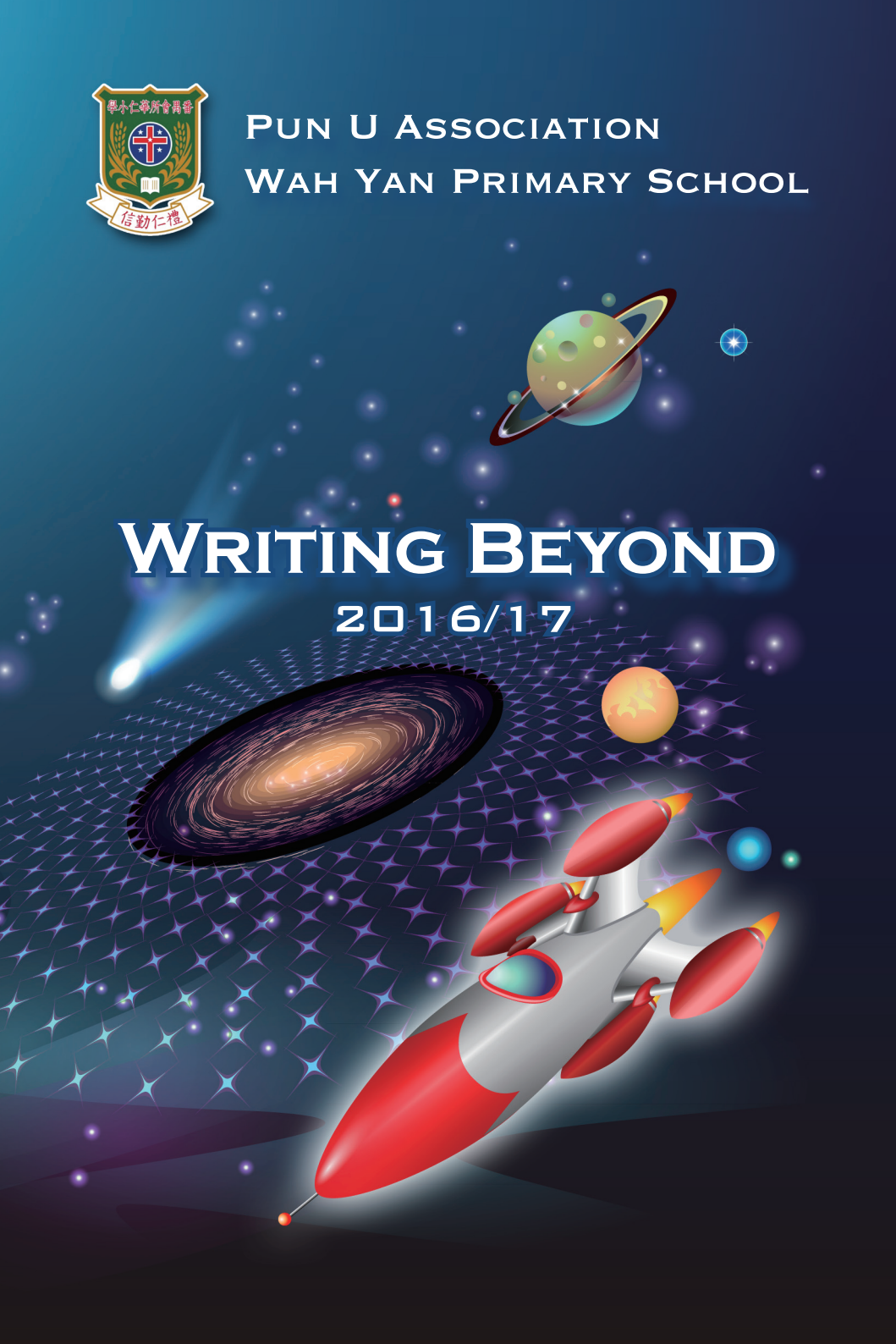




PUN U ASSOCIATION
WAH YAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

WRITING BEYOND

2016/17



Foreword by Mr. Adrian Ho

Dear readers,

‘The worst enemy to creativity is self-doubt.’ – Sylvia Plath.

Having studied at PUAWYPS (September 1998 to July 2005), the quote resonates with me. During the teaching of the course, however, I found that the sands of time have not weathered my junior brothers’ appetite for creativity and patience with their ideas. This has been genuinely inspirational.

Speaking as someone who has published several books already, I understand the difficulty to begin writing something out of, what is in effect, a blank piece of paper.

The compilation of stories was written between October 2016 and May 2017. It has been an adventure to see the young writers mature in their creativity and in their use of English. The course was, by no means easy. However, the ten have impressed me with the thought and care put into making their stories a huge success.

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Cheng Yan Ho Harold 3A1 (4)

Hi all! My name is Harold Cheng. I am eight years old. Among all musical instruments, I like playing the violin most, because it sounds very peaceful. I practise it every single day. I have also joined the string orchestra at school. Playing music with my schoolmates is the most enjoyable experience in school.



Do you know what my favourite present is? It is a notebook with a lot of blank pages on it. I like writing fantastic stories in it. I enjoy using my imagination to think up wonderful ideas and put them into a story. I have tonnes of books at home too. My favourite book is *The Twits* by Roald Dahl because the story is creative. It is about Mr. Twit and Mrs. Twit playing tricks on each other. Those are my favourite parts too.

I hope you enjoy my story on the next page!

Camping Adventure

Hawaii had a lot of friends. They were Steve, Ella, Luke and Johnson. They were heading to a summer wild camp with their parents. They brought different things to the campsite such as flashlights, a skipping rope, some food and sketchbooks for drawing.

Before the trip, their parents warned them not to go to the forest. However, Hawaii thought it would be fun to have an adventure there. She did not listen to her parents' warning and planned to spend a night there.

They went to a clearing, and set up camp.

'What shall we do now?' asked Ella.

'It's boring playing here. Do you want to find something mysterious and fun?' answered Hawaii.



'Sure!' yelled the children.

'I have a plan. Let's go for an adventure together tonight! Everyone needs to pretend to be tired and goes to sleep earlier. When all our parents are asleep, we sneak out and gather under the big tree near the river,' suggested Hawaii.

'Great idea!' exclaimed the children.

When all parents are asleep, they sneaked out of the campsite and gathered together under the big tree near the river. Hawaii led her friends to the forest.

'Where are... we going? My mum... told me not to go to the... forest,' mumbled Steve.

No one answered Steve and they kept walking.

After a while, they found something very strange. A cave was in front of them! Ella thought Hawaii was right. They were at a mysterious place.

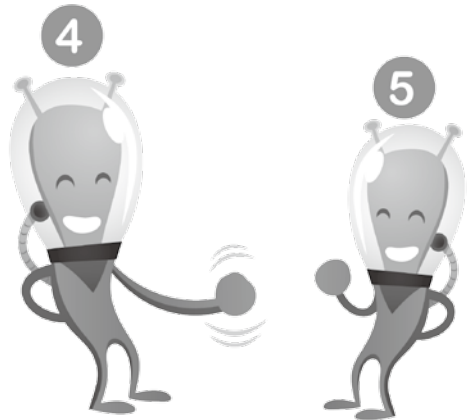
'So, eh...' began Steve.

Everyone was quiet. Steve still did not know what they

were going to do. He just followed them quietly.

They went inside the cave. Ella saw five aliens. The aliens blocked their way. They had number-buttons on their tummies, marked from 1 to 9. There was also a '5+4=?' screen on the first alien's head. Luke tried to move the aliens away but he was not strong enough. Steve was so frightened and stood at the back.

Ella suggested pressing the buttons on the aliens' tummies. 'Let's do the sum,' suggested Ella.



Everyone was too nervous. They thought the answer was 8, except Ella. She pressed the number 9 button calmly.

'It works!'

Everyone cheered happily. They all gave Ella a big hug.

'25 x 2 - 20=?' was shown on the second alien's head. 'The sums are getting more and more difficult!' said Steve with a trembling voice.

'Don't worry! Ella is the champion of the Interschool Mathematics competition!' yelled Hawaii.

Everyone stood aside and Ella kept calculating. No one dared to make any noise. When she pressed '987654321' on the last alien's tummy, all the aliens danced. Then they showed them the way to leave the cave.

'Hurray! Hur...!' shouted Luke. Suddenly, a loud booming sound came into everyone's ears.

'I AM GOING TAKE YOUR FAVOURITE SKIPPING ROPE AWAY!' yelled the Hateskipping Monster. He reached out his long strong arms. His arms almost grabbed Luke's rope. Luckily, Luke skipped over his arms. *What a good skipper!*

'Steve and Johnson, hold the rope tightly and swing the rope!' shouted Luke. Steve and Johnson held the ends of the rope and started swinging it. Luke took another skipping rope from his pocket and skipped with different techniques. The Hateskipping Monster's face turned red. He chased Luke.

'Keep swinging,' called Luke.

Luke skipped towards Steve and Johnson and the Hateskipping Monster followed.

