

# RADIN MAS TIMES

A NEWSPAPER BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

2021 SEMESTER 2 EDITION

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## A Shield Against Covid-19

### P6 students get the vaccine

By Qistina Binte Muhammad Fairuz, 5A

On May 31, the Ministry of Education (MOE) announced that more than 400,000 students would be invited to register for vaccinations from June 1, after the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was approved in May by the Health Sciences Authority for those aged 12 to 15 years.

When parents were urged to sign their children up for vaccination, Mdm Ng Li Za, a teacher at Radin Mas Primary School, was ready to have her two girls vaccinated.

"Although I understand that being vaccinated doesn't mean that they will not be infected, at least, if they were to be infected, the symptoms would not be so serious," said Mdm Ng.

She read that studies have shown that it is relatively safe for children to receive

the vaccination. Furthermore, the doctor reassured her that it was fine for her daughter to receive the vaccination even with her **eczema** condition.

Looi En Ni, 6D, one of those who received an invitation to register for the vaccination, remarked. "At first, I was scared of the jab. However, after the jab, I found that it wasn't as painful as I thought it would be!" She added that she had a fever and a headache only after the second vaccination.

Her classmate, Shay Tan Howe, also experienced a similar side effect after his second vaccination. When asked what the process was like during his vaccination, he said, "It was fast and smooth. Upon arriving at the community centre, I showed my School SmartCard to an officer who checked that all my details were correct. Then, I

followed the directions to the waiting area. After waiting for a few minutes, it was my turn and I was shown into a room. The nurse reassured me and made sure that I was calm before giving me an injection. Next, I had to wait at the observation area for about 30 minutes to ensure that I was fine before being discharged."

If the majority of students gets vaccinated, it will create a safer environment for all. Hopefully, students can all return to how school was like, two years ago where we could have mass assemblies and celebrations.

#### Word Bank

**eczema (noun)** : a condition that causes your skin to become dry, red, itchy and bumpy



Lim Jun Le, Jaydon, 6A, getting his vaccination

"Give us more homework to make us smarter."

"Can we have air-conditioned classrooms?"

## The Students' Voice

"Can we add lifts in Block A to help students and teachers who might have trouble with the stairs?"

By Suan Yun Xuan, 5I, Soh Zhe Sheng Zacholas, 5M, Jaela Tan Jie Le, 3N and Zehn Zaidi, 4N

When students have a chance to share and build a greater sense of belonging, they enjoy coming to school.

The RMPS Student Forum was held on 28 July 2021 to gather feedback and opinions from Primary 3 to 6 students about the school. The student forum allowed students to have a voice and to make the school a better place for everyone. The forum has made students feel like they are a part of the change and that they belong to the school.

Students felt happy because they had the opportunity to say what they liked to make the school a better place. They also felt that it was useful because students could express their feelings to the teachers and talk about what they thought was good for the school to make students happy and healthy. The forums are useful because the teachers can understand what students think about the school. Students shared that the student forums were important because we get a choice of what we like and our

"A forum is good because it gets students' opinions on improving the school."

Sui Kang Le Theophilus, 5M

teachers will help us.

Students can look forward to seeing improvements to the school such as new canteen toilets. Students have expressed interest in exploring more topics at the next student forum such as cleaning the canteen, more CCAs and other interesting programmes.

While the school cannot accede to all the requests, it will certainly take the students' voices seriously. Do take part actively in the student forums – perhaps your ideas will spark positive changes in Radin Mas.



Student Leader Heng Zhi Xuan, 3M, interviewing Mrs Linda Tan, VP, for the student forum.

### OUR TEAM



#### Student Reporters

1. Lim Dao En, Elgin, 3A
2. Beverly Loh Mengyi, 3A
3. Tan Kai Heng, 3M
4. Jaela Tan Jie Le, 3N
5. Zhang Taoran, 3N
6. Chew Zhi Xuan Desiree, 3N
7. Aidan Chua Kiat Oon, 4A
8. Renzo Lam Le Wen, 4A
9. Calyce Chia, 4A
10. Au Peiru, 4D
11. Renzo Richard Ho, 4D
12. Ramos Jaime Miguel Ranada, 4D
13. Ng Zhi Yang Caden, 4I
14. Cherice Chng Yu Tong, 4I
15. Lu Yiyi, 4M
16. Zehn Zaidi, 4N
17. Chia Khai Sim Charlotte, 4R
18. Qistina Binte Muhammad Fairuz, 5A
19. Tehzeeb Binte Abdul Nasir, 5A
20. Kavin Valliappan, 5D
21. Vera Khoo Le Ying, 5D
22. Yvette Toh Yuxuan, 5D
23. Suan Yun Xuan, 5I
24. Dimple Gunaseger, 5I
25. S. Vaithiya Nathan Siva, 5I
26. Soh Zhe Sheng Zacholas, 5M
27. Avril Ong Min Xuan, 5M
28. Leow Xin Yi Stephanie, 5M
29. Chen Yuhan, 5N
30. Tay Rui Yi, 5N
31. Ong Ian Kay Asher, 5N
32. Tan Ying Xuan, Ashley, 5N
33. Zhang Yujia, 5N
34. Intan Nur Qistina Binte Abdullah, 5R
35. Thivalappil Sankara Narayana Suziyana Sara, 5R
36. Akshaya D/O Kumbalingam Sudhagar, 5R

"It was very interesting to listen to my teachers and classmates. Some of the questions even made my friends giggle as we found them funny."

Zehn Zaidi, 4N

# Billionaires Race to Space

By Avril Ong Min Xuan, 5M

Most people know about Amazon, a website where one can buy almost anything. Some of you might have even bought something from the website already. However, did you know that Amazon is actually linked to space travel? In 2000, the creator of Amazon, Jeff Bezos, founded a company called Blue Origin.

Blue Origin is a privately funded American aerospace manufacturer and suborbital spaceflight services company. The company aims to make access to space cheaper and more reliable through reusable launch vehicles.

On October 13, two decades after it was founded, Blue Origin successfully launched its second crewed flight into space – this time carrying William Shatner, an actor who portrayed the character James T Kirk, captain of the USS Enterprise in the Star Trek television series.

