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is 95!**

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Radin Mas Welcomes Minister of Education

By Mr Chua Wee Nam

As the entourage walked past, Nur Katrina Olamide Karunwi, 6A, stepped forward with pen and paper.

"I didn't think I would get his autograph. I thought he would be too busy," said Katrina. Much to her surprise, Minister Lawrence Wong happily agreed to her request, and Katrina now proudly displays her prize at home.

Radin Mas Primary School was pleased to host Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister of Education, on

9 April. It was a chance for the minister to see students and staff at work and at play. In addition to speaking to students and staff at dialogue sessions, the minister also interacted with students in Class 3D and watched them engage in a lively ICT-enabled lesson by Miss Miranti Abdullah.

The minister caught up with students along the way as he toured the school. He had candid conversations with students and answered any questions they had. He even stopped to play games

with some students during their recess break!

Rayyan Bin Helmi, Vice-Head Student Ambassador, was nervous at first about his presentation to the Minister but was won over by his warm and fun-loving personality. "I was delighted when we took a selfie with him! He actually came down to be at our level to take the picture. This showed his thoughtfulness," said Rayyan, 6N. "I believe that when the time comes, he will surely be up to the task as he has the heart."



Challenges, Innovations and What Matters during a pandemic

By Phuah Ray Jie, Brendan, 5A

More than a year has passed since the Circuit Breaker, Singapore's version of a nationwide lockdown and preventive measure against the spread of the COVID-19 virus, was put into place on 7 April 2020. The pandemic has changed the way we study, work and interact with each other.

As of April 2021, there have been more than 60,000 cases of local and imported COVID-19 infection in Singapore. In Radin Mas Primary School, we do our part to keep the virus at bay. For instance, recess times are **staggered*** and students must sit according to an assigned arrangement. While necessary, these measures have caused some anxiety initially.

Zehn Zaidi, 4N, said that wearing the mask for long hours made him feel very uncomfortable at first. Frank

Ng, 2A, added that he felt worried when everyone in school was in masks and seated far away from each other.

"It felt like we were all isolated in some way or other, not knowing when the pandemic will be over," said Frank.

Still, after a year, most people have become used to the Safe Management Measures (SMM). It has become a habit for them to practise good hygiene. Mdm Ivy Chan, an RMPS teacher, expressed hope that these good practices, like wearing a mask whenever we are unwell, will remain.

The pandemic also gave us a chance to experiment with new technology at home, at work and in school. Mr Akmal Rahman, a computer scientist and teacher, shared that while he could not teach in schools and work in his coding laboratory during the

Circuit Breaker, he made use of his time working from home to explore new skills.

Modern communication tools like Zoom or Google Meet have been used widely to restore work-and-study interaction. Indeed, Ms Penelope Ong, a banker, was able to continue meeting remotely with her colleagues in Singapore and India from her home. Mr Karl Yap Ee Hao, a front desk relationship manager, was also able to provide financial advice to his clients easily with the help of communication technologies.

Professor Kumar Ramakrishna, Associate Professor at S Rajaratnam School of International Studies and Ms Ng Imm, Senior Lecturer at Ngee Ann Polytechnic, also found that working from home gave them a quiet space to focus on their jobs.

■ Continued on Page 3

OUR TEAM



Student Reporters

1. Tan Woon Han Andrea, 5I
2. Ong Min Xuan Avril, 5M
3. Phuah Ray Jie, Brendan, 5A
4. Lim Yu Xi Carrie, 3A
5. Ye Changxin, 6M
6. Loo Sixuan Chloe, 6N
7. Cruz Tay Le, 3D
8. Evan Tan, 4D
9. Gwyneth Vivienne Oscar, 3I
10. Lee Hong Rui, 4N
11. Joshua Pang Yi Fei, 3M
12. Joshua Soh You Jun, 4D
13. Joyce Teow Si Yu, 6M

14. Seet Liting Katelynn, 6N
15. Kayla Cheng Yu Haam, 3D
16. Looi En Ni, 6D
17. Lee Po Rong Marcus, 6N
18. Maxus Lui Zhao Jie, 4N
19. Ng Enqi Megan, 5I
20. Seow Min Ann Megan, 4R
21. Sam Jun Yu, 4N
22. Teo Sei Yu, 6M
23. Stacy Law Ze Teng, 3R
24. Zhang Taoran, 3N
25. Sui Kang Le Theophilus, 5M
26. Dhulasidharan Trishna Malika, 6D

27. Yap Sing En, 4R
28. Koh Yu Tong, 6M
29. Soh Zhe Shen Zara, 3M

Teachers

- Mr Chua Wee Nam
- Mdm Pauline Wong
- Mdm Wong Yu Ling
- Mdm Tan Pei Shi Sandy
- Mdm Roszanah Binte Kamarudin
- Miss Tan Jia Min
- Mdm Cindy Chang

Exploring the Red Planet: Mars Rover

By Cruz Tay Le and
Kayla Cheng Yu Haam, 3D

Mars is a fascinating planet in our Solar System that is quite similar to Earth. It has four seasons, channels carved by water, polar ice caps, and volcanoes. Mars looks red in outer space, earning it the nickname 'Red Planet'.

Presently, astronauts are unable to explore Mars themselves. Therefore, over the past years, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has sent robotic vehicles, called rovers, to Mars. Scientists use them to study Mars and send information back to them so that they can learn more about the planet. NASA's fifth rover only recently landed on Mars in February 2021!

Let's meet the team of rovers which are all uniquely designed! The first rover, named Sojourner, landed on Mars in 1997. It is the first wheeled robot to explore the Red Planet. Later in 2004, two rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, landed on Mars. Their mission was to find evidence of water on Mars. Interestingly, they found that Mars had water a long time ago!