'I'll count to five. Pull the skipping rope in different directions and make a straight line, Steve and Johnson!' shouted Luke. 'One, two, three, four, FIVE!' Steve and Johnson pulled the skipping rope. Luke was able to jump over the rope but the Hateskipping Monster tripped and fell down. The Hateskipping Monster could not move.

'Cheers for Luke, Steve and Johnson!' yelled Hawaii. 'Yahoo!'

Everyone clapped.

'Look! There's a castle! Let's go in! Perhaps we can find someone to show us the way back to our campsite,' said Johnson.

They all went into the castle except Steve. Steve was too frightened. He refused to go into the castle and waited outside.

They saw a huge shiny diamond in the castle. Hawaii, Ella, Luke and Johnson were attracted by the diamond. They stretched their arms to touch it.

'I'm very tired,' yawned Johnson.

'Me too,' yawned Ella.

Hawaii, Ella, Luke and Johnson fell asleep on the ground. Steve had been waiting for a long time outside the castle. He was worried about them. He crept into the castle to find his friends. He saw his friends lying on the floor. At the same time, he saw the king walking towards him. Steve was very scared.

'Did you touch the diamond?' asked the king.

'I... I... didn't but... I think my friends did,' stuttered Steve.



'Thank you very much! Your friends saved our country. A bad witch cast a spell and made people in Sleepyland fall asleep for more than a thousand years. They just woke me up by touching the diamond,' said the king.

'But how can I wake my friends up now?' asked Steve.

'You need to find the bad witch. You can save your friends if you can read the tongue twister 'Peter Piper' faster than the witch. Unfortunately no one could do it,' said the king.

'The... bad... witch...? Tongue... Twister...? Where can... I find her?' stuttered Steve.

'She lives in the small hut up the hill,' answered the king.

Steve kept practising the Peter Piper tongue twister on the way up the hill. 'Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers. A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked. If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?'

The first time, he spent 2 minutes to read the tongue twister. Before he knocked on the door of the witch's hut, the shortest time he finished reading the tongue twister was 30 seconds. He knocked on the door with fright. The witch opened the door.

'Excuse me. I... I'm...Steve. I need... your help,' stuttered Steve.

'I only help people who can read the Peter Piper tongue twister faster than me,' answered the witch.

'Please... I want to... give it a try. I need to... save my friends,' begged Steve.

Steve took a deep breath and the witch counted to three. They started reading the tongue twister at the same time. To their surprise, Steve read faster than the witch. Steve completed reading the tongue twister in only 13 seconds! The witch did it in 15 seconds.

The witch gave Steve some perfume and told him to spray some on his friends. Steve ran back to the castle and sprayed the perfume on his friends. They all woke up and asked Steve what had happened. The king told them what Steve had done for them and showed them the way back to the campsite.

The children saw the campsite across the river.

'Mum! Dad! We're here!' yelled the children. However, their parents did not hear them.

'What can we do?' asked the children.

'I've an idea. Let's write where we are on the paper of the sketchbook and fold it into a paper plane. Then we fly the plane to our parents,' suggested Hawaii.

Johnson wrote a short note and drew a map on the paper. Hawaii folded it into a paper plane and flew it. The paper plane spiralled in the air and dropped into the river. But they did not give up. Johnson wrote and drew again. Hawaii folded another paper plane. Finally their plane reached the campsite. Johnson's parents got the paper plane and saw the children across the river.

The parents called the fire brigade to save them. The fire brigade sent a helicopter to save the children. The children were sorry for not listening to their parents and caused a lot of problems for others. They promised to listen to their parents from now on.

Mao Hayden 3A2 (18)

Hi, my name is Hayden Mao, I study in 3A2 and my class number is 18. I am eight years old.

In my family, there are four members: dad, mom, my brother and me. My mom is a housewife and my dad is a businessman. My brother studies in F.1 at Wah Yan College Hong Kong.



I am a helpful student. I help the teachers clean and tidy up the classroom. I have classmates who often help me clean it together. Everyone has different jobs in class. When I grow up, I would love to be a doctor, because I want to help other people.

Up till now, my favourite food has been and always will be pizza, macaroni and cheese. I love it because it is very tasty. My favourite dessert is ice cream. I like it because it is cold and tasty. I especially love vanilla and chocolate flavours. I like ice cream very much in the summer season, because it cools me down!

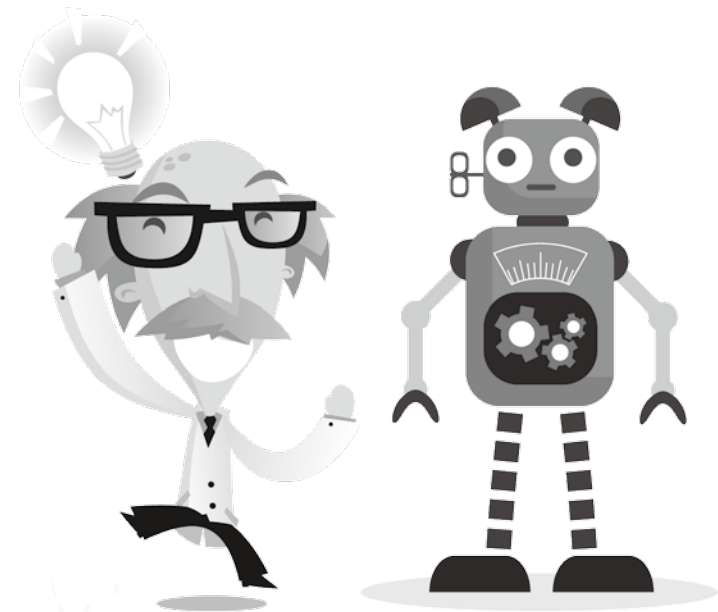
My favourite sports are football and basketball. My brother taught me these sports, so I tried them, and I immediately fell in love with them.

Thank you very much for reading my writing!

The Time Travelling Duo and The Evil Robot

One sunny day at Stone Peak, a professor was walking up to the top. He had hiked for the past hour or so. He dropped off a box. In the box, there was a robot. It was useless at helping out with the housework. The professor went back down the same way. The robot, T.O.M. (Technical Overriding Malfunction), had been accidentally left switched on. It then got up, and walked down the hill with its robotic legs. It had a silver body with big blue eyes and sharp claws. It was deadly.

A man named Sam, also hiking, saw the robot. He took one look at it, and pressed the 'OFF' button. Sam saw a map of Magmaland wedged in the robot's pocket. He took



the map and returned the switch to the 'ON' position, and brought it back to life. He took T.O.M. to the big house where his classmate, Jack, lived. Sam turned the knob again to the 'OFF' position, and covered it with a red cloth and locked it in a cage. Jack then entered the room. Sam showed off his robot. 'I found this steel robot. It's very helpful. You can give money to me and I will give you the robot.'

Jack agreed.

Sam then went away. Jack, eager to find out what the robot could do, turned on the robot. The robot turned evil. He knew it, because the robot's eyes turned scary red. It scratched Jack with its sharp claws. T.O.M. then ran away. Jack ran after the robot, but he could not catch it. The robot then hid in Magmaland, away from prying eyes for three years, constructing nasty things for an all-out war against humankind.

During the three years, Jack had become a detective and Sam a scientist. However, the robot stuck at the back of both their minds. They knew it had become a monster. Just then, Jack had an idea! He asked Sam to invent a



time machine. He then asked Sam to help him by going into the time machine to discover the creator of the robot, also to find out what would happen in the future to the robot.

So Sam did. He found out that Professor Peter was the creator of the robot. He was fired from his post as a scientist but was then turned into a wizard by a godly intervention.

In the meantime, T.O.M. had also invented a robot. It had a big sword with knives on its nails. Actually, T.O.M. had made an army of robots and it was their leader.

Sam went back to the present time. He and Jack went to Magmaland and deactivated M1S2 and S14F, servants of T.O.M. However, more robots found them and attacked.

Sam told Jack to fight the robots and he would find T.O.M. Sam found T.O.M. They fought. Sam attempted to smash the robot's head and kicked its shin, but T.O.M. dodged it. 'Whatever you do, you can't defeat me. I will return,' Whilst T.O.M. was still talking, Sam stole an energy sword from a robot co-leader and sliced T.O.M. into pieces. Sam won.

Everyone on Earth lived happily ever after!

But not for very long.

Tang Chi Chung Aidan 4A1 (23)

A trace of T.O.M.'s intelligence was left unhurt, and it was intelligent enough to move. T.O.M. then rebuilt itself, with added enhancements.

T.O.M. returned with new armour. His armour had toxic spikes all over his back with a shock blaster stuck to his hand, a sword with a glowing beam as one of his eyes. However, Sam and Jack didn't give up. They asked Sam's father, Peter the wizard, to turn them into superheroes. When they went to fight T.O.M., Peter said, 'Watch out for the magic! It would end after one hour so be careful!'