There are other billionaires racing to

space, such as Elon Musk, who founded Tesla, an electric car company. Musk's Space X launched four civilians into space on September 16. The spacecraft called Inspiration4 and its four passengers orbited the Earth for three days.

There is also Richard Branson of Virgin Air, who founded Virgin Galactic to offer tourists the chance to travel to space too. This race is among very wealthy men, competing to see who goes to the moon first.

Darius Ong Jia Le of 3A, said, "I think that the billionaires' race to space is very productive as we could learn a lot from these people who have gone to space. I would love to be one of those who gets to have the experience of zero gravity!"

We need to travel to other planets to find a new home to live on as Earth's climate is slowly becoming from bad to worse. Scientists are trying to find a planet with the same settings as Earth, so that if the conditions on Earth really does harm us, we



could move to another planet via rockets and spaceships.

Who knows? Maybe one day we could click and buy tickets for a flight to the moon on Amazon!

Scan the QR Code to learn more about the history of space exploration



Learn more about these out-of-this-world companies



www.spacex.com



www.blueorigin.com



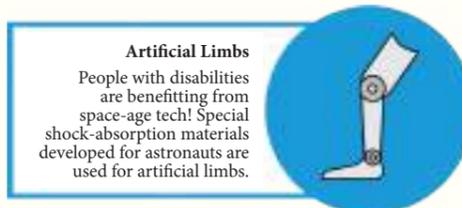
www.virgingalactic.com

## Things we would not have without space travel!



### Camera Phone

In the 1990s, NASA scientists created cameras small enough to fit on spacecraft. 1/3 of all cameras today contain this technology!



### Artificial Limbs

People with disabilities are benefiting from space-age tech! Special shock-absorption materials developed for astronauts are used for artificial limbs.



### Scratch-Resistant Lenses

Diamond-hard coatings developed for aerospace systems have led to tougher lenses that we use here on Earth!



### Computer Mouse

The mouse was invented by NASA to make computers more interactive. Until then, everything had to be done using just the keyboard.



### Wireless Headsets

Astronauts were the first to use hands-free wireless headsets! Remember that the next time you listen to your favourite tunes!



### Athletic Shoes

Olympic athletes could never break records if it were not for NASA's space suit construction technology!

Extracted from Nasa JPL. Learn more at <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/>



## Olympics: Tokyo 2020

What we can learn from the Olympics



### Faster

By Au Peiru, 4D

Momiji Nishiya was born on 30 August 2007 in Osaka, Japan. At 13, she is the youngest person ever to win a gold medal for Japan, and third youngest in the world to ever win an event at the Summer Olympics.

Nishiya was up against other athletes who were more experienced than she was, including Alexis Sablone (USA), 34, Margielyn Didal (Philippines), 22, and Roos Zwetsloot (The Netherlands), 20. Despite this, she continued and carried on.

"I didn't think I could win, but everyone around me cheered me on so I'm glad I was able to find my groove," Nishiya said to a Japanese news agency.



### Higher

By Renzo Richard Ho, 4D

Mutaz Essa Barshim from Qatar and Gianmarco Tamberi from Italy are competitors in high jump event. Over the years, they have also become good friends who support each other.

In 2021, they entered the Tokyo Olympics. Both of them made jumps of 2.37m. They also tried to clear the 2.39m mark but failed. After some attempts, they ended up in a tie. They spoke with an Olympic official if they could have two golds and the official agreed.

"We work together. This is a dream come true. It is the true spirit, the sportsman spirit, and we are here delivering this message," said Barshim in a report from World Athletics.



### Stronger

By Ramos Jaime Miguel Ranada, 4D

During the 800 meter race, Isaiah Jewett (USA) and Nijel Amos (Botswana) had a devastating accident. Amos fell and unintentionally tripped Jewett, thus causing both runners to fall down.

In an extraordinary display of sportsmanship, Jewett got up and helped Amos up. They held onto each other and completed the race together.

"Regardless of how mad you are, you have to be a hero at the end of the day," said Jewett after the race.

We can learn from these athletes. They live out the RMPS school value, to Never Give Up. When faced with failure, they showed the world what good sportsmanship and strength is truly like.

# Singapore Hawker Culture

## A UNESCO World Heritage

By Chen Yuhan and Tay Rui Yi, 5N

The late Anthony Bourdain, a food-and-travel show host, once said that the hawker centres in Singapore are wonderlands of Chinese, Indian and Malay specialties. Indeed, hawker culture in Singapore is an **integral**\* part of life for Singaporeans. It originated from the early migrant population selling quick, affordable meals on street pavements, in town squares and parks.

Today, hawker centres have become a safe, clean, open kitchen where customers can watch how their food is being prepared and served. They are a melting pot of cuisines where people gather to dine and bond with one another over their favourite hawker food. Eating together in groups in this way is typical of the Singaporean food culture. Over the years, this unique combination of food, space and community have evolved into a microcosm of Singapore's multicultural society.

Preserving hawker culture will help to safeguard and promote this unique culture for the future generations while letting the rest of the world know about our local food and multicultural heritage. Therefore, it is with this intent that Singapore embarked on a two-year long journey to inscribe hawker culture on the UNESCO Representative List of



the Intangible Cultural of Humanity. The official inscription of Hawker Culture in Singapore was announced on 16 December 2020.

Our hawker centres offer a wide range of Chinese, Malay, Indian and many other dishes. Some of the famous local cuisines from hawker centres include chicken rice, laksa and roti prata.

The current generation of hawkers will retire, and a legacy might be lost. Young people are reluctant to be hawkers as they feel that the work

environment is hot and greasy and the work itself is unglamorous. It is thus even more crucial to preserve hawker culture to ensure our local culture and identity are not lost.

Some of these dishes can be found in our school canteen too. Be sure to give them a try if you have not done so!

**Word Bank**  
**integral (adj):** necessary and important as a part of a whole

# Always be Gracious:

## Clean up when you eat out

By Tan Kai Herng, 3M

Let's clean up after our meals out of graciousness and not just to avoid fines!

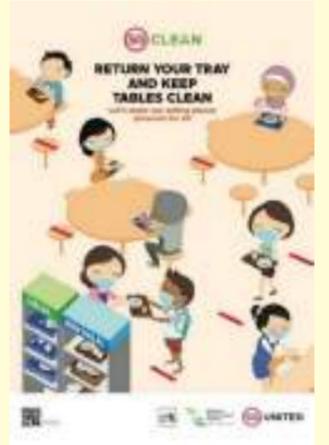
Singapore is recognised as a clean and green city. However, she has a long-standing and ugly problem - diners not returning their trays after their meals.

