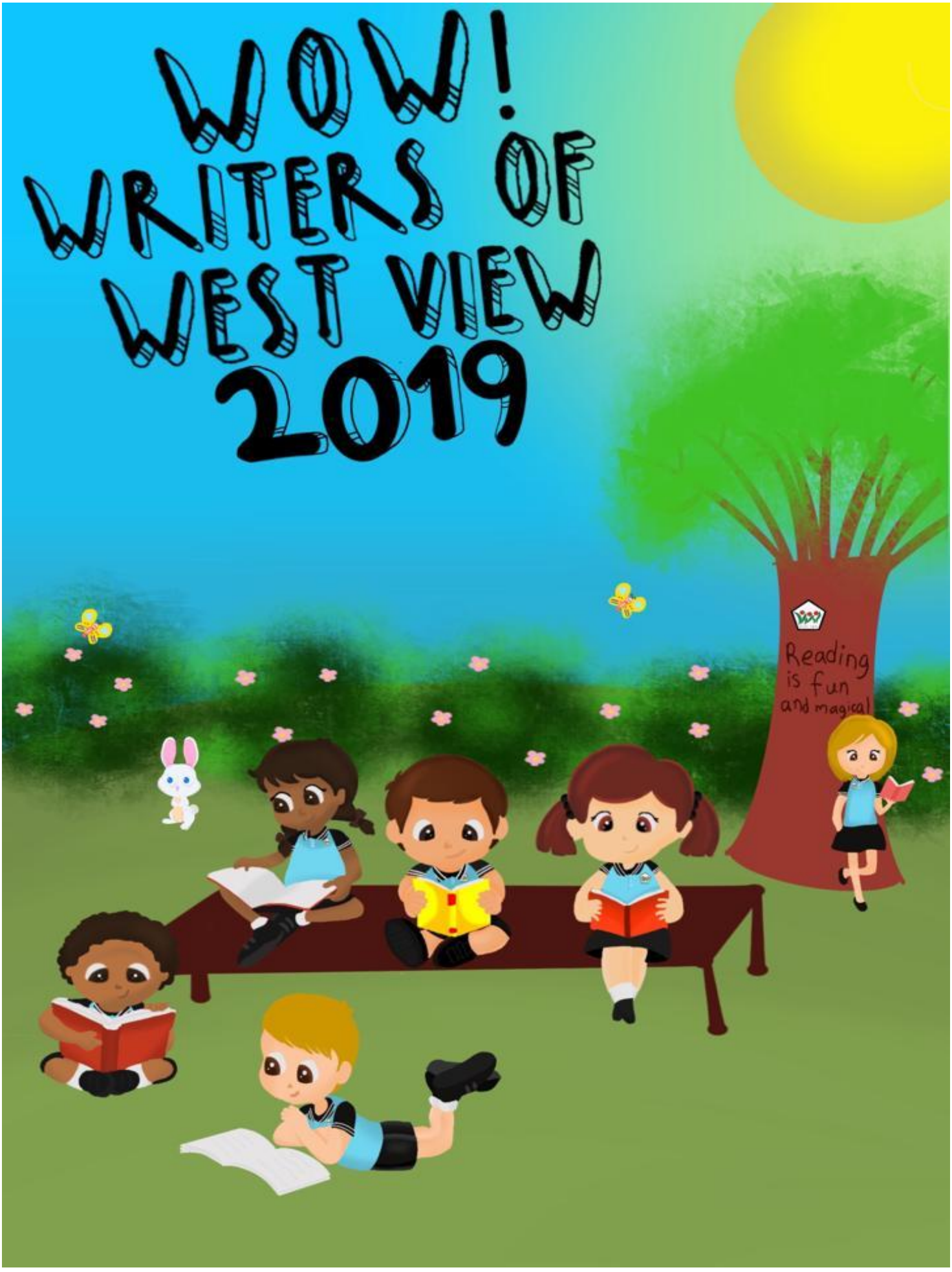
WOW!
WRITERS OF
WEST VIEW
2019
Reading
is fun
and magical

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Foreword from the Principal

Every West Viewan, A Talented Pupil

Never underestimate our abilities! It is usually never easy to start writing even if you are a natural writer. You may not even start off with perfect grammar or sentence structure. The truth is that you all have many experiences – experiences from reading to listening, speaking, observing, and feelings.

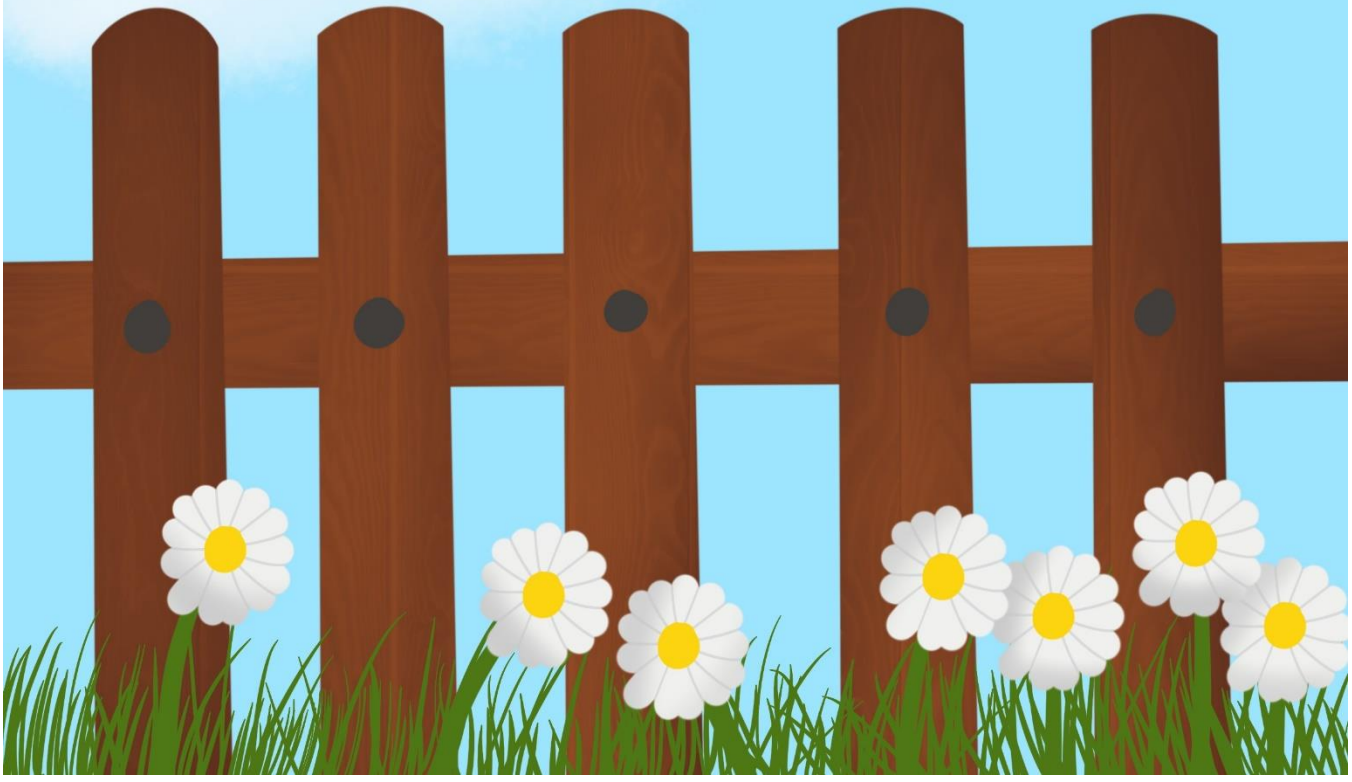
Even if you are a bird-watcher in your leisure time or listening to your mother talk about her job as a nurse, these experiences will give you great ideas to write and help you immeasurably in your composition. Your readers do not need you to be an expert. They are only interested to read your stories or your personal accounts from beginning to the end and come back for more.

In this publication, our West View's very own **WOW!** – **W**riters **O**f **W**est View! – is compiled for you, our budding writers and our avid readers. We hope you will continue to be inspired to use this priceless gift of writing to share your experiences, ideas and thoughts of your wonderful experiences and adventures with others.

Mr Eddie Foo
Principal

"If you want to be a writer you must do two things above others: read a lot, and write a lot."

Stephen King



A Costly Mistake

One Saturday afternoon, Alex and John decided to look for a birthday gift for their mother. They went to a shop selling glass figurines. They looked around the shop happily. There were beautiful glittery figurines in the shop. Alex picked out a swan figurine.

John was horsing around in the shop. He pushed Alex from behind. Alex lurched forward and the swan figurine slipped from his hands. The swan figurine fell onto the floor and shattered into pieces. "Oh no!" shouted Alex.

At this moment, the shopkeeper walked over and looked at them angrily. Alex and John looked at the broken figurine and felt worried. "You were careless! Look at the sign. It says that you must be careful because these figurines are fragile," said the shopkeeper sternly. Alex and John apologised to the shopkeeper after they were reprimanded.

The shopkeeper told them that they had to compensate for breaking the swan figurine. Alex and John took out their wallets and paid for the figurine that they had broken. They were very upset that they did not have any money left to buy a present for their mother. They learnt that they must be careful the next time they are in a place with fragile items.

Christopher Stephen Smith Kaicheng

2 Aspiration

A Sack Race

It was a hot Monday morning. Ben, John and Tom were going to have a sack race at Orange Tree Primary School.

When the referee blew the whistle, the race began. All the participants put their sacks on and started hopping to the finish line. Tom was delighted to know that he reached the finish line first. He did not know that his good friend, Ben, had tripped during the race.

When Tom found out about Ben's accident, he wanted to race again for a fair game. Tom's teachers praised him for having sportsmanship and congratulated him. Although the sack race was a tiring one, everyone had a great time. Tom beamed with joy and pride.

Desiree Sneha Daniel

2 Aspiration

A Valuable Lesson

Last Tuesday, Delvin and Tom went out to buy things for their party. They walked by a store and something on the shelf caught Delvin's attention. He went into the store to have a closer look. Delvin reached out for the porcelain swan figurine and held it in his hand.

Tom was playful and gave Delvin a scare. Delvin dropped the porcelain swan and it shattered into many pieces. Both Delvin and Tom stood rooted to the ground in shock.

The store manager heard the loud crashing sound and came out to check what had happened. He saw the broken pieces of the porcelain swan figurine on the floor. The store manager was extremely furious.

He reprimanded the boys and told them to pay for the broken swan figurine. The boys were remorseful and apologised to the store manager. They should be more cautious when handling fragile items.

Nguyen Linh Dan

2 Brilliance

A Valuable Lesson

One Saturday afternoon, Steve and his best friend, Billy, went to a shopping mall. Steve wanted to buy a present for his mother because it was nearing Mother's Day.

As they were walking in the shopping mall, they found a souvenir shop. There were many animal figurines. Steve saw a glittering swan figurine. It was the perfect gift for his mother. Steve held the figurine carefully because it was fragile.

Steve was trying to put the figurine back onto the shelf. Suddenly, Billy pushed him from behind. Cling! Steve accidentally dropped the figurine and it shattered into pieces all over the floor.

Billy felt apologetic after the incident. The shop manager came to check what had happened upon hearing the noise. He saw the broken figurine on the floor. The two boys were reprimanded by the shop manager. They had to compensate for the broken figurine. They learnt to be more careful when handling fragile items and not to horse around in a shop.

Muhammad Shafi Bun Muhammad Zarifi

2 Confidence

Resilience

It was a hot and sunny morning. I was bored at home. My brothers and I decided to have a friendly sack race at the nearby soccer field. I hoped that I would win the race.

My father blew the whistle and we started the race. My brothers were in front of me so I decided to take a huge leap so that I could jump further and faster. However,I fell hard on my knees.

My brothers did not know that I fell because I was behind them. They continued to hop towards the finish line. My brother, Evan, won the race. He jumped for joy. Even though I was injured, I wanted to finish the race. Evan saw me hopping slowly in pain towards the finish line. He cheered loudly to encourage me. “You can do it, Sam!”

Finally, I reached the finish line. I was not upset that I lost the race. Instead, I learnt that with resilience, I would be able to succeed.

Vionna Mah Yinting

2 Brilliance

A Bad Day

Last Monday, John and Peter went into a gift shop to find a present for their mother. John saw a glittering duck figurine on the shelf. He was attracted to it so he took it off the shelf to have a closer look.

Just then, Peter was horsing around in the shop and he ignored the warning sign informing customers that the items were fragile. Peter pushed John as he wanted to give him a scare. John was shocked and he dropped the duck figurine. It shattered into pieces.

Peter was apologetic for being careless. The salesman reprimanded them for breaking the duck figurine. The salesman asked the boys to compensate for the broken item. Both John and Peter paid for it.

In the end, they left the shop without getting a present for their mother. They were upset and regretted their actions. They learnt not to play in a gift shop.

Ryann Rizvie Bin Romelly

2 Confidence

Never Give Up!

One Monday morning, John, Jeric and Jolen were going to have a sack race. They were very excited and hoped to win the race.

Their PE teacher explained the rules of the game to them. The three of them had to hop to the finishing line using the sack. Once their PE teacher blew the whistle, John, Jeric and Jolen started to hop.

During the race, John suddenly tripped and fell. His PE teacher asked him how he was feeling. John said he was fine and wanted to continue the race. However, he did not manage to catch up with his friends.

At last, Jolen won the race. He was elated. John's knee was painful but he still managed to finish the race. The teacher praised him for showing resilience. The boys learnt that excellence is not being the best but doing their best.

Sophia Deng

2 Confidence

A Close Shave

"Grrr…" John's stomach rumbled. He was very hungry because he had not taken his breakfast. He went to the kitchen to look for food. Suddenly, he caught a glimpse of a jar of cookies on top of a shelf. John exclaimed in delight!

The cookie jar was beyond John's reach. It was too high up. An idea struck him. John dragged a chair from the living room and placed it under the shelf. He climbed up onto the chair and stretched out his hand towards the jar but he still could not reach it.

John moved a step forward on the chair, not realising he was standing at the edge of it. Suddenly, the chair wobbled. He was about to fall! John let out a frightened squeak and yelled, "Help!"

Father heard the scream and sprinted towards John. He held onto the back of the chair and grabbed hold of him. John heaved a sigh of relief. "Phew! What a close shave!" he thought.

John learnt a valuable lesson. It is important to stay safe. He should always ask an adult for help if an item could not be reached.

Josef Tan Jun Xin

2 Diligence

The Careless Act

After a long day in school, Andrew came back home and was feeling ravenously hungry. He smelled the aroma of freshly-baked cookies and darted to the kitchen. Soon, he caught a glimpse of the jar kept in the upper shelf but it was beyond his reach. Andrew pondered for some time before an idea struck him. “Ahaa! I think I can make use of a chair,” he thought. He sprinted to the other side of the kitchen and dragged it over.

Andrew stood on his toes to get the jar but failed. Then, he tried to stretch his hands and exerted his last strength. His eyes lit up when he touched the jar but he was oblivious to the consequences.

The chair rocked vigorously. Andrew panicked so he let out a frightened squeak. He wobbled precariously on the chair. He tried to balance himself on the chair by spreading his arms.

“Help!” he yelled. On hearing him, his father dashed into the kitchen and saved him from falling. Andrew mumbled, “Phew, that was a close shave.” He clutched his hands towards his heart and heaved a sigh of relief. He learnt that he should think twice before he acts. Everyone should practise safety at all times.

Raaina Kausar Dey
2 Diligence

Save the Environment

"Let's keep our environment clean," Miss Khoo told the 2D pupils. Everyone agreed and they decided to clean up the canteen by helping to pick up litter. They wanted to sort the litter into material groups for recycling.

The excited pupils went to the canteen and started to look for litter on the floor, benches and tables. While picking up some litter, Tze Yu noticed that Rayyan was standing in a corner and not helping the class. Tze Yu confronted Rayyan and told him to help the class.

Rayyan explained that he did not help because he did not want to get his hands dirty. Tze Yu advised him that he could always wash his hands and they would be clean again. Rayyan listened to Tze Yu's advice and decided to help the class.

The canteen was sparkling clean after all the litter was picked up. The litter was also sorted and recycled. Everyone from 2D felt very accomplished. Rayyan learnt that saving the environment is everyone's responsibility. He should help even if his hands would get dirty.

Pupils of 2 Diligence

A Bicycle Race

Last week, Ali, Sam and Max entered the school bicycle race. The distance of the race was fifty metres long. The boys needed to practise as much as they could before the race.

The race was starting soon so the boys got onto their bicycles. Once the teacher blew the whistle, the boys started pedalling as fast as they could towards the finishing line.

Suddenly, Max fell off from his bicycle and scraped his elbow badly. Ali and Sam got off their bicycles immediately and helped Max up on his feet. They helped him to get some medication.

Finally, after Max got his elbow cleaned and bandaged, they decided to continue with the race. Although the boys did not win, they were proud that they had finished the race.

Annabelle Tan Jia En

2 Empathy

An Unforgettable Incident

Last Sunday, Ben was elated because he was going to attend Ali's birthday party. Ben was getting dressed. He had a hard time trying to zip up his pants. He was frustrated! Finally, Ben managed to put on his pants and zip it.

At the party, there were a lot of colourful decorations and a delicious buffet. Everyone sang the birthday song. After that, Ali cut the cake and offered a slice to each of his guests.

Ben filled his entire plate with food as he was starving. He gobbled up his food and wanted more. While walking back to the buffet table to get more food, he accidentally dropped his fork. Ben bent down to get his fork. This was when he heard a loud ripping sound and realised his pants had split. Everyone burst out laughing. Ben was embarrassed. He used his hand to cover the hole. Fortunately, Ali lent his extra pants to Ben and Ben went to the toilet to change his pants.

Ben learnt his lesson not to overeat nor be greedy. It was an unforgettable incident because everyone was laughing at him and he learnt a lesson.

Damien Chua Jie Yu

2 Empathy

A Car Race

It was five days before the race when we first started our training. We stretched and did push-ups, ate healthily and exercised at the gym. Soon, it was the day of the race. I was confident that I would win the first prize. The race was about to start. We put on our safety gears; helmets for the head and pads for the knees and elbows. Spectators were starting to flood in to watch the race. My parents were cheering for me. After that, our PE teacher came out and greeted everyone. He also gave a short speech to boost our confidence. Next, the race was about to begin.

The racers went to their starting points. Our coach blew the whistle. The engines revved loudly and all the cars sped off. The audience was cheering excitedly. I was in the first place and Ali was in the second place. I felt very happy and proud! Suddenly, Ali's car got out of control and hit a tree. I was worried that Ali might be hurt. I quickly got out of my car and ran to Ali. I found out that he was injured.

I told the coach that Ali had hit a tree. The race was put to a stop. Ali's parents were sad that their son was injured. The whole class, including me, was upset as I was already in the first place. However, I knew that my friend, Ali, was more important than the race. Ali was brought to the hospital and the doctor ran some tests. It was good that he was wearing safety gears and the test results were not that bad. He was advised to rest for a week. We visited him and brought some fruits for him.

Because of the incident, I learnt to be careful and be prepared. Safety gears are the best tools to keep one safe from accidents. Also, I learnt that friendship is more important than a race. Soon, Ali returned to school. We were so excited to see him back in our class.

Dacon Leroy Trygve Cristobal

2 Empathy

The Worst Day Ever!

"Whoosh!" the howling wind blew fiercely. John was worried when he saw that the sky was overcast. He realised that he had forgotten to bring his umbrella.

Then, raindrops pelted down. Everyone was running furiously. John took his file and covered his head. He dashed around to seek shelter but he could not find one.

Soon, the rain started getting heavier. John was as lost as a sheep. The road was congested with cars. He panicked and did not know what to do. He decided to dash across the streets and got home safely. He was drenched from head to toe when he reached home.

He explained to his mother what had happened. He took a hot shower and changed out of his clothes. His mother realised he was down with a high fever. John rested in bed and his mother fed him medicine. He learnt that he should always pack his umbrella in his bag to be ready for rainy days.

Chua En Jie Jayven
3 Aspiration

A Rainy Day

“Whoosh!” the strong wind blew fiercely. Peter thought to himself, “Oh no!” He ran as quickly as he legs could carry him because he did not want to get drenched. His heart pounded rapidly as he ran.

When he felt the first droplet of rain, he started to search his bag for something to cover himself from the rain. He used a book. Peter searched for a shelter but he did not find one so he dashed home.

At the traffic junction, Peter slowed down his footsteps and stopped because the road was congested with cars. The rain was getting heavier and he started to feel under the weather. Luckily, there was a bus stop nearby and he could wait for a bus to get home. Unfortunately, the air conditioner in the bus was blasting and Peter was freezing. When he reached home, he was down with a high fever. His mother then sent him to the hospital for medical attention.

Peter had to stay in the hospital to rest for the next two days because he was down with a very high fever. Peter learnt that he should always keep an umbrella in his bag at all times.

Zhu Yulin
3 Aspiration

A Visit to the Park

The sun shone brightly down at the park. Eric, Timmy and I had just played several hours of soccer. Even though the weather was very hot and we were sweating buckets, we had a lot of fun.

As we were strolling along a path, Eric suddenly spotted something stuck high up in a tree. “Look,” he said. “It is a kite and it’s a beauty! Shall we try to take it down?” Timmy and I both agreed. All of us wanted to fly the kite.

We all racked our brains, trying to think of a way to take the kite down. As I looked around, my eyes fell on a long fallen twig. An idea came to my mind. I took the twig and poked it at the kite, hoping it might untangle the kite. Fortunately, after just a few pokes, the kite fell to the ground. I picked it up eagerly. We discussed excitedly how we should play with it.

Just then, a boy holding a kite reel came running towards us. He introduced himself as Jack. Jack said the kite was his. It got blown away by a strong wind as it was not tied properly to the reel. Jack wanted his kite back. We were all disappointed. We all did not want to let go of the kite.

Then, Timmy asked Jack hopefully, “Can we share and play this kite together with you?” “Of course, let’s get started!” Jack replied joyfully. We were all surprised with his response but were glad that he agreed to Timmy’s request.

We reattached the kite to the reel and played with it until we were exhausted. We had a memorable time. We promised one another to meet up again in future.

Chaw Thet Lin

3 Brilliance

An Unexpected Friendship

The sun shone high in the sky, lighting the stadium with its blazing rays. Lydia could not wait to win her twenty-fifth medal. She waved at the spectators eagerly, her cheeks flushed with excitement.

On the track, she saw her schoolmate Tessa getting ready. Tessa and Lydia had a long standing rivalry on just about anything. In fact, Lydia wanted to beat Tessa's record of twenty-four medals. She was not bothered though as she was confident of winning.

Once the race started, Lydia ran off as fast as lightning. She was way ahead of the other competitors. The wind blowing in her face made it cool, even relaxing as she sprinted. She could sense the victory in her hands.

Lydia was just a few metres away from the finishing line, when all of a sudden, she fell on the bumpy race track. Lydia clutched her legs in agony. Her medal dreams were dashed. Tears of pain and disappointment welled up in her eyes.

Just then, Tessa ran by. She was astonished by what had happened. Without hesitation, Tessa grabbed Lydia up and helped her to the finish line. Lydia, while grateful, could not understand why Tessa would give up the race to help her.

"Let's stop this unhealthy competition," Tessa suggested. "The next contest we should have shall be who catches a cold first." Lydia could not help but laugh. She was glad to have found a new friend.

Latha Iyyappan Jonneshwar

3 Brilliance

The Race

The stadium was packed like sardines. Lydia was waving at her supporters in the crowd. She was excited and confident. She wanted to make her family and classmates proud by winning the race.

‘Bang!’ the pistol was fired. All the runners sprinted off. Lydia was ahead. She turned around and saw her school mate Diana behind. Lydia and Diana were rivals in running and Lydia did not like Diana very much. Lydia pushed herself to go faster.

Suddenly, Lydia tripped and fell hard. She had not watched her steps and lost her balance. Lydia clutched her leg, moaning in pain. The pain was like a knife piercing through her knees. She was very upset. She knew she could not win the race now and Diana would be the champion instead.

To her surprise, Diana stopped and asked if Lydia was all right. She then helped Lydia up and they both limped to the side. Seeing Diana stopping to help her, Lydia was grateful to Diana. She also felt ashamed of herself for disliking Diana in the past.

Diana had understood that helping someone is more important than winning. It was a lesson for Lydia as well. From that day on, both Diana and Lydia became good friends.

Shalys Elvira Binte Shaiful Yazid

3 Brilliance

The Race

“Will my classmates be proud of me if I win this race?” Lydia thought aloud as she waved at the spectators. Lydia was nervous as it was her first time racing in a stadium. The others were warming up for the race.

The referee fired the pistol in the air. Susan, Recilia and Sarha started running. Susan sprinted to the finish line. Unfortunately, she lost her footing and fell. She was injured and could not get up and run anymore. Susan was devastated and did not want to continue with her run.

To Susan’s surprise, the spectators cheered and encouraged her to get up. Susan tried to get up so that she could run towards the finish line as it was already very close to her. Sadly, she could not so she cried for help. Recilia helped Susan up and carried her to the finish line. Everyone cheered for Recilia and Susan.

From this incident, Susan learnt to always display and embody good sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is not about winning. Rather, it is about showing support for others who have won and being happy for them.