So they fought again. First T.O.M. swiped his sword at Jack, but Jack used his superpower and threw the sword back to T.O.M.. At the same time, Sam fired a beam of light. Jack and Sam won in a blinding flash of light. T.O.M. was gone forever. Jack warned Peter and Sam not to create robots or fiddle with robot switches anymore.

The people on Earth were safe once again!

My name is Aidan Tang. My birthday is on 6th April. My favourite subject is English, because I think it is very easy and interesting. It is easy to pronounce and write with phonics, and the grammar is easy to understand. I am now an English subject leader. I help to pass books and worksheets in class. I am proud and happy because I like to help people.



I have four people in my family – dad and mum, my brother and myself. My brother always plays chess with me, but I always win. My dad draws nice pictures. He is a retired architect. My mum is a housewife. She takes care of the whole family. She cooks us delicious food, like tofu, chicken and steak. I love my family very much. They treat me like I am the centre of the universe – their universe. They always smile when they speak. I love everyone in my family.

I am very satisfied with my life. I have a lot of things that other people do not have.

Tom's Story

Tom, a ten-year-old boy, is smart and helpful, but very shy. Everyone at school likes him. However, he doesn't talk to anyone except his best friends.

One day, his mom enrolled him in an overnight summer camp. It was from 17th June to 19th June. Tom thought, 'I still have two days before the camp, but will I make any friends there?' He was very excited.

Two days later, he arrived at the camping area. He went to his room and started to unload his luggage. At night, he went straight to bed, but he heard a boy named Peter shouting, 'Oh, come on, my wallet fell under the bed again! Now it's dirty!'

Tom rushed over and shyly said, 'Can I help you? I... have an idea.' Peter nodded.

Tom took a walking stick then pushed the wallet out. He even went to the bathroom to clean it. Peter was very thankful. He said thank you to Tom and asked for his friendship. Tom accepted, so they became best friends and he would not be shy anymore.

The next morning, the campers went to the beach. The beach was awesome. The water was very clean and clear.

They stayed there all day. They went swimming, wind surfing and building sandcastles.

At night, they stayed at a cottage in the woods nearby. They were all very tired and went straight to bed, but Tom could not sleep. He looked out the window and saw something moving at the speed of light. So he went outside and checked. Then suddenly it dashed over and scratched Tom's arm. He was hurt and cried out loud. All the campers poured out of the cottage and tried to find what or who did it. They searched all night but without success.

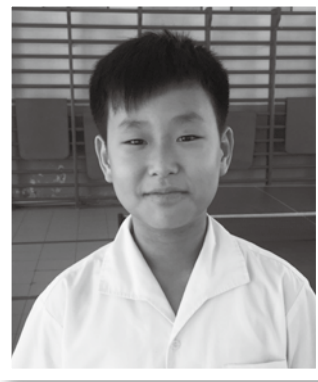
The next day was the last day of camp. All the campers started packing up. Tom gave Peter a cool book as a reminder of their friendship. It was *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Tom said it was his favourite book.

It was time. Time to go back home. Tom asked his mom, 'When can I join camp again?'



Wang Junjie Jeffrey 4A1 (24)

Hi! My name is Jeffrey Wang. I am an only-child, but I don't feel lonely at all because at school, I have many friends. My best friend is Oscar. We always play football together.



I like playing football very much. Sometimes I practise with my friends; sometimes I play with my dad too. I was four years old when I first played the game. I have played many positions such as midfielder, forward and defender since then. The game is now a passion for me. I enjoy playing midfield most, because I can attack, as well as run back to defend. Messi is my hero at football. When he was a little boy, he practised hard, and never gave up. Messi is also the captain of the Argentina national football team and has played in three World Cups (2006, 2010 and 2014). In the summer of 2008, he played at the Beijing Olympics, and came home with an Olympic gold medal. I adore his skill and personality.

I also enjoy playing basketball. I am a member of the school's basketball team. I am proud of it. We all train really hard, and hope to be the winner of competitions. The coach is very nice. Sometimes we are allowed to play games with

him, and there are other times when we have competitions to see how much we have improved. I have an awesome time with sports.

A magical football

The story occurred on a Sunday in January 2016.

I went to play at the park. I unloaded my stuff on a bench and went to the swings. There I looked, in the distance, I found a dirty blue and orange football in the grass. Since no one in the park showed any interest in my discovery, I took it back home and washed it. It became a shiny football. I named it Tim and put it beside my bed. I loved Tim's colour.

Five days later, I was hugely disappointed. I had lost a football competition at school. The team had lost because my teammates were weak. I was on top form, but that could not save the game. After the competition, I walked sullenly back home. I stepped through the door, which to me, seemed heavier than usual. I ran to my bedroom and told Tim all about the competition. My tears rolled down the side of my face.

Suddenly, Tim shone. I gasped in amazement. He had a face! 'Don't worry! I can teach you how to play football.'



I was surprised, and shocked. 'Who are you? How come you can talk?' I asked, disbelieving my eyes and ears.

'I am a magical football. I come from Mars but a big meteorite hit me, so I landed on Earth. My energy was empty. But now, after a long rest, my energy is full. I can talk and move again.'

I did not really know how to respond to this situation. I just listened.

Tim taught me how to play football in the park every day. He had improved my technique no end. We became best friends.

Exactly one year later, Tim told me it was time to say goodbye, because he sensed his host in Mars was looking for him. I was very sad, so was Tim. I had hoped that Tim could stay with me forever. I prayed for it every day.

Maybe Tim's host considered this. One night he came into my dream. He said, smiling warmly, 'Good boy, you can keep the ball if you want, but it's only a football.'

The next morning, I opened my eyes, and turned my head to do a stretch. Tim lay beside me quietly. He was without light. I knew the magic was missing.

But deep down, I know that Tim and I are best friends forever.

Que Ashton 4A2 (20)

Hello, my name is Ashton Que. I have one brother, Haydon, and one sister, Hannah. My family often makes our own pizza at home. My favourite is pepperoni pizza with rocket salad. I love the saltiness of the pepperoni, mixed with the slight bitterness of the salad. My best friend's name is Clement Liu (aka Lemon). We play, eat and go on vacation together.



At school, I am a class monitor. I was made monitor this year and I am very excited and proud of it. I hope I do well. I help my classmates with their homework. This makes me feel useful.

My favourite sport is football. I discovered my passion for football when I was in P.2. I have played as goalie, defender, midfielder, and forward since then. When I was in 3A1, PUAWYPS held an intra-school competition. We won 3A2 by 2-0, and received gold medals. However, we lost 3-6 when battling 3B2. We were depressed, all those labour and toils had been wiped out, but we gathered ourselves up, and have ever since, practiced harder than ever. However, my sporty self does not stop at football. I hope that I can help

Hong Kong win a gold medal if I can be on the Hong Kong Olympics team. I will, hopefully, enter the 4x100m relay, the 100m race, and the long jump in the future.

I love reading. My favourite series are the *Percy Jackson* series and the *Alex Rider* series. I like those books because they are substantial. The plots are about kids who save the world from exploding and being overrun by monsters. They have exciting parts, like when they fight a monster. There are some cringeworthy parts too, such as the time that Percy saves Annabeth, and well, just thinking about it makes me puke.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Adrian Ho for allowing me to take his creative writing lesson so I could play a part in writing this book. Hope you enjoy my writing!

The Curse of Kyrol

I woke up in a gigantic box with two other guys. One of them was 10 or 11. He had blonde hair, wore baggy jeans and a T-shirt that had holes on it. The other guy looked to be 12 or 13. He had dark hair and wore jeans also. If one looked at them carefully, they would look like twins. But their hair just ruined it.

'Finally, the green bean wakes up,' said the one with blonde hair.

'Oh, yes, we haven't introduced ourselves yet. I am Matt and he is Nick. And we are campers of Death Camp.'

'What's my name and where am I?'

'Your name is Jason and I don't know where we are!'

I sat in the corner, shocked. *Even these guys didn't know where we were? Well, they were campers, so shouldn't they be able to navigate?*



'How long have you been guys in here?' I asked.

'Nice question, I – I mean, we don't even know,' said Nick.

'How –' Bam! Suddenly, the side door of the box we were sitting in burst out. 'Now's our chance. Run out before it's too late!' cried Matt.

'Boom goes the ship! Woo-hoo!' cried Nick. I did not join in the celebration. I was busy looking at the outside world. It was beautiful.

However, I did not have a long time to enjoy the view.

'Quick, let's escort you to base, ASAP!' shouted Matt.

Soon enough, we were there.

'Jeez, does your base really have to be this far? And how do you know my name?' I asked.

'Because there's a name on your shirt!'

'Hey, Matt, you don't have to be so rude!' I muttered under my breath. We walked for a certain number of miles.

'Umm... Guys? What's that?' I screamed. There was a

gigantic monster, looking like a giant floating baby head. Correction: There was a giant floating baby head in front of us holding chainsaws trying to kill us.

'Any plans?'

'Yup, 1946520, unlock Death Camp!' shouted Nick. Well, it worked! And I wasn't surprised.