Getting patrons to clean tables is an idea that was conceived since 2013. Despite efforts to educate diners over the years, such as national campaigns, posters and even tray-return ambassadors, there has been little success.

Hence, from 1 January 2022, diners at coffee shops and food courts will face fines of up to S\$300 for not returning their trays and clearing the tables after use. The approach will be similar to that at hawker centres that was implemented in September.

The National Environment Agency (NEA) said that the move was made amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Clearing dirty trays, crockery and table litter will not only protect ourselves against any public health risks but also allow us to enjoy our meals in a clean and hygienic environment.

In conclusion, let us play our part and put away our trays because every diner deserves a clean table!



# Singapore's Sporting Heroes



## Kira Abdul Rahman, Fencer

By Lim Dao En, Elgin, 3A

Kira Tikanah Abdul Rahman started fencing at the age of eight. She has been in the Singapore national team since the age of thirteen. Her dream to compete in the Olympics finally came true when she defeated her opponents in the qualification tournament in Uzbekistan, earning her a spot in the Tokyo Olympics 2020.

On Saturday 24 July 2021, Kira came close to claiming her biggest win of her sporting career as she beat world No. 90, Coco Lin of Hong Kong, 15-11. This tremendous win lifted her spirits and boosted her confidence as she went on to face against World No. 1 Ana Maria Popescu. Unfortunately, Popescu beat Kira in a thrilling match, besting her 15-10.

Although Kira did not win any Olympic medal for Singapore this time round, she persevered strongly and managed to hold up a good fight against Popescu. Kira showed the important value of resilience even when up against a strong opponent. We should all learn from her this important value so that we will never doubt our abilities even when times are tough.



## Joan Poh, Rower

By Beverly Loh Mengyi, 3A

30-year-old Joan Poh is a full-time nurse who currently works in Tan Tock Seng Hospital.

She is also a Singaporean rower. She competed in the Summer Olympics 2020. Joan also represented Singapore in the 2011 Southeast Asian Games in dragon boating. Unfortunately, she did not win any medal. Joan subsequently picked up rowing just before the 2015 Southeast Asian Games.

During an interview with the New York Times, she said, "When I'm at work, I'm 100 per cent a nurse. When I'm training, I'm 100 per cent a rower. It's always about finding that balance and making it work."

Joan showed us that it is okay to fail but one must remember to try harder next time. We must be determined and learn the value of perseverance from our sportswomen.

Our sporting heroes embodied the qualities of mental toughness, positive thinking and competitive spirit.

# Our Radin Mas Story

By Kayley Cheong Hu Huan, 5D

Have you seen the big wall mural? You can't miss it. It is the first thing you see when you step into the school foyer. The mural, 'Our Radin Mas Story' was installed in November 2020. It was drawn by local artist, Lee Kow Fong. The beautifully drawn mural depicts Radin Mas Primary School from our humble beginnings in 1926 to our current standing as a choice school in the area. This brightly designed mural brings much positivity and brightness to our whole school foyer. Stand in front of the mural with this article and discover what the different elements found in the mural represent.

Radin Mas School was first established in 1926 as an English-medium school for boys with an enrolment of 40 students – all clad in white uniform. In 1984, our school was relocated to its present site at the junction of Bukit Purmei and Lower Delta Road and became a co-education school now known as Radin Mas Primary School. With the move came a change in uniform – from an all-white to dark blue shorts and white shirts with dark blue stripes.



RMPS has always been at the forefront of adopting ICT. Under our Applied Learning Programme: Nurturing 21st Century Competencies through Computational Thinking and Design Thinking, students explore how the use of technology through robotics, coding and other engaging programmes can be harnessed to develop critical thinkers and self-directed learners.

Overall, this mural guides us to remember the past, appreciate the present and create the future. It also aims to inspire us both past and present to write our own story as we have journeyed through the gates of Radin Mas Primary to grow as confident persons, self-directed learners, active contributors and concerned citizens.

The mural also depicts our Learning for Life Programme: G.R.I.T@RMPS. Through CCAs, level camps and other challenging activities, our students develop growth mindset, ruggedness and resilience to overcome any obstacles with positivity and optimism.

## An Interview with Ah Guo

By Zhang Taoran & Chew Zhi Xuan Desiree, 3N

You would have seen the huge whimsical mural of Our Radin Mas Story at our foyer and outside our bookshop. Who was the artist who illustrated our long history that captures the essence of our heritage?

To celebrate our 95th anniversary, RMPS invited Mr Lee Kow Fong, a.k.a Ah Guo, to paint the mural. Student reporters Zhang Taoran and Desiree Chew were very excited to meet Mr Lee over zoom to interview him!

**Taoran: Hi Mr Lee! Could you tell us more about yourself and what you do?**

Mr Lee: I am a full time illustrator. Basically, I provide illustration services. Clients engage me and I will try my best to come up with the visuals and artwork for them.

**Desiree: How did you come up with the drawings for our mural?**

Mr Lee: I met up with your Principal, Mr Farizal, to find out what the school had in mind. I took note of all the requests and thoughts shared. With that, I went back to do some research. I took down the details of the school campus and had reference photographs of students in various activities. I then thought of a way to compose all these into one image. It started with a meetup, then the research process, and finally the conceptualisation stage.

**Taoran: What is your strongest memory of your primary school life?**

Mr Lee: I think it is something which you all would not be able to relate to – which was to brush our teeth every week. It was the Teeth Brushing Campaign where we had to squat by the drain outside our classroom after recess to brush our teeth.

**Desiree: Why do you do illustration?**

Mr Lee: I love to draw! I started to draw when I was six years old. Ever since, I love to hold a pencil to draw. When I see beautiful images, I like to imitate these and draw them out. I am now in my fifties, over this period of 40 years, my passion for drawing has never stopped.

**Taoran: Who or what inspires you?**

Mr Lee: My inspirations come from observations from everyday life. I like to observe things happening around me. Whenever I see something interesting, I will use my mobile phone camera to take pictures and they would be my reference. These images could also possibly be my source of inspiration for my next artwork.

