CANOSSA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2023-2024!

Welcome to the first issue of the Canossa School Newsletter this year! We want to start by welcoming the new P1 students to Canossa School (Hong Kong). We hope the first term in school was everything you had ever imagined and more. Even though the first term is the shortest, we managed to fit a few activities into it. We had our School Opening Ceremony and the Mass to kick-start the new academic year, celebrated the P1's Mensiversary at the school and enjoyed the English Days. The teachers and English Ambassadors put a great effort into the English Day activities. We hope you enjoyed them all.

There are two sections in this newsletter – 'Events' and 'Books'. 'Events' is where you can read all about what is happening at school, and 'Books' is where you can learn about lots of great books and their authors. We hope you will enjoy reading the newsletter, which will be published three times this year.



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A Message from Our Principal



This year, we Canossians have much to be grateful for as we celebrate two significant milestones: the 250th anniversary of the birth of our Foundress, Saint Magdalene of Canossa, and the 40th anniversary of our school's relocation.

In 1774, Saint Magdalene of Canossa was born in Italy. Little did anyone know that her birth would bring blessings to us, living in Hong Kong, centuries later. Saint Magdalene dedicated her life to serving the poorest of the poor, forsaking her noble upbringing. After her passing, the sisters who followed her continued her mission and served the Lord faithfully.

In 1860, six pioneering sisters overcame numerous challenges and arrived in Hong Kong to carry out charitable works. With the Lord's blessings, the order's services and ministries continued to expand. In 1890, one of the pioneer sisters, Mother Maria Stella, made the decision to establish a mission in Shau Kei Wan, one of the poorest areas of Hong Kong. This mission eventually became the precursor to Canossa School (Hong Kong). In those early days, the sisters walked from Kennedy Road to Shau Kei Wan every day to care for orphaned children.

The school's humble beginnings involved renting a single

room, but with a generous donation of land, it gradually grew into a substantial campus. In 1984, due to the construction of the Eastern Corridor, the school relocated from Shau Kei Wan to Quarry Bay. Now it is forty years since that move.

Throughout its 130-year history, the school has weathered significant changes, including the Second World War, the occupation of the school by Japanese forces, the government's requisitioning of the premises for a police station, and the subsequent relocation. Its endurance stands as a testament to God's grace at every turn.

During these 130 years, whether it was the initial rented room, the three-story campus in Shau Kei Wan, or the current well-equipped campus, the school has consistently upheld the spirit of our foundress. It has prioritized the spiritual development of students and endeavoured to cultivate them into compassionate and dedicated citizens who love God, love others, and serve with zeal.

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our Foundress' birth and the 40th anniversary of our school's relocation, the school has embraced the theme of "Making Commitment and Taking on the Mission of our Foundress." We hope to inspire our students to radiate their light, illuminate others, and carry forward the spirit of Saint Magdalene of Canossa.





Commitment to Share Jesus' Love through Life as His Witness

By Sister Mary Chan

When Sisters choose to follow Jesus, we take three years to study about human knowledge and religious knowledge. This changes us and prepares us to be nuns. Furthermore, before we become Sisters, we need to do a test. Passing this test allows us to be nuns. Then we can take our first vows, and recite a prayer. This prayer demonstrates our commitment to becoming a Sister.

After the prayer, the next step to becoming a nun is to think carefully. Being a Sister is a lifelong commitment and we cannot make this decision lightly. Priests and Sisters promise to be different than the world. Sisters need to live simple lives. We cannot do or buy what we want because we need to serve and share with the community. Then we can follow Jesus whole-heartedly. Of course, this is not easy. We have to follow in the footsteps of St. Magdalene of Canossa. She learnt that Jesus Crucified loves us. He even died on the cross for us. Also, Holy Mary showed Her love for Her son and stayed at the cross with Him. We learn from Their lives so we can follow Their examples. We are living witnesses of God's divine love to the world.

Our Foundress, St. Magdalene of Canossa, was from Italy. Because of Jesus' love for us, she started the Canossian mission in the year 1808. People from different parts of the world and different cultures came to join the mission too. Canossians serve in the same mission. We have to accept

each other's differences. If we do not, this can cause problems.

If Sisters commit to Jesus Christ, then our lives may go smoothly, otherwise we will find it difficult and may not be able to bear it, and may leave the convent

in hatred and with grudges. This is why it is important for beginner Sisters to have spiritual directors to guide them so the new Sister can hear God's calling.

The new Sisters need to know they are following God's calling. For this reason, people who come to join as Sisters first are called to make vows to love everyone. They will train to be Sisters for three years. Then they can dress as nuns. After that, they will spend another five to seven years before fully becoming Sisters. This is the final "Yes" to the Lord.

Lastly, St. Magdalene of Canossa always mentioned that each Sister should renew her vows yearly. This way we Sisters can remember to keep our commitments faithfully. This is why I do this too, as I remain committed to God.





04

School Opening Ceremony

CSHK



Canossa School Hong Kong kicked off the new academic year with an uplifting opening ceremony on 7th September. The entire school gathered early in the morning to witness the beginning of an exciting chapter filled with commitment and endless possibilities.

The ceremony commenced with students from different classes guiding the school in worship. Student speakers then took the stage, delivering inspiring messages to motivate and encourage their fellow schoolmates.

Sister Chan, a respected figure at our school, introduced how we can embody the Canossa spirit within our school. Mr Wong then led the students in reciting the school pledge, reiterating their commitment to the school's values.

Principal Fong's speech was the highlight of the ceremony. Her heartfelt words moved the students, reinforcing the importance of upholding the school's mission in their daily lives.

As the opening ceremony concluded, an air of unity and excitement lingered. The students' spirits soared as they embarked on their journey of academic excellence and personal growth.



By 3A Poon Sum Yau, Chloe

Our theme of this year is 'commitment'. I am very excited for the new school year. It will be a fruitful year filled with challenges, but also opportunities.

Principal Fong delivered us a speech during the opening ceremony. It was about the importance of active listening and learning in the classroom and how to be a responsible and reliable student. I am grateful to have the guidance and support from the Principal and teachers.

I have been chosen to be the class monitress this year. I am learning to be fair to everyone, keep the class disciplined and be responsible for my duties. I have committed to trying my best this year.



By 5D Yam Ka Lam, Karen

I attended both the School Opening Ceremony and the Mass this year. In the opening ceremony, our Principal, Ms Fong, shared about what we should do to show commitment. During the Mass, Rev. Wan told us some Bible stories about taking up responsibilities. My classmates and I learnt a lot.

Our school theme this year is 'commitment'. I have committed to being a reporter for the School Newsletter. The School Opening Ceremony and the Mass inspired me to try my very best to do the job well.





The School Opening Mass marked a significant beginning for our new school year. On 15th September, the Parish Priest from St. Jude's Church, Rev. Wan Kwok Kwong Timothy, came to our school to lead the Mass for us. Students sat quietly in the school hall and listened to Rev. Wan's preaching the word of God. He taught students what commitment is and different ways we can show our commitment. Everyone was listening attentively. Let's keep these important teachings in mind and achieve our best in the new school term!