Inside the camp, it was like a dream, or not. More like a normal camp. It had the things that one would see in a normal camp. Except for the fact that it had a sword-fighting arena, an arrow-shooting area, and so much more other stuff that I could not possibly spell out.

'Hey, surprised? I'm not. I've been here for 8 to 9 years already. When I first came here, I had the same look on my face as well,' said Nick. 'Then I met him.' He pointed to Matt, who was talking to an adult that looked 75 or something.

'Meet Mr. Drag, the camp director,' said Matt.

'Ah, I've been expecting you, Jason,' said Mr. Drag.



'You are the chosen one. Welcome to the camp!' he continued.

'As the prophecy says, on your fourteenth birthday, you will get a prophecy that can either save or destroy the world. And blah blah blah...' He droned on and on until the sky turned dark. I fell asleep in the process, but Mr. Drag didn't seem to notice at all.

'Now, shoo, go on and have fun with Matt and Nick and all the other campers. Meanwhile, I'm goin' to have a quick nap...'

He didn't finish his sentence, because he was already asleep.

As night fell, we trained with swords, and I managed to get myself almost killed... again.

'Guys? Where am I going to sleep?'

'There,' they said together.

The spot where they pointed was a big, beautiful mansion that even the richest man in the world could not afford. Inside, the walls, the ceiling, everything was entirely made out of gold, silver, and diamonds.

I was speechless at that precise moment. My mind was a completely blank, because I was already asleep.

First, my mind was a blur. I was speeding over the world at 999,999,999,999.99km per second. I would have gotten a speeding fine, and been locked away for two thousand years. Furthermore, flying under the age of eighteen was not going to be favourable to any judge. But it was fine with me because I was in a dream. As I was saying, I was flying into a wall. Wait, *did I say a wall?*

That was SHOCKING (not like when you electrify yourself, though). I just simply went THROUGH the concrete wall! I heard a familiar voice and saw a familiar woman with sea-green eyes like mine, long hair as blonde as the sand on the beach, and had a voice that was as soft as singing birds.

‘What am I going to do now, Amanda?’

I heard and saw an old man sitting next to the woman called Amanda.

‘Don’t worry, pops, Kyrol will be proud! Know what we did, we broke into a bank and stole 99,999 billion dollars!’ The woman cackled.

‘SHHHH! Don’t say his name and what we did out loud! Wait, walls have ears, I sense the presence of a child from

Death Ca – THERE!’

The old man pointed his crooked finger at me. With that, I faded and the old man jumped at me.

I sat up straight in my bed.

‘Huh? What happened? Where’s the old man? Where’s the house? Oh, I’m back.’

I was wide awake, sitting up in a gold and silver bed. I got off the bed, and found myself wearing luxurious pajamas. I went to the wardrobe and opened it.

‘WOW!’

I saw some brilliant golden armour with a chainmail undershirt and iron leggings and boots.

I look awesome in this thing, I thought.

‘BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOP!’

‘WHA...!’ I shouted. I was so shocked I fell to the ground with a ‘bang!’ I thought it was a monster and hid under the covers.

That was when I heard someone shouting, ‘NO,

NICK!!!! EVERBODY, TO YOUR BATTLE POSITIONS!

I scurried out and looked out the window. I saw campers fighting ogres and campers lying on the ground, with faraway looks in their eyes, then turning into piles of dust, leaving grains that the wind blew away.

I saw Mr. Drag murmuring something to Matt, but I caught a few words from their mouths. It went something like this:

‘Protect... Jason... tell... prophecy... dream... Kyrol... let... him... stab...’

‘Sir... ready... where... Nick is gone... go get now...’

With that, Matt rushed to get me. As he stood before me, I saw that his eyes were misty and he was badly cut and bleeding.

‘There’s a war going on. Nick’s gone, so you are our only hope...’ His voice trailed.

‘Speak clearly! I can’t hear you!’ I said.

‘Nick is gone, or what do you call it, asleep?’

I saw that he was sniffing. His eyes were all red and

puffy from crying. I knew that he was already starting to miss Nick.

‘I miss Nick... I hope he’s having fun up there,’ Matt said sadly.

‘Did Mr. Drag ask you to tell me something else?’ I asked curiously.

‘How did you kn-’

‘I saw you both talking, of course.’

‘So, um... It’s like this. He told me to tell you the whole prophecy. Hundreds and hundreds of years ago, the Oracle of Delphi gave us a scroll, and here it is, so open it! It contains the prophecy!’ Matt explained as he handed me the scroll.

‘Oh, and the scroll will talk when you open it,’ said Matt.

*One of the campers shall fall in the safest place of all ,
One shall perish in the dry, dry land,
One shall stab the boss of all.*

The Oracle’s scroll hissed. I looked at Matt and wondered: *If you are the betrayer, should I smash your face till it looked like a sock puppet pulled inside out? Hmm...*

That's hard to decide. I looked at his face and studied how he would look if his face looked like a sock puppet.

'What are you looking at?' Matt asked curiously.

'Nothing,' I answered before he saw me sniggering.

'Hello, Jason, I see that Matt has already shown you the prophecy, so I will get two "friends" to help you on the mission, except for the fact that they will disintegrate. Don't tell them that,' whispered Mr. Drag.

'Here, take Matt, Nick and Voltorp. But, well, Nick is disintegrated, so the first line of the prophecy came true. No big deal to me, but a big deal to Matt. Look, he's cry-i-l mean sniffing. Well, off you go to the MAZE OF DEATH! You MUST go through it to reach –'

Suddenly, I saw a golden arrow sticking out of his head!

'No!' cried out Matt.

I saw an arrow flying at me too!

'Gah!'

I sat up straight in my bed.

'Wha...? Oh, it's just a bad dream, after all.'

So I got off my bed and went to brush my teeth. It was all fake. Or was it? It's up to you to decide!

THE END



Yeung Hoi To 4A2 (26)

Hello! My name is Yeung Hoi To. You can call me Toto. I don't have any brothers or sisters, but I am very happy. My mum and dad usually take care of me and play with me. I am a hardworking boy.



I like playing table tennis very much. I started playing it when I was six years old. My friends enjoy playing table tennis too. Sometimes, we play table tennis together.

Asides from sports, I am good at maths. Last year, I participated in the Mathematics Olympiads Competition. I won the second merit prize. Moreover, I participated in the English, Chinese, and Putonghua Solo Verse Speaking competitions. I received merits in all of them!

I am good at cello and I have joined the String Orchestra. I started playing the cello when I was five years old. I feel a real sense of accomplishment when I play songs with my cello. I am immersed in them, and they mesmerise me.

My favourite movie is *Star Wars* because I enjoy watching films with morals, and *Star Wars* is about good versus bad.

Thank you for reading my self-introduction. Hope you enjoy my story!

The Time Stone

It was the year 2047, 20th January, on Hong Kong Island. There were some people riding a bus. The bus crashed and fell into a river! But suddenly, time was reversed. The bus was back on the road before the accident. Someone then shouted, 'GET OFF THE BUS IMMEDIATELY!' All the passengers got off from the bus, and the bus crashed without any passengers. All passengers were saved.

The one who shouted was in fact an alien from Mars, who had arrived on Earth in the year 2040. He carried a 'Time Stone' with him, which had enormous secret power. It could stop time. It could reverse time and it could quicken time up. Since 2040, he had lived as an ordinary person on Earth until that day.

Four of the saved passengers, Ben, Jerry, Eric and Tom, were amazed by the secret power, and begged the alien to teach them. The alien promised to teach them but they could only use the special power to help people. They learned quickly. The alien left Earth back to Mars because he did not want to expose his power anymore.

Ben was nineteen years old, 2m tall and was previously a kind and helpful person. However, now he wanted to have every power and energy in the world. He broke his promise to the Martian and became a bad guy.

Tom was twelve years old, 1.9m tall. He was previously an introverted boy and liked reading.

Jerry was fifteen years old, 2m tall and was previously a very active boy. He loved playing sports.

Eric was eleven years old, 2.5m tall. He was previously a bad guy. He abused his strength to beat up other people. But now, after he had learned the special power, he wanted to change his life to be good.

Ben had gained a lot of power through extensive training. He wanted to defeat Tom, Jerry and Eric, and become the only one with special power. Hong Kong was very messy, because Ben had destroyed many buildings and abused his power to commit crimes, such as robbing banks and stealing money off people.

Tom watched the news on his TV and knew that the criminal was Ben. Tom was worried and thought what 'good' things Ben had done! Tom wanted to stop him, but Ben was too powerful and strong. Tom lost the fight within 1 minute. Tom phoned Jerry and Eric to unite as a team to fight Ben. This time Ben still overpowered the trio. It was because Tom, Jerry and Eric did not cooperate. One of them had a disagreement with the method of the fight. The trio lost the fight within 5 minutes.

Fung Ho Kwan Johnathan 4B1 (7)

'This is the last time that I will let you go. Don't let me see you again!' Ben told them angrily.