**Desiree: Where is your favourite spot to make your creative work?**

Mr Lee: Currently, I work from home in my own room.

**Taoran: What jobs have you done other than being an artist?**

Mr Lee: I previously worked in the advertising sector as a copywriter for more than ten years. A copywriter comes out



with ideas for clients and writes commercial scripts. Then, I became a lecturer at Ngee Ann Polytechnic in Chinese Studies. After that, I decided to pursue my passion as an illustrator.

**Desiree: What advice would you give to aspiring artist?**

Mr Lee: Keep on drawing! Open your eyes and observe your surroundings keenly. Art and inspiration do not appear on their own. They actually derive from your observation and experience. Through the observations, we also need to be attentively thinking about what we see - the stories we capture, the details we picked up along the way - to find the reason why a particular scene is interesting. That is how you make your artwork unique.

### Word Bank

**whimsical (adjective)** - unusual or strange and often amusing.

## What else happened in 1926?

By Dimple Gunaseger, 5I

Emperor Shōwa, whose English name was Hirohito, the 124th emperor of Japan, ascended to the throne. He would sit on the throne until 1989.



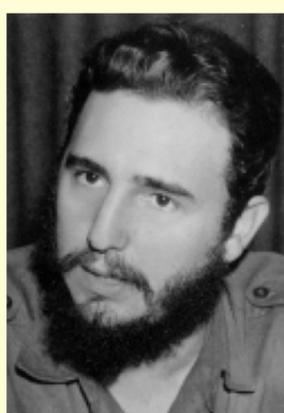
The Singapore Trolleybus system started operation. It became one of the world's largest in the 1930s, with a total network length of 40 km and fleet of 108 trolleybuses.



Gertrude Caroline Ederle persevered through storms and heavy swells and became the first woman to swim across the English Channel! The 33km swim took her 14½ hours to complete, beating the fastest man before her by two hours!



Fidel Castro was born. He served as the leader of the nation of Cuba from 1959 until 2008. Castro wanted his people to be able to read. Before 1959, just 60% of Cubans could read. Today, Cuba has one of the highest literacy rates in the world - 99.8%!



## Our School Crest and Colours

By Aidan Chua Kiat Oon, Calyce Chia & Renzo Lam Le Wen, 4A

We see our school crest all the time. It features a lamp, shuttlecock, manuscript and soccer ball. Collectively, it embodies a well-balanced education that the school provides, where students work hard and play hard.

Let's hear from some of our teachers and friends what does the school crest mean to them.

Red signifies a focusing spirit may it be work or play, white symbolises collaboration among classmates and friends while supporting one another. Black means determination and the can-do spirit.  
Thong Ye Lun, Dennis, 4A

The soccer ball and the shuttlecock mean that play is an important part of learning in school as play develops our imagination, physical, cognitive and emotional strength.  
Mdm Shahidah Mokhtar  
English teacher



All the four items are a symbol of direction for the school in educating students. The school aims to build a strong foundation for the students to work hard, play hard and make a mark. It also instils character values in students like to never give up easily in whatever we do.  
Darius Goh  
Zhen Yu, 4A

# Our Past, Our Future: Looking Back with our Alumni

By Lu Yiyi, 4M

Ms Lim Jieling Alicia, a Scientific Officer in the National Centre of Infectious Diseases, shares about her time at Radin Mas Primary School. She studied at RMPS from 1998 to 2003.



She also held "Show and Tell" sessions and made certain themes like hobbies extremely relatable to my peers. I remember sharing about my extensive seashell collection. These lessons have helped me to become more confident in expressing myself.

When the SARS pandemic broke out in 2003, I was in Primary 6 and the school shut temporarily. However, my form teachers, Mdm Tan Siew Hong and Ms Evelyn Goh, mailed us "holiday" homework so that we could still prepare for PSLE. My teachers were strict when necessary but ultimately had our welfare at heart. I also realised Ms. Annie Tang is still teaching in RMPS. She filled in for some of my Chinese lessons before and I remember she was a really sweet teacher!

## How was it like studying in RMPS during your time?

Studying in RMPS was extremely exciting and a period of exploration for me. RMPS provided me with many learning experiences that shaped my character and honed my skills. Digital skills were already important when I was in school and I was taught on colourful iMac G3s. I remember how proud I was to have created a simple animation of a stickman using Adobe Flash at 10!

I also enjoyed playing with my friends, many who became lifelong friends of mine. The fitness corner near the canteen was my favourite haunt.

## How had RMPS helped you discover your passions?

RMPS exposed me to a wealth of opportunities to discover my strengths, which eventually led me to pursue a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology. The IT enrichment lessons not only helped me to become IT-proficient, it also sparked my interest in computing, allowing me to fulfil my function as a Scientific Officer today. More importantly, RMPS made learning fun.

## Do you have any message for today's students?

In my time, the RMPS' motto was "Work Hard, Play Hard". More than a motto, this school spirit is **imbued** in me and transformed my life philosophy and work ethic. Work extremely hard towards your aspirations, be open to all opportunities and always give your very best. However, in pursuit of your goals, never forget to play equally hard: rest mindfully, treat yourself and take time to enjoy things you like. Compassion gets lost in the hustle of the world, so always remember to be kind to others you meet. With a well-balanced approach to life, you will definitely make a mark in your own way.

## Word Bank

**imbued** (verb) - inspired or filled with.

## Life as a Scientific Officer in the National Centre of Infectious Diseases (NCID)



I am a Scientific Officer in the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), housed in NCID.

I am primarily responsible for the tuberculosis surveillance in NPHL, where we rely on the whole genome sequencing technology to identify and prevent the transmission of tuberculosis. My work can get stressful in times of urgency, but it is meaningful to me, as we aim to protect the general population in Singapore from diseases through regular monitoring.

## Faces of Radin Mas: Mdm Michelle Tan



### How long have you been a teacher in RMPS?

When I graduated from the National University of Singapore in 2006, I worked in Singapore Airlines as an administrative executive. I joined teaching in 2010. I was teaching in Zhangde Primary before joining Radin Mas Primary School.