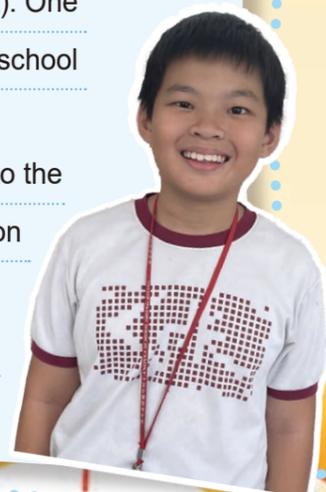
By 6A Chiu Long Ka, Valerie

I took part in the School Opening Mass. It lasted for about an hour. It was very meaningful for me. I know the Priest because he served the church I go to. During the Mass, he told us stories of Jesus' mother, Holy Mary. He also shared about our school theme of the year, commitment. I also read the Prayer of the Faithful in front of my schoolmates. I was very nervous until I finished reading. It was a special experience for me. I look forward to participating again next year. After the Mass, I learned that we should be responsible and show commitment at school, at home and everywhere we are.



By 6E Tiu Tristan Chua

During the Mass, the Priest, Rev. Wan, inspired me a lot in setting up and pursuing my goals for the school year. I want to get better results in Chinese and General Studies (but mainly Chinese because it is my weakest subject). One of my other goals is to get into a school whose medium of instruction is English. My final goal is to get into the final round of a debate competition and win. To achieve my goals, I will demonstrate commitment by practising discipline first.



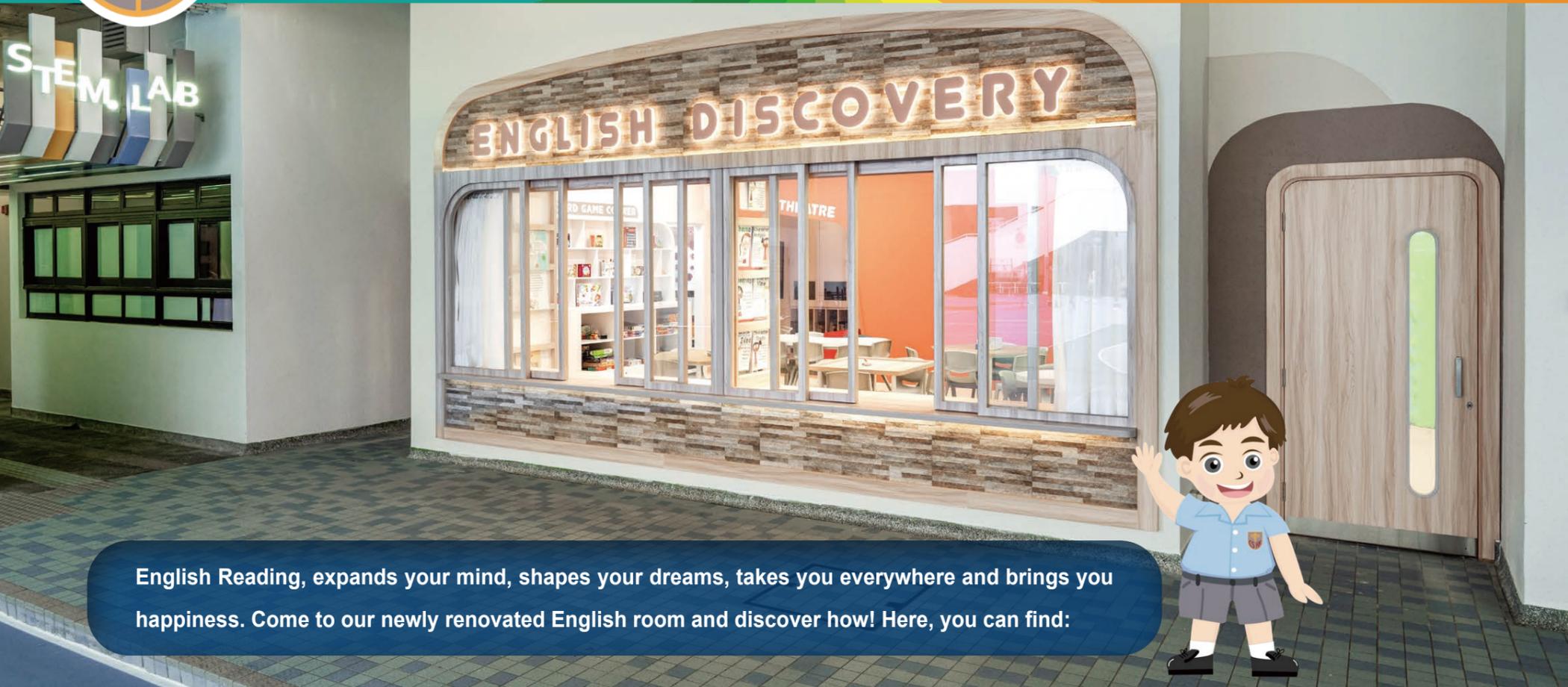
Students gathered in the school hall.



Students read the Prayer of the Faithful.



Rev. Wan consecrated the bread and wine, an important sacrament in the Catholic faith.



English Reading, expands your mind, shapes your dreams, takes you everywhere and brings you happiness. Come to our newly renovated English room and discover how! Here, you can find:

Guided Reading Galore Get ready for an enriching reading experience! Our English room offers guided reading sessions with our amazing teachers. They will lead you through captivating books, help you build your vocabulary, and guide you to become a confident reader.

Canossa School Newsletter Corner Learn about Canossa happenings by visiting our School Newsletter Corner! Teachers and English Newsletter ECA students work hard to create several issues throughout the year. In the newsletter corner, you will learn about events, achievements, and other exciting news about Canossa. Students visiting the English room can enjoy reading the latest edition, practise their reading and comprehension skills while learning about their school community, and stay up to date on current events.

Glorious Games Who says learning can't be heaps of fun? In the English room, we have tons of exciting board games that will make you laugh and learn at the same time. Get ready for some friendly competition while mastering the English language!



Silent Reading Serenity Need some quiet time to lose yourself in a captivating story? Our silent reading corner is waiting for you! Grab a book, find a cosy spot, and enjoy some peaceful reading time.

Book Bonanza Our English room is a treasure trove of books! You can help yourself to a wide selection of fantastic reads. From hilarious comedies to gripping adventures, there is something for every reader's taste.



Recess Reading Fun Even during recess, the English room is open for you! Ms. Thero and Mr. Ben will be there to chat, read, and play games with you or even answer any questions you may have. Let's have a blast while improving our English skills together!

Keep reading, dreaming, and exploring!





Students lined up to play the games.



Students matched the images to the given words.



On 19th September, our school held its first English Day during the first, second, and third recesses. This day is set to happen every other Tuesday for the rest of the year.

During the first English Day, students were engaged by our native-speaking English teachers, Mr Ben and Ms Thero, with fun storytelling sessions in the library. Mr Ben shared about the not-so-bright but scary Gruffalo, while Ms Thero taught us about being mindful of classmates through the eyes of a dragon named Penelope in the

book, "We Don't Eat Our Classmates."

On the second English Day, P1-P3 students needed to learn and use new vocabulary while matching images to the given words. P4-P6 students had tricky riddles to solve.

Points were awarded to classes for completing the games and activities, and the winners were recently announced. Congratulations to the winning classes!

By 3A Chan Ianna

On English Day, I played some fun English games with my friends. We needed to match the pictures with the correct sports' names, which I thought was very challenging.

I felt confident and excited. I hope there will be more difficult questions next English Day. I also hope that everyone can play the games next time because they are really fun and we can learn new words from the games.



