

THE RAFFLES WAVE



PRESIDENT'S GUIDE AWARD

We are proud to announce that three of our Year 4 RGS Girl Guides Long Shi-Min, Isabel, Nandhini Elangovan and Alisha Insyirah Binte Jasni are recipients of the President's Guide Award (PGA) 2021. They are among five Guides who were awarded this year in recognition of their love for Guiding, commitment towards the Guiding Movement, and efforts in upholding Guiding values and skills to respectable standards.

The PGA is the highest level of achievement for a Guide and is given out by the President of Singapore.



RGS recipients of the President's Guide Award 2021 with President Halimah Yacob (from left) Long Shi-Min, Isabel, Nandhini Elangovan and Alisha Insyirah Binte Jasni.

REGENERON INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR 2021

Congratulations to the RGS team of Celyn Chng, Tay Li Ann and Low Iing from the class of 2020 for achieving the 2nd award in the Animal Sciences category of the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair 2021 (ISEF)! Their project, 'Supplementation of Lactobacillus casei reduces β -amyloid accumulation in Alzheimer Drosophila melanogaster' was a school-based science research project mentored by teacher-mentor, Dr Lim Ai Khim, and was one of six projects selected during the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair to represent Singapore at the Regeneron ISEF. During the final judging at the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair, the team impressed the judges with their passion and ownership of the project.



Team 3R Members (from left to right) Xuan Ying, Bernadette and Victoria with their individual and group trophies!

SINGAPORE ENERGY GRAND CHALLENGE (YOUTH) 2021

In this year's edition of the Singapore Energy Grand Challenge (Youth), students had to develop creative and impactful submissions by using Minecraft to create a three-minute video based on the challenge statement "How would your carbon-free school, or neighbourhood in Singapore look like in 2050?" Of the 10 participating RGS teams, four were shortlisted for the semi-finals, and Team 3R, comprising Year 1 students Victoria Teo Yue Tong, Tan Xuan Ying and Kong Zi Yau Bernadette, was shortlisted for the finals, and they emerged champions in the youth category.

YMCA PLAIN ENGLISH SPEAKING AWARDS 2021

Under the guidance of RGS teacher-coaches (Mr Alwin Ho, Ms Daphne Chua and Ms Sharon Ong), six of our student representatives took part in the YMCA Plain English Speaking Awards 2021 and turned out the school's best performance in the competition in more than five years, with Year 1 student Filomena Litani Magha Amelia walking away as the Champion for the lower secondary category, and Year 1 student Hannah Chua Yun Han and Year 3 student Nurani Kaseh Binte Isa receiving the first runner-up award for the lower and upper secondary category respectively.

For more Achievement news, please click [here](#).

FAREWELL ALMA MATER 2021

Our Year 4s officially marked the completion of their journey with RGS on 22 October 2021. The day started with the Graduation Assembly, a formal occasion witnessed by the whole school virtually, followed by an afternoon programme themed 'Whimsical Tea Party'. Congratulations once again to our Year 4s on your graduation and we wish you immense joy and fulfilment as you embark on the next stage of your journey. As the last line of the chorus of our school song goes, "Life lies before us, here's luck to the start"!



Our Year 4s dressed to the nines, enjoying the company of their classmates and form teachers during an afternoon of themed festivities lined up specially for them!

RGS COMMUNITY FAIR 2021

The RGS Community Fair serves as a platform for our students to learn from RGS alumnae and their peers, and to come together to acknowledge their efforts in serving different communities. Held virtually on 20 October, the theme for this year's Community Fair is 'Different Stories, One Heartbeat – Serving Amidst COVID'. It encapsulates the idea that despite the constraints placed by COVID-19, it did not deter our students from their commitment to serve the community.



A plethora of topics such as food insecurity, migrant workers and working with people on the ground were presented during the virtual fair.

SPORTS FEST 2021

In line with the theme for Sports Fest 2021 "Different Stories, One Heartbeat", various fitness stories of staff and students were shared before the event commenced officially. There were numerous fringe games and classroom games planned for our students, and the event ended off with the Staff Novelty Race as well as the announcement of the results of several key events including the much-anticipated IHG Sports Fest House champion. Staff and students alike contributed to the points of their respective Houses and we are proud to announce that Buckle emerged overall House Champion for the year!

Our students got to experience a wide variety of indoor and outdoor fringe games such as Arcade Basketball, Table Foosball, Frisbee Golf and even gaming consoles such as Wii and Kinect.



For more Event news, please click [here](#).

Portrait of a Rafflesian

A SOUL-SEARCHING JOURNEY OF SELF DISCOVERY

No two RGS journeys are completely the same. For Goh Xin Ru Karin (Class of 2020), her desire to make meaning of a line from our school song ("rise sisters rise, the world is all before ye"), has led her on a four-year soul-searching journey as an RGS girl to figure out the kind of person she wanted to be, and can now, almost six years later, confidently proclaim that she is – "stronger, wiser, and more open-minded".

Indeed, from the programmes and activities that she was involved in, to serving the school community during her term as Head Prefect, her commitment, passion and readiness to explore new opportunities has allowed her to have a fulfilling RGS journey, growing from each different experience.