Caleb Lim

3 Confidence

Good Sportsmanship

"What will happen if I win the race?" Lydia thought aloud as she waved proudly at the spectators. She was at Bukit Timah Stadium to compete in the Sports Day race. "Go Lydia!" chanted the spectators. She felt confident as she looked at a banner that said "Lydia is the best!"

All the competitors stood behind the starting line. "Bang!" the pistol sounded and the competitors dashed to the finishing line. Lydia was in the lead when she tripped over a rock and fell. She tried to stand up but could not as she had injured herself. Her knee was bleeding. She was eager to win and did not focus on the track. She was embarrassed and did not want to continue with the race. The spectators were shocked when Lydia fell down but they started to cheer her on.

Jenn, the competitor who was in the second position, saw what had happened and quickly ran over to Lydia. She had a concerned look on her face. Jenn helped her up and they made their way towards the finishing line. Lydia was thankful that Jenn had helped her. After they finished the race, Jenn accompanied Lydia to a teacher on duty.

The teacher saw Lydia and helped her to the medic tent. The teacher praised Jenn for showing good sportsmanship. He reminded Jenn and Lydia that excellence is not about being the best. Rather, it is about doing one's best.

Goh Shi Qi

3 Confidence

A Treasure Hunt

"You are joking, aren't you?" Jessa asked her best friend, Hanna. Jessa had just received the best news! For Jessa, it came in the form of an opportunity to join a treasure hunt. It was not any normal treasure hunt. It was a treasure hunt that would last for an hour and thirty minutes! That whole duration of ninety minutes was going to be the most important minutes of Jessa's life. At least that was what Jessa thought.

It was recess and Jessa was in the canteen. Jessa did not eat anything as she was too excited to start playing the treasure hunt. After recess, it was their PE lesson. They would play the treasure hunt then.

"Ring! Ring!" the recess bell rang. Everyone gathered in the canteen and sat down. After about five minutes, Jessa's PE teacher, Mr David, arrived. Everyone went to the Indoor Sports Hall. Jessa was jumping and squealing in excitement. "As everyone knows, we are going to play a treasure hunt. These are the groups… Group 18; Lisy, Lily, Mary, Melissa and Jessa," Mr David told them. He gave them a map and then the great treasure hunt began.

Lisy and Mary both hated each other. They were both bossy people too. "Let's start from the East," said Mary. "No, let's start from the West," said Lisy. "I say, Mary's right," said Melissa, Mary's best friend. "No, I think Lisy's right," said Lily, Lisy's best friend. Poor Jessa. Her beautiful dream of playing an enjoyable treasure hunt was turning into a horrible nightmare.

Everyone snatched and yanked at the map, except Jessa. Suddenly, the map tore into pieces. They then started getting on each other's nerves. They hollered in rage and accused each other. Their faces were contorted with anger. Finally, when they could not take it anymore, they stormed off in different directions. Poor Jessa suffered the most. She tried to stop them from fighting but it was of no use. Regardless, Jessa did not cry as she knew that crying would not solve the problem. She decided she would not quarrel with her friends. She also decided that she would join her best friend's group instead.

Jessa went to look for Mr David. She explained the situation to him and he allowed her to join Hanna's group. Jessa squealed in delight and went off to find her new group. After five minutes, Jessa found her group. Her new group was Group 7. After one hour, everyone went to the teacher. "I know everyone must be wondering who had won. It is group number 7!" exclaimed Mr David. The treasure was a bunch of keychains. Everyone applauded.

During the two minute break, Jessa went back to her previous group. They were feeling very sorry for themselves. Jessa told them their mistakes. They learnt a valuable lesson. They learnt to always work together as a team and to listen to each other. They vowed never to quarrel with each other anymore.

Bist Ishita
3 Confidence

An Upsetting Game

“Jenga? What’s that?” Rina asked curiously. Rainier told Rina that Jenga is a game that requires one to stack bricks. When you get a brick, you put it right on the top, slowly building a tower. The person who makes the tower fall is the loser. Rina asked him excitedly, “Do you have the game? If you do, may I go over to your house and play it with you?” Rainier answered her, “Yes, I do! You can come over this afternoon at 4.30 p.m.” “Ok, I’ll be there! See you!” Rina replied happily. Both of them waved goodbye and went off their own ways.

That afternoon, Rina went to Rainier’s house as agreed. They chatted a little. Then, Rainier got up and got the game. Rainier and Rina set up the game and started to play. They played for some time and managed to build a really tall tower. Suddenly, the tower wobbled and collapsed on Rainier! Rina panicked but Rainier kept saying that he was fine. He had a small cut on his forehead.

After cleaning the wound and putting a plaster on it, the two friends played other games. Since that day, Rainier has not played Jenga again as it now brings back bad memories for him.

Rayoan Rainier Ochavez

3 Confidence

A Cycling Accident

Since that cycling accident, I have been afraid of getting back on my bicycle. It was a Monday afternoon. I was on my way home from school.

I was cycling as usual. I stopped at the road junction near my home. When the traffic lights turned in my favour, I started to cycle across the road. While I was cycling, I heard the loud screeching of tyres. To my horror, I saw a grey-coloured car beating the traffic lights and heading towards my lane!

“CRASH!” I felt myself being thrown off my bicycle. “THUD!” I landed on the rough road heavily. I felt a sharp pain in my head. I was terrified!

As I lay on the ground, onlookers began to crowd around me. One of them called for the ambulance. Minutes later, I heard the loud wailing of the sirens. Another helpful onlooker helped to call my parents after I had passed her my home number. Paramedics helped me onto a stretcher before they carried me into an ambulance. They then took me to the nearest hospital.

My parents visited me in the hospital later that day. They were so sad that they cried till they ran out of tears. However, they were relieved to know that I did not sustain any serious injury.

Haleco Reese Arianne Manuzon

4 Aspiration

A Terrible Accident

It was a bright morning. The sun crept out from darkness. Everyone in the neighbourhood woke up and was getting ready for their morning activities. Dave was almost late for his English Examination because he had overslept. He spent the whole night revising for it. He quickly took his bag and rushed to school.

Dave realised that all the lifts were at the high floors and it would take a long time to go down to his level. Instead of standing there waiting for the lift, he rushed down the stairs. In his hurry, he did not manage to tie his shoe laces. While making his way down the stairs, Dave stepped on his shoe laces accidentally.

Dave whined in pain when he slipped and took a nasty plunge down the long flight of stairs. He hit his head at the edge of the staircase. It was a violent hit and the sound from the collision echoed through the stairway. He had a big cut on his forehead and he was bleeding profusely. Blood gushed out from the wound. Dave felt scared when he saw a lot of blood on the floor.

Some people saw the accident and went forward to help him. One of the onlookers rushed to him and administered first aid.

After what seemed like hours, the ambulance arrived. The paramedics helped him up the stretcher. They also wrapped Dave's wounds with bandages. The onlookers were relieved that Dave could still limp around despite the severity of his injuries.

Dave was rushed to the hospital. Thankfully, he did not need to spend the night in the hospital. After this incident, Dave learnt to sleep early and set his alarm clock properly so that he did not have to rush to school. He also learnt that no matter how troublesome it was, he must tie his shoe laces so that he would not get into a nasty accident again.

Phung Yu Rou

4 Brilliance

A Nasty Accident

It was a sunny and bright morning. Mr Peter was awakened by the sun rays that crept through his bedroom window. He looked at his alarm clock to check the time. To his surprise, it was already 8.30 a.m. He was late for his meeting. He quickly washed up and got ready.

Luckily, he had already packed his belongings the night before. He quickly wore his shoes without tying his shoe laces. He ran to the lift. Unfortunately, the lift was very crowded. He decided to use the stairs instead.

When he went down the stairs hurriedly, he stepped on his shoe laces and fell down the stairs. He groaned in pain when he fell from a long flight of stairs. He hit his head at the corner of the staircase. His wound on the head bled profusely. Mr Peter could not stand up on his own as his head was spinning like a wheel.

Some people witnessed the accident and helped him. One of the onlookers called for an ambulance and the others helped him with the wound. They took out tissue papers and tapped on the wound to wipe away as much blood as possible.

While waiting for the ambulance to arrive, the onlookers asked Mr Peter to rest his head on the railing. Shortly after, the ambulance arrived. The paramedics ran to him and put him on a stretcher. They put bandages on his wound.

They rushed him to the hospital. Luckily, he could be discharged immediately. Mr Peter realised his mistake and he promised that he would not stay up late. He would also be extra careful when walking down the stairs. He did not want to get into a nasty accident again in future.

Nurdania Mysara Binte Mohamad Shafudin

4 Brilliance

Keeping the Environment Clean

It was a sunny Monday. Birds were chirping and the wind was blowing gently. I decided to go to West View Park to play soccer with my friends. My friend, Putra, was very excited to play a game of soccer with my other friends.

I met up with Putra first. We went to the field at the park excitedly. Upon arrival, we realised that the school field was covered with rubbish. We were shocked by what we saw. I could see litter spilling out from the bin. Out of curiosity, I went nearer to the bin. The litter in the bin was sticky, smelly, and the looks of it made me uncomfortable. There were also leftover food in the bin. I got goosebumps just by looking at it. I felt disgusted.

My friends arrived soon after. As we really wanted to play, we decided to clean up the place. My friends and I went home and brought our gloves, plastic bags and brooms. We cleaned up the field and put all the litter into the bin properly.

After cleaning up, we were pleased with ourselves. The field looked clean and neat. After that, we rested for a while and we began our game.

I learnt that I must not litter and should continue to be a responsible and considerate person. It is important to always keep the environment clean so that everyone can enjoy using the facilities.

Mu'aaz Bin Mohamed Ibrahim

4 Brilliance

A Clean-up Project

“Bang!” A noise came from somewhere near. My friend and I were strolling along the path. It was then I smelled an awful smell. The smell was so horrible that I had to hold my breath. I started to look for the source of the stench.

To my horror, I was stepping on trash that someone had kicked around. Unfortunately, I was wearing my new shoes that my mother had bought for me just the day before. I cried sadly in a corner. My shoes turned from fresh and clean to dirty and stinky. If my parents knew, they would be fuming mad.

My friends looked at me sympathetically. They were concerned about me so they did something to cheer me up. They said, “Come, let’s clean up this place so that nobody else will step on the trash.’’ When I heard that, I was surprised at how thoughtful they were. They were right. Cleaning up the trash will help make our environment a more pleasant place for everyone.

I gave a small sigh, followed my friends and cleaned up the place. After we cleaned up the place, we went home together happily, knowing that we had done something that we were proud of.

Saw Nikolas

4 Confidence

An Unfortunate Accident

"Ring, ring, ring!" the school bell rang loudly. It was a Wednesday afternoon and school was over for the day. The pupils rushed out of their classrooms joyfully. The three friends, Marco, Matthew and Andrew decided to go to Andrew's house for lunch since they were famished. It was a convenient choice for them as Andrew's house was a few blocks away from school.

They cycled to Andrew's house, all the while talking happily. As they were cycling past a construction site, they heard a loud bang. It was made by one of the heavy materials at the construction site. Out of curiosity, Andrew opened the zinc door that was part of the barricade, and entered the construction site. Suddenly, "Crash!" Again, one of the materials had fallen off the structure they were building. Before Marco and Matthew could react, another block of material had fallen on Andrew. Marco and Matthew watched helplessly as their friend was struggling for his life.

Marco quickly took out his mobile phone and called Mount Volta Hospital while Matthew made sure that Andrew was still breathing. Matthew kept talking to Andrew, desperately hoping that his friend would not fall into unconsciousness. Soon enough, the Mount Volta paramedics arrived. The paramedics hoisted the block off Andrew and then onto the stretcher. Meanwhile, Marco and Matthew cycled as fast as they could to Andrew's house. They were lucky as Andrew's parents, Mr Tyler and Ms Lara, were at home. The two friends informed Andrew's parents about the accident. They were worried their Andrew would not survive his injuries. Then, they received a call from the hospital saying that they could come and visit. All four of them rushed to Mount Volta Hospital.

When they reached the hospital, they immediately rushed to the reception counter and asked which ward Andrew was admitted into. "Level two, room one," the receptionist replied. They went upstairs and found the room. There, to their relief, they found Andrew eating his hospital food. They were over the moon that Andrew was safe and sound.

This incident had taught them all that life is fleeting and precious. We should always be careful especially when we are at unfamiliar places.

Daniella Pavithra Daniel Prakash

4 Confidence

A Dishonest Act

I was cleaning my room when my report book fell to the ground with a loud thud. I picked it up and wiped it clean. Then, I flipped the pages to the SA2 results. Would you be surprised if I told you that I had obtained zero marks for my English paper?

"I promise that I will go to bed after I shoot the last round of bullets in my favorite game." Before I knew it, the morning sun rays had peeked through my curtains. I yawned loudly and went to the bathroom to take a shower. After that, I ate my breakfast and went to school. When I reached the classroom, I saw a teacher giving out worksheets. I sat down and took a look at the worksheets. The paper was printed in bold letters. It said "SA2 English Paper". I sat there with my mouth wide open. I had neither studied nor revised! I was also very tired because I did not have enough sleep. "You may begin," a stern voice said.

I quickly flipped through the paper and found out that I could not attempt most of the questions. I was already stuck at the first question. No matter how hard I tried to think of the answer, my mind remained in a blank state. Just then, an idea brewed in my mind. I could copy my friend's answers as a last resort. However, the answer was blocked by my friend's hand. Out of desperation, I inched my body closer to get a better view of the answers. After I saw the answers, I quickly wrote them down on my paper. Suddenly, the invigilator hollered in rage, "What are you doing?" I was caught red-handed. "Follow me!" the invigilator said.

I followed the teacher until we reached an office. It was the Principal's Office. I gave a long sigh. My parents were called and I received a tongue-lashing. I was given a straight zero for the examination. I knew I had to face the music.

"Dinner is ready!" Mother called out. I quickly put down the report book and went to have dinner.

Khoo Zong Zhe

4 Diligence

Teamwork

Adrien was scrolling through Instagram to look at the photographs he took before. Suddenly, he came across a picture he took when he was cleaning up the void deck. Memories came flooding back to his mind.

Adrien was walking back home from school when he remembered that his friend had given him a sweet. He started unwrapping the sweet and eating it. When he walked over to the dustbin, his jaw dropped. It was overflowing with rubbish. Boxes, straws, plastic cutleries, food wrappers, and plastic bottles were scattered around the bin. Adrien thought the cleaners would clean it up soon.

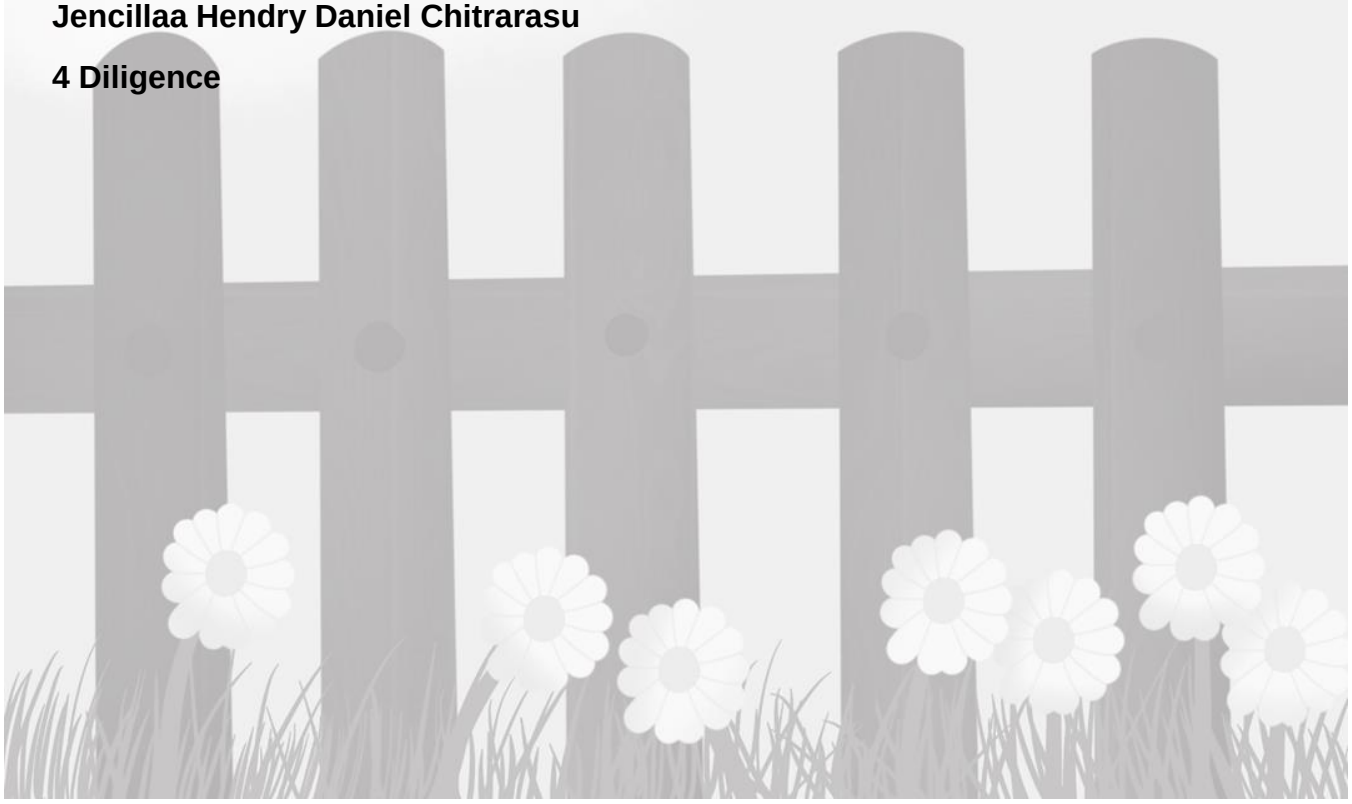
Rubbish started accumulating over the next four days. Adrien got very curious as to why the cleaners did not turn up. Could the cleaners be sick? Adrien pondered over what he should do. Finally, he decided to gather his neighbours to help clean up the void deck. Adrien went around to ask for volunteers.

The next day, Adrien's neighbours gathered with mops, brooms and rags. Everyone started working together to pick up the litter on the floor. In a few hours, the void deck looked spotless. Everyone was tired so they sat down at the void deck and started chatting. Some people took photographs with their friends. Adrien felt proud for doing his part to protect the environment.

An aroma rose through the air. "Adrien! Come and have your dinner!" called Mother. Adrien put his mobile phone aside and quickly ran down the stairs to have his dinner.

Jencillaa Hendry Daniel Chitrarasu

4 Diligence



A Traumatising Accident

"Thump!" I heard a sound coming from the direction of my bookshelf. I quickly jumped up from my bed and went to pick up the book that fell. As I was putting it neatly on the bookshelf, I chanced upon an old newspaper clipping about an accident.

I remembered the gruesome scene. It was a humid afternoon and the buzzing traffic could be heard. My classmates and I were standing at the traffic junction and waiting to cross the road. "The traffic light is taking such a long time to turn green," I grumbled. All of a sudden, I heard the screeching of tires and a loud bang! We stopped chatting and looked towards the road with a worried look. I could not believe my eyes when I saw that a car had collided with a bicycle. Ryan and I were horrified. Immediately, we rushed to victims' aid.

The rider was injured and moaning in pain. There was a lot of blood oozing out of the multiple wounds on his head and limbs. The car had swerved away after the collision. The doors were stuck and the driver and his passenger were trapped. We were panicking when we could not open the stuck doors. An elderly man quickly dialled 995 for the ambulance.

Paramedics arrived at the scene swiftly. They rescued the driver and his passenger from the trapped car. They were all sent to the hospital for further treatment. I remembered witnessing the collision and feeling helpless when I could not help the trapped driver and passenger.

I learnt that I should stay calm and help the injured whenever an accident happens. "Ethan, come and have your lunch!" I put the newspaper clipping right where I found it and prepared for lunch.

Lucas Kwer

4 Dilligence

The Miracle Race

The excited competitors waited under the tent. The crowd was packed like sardines in the stadium and was cheering wildly for the race to begin. Beams of light tinted the clouds with red and amber.

“Bang!” the pistol sounded. The competitors dashed with determination on the track. Everything was going well until Jason got in the lead. He was certain that he was going to win the first place. Freddy, on the other hand, was not doing so well. He knew his dreams of being the champion was over as Jason was way too fast for anyone to beat. Freddy then decided not to try and win but to just complete the race.

Out of the blue, Jason clumsily tripped over his own leg and fell onto the ground. Freddy’s eyes widened in shock. When he saw Jason lying on the ground, he was in a huge dilemma. Should he help him up? If he did not, he could have a higher chance of winning the race.

After some hesitation, Freddy decided to lend a helping hand to Jason. While Freddy was helping Jason, he realised that Jason was in great pain. He was grabbing his arm tightly as he tried to stop the blood from oozing out of his arm. As Freddy was carrying Jason to the paramedics, Jason mumbled shakily to Freddy, “No, wait. I want to finish the race.” Freddy paused for a second after Jason said that. He thought to himself, “Does he really want to complete the race even when he is badly injured?” Seeing Jason’s determined look on his face, Freddy supported him and helped him cross the finishing line.

When they crossed it, the spectators gave them a standing ovation. Even though both Jason and Freddy did not receive any reward, Freddy was glad to help someone in need.

Jason was put into a wheelchair after they crossed the finishing line. “Thank you…” Jason told Freddy in barely more than a whisper. They both learnt that winning is not the most important in a race. It is showing care that is important.

Armea Denille Velarde

Isaac Lim Yi An

Nerice Ng Yuting

Vidal Wong Xurui

4 Dilligence

Fear

Fear is only part of your imagination. I could not help but doubt how true the saying was. I was determined to find out for myself.

There was a dark alley in my neighbourhood. It was rumoured that a serial killer had killed many people there. The ghost of the dead would haunt anyone who chose to enter the alley. I always thought that was true, but my mother never believed the rumours, saying they were childish.

I was returning home from tuition alone late at night. As it was already very late, I had to take a shortcut through the dark alley. I was very hesitant and a gush of scary thoughts rushed through my head. I had no choice, it seemed to be my only option.

My body was shivering as I took small, cautious steps towards the alley. I was fidgeting with my fingers while my teeth were clattering. My legs were like jelly and I would twitch even at the slightest sound. My eyes were wide open as I scanned my surroundings while walking. I was on the brink of tears. I could barely see what was in front of me as I heard the wind howling loudly. The air smelt like rotten eggs. The uneven ground made it harder for me to walk fast.

At that time, I heard footsteps behind me. I quickened my pace. My hands became extremely sweaty. Is this it? Is this the end? I stopped in my tracks, turned my body and closed my eyes. “Please spare my life,” I begged. When there was no response, I slowly opened my eyes and to my surprise, I saw confused faces. It was a family!

The family was new to the neighbourhood and was exploring the neighbourhood. They had not heard about the rumours. I heaved a sigh of relief. My face turned as red as a tomato as I thought about how silly I had been.

I realised that the rumours were not true and the dark alley was not as scary as I had thought. Fear was indeed only part of my imagination.

Gan Li Ting

5 Diligence

Fear

Every time I walked past that dark alley, memories of that fateful day came rushing back to me…

One ghostly night, I went back from my tuition class and stayed at my friend's house to play for a while. By the time I decided to go home, it was already almost midnight. I silently thought, "Mother will kill me!" I quickly went out after saying goodbye to my friend and sprinted all the way home. As I passed a dark alley, I remembered that it was a shortcut. "But it is so dark and creepy!" I muttered to myself. "Never mind, if you are even later, you will be "dead"! I tried to rationalise with myself.

Without any hesitation, I walked cautiously into the alley, closing my eyes the whole time. "Ouch!" I shrieked. My eyes opened wide. Noticing a pole in front of me, I realised what had caused me the pain. I scanned my surroundings, taking in the reality that I was alone in the dark and creepy alley.

Feeling my heart pulsating against my chest, I stopped to consider if I needed to turn back and go by the bustling main street. "No, your mother will "kill" you!" the voice inside my head bellowed. Without further deliberation, I continued walking. I suddenly heard footsteps behind me and remembered rumours of ghosts that haunted the alley. I felt goose bumps.

I broke into a run. I ran and ran until I was exhausted. "Are you alright?" somebody called out to me from behind. I froze. After I recovered from my shock. I slowly turned my body to face the person behind me. It was a man. I thought I met a ghost. I wanted to run but I could just stand rooted to the ground. "Don't be scared. I am not a ghost and the rumours are not true. There are no ghosts here. I live here. Even though it is dark, it is quite comfortable once your eyes adjust to the surroundings," he said. I thanked him for assuring me and walked back home, feeling silly and relieved at the same time.

"Natalie, are you listening? We are late!" my friend said. I quickly caught up with her and realised how silly I was to be scared of the alley. I learnt that even though something looked creepy, it might not really be the case. We must not let our imagination run wild. Instead, we should think logically before reacting.

Wang Yueyao

5 Diligence

A Valuable Experience

"Wake up! It is almost 6.30 a.m.!" my friend bellowed. I could not get a good night's sleep the night before as I kept on thinking what this day would bring me. My friend, Janfel and I were at the campsite for our P5 Camp. It was the second day so there was the high elements course. Since I was little, I had been scared of heights. It all started when I was sitting on my mother's lap. We were watching the news when we saw that a man was stuck on a cable car. The thought of dropping to my impending doom made me shriek. Since then, I had phobia of heights.