By 4C Ng Annis

English Day is a day when there are fun English activities and interesting stories told by the English teachers. Every English Day, I see a lot of students participating in the activities. It makes me feel happy because we are not only having fun but also learning English. I also enjoyed the story time with our English teacher, Mr Ben on the first English Day. He spoke actively and made the story very interesting. I learnt some new words from the story too. I look forward to the next English Day very much!



By 6E Wong Tin Ching, Yuna

After three years, our school has resumed the English activities! I love to participate in English Day because it is a good chance for us to improve our English skills. Most importantly, we have so much fun. Everyone is eager to play the games. On the second English Day, P4-6 students had to solve some riddles about sports. I enjoyed the games. I also think that the English Ambassadors are very responsible and patient because every time when we have questions, they are pleased to help. I hope that we can have more English activities in the future.



Our school takes immense pride in the dedicated team of English Ambassadors who serve as representatives of their classes. These ambassadors demonstrate outstanding proficiency in English and a deep commitment to continuous learning.

Under the guidance of Ms Ng, the English Ambassadors recently underwent their first two training sessions. The accompanying photos showcase their enthusiasm and eagerness to take on the responsibilities that lie ahead.

Throughout the school year, these students will shoulder important roles. They will lead the school in English prayers, guide students during English Day and introduce

various subjects during the upcoming English Days. Utilizing interactive and enjoyable methods, they will capture the attention of their fellow students, fostering a sense of excitement while facilitating meaningful learning experiences.



The English Ambassadors attended the first training session.



Students listened to Ms Ng attentively.



By 4A Cheung Tsz Kiu, Constance

I am happy to be an English Ambassador this year. The reason that I want to be an English Ambassador is that I want to help students in the English room. I can introduce new storybooks and board games to them. Also, I can make new friends and speak more English.

Although I have to spend my own time for the duties, it is a great chance for me to commit to practising my English skills. I can also meet more schoolmates from different classes.





By 4C Geng Wai Lam, Jessie

I decided to be an English Ambassador in the hope of communicating more in English with my schoolmates. Also, this is a wonderful chance to participate in various English events and activities, such as English Day and Readers' Theatre. We can also play board games with schoolmates in the English room.

In the second training session, I learnt about different parts of the new English room, such as the Theatre, Story Pod and the main area. Then we played some games in the school hall. The activities taught us how to work with others. The training session was meaningful!



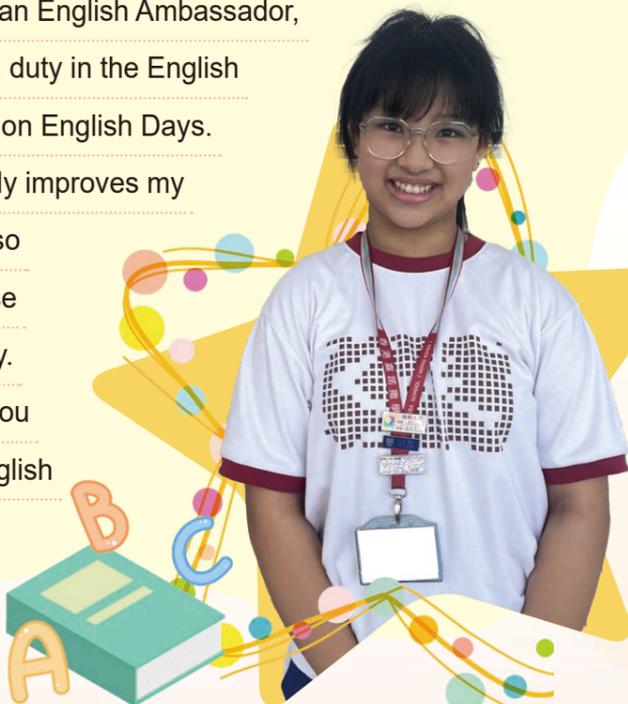
By 5D Kwok Sheung, Bella

My teacher asked me if I wanted to be an English Ambassador, so I accepted the offer and became one. English Ambassadors have to attend English events like the English Days, training sessions and more. We also need to be kind to schoolmates and help them patiently with their English. My confidence in speaking English has motivated me to join the team.

I have committed to being an English Ambassador because I have always wanted to know what it is like to be one. I also think that being an English Ambassador can help me gain more confidence in speaking English.

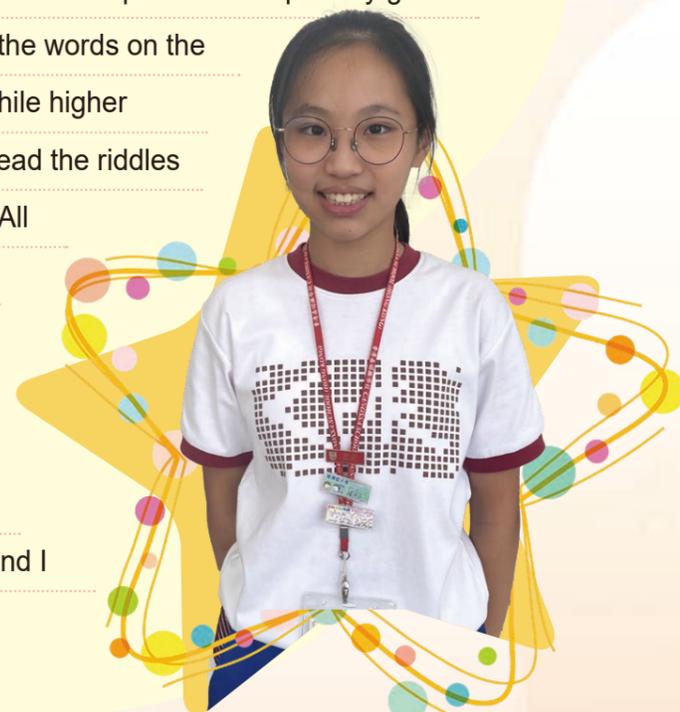
By 6E Wu Siqi, Suki

I am glad to be an English Ambassador this year. I want to be an English Ambassador because I want to improve my English. To be an English Ambassador, I need to be on duty in the English room and help on English Days. I think it not only improves my English, but also grows my sense of responsibility. I hope to see you on the next English Day!



By 6F Tam Sin Ting, Sophie

I am glad to be an English Ambassador this year. On every other Tuesday, we have English Day. During recess and lunch break, we sit in the area outside the English room to help with the activities. On 28th September, it was the first English Day with game booths. Its theme was sports. Lower primary grade schoolmates read aloud the words on the cards related to sports while higher primary grade students read the riddles and guessed the sports. All of them participated actively and I was so delighted to see plenty of students join this activity. It was a memorable experience and I loved it very much.





We have three new English teachers this year – Ms Law Jamie, Ms Law Wai Lam, Natalie and our NET, Mr Ben. Our reporters interviewed them in October. Let's learn more about our new teachers!

Reporters

Good morning. Thanks for letting us interview you today.

Ms Law

Good morning.

Reporters

What subjects do you teach?

Ms Law

I am the class teacher of Class 3F and I teach them English and Music. Apart from that, I teach English to Class 4A and Music to Class 3B, 3C and 4A.



Reporter

Reporters

Why did you choose to be a teacher?