Even her term as a Head Prefect was also unique, as it was marked by two events of great change: RGS's move to our Braddell campus, and the unprecedented COVID-19, which struck before the school could fully settle into our new physical space. Calmly and steadily, she mobilised the leadership boards and worked to change their plans for the year. At the same time, she made sure that everyone felt cared for and that no one was left behind. She acknowledges that it was a time of learning for her as well, "to (have to) command attention through a screen, (and) extend warmth and support just through a voice)."

We speak to Karin, who is also our pinnacle Rafflesian Award recipient for 2021, to find out more about her soul-searching RGS journey, and the people she has met along the way.



Receiving the Rafflesian Award

"I remember being pleasantly surprised when I first received an email about it. The first people I thought of were my RGS teachers and family, and all of the people who supported me through my bright and dull moments; I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude towards them. I also remember thinking that it certainly takes a village to raise a child, and I just felt lucky to be able to be a child in this 'village'."

Her RGS Experience

"It was a journey of soul-searching. In fact, I spent most of the four years wondering what to make of the line 'rise sisters rise, the world is all before ye' in the school song. I wanted to figure out what kind of person I wanted to be, and how much more I could push myself... My RGS experience was also about the people – the teachers and staff who supported me in everything I pursued, even after graduation, as well as friends and seniors I met in school who reached out a warm hand to share laughter in good times, and guide me through the difficult ones. I am who I am today because of all these positive experiences that I am so grateful to have received in my time here."



Pre-COVID-19, we took a photo in this position every House Day!

Having the Courage to Choose

"Truth be told, I still find myself at crossroads now, having to weigh between equally important opportunities. I think the most important thing to remember is to be determined not to regret the decisions you make. What holds most of us back is fear of regret, so once we learn to accept that everything will take its own course, we can make decisions with more conviction. You can hesitate and doubt before deciding, but once you do decide, your heart and mind must be set! The moment you look back, you lose sight of what's ahead of you."

Exploring her Interests Through the Raffles Programme

"I am very thankful for the different opportunities I have been given to explore my interests and work with like-minded individuals whom I have learnt so much from... The most memorable programme for me is FI in Schools. Seeking to further my knowledge and skills in the area of STEM, I joined the programme from 2018-2020. In November 2019, we travelled halfway across the globe to represent Singapore in the FI in Schools World Finals. When reflecting on those years spent working on the competition, and feeling thankful and proud of the unexpected results, I realised how grateful I am towards the FI in Schools community. My time in the programme gave me many opportunities to research on scientific concepts and expand my knowledge on aerodynamics and engineering. The multi-disciplinary competition also gave me a chance to look at business branding, team managing, sponsor sourcing and manufacturing, amongst many other skills I have been privileged to develop. I grew a lot with my teammates and have formed strong bonds with each of them."



First day at Braddell, waiting for the arrival of the symbolic bus from Anderson before morning assembly!



Right after our team's last judging session at FI in Schools World Finals in Abu Dhabi!



Our last day at the Anderson campus. It still amazes me how each Lead Board and department had their own hand-sign and we somehow could remember them all.

Never Underestimate How Much You Can Do For Others

"I believe many of us question how 'helpful' our 'help' to the community is. In fact, my volunteering journey started with a great deal of self-doubt and diffidence – I wasn't sure if I was capable of making a positive difference. However, my experience two years ago volunteering at Yishun Community Hospital for its monthly Nagomi Art programme shook me out of this thinking. Initially, it seemed as if I would never get used to starting conversations with unfamiliar people, and I was unconfident the patients would be willing to share their stories given my youth. Over time, I realised how each elderly patient faced life with a smile despite their unspeakable worries and daily pain. Hearing "see you next month" after each session strengthened my resolve to give more, which I did, until they got suspended due to safe distancing measures. The patients in community hospitals are easily forgotten, neither having the optimism of outpatients, nor the undivided attention given to the critically ill. Caught in the middle, they tide over fears on their own and will themselves to get better. Occasionally, there is an ear who will listen, bringing some relief and hope. This is where we can come in as volunteers to fill the gaps and give care where it is lacking. Never underestimate how much you can do for others."

Missing Her Alma Mater

"I miss the eventful, colourful life in RGS. I had always wondered what RGS would mean to me after graduation. Whenever I saw seniors visiting and catching up with teachers, it was hard to understand their jealous expressions and nostalgic sighs when they saw us having PE at the netball court. Now, I cannot help but feel the same, missing the 'happy exhaustion' I felt at the end of each school event or leadership board meeting."

Her Inspiration in Life

"My biggest inspiration in life right now is a quote I read from a book: "Like yourself for making an honest effort. And continue to have faith in yourself"... We are all in pursuit of an effortlessly perfect life, but sometimes it is more important to appreciate the simplicity of putting one foot in front of the other. We can be frustrated for being bad at something, but we must keep trying to become better."

Hopes and Wishes for RGS

"I sincerely hope that RGS will continue to be a home for all who walk through its doors. I believe the RGS spirit will still burn bright and that future batches of RGS girls will continue to take pride in being part of such a vibrant, diverse and warm community. Most importantly, I wish for the continued pursuit of excellence for both staff and students. Filiae Melioris Aevi!"

*Know someone who should be featured or have something interesting to share?
Write to us at corporatecomms@rafflesgirlssch.edu.sg*



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