I stumbled out to take a shower while my friends were quickly changing. I heard a teacher calling for us to have our breakfast. I quickened my pace. As we were having our breakfast, my palms began to sweat as the next activity we were doing was the high elements. Knowing this, I ate slowly hoping that I would be able to give it a miss. Just when I thought that my plan was working, I heard an announcement, "All students who have not finished eating, please throw your food away and follow your teachers." Upon hearing the announcement, I reluctantly did as told.

My teacher, Mdm Ng, saw that I was looking out of sorts and asked if I was okay. I told her that I was scared of heights and she told me not to worry as she would cheer us on no matter what. I felt very motivated upon hearing that. My group was the first to go up the tower so all eyes were on us. Knowing that, I did not want to embarrass myself. I thought this would be a valuable experience as I would finally conquer my fear of heights. Not only that, there was a zip line at the end which I was sure would make the whole experience worthwhile.

Thinking that it would be easy as long as I did not look down, I confidently took the first step. As I stepped onto the rope, it began moving uncontrollably. "Help me! Please, the rope is not safe!" I cried. The instructor told me that it was supposed to be moving. I looked down at the ground and realised that if I were to fall, it would not be a pleasant predicament for me. I closed my eyes and tried moving as fast as I could, not knowing if I would make it. Just then, I heard a voice," You can do it! Don't give up!" It was Janfel and Mdm Ng cheering me on. In my head, I could not have been more grateful. I felt even more confident and completed the second obstacle with ease. When I looked down, I realised that it was not that scary. I had overcome my fear of heights.

After every obstacle, the next one was a lot harder. The moment I approached the last obstacle which was to walk on wooden planks, I could barely grab the ropes. So, I did something unimaginable. I took a leap of faith and landed on a wooden plank.

After all the obstacles, I felt so proud. I grabbed onto the rope and descended down the zip line. I saw everyone cheering and clapping. It was one of the most valuable

moments in my life. When I got on the ground, I immediately ran to my teacher and Janfel. I thanked them for being there for me when I needed them the most. I learnt that sometimes in life, I would have to take risks.

Joehari Bin Mohd Amin

5 Diligence

A Valuable Experience

I was trembling as I tried not to look down. My heart was pumping wildly but this experience caused my spine to shiver for the whole time. What happened about half an hour ago rushed through my mind.

I headed out of the canteen following my instructor as he led us to where we had been waiting for, the high element obstacle course. I was at the annual Primary Five Camp. All of us were eager beavers to go up the high elements course as it was probably a once-in-a-lifetime" experience but I was trying to find an excuse on why I should not go onto it. After some safety precautions, we got to select which obstacle course we wanted to go on. Foolishly, I raised my hand to go to the higher one between the two.

There was no turning back for me. I went up the stairs to the platform of the higher obstacle course and before I knew it, I was holding onto ropes and standing on wires. My legs were turning into jelly. At one point, I almost fell! I was planning to give up.

However, I stopped thinking of that. I confidently went on with the course. Every scary point only motivated me to go further. Then came the last few obstacles. I took a deep breath and finished them with ease. I then realised that I had reached the zip line.

I was overwhelmed with joy as I went down the zip line. When I was back on the ground, I was as proud as a peacock, if not, more! It felt amazing when I looked up to see how high the course really was. Despite the difficulties up there, I was able to overcome all of them. Many of my best friends, who saw me going through the obstacle course and knew I was fearful of heights, congratulated me.

A wave of pride rushed through me. Even though the obstacle course was terrifying, it was a valuable experience as I overcame my fear to do an amazing thing for the first time ever. This eliminated my fear and motivated me to be an enthusiast for high elements activities. If anyone whom I met was also afraid of heights, I would encourage them to face their fear to get rid of it.

Khondoker Ahnaf Aseer

5 Diligence

A Valuable Experience

Fear is just a word. Fear is just a feeling. That was what I always told myself when I faced my greatest fear. Heights.

The scorching hot sun shone brightly in my face. It was the second day of our Primary 5 camp and we were going to try out the high elements. As my group trudged towards the tower where the high elements would start, I knew that I was doomed. Everyone thought I was fearless. Now, everyone would laugh at me when they realised that I had a fear of heights. What should I do? I felt an overwhelming panic arising in my mind.

When we reached the tower, our instructor, Mr Pet, asked how afraid we were and who wanted to go first. Before my brain could even think, I blurted out, “Mr Pet! I want to go first!” All my friends stared out at me in awe. Oh no! What did I just do? I was aghast when Mr Pet actually nodded. I tried keeping myself calm. I did not want others to see how I was really feeling.

Soon, I was wearing the harness, forced to go up the steps and to the top of the tower. The instructor there asked, “You ready? I cannot believe that the first one is a girl!” I forced a smile on my face, not completely understanding what he had just said.

I walked my way through the first obstacle, fists clenched around my safety rope. My legs quivered and all the colours drained from my face. This was way too terrifying for me! Just then, I remembered the article that I had just read the day before. Something about falling from a rope. Am I going to die? Is this safe? A million thoughts popped in my mind. I stopped dead in my tracks, too scared to move.

Suddenly, a strong gust of wind blew into my face. Unable to see, I almost lost my balance. I regained my composure but then, tears welled up in my eyes. I knew this was impossible for me! Suddenly, I heard somebody shouting. “Sayu! You can do it!” It was my best friend, Sharon! The cheer was followed by words of encouragement from my friends. “They are cheering for me! I cannot let them down!” I thought. With that, I mustered all my courage and walked steadily through the obstacles and finally, to the last obstacle – the Flying Fox.

I bent my knees and took a big leap forward. “Yippee!” I shouted, full of energy. I landed on the platform with a big ‘thud’. My friends cheered loudly. “You did it! You are the first in the whole level!” Sharon exclaimed. My eyes widened and tears rolled down my cheeks. But this time, they were tears of pride and joy.

I knew that this was a very valuable experience for me as I had overcome my fear of heights. I learnt that facing our fears may be very challenging but with courage, we can overcome it, and even enjoy a feeling that we have never experienced before.

Kaiyama Sayu

5 Empathy

A Valuable Experience

Valuable experiences. Valuable experiences are what everybody has encountered before. Valuable experiences - something that everyone would have something to learn from. “Valuable experiences” – such simple words but they mean so much. “You will go through an experience that is very valuable. Learn from it,” my sister said to me a few years ago. I had never understood what she meant until that episode. Everything was crystal clear then.

“Come on, hurry up!” my friend, Aviez, shouted in my ear. I grimaced at the loudness of Aviez’s voice. I never really understood how she could be so energetic early in the morning. I suddenly realised that we were going to go to the high elements which everyone was looking forward to go through. I could feel the surge of excitement through my friends.

“Hello? Earth to Rochelle,” Aviez said. Without realising, I was gawking in awe at the unique obstacle course. “We have to go!” Aviez’s voice soon brought me to reality.

I saw the retreating figures, faint outlines and shadows of my group and instructor walking away. We hurried after them, not wanting to get lost.

When we reached the first high element station, our jaws hung open. It was a wall which was completely flat. A thousand of questions ran through my mind. What are we doing? Is this going to be scary? Should I do it? The instructor saw the worry in my eyes and reassured me. He explained what we were going to do and I felt excited again. “Who wants to go first?” my instructor said completing the demonstration how to climb the wall. Raising my hand, I shouted, “Me!” Before I knew it, I was at the top of the wall, ready to start. I looked down, not worried at all. When my feet touched the ground, I was on cloud nine, happy that I could do it. Just then, my friend, Mirsha, came down, eyes puffy, tears in her eyes and lips quivering.

Concerned, I rushed to her and asked if she was fine. Explaining that she was scared, I tried my best to assure her, “It is not that scary. If you really cannot do it now, I am sure you will find the courage to do the other one.”

When we were done, we approached the obstacle course. I encouraged Mirsha to try the higher obstacle course. She was reluctant at first but proceeded to agree. We slowly made our way to the higher element.

At the start, Mirsha kept a brave face. However, as we slowly approached the more challenging course, Mirsha had tears slowly running down her face, just like a river. “I can’t! I can’t!” she suddenly shouted. Soon, her shouts were followed by loud sobs. “Come on, you can do it, Mirsha! You can do it!” I encouraged Mirsha.

Unfortunately, Mirsha was reluctant and stayed rooted to the spot. I looked down at the instructor, pleading for help with my eyes. The instructor could not see me so I had to do it. “Mirsha, it is too late to give up now. If you go back, it will take a long time. Find

the courage and you can do it. I believe in you," I told her, keeping my voice steady, hoping to give her a calming effect. She nodded and I took it as a sign that she was willing to continue. Even though Mirsha still cried, she persevered and continued. Throughout the rest of the obstacle course, I kept on encouraging her and tried to help as much as I could.

At the end of the whole obstacle, there was even a zip-line! Looking at Mirsha, I saw a smile spread across her face. Feeling my own smile on my face, I knew I had done something valuable. "Thank you!" Mirsha thanked me profusely.

I now understand what my sister said. Through this opportunity, I realised that being kind was valuable. Even though it was Mirsha who was scared, I learnt that having to accomplish something needed bravery, perseverance and commitment. I did it. Boy, was I glad that I had done something valuable for Mirsha.

Rochelle Li Si Ying

5 Empathy

A Valuable Gift

"Did you know? Alice Grayson from Primary 4 Diligence lives alone with her grandmother because her parents died in a car crash last year. On top of that, she is extremely poor. I bet she has not even showered for a year. Alice Grayson, if you want to be up for adoption, please approach Luna Smith."

My eyes widened as I looked at the computer screen. "How could Luna do this?" I muttered in disbelief. Luna Smith, the school bully, had laid her eyes on a poor Primary 4 girl. She had written a humiliating online post about her and it had 423 likes! "I should inform the principal, Mrs Ho, now!" I thought. But, if Luna were to find out, I did not know what she would do to me. But, if I did not inform Mrs Ho, Alice would be tortured. What should I do? I was stuck in a dilemma.

After a while, I made up my mind. I strode quickly towards the Principal's office. Just then, I saw two silhouettes entering an empty classroom. As I inched closer, I realised they were Luna and Alice. I quickly hid behind the back door, careful not to be seen. "Hand over that diamond bracelet now!" Luna shouted menacingly. "No, I won't! This was a present from my parents!" Alice replied softly, clutching her bracelet protectively, Luna smirked, "Oh, you mean your dead parents?" Just as Luna was about to slap Alice's face, my house keys dropped onto the floor.

Immediately, she turned in my direction. I stood rooted to the ground not knowing what to do. Luna darted towards me, grabbed hold of my wrist and asked ferociously, "Do you think she can afford a bracelet as precious as that?" When I did not answer, she grabbed my collar and shoved me onto the floor. My leg was throbbing and I whimpered in pain. "Luna, what you are doing is bullying," I said, mustering all my courage. Luna just stared at me incredulously. "Please stop. If you stop, I won't tell anyone about what had happened," I said again. Luna clenched her fist and punched me in the face.

My legs were like noodles and I fell to the ground again. Luna then walked back to Alice and asked for her bracelet, with her fist raised. Alice did not even budge. "Stop it, Luna!" I hollered, hoping fervently that this would save Alice. Luna charged towards me and my face bleached to a sombre pale. She punched me several times, each time harder than the last. I could barely move my body to protect myself. "Come on, Lilianne. Stay alert. Without you, Alice will get tortured," I drummed those words in my mind. How hard I tried, my vision began to blur. Without realising it, I had slipped out of consciousness. The last thing I remembered was Alice's concerned face and Mrs Ho rushing into the classroom.

I opened my eyes slowly. The bright white lights made my close my eyes shortly after. I could hear people walking around me and someone was crying. "Why do I find this voice so familiar?" Curious, I tried opening my eyes again. Success! I turned to the source of the voice. It was Alice's. Upon realising that I was awake, Alice quickly embraced and held me tightly. "I am so glad that you are conscious, Lilianne," Alice whispered, choking

on her words as she broke into a sob. I looked around and I realised I was lying on a bed in the sick bay of the General Office.

Just as I stood up, Luna and Mrs Ho entered the sick bay. “The two of you, please tell me what happened,” Mrs Ho ordered. I told Mrs Ho everything that had happened, including the mean post. “Show me the post now,” Mrs Ho instructed Luna. As Mrs Ho read the post, her face became red. She turned to Luna who was now shivering with fear. Tears had rolled down her cheeks. “All of us here want to hear your explanation. Now!” Mrs Ho demanded. Luna tried her best to explain in between sobs. Clearly, she had no clear explanations. She turned to Alice and me and apologised profusely.

Mrs Ho told Alice and me to rest in the sickbay as she would like to continue speaking to Luna. As she made her way to the exit, Mrs Ho turned back and said, “Alice, I advise you to stop wearing that bracelet since incidents like this might occur again.” Alice nodded her politely. After they left, Alice turned to me and said, “Thank you, Lilianne.” I shook my head. “I was not able to save you from Luna,” my voice choked.

Alice came to me and put her hand on my shoulder. “You did. You stood up to her when she was doing the wrong thing. My precious bracelet was saved, thanks to you. Without you, I would have suffered more than this. Really, thank you so much,” she remarked, grinning from ear to ear. With that, she hugged me tightly. I beamed with delight. I was glad that I had done the right thing. I knew that this moment of happiness would be etched in my mind always.

Kaiyama Sayu

5 Empathy

A Valuable Gift

OMG! Look at this gold bracelet I got for my birthday. Try and compare this to Jess' birthday present, an ugly old granny sweater! @Jxss_22

Like this post if you agree.

I had had enough. My eyes widened in anger. "How could Elizabeth say such things about my best friend? Jess' grandmother gave the sweater to her before taking her last breath," I wondered aloud. As I scrolled down the comments, my face contorted with fury. "What gives you the right to post such things? I am going to report you to Mr Neil, "I read out as I typed. As soon as I finished, I clicked the 'post' button. I was so proud of myself but then, realisation hit me. I quickly clicked on 'delete', hoping no one had seen the comment.

"Phew. That was close. If Elizabeth had seen the comment, she would beat me to a pulp," I muttered to myself, shivering at that thought. There was once a rumour that Elizabeth had hurt a primary two boy, causing him to go to the hospital. I kept my handphone and cuddled the covers. I tried to convince myself that someone else would be able to help Jess but guilt overwhelmed me. I did not sleep well that night.

As soon as I entered the school gate, I made eye contact with Elizabeth and her 'gang'. My heart started to beat in trepidation as she looked at me from head to toe. As soon as she looked away, I rushed to the hall for morning assembly. "She must not have seen the comment," I thought to myself, relieved. After school, I went to the courtyard, to wait for my co-curriculum activity to start. In the silence, I heard a loud booming noise followed by an eruption of laughter. I walked towards the direction of the noise, determined not to be seen. After ensuring that I had not caught any action, I quietly hid behind a wall. "Listen here. You will listen to me and do my homework!" said a familiar voice. From the corner of my eyes, I spotted Jess, leaning against a pillar with a huge bruise on her frightened face. Terror had seized her. Right beside her was Elizabeth and her 'gang'. "I have to do something," I told myself. I took out my handphone and started recording the situation. I felt bad for Jess but I could not help her yet.

Just then, something caught my attention. "Ahhh!" I screamed out loud as a tiny brown rat ran towards me. I ran with all my might. Suddenly, I bumped into something hard. After opening my eyes, Tessa, one of Elizabeth's friends, yanked me by the collar and glared ice picks at me. "I didn't know we have an audience. If I had, I would have made sure we have audience participation from the start," Elizabeth smirked, entertained by my fear. Panic started to engulf me. A haze of fear surrounded Jess and me. "What should I do?" I asked myself in panic.

"Elizabeth, you shouldn't be hurting us. What you are doing is wrong. You also shouldn't be po-" I tried to encourage Elizabeth to stop bullying when she threw a punch at me. She grabbed my hand and pushed me against the floor. Jess who was on the brink

of tears tried to stop Elizabeth but was kicked away. She groaned in pain. “Are you trying to tell me what to do? You are here to teach me? Is that what you are trying to do?” Elizabeth’s voice crackled with anger. She raised her fist, getting ready to throw another punch.

“Stop this instant!” Mr Neil’s stern voice caught Elizabeth’s attention. Seething with anger, Mr Neil approached Elizabeth menacingly. Mr Neil was an angry bull. Elizabeth stood rooted to the ground with fear plastered across her face. “What happened here?” Mr Neil asked. While Elizabeth was busy telling lies, I took my handphone and showed Mr Neil the video. After watching the video, Mr Neil turned red with fury. “Both of you, follow me while the others, go to the Principal’s office, now!” he demanded. I approached Jess who was crying uncontrollably.

After explaining what had happened, Mr Neil reprimanded Elizabeth and she apologised to Jess and me. After reflecting, Elizabeth wallowed in a sea of self-pity. Along with Jess, I went to the nurse’s office to get my wounds treated. Jess’ eyes were puffy and red. “It’s over now,” I repeated trying to comfort. After the incident, we all became good friends and tried our best to be a positive influence to others. Who knew that this valuable gift of a friendship had started from a valuable gift that Elizabeth and Jess had received from their loved ones?

Nur Sabrina Binte Shahmudin

5 Empathy

A Wise Decision

A golden glow spread across the sky signalling the start of a brand new day. Fresh air filled my lungs, I felt refreshed and exhilarated as I made my way to school. As I was enjoying the cool morning air, a brown and square object caught my attention.

Out of curiosity, I picked up the item. It was a rather worn out wallet. When I opened the wallet, I was shocked to find that there were a few hundred dollars in it. Immediately, I was filled with excitement as I could not believe my luck. With the money, I could buy the storybook that I had wanted so badly but could not afford. I would be able to buy all the other items that I had been longing for. As quickly as these ideas appeared in my mind, they disappeared as my conscience started to prick me.

“We must always live an honest life. We should never take anything that doesn’t belong to us,” said Mdm Ang.

Words that were shared with my classmates and I were echoing in my mind. These were the words from my form teacher, Mdm Ang.

I was torn between what I would like to do and what my teacher had taught me. I was in a dilemma as to whether I should do the right thing and surrender the wallet to the police station or to keep it for my own selfish wants. My mind knew that I had to make the right decision but my heart did not want me to do so. After pondering for a while, I finally came to a decision.

Looking at my watch, I knew that there was still time for me to find the owner of the wallet before the start of the morning assembly. I started to approach all the passers-by to ask if any one of them had lost a wallet. I had approached about ten passers-by when I realised that I had barely fifteen minutes left before the start of the morning assembly. This realisation made me more anxious than the idea of not being able to find the owner of the lost wallet as I had never been late for school.

With this thought, I made the decision to surrender the wallet to the nearest police station. With my heavy bag on my shoulders, I ran as fast as my legs could carry me towards the nearest police station. As I dashed into the station, I bumped into a man who was looking very down cast. I hastily apologised and rushed to the counter. I surrendered the wallet to the police on duty and mentioned that I had picked it up at the garden at Senja Grand.

The man, whom I had bumped into earlier, rushed forward and shouted out that it was his wallet. After verifying the identity of the man with the particulars found inside the wallet, the policeman returned it to him. The police officer took down my personal particulars and praised me for doing a good deed. As for the man, he was beaming and was thanking me repeatedly.

After the drama, I rushed to school. Just as I stepped into school, I checked my watch and realised that I had made it just in time before the start of the morning assembly. I was perspiring badly but I was filled with happiness because I knew that I had made the wise decision to do the right thing even when no one was looking.

Adryan Ryken Bin Sazali

6 Aspiration

A Wise Decision

“Oh my gosh…Raziq, get here quick!” shouted Fydeliq. We were just dismissed from school and my body was aching till the point where I felt like I was carrying a bag full of rocks. My good friend, Fydeliq, on the other hand, did not care about me at all. He was so engrossed at what seemed to look like a wallet. I tried my best to get there as quick as possible but the pain was slowing me down.

“Dude, what took you so long?” questioned Fydeliq. As this point, I could feel my blood boiling but I quickly calmed down when I saw what the wallet contained. There was four hundred dollars in it along with an identification card. Fortunately, it belonged to someone we knew - Fydeliq’s father. His office was a long drive from where we were. He must have dropped it when he was in a hurry to board his transport.

Both of us went home, changed into our home clothes and met at the playground where we decided what to do next. Surely, we could not wait till his father got home as it would probably be almost midnight by then. One thing we did not notice was that my mother was standing right behind us carrying a bag of groceries and overhearing our conversation. When I turned around, I saw my mother holding the phone with the “Grab” Application turned on and some cash in her hand.

“The driver will be here in ten minutes. The driver will be waiting for the both of you,” said mother in a strict voice. We got up, took the cash, thanked my mother and dashed to the shelter where the driver was waiting.

Once we arrived, Fydeliq exited the car and came over to my side where he whispered, “We could have spent this money on Pizzas!” I told him the importance of doing the right thing even when no one was watching. Fydeliq walked away whining.

Ten minutes later, I managed to convince him to do the right thing. Once we reached the destination, we exited the car. I waited at the lobby while Fydeliq went up to his father’s office.

The next day, I heard someone ringing our doorbell and it turned out that I was the only one at home who could attend to the person at the door. When I opened it, I saw Fydeliq standing right it front me. He told me that while he was returning the wallet, he took out the four hundred dollars and returned his father the wallet that only contained his cards.

“Fydeliq, where is the cash now?” I asked feeling really mad at what my friend had done. “I…I have it right here,” replied Fydeliq with disappointment as he handed the notes to me.

He was about to spend the money on pizzas but I told him to admit his mistake to his father before things got worse. He knew this was coming and he went back to his

house, took a sticky note where he wrote, “Dad, I’m sorry for taking your money from your wallet,” and pasted it on the cash. He was ready to face the music.

Mohamed Raziq

6 Brilliance

An Encouraging Act

It was a bright and sunny morning. The sun shone brilliantly along with the white fluffy clouds dotting the clear blue sky. It was my school's annual sports day. Every one of us was making our way to the Choa Chua Kang Stadium.

I had been chosen by my classmates to represent my class, 6 Aspiration, in the 100-metre and 200-metre race. I had butterflies in my stomach since I woke up that morning as I knew that the competition would be tough. As I was still deep in my thoughts, my classmates and I reached the stadium. We made our way to the spectator stands to join the rest of our classmates who had reached earlier.

"Will all competitors report to the competitor stand now?" announced Mdm Lim.

After wishing each other best of luck, my classmate and I made our way to the competitor stand. At the competitor stand, we were instructed to stay there till our event had ended. I kept to myself and watched as the different races started.

After waiting for what felt like hours, it was finally my turn to compete in the race. As I made my way to the starting point, I could hear my classmates calling out my name and cheering me on. As I tried to calm myself while getting into position, I felt shiver running down my spine. After what seemed like eternity, the horn was sounded, the race was on. I dashed ahead and willing my legs to move faster. Just as the finishing line came into sight, I found myself stumbling and falling flat onto the running track.

Before I knew it, the stadium had broken into a loud cheer. My classmate, Sandy, had crossed the finishing line. Tears were flowing down my face as I struggled to stand. At that moment, I felt someone helping me to stand and I realised that it was Sandy. She put my arms over her shoulder and helped me make my way towards the finishing line. As we made our way to the finishing line, I could hear cheers and words of encouragement coming from the spectator stands and supporters lined up along the track.

With all these encouragement, I forced myself to continue despite the pain. As I crossed the finishing line, loud cheer erupted. My classmates all surrounded me and hugged me. I was so overcome with emotions that I could not stop crying. Never had anyone given me this much encouragement and cheered me on despite my failure to win any medals.

I was really very thankful to Sandy for being there for me and encouraging me to carry on despite my injuries. If only, there were more of people who behave like Sandy, I believe that this world will become a much better place for all of us.

Navithra Rishalini

6 Aspiration

An Encouraging Act

"Be grateful to the people who have helped you. Follow them to encourage people to do the right thing." This advice kept repeating in my mind as I recalled that incident I faced two months ago.

Two months ago, I was caught in an accident. Some parts of my arm broke. As I had to stay in the hospital for a thorough treatment, I was absent from school for a few days. When I returned back to school, I had lots of things to catch up on.

Science was my worst subject. I had been failing since I was in Primary 4. As I looked at the amount of homework that my Science teacher, Mrs Tan, gave, I sighed. "How can I complete this much work? It is ridiculous. I will just concentrate on the other subjects," I said in exasperation.

When I got home, I took out all the pieces of homework from my bag. A note dropped out of the pile of paper.

> Jun Wei,
>
> The homework is due tomorrow. Please complete as much as you can.
>
> Mrs Tan

I crumpled the note and threw it away. I was in a state of despair. The amount of homework was almost of the same height as a small table. When I was completing the first set of Science homework, another note caught my sight. I opened it and read it.

> Jun Wei,
>
> How was your arm? The Science teacher was crazy these few days and gave a lot of homework. It is ok. I can help you. Later, at 7 p.m., I will come to your house and teach you. If you have any questions in your work, leave it blank first and wait for me to arrive. Don't give up on it. The solutions will always be more than the problems if you want to learn.
>
> Your friend,
>
> John

I was motivated by this and did most of my Science homework. When John arrived, my family and I invited him to have dinner with us. He then taught me the questions that

I did not know how to do. I even asked him for help in some Mathematics questions. He patiently taught me how to do them. “John, how do I get the answer for this?” I asked as I scratched my head. A confused look was plastered on my head. “Jun Wei, why don’t you give it a try a few more times? If one way does not work, try other ways first,” John advised.

I nodded curtly at him. I was getting quite frustrated as he refused to help me but I knew he meant well. John then explained that teaching was not about giving the answers but to let others understand and learn.