Ms Law

I would say there are two reasons behind this. First of all, I was deeply influenced by one of my previous teachers. Apart from the use of normal textbooks, she encouraged us to learn English in daily contexts, for instance, by listening to English songs. I love listening to music, and I was eager to learn English that way. As time went by, I realised my English proficiency gradually improved. This was very useful to me and I wish to inspire more children to learn English in a fun way.

Furthermore, my personality motivated me to become a teacher. I enjoy playing and interacting with children, and I really hope that with my energetic teaching in class, my students can find English interesting or at least less frightening. These are the reasons why I chose to become a teacher.

Reporters

What did you do last summer holiday?

Reporters

Good afternoon. Thank you for talking to us.

Mr Ben

Good afternoon.

Reporters

Why did you choose to be a teacher?

Mr Ben

I chose to be a teacher because I absolutely love working with kids. Being able to guide their energy and fueling their curiosity while supporting their growth is incredibly rewarding. Additionally, I have



Ms Law Jamie
Interviewed by 3A Wu Zoei and 4F Kidman Katy Mary

Ms Law

I went to South Korea and Taiwan last summer. As the pandemic had finally passed, I thought it was a good time to start travelling again. I chose South Korea because I know how to speak Korean. As for Taiwan, I love the local food and especially I like their bubble tea!

Other than that, I adopted a cat last summer. It is a two-year-old British shorthair. I have three cats at home already, so they need some time to get along with the newcomer.

Reporters

What are your hobbies?

Ms Law

I love eating and listening to music. These are some ways I keep myself happy and healthy. As a music teacher, I also play some instruments. I play the harp and the piano in my leisure time. Playing music is really fun to me.

Reporters

Thank you for your time, Ms Law.

always been a lifelong learner myself and I wish to share this love of learning.

Reporters

What is your favourite place in Hong Kong. Why?

Mr Ben

My favourite place in Hong Kong would have to be Tai O. The quaint fishing village with its traditional stilt houses and beautiful waterfront scenery is a hidden gem where you can see not only old Hong Kong but also the pink dolphins. On the other hand, for a bit of adventure and excitement, I also love bouncing around Ryze, the trampoline park with my children.



Ms Law Wai Lam, Natalie
Interviewed by 3C Kwok Chi Yau, Mahina and 3E Lee Yin Hei, Hilary

Reporters

Good morning. Ms Law.

Ms Law

Good morning.

Reporters

What subjects do you teach?

Ms Law

I am the class teacher of 3D. I teach them English, General Studies and RE. I also teach General Studies to 2E, while teaching RE to 3F and 4C.

Reporters

Why did you choose to be a teacher?

Ms Law

When I was in primary school, my teachers were very encouraging and kind. They always answered my questions about subjects and explained them to me patiently. I was too shy to speak in front of others at that



time. They provided me with many opportunities to be on stage, such as leading prayers and being a host for school activities. They practised a lot with me after lessons. I am so proud of myself that I have gained more confidence. Their patience and kindness have motivated me to become a teacher like them. I hope I can facilitate my students in their learning.

Reporters

What did you do during last summer holiday?

Ms Law

Last summer, I travelled to Taipei and Seoul with my friends. I've been anticipating visiting these two places! I visited a museum in Taipei about cartoon characters appearing in famous artworks. I took a number of photos and I had so much fun. I also tasted a lot of delicious food at the night markets in Taipei. In Seoul, I enjoyed a relaxing time in some cosy cafes. I gained some weight after the trip because I couldn't resist the Korean barbecue and desserts!

Reporters

What are your hobbies?

Ms Law

During my free time, I enjoy listening to pop songs in different languages, including English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Korean! The melody and rhythm help me to become carefree and relieved. Moreover, I like watching Korean dramas. I even took some Korean classes because I wanted to understand the plots of dramas and the pop songs.

Reporters

Thank you for your time, Ms Law.



Reporters

What are your hobbies?

Mr Ben

I'm an avid reader and I always want to learn more. Additionally, I love exploring different places in Hong Kong with my children. Whether it's going to petting zoos, visiting museums or hitting the beach, it's always an adventure for my children and me.

Reporters

Do you have any advice for students in learning English?

Mr Ben

My advice for learning English is simple: make mistakes. Don't be afraid to take risks and try speaking or writing in English, even if you're unsure. Mistakes are a part of the lifelong journey when we want to learn.



Mr Ben
Interviewed by 4C Cheuk Sum Long, Eldon and 5A Song Youke, April



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P1 Mensiversary Ceremony

CSHK



P1 students gathered in the school hall.

Do you know what the P1 Mensiversary Ceremony was about? It was the celebration of our P1 students being a part of the Canossa family for one month already! Transitioning from kindergarten to primary school is not easy, but the P1 students have done a very good job in adapting to the new school life. From making new friends to learning new things, they have been trying their very best. On 6th October, a Mensiversary Ceremony was held to celebrate their hard work and make their first month of school special.



The ceremony started with a speech by our Principal, Ms Fong. She sent her encouragement and blessings to our P1 students. The speech was followed by a flashback of the kids' memorable moments at school and a joyful photo taking session.

The students were all smiling very happily holding chocolate eggs in their hands. After that, six P1 students went on stage to present their gratitude in Mandarin, Cantonese and English. Lastly, the kids made thank you cards with heart-warming messages for their parents.



Ms Fong talked to P1 parents.



By Ms Lo Tsz Kiu, Class Teacher of 1E

On 6th October, our Principal, Ms Fong, teachers and parents gathered in the school hall to celebrate a very special occasion—the Primary One Mensiversary. It was a joyous milestone that marks these young ones' first month of primary school, and we could not be prouder of their accomplishment.

It feels like only yesterday when these children, ready to embark on this new chapter and filled with curiosity and a little bit of nervousness, first stepped into school. Looking at these bright-eyed yet absent-minded children, I could not help but wonder, 'Are they ready to embark on this new journey?' But now, in just one short month, we can see how they have already shown tremendous progress. They ask questions, seek answers, and eagerly absorb knowledge.

Primary One is a brand new beginning of a child's educational journey, and I am so honoured to have witnessed it. Parents, your unwavering support and guidance have played a significant role in your child's successful transition to primary school. Do take a moment to acknowledge your effort!

Children, as you continue your journey, remember to cherish every moment. We celebrate not only your academic achievements, but also the wonderful friendships you have made and the brave steps you continue to take. I am more than excited to witness the incredible things you will accomplish in the days, months and years to come!



By 1A Chan Hilary's mum

Hello! I'm Hilary's Mum from Class 1A. Time flies. Hilary has been joined the Canossian family for one month. I'm so blessed to see her doing well in adapting to her primary school life.

I would like to express my greatest gratitude to the principal and all teachers for organizing such a meaningful Mensiversary Ceremony for our primary one kids. I'm so touched to see all the great photos of our kids' primary school experiences. And I'm so surprised that all the kids can sing the school song well and can pray in a very proper manner.

For Hilary herself, she enjoys her new life so much. The precious moment with her teachers and classmates is something that she cherishes the most. She also likes the red packet and the egg that the school gave her on that day!

During her first month at school, Hilary always talked endlessly about her lessons and the things happened at school on our way home from school. From her sharing and smiles, I know she loves Canossa very much and this ensures that she has a good start.

With the school support, I believe all of our kids will continue to enjoy their time at Canossa and have a fruitful and rewarding school life. And I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school principal Ms Fong, teachers and all the other staff for providing a caring environment for our kids. The Mensiversary Ceremony definitely gave the parents a chance to witness the kids' remarkable growth. Thank you so much, Canossa.