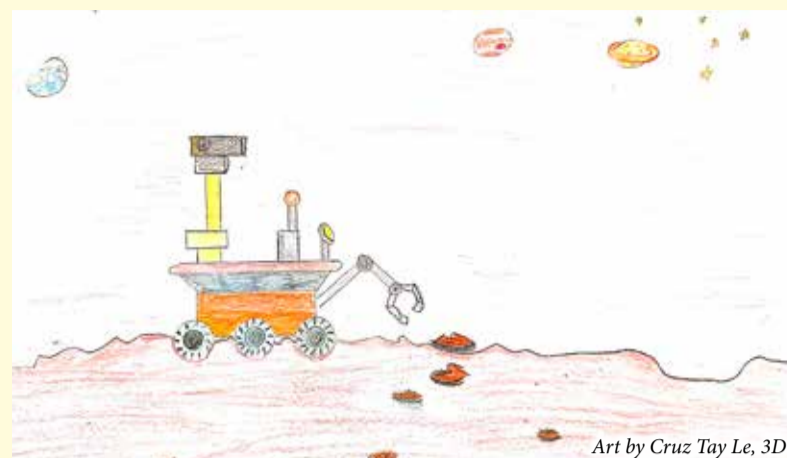
In 2012, the fourth rover named Curiosity was sent to find out if Mars ever had what life needs – water and the right chemical ingredients. Curiosity discovered a crater that had the ingredients that ancient life would have needed to survive.

Having found out that life potentially existed in the past, a fifth rover named Perseverance was sent

in February 2021. Its mission is to look for signs of present life and see if humans could one day explore Mars. Perseverance is still hard at work and you can stay tuned for updates of its exploration on Mars online!

Maybe one day, you might be one of the astronauts to explore Mars! How cool would that be?

Visit <https://mars.nasa.gov/> to learn more about the Mars missions. Explore Mars through the many pictures and videos sent by the MERs (Mars Exploration Rovers).



Art by Cruz Tay Le, 3D

The newest rover comes with a helicopter called Ingenuity! Scientists hope to fly it on the planet. Check it out!

<https://mars.nasa.gov/technology/helicopter/#Watch-Online>



Joseph R. Biden, 46th US President

By Sui Kang Le Theophilus, 5M

What would you be doing at the age of 78? Working? Or perhaps retired? Mr Joseph R. Biden, 78, became the 46th president of the United States, the oldest president in the country's history. Biden broke the record for the most votes received for any candidate, amassing over 70 million votes!

Why does this matter to us here in Singapore? The U.S. is a very valuable trading partner for Singapore, with trade between the two countries worth about US\$57 billion annually. With a new president taking the lead in the United States, its trade policies with Asia may change. As we trade important items from the US like mineral fuels, medical instruments and electronic machinery, if Mr Biden decides to change the US' trade policy and decides to stop trade with Singapore, a lot of companies might shut down, leaving people unemployed. However, this scenario is highly unlikely as trade with Singapore is also very important to the US.

Singapore also has long



standing military relations with the US. The US sells arms to Singapore and also give her access to military bases for Singapore's army forces to train.

One of the new president's first moves was to enforce the requirement on wearing masks. President Biden has also signed a global climate pact for the US to re-join the Paris climate accord.

Joseph R. Biden was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania. He has

held many different political offices since 1970. Before he became the president, he was also Vice President to Mr Barack Obama, the 44th President. During that time, he visited Singapore in 2013 and met with our leaders, including the late Minister Mentor Mr Lee Kuan Yew. When the next election for the U.S. president comes in 2024, Mr Biden will be 82 years old. Will he run for president again when the time comes?

Kamala Harris

By Ong Min Xuan Avril, 5M

If you thought that women were limited to certain jobs and professions, think again! Kamala Harris is the first woman, first African-American, and first Asian-American to become the Vice President of the United States.

It is amazing that Ms Harris became the first woman ever to hold this office. When asked what he thought about Kamala Harris, Mr Jeremy Chua, the reporter's uncle, said, "I think she is amazing that she has accomplished something that most women could not. Being Vice President of the United States is no easy feat, and it says a great deal more about the person who made it possible."

Mr James Ong, the reporter's father, felt that Kamala Harris, as a district attorney, had a good knowledge of the law, and that made her a good fit for the job. "As an attorney, she has a sense of justice to do the right things. Therefore, Miss Harris will care for the people under her charge. So as the Vice President of the United States, she will speak on behalf of the people so that the country will prosper," said Mr Ong.

Who knows? Maybe after reading this article of an independent and strong woman, more girls might be inspired to follow Kamala Harris' example!

Scan the QR Codes to learn more about women in politics



Mdm Halimah Yacob,
President of the Republic
of Singapore



Queen Elizabeth II,
Monarch of United Kingdom



Angela Merkel,
Chancellor of the Federal
Republic of Germany



Coup d'état in Myanmar

By Koh Yu Tong, 6M

The military is now back in charge of Myanmar and has announced that the country will be under a state of emergency for one year.



What has happened in Myanmar?

Military commander-in-chief Min Aung Hlaing, has taken control over Myanmar and

removed the country's elected leader and her government from power. She and the members of her political party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), are among the hundreds of people being detained by the military. The military seized control on Monday, 1 February following a general election which the NLD party won by a landslide. The military has also said that it will hold a "free and fair" election once the state of emergency is over.

Who was Myanmar's previous leader?

Aung San Suu Kyi has been Myanmar's state counsellor, which is a position like a prime minister, ever since her party won in Myanmar's first openly contested election in 25 years in 2015. She had spent nearly 15 years in detention between 1989 and 2010 after organising rallies calling for democratic reform and free elections. Aung San Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her campaign to restore democracy.

What is happening in Myanmar now?

The military's coup d'état* set off mass protests, the largest ever since the Saffron Revolution in 2007, when thousands of monks rose up against the military regime. Water cannons, rubber bullets and live ammunition have been used by the security forces to disperse protesters. This coup in Myanmar has affected their people. Since May 30, more than 700 protestors have reportedly been killed. Business investors have also slowed or stopped their activities and this has affected the livelihoods of people.