It was raining heavily the next day. I looked out of my house window. “There is no way that John will come here today. It looks like I have to revise on my own for tomorrow’s Science test,” I told myself. I dreaded the thought of having to conquer those challenging questions on my own but I knew that I had no choice. I would not want all the effort John had put in for me to go to waste.

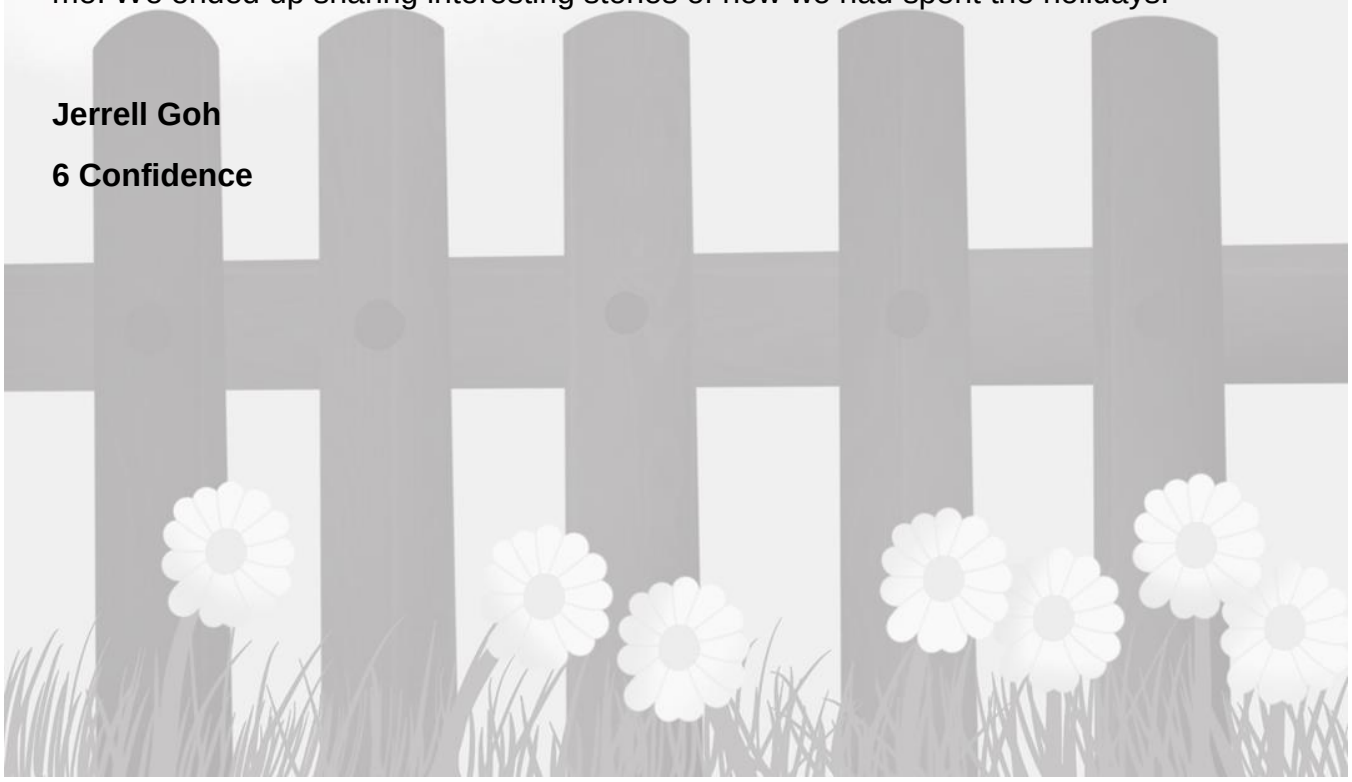
“Jerrell, open the door!” someone was calling out to me from outside. My face lit up when I saw who was in front of me. It was John, all drenched from the rain. He must have noticed how surprised I looked. “Of course, I will be here today. Tomorrow is the day for us to shine,” he chuckled as he entered my house.

John always encouraged me to do something good. With his encouragement, I managed to do all my work and even did well in my exams. Everyone needed encouragement as this would motivate them to do the right thing and do it well. His action always reminded me that I was not alone.

“Hey, Jun Wei. What are you doing here?” a familiar voice asked, jolting me back to reality. I looked in the direction where the sound came from. It was John who had called me. We ended up sharing interesting stories of how we had spent the holidays.

Jerrell Goh

6 Confidence



An Encouraging Act

The blue sky was dotted with a few fluffy white clouds. The cool breeze blew into my room. Rays of sunlight shone onto the ground. I proudly looked at my medal. “It seemed like a dream,” I smiled from ear to ear. An avalanche of emotions hit me.

“Class, the annual sprinting competition is about to begin. Please choose someone to represent our class,” Mrs Chen said. Everyone began to chat excitedly. While I sat on my seat, looking at the faces of my classmates, they looked like they had chosen someone, unlike me. I grumbled as I recalled the last race I participated in. As I was the fastest runner of the class, I was voted to run in the race.

However, on the actual race, when I was about to cross the finishing line, I tripped over my shoelaces and I fell. It must have been a humiliating sight. Everyone laughed at me and my right arm was fractured.

“I voted for Jason!”

“Me too!”

“Jason should run!”

The voices of my classmates cleared my mind. I was taken aback. “Am I hearing things? They are still voting for me!” I sat rooted to my chair while my classmates grinned and clapped their hands. “But…aren’t you worried if I were to fall again?” I asked in disbelief. “Bro, who would fall twice?” my good friend, Max, patted me on my shoulder. “You have got to be strong. You will be the best!” a few of my other classmates said in unison. The encouraging words of my classmates made my confidence grow stronger. Mrs Chen gave me a thumbs-up sign when I looked at her. Determination rose in me as I nodded.

“Ring!” the recess bell rang. My buddies accompanied me to the canteen. ‘Jason Lim!” a large voice boomed. I turned around, it was no other than my arch nemesis, Darren.

“I heard you are going to represent your class in the race again. I laughed until my sides hurt!” Darren smirked and his followers all laughed. Darren had beaten me in the previous race.

“You are a joke, Jason Lim. You will lose again. I wonder how you are going to fall this time,” Darren smiled slyly. “Jason is not a joke! He is going to beat you,” Max exclaimed as he pointed at Darren. Darren pushed him and threw a punch at him. “Watch your manners, boy! How is this little baby going to beat me?” Darren rolled his eyes.

“We will see!” I roared. Surprised by my sudden outburst, Darren and his followers left quickly. Anger swarmed over me as I told my friends, “I am going to beat that guy. Please help me to train.” My friends nodded in agreement.

For the whole of the following month, my friends, teachers and parents helped me. Every day, rain or shine, day or night, I would train as hard as I could. I would train for at least two hours per day. The race soon began after a tiring month.

"Bang!" The race soon began. I had a very good start with only Darren in front of me. "I am just a few metres from you, Darren! Come on!" I thought to myself. I increased my speed but to my delight, Darren seemed to get slower. I ran as fast as I could. When I was about to overtake him, Darren fell down with a loud thud.

I stopped. "Should I help him?" I mumbled to myself. Looking behind me, the other runners still had a long way to catch up. "Daren seems to be in pain, I need to help him!" I walked to Darren and helped him to get up slowly. I wanted to bring him the nearby sickbay. Darren opened his eyes. He stared at me in disbelief before whispering something in my ears.

Two days later, Mr Foo welcomed me up the stage. He presented a special medal to me with two words 'Well Done'. I beamed. My schoolmates cheered for me and I also saw Darren cheering the loudest and winking at me.

"Jason! Dinner is ready!" Mother called me from the kitchen. Her words jolted me back to reality. I slowly made my way towards the kitchen. I could still remember what Darren whispered to me as I wanted to take him to the sickbay on that faithful day. "I want to finish this. Please, Jason, my friend…" I smiled as I recalled that moment where my arch nemesis had perceived me to be his friend. I was glad to have the supporters around me to encourage me and now, I was more delighted to have supported Darren to finish the race together.

Wang Xinyao

6 Confidence

A Secret

Eve was about to tell me a secret that she had kept for the longest time. I could tell the fear from her eyes as she was wanting to speak to me. When Eve was about to say a word, she was interrupted by her friend so she decided to speak to me another time.

The next day, in school, Eve ran towards me the moment she saw me. I was curious as to why she had to run. She passed me a letter that had the word ‘Secret’ on it and told me to only read it when I reached home. I immediately understood this had something to do with what she had been wanting to tell me the other day and so I waited impatiently for school to be over.

When school was finally over, I rushed home and ran into my room to open the letter that Eve had given me. My jaw dropped when I read the letter. I was in total disbelief. Eve did not look like she was suffering from kidney failure! I broke into tears and never knew that my only best friend would be the first to leave me. I still had many things I wanted to do together with her, but there was not enough time. How I wish that I could be the one with this problem instead of her! Eve had been a caring friend who would be there for me and never fail to make me smile. I knew that she trusted me with her secret so I followed along and kept it from everyone else.

Eve did not turn up at school the next day. I was very engrossed with my school work that I had forgotten about going over to Eve’s house after school to check on her and only realised at 9 p.m. but it was too late. I went to sleep hoping that everything would be fine.

The following day in school, all pupils were asked to report to the school hall for an announcement. At the hall, we saw our Principal holding the microphone looking sad with her head hung down. She said, “Last night, we lost one of our students in her sleep. Her name was Eve Tan.” Tears rolled down my cheeks even before my Principal could complete her sentence. I could not believe my ears! How could my best friend go just like that? If I had checked on her last evening, I might have still been able to say my last goodbyes. Now, the only thing I could do was to pray that her soul would rest in peace.

It has been two weeks since Eve returned to heaven but I still cried to myself every day, thinking about her. Eve was truly an amazing friend to me and she would always remain in my heart. If you have anyone you love, tell them that you do so! You will never know whether today would be their last day to live.

Jodie Wong

6 Brilliance

Standing Up to a Bully

I rolled out of bed as my alarm clock went off. Squinting, I put on my round glasses and brushed my teeth, getting ready with reluctance. I ate my breakfast quietly while dreading about my fate each time I stepped into my class.

Beads of perspiration appeared on my right temple as my sweaty hands clutched my textbooks close to my chest. I shuddered in anxiety. It felt like a thousand pairs of eyes kept staring at me from behind. I had no idea why they targeted me. I continued walking, tears started to fill my eyes as I sneaked away, a familiar voice echoed through the hall, calling my name.

“Oh no,” I stopped dead in my tracks.

I was paralysed with fear. My tongue had tied itself into a knot and I closed my eyes, bracing myself for the worst. I felt a flick on my forehead and my eyes fluttered open, meeting with the charcoal eyes that belonged to none other than Alexandra, or Alex for short. Alex was the school bully and she had three friends, Lisa, Jenny and Tina. The three of them would always follow her everywhere like puppets. With them surrounding me, I froze. I could not even move a muscle. My mind was blank and I turned into a statue.

“Where is my homework?” she demanded.

My hands shook as I handed her the homework. Every day I would get humiliated by her. Nobody really liked her. Everyone was afraid of her. I went to class and the usual boring lesson went on. Soon, the bell rang, it was recess. I dashed out of the classroom and headed for the canteen. I bought my food and sat alone as usual. Suddenly, I felt something cold on my head. I turned and my heart sank. It was none other than Alex.

“Oops. I must have mistaken you for a trash can,” she scorned as she laughed exaggeratedly. I realised that she had thrown her used cup on me. An ice cube had landed on me, explaining what the something cold was.

Everyone in the canteen burst out laughing. I was on the verge of crying. Alex kept on teasing me. I know I was a coward but that was the last straw. I decided to stand up to her and make things right. I walked out of the canteen and marched straight into the principal’s office.

After the school investigated the matter, Alex was reprimanded and suspended for a full whole week. When she returned, she had to report for detention as part of her punishment.

Fortunately, she learned her lesson and changed for the better.

“Hey, look, I’m sorry for bullying you. So, friends?” she asked.

“Friends!” I said excitedly.

Her face lit up with excitement. We became good friends after a few weeks. Those who laughed at me also came forward to apologise to me. Alex stopped bullying others and turned out to be a good and kind friend after all. We were a great team and Alex learnt the hard way that she should be respectful towards others if she wanted others to respect her.

Nur Afiyah Balqis Binte Adnan

6 Confidence

Standing Up to a Bully

Gazing at the old photo in my hand, memories of the incident came flooding in my mind. Tears rolled down my cheeks as I recalled what happened to my best friend.

It was the first day of school. I had recently left my hometown because my father found a new job in town that promised him a higher salary, causing us to move from our current house. I was not looking forward to making new friends. Although I was reluctant, I still had to go to my new school. I arrived in school with butterflies in my stomach, wondering what my new classmates would perceive of me.

"Look! It's a new four-eyed kid!" Adli snickered. His gang chuckled with grins on their faces. I was vexed. I couldn't believe it! My mother worked hard to buy those glasses for me and I really appreciated them! But how Adli insulted my glasses discouraged me. After the incident, nobody dared to talk to me. I was very lonely.

Adli and his gang continued to insult me until one day Adli took it too far.

"Time for recess!" my teacher announced.

Scurrying with my classmates to the canteen, I sensed something amiss. When I turned, I saw Adli and his gang! I froze in my steps. Adli then called me a ‘weird face’ and punched me. I fell with a loud thud. Adli and his gang walked away proudly, leaving me on the floor with a bloodied nose. Recalling the moment sent chills down my spine. The bullying incident really made me feel depressed and more disappointed in myself. However, days passed with Adli and his gang continuing their appalling behaviour on me.

On my birthday, my parents presented me with my first phone. But soon, I started receiving anonymous messages including death threats. At that point, I was really downhearted. I started to hate attending school and continued getting bullied. I lost my hopes on true friendships.

My miserable schooling days continued. Not long after that, a new student arrived in our school. His name was Jonathan. Johnathan looked really muscular and tall. He was very intimidating. Being a lonely person, I built enough courage to speak to him. It turned out that Jonathan was a very sweet and caring person. Jonathan, Jon to me, and I soon became best friends. We told each other everything. However, I had never revealed to Jon about how Adli was bullying me. The bullying continued until Jon found out. Jon bought me a bottle of soft drink from the canteen to show his care for me.

Jon was looking for me when he heard Adli calling someone with insulting words. He followed the sound when he saw me on the ground with a bruise on my forehead. Jon suddenly yelled at Adli and his gang, causing them to scurry away in fear. Jon then helped me up and we went to the Principal’s office. I was hesitant and fearful to report the matter to the Principal about Adli’s misbehaviour but finally I relented and told him the whole story.

The Principal thanked Jon for doing a good deed. Adli and his gang was called in and he made them apologise to me. I was full of glee. After that incident, Adli turned over a new leaf. Indeed, bullying can harm a person's life. Help stop bullying and spread the word.

Tara D/O Ahmad Ibrahim

6 Diligence

Standing up to a bully

We were always taught that we should never belittle someone, no matter how great we might think we were. I always thought that the teachers were wasting their time by telling us that we should not bully others. Never did I imagine that one day, I would become a bully myself.

“Class! We have a new student joining us this term! Alec, introduce yourself!” the teacher announced. The petite, scrawny boy lifted his head up, to reveal a face full of freckles and thick glasses which covered nearly half of his face.

“Good morning friends! I am Alec! My hobby is reading and writing! I hope that all of us can be good friends!” he chirped. Dumbstruck, my eyes widened in shock, and at that moment, I knew that I would have to fight for the attention which used to be mine.

For the next two weeks, Alec was answering all of the teachers’ questions. He would share pieces of information which caused cheers to erupt in the class. The teachers were ignoring me, and I knew that, gradually, the anger that built up in me evolved into an unquenchable thirst for revenge.

That day, I ran into my room, flinging my bag on the couch as hot tears of rage rolled down my cheeks. I could not tolerate this anymore. Taking my laptop from my desk, I quickly logged into the social media website which Alec was in to make his life miserable.

“Hey, Smart Alec! How is it being a teachers' pet?” I typed out before sending it to him. This was crazy as I would not believe what I was going to do. However, I could not stop, for it felt satisfying.

Days went by and texting Alec mean things had become like a routine to me. Alec never responded, but I knew it hurt him from the way he slowly withdrew from activities. Finally, he replied, telling me to stop.

Obviously just telling me that would not stop me, would it? “Trust me; I will make your life miserable!” I sent him. Little did he know what he was in for.

I immediately told my best friend, Mark, that Alec’s family members were robbers on the run and being a teachers’ pet in school was the only way he could pretend as if he came from a typical family. Horrified, Mark sent it to everyone in the school. It was a lie, but I was not going to tell anyone that.

Everyone began to avoid Alec. No one applauded or cheered when he said something interesting. No one paid attention to him. Alec started to spend his recess time in the classroom, and I was ready to take advantage of that.

Triumphantly striding into the room, I grabbed Alec's collar and lifted him up, demanding for money. His refusal would warrant a blow to his face. Chortling at Alec's alarmed expression, I hissed," Don't tell anyone! Or else…" Nodding fervently, Alec scrambled to his seat with a pale face.

Alec started to become withdrawn, and I was delirious with happiness to be in the limelight again. Alec, who never once was absent without a valid reason, hardly came to school now. Just when I thought that I had won the battle, I realised that I might not be that lucky.

Alec's frequent absence and withdrawal from activities did not go unnoticed by the Class Chairman of our class, John. That day, he called me out, a serious expression on his face. He asked me what was going on. In an attempt to feign innocence, I shrugged.

"Look, Sam, I know what is going on. I am not sure if you are aware of what is going on with Alec," he started. My quizzical looks urged him to go on. "Alec has been abused when he was younger. Nobody cares about him in his home, and his parents are filing for a divorce. Furthermore, he is showing symptoms of depression."

Cupping my agape mouth in astonishment, I stared at John." I know that you are going through the same thing and your only source of attention is … Well, us. So I hope that both of you can help each other instead of hurting him," continued John.

When Alec approached me, the only thing I could say was sorry. "Are you going to be hurt me because John stood up for me?" he asked, face ashen. However, I simply shook my head and stuck out my hand." Will you forgive me?" I asked, relieved when I saw him nodding.

I learnt that day, it was never right to belittle someone. You never know what they were going through and you definitely did not want to make their situation worse. Also, I realised what a role model Alec was, and if anyone were to bully you, you should not be afraid to stand up for yourself.

Jonel Dalton

6 Empathy

Friendship

Mother used to tell me that fake friends were worse than enemies. I had never understood what she meant until a fateful incident happened. I wished I had listened to my mother.

“Hey, Lisa! Did you hear about the concert?” Rose asked me.

“Yeah I did! Are you going? I know I am!” I exclaimed excitedly.

All Rose could do was to frown. She then told me that she did not have enough money to go. I told her that it was alright. I said that if she was not going then I would follow suit. We were best friends and like two peas in a pod.

The next day, I saw her waiting for me in school. I ran to her with the biggest smile on my face. Suddenly, my smile faded away. She was not as cheerful as before. I was curious to know what had happened. “Rose, did something hap-“ my question stopped halfway when I caught Rose’s angry eyes. “Let’s just walk to the classroom. We are late,” Rose hissed curtly.

We walked in silence. We reached the classroom on time and went to our respective seats. I did not want to ask her further as she was clearly not in the mood to talk.

Finally, it was lunch time. I dashed to the canteen. When I was about to go to my favourite stall, I noticed that my wallet was missing.

I dashed back to the classroom. Luckily, my wallet was still there. As I was leaving the classroom, someone called out my name and it echoed through the hallway.

“Lisa! Lisa! Wait up!” someone shouted.

I turned around and saw one of classmates running towards me.

“Jane?” I asked.

She then started to tell me something. I gasped as my eyes widened in horror. Rose would never have done that. That was impossible. I quickly checked my wallet. My heart sank. Although I had my wallet in my hand, my money was gone.

“Stop! Rose would never do that!” I raised my voice at Jane as I tried to control my tears.

I walked away from the place as fast I could. I knew Rose and she would not have done such a thing. I searched high and low for her. Finally, I found her. I asked her whether she had stolen my money in the classroom just now in order to go to the concert. I could see the guilt on her face as she looked down. I hoped this was just a nightmare which I would wake up from.

“I cannot believe this. My friend whom I have trusted for eight years lied to me?” I blurted out in anguish.

“Lisa, I-” her words got cut off.

“Rose, let’s stop being friends,” I said sternly.

I could feel tears on my cheeks and I saw that Rose’s face was also stained with tears.

I did not talk to Rose after that incident. I could recall all the memories we used to have but it shattered overnight. Whenever Rose tried to talk to me, I would always avoid her. My heart was cold. I just wanted everything to be normal again but I know it would not happen. I told my mother what had happened and she said that I should listen to her explanation but I just could not bring myself to accept it.

The next day, I saw Rose walking alone. I gathered up all my courage and went up to her. I asked for an explanation. She told me that her mother was ill and they had no money so she decided to steal from me. I was shocked and empathised with her plight. I forgave her in the end because I knew that I would not even last a day without my best friend.

We ended up becoming best friends again and she promised me that she would always share with me her problems and we will try to solve them together. We have learnt to stand together in good and bad times.

Nur Afiyah Balqis Binte Adnan

6 Confidence

A Special Gift

Looking at the cup on my table, I suddenly remembered her, Melissa. “How are you, Melissa?” I mumbled. I took the mug to admire it better. The rainbow-coloured words ‘Best Friends’ drove me back to the day when she left.

Melissa and I were best friends since we were young. We shared a similar taste in books, humour and games. We always took care of each other when we were playing.

That day was a beautiful Sunday. I was awakened by the aroma of bacon and smell of my hot chocolate. I was excited for the big day ahead of me. “Fishing or swimming? I must call Melissa!” I thought happily while I drank my hot chocolate.

“Ding! Ding!” my phone rang, signaling somebody was calling me. I picked up the phone and answered it. “Hello? This is Anne. Who is call-?” “Anne, I will meet you at our old place. See you soon! And, be fast!” Before I could reply, Melissa had hung up the phone. “What happened to her?” I mumbled under my breath. The sudden outburst from Melissa ruined my Sunday. Nonetheless, I still quickly dressed up and ran towards the restaurant nearby.

It was bustling with early diners. The aroma of my favourite minestrone soup cheered me up. I began to wonder if my friend was going to give me a treat. “Wow! That will be the best,” I thought as a smile formed across my face.

I met Melissa at a corner seat near the window. She looked blankly outside the window who seemed to be in deep thoughts. Melissa seemed not to have noticed me even after I had taken a seat next to her.

“Melissa? Melissa? Are you okay?” I tapped her on shoulder. “Oh, it is you,” Melissa mumbled. “Here, take this.” She gave me a red box with a golden ribbon on it. “What…,” I gawked at her in shock. “I…I… am leaving Singapore soon,” Melissa said sadly. She squeezed my hand, “Sorry, I had not told you a few days before. I just don’t know how I could tell you,” she smiled sadly. “But, we are still friends, aren’t we? Open your present,” she whispered softly.

Inside the box, there was a beautiful cup with ‘Best Friends’ written in rainbow colours. “To my best friend, Anne!” Melissa grinned. I got teary-eyed. “I really treasure you, Melissa,” I whispered with my voice shaking. My eyes were glistened with tears. Within seconds, we were in each other’s embrace.

Even when Melissa had gone for two years, she still had a special place in my heart. Melissa, I would not forget you. The cup that she gave was still placed carefully on my desk. It was indeed a special gift from Melissa.

“Anne, time for bed!” Mum called out to me. Her voice jolted me back to the reality. I touched the mug again and placed it gingerly back in my shelf.

Wang Xinyao

6 Confidence

Being Punished

Whenever Lola, my best friend, and I went to the nearby shopping mall to hang out, we would always walk past the toy shop and look at the captivating display model of the fidget spinner. As we walked past it, memories of the incident that occurred would flash in my mind and I would heave a sigh of regret.

How could I have done such a bad deed? I should never have done that…

That day was a sunny, warm afternoon. The huge sun stared down at us from the sky and the cool breeze blew across our faces as we walked back home from school. Just then, Lola looked as if a little light bulb had ticked inside her head.

She exclaimed, “Oh right! Here, I want to show you something cool!”

She opened her brightly-coloured schoolbag and fished out a little spinner. She then placed it in between her thumb and index finger and spun it with her other hand. The bright pink spinner glimmered in the sun as it spun round and round. In the mist of curiosity, I pointed at the spinner and asked what it was.

Lola explained that it was known as a fidget spinner. She had found it while organising her drawers during one of the weekends. It turned out that her father had bought the fidget spinner when she passed her end-of-year exams with flying colours last year.

I gave a look of disappointment. Even if I scored top in class, my father would just ignore me. My sister was the apple of my parents’ eyes, since she could get into one of the top schools in Singapore. So no matter what, my parents would just ignore any of my achievements. Well, if only I had one fidget spinner, it would be lovely.

When I got home from school, I unlocked the wooden front door and slid my black school shoes into the wooden shoe cabinet. As I sat at my white desk and did my homework, the thoughts of Lola’s toy echoed through my head. Just then, a devious idea formed in my head like a jigsaw puzzle. What if I secretly took her fidget spinner? We have pranked each other before, so a little prank would not hurt, right? It did not seem like a good idea, but I desperately wanted that fidget spinner, so I did not think twice. The plan was simple. Before recess, I would take Lola’s fidget spinner from her bag when no one was in the class.