### What have you learnt as a teacher in RMPS?

There is a diverse group of students in Radin Mas. Every student comes from a different background. Everyone has unique personality, with his or her own strengths to tap on and areas to work on. When students put aside differences and work together to achieve a common goal, their different strengths will come into play. I learnt that there is beauty in this diversity.

### What is the greatest joy teaching in RMPS?

The greatest joy I have is building close bonds and heart-to-heart connections with my students. When I first joined the school in 2018, I was worried I could not adapt well. Thankfully, apart from wonderful teacher-colleagues, my students in P1R (2018) also gave me so much warmth and familiarity in a new, foreign environment. Despite having to deal with COVID-19 these past two years, my current classes of students have given me great mental support and a sturdy shoulder to lean on. Most importantly, seeing my students responding to encouragement and developing their characters positively spurs me on. This gives me a deep sense of purpose as a teacher in RMPS.

## The Radin Mas Spirit

By Cherie Chng Yu Tong & Ng Zhi Yang Caden, 4I

The MacMillan Dictionary defines school spirit as "the feeling of being proud and enthusiastic about your school". In Radin Mas Primary School, we feel the school spirit when all teachers, staff and students do their best to show support for the school and to do her proud! Our students share what it means to be a part of Radin Mas.

As a Radin Mas boy, I feel there is a good balance between study and play. Not only do we study hard, we play hard too. There are opportunities for exploration of personal interests and development in other areas like leadership, sportsmanship and creativity. We have CCAs and many programmes like MDPW to help students discover and develop our strengths and interests.

Ng Zhi Yang Caden, 4I

I feel proud being a RMPS girl and I look forward to going to school every day. The school leaders and all the teachers are caring, encouraging and provide students a safe and nurturing learning environment. We play hard too by participating in school Olympics Festival, CCAs and Inter-School sports competitions. The Radin Mas spirit and values that I hold with me in my learning and growing journey have made me a better person.

Cherie Chng, 4I



I have made many good friends in Radin Mas Primary School. We are given opportunities to develop and improve our leadership skills. My brother, who also studies at Radin Mas, commented that he is always improving. He has learnt to be confident and outspoken over the years. It is cool to be a student in Radin Mas Primary School.

Seow Min Ann Megan, 4R

I enjoy my school life in Radin Mas. I met many good teachers and made good friends along the way. The school always encourages us to work hard, play hard and make a mark; this motto has helped me to strive for excellent results. I also appreciate the school for providing us with authentic and meaningful learning experiences. There is integration of technology in classrooms like using the iPads to make learning interactive, fun and interesting.

Kimi Kwek  
Kay Hoe, 4I

# It's Okay to Ask for Help!

By Mdm Roszannah Binte Kamarudin

One of the skills that was imparted to our Student Peer Support (SPS) Leaders was to reach out to friends and peers in need. When we are struggling with something, it is only natural to turn to others for help. Helping each other is one of the factors that makes up good relationships with our friends and peers.

However, getting help sounds simple BUT it is not always something easy to do. Sometimes, without realizing it, we stand in our own way with our own beliefs and ways of thinking!

**Asking for help shows maturity and confidence.**

Some believe that needing help is a sign of weakness. However, in reality, asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

**Everyone needs help now and then.**

NO ONE can – or should – handle everything alone. Do not ever believe that you do not deserve help or support. Accepting help can strengthen friendships and relationships. Everyone feels good when they can support a friend!

**Have people in your life who see what you need and offer to help before you ask.**

Most times, we are fortunate to have someone or many people around

us who will go the extra mile to help us. Without any **hesitation** or questions asked, they will lend us a listening ear or offer a helping hand when we needed help or support.

**Make the first move when you need help.**

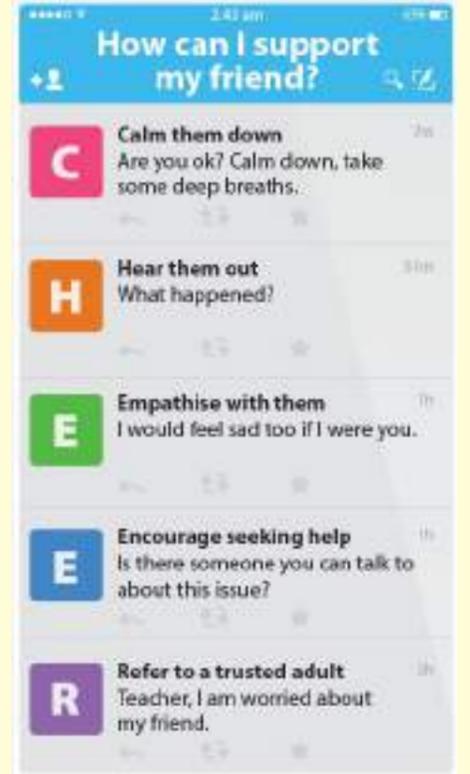
It is not always easy for others to see when you need help. Instead of waiting for someone else to approach you, you should make the first move when you seek help.

Remember, none of us, whether young or old, can get on alone. Sometimes, in difficult moments, we just have to reach out and ask for that help. And because it can be hard to reach out for help, you, in turn, should not hesitate to offer help or support to others. Giving and receiving help are great life skills to learn. They help us to be generous, empathetic, as well as understand others better.

(adapted from Kids Health, Asking for Help: Getting Past Obstacles)

## Word Bank

**hesitation** (noun) - the action of pausing before saying or doing something.



## மூன்றாம் வகுப்பின் கலாச்சார முகாம் - ஒரு கண்ணோட்டம்!

By S. Vaithiya Nathan Siva, 5I, Akshaya D/O Kumbalingam Sudhagar, 5R, & Kavin Valliappan, 5D

'யாழ்ப்பாணம் மொழிகளிலே தமிழ்மொழிபோல் இனிதாவது எங்கும் காணோம்' என்று மகாகவி சுப்பிரமணிய பாரதியார் மொழிந்தார். அதுபோல் தமிழில் நடத்தப்படும் அனைத்து நடவடிக்கைகளும் இனிமையானவை. இவ்வாண்டு மூன்றாம் வகுப்பில் பயிலும் மாணவர்களுக்கு நடத்தப்பட்ட கலாச்சார முகாமில், சிறு மாணவர்களுக்கு வண்ணம் தீட்டும் நடவடிக்கை, உறி அடிக்கும் விளையாட்டு ஆகியவை ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டிருந்தன.