Why Myanmar matters to Singapore

Since 2001, Singapore has been supporting Myanmar's development through the Singapore Cooperation program. Singapore and Myanmar enjoy warm bilateral relations. Economic relations are growing and Singapore is consistently among Myanmar's top investors and trading partners. The coup is a significant setback for Myanmar's investors, including Singapore.

Scan the QR Code to learn about Myanmar



Word Bank

coup d'état (noun) - the removal and seizure of a government and its powers



Keeping Us Safe: Our Safe Distancing Ambassadors

By Yap Sing En, 4R

Ever noticed the men or women with red shirts and lanyards when you are out and about? Have any of them ever come up to you to remind you about safe distancing? These are Singapore's Safe Distancing Ambassadors. My aunt, Miss Lee Hwee Sing, happened to be one of them.

She was a safe distancing ambassador for six months in a gym while looking for a new job. She chose to be a safe distancing ambassador (SDA) because it was highly in demand due to the pandemic. They were needed everywhere. As my aunt was employed as a SDA with ActiveSG, she was given the choice to choose the nearest ActiveSG facilities to work in which was near her house.

How does one speak to people not adhering to SMM?

There was no best way to approach people if she spotted them not maintaining safe distancing, said Miss Lee. A humble posture, a good body language, a smiling face and a good tone would help. However, a SDA is a front-line worker who must face individuals with different reactions, responses and different moods. Some people could be having a good or bad day. Thus, my aunt had to be mentally prepared for the unexpected.



What are some ups and downs of being a SDA?

There were people who did not have a good impression of SDAs and regarded them as someone who would always try to spoil their fun, said Miss Lee. These people may have forgotten that the SDAs are there to make sure that they would be protected while enjoying their fun. So the struggle was mostly the mindset people had and the stubbornness against advice and warning.

One memorable moment for my aunt as a SDA happened during Chinese New Year. A frequent patron of the gym whom she met gave her a \$10 red packet!

Even though there were ups and downs in this job, my aunt is still proud that she had contributed to the well-being of Singapore. Let's all play our part and respond graciously and positively to the advice of our safe distancing ambassadors!

How a Vaccine Works

By Ng Enqi Megan and Tan Woon Han Andrea, 5I

Life will never be the same again.

Looking back at 2019, we were all still planning our 2020 June holiday trips to places like Bali, Tokyo and Paris. Who knew that Mr Covid would show up uninvited? Since then, there are many travel restrictions which makes travelling even across the border to Malaysia almost impossible or **daunting**.*

Fast forward to today, all of us should be familiar with this phrase, "Wear a mask when leaving the house." With all these safe management measures like mask-wearing, social distancing and contact tracing, one wonders how long more will we have to live like this? Thank goodness! The recent development and the rolling out of the vaccines against Mr Covid have lifted the hopes of the people around the world.

What is a COVID-19 vaccination and how it works?

The Covid-19 vaccination is a safe and effective way of protecting ourselves against Covid-19, before the virus comes into contact with us. It uses our body's natural defenses to build resistance against the virus and makes our immune system stronger. Different types of vaccines work in different ways to offer protection. However, with all types of vaccines, the body is left with a supply of "memory" that will remember how to fight that virus in the future.

As of April 2021, Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have been approved for use in Singapore. To learn about the vaccines used in Singapore, you can check out the Ministry of Health's website (<https://www.moh.gov.sg-admin.cwp.sg/covid-19/vaccination>).

Who should get the Covid-19 vaccination first and why?

Frontline workers like those in healthcare, personnel who offer essential services as well as older people above the age of 65 were prioritised for vaccination. They have a higher risk of getting infected by the virus. Frontline and essential workers interact with people more so they



Why we still need to mask up

Many people ask, "If I am vaccinated, do I still have to wear a mask?" The answer is yes. Even after one is fully vaccinated against Covid-19, one should still take precautions in public places like wearing a mask, staying one metre away from others and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. Covid-19 vaccination is not an absolute protection against the virus. It does not guarantee a life-long immunity against the virus. In fact, there have been rare cases of individuals who caught the virus despite having been vaccinated. So, let's all play our part and keep each other safe. Mask up!

can transmit or get the virus easily. For older people, they face significant risk of developing severe illness if they contract the disease due to physiological changes that come with ageing and potential underlying health conditions.

"To be vaccinated is to be forearmed," said Mrs Somasundara Cynthia, a teacher at Radin Mas. For those who might worry about injections, Mrs Som said that the vaccination was not painful. "Vaccination is particularly recommended for the elderly who are low on immunity and are most vulnerable. It is considerate to the rest of the members of the household for us to be vaccinated."

How long will a vaccine protect people?

It is too soon to know how long a vaccine will last. It is currently being researched. Of the people who have received the vaccine, it is known that they have been protected from COVID-19 for at least 4 months.

Word Bank

daunting (adj): seeming difficult to deal with in prospect; intimidating

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However, the adjustments did not come easy. Ms Ong said that she missed talking to her colleagues when working from home. Similarly, Mr Yap felt that work was not all about the completion of tasks. He also missed interacting with his clients and having lunches with his teammates. Professor Kumar added that socialising in the workplace is important for team building.

Despite the challenges, SMMs, coupled with the use of technology-enabled tracing tools like TraceTogether tokens, have helped Singaporeans cope with schooling, working and living in a pandemic. An unexpected benefit has been that many people got to spend more quality time with their family members. Ms Ng shared that working from home, and especially during the Circuit Breaker period, allowed her to cook more meals with her son.

Visit <https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19> for the latest updates on our fight against Covid-19.



Word Bank

staggered (verb) - arranged so that things are positioned at different places or happen at different times.