The next day, I was sweating bullets. By the time the recess bell rang, I was a nervous wreck. I almost forgot to carry out my intended prank as I scurried back up to the classroom. I slowly opened the classroom door with a slight creak. Silently, I tiptoed over to Lola’s desk while looking out for any students or teachers. I ducked low under the table and tried to look for the fidget spinner while making as little noise as possible. When I finally fished out the bold pink fidget spinner, I slipped it into my pocket and crept out of the classroom. I wiped my sweat dry and hurried downstairs, praying that no one would notice I was gone.

“Ring!” The bell signalled the end of recess. As we all sat down for class, Lola suddenly exclaimed, “Oh no! My fidget spinner is gone! It was here just now!” Everyone gasped and broke into whispers. Everyone, except me. I blushed a crimson red. Oh no, what now? This was a horrible idea! I was in a dilemma. Should I own up my mistakes? But I would get into big trouble.

Then again, seeing Lola sob broke my heart. I knew my decision would be the right thing to do. I would have to face the music, which I knew I deserved!

I confidently stepped forward and admitted what I had done. The whole class went silent. It was so quiet that one could hear a pin drop. Madame Tan shot me an angry glare before muttering to me, “See me after school!” From the corner of my eye, I could see Lola’s confused expression.

When the school day finally ended, the teacher gave me a tongue lashing which I would never forget and punished me by telling me to write a reflection and clean the classroom every day for two weeks. She told me that she would also inform my parents about the incident. I gulped in terror as I knew that my parents would be furious when they heard the news. Lola came up to me and questioned me for my actions. As I returned the fidget spinner to Lola, I quickly explained the truth and unexpectedly, she forgave me. Deep inside, I felt even guiltier as my best friend still forgave me despite what I have done to her. I heaved a sigh of relief and hugged Lola, smiling from ear to ear.

From that day onwards, I learnt that theft is never the right thing to do. It really is true. Honesty is the best policy.

Breanna Tong

6 Diligence

Being Punished

I was a model pupil in everyone's eyes. I was the girl who got excellent grades, had great values and was the most popular in school. However, no human being was ever perfect. I came from a very poor family which lived from hand to mouth and of course, not a single soul in my school knew that. Despite that, I behaved well and made it to the selection of the head prefect. However, it was greed that led me away from that glorious goal. If only I thought twice before acting, all of this would not happen. After all, being punished always had its ever-lasting consequences.

"Hey Elaine! Come and see my new fidget spinner!" my best friend, Maya, called out to me.

My eyes widened in disbelief. What? Another one? How did she have so much money? I flicked the fidget spinner lightly and it spun, fast and smoothly.

"You know what, Elaine? I think that you should really go and buy a fidget spinner. By the way, it only costs five dollars! So cheap, right?" Maya advised as I fiddled with the toy.

I let out a little sigh. How on earth could I afford that? My daily allowance was only one dollar and it was just enough for me to grab a bite at the snack bar during recess. My parents also told me not to spend my money on unnecessary things, like toys. Smiling, I gave Maya a little nod and rushed off to class.

That recess, I held my one dollar coin tightly in my hand as I made my way to the snack bar through the crowded canteen. Suddenly, a petite little girl about the age of eight caught my eye. A crisp red note was sticking out of her pocket. I eyed her with envy as she skipped off towards the classroom block after purchasing a drink. How I wish that I could be like her? An idea popped into my mind as I recalled Maya's words in the morning. Secretly, I trailed my 'prey'.

We were walking past a flight of stairs when the little girl stopped suddenly and for whatever reason, began to open her drink. Glancing around, not a single soul was in sight. It was the chance. It was now or never. Grabbing the little girl by the collar, I whispered menacingly through my teeth, "Give me your money, or else I'll beat you up!"

The little girl tugged at my hand, "No, go away! I am not going to give you anything!" Upon hearing this, I pulled at the little girl's ponytail and she yelped in pain. For a moment, I felt sorry for the little girl. I could not control myself. The hurtful words and the threats came automatically.

After some struggle, she finally gave in to me and handed me the ten-dollar note in her pocket. I released the little girl and quickly strode off, leaving her in tears. I thought that it was a brilliant act done, with no one at the scene except for myself and the victim, but I was wrong. There was actually a pair of eyes watching me from start to end.

The next day, when I walked into the classroom, my form teacher, Mrs Tan, tapped me on the shoulder," Elaine, why did you bully the primary two pupil yesterday? Didn't I tell the whole class before that bullying is a school offence?"

Shock. Regret. Shame.

I stood there, pondering over my next course of action: confess or deny? Mrs Tan was raising her eyebrows at me and I knew that Lying would not get me through. "So...sorry, I...I did not mean to do that. Erm...my family is going through poverty and I did not have enough money..."I stammered, avoiding Mrs Tan's eyes.

Finally, hearing my explanation, her expression softened. "Yes, Elaine, I understand your trouble, but I have no choice but to report your actions to the principal, then we'll have to take your name off the head-prefect waiting list." I let out an audible sigh. So much for a fidget spinner!

From that day onwards, things were not the same again. The news of me bullying a younger pupil spread like wildfire throughout the school. My friends avoided me as much as they could and more and more people started to talk behind my back. The toy was simply not worth it! I vowed to think twice before acting. After all, it was not worth the risk.

Xu Chenyuan

6 Empathy

Being Considerate

Being considerate is a value that teachers and principals often emphasise during assembly. We, as students, had also often been given examples on how to be considerate towards others. But doing? We often thought that since we were still young, there would always be someone reminding us to do the right thing. However, this incident made me change my mind totally. It had all gone like this…

The school bell rang incessantly, signaling the school's dismissal. Pupils flooded out of the school building like a swarm of bees and made a beeline towards the MRT station opposite the school. I, on the other hand, behaved differently. The 1.6 kilometres run during P.E lessons was too much for me. I thought, while dragging my feet towards the MRT station.

The cold blast of the air-conditioner was welcoming as I waited for the train's arrival. In a blink of an eye, the train arrived. Summoning the last ounce of energy in my protesting muscles, I jostled to the front of the crowd of students who was waiting for the train doors to open. Fortunately, I managed to get to the front of the crowd. When the doors opened, I quickly rushed in, hoping to find a seat where I could rest my weary legs. Spotting a seat, I rushed towards it, sat down and heaved a sigh of relief.

After passing several stations, an old lady boarded the train. She was holding heavy bags of groceries. She had red spots on her cheeks and her hair billowed around her thin face like white clouds. She hobbled towards a man with sunglasses, placed her groceries in front of him and stood there.

That man seemed oblivious of the old lady's presence. He continued to look around, as if nothing had happened. Commuters in the train looked at him with displeasure. I was sitting three seats beside the man. I glanced at him. He was quite fit. Furthermore, I was very tired and the old lady was not near me. He should be the one giving up the seat, not me. He was also sitting on the reserved seating. Telling myself that, I shrugged the thought off and started to daydream.

Without warning, the train halted to a stop. All the commuters in the train jerked forward, but remained in their original positions. However, the old lady was not so fortunate. The impact sent her sprawling onto the ground and her groceries spilled out of the plastic bags. Many rushed forward to help her and put her groceries back into the plastic bags.

Finally, the man with the sunglasses gave up his seat to the old lady. Moaning, the old lady whispered a weak "Thank you" to him. I looked at him with displeasure. The man

continued to look around as if nothing had happened. He did not even bother to reply to the old lady's gratitude.

"Who does he think he is?" I heard my classmates gossiping loudly. "Superstar? Millionaire?"

I sighed and shook my head, not intending to let the incident disturb me.

After a few stations, the man alighted from the train. However, his actions caught my attention. He took out a folded walking stick and occasionally tapped it in front of him. Then, it struck me. That man was blind! Pangs of guilt struck me like waves hitting the beach.

I lay awake in bed that night, tossing and turning, unable to go to sleep. I regretted not giving up the seat to the old lady first, then all of this would not have happened. After all, that man was blind. He did not need to give up his seat to the old lady. But he still did.

We, as children, should take initiative. There was a difference between knowing and doing the right thing. I vowed to do the right thing even when no one was watching in future. Let this be my lesson.

Xu Chenyuan

6 Empathy

A Misunderstanding

"Ah Meng!" The quavering voice that called out the name was poignant with longing. I noted this but was more intent on taking another mouthful of the delicious noodles I was eating. The air in the hawker centre was filled with the aroma of food. It had been my go-to hawker centre after I had been posted to my new secondary school. Seconds later, a hand tapped my shoulder which made my heart jump.

I stopped chewing and jerked around a few strands of noodles trailing out of my mouth. My eyes met an old lady's eyes, wrinkles radiating from the rims, set in a lined face framed by short, white hair. Quickly, I slurped up the noodles and gazed at her quizzically.

"Ah Meng!" her eyes searched my face. "No, no I'm not him," I protested, shaking my head and my right hand to signal my denial. "You come with me," she insisted, her voice gaining strength. She tugged at my arm.

By now, my face was burning. People around were casting sidelong glances at the two of us. We were becoming a mini sideshow. I grabbed my schoolbag, wriggled my arm away from her grip and made a beeline for my apartment.

The next day, I arrived at the same hawker centre, this time, determined to finish my bowl of noodles. I ordered my noodles, paid the bill and sat down at a table. The arrival of my noodles was greeted by a cry of relief, "Ah Meng, where did you go yesterday?" Recognising the voice, I looked right and saw the same woman limping towards me. This time, I was much faster in picking up my belongings and leaving the place. On my way out, I asked a man sitting at the table next to mine, "Do you know that woman?"

With a quick glance at her, he said, "Oh, that old woman always roams around in the afternoon. Ah Meng was her grandson," the man readily revealed," Pity he died so young. Dengue fever, just six months ago. I think he was around your age. She raised him after his parents died in a car accident when he was six years old." Then the man dropped a bombshell, "You look like him, you know."

My heart swelled with pity for the old lady's misfortunes. Her grief had been so immense that it drove her to the brink of insanity. Then, a tidal wave of realisation hit me; she misunderstood me for Ah Meng!

For the third day straight, I walked up to the hawker centre after school. This time, I strode with purpose. I ordered my noodles and just as I finished the last mouthful, the air was punctuated with the old lady's cries, "Ah Meng!" She came to the table and pulled at my arm.

I got up feeling thoroughly awkward. I looked at her and she gestured for me to follow her. Not knowing what to expect, I hardened my resolve to help her and followed her home.

In no time, we reached her apartment. When she opened the main door, I gasped with wide-eyed horror. Piles of newspapers and all kinds of rubbish littered the floor. The air was stale. She poured me a drink in a seemingly dirty cup. Not wanting to appear rude, I accepted it begrudgingly and steeled myself before downing it in a gulp. From the corner of my eyes, I swore that I saw a cockroach scurrying across the living room.

We chatted for a while but time seemed to pass slowly. I wanted to get out of the situation. But how? As she continued talking about her past, I quickly formulated a plan of escape.

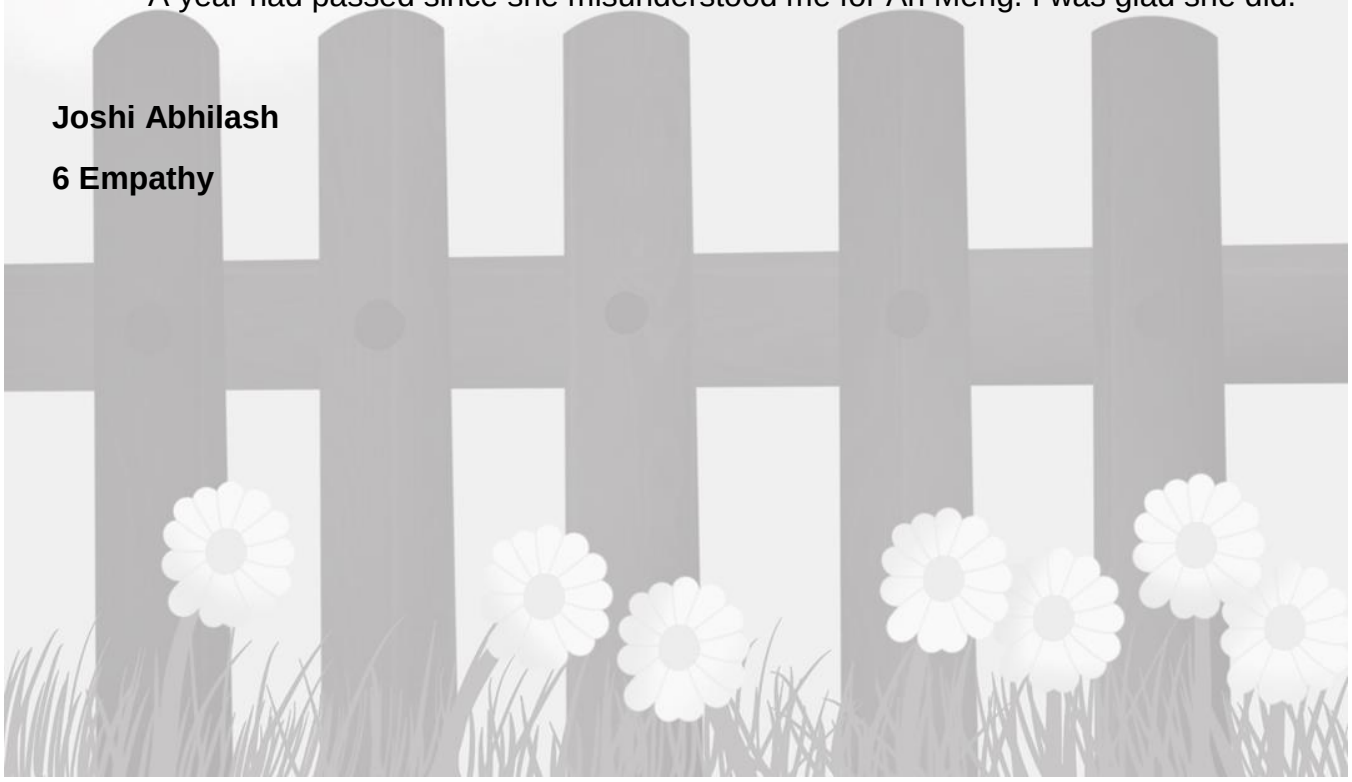
“Auntie, my mother is expecting me to go home to help her with dinner preparation.”

“Oh. Okay. Sorry to take up your time. Go home quickly. Otherwise your mummy will be worried,” she replied as she looked at me forlornly.

My heart broke upon seeing her expression. Knowing that my voice would crack, I simply nodded and hastily left her apartment. As I turned to leave, I was sure that I saw a trickle of tear rolled down her cheek.

As I walked home, I knew I had to do something for her. I rounded up all my family and friends for my 'Help Grandma' project. We cleared her place and bought supplies. When the physical cleaning was done, we took turns to spend time with her. Since I did not live far away, I tried to visit her once a week, hoping to ease the aching void in her life.

A year had passed since she misunderstood me for Ah Meng. I was glad she did.



Joshi Abhilash

6 Empathy

A Misunderstanding

Why? Of all the people it could happen to, why me? And why must my close friendship with my friend be destroyed just because of a misunderstanding? As I sat back into my chair, vivid recollections began to flow back into my mind once more, and it made me recall of that dreadful day.

Peter and I were very close friends as we were neighbours. Ever since he had moved into the same HDB flat which we I lived in while I was in kindergarten, we had slowly become good companions. Almost every day we would be seen interacting with each other, playing together or even completing homework together. To me, interacting with him was very enjoyable. I also thought of him as my closest friend for now and always. But after that day, everything had changed.

On that fateful day, my parents had bought me a shiny toy car which I had yearned for a long time since it was the holidays and my parents thought that I would get bored. At first, I played with the toy car myself but after a while, I found it quite boring so I decided to call Peter over to my house to play with my shiny toy car.

Within a short while, Peter had arrived at my house. He was pumped up and could not wait to start playing with my toy. I told him to be patient and not to act rashly so as to prevent my toy car from being broken accidentally.

Soon after, I took out more toy cars that looked similar to the shiny toy car. Following which, I questioned Peter, “Are you ready to play now?”

“Of course!”

I then asked him if he would like to play a mini racing game. I then explained to him the rules of the game. Firstly, we would align the toy cars together. Then, we would push it together at the same time as hard as we could and see how far we could push the car. The winner would then be the person who was able to push the car the furthest distance.

We then began the race. After a few minutes, I got too engrossed in the race and I began to start pushing the cars randomly around the house, creating chaos at the same time. Peter also followed suit. Moments later, we suddenly heard a loud “Crash” sound which made us freeze for a short moment.

My eyes slowly trailed to the source of the noise. To my horror, I noticed that my new shiny toy car was broken into pieces. I felt shocked. I also immediately assumed that it was Peter’s fault and that he was the one who had broken my toy. Moments later, my anger began to intensify as it threatened to take over me. I tried very hard to suppress my anger which was soon turning into a ball of pure anger but to no avail. Finally, I hollered at Peter, “What do you think you’re doing? Why did you break my toy car? I am ashamed to have such a friend like you!” And with that, I slapped his face and shooed him out of my house.

Once he was gone, my anger slowly ebbed. Replacing anger was now happiness. For once, I found Peter's disappearance satisfying. I thought over what had previously happened and the previous events that had just occurred for a while. Suddenly, shock and guilt washed over me, leaving my mouth agape. I was the one who had broken my new toy car!

No, no, no… I thought silently to myself. It could not have been me. But still, my brain told me that was me who broke my own toy. This was because I remembered seeing a shiny new toy car and yet still pushing it on impulse in an attempt to show Peter that I was better at this game. Instantaneously, I felt very remorseful for my actions and decided to apologise to Peter once school had reopened.

When school resumed, I sent Peter a note saying that I was felt very sorry and remorseful because of what I had done. This was because I had given in to my heart's desire of revenge and forgotten about moral values instead of clarifying with Peter first. I also promised Peter that I would not commit the same mistake again. Peter eventually forgave me, but the expression on his face at that time would be unforgettable to me; it was a smirk.

From then on, Peter and I were no longer close friends. I knew that although he had forgiven me verbally, but deep down in his heart, he had definitely not. We were no longer close and he rarely told me secrets or played with me at the park anymore. I really wished that I was able to turn back time, such that I would not have made this mistake and we would have been able to continue being friends. But now, this incident had already passed, and I knew that I would never be able to turn back time.

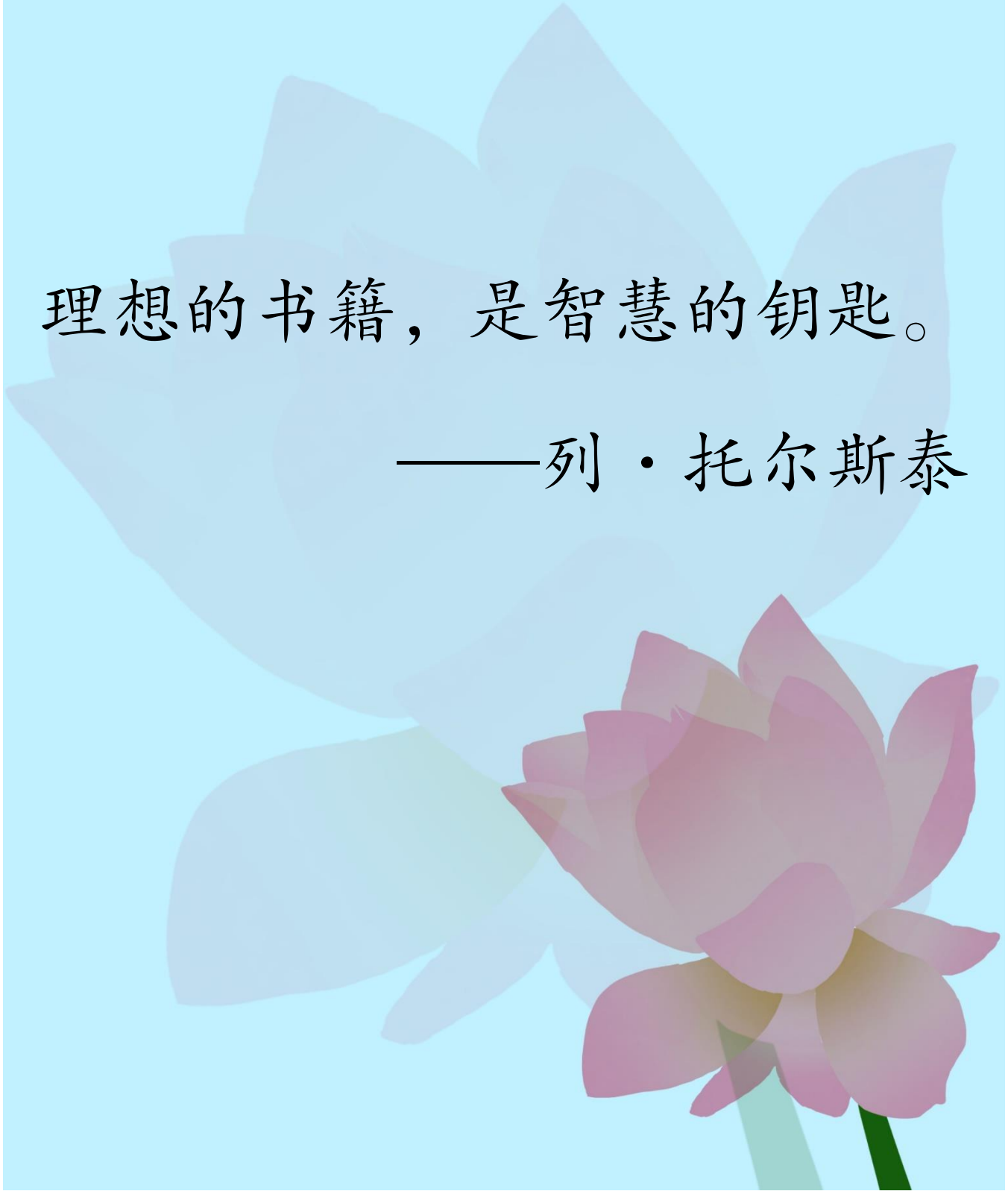
Getting out of my chair and glancing at my watch, I realised that a lot of time had passed while I was lost in deep thoughts. Letting out a loud sigh, I told myself to think before doing an action, otherwise I may need to face deeper consequences the next time round.