After they left the fighting area to Tom's home in Wan Chai, Tom had a plan. They could teach some people about the special power, so that there could be more people to defeat Ben. Then, they invited the Hong Kong people. They trained ten more persons hard. The recruits had to follow strict discipline too. After three months of training, the new team was ready.

They found Ben beside a volcano, and thus began the fight. They fought in different places, the sky, the earth and the ocean, and caused huge damage to the environment. But Ben was still too strong that even thirteen persons could not beat him.

Just when all hope seemed lost, Jerry, Eric, Tom and the recruits used a spell, taught to them by the Martian in a common dream, to become thirteen in one. Such concentrated force and power hurled towards Ben. Ben was made dizzy. Jerry, Eric, Tom and the recruits then zoomed Ben to Mars, where he was heard of no longer.

Jerry, Eric, Tom and the recruits had learnt a valuable lesson: 'Unity is strength'.

My name is Johnathan Fung. My family has four members—my parents, my elder brother and me. Dad is a doctor, a specialist in dermatology. He helps many patients. I want to be a doctor too because I wish to be as famous as he is. Mum is hardworking and intelligent. She always helps me with my homework and does certain activities with me. My brother, Matthew, is twelve years old. He is very smart and is now studying at secondary level. I love my family very much. My best friend at school is Dominic. He is funny and polite. He always listens to me and helps me with my homework.



My favourite subject is PE because I like doing exercise. It makes me strong and healthy. I am on the badminton school team. I play badminton twice a week. I enjoy playing badminton because it is fun. I started playing badminton when I was five, and very quickly, I picked up my own style. My brother first taught me to play badminton and gave me his racket. However, he does not play badminton anymore, so I have picked up the baton. I also play table tennis at school. I won the school table-tennis competition both last year and this year. Besides all that, I have fitness training

The Power of Synergy

every week to strengthen my muscles. It is great fun doing sports with my friends.

Thank you so much for reading my writing. Hope you enjoy my story!

It was after World War II in Germany. The people were all very distressed because they had lost in the war. Everyone was starving for food. People's houses were destroyed, so they had no place to live.

In a small town, there were four adolescents who were neighbours before the war. They still stayed in the same town after the big disaster. They liked to go to the circus together before. The foursome remembered that the circus was a place full of happiness. They wanted to laugh and have fun again...

Timmy was 23. His dad had a farm before the war. They raised a variety of animals. He started helping his father to take care of the animals since he was a child. He grew up with animals and could read what the animals were thinking. He was obese with a big round tummy. He had a big mouth and a uniquely jazzy voice. Although he didn't wear a smiling face every day, he had a loving heart that was as lovely as an angel's.

John was 21 years old. He had short hair and small eyes. He liked playing tricks with balls evermore. His hands were skilful. His pockets always had some balls. The tiny bouncy balls that people used for playing tricks were yellow and had star patterns on them. He thought that balls were his best

buddies. He had a cheerful character and demonstrated that he always had a positive-thinking attitude to everything.

Axel was 20. He wore a pair of thick-glassed spectacles and had a quiet character. He read a lot of books and knew loads of knowledge in different aspects. He was detail-minded all the time and had a smart brain too. He was always very quiet because his parents were very demanding and told him to think carefully before doing anything.

Sam was 19. He was tall and thin, he had a strong body. He liked jumping and rolling on the floor. He lived in a tree house before the war, and enjoyed climbing up and down the tree house and swinging around in the forest. He was very energetic and was as active as a monkey. He was the most sociable person in the group.

John and Timmy were classmates. They studied in the same school and in the same class. They had been friends since high school. John's mother always told him to buy fruits and eggs from the farm of Timmy's father. Because of this, John often received free and fresh farm products from Timmy. They were really good friends.

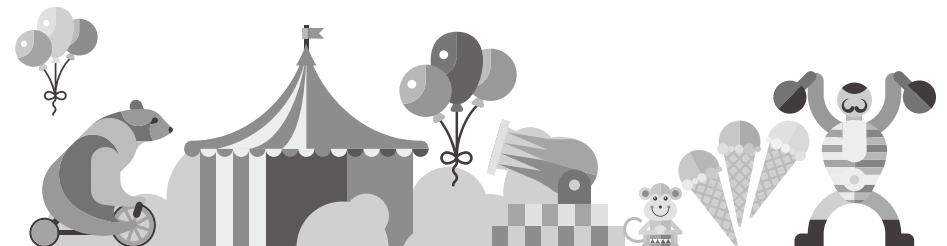
Sam and Axel were classmates too, although their characters were very different. They liked one another because they found themselves sympathetic to each other. They were both the only kid in their family. They had hoped

for siblings, but none came, so they treated each other as companions. Axel was jealous of Sam's parents being so kind to him. Axel wished his parents could allow him more freedom, at least let him run around in the garden and do whatever he wanted.

This story began before the war.

It was a bright sunny day. John and Timmy went to the circus. John saw a poster, on it was written 'The Best Circus in the World'. Because of these words, John wanted to check it out. They went to the circus together. In the circus, they saw many talented skills and ingenious tricks. They were very impressed. Sam and Axel went to the circus together too. Axel wanted to relax after his university admission examination. They saw John and Timmy talking and laughing. They were attracted because they noticed John playing tricks with some balls like a magician. They wanted to make friends with them, so they sat beside each other.

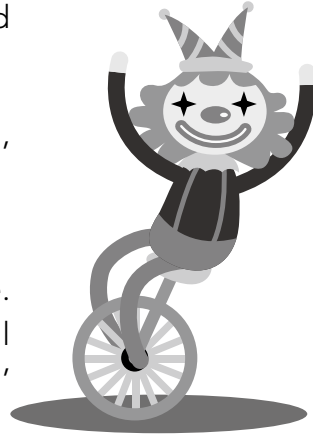
Sam asked, 'Do you guys like tricks of funny clowns, magicians and skilful elephants?'



'Yes, I love to watch them. I wanted to be part of it too,' John replied.

'But tricks could be dangerous,' said Axel with a worrying face.

'So you needed to practise more. The more you practise, the more skilful you are and you will not hurt yourself,' said John.



After that day, they became very close friends. They always went to the circus together, that was, until the war started ...

Picking up the story after the war...

It was a cloudy day. They met each other at Sam's tree house because it was in a jungle. This was the only place that had never changed. Luckily, nobody had noticed that. The foursome gathered and talked about how the refugees had survived. They were very sad too. In order to bring back some joy and brightness to the town, John decided to form a circus.

First, he asked his buddies for recommendations. They all agreed and went to the old circus for equipment. However, all the equipment had been destroyed in the war.

There were only fractured trampolines and hoops. The cages were empty and there was signage written 'Danger' everywhere. However, some dusty balls and costumes with familiar red stripes could still be found. John decided to pick some balls and clean them nicely. He hoped that he could use them again. For Timmy, he found some costumes and helped his teammates to try them on. Sam was busy too. He rolled around, cleaning the curtains and the stage. Last but not least, Axel planned how and where the stuff would be put and did the setup.

After all their hard work, the circus was back! Once they had looked over the entire set, they found something missing – the animals. Timmy had an idea. 'I had some animals on my farm that may be useful. Come along guys,' he said. So they headed to the farm.

On the farm, Timmy raised many different kinds of animals, such as lazy pigs, hard-working cows and polite sheep with curly fur. At that moment, Timmy told his teammates that he knew how to hear animals' opinions. So he asked the animals loudly, 'Who wants to join the circus?' The pig oinked. His teammates were very impressed.

Then, John asked, 'How could you know that?'

'I can read their minds since I was nine,' replied Timmy with a giggle. After a while, the pig oinked again. Timmy

knew they wanted to play with the balls and he told John to teach them patiently, but sometimes it was necessary to let them roll around in the dirty mud and eat something else.

Finally, they chose the pigs, the cows and the chickens. After that, they went back to the broken circus. They planned the programme rundown. The chickens would dance around, the cows would pull bulky things such as car wheels or a big broken drawer etc, to show their power. For the pigs, they would be Timmy's assistants...

The teammates started training the animals.

As time went by, the animals became better and better. They were all ready for their first performance for the townspeople. Axel tried to make sure all the equipment worked out safely before the show, although the equipment numbered only a few. Axel had redesigned the stage and backdrop using his own money so that it could look better. They named themselves the 'Unpaid Workers'.

After the final rehearsal, they gathered and encouraged one another. The time had come. The glittering lights shone with yellow strips. The music started that could be heard a thousand miles away.

The show started with Timmy. He introduced all the teammates to the spectators. First, Timmy had the pigs jump

through the fire hoops. One after the other, the pigs did it. The spectators clapped loudly. However, suddenly one of the pigs slept in the centre of the stage. Timmy quickly pulled the pig away and made way for the chickens to dance with John.