மண்பாண்டக் கலை நம் கலாச்சாரத்தில் மிகவும் பழைமை வாய்ந்ததாகும். கைத்திறனுடன் மண்பாண்டக் கலை வண்ணம் தீட்டுவது இன்று ஒரு கலையாகவே மாறிவிட்டது என்று கூறலாம். பாணையில் வண்ணம் தீட்டி, மாணவர்களுக்குப் பல நிறங்களில் வண்ணச் சாயங்களும் தூரிகைகளும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டன. மாணவர்கள் தங்கள் விருப்பத்திற்கு ஏற்றாற்போல பாணையில் வரைந்து வண்ணம் தீட்டினர். மாணவர்கள் இந்த நடவடிக்கையை மிகவும் விரும்பிச் செய்ததாகக் கூறினர்.

நமது பாரம்பரிய விளையாட்டுகள், வரலாறு அறிய முடியாத பழைமை கொண்டது. கைபேசி விளையாட்டுகளைவிட சுவாரசியமான விளையாட்டுகள் பல நமது பாரம்பரியத்தில் உண்டு. பாரம்பரிய விளையாட்டுகள், அறிவை வளர்ப்பதோடு விளையாடுவதற்கு விருவிறுப்பாகவும் மனத்திற்கு மகிழ்ச்சி தருவதாகவும் இருக்கும். தமிழர்களால் மரபு வழியாக விளையாடப்பட்டு வந்த விளையாட்டுகளில் ஒன்றுதான் உறியடித்தல் விளையாட்டு. பாணையை உடைப்பது உறியடித்தலில் ஒரு சிறப்பு அம்சமாகும். பாதுகாப்பை முன்னிட்டு, பாணைக்குப் பதிலாக இரண்டு கம்புகளுக்கு நடுவில் கயிறால் மிட்டாய்களை வைத்துக் கட்டிய பலூன்கள் தொங்கவிடப்பட்டிருந்தன.

போட்டியில் கலந்துகொண்ட மாணவர்களின் கண்கள் துணியால் கட்டப்பட்டு மறைக்கப்பட்டன. அவர்கள் வரிசையில் நின்று அவர்களின் முறை வந்தபோது ஒரு கம்பு கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. பின்பு மூன்று முறை மாணவர்கள் சுற்றி விடப்பட்டார்கள். பலூனுக்கு எந்தப் பக்கமாக இருக்கிறோம் என்று அவர்களைக் குழப்புவதற்காகச் சுற்றியுள்ள அவர்களின் நண்பர்கள், 'நேராகப் போ! இல்லை இல்லை, வலது பக்கம் போ!..... இல்லை இல்லை, இடது பக்கம் போ!' என்றெல்லாம் குழப்பிவிட்டுக் கொண்டிருந்தனர். ஒரு வழியாக ஒவ்வொரு மாணவரும், பலூன் இருக்கும் பக்கம் திரும்பிக் கையில் உள்ள குச்சியால் பலூனை அடித்து உடைத்தார்கள். அவர்கள் இந்த விளையாட்டை உற்சாகத்துடன் விளையாடியதாகக் கூறினர்.

நாம் நினைப்பது போல் உறியடி விளையாட்டு சுலபமான விளையாட்டு அல்ல. பார்ப்பதற்குச் சுலபமாக இருந்தாலும் விளையாடும் போதுதான் அந்த விளையாட்டின் கடினத் தன்மையை உணர முடிந்தது என்று மாணவர்கள் கூறினர். இந்தப் போட்டியின் மூலம் மாணவர்கள் குழுவணர்வு, பொறுமை போன்ற நற்பண்புகளையும் கற்றுக்கொண்டதாகக் கூறினர்.

இந்த நடவடிக்கைகளின் மூலம் மாணவர்கள் தமிழ்க் கலாச்சாரத்தைப் பற்றி மேலும் அறிந்துகொண்டார்கள். அது மிகவும் தொன்மையானது என்று நினைக்கும் போதே 'தமிழன் என்று சொல்லலா! தலை நிமிர்ந்து நில்லலா!' என்று நாம் பெருமிதம் கொள்ள வேண்டும்!

## 勇闯大决赛 为校争光

得知自己将代表拉丁马士小学参加第八届新加坡华文大比拼决赛时，我们又惊又喜。这是我们学校首次闯入小学组决赛，角逐冠军宝座。

为了在决赛中取得佳绩，我们积极备战。在老师、家人和朋友们的帮助下，我们搜集了大量的华文常识资料，我们还在网上进行了两次合练。

决赛当天，我们表面上十分镇定，心里却像揣着一只小兔子似的，怦怦乱跳，紧张极了！前两轮比赛我们发挥不稳，但在最后一轮“抢答环节”，我们全力以赴，取得了200分，最终赢得全国季军。

华文大比拼是一个很好的契机，我们通过比赛学到了很多课本以外的华文知识，同时更加热爱华文。



LOY XING-HAN  
黎行翰 (6M)



YE CHANGXIN  
叶长欣 (6M)



ISAAC KHONG JUN WEN  
邱俊文 (5N)

## Peribahasa Melayu: Hendak Seribu Daya...

By Intan Nur Qistina Binte Abdullah and Thivalappil Sankara Narayana Suziyana Sara 5R, Tehzeeb Binte Abdul Nasir, 5A

Seramai 4 orang murid Sekolah Rendah Radin Mas telah mengambil bahagian dalam peraduan bercerita peringkat nasional pada awal tahun ini. Peraduan bercerita ini merupakan peraduan bahasa Melayu yang pertama bagi mereka. Walaupun mereka merupakan murid yang agak pemalu, murid-murid Darjah 1 hingga Darjah 3 itu berkata peraduan ini telah membina keyakinan diri mereka.

"Guru bahasa Melayu saya telah memberitahu saya untuk menyertai peraduan ini kerana beliau ingin saya bercakap dalam bahasa Melayu dan nampak yakin," kata Zhufairah dari Kelas 2D, yang menceritakan kisah 'Sang Gagak yang Bijak'.

Dalam peraduan itu, Muhammad Shahryan, dari Kelas 3D, bersetuju bahawa untuk menyampaikan cerita bukanlah mudah. Namun, guru dan keluarganya telah memberikan sokongan kepadanya untuk berusaha dan mencuba.