By 1A Ng Yat Hin, Rayen's dad

The P.1 Mensiversary Ceremony marks the end of the first month of primary school. It was a memorable event that celebrated our children's transition to this new phase of education.

The start of Primary One presented challenges for both parents and children alike. Leaving the familiar surroundings of kindergarten and saying goodbye to friends were difficult. Waking up earlier, carrying heavier school bags, and managing a busier schedule also took some adjustments. However, through open communication and patience of both children and teachers, these hurdles were overcome.

The past month has been a rewarding experience. I have seen Rayen

grow in confidence as he makes new friends and learns to navigate his way around the large primary school campus. His enthusiasm for learning has also grown as he explores new subjects like Mandarin and mathematics.

I hope that in the coming year, Rayen and his lovely classmates will continue to develop a love of learning and that they learn important life skills through their studies and social interactions. Above all, just like other parents, I hope they have a fun, fulfilling time at this wonderful school, creating memories that will last a lifetime.



By 1E Lim Pun Long, Johnathan's mum

I am blessed that Johnathan started his new chapter at Canossa.

I am so grateful to the principal and all the teachers for organizing the P.1 Mensiversary Ceremony for the students and parents. The ceremony was a touching one. It was a memorable moment not only for the kids, but also for parents to witness and celebrate the kids' achievement of adapting to their new primary school life. As I was sitting in the first row right behind the kids, I saw them behaved very respectfully - they gave bows to the principal and teachers even though they were seated, and they stayed focused to sing the school song and prayed. The kids impressed me as they were so disciplined when the ceremony began. They did very well.

Johnathan was excited to be a P1 student and he loves to explore the school, which looks very different from kindergarten. When I picked him

up after school in the first week, he couldn't wait to share with me what he knew, like the names of the statues and the stairways, and read me the prayers he learnt. He told me some funny moments he and his classmates encountered every day.

I am also very happy to be a member of the parent volunteer team this year. I hope Johnathan will soon build up a sense of belonging with the school as he knows that not only students have responsibility to support school routines and events, but parents do too.

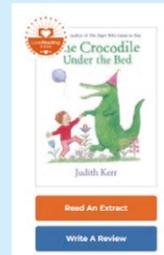
I really appreciate the hard work of the principal, teachers, counsellors, and the staff of the school. They are dedicated, patient, loving and caring. With such an excellent and thoughtful learning environment, I am sure that Johnathan will enjoy his time at Canossa by developing various learning skills and broadening his knowledge. He will also learn how to become a better person with the well-planned curriculum designed by the school. I wish the school all the very best and many successful years ahead.





Welcome back to the reading section of the Newsletter. There is a wide variety of books to check out. Many of the books in this issue have an extract available that allows you to read the first few pages of the book before you decide to buy it. The books listed below are suitable for students in P.1 all the way to P.6. I hope you'll all appreciate the book selection.

Extracts of the books can be found by searching for the book on <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

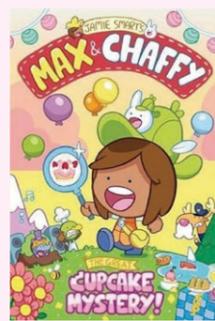


Book Title: Max and Chaffy: The Great Cupcake Mystery

P.1-P.2

Author: Jamie Smart ISBN: 9781788452625

Max and Chaffy are excited to go to Chief Constable Moose's SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY! But the birthday cake has gone MISSING! Max and Chaffy need to find the clues and solve the mystery so the party can go ahead, and YOU CAN HELP!

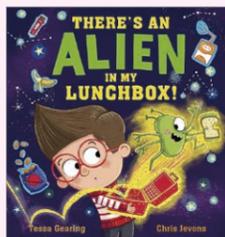


Max & Chaffy celebrates the joy that comes when you find your best friend, and shows there's a place for everyone.

Book Title: There's an Alien in My Lunchbox

Author: Tessa Gearing ISBN: 9781839131684

Noah gets a surprise when he takes his favourite book to school for show and tell: the characters jump off the page and start causing mischief! It's not just the alien in his lunchbox, there's a goblin splashing paint around the classroom, and a dragon in the playground (she's roaring at the little ones). Fortunately, Noah manages to herd them all back between the pages ready for storytime, where they play their part in the story, causing giggles all round.



Book Title: April's Garden

Author: Isla McGuckin ISBN: 9781802583410

April is not happy. She and her mum are moving house (maybe to a refuge? They leave in a hurry, in the dark and the new house is big, with lots of closed doors, silent people behind them). Mum promises that every cloud has a silver lining, but April can't find one.

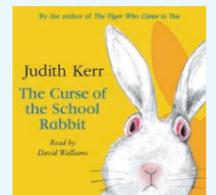


Gifted with some seeds, she plants them and then waits, but the flowers won't appear and despite what her mum promises, it doesn't feel that lovely things are just around the corner. But, as the weeks and months pass, we can see things are getting better as colour creeps into the illustrations, and then they finally get to move into their own home, just as tiny green shoots start to unfurl. Now, April is happy.

Book Title: The Curse of the School Rabbit

Author: Judith Kerr ISBN: 9780008352622

It all started with the school rabbit... Snowflake is the school rabbit, and Snowflake is TROUBLE. At least that's what Tommy thinks. And when Snowflake unexpectedly comes to stay just before Christmas and EVERYTHING starts to go wrong, it looks like Tommy might be right. Even if he is getting more pocket money for feeding it and might be able to get that new bike after all... With a sick sister left in bed, a snobby actor left with suspiciously damp trousers, and no rabbit anywhere to be seen, Tommy can see his hopes of a new bike for Christmas disappearing as fast as Snowflake. Will Snowflake turn up, and turn out to be more good luck than bad? Or are Tommy and his family DOOMED by the curse of the school rabbit?



Book Title: Cloudlanders

Author: Christopher Mackie ISBN: 9781782508403

An island of magic and mayhem floating above the flooded Earth, Bastion has long been the last country left in the world. Then one day best friends Kurt (an eight-foot mushroom with a fear of heights) and Flicker (a tiny, tough-talking gemstone faerie) stand on the edge of the land and see the impossible: a plane from nowhere is heading straight for them. Kurt and Flicker join forces with a brave gang of misfits - including wood-nymph twins (one bounty hunter, one bookworm) and a gruff, shapeshifting wolf - to rescue the pilot and face a dangerous enemy.



Can the Cloudlanders save their floating island from crashing into the Endless Sea and the terrifying tentacles of a massive monster?

Book Title: The Light Thieves

Author: Helena Duggan ISBN: 9781474991094

Who would you trust to save the world...a boy or a billionaire? The earth has shifted on its axis and a mysterious dark mark has appeared on the sun - the whole world is in peril! But billionaire tech genius Howard Hansom has a plan...



When Grian's sister goes missing he's convinced she has run off to Hansom's new city to help save the world. But when Grian and his two friends Jeffrey and Shelli track her there they find that nothing is quite as it seems. Why is everything so secret? Where is the mysterious Area 13?

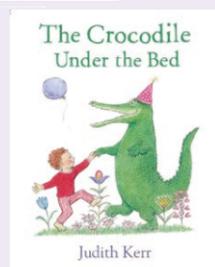
What does Howard Hansom want with all the people he has enticed to live in his city? The days are getting darker but what's really happening to the sun?