They danced delightfully, spinning and turning with the music. You could not imagine, but then again, the chickens ran away. John, of course, scared the chickens back to the backstage. The only chance was Sam, who led the cow to pull heavy car wheels. First, Sam tied a rope onto the cow's waist and connected it to the wheels. Then he started to let the cow pull two car wheels at a time. The cow did it successfully with no difficulty. After that, the cow started to try three car wheels. It did it again! At last, Sam put one more car wheel to the cow, if the cow could pull four car wheels at a time, the show would finish profitably.

However, when the cow used all its strength to pull the car wheels, the rope was fastened too loose and the cow ran down the stage. It had lost control! The crowd ran out of the circus tent quickly with disappointment.

The teammates were very upset. However, John got an idea. 'We could use our own talents to perform, and some parts we could let the animals assist.'

'That's a great idea!' exclaimed Timmy. They rearranged

the program and started to practise. John was juggling balls while he was dancing with the chickens. For Sam, he would stand on the cow doing front flips and backflips. Last but not least, Timmy would train the pigs to follow his order doing some mysterious tricks.

The teammates first practised by themselves, and then trained the animals. Axel helped Timmy in training the animals too. They had failed several times but did not blame each other. They discovered the mistakes and did the corrections, until they could perfect their routine.

After a year, they were ready for their second performance. The tent of the circus was set up. The music turned on. It was as smooth as silk. Although there was nothing to sell outside the circus, spectators could bring their pets or animals to the circus, so that they could enjoy the show together. The show was started by Timmy. He introduced all his teammates. The rundown went so smoothly; the programme ran one after another. This time, the show went perfectly, and the crowds clapped with joy. The animals put their tongues out expressing their joy too. The four were pleased that the spectators were so delightful. At last, they bowed and the show ended with a loud cheer of 'Bravo!' The spectators left the show happily. The teammates were so encouraged and wanted to perform again. Show after show that they performed. Every time the spectators left the circus with joy.

The small town became energetic again. The teammates decided to leave the town and travel to other cities in Germany to share their joy and happiness with others. The story of John, Timmy, Sam and Axel was soon shared between every family in Germany.

They believed that nothing was impossible in life if one put in the effort and tried hard. Also, one could be happy too if it makes others happy.



Lam Chitt 5B2 (13)

My name is Lam Chitt. My family members include my mum, dad, my younger sister, our helper and me!



I usually make Lego models with my dad. My best Lego model is the Star Wars Millennium Falcon. I chose it because it is the best ship in the range. I got it from a Lego store, and took one hundred and four steps to make. It took me two and a half hours to complete! It is a wonderful model.

My best friend in school is Victor. We were in the same class in P.1. Together we practised swimming, and won the School Swimming Gala 4x50m relay last academic year. We were so excited. Victor is shorter but he swam faster than me last year.

As you can probably tell now, I love swimming, because I feel cool when the weather is hot. I can swim 50m in 43 seconds. I was five years old when I started, and have ever since practised to better myself. I think my hero for this sport is my coach, as she teaches me patiently, and guides me on ways to improve my techniques.

I am also good at playing the piano. I am now on Grade 2. I enjoy the *Star Wars* theme tune the most. I hope one day I can make it to the Grade 8. I will keep on practising and I know that I can achieve this goal one day!

Time Adventure

My Uncle Ant is an inventor. Actually, his real name is Andrew. As he always works as hard as an ant in his workshop, I gave him this nickname. He lives with my family but he does not stay in the same house with us. He lives in a tree house of an old big tree in our garden. He seldom talks to other people except me. I have heard from the neighbours, saying that Uncle Ant is a strange and weird man. However, I like him very much, especially the way he thinks. He is not boring and full of creative imagination.

It was a wet, rainy morning that this story began. I woke up very early. I went into Uncle Ant's house to search for something to play with. I found a strange machine with many buttons, knobs, dials and levers in the tree hole underneath the tree house. I had never seen a machine like it before. On one side, there was a button that said 'ON'. On the other side, there was a button that said 'TIME'. I hit the 'ON' button accidentally. A voice said, 'Time set. Counting down: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Go!' I flew away with the machine.

Zoom!

The machine disappeared. I went through a wide tunnel. It was blue and white, like the sky and clouds. A minute later...

'Clank! Bang!'

I arrived at a strange place. I looked at the machine. Oh, no! I was in the year 2109!

Suddenly, a man that looked similar to me ran past. He said, 'Hi Great Grandfather. Watch out! Giant is coming!' Then he ran away as fast as a bolt of lightning. I ran alongside my great-grandson, as an enormous hand appeared. A giant rose up. We hid in a bush and escaped from the Giant.

Then the man spoke to me nervously. He said, 'Can you help me, please? My planet is occupied by another planet called Rock of Doom. The Hard Rock people arrived a few months ago. They can turn themselves into a hundred tonnes of rock. They have different kinds of rock weapons like rock lasers, rock cannons, and enormous rock bombs. They look like giant rock footballs made out of hexagons, with two thick rock hands. They have smashed and stolen everything here. They even caught a lot of people and made them slaves. There aren't even a thousand people left. Could you make up an army and be their captain?'

'No problem!' I replied without any hesitation. I quickly jumped into the Time Machine to get some tools from Uncle Ant's tree house for fighting. 'Here you go: Lightning Ball Blaster, Super Underground Fireball, Imitation Paper, Weapon Changer and Invisible Cape. Enough?'

'Sure!' I gave the tools to him, and went aboard an

invisible rocket.

After three hours, we arrived at the Rock of Doom planet. We were covered by the Invisible Cape as we walked into the castle. There were two small rock security guards with arrows in their hands.

'I feel weird. It's like someone's staring at me,' one of the guards said.

'Me too,' the other replied. 'Feels as if someone is looking at...'

'Bang!'

I made them dazed before they moved. We were deep inside the castle. We went through a narrow long tunnel after going in the castle. At the end of the tunnel, there were no exits. All we could see was a dead end. We tried to find another way; I saw a small board and opened it. It was a movable board. So we went in.

When we got out from the underground tunnel, we went through a pitch-black forest. We crept out from the forest and went to the kingdom.

On the way, when we had almost arrived at the kingdom, ten soldiers' arrows hurled towards us. We quickly climbed a tree. Then they used an axe to chop down the tree. I quickly

threw a bomb at them and jumped to another tree. They screamed in horror as they fled.

We finally arrived at the Rock Kingdom and believed that it was their control room.

Back to the present day of 2017, Uncle Ant was surprised that the Time Machine was not in his workshop. He was worried and thought who took it.

Suddenly I heard Uncle Ant's voice saying, 'Who are you? Did you travel with my Time Machine?' It really surprised me that we could communicate in different year-zones.

I replied, 'Uncle Ant, it's me. I got into a battle.' Before I finished what I want to say, I was distracted by a large door. On the door hung a notice board 'Staff Only'. I was curious and opened the door. Inside the room, there were lots of buttons and knobs. Suddenly, 'Ring! Ring!' There were hundreds of soldiers bracing themselves for a fight.

In the sky, a large ship was floating and throwing bombs everywhere. We quickly ran away and got on a star-fighter that was in the Rock Kingdom.

At the start, we only saw a few fighters. We did a 360-degree circle and shot some lasers out, causing them to explode. But all of a sudden, more fighters flew out and

started attacking around. At that time, I was struggling to think what I should do. Then, some people repulsed the Rock army and everything seemed to have stopped. A sudden earthquake started. A giant robot rose up from the ground, which shot giant flame balls.

We managed to dodge the fireballs and flew around the robot closely. Then we shot missiles at it. 'Kaboom!' The robot was destroyed. At this moment, we mizzled from the planet with our ship.

'What a thrill!' I said as I fainted.

When I was conscious again, Uncle Ant was standing in front of me. He seriously talked to me.

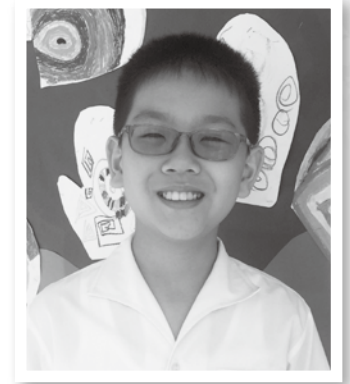
'You must have just experienced an exciting and unforgettable time adventure. You probably want to help the people in need as much as you can. But... when you think you are doing something right, on the other hand, you are probably destroying something, not in your planned purpose. You must remember that history is history, the future is the future. We should not twist history into the shape that we expect. We will make the world an even bigger mess. All we can do is to treasure the moment we have. That is what a journey of learning and growth is meant to be.'

I was shocked by his words. What should I have done in such a dilemma?

Wong Kong Huang Max 5B2 (26)

My name is Max Wong. I am an only-child in my family.

My favourite subject is General Studies because it provides me with opportunities to learn new perspectives in personal, social and science education, which I am so interested in.



I have a lot of hobbies and interests. I love doing archery very much. Every Sunday, my father takes me to the archery club to learn and train my archery skill. Although I have started taking up this activity for only a couple of months, I am already quite intrigued by it. The Korean archer, Ki Bo-Bae is my role model. I aspire to be an Olympian like her in the future, with the hopes that I can win a gold medal in the Olympics.