Singapolidays - Exploring our Little Red Dot

Are you thinking of travelling this year but your plans got cancelled due to the current pandemic? If you did, you can still travel around Singapore and explore places that you might not have discovered on our Little Red Dot!

Art Science Museum

By Soh Zhe Shen Zara, 3M

If you like art or science, the Singapore Art Science Museum is the perfect place for you. I really enjoyed visiting the exhibitions, *Future World: Where Art Meet Science* and *Star Wars Identities: The Exhibitions*. If you are a Star Wars fan, you will enjoy the interactive exhibition and artefacts from the Star Wars movies, such as movie props, costumes and artworks that are showcased there. The Art Science Museum has many fun and interactive activities for everyone to enjoy.



Singapore Flyer

By Soh Zhe Shen Zara, 3M

If you want to see a breath-taking view of Singapore, visit the Singapore Flyer! While on board the Flyer, you will catch a glimpse of our neighbouring countries, Malaysia and Indonesia. You can also take beautiful pictures of iconic Singapore landmarks such as the Singapore River, Merlion Park, Empress Place, and Raffles Place!

Jewel Changi Airport

By Joyce Teow Si Yu, 6M

This glass-domed building houses the world's largest indoor waterfall, called the HSBC Rain Vortex. Acres of wall-to-wall flora fill a lush green sanctuary with a rain vortex at the center. The Shiseido Forest Valley is a garden wonderland, a tranquil retreat in the core of Jewel Changi. This majestic building is connected to Changi Airport.

The Canopy Park is located at the highest level of the Jewel, and features multiple play attractions. Large mazes and magnificent gardens make this one of the highlights of your visit. Bouncy high-up nets make you feel weightless, while dozens of colourful plants make for a picture-perfect selfie.

Jewel Changi is filled with lots of restaurants, shops and stores, so the fun never ends. On every floor, you can find alcoves to watch the waterfall, although the view varies with the location. Jewel is a shopper's paradise, perfect for playful little kids and an aspiring botanist's dream.



Universal Studios Singapore

By Joyce Teow Si Yu, 6M

This theme park has a single goal: to get people to have a fun time. Multiple different areas showcase famous characters, wild rides, and colourful performances.

I like this place because it represents the fun side of Singapore. I was fascinated by USS when my mother brought me for a visit back in the March holidays. With our annual passes, we were able to return to the Instagram-worthy thrilling rides again and again.

Action-lovers will love the Revenge of the Mummy and Transformers The Ride: The Ultimate 3D Battle. Fairytale castles, city buildings, and complex structures fill the grounds of USS. In the New York themed zone, there's a replica of the infamous New York Public Library, while the popular Walk of Fame is displayed in USS's version of Hollywood. There is so much to explore in USS.



A Year of Celebrations!

By Teo Sei Yu, 6N

Do you know Radin Mas Primary School celebrates her 95th anniversary this year? Founded in 1926, the school has always been a place where students work hard, play hard and make a mark.

To kick start the celebrations, the school had a logo designing challenge in Term 1 where all students designed their very own RMPS logo that represents Radin Mas Primary School's history and vision. The logo designed by Ten Yu Jie Titus, 3I, was selected from among the hundreds of submissions as our official 95th anniversary logo!

Many events this year will incorporate the 95th anniversary

theme. For example, as part of this year's Olympic Festival, students raced to piece together a picture puzzle to mark this 95 years milestone.

To mark the occasion, the school commissioned well-known Singaporean artist, "Ah Guo", to design a mural. "Our Radin Mas Story" depicts Radin Mas Primary School's growth and progress over 95 years and guides students to "remember the past, appreciate the present and create the future". At the end of the year, there will be an official ribbon cutting ceremony for the installation.

Let us commemorate our 95th anniversary with pride, joy and hope for the future!



Our Early Years

By Seet Liting Katelynn and Loo Sixuan Chloe, 6N

If you flip open your school diary to page 3, you will find that there is a little bit of our school history in there.

Radin Mas Primary used to be located in an Istana, where the local **temenggong** who came from Jawa, Pengiran, and his daughter, Princess Radin Mas Ayu, stayed in.

The main building of the Istana was converted to a school in 1926 and was known as Radin Mas School. The school, which sat at the foot of Mount Faber, was an all-boys school. The school had an enrolment of only 40 students a year. Somewhere near the 1950s, an annexe was added to the building as the enrolment of students increased.

In 1984, the school moved to its current location and its name became Radin Mas Primary School. Radin Mas Primary School became a co-educational (co-ed) school.

According to Mrs Tan Eng Leong, a teacher who has been teaching in Radin Mas for about 30 years, there was only Block A back then. Where Block B and C now stand was a grove of mango trees.

In each of today's Block A classrooms, there were 3 classrooms, 2 larger classrooms and a smaller classroom in between. The smaller classroom housed a few Macintosh computers, which were state of the art desktop computers by Apple in the 1980s. These were large and boxy in shape. Things displayed on the screen were extremely hard

to see, in comparison to the computers and iPads we have now.

If you take a look at the timeline below, you can see the important and significant moments for our school.



Word Bank

temenggong (noun) - an old Malay title of nobility, usually given to a local ruler.

Othman Bin Wok – Founding Father and Radin Mas Boy

By Lee Hong Rui and Sam Jun Yu, 4N

Born on 8 October 1924 in Singapore, which was then a British colony, the late Mr Othman Bin Wok was a student in Radin Mas Primary School. He was a politician who served as a founding father of Singapore alongside other notable leaders such as Mr Lee Kuan Yew and Mr Goh Keng Swee. Throughout his life, he was an **advocate** of multi-racialism.

When Singapore had to separate from Malaysia, our leaders had to sign a contract called 'Independence of Singapore Agreement'. Representing Singapore along with other political leaders, the late Mr Othman was the only Malay-Muslim to sign the contract. Mr Othman was convinced that a multi-cultural Singapore would work.