Ker Zhi Yang

6 Empathy

理想的书籍，是智慧的钥匙。

——列·托尔斯泰



不乱摘花

一个风和日丽的早上，姐姐带弟弟到组屋楼下骑脚车。突然，弟弟看见了一个花盆，花盆里长了很多漂亮的花。弟弟觉得花很漂亮，就摘了一朵花。姐姐看到这一幕，马上摆手说：“你不能摘花，这盆花是林太太的，不是我们的。”弟弟听了，觉得很不好意思，红着脸，低下了头。姐姐认为弟弟应该向林太太道歉。弟弟担心林太太会骂他，于是紧紧拉着姐姐的手，一起来到了林太太的家，按了门铃。林太太开门后，姐姐说：“对不起，我的弟弟摘了您的花，他不是故意的。”

弟弟也对林太太说对不起。林太太对弟弟说：“没关系，你知道错了就好。”林太太摸着弟弟的头，继续说：“以后别再犯同样的错就好了。”弟弟和姐姐点点头，对林太太说再见后就回家了。经一事，长一智，经过这次的教训，弟弟再也不敢乱摘别人的花了。

Ong Yu Tong Nicole

3 Aspiration

我的文具盒不见了！

一个骄阳似火的星期二下午，太阳像一个大火球似的，烤得大地直发烫。欢欢上完华文演艺课后，就和她的朋友，小乐、小安和小康去图书馆借书。图书馆里有各种各样的书。小乐借了童话故事书，小安借了有关袋鼠的书，小康借了如何做手工的书，欢欢借了有关新加坡历史的书。欢欢走出图书馆的时候，没发现她把文具盒留在图书馆里。一个叫小毓的女孩看到它后，就把它交给办公室的人。

过了一会儿，欢欢发现自己的文具盒不见了，就心想：可能我刚才把它留在图书馆里了。但是，她去了图书馆，并没有找到她的文具盒。她又去了食堂，课室等其他地方，都找不到文具盒。她累得冒出冷汗，全身发抖，双腿发软。过了一会儿，她灵机一动，心想：可能有同学捡到了交给办公室的人。

她赶快去办公室，问叔叔帕达：“叔叔，你看到了我的文具盒吗？”叔叔拿了一个蓝色、有企鹅图案的文具盒，对欢欢说：“是这个吗？”欢欢摇摇头，说：“不是。”他拿了一个绿色、有曲棍球员图案的文具盒，指着它对欢欢说：“是这个吗？”欢欢摆摆手，说：“不是。”叔叔帕达问她：“你可以说说文具盒的样子吗？”欢欢回答：“当然！它是红色的，有一个兔子的图案。”叔叔帕达看到一个文具盒，样子和欢欢说的一样，就指着它，问欢欢：“是这个吗？”欢欢兴高采烈地说：“是啊！谢谢您！”叔叔帕达微笑地说：“不客气！”

欢欢拿到了文具盒，笑得见牙不见眼。经过这件事，欢欢学到了一个道理：她应该保管好自己的东西，不可以丢三落四。

Kenzie Wirya Harryson Lee

3 Aspiration

我家的乌龟

我家里养了两只乌龟。它们刚开始比我的手心还小，现在比我爸爸的手还大。

我的乌龟是绿色的。它有四条腿，还有一个硬硬的壳。有时候，乌龟会把它的头和四条腿一起缩进壳里面。乌龟喜欢吃小鱼和乌龟饲料。每次，当我把饲料丢进水里时，它们就会马上游过来，大口大口地吃起来。

我的乌龟不会和我玩，但是我喜欢看它们爬来爬去。它们想办法爬到箱子外面去，爸爸再把它们放回箱子里，真好玩！

我喜欢我的乌龟。

Goh Rui Qi

3 Aspiration

我的明信片

这是我设计的明信片。明信片的中间是新加坡国旗，上面有一个弯弯的月亮还有五颗星星。左上角是樟宜机场，那里有很多飞机。右上角是华人、马来人、印度人和欧亚人，他们正在那里开心地笑着。右下角是滨海湾娱乐城，我真喜欢去那里玩。右下角是鱼尾狮公园，公园里有很多花草树木。公园里还有鱼尾狮，它在那里不停地喷水。这是我给我的好朋友的礼物。

Kim Jua

3 Brilliance

努力就有收获

上个星期，三年级三班举行了语文考试。今天，刘老师分发考卷，让大家拿回去给家长签名。我紧张得手都发抖了。轮到我去拿试卷时，我看见试卷上的分数是四十二，成绩非常不理想，我难过极了。

回到家，我把考卷拿给爸爸看。我很担心爸爸会生气，吓得出了一身冷汗。不料，爸爸不但没有大声骂我，反而耐心地对我说："你这次没考好，不要紧，但是今天开始一定要更加努力！"我听了爸爸的话之后，放下了心中大石，并且下决心下次一定要取得更好的成绩。

之后的每个夜晚，我都苦读到深夜。夜深人静，月亮高高地挂在空中，我还在灯下用功地温习。除了学校的习题，我还做了许多课外的练习。

这次的年终考试，我担心我又会拿到不理想的成绩。当刘老师叫到我的名字时，我紧张得双腿发软。我慢吞吞地走过去，看见刘老师笑眯眯地看着我。刘老师说："恭喜你拿到了九十分！有很大的进步！"我一听到这好消息，就开心地跳了起来。我相信爸爸看到我这次取得了高分，他一定也会为我感到骄傲的！

这次的经历让我学到了：只要不断努力就会有收获。

Yin Yingning

3 Brilliance

没学听写的小文

一个天气晴朗的星期六下午，小文刚做完功课，正想要到客厅看自己最喜欢的电视节目。这时，妈妈走过来提醒他学听写。妈妈微笑着说：“妈妈有事要出门一会儿，你要记得复习听写，等妈妈回来再考你。”

小文心不甘情不愿地拿出听写表。他正想要开始复习听写时，突然想起现在正播放他最喜欢的动画片。小文心想：反正妈妈不在家，我就先看一会儿，等动画片播完后再学听写。

于是，小文打开电视机，开始津津有味地看动画片。他一个节目接着一个节目，看得目不转睛，不亦乐乎，早就把听写这件事忘得一干二净。一眨眼，时间就这样悄悄地溜走了……

突然，大门被推开了，妈妈回来了。小文吓得赶快关上电视。妈妈开口就说：“小文，准备听写吧。”小文吓得说不出话来。他硬着头皮，准备了笔和纸。妈妈一坐下来就开始念：“一，必须； 二，讨论……”小文好多字都不会写。他急得像热锅上的蚂蚁，满头大汗。妈妈发现了，问道：“发生了什么事？”小文只好吞吞吐吐地把刚才看电视没有学听写的事告诉了妈妈。

妈妈非常生气。她把小文狠狠地教训了一顿，然后告诉他这样做是不对的，做事要有计划，先完成功课再玩。小文红着脸，点了点头，说他知道错了，请妈妈原谅他，并向妈妈保证以后不会再犯同样的错误了。

Goh Shi Qi

3 Confidence

兄弟之情

一天下午，大文从学校回来后，就坐在沙发上看漫画书。他边看边笑。弟弟好奇地走过来，问他：“哥哥，你可以把这本漫画书借给我看吗？”大文摇摇头，说：“不行！”

弟弟听了哥哥的话后，很失望地走回自己的房间去。过了一会儿，弟弟再次来找哥哥借漫画书，可是哥哥已经睡着了。看到哥哥在睡觉，弟弟心想：哥哥在睡觉，我可以拿他的书了。弟弟慢慢地伸出手去拿那本书。当他拿了书要离开的时候却不小心吵醒了哥哥。

哥哥看到弟弟要拿走漫画书就生气地说：“把书给我！”弟弟说：“不要！”哥哥很生气地把弟弟推倒在地上。弟弟伤心地大哭起来。

妈妈看见弟弟跌坐在地上，大吃一惊。妈妈赶紧上前扶起弟弟。大文不好意思地对弟弟说：“对不起，我不应该推你。”弟弟也红着脸说：“我也有错，我不应该偷拿你的漫画书。”妈妈见他们俩互相认错，就没有再批评他们了，只是说：“你们是兄弟，要相亲相爱。”兄弟俩听了点点头。

Loh Jun Rong

4 Confidence

贺新年

春节前几天，爸爸妈妈忙着把屋子打扫得干干净净。

我和父母在除夕前两天，一起回去马来西亚和奶奶过新年。

除夕那一天，奶奶煮了很多丰盛的食物来祭拜祖先。当时，处处都可以听到鞭炮声。祭拜完毕后，我们一起享用团圆饭。 除夕晚上，我们全家人一起观看电视播放的春节晚会节目。家家户户都张灯结彩和放鞭炮。气氛非常热闹。我们都守夜到凌晨才睡觉。

大年初一早上，我们向奶奶和叔叔拜年。他们给了我红包。我很高兴地接过红包。我祝他们新年快乐。 初二和初三那两天，我们到亲戚的家拜年。我收到了很多红包和祝福，高兴极了！

初四那天，我们回到新加坡，准备隔天上班和上学。

Khoo Zong Zhe

4 Diligence

我的假期

这次三月的假期，我和家人一起去台湾游玩。在那里我们看到许多优美的风景，还体验了当地原住民的生活方式。在山区里我们吃了许多鲜甜的农家水果，有莲雾、凤梨、琵琶和芒果，好吃得让我现在想起来还直流口水呢！我印象最深刻的是我们去了大溪头的“妖怪村”。在那里我们看到了各式各样、形形色色的妖怪，还有精彩的表演，简直是大开眼界！

这次旅行我增长了见闻，也非常开心。只不过在回来的飞机上出现了一些小状况——装食物的纸盒中有一瓶醋破了。这让爸爸很生气，但是我们还是想到了解决的办法！最后，我们一家人开开心心地回到了温暖的家。

Vidal Wong Xurui

4 Diligence

乐于助人

一个艳阳高照的星期三下午，小安一边踏着轻快的脚步，一边哼着歌曲，走在回家的路上。他经过一个坡道时，看见一位老奶奶吃力地拉着一辆装满蔬菜和水果的手推车，正沿着坡道往上走。

突然间“咚咚……咚咚……”的声音吸引了小安的注意。原来是那位老奶奶的苹果滚到了地上。有好几颗苹果滚到小安的面前，他赶紧弯腰帮老奶奶把苹果捡起来。他把苹果装到塑料袋里，再把塑料袋交到那位老奶奶的手中。他对老奶奶说：“老奶奶，苹果都放回塑料袋里了，苹果看起来也都没有损坏。”

当他刚转头要走时，老奶奶叫住他，拿着苹果说：“小朋友，这个给你。”小安连忙摆摆手回答：“不用了，奶奶。谢谢您。”

老奶奶称赞小安是个乐于助人的好孩子。小安听了，心里甜滋滋的，比吃了蜜还甜。

Hsieh Yuan-Hao

4 Diligence

运动会

一年一度的运动会到来了！

运动场上非常热闹，彩旗在微风中飘扬，乐曲在天空中回响。观众席上，同学们挥动着五颜六色的小旗。我第一次参加比赛，心里很紧张。

“砰！”发令员开了枪。我和对手以飞快的速度向前跑。不一会儿，两个对手都已经追了上来。我不顾一切地往前冲。突然，我的脚一软，不小心摔倒在地上。对手们看了我一眼，没有理睬我，就继续跑向前方。同学们盯着我看，我的脚痛得要命，我差点儿哭了出来。这时，我想起我对爸爸的承诺，我吃力地从地上爬起来。我慢慢地拖着一只脚，害羞地走到终点。同学们为我欢呼：“加油！加油！”听了他们的鼓励，我觉得很感动。

到达终点后，同学们为我拍手叫好。即使我没有赢，但我学到了：不管遇到什么事，我们都不可以放弃，要坚持到底。今天的运动会真令人难忘！

Nerice Ng Yuting

4 Diligence

我改掉了坏习惯

我有一个坏习惯，就是东西乱放，不收拾房间。

走进我的房间，不论你心情多好，都会皱紧眉头，像老人一样，有个‘川’字在眉宇间。除了乱摆的书本，掀开被子还能看见几个玩具和书本“躺”在床上。妈妈经常苦口婆心地告诉我要收拾好房间，我总是左耳听，右耳出，不以为然。

有一次，老师发下来的作业本我又找不到了，我急得坐立不安，脑海中浮现出了老师那严肃的面孔，我就更害怕了。我去找妈妈，让她帮我向老师求情，妈妈一口拒绝，还十分失望地对我说道：“我平时就告诉你，要整理好自己的东西，你就是不听，现在我也没办法了。”妈妈说完还耸一耸肩，摊开手，表示无奈。

听了妈妈的话，我后悔极了，真是“不听老人言，吃亏在眼前”。第二天，我忐忑不安地来到了学校。当老师收作业时，我告诉老师我找不到作业的事。果然不出所料，我被老师狠狠地批评了一顿，还被罚抄作文。同学们有的同情我，有的竟然嘲笑我。我既生气又难过，发誓要改掉这个坏习惯。

后来，我交了一个好朋友美美。去到她家的时候，我不禁吃了一惊，被子整整齐齐地叠放在床上，书本整齐地摆放在书架上，书包里干净整洁……看到这里，我不由自主地想起自己乱七八糟的房间。都是同龄人，为什么别人能做到，我就做不到呢？想到这里，我感到非常羞愧。

之后，我跟她讨论了很多关于整理物品的问题。她告诉我，每天花几分钟时间整理房间，东西用完了要放回原来的地方。听了她的话，我决定试一试。经过一段时间的尝试，我喜欢上整理房间和物品。妈妈看到我的房间和东西，感到非常惊讶和开心。

啊！我终于改掉了这个坏习惯，我为自己感到骄傲！

Li Yuhan

5 Confidence

我有一位好老师

我的华文老师是李老师。她个子不高，总是穿着漂亮的裙子。她教书很认真，也很有耐心。

我的华文成绩不是很好，学习能力也弱，很多时候我没有办法好好表达自己的想法。同学们会看不起我，让我感到很难过。二年级的时候，我转学来到维新小学，李老师教我华文。她非常照顾我，常常鼓励我不要放弃，还安排了几个同学帮助我，跟我交谈，让我很快适应了新的环境。李老师还选我当小组长带领同学们学习，当小老师教大家朗读。慢慢的，我变得自信了，华文成绩有了进步，我好开心啊！

记得有一次，李老师要大家做一张新年贺卡。我首先在网上查找资料，选了一张有小猪图案的贺年卡。接着，我拿出一张纸，照着上面的图案在纸上画。最后，我涂上了颜色，写上了祝福的话，一张贺年卡就做好了。妈妈看了，竖起大拇指说：“你做的卡片真漂亮！你一定会拿到奖的。”听了妈妈的话，我的心里美滋滋的。

第二天早上，我兴高采烈地把贺年卡交给老师。老师把我和几个同学的卡片展示给大家看。这时，一个同学大声说：“李老师，耀辉的卡片是从网上下载，打印出来的！”其他同学看着我也开始七嘴八舌地讨论起来。我感到非常委屈，明明是我自己画的，为什么同学们这样说我？想着想着，我的眼泪忍不住流了下来。李老师看到了我的表情就走过来，拍拍我的肩膀，然后说：“同学们，我确定这张卡片是耀辉自己画的，不是打印的！因为我看

过他画的画，确实画得非常好。”听了李老师的话，我擦干了眼泪，抬起了头。那个说我的同学红着脸，低下了头。

李老师的信任像阳光，照亮了我的童年。李老师，谢谢您！您是我最好的老师。

Chia Yow Hui

5 Diligence

懂事的佳明

佳明是一个懂事又听话的孩子，会主动关心和照顾家人。

一天放学后，佳明踏着轻快的脚步走回家。他一进家门，就喊道：“妈妈，我回来了！”当他走进家门，发现妈妈并没有像平常一样叫他去洗手吃饭，他觉得很奇怪。于是，他走到厨房看了看，那里也没有妈妈忙碌的身影。他又向房间走去，发现妈妈的房门是关着的。他轻轻地敲了敲门后，便推开门，走了进去。只见妈妈躺在床上，脸色苍白，皱着眉头。文杰轻轻地摸了妈妈的脸颊，好烫，妈妈发烧了！佳明心急如焚，赶紧到厨房倒了一杯水，又拿了一片退烧药。他把水和药放在妈妈的床边，叫醒妈妈说：“妈妈，你发烧了，快点起来吃药。”妈妈缓缓地睁开眼睛，吃了药，用微弱的声音说：“妈妈今天不能去幼儿园接妹妹了。你可以帮我去幼儿园接妹妹吗？”“没问题！ 妈妈，你好好休息。”佳明答道。说完，佳明就马上去幼儿园接妹妹。

当佳明上气不接下气地跑到幼儿园时，他看见幼儿园老师和妹妹正在等着他。妹妹一看到佳明，就张开双臂，跑向佳明，还问：“哥哥，妈妈呢？”“妈妈生病了，在家里休息。我们必须马上回家照顾妈妈。”佳明对妹妹说。当他们经过游乐场时，妹妹说：“哥哥，让我玩一会儿好不好？拜托嘛！”经不住妹妹的软磨硬泡，佳明只好答应了，但他告诉妹妹只能玩十分钟，妹妹点点头，就开始玩溜滑梯、骑木马和荡秋千。十分钟后，佳明告诉妹妹该回家了，妹妹却耍赖不肯走，佳明想了想说：“你忘了我们的约定了吗？家

里有糖果。如果你不回家，我就把糖果吃完哦！”妹妹一听到“糖果”，眼睛里闪着亮光，就马上跟佳明回家了。

一回到家，佳明拿了几颗糖果给妹妹，然后叫妹妹去冲凉。他决定煮粥给妈妈。妈妈闻到粥的香味，就从房间走了出来。他看见佳明在煮粥，便摸了摸他的头，说：“你长大了，会照顾家人了，妈妈真开心！”

看到妈妈气色好多了，佳明终于放下了心中的大石。他连忙盛了一碗粥给妈妈。看着妈妈津津有味地吃着粥，佳明的心里甜滋滋的。

Hsieh Chi-Chun

5 Diligence

一件让我难忘的事

每当经过我家附近的游乐场时，我都会想起一件事。

记得那是一个凉风习习的上午，我和妹妹文文刚做完功课，在家里感到无所事事，想找点事做。于是，我们请求妈妈带我们去游乐场玩，但妈妈还要打扫房间，不能带我们去玩。“妈妈，要不我和妹妹自己去游乐场吧！而且我已经长大了，能照顾妹妹了。”我说道。妈妈听了我的话，点头答应了。于是，我们就兴致勃勃地到游乐场去。

到了游乐场后，妹妹想荡秋千，我就让她小心地坐在秋千上，紧紧地抓着绳子，我在后面推她。“啊！飞起来啦！真好玩，再高点……”妹妹兴奋地说。妹妹玩了几分钟后说：“你想要荡秋千吗？”我回答：“不用，不用，你自己玩吧！”我心想：妹妹真懂事，小小年纪就懂得分享。

过了一会儿，我志同道合的好朋友明华拿了一个足球走了过来。他先跟我打招呼，再问我要不要和他一起玩球。“不行，我还得照顾我的妹妹。”我说。明华见我不跟他玩，就继续说服我：“不会玩太久，就在草地上，在那里也可以看到你妹妹啊！”我觉得明华说得有道理，就决定跟他玩一会儿。于是，我们连忙跑到草地，开始踢球。足球像一个顽皮的小孩，在草地上跳来跳去，我们在球场上飞奔着，开心极了！

“哥哥，快来救我啊！”正当我们玩得起劲时，我突然听到了妹妹的叫喊声，我像一阵风似的跑了过去。啊！是一条蛇！只见妹妹紧紧地抓着铁架，吓得脸色苍白，全身发抖。我急中生智，从地上捡起一根树枝把蛇吓跑了。

我小心翼翼地把妹妹从滑梯抱下来，连忙安慰她：“没事，蛇已经跑掉了，别怕，我们现在就回家。”妹妹抱着我放声大哭，我感到非常惭愧，自己不该那么贪玩，让妹妹受到了惊吓。

回到家后，妈妈看见妹妹的眼睛红红的，就问我发生了什么事。我把事情的经过一五一十地告诉了妈妈。妈妈听了，狠狠地把我教训了一顿。

虽然这件事过去了很久，现在回忆起来，仍然历历在目，让我十分难忘，因为它让我学会了要做一个有责任感的孩子。

Chew Zi Ling Kayla

5 Empathy

一件让我印象深刻的事

离立伟家不远处有一个游乐场，每当他经过那里时，都会想起一年前发生的一件事。

那是一个阳光明媚的星期天上午，妈妈忙着做家务。妹妹觉得在家无所事事，于是就问立伟："哥哥，你可以带我去游乐场荡秋千吗？""好啊！"立伟满口答应，然后去问妈妈："我带妹妹去游乐场玩，可以吗？"妈妈说："当然可以！不过你要照顾好妹妹，注意安全！""好的，没问题！"立伟说完就拉着妹妹一溜烟地跑出了家门。

来到了游乐场后，妹妹一看到秋千，就两眼放光。她迫不及待地坐上秋千，兴奋地对立伟说："哥哥，快推我一把！""抓紧！准备好咯！"立伟神气地说。然后，他用力一推，秋千高高地荡起。妹妹感觉自己像一只小鸟在天上飞。她开心极了，快乐的笑声在游乐场回荡。她玩得不亦乐乎，立伟在一旁笑眯眯地看着妹妹。

这时，立伟听到有人喊他。他扭头一看，原来是他的好朋友乐明正抱着一个足球微笑着向他走过来。"我们去旁边的足球场踢足球吧！"乐明指着一旁的足球场说道。立伟刚开始有点犹豫，他想：妹妹还小，我应该留在这里照顾她。不过他又想了想：反正足球场就在旁边，我还是可以看到妹妹的。于是，他大声对妹妹说："我在旁边的足球场玩球，一会儿回来！你自己小心哦！"说完，立伟就和乐明往足球场跑去。他和乐明在足球场尽情地踢球，早把照顾妹妹的事抛到九霄云外。

妹妹玩了一会儿秋千，觉得有点无聊，就爬上滑梯，打算溜滑梯。突然，她听到从草丛里传来嘶嘶的声音。她好奇地往后一看，顿时吓得脸青唇白，双腿发软。原来一条大青蛇正从草丛里爬了出来。怎么办？不会是一条毒蛇吧？她紧张得呼吸急促，心砰砰直跳，脑袋里一片空白。回过神来，她连忙大声喊道："哥哥，救命啊！救命啊！"

立伟和乐明一听到喊声，立刻冲了过来。立伟急忙捡起一根树枝，用力拍打地面，发出很大的响声。蛇听到响声，便快速地钻进草丛，不一会儿就消失得无影无踪了。他小心翼翼地把妹妹抱下滑梯。妹妹惊魂未定，身体还在微微颤抖着。立伟紧紧抱着妹妹，安慰道："别怕，蛇已经被我赶走了。"

回到家，立伟把事情的经过一五一十地告诉了妈妈。妈妈厉声说道："出门时我已经提醒过你，妹妹年纪小，你是哥哥，一定要好好照顾妹妹，可是你因为贪玩，差点闯下大祸！"听了妈妈的话，立伟惭愧地低下了头。

虽然这件事过去了很久，但立伟依然记忆犹新。每次经过游乐场，他都会提醒自己，要做一个有责任感的孩子。

Qu Ruiwen

5 Empathy

一件难忘的事

离我家不远有一个熟食中心，每当我经过那里时，都会想起一件难忘的事。

那是一个阳光明媚的星期六早晨，爸爸妈妈带我去熟食中心吃早餐。熟食中心真热闹！有的人在排队买咖啡，有的人在享用丰盛的早餐，有的人在聊天……那里的美食应有尽有，印度煎饼、云吞面、椰浆饭……都是我爱吃的。我们买了早餐，一边聊天，一边津津有味地吃着美味可口的早餐。

吃完早餐，我提议到附近的玩具店逛逛。一走进玩具店，我的眼前一亮。哇！那里有各种各样的玩具，一个可爱的布娃娃吸引了我。她的眼睛扑闪扑闪的，头发长长的，穿着粉红色的裙子。我指着这个布娃娃，兴奋地对爸爸说："爸爸，我要买这个布娃娃！"爸爸笑着点点头。我喜出望外，迫不及待地对老板说："叔叔，那个布娃娃多少钱？""十块钱！"老板回答道。爸爸立刻把手伸进口袋拿钱包。他掏了掏右边的口袋，又掏了掏左边的口袋，着急地说："咦，我的钱包怎么不见了？"我们连忙说："别着急，再想想你把钱包放在哪里了。"爸爸头上冒出颗颗汗珠，一时不知所措。老板看着爸爸紧张的样子，说："先生，别着急，赶快去找钱包吧。我把这个布娃娃给您的女儿留着。"

爸爸想了很久也没想到钱包放在哪里了。突然，我想起爸爸吃早餐的时候把钱包放在桌子上，一定是他忘记拿了。于是，我们连忙去熟食中心找钱包。

当我们气喘吁吁地赶到熟食中心时，发现我们坐的那张桌子收拾得干干净净，没有看到钱包。这时，我们看到一位清洁工人正在收拾另一张桌子。爸爸连忙走上前问道：“这位女士，请问您有看到一个黑色的钱包吗？”清洁工人说：“原来钱包是您的，不过您可以告诉我，钱包里面有什么东西吗？”爸爸告诉她里面有身份证，有一百元现金，还有信用卡。清洁工人拿出钱包说：“下次一定要记得把钱包收好，不要再弄丢了！”爸爸点点头，接过钱包，连声向清洁工人道谢，然后又回到玩具店。

爸爸拿出十块钱，对老板说：“先生，谢谢您！”老板微笑着说：“不用谢，您女儿的笑容是最重要的。”我不禁感叹，原来在我们身边有那么多善良、诚实的人啊！我拿着心爱的布娃娃，和爸爸妈妈踏着轻快的脚步回家去。

虽然这件事已经过去很久了，但现在回想起来仍然历历在目，让我十分难忘。

Kaiyama Sayu

5 Empathy

我误会了她

“铃……铃……”休息时间的铃声响了，同学们纷纷走出课室，排队去食堂。食堂里每个摊位前都排成了长龙，我在队伍里慢慢地移动，不时伸长脖子看看还有几个人才轮到我。当快要到我时，我把手伸进口袋里，发现我的钱包不见了。咦！我明明放在口袋里的，怎么不见了？我赶紧看了我的周围，但还是没看到。我急得团团转，不知如何是好。我想：会不会在课室里呢？想到这里，我像一阵风一样跑回课室找钱包。

到了课室，我看到小丽在课室里东张西望，还在我的座位前徘徊，难道……我走上前说：“小丽，你看见一个天蓝色的钱包吗？我的钱包不见了。”小丽立刻把双手放在身后，吞吞吐吐地说：“没……没……没看见。”我气极了，心想：一定是她偷了我的钱包，还敢撒谎！想到这里，我火冒三丈地说：“那你手中的东西又是什么？是不是我的钱包？”我的话音刚落，小丽委屈地哭了起来，一边哭一边说：“我没拿你的钱包，我做了一朵花，本想放在你座位上的，但你又刚好进来，我就慌了。”

小丽慢慢地拿出一朵红色的纸花，眼泪落到了花瓣上。我惭愧地低下头，脸上火辣辣的，恨不得有个地洞可以钻进去。我走上前向小丽道歉说：“都是我不好，请你原谅我好吗？”小丽点点头，拉着我的手说：“这朵花送给你，因为你是我最好的朋友。别着急，我帮你找钱包。”最后，小丽在我的座位里找到了钱包，把钱包交给了我。

看着座位上那朵红色的纸花，我默默地告诉自己，以后一定要先了解事情的真相，不要冲动地做出判断，这样才不会发生误会。

Yang Chen Jun

5 Empathy

一件令我后悔的事

每当我看到妹妹手臂上的那道疤痕时，心里就感到后悔和内疚。要不是因为我一时的粗心大意，那件意外就不会发生。事情发生在两年前一个晴朗的早上……

“姐姐，我好无聊啊！今天天气这么好，我们去游乐场玩吧！”妹妹乐陶陶地对我说。“好啊！我也想出去散散步呢！”我毫不犹豫地答应了妹妹。就这样，我们姐妹俩迅速地换好衣服，准备出门。

临走前，妈妈特别嘱咐我：“雅心，你一定要照顾好妹妹。她还小，要保护……”“知道了！知道了！”妈妈的话还没说完，我就不耐烦地打断了她。“妈！妹妹已经六岁了，她自己也会照顾好自己的！”说完，我就拉着妹妹的手，一溜烟儿地跑进了电梯。