One of my interests is playing the flute. I started learning the flute when I was seven. William Bennett who is one of the outstanding flautists I admire. I am greatly impressed by the warm, rounded tone as well as the wide range of tone colours that he plays with his flute. I can play melodious music with my awesome flute skill too. Dad and mum are so fascinated by the tunes I play that they use them as their

ringtones for their mobile phones.

I also love drawing and reading books about dinosaurs. My classmates always ask me to draw them pictures of dinosaurs. They also often ask me what I know about dinosaurs, so I get to share some of my knowledge on the subject. I would start off by telling them some of the dinosaurs' names, types and sizes. I also share with them a number of the more treacherous ones, such as the T-Rex and its carnivorous kinds, which feed on other plant-eating dinosaurs.

When I grow up I want to be an archaeologist because I am eager to discover lost relics of the past and to find reasons that led to the extinction of these amazing ancient giant reptiles. One of my teachers quoted, 'I want to be what I want to be. If I work hard on it, I'll be what I want to be.' From now on, I will try my every bit of effort to make my dream come true.

Mischief Can Sometimes Cost Dearly

This is a tale of a kind-hearted lad named Billy Crew. He has a deep affection towards nature and one day aspires to be a great conservation biologist.

When Billy was small, he lived a humble life in a quiet village with his grandparents. He was taught and raised to be affectionate, respectful, and not material. His grandmother, Mrs. Crew, had always reminded him of the importance of protecting the environment and preserving its natural beauty.



Over time our little Billy had grown to understand and loved nature more and more. By the time Billy hit his teenage life, he was forced to leave his grandparents' care. As the son of a famous property developer, Billy now resided in a state of the art condominium, right the across the prestigious Cornell University in New York City. There he met his two buddies Sam Radcliff and Gilbert Collins. Unlike Billy, Sam and Gilbert were raised lavishly. Born with silver spoons in their mouths, these two spoiled lads were pampered with luxurious cars, expensive mobile phones and all their needs and wants. They had high regard for money and believed



that everything could be bought for a price. Despite the differences, this did not prevent the three from being close friends.

One day in the biology class, Professor Awa, Head of Life Science and Medicine

had appointed a project to Billy and his class. They were to do research on 'Life in the forest'.

'Hey Sam, want to team up for this project?' asked Gilbert.

'Sure thing, as long as you're my partner!' giggled Sam. 'We should probably invite Billy since we're like the perfect trio!' added he.

Later during lunch break, the two linked up with Billy at the cafeteria and made a proposal to join them for the project. Billy gladly accepted the offer and suggested a place to go. 'Why not visit my grandparents in the Philippines? That seems to be a perfect place to carry out our project,' said Billy.

Two days later, the three best friends flew off to the Philippines. They were warmly welcomed by Billy's grandparents. During their stay, Billy showed his pals around the area. He took Sam and Gilbert to the famous Boracay beach where they enjoyed riding on a Banana boat and did other water sports. They took delight in drinking fresh young coconut juice grown by Mr. Crew in his coconut orchard and had a first-hand experience in milking cows at Mrs. Crew's barn.

'Not so bad huh?' Billy commented.

One time they picked seashells during the low tide in the afternoon and Gilbert was chased away by a sea snake when he overturned a rock. He almost tripped over as he was heading for the shore.

'Yikes, a bloody coral snake! Run!' screamed Gilbert. The other two ran after him. Luckily, they made good their escapes.

A few days later, the three were back on track again. They decided to set out into the woods just a few miles from where Billy's grandparents resided. Before Billy and his pals left, Mrs. Crew had warned them to stay close to the path and not to venture out further as there could be dangers lurking in the woods. 'For some mysterious reason, travellers have disappeared, never to be seen again,' warned Mrs.

Crew. But Sam and Gilbert just regarded this as some kind of old wives tales and did not heed a word she said.

'Oh come on Mrs. Crew. It's 21st Century now!' chortled Sam. So off the three went one morning into the forest. Melodious chirping of birds could be heard in a distance. Thick lush green trees and shrubs were as tall as they were back then when Billy was still a young boy. Almost everything was unspoiled. A true beauty indeed!

Then, as the boys were gathering herbs and marvelling at the beautiful wild plants, Gilbert caught sight of a giant termite hill. He climbed onto it and took a selfie.

After a while, Sam urinated at one of what looked like a mound. 'Oh dear, what have you done?' exclaimed Billy. 'No big deal, Billy. They're nothing but a dirty pile of earth. It's not like committed a murder,' Gilbert said deprecatingly.

That night, when the trio came back to the village, two of the boys felt unwell. They got a terrible headache and a high temperature. Billy realized that they might get sick. But Sam and Gilbert dismissed it as some kind of common flu and just took some medicine to shake them off. However, it did not make them feel any better. Instead, they got worse and worse day-by-day. They called in a local doctor to treat them but in vain. The doctor found nothing wrong with them, even after examining them several times. Billy started

to wonder why. The medicine did not work at all and his pals looked deathly pale.

Two days later, when Billy woke up at midnight feeling the urge to go to the washroom, he heard a moan in Sam's room. He went to check him out. To his horror, Sam was covered with mushrooms growing all over his body. He stood, rooted to the spot overwhelmed with fear.

Then a scream could be heard next door. Mr. and Mrs. Crew called Billy quickly to tell him of a shocking appearance that was happening to his other friend Gilbert. He was lying down, covered in bruises, with his mouth open from which bees and other kinds of insects were sprouting out.

Early next morning, Billy's grandma asked him what had happened back in the forest. He told her how Sam and Gilbert climbed onto the termite hill and urinated on the mound. 'Oh dear! They shouldn't have done that,' said Mrs. Crew. 'Those were probably the homes of those tiny invisible creatures. If nothing is done, your friends are in grave danger,' added Billy's grandma.

Without a moment's hesitation, they quickly prepared some food and headed off to the forest. Billy took them to the same spot where the teenage boys went. Mrs. Crew laid down the sheet and arranged the food. Billy's grandpa killed a live chicken and put it next to the mound. Out of the blue,

they heard an angry voice. 'How dare you set foot back here again! Haven't you had enough! You destroyed our homes and hurt our young ones. There's nowhere we could go now. You humans have destroyed our very home! We were living peacefully until those boys came here!' boomed the angry voice.

'Please forgive my friends for they did not know what they were doing,' pleaded Billy. Billy continued on to explain and convinced the mysterious creatures to believe him, 'I assure you this will not happen again! My friends will do anything they can to let people know the importance of protecting your home.' Fortunately, Billy was able to appease the angry spirits. He promised never to bother them or to set foot on their sacred grounds.

The following day, Billy was surprised to see Sam and Gilbert back to normal. They were happy to get back to their bubbly old selves again. Thanks to Billy and his grandparents' courageous acts. Billy told them everything that happened. Funny though as Sam and Gilbert could not remember what had happened to them.

Time flew. Here came the end of the memorable vacation. The three guys said goodbye to Billy's grandparents and left for their home in New York.

When the three pals returned back to the school, they

finished the assigned project based on what they had found and experienced in the forest. They perfectly encapsulated the audience's attention with the message of how important it was to protect the environment and to preserve its natural beauty. They ended the presentation with a poem, with words echoing through their hearts:

*Oh Mother Earth ever so pretty
With your boundless supply of water in the
stream, river and sea.
Quench our thirst, bring us fish and
abundance of rainfall
For your children's daily needs.*

*Lush greeneries in your rainforests and
mountains,
Shielding us from the angry heat of the Sun.
Mother Earth gives us what we need,
Limitless grace of your fresh air supply
We breathe in on our everyday life.*

*Mother nature I must apologise on behalf of
selfish humans
Who want only greed and selfish desires
Unaware of their destructive actions
Spoiling your kindness and generosity.*

Tai Yun Ki Aska 6B1 (24)

Now we must pay the consequence of our actions.

To face your wrath, rage and destruction.

Earthquake, typhoon, and tidal wave

They are sure catastrophic and highly damaging.

Famine and the rise of food inflation

Is the cause of your drought and climatic change.

So dear audience here my plea

Take heed and be warned

For mother earth is angry and hurt

Together we heal and protect her

For the sake of our children's future and the next generation.

Their excellent work greatly impressed Professor Awa and the whole class. Eventually, they were given an "A*" for their project.

My name is Tai Yun Ki Aska. I am 10 years old and my birthday is in November.

I am the English subject leader of my class. My English teacher chose me because she thinks I am good at English. My job is to help teachers carry workbooks and write point charts for the class. I love English the most because it is easy to understand and learn.



My best friends are Ocean Luk and Brandon Sin. Ocean listens to me no matter what. Brandon just ignores me but gives me good advice. We usually chat and play together during school recess, and play computer games after school. We all love English. We call ourselves the 'English Buddies'.