Apart from promoting racial harmony, Mr Othman promoted sports in the community and encouraged athletes to represent Singapore. He also improved the quality of Social Welfare services, helping a variety of disadvantaged groups. These groups included the disabled, the aged, wilful teenagers, working mothers, and widows.

Mr Othman constantly pushed for unity among Singaporeans and made that his mission. He once said in an interview, "Always be loyal to your country. You're a Singaporean, you'll always be a Singaporean."

Mr Othman Wok died on 17 April



2017 at the age of 92. Thanking him for his service, Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam wrote in his Facebook post, "We are indebted to Mr Othman, and will always be. He made a multiracial Singapore possible, which matters more than anything else we have."

We are deeply honoured to have the late Mr Othman as an alumni of Radin Mas Primary School!

Word Bank

advocate (noun) - one who publicly supports or suggests an idea, plan or way of doing something

Radin Mas: A Time Line

1926 - Radin Mas School is established at the foot of Mount Faber. Today, the condominium "The Pearl @ Mount Faber" sits on the same site.

1946 - After World War 2, the school welcomes students back after a parent requested for it to open.

1984 - Radin Mas School moves to its current location at Bukit Purmei. It was renamed Radin Mas Primary School and took in girls as well.

1992 - Radin Mas is one of the six pilot schools in Singapore for "Accelerating the Use of Information Technology in Primary Schools".

2003 - A new wing, Block B, is added for the growing school population.

2021 - Radin Mas Primary School celebrates its 95th anniversary.



Photographs contributed by Mr Eddie Tan, Class of 1995



Upcoming Events in Semester 2

- August -** National Day Celebrations with Birthday Wishes for the School
- October -** Children's Day Celebrations with the setting of a New Singapore Record!
- November -** Official Opening Ceremony of "Our Radin Mas Story" Wall Mural



Teachers Making a Mark in Our Lives

By Zhang Taoran, 3N

Mrs Doreen Foo is currently the Year Head (Lower Primary) of RMPS and a P.E Teacher. Do you know she was also a RMPS student 32 years ago? In Primary 2, Mrs Foo was taught by Mrs Yew who is currently still teaching in our school! Let us hear from Mrs Foo about her school experience here!

"Who is your favourite teacher that taught you in the past? What do you like about that teacher?"

I had so many teachers that I really liked and respected. It is not easy to choose just one.

One teacher who left a deep impression on me was Ms Patricia Lim. She was my Primary 6 English Teacher who believed in all of us. She never ever lost her cool even when she was upset.

One other teacher I really respect till this day is Mrs Doris Yew. She was my Primary 2 Form Teacher and taught me English and Mathematics. She is still

teaching in Radin Mas Primary School up till today and is one of the most patient and caring teachers with a big heart for all her students.

"Did you like studying in Radin Mas Primary School? Was there anything in the past that made you want to be a teacher in Radin Mas now?"

I loved my student days at Radin Mas Primary School. I was inspired by all the caring teachers who have made a difference in my life and I hope to be able to touch students' lives in the same positive manner.

"How were your days like studying in Radin Mas Primary School? What is the difference between studying in Radin Mas then and now?"

In the past, there were two sessions, morning or afternoon sessions. When I was in Primary 2 and 4, I was in the afternoon session and school only started at 1p.m and ended at 6.20pm. Report books and attendance were also recorded by hand and the processes were not computerized.



Mrs Yew making sure that Mrs Foo still remembers her numbers!

A Radin Mas Family

By Travis Ten (Class of 2019)

I have a lot of wonderful memories of Radin Mas but one stands out in my mind. It was when I received an award in Primary 3. I remember vividly my mother's face beaming with pride and joy.

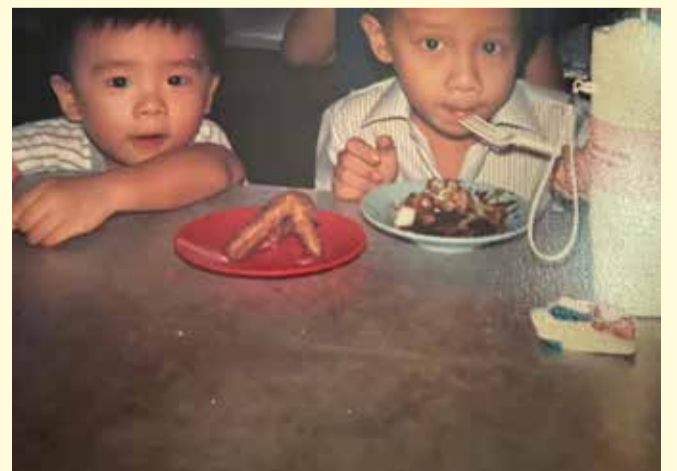
My mother is Mdm Cindy Han but most students know her as Mrs Ten. She joined Radin Mas in 2015, and is presently the Level Head for Science. She loves to catch up with her friends and play *Pokemon Go*, a game I occasionally play with her.

Her typical day is long. When I was in Radin Mas, it always started with her preparing our recess once she woke up. When a busy day of teaching ended, my mother usually had meetings so she would send us home via taxi. At night after dinner, she would go through my work with me, helping to clarify my doubts.

Thinking back to my days in primary school, I can

only remember the good things, like eating with my friends, or playing with them during recess. Those moments we had were precious. Though it has been two years since I graduated, it still feels like yesterday when I first stepped into Radin Mas for the first time. The time I spent with my friends and the things I learned from my teachers are invaluable to me. They were what kept me excited and ready for school, each and every day without fail.

I think for my mother, she enjoys coming to school to teach students who are willing to learn. To me, this is the biggest reason for someone to be a teacher, shaping the future generations for the better. I always see her smiling when she shares about students she had taught, tokens of appreciation she had received from them, or times when students ran into her. Her smiles are genuine and real, no matter how tired she might be after a long day.