Book Title: The Crocodile Under the Bed

P.2-P.3

Author: Judith Kerr ISBN: 9780008166687

Once there was a little boy called Matty, and he was very sad... From the creator of the iconic picture books *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and *Mog the Forgetful Cat*, comes a brand new story about joy, parties... and crocodiles! Matty is sick, and very sad because he's too sick to go to the Queen's birthday party! But when he gets an unexpected visitor, it seems that Matty might not miss out after all...



Book Title: Agent 9: Mind Control

Author: James Burks ISBN: 9781800786301

Agent 9 is back in action at the Super-Secret Spy Service, and it couldn't come at a better time. He's on a mission of such paramount importance that Nine must do the unthinkable - work with a partner! S4 teams up Agent 9 with Traps, a mouse who specialises in covert operations (and knitting too). Unfortunately, the partnership gets off to a rocky start. And despite their best efforts, the Wolf always seems to be one step ahead. Read the book to find out what happens next.





In this issue of the Newsletter, we look at the brilliant writings of Michael Morpurgo. Michael Morpurgo has been writing stories since the 1970s. He has written over 150 books, including *The Butterfly Lion*, *Kensuke's Kingdom*, *Why the Whales Came*, *The Mozart Question*, *Shadow*, and *War Horse*. A fun fact about Michael is that his books have been translated into many languages, including Chinese, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Hebrew and Japanese.

You can find out more about Michael through his website <https://www.michaelmorpurgo.com/>.

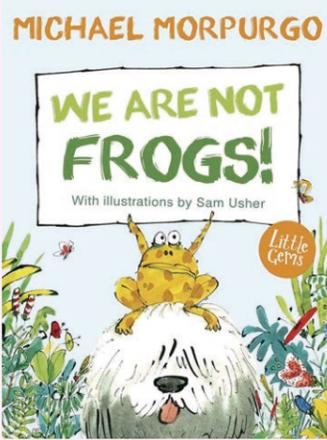
The books listed below are suitable for students in P1 all the way to P6. I hope you'll all appreciate the book selection. You can find more of Michael's amazing work here: www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk. A few of the books have an extract available so feel free to look them up on the Love Reading website.



We Are Not Frogs (Little Gems!)

P.1-P.4

ISBN: 9781781127926

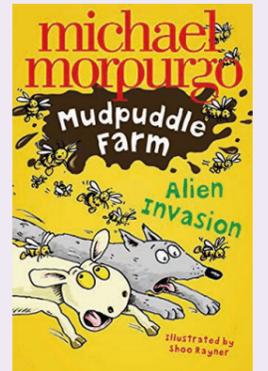


The frogs always beat the toads at long jump but the toads don't mind - anything for a quiet life. But then the children and Mutt the dog come in search of some good jumpers, and the toads see an opportunity to get their own back. Soon the poor frogs have been gathered up and put in an ice-cream tub, and they're hopping mad!

Mudpuddle Farm: Alien Invasion

P.1-P.2

ISBN: 9780007275137

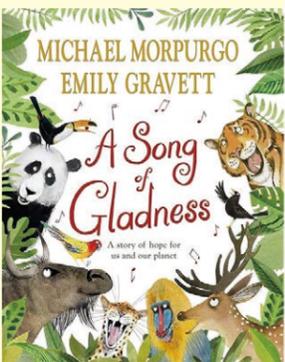


Have Martians landed on Mudpuddle Farm? Farmer Rafferty seems to think so. Now it's up to Albertine, Goose Queen, to work it out. Luckily she's the cleverest goose in the whole world, so if anyone knows what to do, she will... Mum's the Word: Something strange is going on at Mudpuddle Farm. Egbert the goat is not himself at all. Instead of grumbling, he's singing and dancing! And he's even greedier than usual.

A Song of Gladness

P.2-P.6

ISBN: 9781529063325



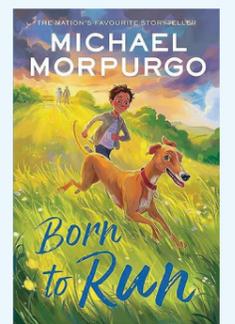
A Song of Gladness is a timely reminder of the beauty and importance of the natural world from two of today's most celebrated children's book creators.

From a blackbird in a Devon garden to leopards in the African savanna, hibernating bears and chimpanzees high in the forest canopy, *A Song of Gladness* reminds us all of our connection with nature, and with each other, and the urgent need for us to join together in caring for the planet and every creature in it.

Born to Run

P.3-P.4

ISBN: 9780008638597



When Patrick saves a litter of greyhound puppies from the canal, he can't bear to hand them all over to the RSPCA. He pleads with his parents to keep at least just one of them. But nothing will convince them and Patrick cries himself to sleep - only to be woken by a greyhound puppy licking his face! Patrick names his puppy Best Mate, and that's what he becomes.

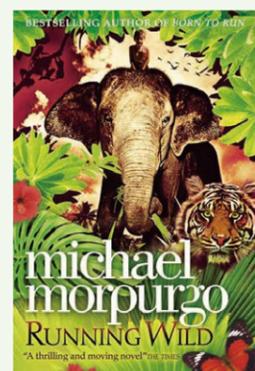
But despite Patrick's promise to look after Best Mate forever, it isn't long before the greyhound is thrust into a new life and threatened with a fate he will have to fight to escape. In the face of constant danger, Best Mate finds a way to survive. The real challenge will be finding a home.

Running Wild

P.5-P.6

ISBN: 9780008638580

A surprise trip to Indonesia seems the perfect holiday for Will and his mum. That is, until the elephant he is riding along the beach, Oona, spooks and begins trumpeting at the sea. As Will sees a huge wave, a tsunami, crashing in, Oona runs into the jungle with Will holding on for dear life. With nothing but the clothes on his back and both parents surely lost, Will wonders if there is much left for him in the world. But with Oona beside him, the jungle might turn out not to be so lonely.



Hooked on Books

Online Book Club



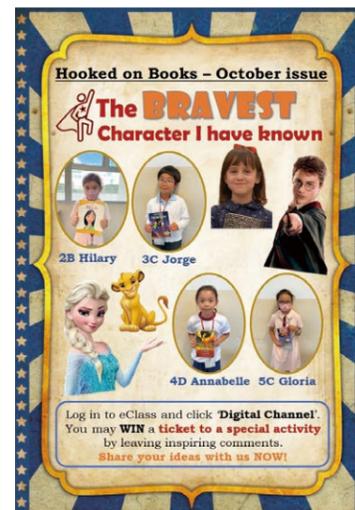
This year, Hooked on Books is still online with new features waiting for you to join and share. There will be a monthly topic to discuss, from October to June. Four students are invited to post their thoughts first and everyone is welcome to 'like' the posts or give comments. Like last year, students leaving inspiring comments may win in a lucky draw. A ticket to a special activity will be given to these lucky students.

The topic of the October issue is 'The Bravest Character I have known'. Four students from different class levels share the bravest character in their minds. More students contribute to the discussion by leaving comments.



數碼頻道

All students are welcome to share their opinions on the topics. Just log into your eClass account. Click on 'Digital Channel' and 'Hooked On Books'. You can find all the book recommendations there.



Would you like to check out more stories with a special topic? Fill in this form to show your preference on topics you are interested in and would like to read about.



Would you like to share your thoughts with your schoolmates? Fill in this application form to show your interest.