“哎！妈妈为什么要这么唠叨呢？”我在电梯里不满地想。“嘀！” 不知不觉电梯已经到达了一楼。我深呼了一口气，跟着妹妹走出了电梯。

刚到游乐场，妹妹就兴高采烈地跑向了滑梯。她一会儿荡秋千，一会儿骑木马，玩得不亦乐乎。我坐在游乐场旁的长椅上，感到非常无聊。突然，我看到了我的好朋友爱文，我兴奋地向她跑去，并跟她愉快地聊了起来。此时，我早已忘记妈妈嘱咐我的话，也忘了看好妹妹是我的责任。

这时，妹妹坐在滑梯上面，忽然，一只毛毛虫从树上掉在了妹妹的头上，而此刻的我却还沉浸在和爱文的对话中，一点儿都没发现“危险”正在一点点地靠近妹妹。

“啊！毛毛虫！姐姐救我！”妹妹大声喊道。这时，毛毛虫从妹妹的头上掉在了她的手上。要知道，妹妹最怕虫子了。而当我听到了妹妹的救命声时，已经太迟了。“砰！” 妹妹失去重心，一下子从滑梯边上摔了下去。妹妹的手臂碰到了栏杆上，膝盖也擦伤了。妹妹痛苦地呻吟着，泪水像断了线的珠子不停地落下。而当时的我心里一阵刺痛，不停的责备自己。

我快速地抱起妹妹，一边安慰她，一边着急地往家跑。

“妈！妹妹受伤了！” 我刚踏进家门，就急忙喊妈妈。妈妈看到受伤的妹妹，急急忙忙地把她抱到了沙发上，给她涂药。之后，妈妈愤怒地瞪着我说：“我不是叫你看好妹妹吗？结果你却让妹妹受伤！”我听了，愧疚地低下了头，羞愧得无地自容。过后，我诚心地向妈妈道歉，并保证以后会当一个负责任的好姐姐。

虽然这件事已经过去很久了，但我还是难以忘怀。每当我想起这件事时，就觉得非常后悔。

Wang Xinyao

6 Confidence

一件令我愧疚万分的事

在漆黑一片的天幕中，天上那一颗颗星星是那么的耀眼，那么的闪亮。每当我抬头仰望时，它总会为我指引前进的方向，时时刻刻提醒着我，让那一件后悔的事无时无刻地沉浮在我的脑海中。我常常想：如果我当初没有做得那么极端，现在的我们是不是就不会像现在这样物是人非。曾经我最痛恨的词语，却又真实地发生在我身上。敢问人生在世，又怎能不后悔呢？

还记得那是五年级时的期中考试，我偶然之间听到了你和你同桌之间的对话。“怎么办，明天就要期中考了，我们俩最近都在熬夜打游戏，一个重点都没复习，这可怎么办啊？”我记得你焦急地说，焦急不安中还掺杂着一丝懊悔。“不用担心，我早有准备。我最近跟隔壁班的学生学了一种新型小抄的做法。我昨天就做好了，你要不要？我给你做一份。反正我们俩坐在角落，老师肯定看不见。”你的同桌自信地说，好像一点儿都不怕似的。“呃，这……这样不好吧，万一被老师发现，我们可就惨了！”你犹豫的语调中还带着一丝不易察觉的担忧。“哎呀，你怎么婆婆妈妈的，跟个老妈子似的？难道你还有更好的办法吗？”“可，不怕一万，就怕万一，万一……”你的话还没说完就被她给打断了。“你难到想被你父母骂个狗血淋头吗？”“这……我回去考虑一下吧！”你们边说边并肩走了出去，留下躲在角落的我一个人暗自纠结着。

“铃，同学们，上课啦！”突然响起的上课铃声叫醒了沉思的我。我踱步走回教室，耳边时不时传来你和你同桌的匿笑，可我却像什么都听不见似的，陷入了一个安静的世界里。

突然，这个安静的世界变得嘈杂了起来。有好多人大声喧嚷了起来：“告诉她，这样做是不对的！”“去告诉老师吧！”“她可是你的朋友啊！”“你不能害了她！”“你不告诉老师才是害了她！”心底同时响起的两道声音吵得几乎让我崩溃。老师已经站在讲台讲考试注意事项了，可我却一点儿都没发觉，继续听着心底的两道声音互相争执着。

那天，老师讲的东西我一点儿都没听进去。

晚上，我躺在床上，虽然争吵了一天的两道声音安静了下来，但是我却翻来覆去，不论怎样都睡不着。我仰躺在床上，想了半天，还是决定遵循内心深处的想法。我翻身下床，拿起手机，编辑了一条信息准备发给老师。可，不知怎么，我的手指却悬在“发送”两个字上。过了半晌，我好似下定决心般按下了发送键。不一会儿，老师就回复了我。

可，令我没想到的是，就在老师回复我后的一秒，你发来了一条信息：暖月，怎么办！马上要考试了，我还没有复习，同桌她要帮我作弊，你说我要不要答应她？我一下子就愣住了。还未等我反应过来，你又发来了一条短信：我决定了，我不作弊了，我要是考不好，你可要帮我打掩护啊！

我想了半天，还是没能鼓起勇气向你坦白。

考试那天，你被误会与你同桌作弊，被带去了教导处。

考试结束后，我主动向你坦白事情的真相。你气得眼眶通红，眼底也是一片瘆人的猩红色。你高高地举起了你的右手，重重地打了我一巴掌。我的脸颊痛得如同火烧般。然后，你头也不回地走了。

从此之后，我们就再也没见过面。

天上的星星依旧闪耀，但也仿佛是在嘲笑我这般傻的行为，嘲笑我的鲁莽与冲动，嘲笑我失去了一个好朋友，嘲笑我的懦弱。那一声“对不起”我始终没能说出口，那一声“对不起”也成了我心头的一个遗憾。如果我当初没有那样做，如果我先发条短信劝说你，如果我告诉老师一切都是误会，那么，故事的结尾是不是就会有所改变，我们也不会物是人非；又或者说，如果这个世界上有后悔药，让我反悔；如果这个世界上有时光机，让我改变历史；如果，这世界上有如果……

可……如果终究是如果，就像梦终究是梦，梦醒了，一切就都没有了啊！后悔又有什么用呢？

Zhang Jiani

6 Diligence

一件令我遗憾的事

看花开花谢，听潮起潮落，观云卷云舒。时光匆匆流逝，侵蚀了快乐的记忆，冲淡了不愉快的往事。虽然那么多年过去了，但我还是清楚地记得那一次，我不分青红皂白地误会了我的好朋友，小明，而且还狠狠地打了他，我很是后悔。我经常在想如果当时我能更理智的话，我先把真相查个水落石出，过后再行动的话，也许这一切就不会发生了。

我和小明是从小玩到大的玩伴。我们就像亲兄弟，情同手足，无所不谈。

那天放学后，我们就如往常一样走回家。半途中，我突然灵机一动，想到了一个“好主意”。于是，我便停下脚步，兴奋地对小明说：“小明， 既然我们是那么多年的好朋友了，要不……我们互相分享一个自己‘不为人知的秘密’吧！”“这……好吧，说就说，谁怕谁。”小明听了后，有点犹豫地回答道。 我想了想，告诉小明我最怕的动物其实是猫，直到现在，一见到猫，我就浑身不自在，不由颤抖。 小明说他其实一直以来都很害怕兔子，我们虽然嘲笑了一下对方，但最后还是答应对方决不把对方的秘密说出去。

第二天，上课时，我和小明一起上厕所。谁知，坐在我身旁的小文，趁我去上厕所时，把一只毛绒绒的玩具猫放进了我的书包。当我回到课室，要从书包里取出课本时，看到了那只长毛玩具猫。我吓得惊慌失措，急忙跳到了一旁，遮住眼，指着书包里的玩具猫喊道：“救命啊！有猫！我怕！”

此时我也听到耳边议论纷纷。“ 大家快看！小乐居然会被只玩具猫给吓成这样！”小文一边拿着书包里的长毛玩具猫，一边大声嘲笑我。当时的我，

脸涨得通红，恨不得地上有个洞让我钻进去。同时，我眼神也充满了杀气，我转头对着坐在后面的小明瞪了一眼。随后，老师便叫全班安静，过后她关心了我一下，便继续上课。

休息时间到了，同学们又开始嘲笑我怕猫的这件事，这令我越来越气火攻心。正在这时，小明碰巧来到我身旁，仿佛要开口和我说些什么……我一时控制不住心中的怒气，不由分说，便狠狠地打了他一下，并大声地喊道："赵小明！你怎么可以出卖我？还亏我和你是多年的朋友，我真是瞎了眼才会交你这种朋友！""不是的，不是的，小乐你一定要……"还没等他把话说完，我就已经打断了他的话："我不要再和你做朋友了，我要和你绝交！"

回到家后，我感到很累，便想在床上小睡一会儿。"滴答、滴答……床前小闹钟的指针不停地转动着。我躺在床上翻来覆去睡不着，一合上眼就想起我打了小明的那一幕。于是，我便起身，坐在床上沉思。忽然之间，我想起前天我和小明互相玩闹后，隐约看到了小文在我与小明的前面。我开始怀疑自己是否误会了小明。

又过了一天，我一到课室就第一时间去找小文问个清楚。那么巧，小文也主动来找我，把事情的前因后果告诉了我。他承认这件事和小明无关，是他一个人的恶作剧，然后他诚恳地向我道歉。一听到这，我便以迅雷不及掩耳的速度去找小明。找到小明后，我把事情的真相一五一十地告诉他，然后诚心诚意地向他道歉，告诉他自己不应该不分青红皂白就冤枉他，我请求他不记前嫌再和我做朋友。

最后，虽然小明原谅了我，但我始终能感觉到我们的友谊已经出现了裂痕，而小明也并不是发自内心地原谅我。我们的友情也今时不如往日了，我为此感到后悔莫及。

Toh En Le

6 Empathy

碰瓷

一个晴朗的下午，我正在公园里跑步时，突然看到不远处围了很多人。我一时好奇，便走上前去看看究竟发生了什么事。

一位四十岁出头的大叔正躺在地上，旁边停着一辆摩托车，还站着一位年轻的小伙子。“你呀！怎么撞了人还不赔钱呐？”大叔埋怨道，双眼怒瞪着小伙子。“大叔……”小伙子皱着眉头看向躺在地上的大叔，“我都没撞到你，你就突然倒下了！这怎么能怪我呢？”大叔听了，挑了挑眉毛，又换成一副愁眉苦脸的样子看向自己的双腿，唉声道：“哎呦！我的腿呀！虽然看不出，可是可疼得要命啊！我要是有个三长两短的，那我那一家老小可怎么办？”紧接着，他就开始呻吟道。

周围的人们都开始议论纷纷，有的对小伙子指手画脚，认为他撞了人却还推卸责任；有的用厌恶的眼光朝大叔看，认为他浑然就是一个来“碰瓷”的人。“我报警了！我们等警察来才说清楚吧！”一位妇女举起手机大声说道。大叔的神情一慌，脸色也突然变得苍白。“警察？我觉得不用了吧！这点小事赔个钱就可以了，不用报警的……”大叔吞吞吐吐地说道，尴尬地笑着。“不行！我又没撞到你，凭什么给你钱！”小伙子气愤地说道，“我们等警察来吧！”

大叔抿了抿唇，手掌在地上撑了一下，却又缩了回去，他似乎在纠结着些什么……警车铃声响了起来，“呜哇呜哇”的警车铃声越来越大声，大叔扶着墙站了起来，“没事！我的脚好些了，我走了吧！”他慢慢地往前走，

好像要故意离开。几个群众挡住了他的去路。“怎么那么急着要走啊？难道不等警察来评评理吗？ “小伙子亲切地问道，要求大叔留下来。“发生什么事了？”一阵陌生却有力的声音打破了这场尴尬的局面。大叔抬头一看，突然吓得一哆嗦，是警察！

“我……我的腿……已经好了……”大叔急急忙忙地说道。“别急！讲清楚！你刚才不还闹着腿伤要赔钱吗？怎么突然就好了？”警察质问道。小伙子在一旁冷笑道，觉得这下终于轮到别人责怪大叔了！大叔的眼睛一直在躲避着警察的目光，还露出了一副做贼心虚的模样。不一会儿，大叔终于肯张口说话了。“我……我家境贫寒，今天也就想着可以顺便碰个瓷多拿些钱……”警察看着大叔一副愧疚万分的样子，也不多听解释就直接把他带去警察局了。“小伙子，你又是怎么回事？如果你的车速不超标，也不会被碰瓷的人盯上！你可得注意点，别下次真撞到人了！”警察嘱咐了小伙子交通安全的重要性，随后便离开了。

人群慢慢地散开了，小伙子也认识到了自己的错误，下定决心要注意交通规则。我想，如果每个人都守好自己的本分，不做错事的话，那也同样不会让别人在自己身上找到差错，并趁机钻空子了吧……

Zoe Lee

6 Empathy

不讲卫生的志明

志明平时不讲卫生，经常随手乱丢垃圾，所以同学们都叫他“垃圾虫”。爸爸妈妈经常提醒他要改掉这个坏习惯，可是他却不以为然，依然我行我素。

一天放学后，志明像往常一样，做完功课后便坐在沙发上看起了电视。看着看着，他觉得有点饿，就把茶几上的饼干拿来吃。吃完一包饼干，他就把包装袋随手一丢。

正当志明看电视看到入迷时，家里的电话响了。他一接起电话，就传来了好朋友小安兴奋的声音：“走，志明，我们打球去！”志明的眼睛一亮：“好！你在篮球场等我，我马上就来！”说完，他把手中的饼干往嘴里一塞，连地上和沙发上的包装袋也没收拾就迫不及待地冲出了家门。

志明一溜烟地跑到附近的篮球场，发现小安已经在等他了。他们便兴高采烈地打起篮球。志明左冲右突，抢到了球就把它投进了篮筐。小安也不甘示弱，发起了进攻。不一会儿，他们便玩得满头大汗，衣服都湿透了。

“小安，不如你去我家喝杯饮料吧！”志明提议道。“好啊！我正口渴呢！”小安回答道。于是，两个小伙伴便高高兴兴，有说有笑地向志明家走去。

志明一推开房门，就看见客厅里脏乱不堪，饼干的包装袋扔得到处都是。他和小安正想要在沙发上坐下时，发现沙发和茶几上都是饼干碎，上面还爬满了蚂蚁。看到这一幕，志明和小安大惊失色，呆呆地站在那里，好半天也说不出话来。

“志明，还不是你吃东西掉下的饼干碎引来了这么多的蚂蚁。我们赶快清理干净吧！”小安一边说，一边把饼干包装袋丢进垃圾桶。志明愣了一会儿，便从储藏室拿出吸尘器，把地上和沙发上的饼干碎清理掉。

两人把客厅收拾干净后，志明端来了饮料，和小安一起喝了起来。小安一边喝饮料，一边对志明说：“志明，你一定要改掉不讲卫生的坏习惯，不能再做垃圾虫了！”

听了小安的一番话，志明羞愧地低下了头……

Xu Chenyuan

6 Empathy

拆穿骗局

一个晴朗的下午，我正在公园里跑步时，突然看到不远处围了很多人。我一时好奇，便走上前去看看究竟发生了什么事。我踮起脚，伸长了脖子往人群里张望。原来是一位中年男子在地上放了许许多多五颜六色的水瓶，大声叫卖着。

“快来看看啊！这是我公司新出的产品：健康水瓶！别小看这个瓶子，它的底部有一块水晶，当你把白开水倒进去后，这里面的水就会含有大量对人身体有益的矿物质。经常喝能让人身体健康，老年人延年益寿！”那位中年男子的吆喝声引来了不少老年人，其中有些老年人准备掏钱买下这种“神奇”的水瓶。

“这不就是奶奶两个月前买的水瓶吗？瓶子里面哪有什么水晶，只不过是一块玻璃！他就是个骗子！”我轻声嘀咕着。我恨不得当场揭穿那位男子骗人的把戏，可我见他人高马大，而我人单力薄，根本就是以卵击石，我的心不免有些害怕。难道，就让骗子得逞吗？爸爸妈妈平时教导我做人要有正义感。再说，这里有那么多的路人，我根本不需要害怕。于是，我费了九牛二虎之力挤到人群前，指着男子大声喊道：“你这个骗子！还敢在光天化日之下骗老人的钱！我奶奶上过你的当，瓶子里根本不是什么水晶，就是一块玻璃！”我的话音刚落，围观的人们顿时骚动起来，七嘴八舌地议论着。中年男子听了顿时目露凶光，好像发疯的狮子一样吼道：“小孩子懂什么？别瞎说！”见他气急败坏的样子，我急中生智，不甘示弱地喊道：“你别想溜！我已经报警了！”

我的喊声引来了越来越多的人来围观，大家纷纷指责中年男子见利忘义的行为。中年男子见情况不妙，赶紧收拾东西准备开溜。看到这一幕，大家一拥而上，不让他有任何的机会逃跑。不一会儿，警察来了，原来人群中早有人报了警。中年男子看到警察来了，顿时像泄了气的皮球一样，在旁人的指责声中垂头丧气地被警察带走了。

刚才差点儿被骗的老年人激动地称赞我是个有正义感的好孩子。围观的人们也不约而同地向我投来赞许的目光。此刻，一股暖流涌上了我的心头：做个有正义感的人真自豪！

Xu Chenyuan

6 Empathy

骑脚踏车的男孩

最美的事情，不过是和家人在夕阳将要落下时去花园散步，孩子们玩，大人们谈……

这一天，文文和小光和爷爷奶奶一起来到了楼下的篮球场。看着两个宝贝孙子正玩得开心，站累了的奶奶也顺便在附近的长椅上坐下来歇了一会儿，而爷爷，就站在奶奶长椅的前面伸展胳膊，活络筋骨。刹那间，“叮铃铃”的一声车铃打破了这美好和谐的地方，紧接着响起骑车男孩的大喊声，“快让开！让开！”爷爷连忙转头一看，一个男孩正骑着脚踏车飞快地向自己冲来，幸好奶奶眼疾手快，一把把爷爷拉到一旁，才没有酿成惨剧。

说时迟，那时快！刚绕过爷爷，小男孩就回头得意地向爷爷做了个鬼脸，可是就在那时，爷爷奶奶都异口同声地叫道：“小心，小心啊！”小男孩往前一看，心里一震，可是却停止不了事故的发生。结果，脚踏车撞到了前方的一个垃圾桶。

小男孩整个人从车上摔了下来，跌坐在地上呻吟着。在一旁目睹这一幕的祖孙四人没一个不被震呆的，个个都站在原地一动不动。爷爷奶奶最先反应过来，连忙三步并作两步地走到了小男孩跟前，还蹲下来帮小男孩检查身体。刚才在一旁打篮球的文文和小光也放下了手中的篮球，到男孩那儿去帮助他。他们扶起了男孩的脚踏车，并问男孩身体还疼不疼。

男孩看着对自己那么关心的祖孙四人，心里仿佛有了一股暖流涌起。回想起自己刚才那些无理的行为，男孩的脸“唰”的一下红了起来，真是恨不

得立马挖个地洞钻下去。“没事！只是弄脏了而已！”男孩拍了拍身上的灰，尴尬地笑道。“怎么会没事？都从车上跌下来了！来，我送你回家！”爷爷一边把男孩扶起来，一边让奶奶看管好文文和小光。

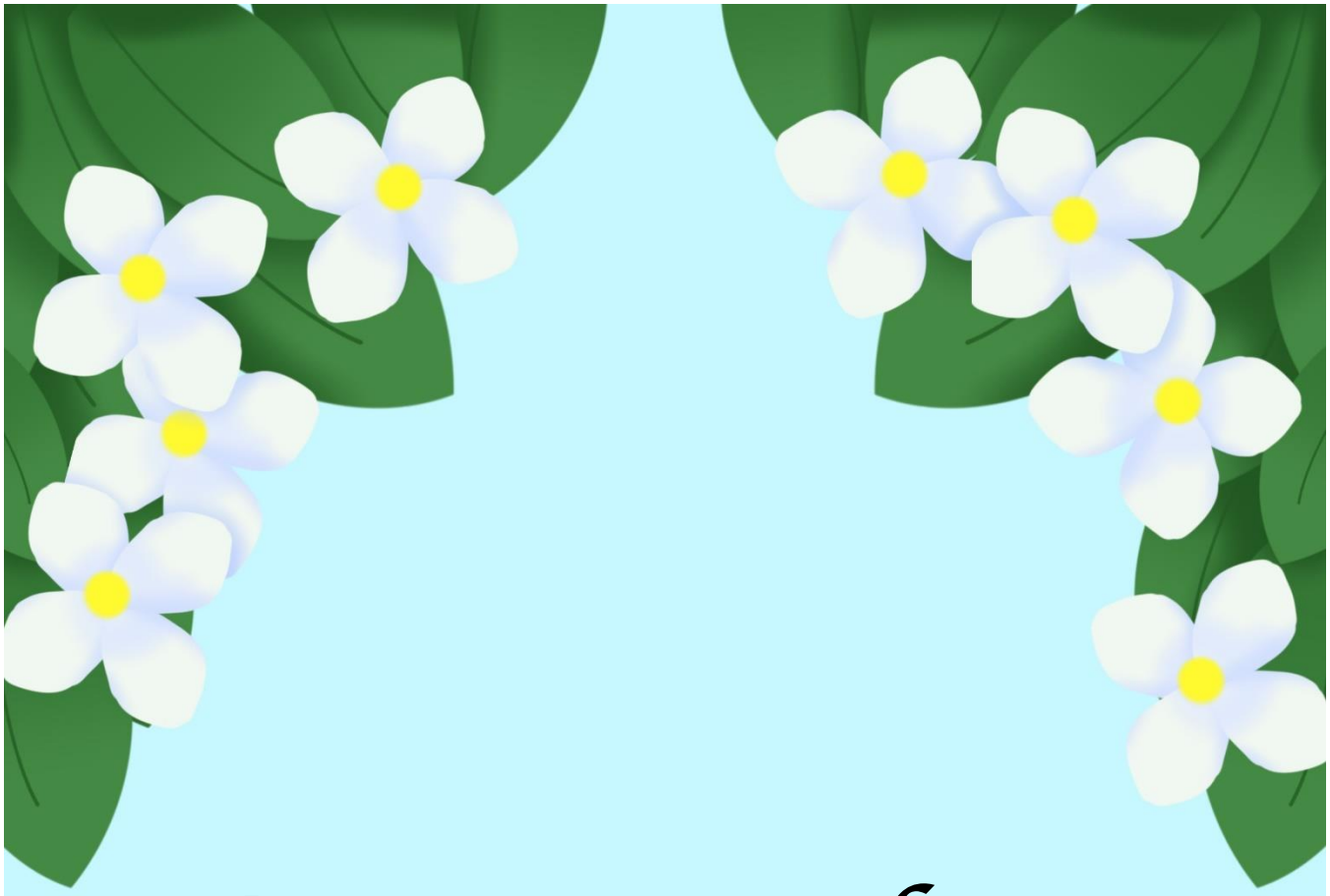
男孩的泪水不禁从眼眶里涌了出来，一滴滴地从他的脸颊上滑落下来。爷爷见了，连忙用手帮男孩擦干眼泪，“你是男子汉！这点小伤不能哭呀！”爷爷笑着说道。男孩点点头，只有他自己心里才知道，自己并不是因受伤而哭，而是因为爷爷奶奶这番行为真正地打动了他，也让他为自己之前的行为感到内疚万分。

就这样，爷爷扶着小男孩，跟着小男孩所说的方向送他回家，一老一小的两个身影渐渐跟着太阳西下一同在远处褪去了，可那一份温情却在男孩的心里存留。男孩终于明白了，不计前嫌帮助他人，才是真正的善良并值得骄傲的。

这件事就在橘红色夕阳的衬托下结束了……男孩从此也有了个目标，再也不是那个炫酷的骑车手，而是要成为像爷爷那样善良无私的人……

Zoe Lee

6 Empathy



Dengan membaca,
Kamu mengenal dunia.
Dengan menulis,
Kamu dikenali dunia.

Pantun Dua Kerat

Pulang dari sekolah singgah ke kedai,
Kami ingin belajar hingga pandai.

Berkelah dengan keluarga di tepi pantai,
Amalan membaca menjadikan kami pandai,

Muri-murid Kelas 3 Bijak

Bertanggungjawab

Awal-awal lagi Laila dan adik-beradiknya sudah bangun. Hari ini bermulanya sesi persekolahan bagi tahun 2019. Mereka berasa teruja. Selepas mandi, mereka segera menyarung uniform sekolah. Kemudian, mereka ke ruang tamu. Ibu Laila sudah menghidangkan roti bakar, telur rebus dan jus limau di atas meja makan. Mereka sekeluarga menikmati sarapan yang lazat dan berkhasiat.

Semasa Adik Laila, Akif hendak mencapai sekeping roti, lengannya tersenggol gelas minuman. Minuman di dalam gelas itu habis tumpah dan gelas itu juga jatuh tergolek ke atas lantai. Mereka terkejut. Laila berasa risau kerana minuman yang tertumpah itu terkena uniformnya. Dia tidak mahu ke sekolah dengan uniform yang basah dan kotor. Dia bergegas ke bilik untuk menyalin pakaiannya.