A Greener Singapore in 2030

By Joshua Pang Yi Fei, 3M

With the nation's journey towards sustainability*, the government has just revealed the Singapore Green Plan 2030. The Parliament announced new measures that will change the way Singaporeans live, learn and play. The changes include reforming buildings to be more energy-efficient, pushing for more electric vehicles and increasing recreational as well as park spaces within our city.

As part of the plan, Education Minister Lawrence Wong announced that the Ministry of Education would aim to reduce carbon emissions in schools by at least two-thirds by the year 2030. The

programme will be rolled out in four areas: Curriculum, Campus, Culture and Community.

In terms of curriculum, more topics in school will be introduced around the theme of sustainability. On campus, the ministry will improve energy efficiency through different ways such as using LED lights in classrooms and installing solar panels on the rooftops of 130 schools.

When it comes to culture, schools will encourage students to adopt positive habits such as reducing energy and food waste. Students will also be encouraged to take part in community sustainability projects.

With these initiatives, Singaporeans will see a change in the way they live, learn and play. **What can we expect in a Greener Singapore?**

- Commute in greener ways, such as cycling, taking public transport or using electric vehicles.
- 50% more park spaces where people can go hiking or bird watching.
- Greener buildings for people to work and study in.



**Singapore
Green Plan 2030,**
www.greenplan.gov.sg

We all have a part to play in making Singapore succeed in its Green Plan. **What can you do for a Greener Singapore?**

- Adopt good personal habits such as reducing waste, recycling and reusing items.
- Encourage your families to take public transport, walk or cycle instead of driving.
- Support local produce and buy food produced by Singapore farms.

Word Bank

sustainability (noun) - the ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level.

Farmer-for-a-Day: Integrated Learning Trails



"I enjoyed harvesting the coral lettuce! It was my first time!"
- Charmaine Wong, 2M



"Grow little seed, grow!"



In picture: (from left) Kaydon See Kai & Fun Le Xuan, Arielle (11). Primary 1 students all have greenhouse boxes in their classrooms. They can't wait to see their seeds grow into yummy vegetables as big as this one!

As part of the school's efforts to teach students about sustainability, Primary 1 students had the opportunity to be Farmer-for-a-Day as part of their integrated learning trail where they had hands-on experience on growing vegetables. Primary 2 students went to Kok Fah Technological Farm where they had a tour of the greenhouse, learned about traditional and modern farming methods, harvested their very own hydroponics vegetables and potted microgreens. Let's hear what they have to share about their experience:



"I enjoyed planting the microgreen because I can look after it and eat it once it has grown."
- Jazlyn Lee, 2N

"I enjoyed the tour around the farm where I got to smell mint leaves and learn about hydroponics."
- Jeorgina Lee, 2N

Museum-Based Learning

By Seow Min Ann Megan, 4R

Every year, Primary 4 students will experience Museum-Based Learning as part of their art curriculum. When we were informed about this, my classmates and I were excited as it was something outside the classroom. Normally, with Museum-Based Learning, students learn in the setting of a museum where authentic learning comes alive in an interesting way. However, due to Covid-19, we were unable to visit a real museum outside the school compound. Thus, we were a little disappointed.

Much to our surprise, the museum gallery was brought into our school library! This year, the lesson unit focused on the theme of Bits and Pixels artworks and techniques of photography, which was part of our art module. Students were brought into a gallery full of interesting photographs displayed on the walls, each unique in its own way. Photographs in the exhibition were

contributed by parent volunteers!

"It was a great pleasure to help and contribute together with the other parent volunteers in this project," said Mdm Aivee Sy Medrano, one of the parent volunteers.

The teachers split us into two groups. We were given a quiz based on the photos inside the museum. Each group was given time to tour the museum to answer the questions in the quiz while looking at the photographs in the museum. We were curious about the story each photograph could tell.

Through the museum experience, we learnt how to appreciate artworks in the gallery, how to read an artwork label and we got to practice our museum etiquettes.

After the gallery experience, we were inspired to capture good images in our Digital Art Photography workshop. We learnt about photography techniques like simplicity, rule of thirds, leading lines, symmetry and framing.



The entire Museum-Based Learning had been a unique experience, which made our learning more interesting and memorable.

Visit <https://capturetheatlas.com/photography-composition/> to learn about capturing good images.



Play Hard and Make a Mark!

By Evan Tan and Joshua Soh You Jun, 4D

The Olympic Festival is an annual event in Radin Mas Primary School. This year, it was held on Thursday, 1 April 2021. It involved students from Primary 3 to Primary 6. The students in each class were divided into different teams to participate in different events such as Shuttle Run + Jigsaw, Medicine Ball, Skipping Relay and Obstacle Race. In conjunction with our school's 95th anniversary this year, certain elements of celebration were incorporated in one of the events.

In compliance with the safety management measures (SMMs), this year's Olympic Festival was organised in a different manner compared to the past. Before the pandemic, all the students from each level would gather together to compete at various locations in school. Participants from opposing class teams would compete while the rest of the classes would cheer them on from the sidelines. The atmosphere was breath-taking. However this year, only two classes could only compete at the given time at the allocated venues.

Students from different classes were not allowed to mingle with one another and all the equipment had to be wiped before the next class used them.

The top three teams with the highest scores in each level were awarded with gold, silver or bronze medals. On top of that, the class with the highest overall score for each level received a trophy as the level champion.

Class 4D came in as the champion among the Primary Four. They had the opportunity to take a class photo with the Vice Principal, Mrs Linda Tan. "It is fun and interesting, and best of all, I could participate in two activities as I could not decide what I liked," said Ivan Low, 4D.

The Olympic Festival is an enriching school event for all the students. From this event, we learnt quite a number of values such as Never Give Up, Maximize Potential, Aim for Excellence and last but not least, Sportsmanship.