"Saya berlatih dan menghafal skrip. Guru juga menolong saya," jelasnya, yang menyampaikan cerita tentang pengalamannya belajar menaiki basikal.

"Sebelum ini, kami jarang bercakap dalam bahasa Melayu. Ketika menghafal skrip, agak susah untuk kami. Ibu kami selalu menyokong kami," jawab Qaisarah Hanah, dari Kelas 2R, dan Qayyim Hasif, dari Kelas 1A, yang merupakan sepasang adik-beradik yang menyertai peraduan yang sama.

Walaupun menghadapi beberapa kesukaran, mereka bukan hanya menceritakan kisah yang mempunyai nilai daya bingkas. Malah, mereka juga belajar daripada cerita-cerita tersebut.

Secara keseluruhan, 4 orang murid ini bersyukur dan berterima kasih kepada guru dan ibu bapa mereka kerana tanpa bantuan mereka, mereka mungkin tidak dapat melakukannya. Selepas menyertai peraduan ini, mereka berasa yakin untuk terus mempelajari bahasa Melayu dan menyertai peraduan-peraduan yang lain pada masa akan datang. Seperti tema yang disampaikan, mereka percaya bahawa untuk mencapai sesuatu, mereka harus berusaha dan berani mencuba untuk meningkatkan diri mereka.



# A Virtual Cruise on the Singapore River

By Vera Khoo Le Ying and Yvette Toh Yuxuan, 5D

Primary 5 students experienced their first Social Studies virtual learning journey in Term 3. While they were not able to have physical learning journeys outside school due to the current COVID-19 situation, students were thankful for an opportunity to experience an enriching virtual learning journey on the Singapore River.

Some students have never actually been to the Singapore River and experiencing it online in class was very fun and exciting. The explanation provided about the major landmarks near the Singapore River was very clear and most students were able to handle the questions posed independently.

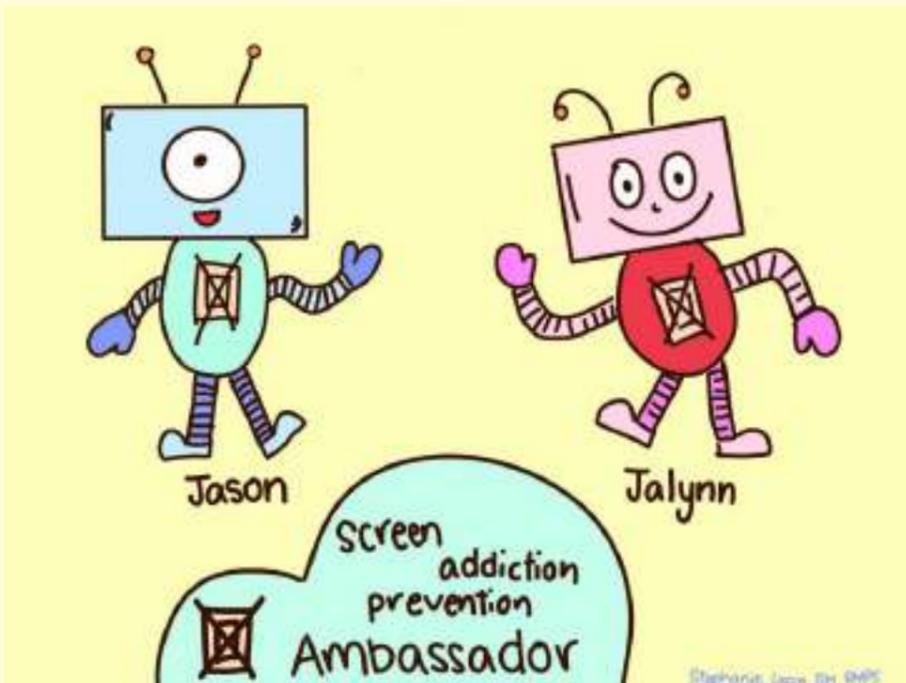
As the virtual tour provided a 360-degree view of the Singapore River, students also had a lot of fun rotating their iPads while exploring. "I thought that the virtual tour was very interesting. Even though, I would probably have liked it better if I could actually go to the Singapore River, the experience online was very fun," said Tay Rui Yi, 5N.

"The virtual tour was clear and informative, and some students were more willing to learn about the facts as they got to use the iPads," said Shanusri D/O Dhevasakayam, 5N.

The virtual learning journey was a great substitute for a physical one. The Primary 5 students had a great time and gained plenty of knowledge on the Singapore River. Most just wished they had more time to explore!



## Tackling Screen Addiction



By Leow Xin Yi Stephanie, 5M

Meet Jason and Jalynn, our Screen Addiction Prevention Ambassadors, who advise children not to get addicted to their mobile games.

Jason and Jalynn are the creation of the RMPS Future Problem Solving Program (FPSP) Team. FPSP is a dynamic international program involving thousands of students annually from around the world. The RMPS team chose to work on "Addiction to Electronic Devices". Our "Let I.T Go!" project looked at mobile gaming and its impacts.

As a team, we faced many challenges because we are individuals from different classes with diverse perspectives and ideas, but we learnt to work together very quickly towards a common goal and assigned roles for one another to cover the different project areas. We also could not set up recess game booths to

raise awareness due to safe-distancing measures. It was not easy, but we managed to overcome the obstacles and carry out most of the plans.

The team designed mobile phone cases with our mascots and catchy phrases, as well as a mascot WhatsApp e-Stickers and physical stickers that can be pasted on surfaces to remind the children to reduce time spent on devices. We even conducted a school assembly programme "Electronic Devices and Mobile Phone Addiction" to share the effects of addiction and introduce our mascots.

A few of us wrote a story about screen addiction prevention, which we will consider producing into a storybook and an animated video to raise awareness about this problem.

We hope our suggested action plans to solve the problem of screen addiction will be helpful to the community.



By Chia Khai Sim Charlotte, 4R

The SYF (Singapore Youth Festival) GoesOnline 2021 is a virtual arts festival by students from Singapore schools that showcase their creative and artistic talents, through online activities and projects that include dancing, art, singing and drama. One example of such a project is "The Youth Station – Original Song".