Offline Book Club

A group of P3 and P4 book lovers join Hooked on Books offline during the Friday Extra-Curricular Activities (ECA) sessions. The class not only discusses the monthly topics, it also digs deeper by appreciating character building, story setting and other good features of a book.

We believe that reading and talking about what we read helps us think from different perspectives, both logically and emotionally.

Raz-kids



How often do you go onto Raz-kids to read books? Raz-kids is a marvelous online reading platform that provides



more than 810 English books in 29 different levels! The selection also covers a wide range of topics including adventure, fantasy, science, technology...You name it! You can find the books according to your interest and ability easily with your devices. While you are reading, you can get audio support, take notes, and do the quizzes at the same time. Raz-kids also gives you stars for every book you read to create your own Avatar and Raz Rocket. Try to read at least one English book on Raz-kids every week. Let's make good use of the platform and have fun in reading!



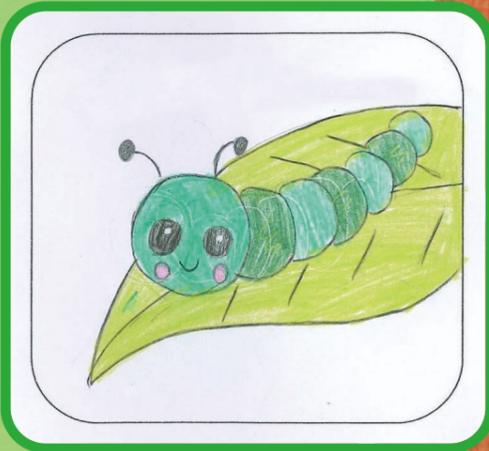
Name: Cheng Nga Chi, Aretha Class: 2A
Title: Who, Who, Who? Author: Cheryl Ryan
Illustrator: Joe Boddy Publisher: Learning A-Z

I enjoy reading this book because the owl is looking for a friend, but only the alligator responds to his call. This scares the owl. The story is really funny.



Name: Ng Cheuk Tung, Charlotte Class: 3A
Title: The Butterfly Life Cycle Author: Torran Anderson
Illustrator: Kevin Knight Publisher: Learning A-Z

I enjoy reading this book because I can learn more about the different changes that a butterfly goes through in each stage of its life.



Name: Tsang Chun Ling, Zita Class: 2B
Title: Apple Tree Author: Karen Mockler
Illustrator: Violet Kim Publisher: Learning A-Z

I love plants and I would like to plant flowers. The flowers in the book are pretty. I learnt a lot from this book. I enjoyed reading it!



Name: Wan Elinor Class: 3E
Title: Harriet Tubman Author: Anthony Curran
Illustrator: James Nathan Publisher: Learning A-Z

I enjoy reading this book because it teaches me about how brave Harriet Tubman was. She was born in the South of the United States of America. When growing up, she helped a lot of people to run to the north with her. However, when she returned, there were punishers everywhere but they never caught her.



Name: Chan Chi Yan, Sophia

Class: 4C

Title: High Fives and Other Signs Author: Jessica Malordy

Illustrator: Donald Wu

Publisher: Learning A-Z



This book is about ways to communicate using different languages, including sign language. It also talks about meeting new people, making new friends and working as a team. The book also teaches us that we need to respect deaf people and that all beings living with a disability should be treated equally. It reminds me that we need to be kind to one another.

Name: Tse Ho Chit, Hollis

Class: 4E

Title: The Hollow

Author: Rus Buyok

Illustrator: Thomas Boatwright Publisher: Learning A-Z



The three children's dog, Odie, runs off. So they chase it and find themselves lost in a forest on a Halloween night. In the forest, they meet a boy with pale skin playing with their dog. When they want to return home, the boy asks them to play with him for a while longer. But the sister, Sarah, refuses because she wants to get out of the forest quickly. Eventually, the pale boy leads them out of the forest. Just as they are about to invite the boy to go trick or treating, he steps back into the darkness and disappears.

Name: Lee Man Ching, Twinky Class: 6C

Title: Asthma

Author: Gabrielle Fimbres

Publisher: Learning A-Z

This book is about asthma and the prevalence of the disease. It also talks about the causes of asthma attacks and what a patient should avoid to keep the disease under control.

The book uses simple words to help me understand more about this complicated disease. There are a variety of photos and figures in the book to help with explaining asthma more clearly.

From this book, I learned that no matter what you're suffering from - asthma or not - one should take care of their health. You can do this by doing regular exercise, following a healthy diet and getting plenty of sleep. I have also learned that asthma does not stop people from achieving remarkable things or being famous. The book also gives some examples, these include Jerome 'The Bus' Bettis and Amy Van Dyken. This proves that having asthma does not slow people down.

Name: Chu Wing Tung, Belle

Class: 5F

Title: Giant's Tale

Author: Karen Mockler

Illustrator: Robert Squier

Publisher: Learning A-Z



Giant's Tale is about a giant whose name is George. He starts a vegetable garden because he is tired of dealing with sheep. Luckily, he has some beans that he gives to a funny old man in exchange for a golden goose. However, the goose does not lay any eggs, so George decides that he will soon roast it for dinner.

One day, he finds that the goose laid three golden eggs. This makes him very happy. Unexpectedly, a little boy goes to his house and steals the goose. George shouts and chases him away. He follows the boy to a giant beanstalk and jumps onto it. Sadly, the beanstalk collapses and George falls from the sky and breaks his leg. In the end, George lives in the boy's home and becomes a part of his family.





Do you like sharing your ideas with others? If you like writing, Writers' Corner is the right place for you. We're inviting students who love writing to submit their work. You can let your imagination soar by writing stories or you can write about any experiences that are meaningful to you.

Here are some criteria for you to follow:

1. Word limit: 100-200 words
2. Language: English
3. Content: A story with a beginning, middle and an ending or an experience that is remarkable to you
4. Try to use more adjectives and different sentence structures in your writing.



All students are welcome to submit their work! Submit your work to Ms Thero and we will select 3 pieces to post in every issue.

In this issue, we have invited two students to write about their summer holiday.

My Summer Holiday

By 6C Mak Hei Yi, Hailey

In my last summer holiday, I did a ton of meaningful things. I want to share my most memorable day of all.

That day, I woke up early in the morning. I was sleepy but could not sleep all night because I was excited about visiting elderly people with my friends that morning! I freshened up and met my friend at the park near my house. Unfortunately, one of my friends seemed unhappy about it.

We went to some elderly people's houses on foot. When we arrived, there were a lot of elderly people waiting for us. They looked more energetic than I thought! We brought some games like Monopoly and chess. We wanted to play these games with them, but they wanted to go outdoors! So, we went downstairs and played badminton together happily and cheerfully.

Later on, we even had a badminton competition. My friends and I thought we could win easily but the elderly people were so good at playing badminton and never got tired! We were shocked that they beat

us! While my friends and I were exhausted, the older people were still energetic.

We had a lovely and meaningful day. I was so glad that my friend changed her thoughts about elderly people. I look forward to visiting them again.



My Summer Holiday

By 6D Chan Suet Yee, Zoe

I travelled to England with my best friend Ariel during my summer holiday. The most precious and unforgettable moment with her must be visiting the Harry Potter Studio.