"The Olympic Festival is fun and exciting. I had a good bonding time with my classmates," said Javier Koh, 4M.



Scaling Heights, Forging Bonds at the P6 Camp

By Looi En Ni, Dhulasidharan Trishna Malika, 6D and Lee Po Rong Marcus, 6N

Class 6D went for their Primary 6 Camp at the Sembawang Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade campsite on 27 January 2021. When we were there, we tried our hands at ziplining, obstacle course and abseiling. We had a whale of a time at the campsite even though some of our friends were **apprehensive*** at first when they saw what they were in for. However, all of us still gave it a try with much encouragement from our teachers and classmates.

For some, the obstacle course was the most challenging activity. We had to climb up a log-like structure by pulling and pushing ourselves up on what looked like metal horseshoes that were embedded in the log. To make matters worse, those things were very far apart which made it difficult to climb.

Teachers, Mr Goh Sheow En and

Mr Teo Wai Chin, who led us during the camp, commented that the camp had not only provided them a good opportunity to get to know the students better but also provided students a great way to get away from the hustle and bustle of school. Most importantly, learning still took place in a fun, meaningful and relevant way outside the classroom! Both felt that the students had developed ruggedness, resilience and growth mindset through the outdoor experiences.

The most special thing that we took away from this camp was the bond we formed as a class. This camp had definitely brought us closer. We enjoyed the company and camaraderie. The ziplining activity had allowed us to work as a team while supporting one another. Completing those obstacles had also given some of us the chance to conquer our initial fear. It was indeed an unforgettable camp experience for us!



National Education is Fun!

By Gwyneth Vivienne Oscar, 3I, and Stacy Law Ze Teng, 3R

All Primary 3 students ended Term 1 on a **high note***. They had their day camp on the last day of the term. What was different from the previous year camp was the infusion of a National Education (NE) theme. While the students learnt about fundamental camping skills and basic navigation, they also learnt more about Singapore's World War 2 history and National Service.

The students were divided into groups for different types of fun activities namely "Search and Rescue", "Storm the Fort" and "Casualty Treatment".

To provide students with a more realistic experience, pictures of injured soldiers were hidden around the school and students had to look for them. Through this "Search and Rescue" activity, they learnt how to navigate through unfamiliar terrain on foot or by vehicle, using maps or compasses. In one scenario, students were members of a medical team and their mission was to locate and rescue the casualties in the battlefield as quickly as possible.

"Storm the Fort" was the favourite activity among students. Split into Attackers and Defenders, opposing groups students had to overcome a series of obstacles, which included doing the leopard crawl and walking through the cones that replicated the land mines and bombs. The group that reached the fort first

would be the winner.

Students had a lot of hands-on practices in the "Casualty Treatment" activity. They were taught how to bandage arms and ankles before they tried it out on their friends.

They also learnt how to pack their bags for war time such as folding and rolling the clothing to save more space so as to be able to accommodate more items in a bag.



"Medic!"

"I am really grateful to be able to participate in this camp," said Gwyneth, 3I. "I have learnt a lot about basic camping skills and particularly enjoyed the "Storm the Fort" game where I displayed teamwork with my teammates. We even won the game!"

"I like the "Storm the Fort" activity the most too," Stacy, 3R, chimed in. "I did not want the day to end. I had such a wonderful time and all the happy and fun memories will be etched in my mind!"

Word Bank

on a **high note** (idiom): in a pleasant or enjoyable way

Word Bank

apprehensive (adj): uneasy or fearful about something that might happen

Interview with Vice-Principal (A), Ms Mary Goh

By Ye Changxin, 6M

Ms Mary Goh joins Radin Mas Primary in 2021 and we are very happy to welcome her into the family! Let us get to know Ms Goh.

What are your duties as the Vice Principal?

My core duties include overseeing finance, administration, operations, and the safety and security of the school.

Before becoming a Vice-Principal (Admin), what was your previous jobs?

After graduating from school, I spent 2 years with the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) as a Manpower Officer. After my time there, I enjoyed leisure time for 6 years before joining the Ministry of Education (MOE) 20 years ago.

What is your greatest accomplishment?

I am proud to continue contributing to my alma mater, National University of Singapore (NUS), since my graduation, to

help needy undergraduate students so that no one is deprived of tertiary education if they are keen to pursue it. In the pipeline, I am setting up a Trust Fund for students who are keen to pursue the arts.

What are your expectations for Radin Mas students?

What do you think is most important for your students?

To be respectful and gracious to others, which is also the school's expectations. I also think that it is important for students to be self-directed and independent learners, mastering life skills that can stay with them.

What do you usually do in your free time?

I like to explore new recipes to make it a healthier choice and enjoy new dining experiences.

What is your favourite animal?

The dolphin, for its intelligence.



BOOK REVIEWS

Books Come Alive!

By Maxus Lui Zhao Jie, 4N

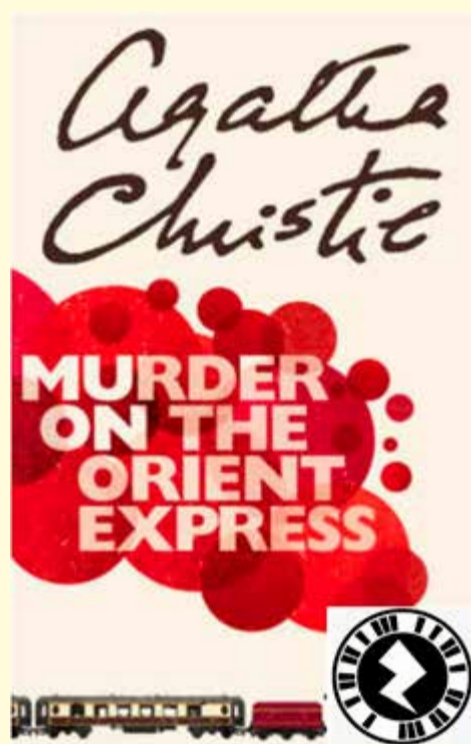
Have you checked out the amazing Artella Wall in school? Located just beside the canteen, the Artella Wall displays book recommendations by the English Department. The first titles on display were murder mysteries by renowned author Agatha Christie - 'Murder on the Orient Express', 'And Then There Were None' and 'Death on the Nile'.