This year, we have 6 students from RMPS who participated in "The Youth Station – Original Song". It is a platform for students to express their creativity and imagination by showcasing their original songs.

The students who took part this year are Kavin Valliappan, 5D, Goh Yan Ting Ashlyn, 5I, Leow Xin Yi Stephanie, 5M, Meredith Choo Jing YI, 5M, Ho Yao Wen Alfred, 6M and Louriz Yew, 6D. They submitted a total of 3 songs. Meredith's song was awarded an Honorable Mention by the SYF Organising Committee!

The students had a lot of fun writing their own songs and found that it was a rewarding experience. Meredith said, "It was very fun trying out different melodies. Although I had some struggles coming out with the lyrics at the beginning, in the end, I did it! I felt proud and satisfied."

The students had not written a full song before participating in this project. Stephanie said, "I learnt that writing a piece of music was not as easy as it seemed, as I had to go back and forth to edit the music many times until I was fully satisfied. I had to persevere and give

it my all. In the end, the outcome might not turn out the way we wanted it to be. There is always room for improvement, and we must never give up."

The students did not just pick up songwriting skills, but also the values that they learnt from the experience.

"Taking part in the SYF Youth Song Competition has taught me the importance of teamwork and how to work together," said Kavin. "Although my song may not have been selected, I am happy to have at least participated and tried something different. If you never try, you never know!"

Meredith and Stephanie also took part in other categories of SYFGoesOnline such as "Pixel Perfect", which is a photography platform, and "Let's Jam Together" which provides an opportunity to virtually perform with a professional a capella group, MICapella, Arts Lab and Design Challenge.

Log on to the SYF Website and check out their work: <https://www.syf.gov.sg/syfgoesonline/2021syfgoesonline-showcase>



### Word Bank

**a capella (noun)** - performance by a singer or a singing group without musical instrumental



Minister Lawrence Wong penned this special message for us when he visited our school this year. See what students drew and wrote to celebrate the nation's 56th and school's 95th birthdays this year!

## Radin Mas Got Talent, Teachers too!

By Ong Ian Kay Asher, Zhang Yujia and Tan Ying Xuan, Ashley, 5N

Students look forward to the annual Radin Mas Got Talent and Teachers Got Talent Too! The finals for the student category was held during the RMPS Arts Festival Week. This event was a chance for us to discover the hidden talents among us. It was very heartening to see many student entries.

Miss Joyce Tan, one of the teacher participants, mustered up her courage to sing. She felt that Teachers Got Talent Too was a good platform for teachers to showcase their other talents and hopefully students would discover that teachers also liked the same things as them. Miss Joyce mentioned that she had a hard time choosing the song as it had to be trendy and age appropriate. Through this experience, she realised that even though it was tough for her to step out of her

comfort zone, she knew that she had to be brave to try out new things! She urged everyone to make some progress in overcoming his or her fears.

Teng Le Qi, Denzel, 6A, one of the finalists in the Advance Category, put on an impressive performance. He decided to play a piano medley, Canon in D, Memories and Darkside, as he thought it would be more interesting than just playing one song. He also wanted to combine modern and classic genres that blended well. He took the chance during the Circuit Breaker period last year to practise on the song pieces from YouTube without any instructor. He found it therapeutic too. He was nervous about taking part in this competition as he felt that the other contestants were very talented.

"I would like to thank my supporters for appreciating my talent," said Denzel.



\*Pictures are composites of photos taken with adherence to SMM.

## Faces of Radin Mas: Mr Rashid, our security guard

By Mdm Roszannah Binte Kamarudin

Each morning, his friendly face greets students and staff arriving at our school gate, but Mr Rashid is more than just our security guard. He is also an active Resident Committee (RC) member in his neighbourhood. He organises programmes to engage the elderly to keep them physically and mentally active. Mr Rashid was recently featured on Detik, a documentary on Suria, for his work in raising awareness about dementia.

Dementia is a condition where people, especially the elderly, gradually lose their memory and their ability to function in their daily lives. At present, there is no cure for dementia. With cases expected to triple by 2030 as our aging population grows, there is a strong need for Singapore to work on preventive measures and raise awareness. Let's find out more from him:

### Why do you think there is a need to raise awareness for dementia?

Raising awareness for dementia helps us to better understand the difficulties faced by the elderly. Dementia often happens to the elderly who feel neglected and these elderly tend to shy away from society.

### Do you have a personal experience with someone who has dementia?

Yes, I do. My mother is over seventy years old and she has dementia. A few years ago, before she was **diagnosed**, she went out to get breakfast for the family. When she did not come back, we went to look for her and only found her seated at a bus stop near our house after many hours. My mother shared that she was looking for our home but was not able to remember. It was only when I attended a workshop for caregivers that it dawned

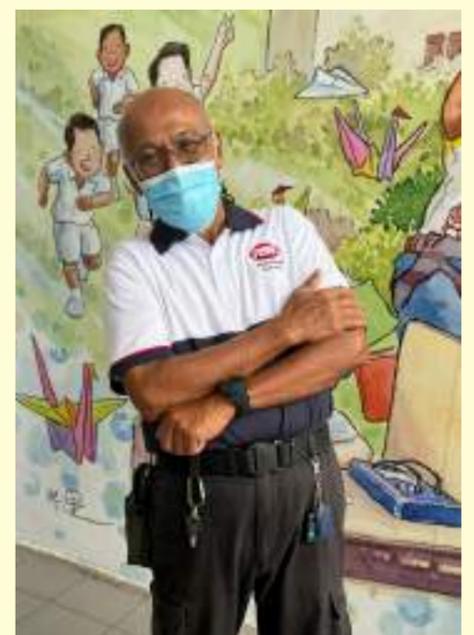
on me that my mother had dementia. Since then, I have been learning more about the condition in order to help others just like my mother.

### How can students help elderly family members fight off dementia?

One tip I can share is to engage them in activities. Students can exercise and play games with their grandparents to help them keep busy and socially engaged. You can also listen to music with them. Doing these kinds of activities with our elderly can delay the process of dementia.

### How does it feel to be on TV?

It was a pleasant experience. I had been interviewed by reporters for newspaper articles but it was my first time being on TV. I had a wonderful time.



### Word Bank

**diagnosed (verb)** - identified the nature of (an illness)