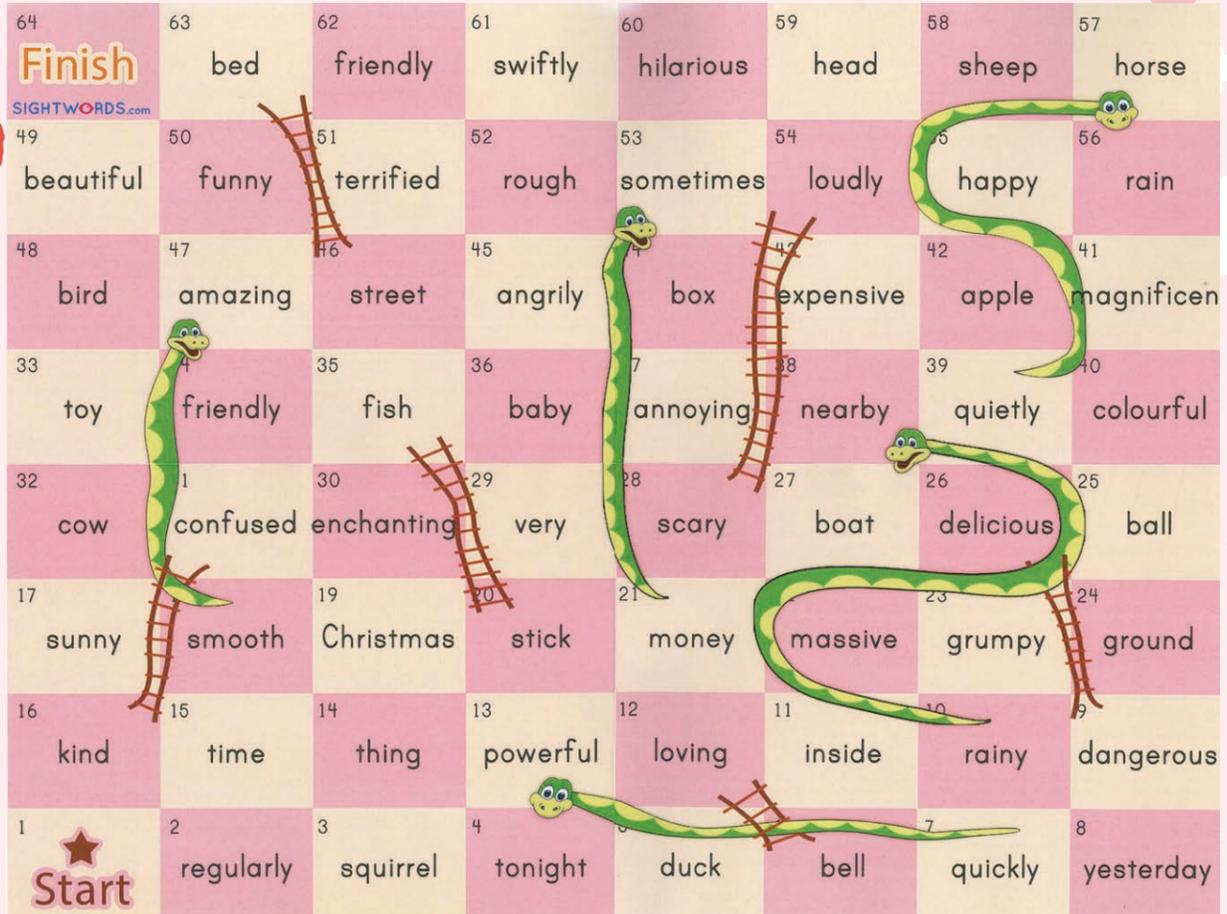
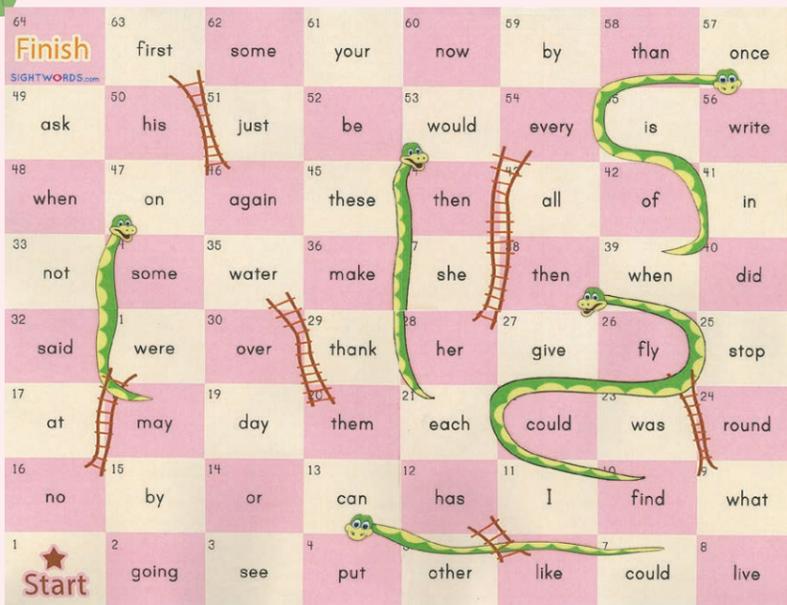
That morning, we woke up at eight o'clock. It was sunny, and the breeze was cool. We ate fish and chips for breakfast. Then, we took the bus to the studio. When we arrived, we saw many enormous statues, like Harry Potter, Voldemort... Inside, different parts of the studio were set up like the scenes from the movie. The most impressive spot was a giant dragon with wires controlling its breath. The dragon would breathe "fire". It was amazing; all of us gasped. I wondered how they managed to do all those effects.

After that, we went to the hall to have lunch. We ate a hamburger, a plate of salad and French fries. It was heavenly and delicious. That day was a precious memory to me. I will never forget it.

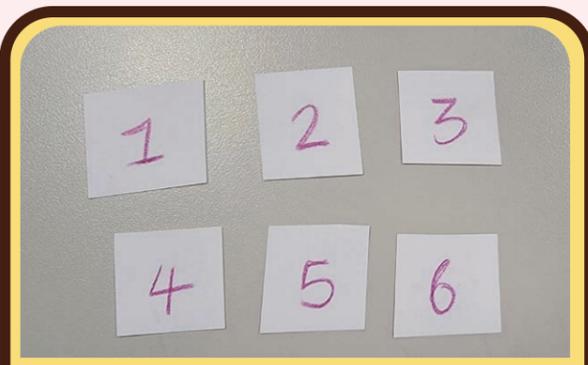




Playing snakes and ladders is quite simple. You can play it with friends, family or you can play it by yourself.



What you need:



- 6 small pieces of paper that have the numbers 1-6 written on them (Ms. Thero made these with recycled paper)



- Game pieces to move around the board (Ms. Thero made these using small pieces of recycled paper)

1. Shuffle the six pieces of paper on the desk and pick one without looking. The number you pick shows you the number of squares you can move.
2. Move your game piece accordingly. Read the word in the box you land on.
3. Be careful though, if you land on the mouth of a snake, it will eat you up and take you all the way down.
4. If you land at the bottom of a ladder, you get to climb it and skip many squares.

To make the game even more fun, we have added some sight words. Make a sentence at each square to move an extra step forward. Good luck and enjoy playing.



Deadline: 14th December, 2023 (Thursday)

What has 88 keys, but cannot open a single door?

Name: _____ ()

Class: _____

Answer: _____

Put your ticket in the box outside the English room.