I love drawing things that I think are memorable, like cute pets, parks, and people. I would not say I am a pro at drawing because I do not know the true meaning of sketching. I have loved drawing since I was Primary 1, when my art teacher gave our class a mini sketchbook. The funniest thing I have drawn is one of my classmates failing to kick a football and ending up on the floor. I drew that because I wanted to show him how funny he looked.

Time Adventure

I am a huge fan of singing and I love the singer Ariana Grande. I write down all the lyrics of her songs and I never tire of doing it. I love her voice because it goes beautifully high. I have played the piano since kindergarten and I am quite good at it. However, I hate karaoke because the voice is like an eternal echo ringing in my ears. I am no good with karaoke.

My ambition is to be a Youtuber when I grow up, because my videos can entertain people. I hope to learn how to make videos and records on my computer screen. My channel will be called 'PokerFoker' because that is my username in games I play.

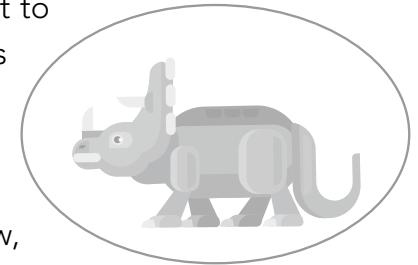
Thank you for reading my piece of writing. Have a nice day!

'Ring! Ring!' You hear that? That's the school bell. School is over and I'm officially on holiday.

Well, not really...

All of our teachers have given us tons of homework. And to be exact, we have five pieces of homework per subject. So I think I'll be in the 'Going to school' section for another week or so.

Oh, how rude I am! I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Jax, and I am twelve years old. I study in Greenwood Primary School and this is my last holiday at primary level. Now, where was I?



Oh yes.

Almost all of our homework is copying, copying, and more copying. But, there's one piece of homework that I'm



actually excited about - the project on dinosaurs. Yes, you heard it – dinosaurs. Our General Studies teacher Miss Smith asked us to do a project on dinosaurs, and since Miss Smith is a dinosaur researcher herself, there are no fake facts. I decided to form a team with my best friends Viktor and Kayle to do the project. We planned to go to the dinosaur museum that just opened last Tuesday. We would do the project and print out our notes in the library next to Viktor's house afterwards. We were very excited about the project.

'Ring! Ring!' You hear that? Don't worry. It's not summer school. It's just my alarm clock. Today's the day that Viktor, Kayle and I go to the dinosaur museum. The museum is quite far away so we have to take the bus, switch to the subway, and then walk for about five minutes. It's so early that even my parents are sleeping. I made myself breakfast, changed my clothes and went off to Kayle's house for preparation.

'Hi guys! Come in! I've made hot chocolate for you!' Kayle welcomed us into his apartment. She had a warm smile on her face. Viktor and I went inside and sat on a sofa.

'Do we have everything we need?' Viktor asked. We looked in our backpacks and made a checklist.

'Clipboards?'

'Check.'

'Notebooks?'

'Check.'

'Pills?'

'What?' I asked, confused.

'Oh never mind. It's just my headache pills. I always carry them around just in case,' replied Viktor. His red cheeks told me that he was embarrassed.

We packed our stuff and headed off to the bus stop. Luckily, the bus stop was just in front of Kayle's house.

'It's a good thing that, isn't it?' Viktor smiled.

'Of course,' I answered. We chatted along as we boarded the bus.

'Wake up, Viktor!' Kayle and I laughed. Viktor had slept so long. His snore started to sound like pigs. Speaking of Viktor, Viktor opened his eyes and yawned. He stepped off the bus and almost tripped on the staircase. We followed him to the subway.

'Don't sleep this time, Viktor, or we won't wake you up. Neither will Kayle!' I joked. Viktor seemed to take my joke

seriously and stayed wide-awake. In fact, he bolted off the train the second he heard the doors open!

'Chill, man, Jax was just joking,' said Kayle as we walked to the museum. We were another step closer to discovering myths we did not know about dinosaurs.

'Here we are, guys. The National Dinosaur Museum!' Kayle said as she pointed to the magnificent raptor sculpture in the middle of the park, next to the museum. It was such an amazing sight that Viktor had to take a photo of it.

'This could be the cover of our project,' he suggested. We walked into the glorious museum. We're finally here! But the adventure had just begun when we fell into an endless hole of darkness...

We landed in a desert-jungle feel sort of place. Sandy mountains surrounded us and misty fog covered the sky. We were too afraid to even talk. We looked around, curiously, and found out that we, somehow, went back in time. Well, that's what Viktor and Kayle thought.

'That black hole must've brought us into the dinosaur age,' said Viktor.

'Dinosaurs? Oh no, this is horrible...' Kayle said, trembling in fear.

Then, strange things started to happen. We heard loud thumping noises. Maybe something was moaning? Calling? We had absolutely no idea. In the distance, I saw a large creature. It was making those noises. When I looked closely, I had no words.

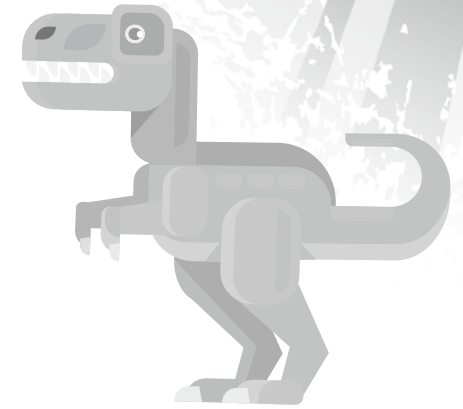
'What's the matter, Jax? Something wrong?' Kayle asked.

'You wouldn't believe this: but it's a dinosaur! Quick! Hide in that bush!' I answered in terror.

Before Viktor and Kayle even had time to react, I had pushed them into a nearby bush at once. I peeked out of it, and saw the dinosaur put something into a nest. I took a wild guess and assumed it was an egg.

I told the others what I saw. Viktor jumped out of the fear he was in. 'We can get that egg and make it a part of our project.'

'Easier said than done,' Kayle replied. They then broke into a heated argument. I listened without paying much



attention to the content of the argument.

‘Ever heard of teamwork?’ I interrupted.

We sneaked out of the bush and saw the dinosaur walking away. ‘Now!’ I shouted.

We grabbed the egg and dragged it back to the bush.

‘Yes! We did it!’ cheered Viktor.

‘But how do we get back to the future? I mean, the present?’ Kayle asked. Sometimes, I think those two are like Tom and Jerry. They never get tired of arguing or fighting.

We explored the woods and found out that we were on an island. The coastline was beautiful, well, it would be 65 million years ago. Not far away, we spotted a bigger island with not many dinosaurs. We decided to swim across the sea since it was within swimming distance. We jumped into the sea and started swimming. It was quite peaceful. Well, until Kayle started to feel something under her. It seemed like an underwater tornado forming. But the water did not move at all. I saw it, Kayle was being sucked into thin air. I, on the other hand, had a really hard time frantically swimming, because I needed to protect the dinosaur egg. I also felt the tornado desperately swallowing me up. It was like eating hotdogs with wasabi sauce, that sort of explosive horror.

And then, everything went dark...

When I opened my eyes, I was on my bed. There was no tornado, no dinosaurs, no arguments, and no friends beside me.

No! No! This was not a dream! I remembered everything!

The black hole, the dinosaurs, the egg, the swimming...

I crawled out of my bed and went to my wardrobe. I wanted to find my glasses. With them slipped on, I saw something that proved me correct! It was the dinosaur egg – from the age of dinosaurs! I knew it was real!

I changed my clothes and rushed to the library to finish the project.

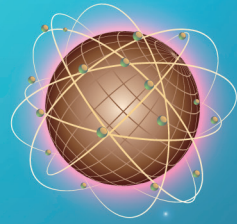
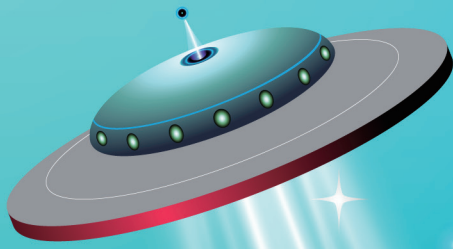
For the last time, ‘Ring! Ring!’ That, my dear readers, was the first bell ring of the school year.

Viktor, Kayle and I went to our classroom and gave Miss Smith our report. Inside were some notes we made, some sketches of the dinosaur island by Viktor, and most importantly, a photo of the dinosaur egg. Of course, we gave the egg to the museum, but we just had to take a photo of it.

‘Well, I have nothing to add. Your group’s report is just... just amazing! I’m so impressed. Well done! You’ve earned yourselves an A+!’ exclaimed Miss Smith when she finished reading our report.

We cheered for joy and had our ‘Victory Dance’. It was embarrassing but we had to do it.

I was so excited about the adventure I had, so I decided to document it in a story. That is the story you have just read. Yes, this one! Hope you enjoyed it. I really enjoyed it. See you next story!



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