The wall also displays information about the history of the Orient Express and images of how it would look like if we were in the actual train. Posters about an exhibition of the Orient Express at Gardens by the Bay are also on display. The exhibition runs up to June this year.

Interestingly, the recommended books have Zapcodes on them! What are the Zapcodes for? They seek to provide us with an Augmented Reality (AR) experience. All we need to do is download the application 'Zapper' and use it to scan the Zapcode to access the AR experience.

The Artella Wall is an awesome display in our school to visit. "I find the wall interesting. It is good as it encourages us to read. We will want to find out more about the books by scanning the Zapcode," said Chua Si Ying Casmyn, 5A.

Do drop by the Artella Wall to check it out one day! We promise that you would not regret it.



User this QR Code to download the Zapper app.



Open the Zapper app and aim it at the round zapcode at the bottom right corner of the book cover.

Our Mascots Tell Their Stories

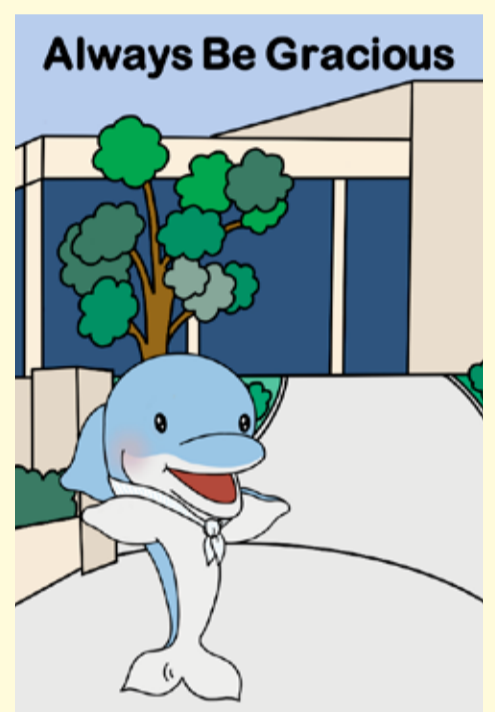
By Lim Yu Xi Carrie, 3A

"Always be Gracious" is a story written by Ha Soo Rin, Alena, Class of 6N 2020. The story features Dexter the Dolphin, Radin Mas Primary School's adorable mascot for the value, graciousness.

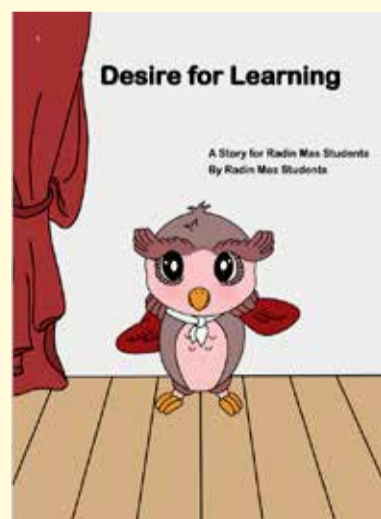
Teachers read the story to their students during bonding week at the beginning of the year. The story teaches us what it means to be gracious. It serves as a good reminder for students to be gracious to the people around them. In the story, Dexter the Dolphin reminded two students, Rhea and Zara, to be gracious to each other by not fighting over a basketball and to share the ball instead.

I think that this is a very well written and meaningful story. I enjoyed listening to the story very much. I also hope that everyone enjoys the story and remembers to always be gracious!

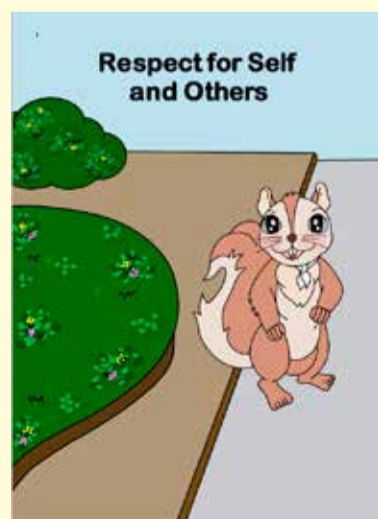
Our other Mascots have stories to share as well. Check out the titles below!



Look Out For These Upcoming Mascot Books



Oli the Owl plays the role of a student who won the award for best academic progress. Before winning the award, Oli was lazy and unmotivated. What changed him?



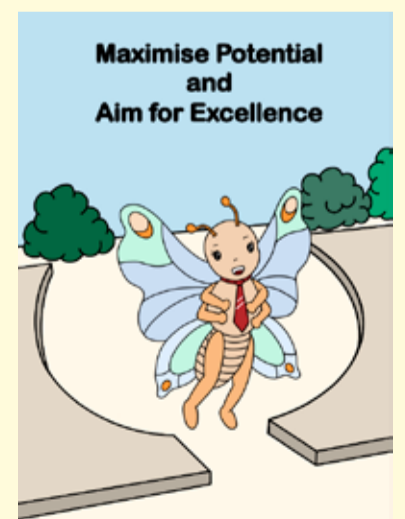
Scott the Squirrel plays the role of a concerned classmate in the story "Respect for Self and Others". Discover how he encourages the value of respect.



Leo the Lion plays the role of an upright prefect in his story. Find out how he stands up for integrity!



Buzz the Bee plays the role of an innovative student in his tale. The story uncovers how innovative Buzz is in finding a creative solution to his problem!



Beatrice the Butterfly plays the role of a class leader, but will she perform her role well? Or is there room for improvement?