Akif rasa bersalah. Dia tertunduk kesal. Ayah memujuk dan menasihatinya supaya berhati-hati. Sementara itu, ibu Laila sibuk mengutip serpihan kaca di lantai. Beliau bimbang jika ahli keluarganya akan cedera akibat terpijak kaca itu. Beliau membersihkan lantai itu dengan cermat. Ana, adik perempuan Laila pula membantu ibunya mengelap meja yang basah.

Selang beberapa minit, Laila kembali ke ruang tamu. Ahli keluarganya menoleh ke arahnya yang sudah berpakaian baharu.

“Akif minta maaf kerana telah mengotorkan uniform kakak,” kata Akif sambil menghulurkan tangannya.

Laila memaafkan Akif dengan putih hati. Ayah dan ibu Laila bangga kerana anak-anak mereka bertanggungjawab. Mereka kembali meneruskan sarapan. Selepas makan, ayah menghantar Laila dan adik-beradiknya ke sekolah dengan menaiki kereta.

Putri Dwi Aleesya
4 Confidence

Beruang Panda

Pada tarikh tujuh Februari 2019, saya dan rakan-rakan sedarjah dibawa ke River Safari untuk berdarmawisata. Walaupun cuaca di sana sangat panas, kami tetap seronok mempelajari tentang haiwan yang hampir pupus iaitu beruang panda.

Beruang panda berasal dari negara China. Beruang panda boleh didapati di wilayah Sichuan, Shaanxi dan Gansu. Tempat tinggal beruang panda agak sejuk. Oleh sebab itu, tempat kurungan dua ekor beruang panda, Jia Jia dan Kai Kai di River Safari juga dingin agar serupa dengan iklim sejuk di sana.

Bayi beruang panda dilahirkan seberat 150 gram dan berukuran hanya 15 sentimeter. Namun, panda dewasa boleh mencecah seberat 110 kilogram. Kaki depan panda dewasa pula berukuran 18 hingga 21 sentimeter. Beruang panda berbulu hitam dan putih. Tompokan bulu hitam itu terdapat pada mata, telinga dan muncungnya. Gigi geraham beruang panda besar dan otot rahangnya pula kuat. Beruang panda mempunyai sebatang ibu jari dan lima batang jari yang lain. Jangka hayat beruang panda antara 20 hingga 30 tahun.

Lebih daripada 99% diet pemakanan beruang panda terdiri daripada buluh. Beruang panda boleh makan lebih daripada dua puluh gram buluh setiap hari. Beruang pada suka makan buluh yang segar. Keenam-enam jari beruang panda membantunya memegang batang buluh dengan kejap.

Aktiviti-aktiviti yang dilakukan oleh manusia seperti pembalakan, pertanian dan pembangunan telah menyebabkan panda kehilangan tempat tinggal. Masalah kekurangan sumber makanan juga timbul kerana pokok-pokok buluh semakin berkurangan akibat pemusnahan hutan. Selain itu, beruang panda turut diburu oleh pemburu haram. Bahkan, ada beruang panda yang terperangkap dalam jerat yang dipasang untuk haiwan yang lain misalnya kijang.

Terdapat beberapa cara untuk membantu pemuliharaan beruang panda. Salah satu daripadanya jangan membeli barang-barang yang diperbuat daripada pokok buluh dan juga bulu beruang panda. Kita juga boleh mengurangkan pemanasan global dengan menaiki kenderaan awam dan berkongsi kenderaan. Hal ini dapat memastikan beruang panda dapat tinggal di kawasan yang beriklim sejuk.

Saya benar-benar berharap agar orang ramai membantu dalam pemuliharaan beruang panda. Lawatan ke River Safari merupakan satu pengalaman yang menarik dan membuka mata saya bahawa kita harus menjaga alam sekitar sekali gus mencintai bumi kita.

Muhammad Irfan Bin Abdullah
4 Brilliance

Pengalaman Berharga

"Ibu, ke manakah kita akan pergi pada hujung minggu ini?" tanya Shafiqah.

"Kita akan ke pantai," jawab ibunya.

Keesokan harinya, Shafiqah ringan tulang membantu ibunya di dapur. Dia memasukkan bekal makanan dan minuman ke dalam bakul. Dia juga menolong ibunya mengemas beg pakaian. Kira-kira jam sembilan pagi, mereka pun berangkat ke Pantai East Coast dengan menaiki kereta. Mereka sekeluarga berasa sungguh ceria.

Sebaik sahaja mereka tiba di tepi pantai, mereka mencari tempat yang agak teduh di bawah sebatang pohon yang rendang. Cuaca pada masa itu sangat cerah dan angin bertiup sepoi-sepoi bahasa. Selepas membentang tikar dan meletakkan barang-barang yang dibawa di atas tikar, Shafiqah dan adiknya ke tandas untuk menyalin pakaian renang. Kemudian, ayah menemani mereka bermandi-manda di laut. Ayah mengajar adik Syafiqah cara-cara berenang. Ibu Shafiqah pula asyik membaca sebuah novel.

Setelah penat bermandi-manda, ayah dan adik Syafiqah membina istana pasir. Mereka menggunakan baldi, penyodok dan acuan haiwan. Istana pasir mereka besar dan cantik. Shafiqah pula berenang sendirian. Tiba-tiba, otot kakinya kejang. Dia menjerit ketakutan dengan tangan terkapai-kapai. Ayah Shafiqah terdengar jeritan itu lalu segera mendapatkannya yang hampir lemas di laut. Ibu dan adik Shafiqah yang melihat keadaan tersebut berasa cemas. Akhirnya, ayah Shafiqah berjaya menariknya ke darat.

Kaki Shafiqah masih sakit. Ibu Shafiqah segera mengurut kakinya. Selang beberapa minit, kakinya sudah tidak kejang lagi. Mereka pun mula mengisi perut yang kelaparan. Selepas makan, Shafiqah dan adiknya bermain di taman permainan yang berdekatan dengan pantai. Kira-kira jam empat petang, mereka sekeluarga pun beredar. Dalam perjalanan pulang, Shafiqah dan adiknya tertidur akibat kepenatan.

Aurel Syauqina binte Sharil
4 Confidence

Pengalaman Memancing yang Berharga

Pada Sabtu lepas, Ali sekeluarga bercadang untuk memancing. Ayah dan Ali membawa beg untuk memancing. Mereka telah menyiapkan perkakas-perkakas yang diperlukan untuk memancing. Mereka akan memancing di pantai East Coast.

Setibanya di jeti, mereka memasang joran mereka. Ali menunggu bersama ayahnya dengan ghairah. Selepas menunggu untuk beberapa minit. Ali agak seperti ada sesuatu memakan umpannya.

Ali menarik jorannya dan dia berjaya menangkap ikan. Mereka berasa gembira. Ali menghulurkan jorannya itu kepada ayahnya. Ali tidak sabar untuk membakar ikan itu.

Mereka membawa ikan itu k tempat membakar dan mula membakar ikan itu. Mereka menunggu dengan gembira untuk ikan itu masak dengan betul. Selepas ayah Ali kata bahawa ikan itu sudah boleh dimakan, Ali dan ibunya mula makan bersama. Ali sekeluarga amat gembira dapat makan dan meluangkan masa bersama.

Qaifa Falisha Binte Muhammad Zaid
4 Aspiration

Suatu Perbuatan Baik

Pada suatu hari, Laila ternampak seorang tua di kolong blok rumah Laila. Laila berasa sangat kasihan kerana orang tua itu mengangkat beberapa beg plastik yang berat.

Orang tua itu tinggal di tingkat lima. Laila pun menaiki lif bersama orang tua itu ke tingkat lima. Selepas menaiki lif, Laila menghantar orang tua itu sampai di luar rumahnya. Orang tua itu mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Laila kerana sudi menolongnya.

Selepas menemani orang tua itu pulang, Laila pun pulang ke rumah. Setibanya di luar rumah, Laila bersalaman ibunya. Dia memberitahu ibunya sebab dia pulang lewat. Setelah mendengar penjelasan Laila, ibu Laila bangga terhadap Laila.

Muhammad Fauzan Bin Muhaimin
4 Confidence

Akibat Cuai

Wawa dan Naim sedang membuat kerja sekolah masing-masing dengan khusyuk. Lima puluh minit kemudian, Wawa dan Naim pun selesai membuat kerja sekolah mereka. Selepas itu, mereka berdua meminta izin daripada ibu mereka, Puan Norjihan untuk ke taman pemainan di sebelah blok rumah mereka. Sebelum Puan Norjihan mengizinkan anak-anaknya pergi ke taman permainan itu, dia menyuruh anak-anaknya makan tengah hari. Selepas Wawa dan Naim selesai makan, mereka berdua bergegas ke taman permainan tersebut.

Sepuluh minit kemudian, Wawa dan Naim pun tiba di taman permainan itu. Dengan pantas, Wawa bergegas ke arah sebuah buaian yang ada di taman permainan itu. Dia duduk di atas buaian tersebut dengan gembira. Naim terpaksa menjaga adiknya ke mana sahaja dia pergi.

Lima minit kemudian, rakan Naim, Nazwan pun tiba. Naim pun mula bersembang dengan rakannya. Tanpa disedarinya, adiknya, Wawa sudah turun dari buaian. Naim dan Nazwan bercadang untuk bermain bola sepak yang terletak di sebelah taman permainan itu. Mereka pun bergegas ke padang bola dengan penuh kegembiraan.

Rupa-rupanya, Wawa telah bercadang untuk menaiki sebuah tangga yang terdapat di taman permainan itu. Dia berjalan ke arah tangga itu dengan rasa ghairah. Tanpa disedarinya, ada seekor ular sawa yang sedang berehat di bahagian atas tangga itu. Apabila Wawa ternampak ular itu, dia menjerit dengan kuat.

Naim dan rakannya terdengar jeritan Wawa. Mereka pun bergegas ke taman permainan itu. Naim ternampak Wawa yang sedang menuruni tangga. Dia pun segera berlari ke arah adiknya lalu menarik adiknya. Wawa menangis ketakutan.

Naim membawa Wawa pulang ke rumah. Naim beresa menyesal dan bersalah kerana tidak menjaga adiknya dengan baik. Naim berjanji kepada dirinya sendiri yang dia tidak akan mengulangi perbuatan cuainya lagi.

Nur Qhalisya Qurain Binte Mohamad Safiee
5 Diligence

Bekerjasama

Pada hari yang ceria itu, Syafiq, Alif dan Rin sedang bekerjasama untuk membuat projek robot. Kumpulan Alif berasa gembira apabila membuat draf dan melukis robot impian mereka pada sekeping kertas. Mereka saling memberi idea.

"Kita akan memasang robot bersama-sama. Seronoknya!" kata Rin.

"Rin, awak memasang tangan robot dengan salah. Berikan robot itu kepada saya sekarang!" teriak Syafiq.

Tiba-tiba, Syafiq dan Rin bergaduh dan mula berebut-rebut robot itu. Alif risau apabila Syafiq dan Rin bergaduh. Wajah mereka merah padam.

"Syafiq! Berikan robot itu kepada saya sekarang!" kata Rin.

"Tidak boleh! Awak tidak tahu memasang robot!" kata Syafiq.

Robot itu tiba-tiba pecah seribu. Mereka terperanjat melihat keadaan robot itu.

"Minta maaf Alif, kita tidak sengaja memecahkan robot itu," kata Rin dan Syafiq.

Rin dan Syafiq berasa sangat bersalah. Hati mereka pecah seribu.

Selepas kejadian malang itu, Syafiq, Alif dan Rin cuba memasang robot itu lagi. Mereka tidak putus asa dan mencuba lagi. Selepas selesai memasang robot, mereka cuba menghidupkannya. Robot itu boleh bergerak. Syafiq, Alif dan Rin gembira dan berasa tenang hati.

"Wah, robot ini boleh menyapu lantai!" kata Rin.

Keesokan harinya, Syafiq, Alif dan Rin pada mulanya berasa gementar kerana mereka harus membuat pembentangan di hadapan khalayak ramai. Namun, setelah Alif memberi Rin dan Syafiq motivasi, mereka menjadi lebih yakin.

"Robot ini boleh menyapu lantai!" kata Alif semasa membuat pembentangan di atas pentas. Kumpulan Alif berasa gelisah apabila para pengadil menilai robot hasil rekaan kumpuulan mereka. Tiba-tiba, para pengadil bertepuk tangan untuk kumpulan Alif.

"Syabas, kumpulan Alif! Awak menang!" kata para pengadil.

Rin berasa bangga.

"Alif, Syafiq, kita menang!" kata Rin.

Penonton menepuk tangan dan bersorak untuk mereka. Cikgu memberikan piala yang besar kepada mereka. Dari peristiwa ini, Afiq mempelajari bahawa mereka harus bekerjasama dan menolong satu sama lain untuk berjaya.

Muhammad Raiyan Bin Muhammad Farid
5 Diligence

Bersikap Mulia dalam Persahabatan

Dalam perjalanan pulang, saya ternampak Azmi, teman sedarjah saya. Saya mendapati bahawa kelakuannya tidak seperti biasa. Walaupun kami jarang berbual, saya membuat keputusan untuk mendekatinya kerana saya berasa risau melihat keadaannya itu. Saya menepuk bahu kanannya.

“Eh, Azmi! Mengapa awak kelihatan muram?” soal saya dengan nada yang lembut.

Azmi pun menoleh ke arah saya lalu memberikan senyuman sinis. Saya menghulurkan tangan saya untuk bersalaman dengannya.

Dahi Azmi berkerut-kerut seakan-akan dia sedang memikirkan sesuatu. Dia harus pulang dengan segera kerana dia mahu melawat ibunya yang sedang dirawat di hospital. Air matanya bergenang di kolam matanya apabila dia memberitahu tentang hal itu.

Menurut Azmi, ibunya di unit kecemasan. Dia telah ditimpa kemalangan di tempat tugasnya. Kakinya telah patah dalam kemalangan itu. Saya amat terkejut dan terharu apabila mendengar cerita Azmi.

Saya cuba meningkatkan semangatnya agar dia tidak terlalu sedih. Saya takut jika perkara ini akan menjejas pelajarannya. Peperiksaan akan menjelang tidak lama lagi. Mujur, keadaan ibunya semakin pulih setelah beberapa minggu dirawat di hospital.

Dengan masalahnya, saya bercadang untuk membantu Azmi dalam pelajaran. Saya tidak mahu dia ketinggalan dan gagal. Saya juga bercadang untuk melawat ibunya dengan keluarga saya.

Akhirnya, tali persahabatan kami berdua berubah menjadi seperti isi dan kuku. Azmi bersyukur kerana dia telah dapat seorang sahabat yang baik budi. Azmi juga memuji saya atas sikap saya yang baik hati dan tidak hidung tinggi.

Harith Ritz Bin Mohamad Hasmi
5 Diligence

Lawatan ke Kampung Gelam

Sang suria memancarkan sinarnya. Sang bayu meniup daun-daun yang melabai-lambai. Cuaca pada hari itu sungguh ceria. Salimah berasa riang tidak terkata kerana akan melawat Istana Kampung Gelam dengan Cikgu Wani dan rakan-rakan sekelasnya. Mereka berasa teruja untuk ke sana. Mereka asyik berbual-bual dengan seronok. Cikgu Wani memberi arahan dan berpesan agar menjaga keselamatan.

Semasa di dalam bas, murid-murid memakai tali pinggang keledar. Keadaan di dalam bas sungguh riuh dan murid-murid berasa ghairah. Apabila bas berhenti, Salimah tersenyum lebar. Cikgu Wani mengarah murid-murid supaya turun dari bas lalu beratur dengan pasangan masing-masing. Seorang pemandu pelancong menerangkan tentang berbagai tanaman-tanaman Melayu yang terdapat di taman itu. Pemandu pelancong berpesan kepada murid-murid supaya mengikut arahan dan berjalan bersama pasangan mereka kerana mereka akan ke sebuah kawasan yang penuh sesak dengan para pengunjung.

Tiba-tiba, Salimah ternampak sesuatu yang menarik perhatiannya. Rupa-rupanya, dia ternampak sebuah pameran permainan tradisional Melayu. Dia hilang tumpuan dan bersikap cuai lalu berjalan ke arah pameran itu. Salimah keras hati dan degil. Dia tidak mengikut arahan yang diberi. Sementara itu, Cikgu Wani dan murid-murid yang lain pula ke sebuah pameran tentang orang Bugis.

Semasa di kawasan pameran, Cikgu Wani mengira jumlah murid-muridnya. Dia teperanjat dan berasa panik apabila menyedari bahawa Salimah telah hilang. Cikgu Wani menyoal Arif, pasangan Salimah tetapi Arif tidak nampak Salimah. Jantung murid-murid berdebar-debar dan mereka berasa cemas setelah mendengar apa telah terjadi. Mereka campur tangan dan melibatkan diri untuk mencari Salimah. Mereka mencari di setiap pelusuk kawasan itu. Arif berasa risau. Dia patut menjaga pasanganya tetapi gagal. Dia menyebabkan masalah yang besar. Bintik-bintik peluh mula terbit di dahi Arif. Dia berasa letih dan penat.

Tiba-tiba, dia ternampak Salimah di bawah sebatang pokok. Air mata Salimah menitis dan dia berasa takut. Arif bergegas ke arah Salimah dan membawanya kepada Cikgu Wani. Cikgu Wani memujuk Salimah lalu mengucapkan terima kasih kepada murid-muridnya yang bersikap seperti aur dengan tebing. Mereka selalu saling bantu-membantu. Kejadian itu telah mengajar Salimah supaya mengikut arahan dengan teliti. Dia bersyukur kerana dijumpai oleh Arif.

Nur Sabrina Binte Shahmudin
5 Empathy

Nasihat Ibuku

“Oh, ibu! Mengapakah aku tidak mendengar kata-katamu dahulu?” keluhku dengan nada yang sedih.

Dahulu, sebelum ibuku memberikan nasihat, aku selalu bermain-main di dalam kelas dan tidak memberikan tumpuan yang sepenuhnya. Ibuku selalu memberitahuku supaya belajar dan mengulang kaji pelajaran. Namun, aku keras kepala dan tidak mengendahkan nasihat ibuku.

Ketika itu, peperiksaan akhir tahun hampir tiba. Aku belum mengulang kaji pelajaranku. Ibuku selalu berleter dan menyuruh aku belajar. Dia mahu aku lulus dan mendapat markah yang cemerlang dalam peperiksaan. Dia juga tidak mahu melihat aku gagal di masa hadapan kelak. Namun, aku yang keras hati kerana tidak mahu mendengar kata-kata ibuku.

Pada hari peperiksaan tersebut, aku berasa keliru dengan soalan-soalan yang terdapat dalam kertas peperiksaan. Jari-jemariku terketar-ketar kerana takut jika aku tidak dapat menjawab soalan-soalan peperiksaan dengan baik. Semenjak itu, barulah aku menyedari betapa pentingnya persediaan sebelum menduduki peperiksaan. Selepas peperiksaan tamat, barulah aku berasa lega.

Beberapa hari telah berlalu. Keputusan peperiksaan akhir tahun pun diumumkan. Aku takut seperti tikus kerana bimbang jika aku gagal. Apabila namaku dipanggil oleh cikgu, aku pun melangkah lesu ke arahnya untuk mengambil kertas peperiksaanku. Perasaan hiba mula menyelubungi diriku. Air mata lesu mengalir di pipiku yang gebu. Seperti yang aku jangkakan, aku telah gagal. Aku pulang ke rumah dengan perasaan hiba.

Setibanya di rumah, ibuku bertanya kepadaku tentang keputusan peperiksaanku. Sebaik sahaja aku menghulurkan kertas peperiksaanku kepadanya, mukanya menjadi

pucat seperti mayat. Namun, ibu tidak memarahiku. Dia tetap memberiku nasihat agar aku teruskan usaha dan tidak berputus-asa. Dia menasihatiku supaya jangan menyerah kalah dan teruskan perjuanganku. Aku hanya mampu tersenyum dan memeluk ibuku.

Nur Nisrynna Afiqah Binte Mohammed Norisman
5 Confidence

Robot yang Menyapu Lantai

Esok hari, hari yang sangat penting bagi Shafian, Anuar dan Nurul. Esok hari yang penting kerana mereka mengambil bahagian dalam Peraduan Bina Robot. Mereka mengambil bahagian dalam peraduan ini kerana kalau mereka menang, mereka akan mendapat hadiah yang sangat baik.

Mereka ke makmal sains untuk berbincang jenis robot yang mereka mahu cipta.

“Anuar, Nurul, saya rasa kita membuat badan robot ini dahulu.” Kata Shafian.

“Saya setuju” Anuar dan Nurul setuju.

Mereka mula memasang badan, tangan, kepala dan kaki robot. Apabila mereka selesai memasang robot itu, Anuar dan Nurul mahu memegang robot itu tetapi ada satu robot sahaja. Mereka bergaduh dan menarik-narik robot itu. Shafian cuba memberhentikan mereka tetapi dia terlalu lambat.

Robot itu pecah dan semua bahagian badannya berterabur. Anuar dan Nurul berasa bersalah atas kejadian itu.

“Tidak apa, kita membuat robot ini sekali lagi” kata Shafian. Mereka memasang tangan, kaki, kepala dan badan robot itu. Apabila mereka sedang memasang dada robot mereka, robot itu hampir pecah lagi. Anuar dan Shafian tidak tahu apa yang harus dilakukan. Mereka tidak berputus asa dan terus mencuba.

“Mari kita sama-sama memasang tangan robot ini supaya dia boleh menyapu kotoran di lantai” Nurul mencadangkan.

“Saya setuju!” Shafian dan Anuar setuju. Mereka sama-sama mengambil tangan robot itu lalu memasangnya dengan cermat. Apabila mereka selesai, mereka cuba menghidupkan robot itu.

Keesokan hari, mereka ke sekolah untuk membuat pembentangan. Walaupun mereka gelisah, mereka juga berasa girang. Anuar, Shafian dan Nurul membuat pembentangan. Penonton bersorak apabila mereka mula membuat pembentangan.

“Selamat pagi semua, saya Nurul and ini Shafian dan Anuar. Robot kami boleh menyapu kekotoran di lantai. Robot ini juga boleh berjalan dan tangannya boleh berfungsi dengan mengangkat objek”.

Para pengadil memberi komen bahawa robot mereka sangat kreatif dan canggih. Selepas pembentangan mereka, banyak peserta yang turut membentangkan robot ciptaan mereka.

Masa yang dinanti-nantikan telah tiba. Para pengadil akan mengumumkan pemenang.

“Pemenang bagi Peraduan Bina Robot 2019 ialah Shafian, Anuar dan Nurul! Syabas kepada mereka!” umum seorang pengadil.

Penonton bersorak kerana mereka mempunyai harapan yang tinggi terhadap Shafian, Anuar dan Nurul. Mereka sangat gembira.

Mereka mendapat piala. Piala itu diletakkan di kelas mereka. Dari peristiwa ini, mereka mempelajari bahawa mereka harus bekerjasama untuk membuat sesuatu dengan lebih cepat dan efektif.

Muhammad Rayyan Bin Huseni
5 Brilliance

Satu Nasihat yang Berharga

Sang suria memancarkan sinarnya ke bumi. Burung berkicauan seakan-akan membuat hidup saya berseri-seri. Saya mengimbas kembali perkara yang telah terjadi dua tahun yang lalu.

Dahulu, saya seorang yang nakal, malas belajar dan tidak mendengar kata-kata guru. Senang kata, saya tidak suka belajar dan malas ke sekolah. Cikgu Hanis, guru bahasa Inggeris saya, sering menasihati agar saya tekun belajar dan fokus semasa di dalam kelas. Kadang-kala, Cikgu Harryanny akan menegur saya dan memberikan kata-kata nasihat. Nenek dan datuk saya juga sering menasihati saya agar memberikan tumpuan pada pelajaran semasa saya di dalam kelas. Saya sering tidak mengendahkan kata-kata mereka.

Pada satu hari, saya gagal dalam semua matapelajaran. Tubuh saya mula gementar. Saya berpeluh ketakutan kerana pastinya keluarga saya akan memarahi saya. Saya melangkah ke rumah dengan perasaan cemas. Jari-jemari saya terketar-ketar ketakutan. Saya menunjukkan kertas peperiksaan saya kepada ibu saya. Tiba-tiba, mukanya berubah menjadi merah padam kerana menahan marah.

Selepas kejadian itu, saya mulai berubah. Di sekolah, saya memberikan tumpuan semasa di dalam kelas dan menghantar kerja sekolah tepat pada waktunya. Sejak itu, prestasi saya dalam pelajaran meningkat. Saya lulus dengan cemerlang. Ibu dan keluarga saya riang tak terkata. Mereka amat bangga dengan pencapaian saya.

Muhammad Shahrufy Bin Mohammad Shah
5 Confidence

Anugerah Berharga

Keheningan malam menenangkan fikiran dan mendamaikan perasaan. Sejak kehadiran adikku, ibu dan ayahku tidak lagi memberi aku perhatian sepenuhnya. Kesunyianku makin bertambah setiap hari.

Tahun ini merupakan tahun yang amat penting untuk aku kerana aku akan menduduki Peperiksaan Tamat Sekolah Rendah (PSLE). Ibu bapaku bekerja dari pagi hingga ke malam. Apabila mereka pulang dari pejabat, mereka akan sentiasa memberi perhatian kepada adikku. Gelak dan tawa riang boleh kedengaran dari ruang tamu. Keluargaku membuat aku berasa seolah-olah aku tidak wujud. Setiap kali aku mendengar deruman enjin, adikku bergegas ke pintu untuk menyambut kepulangan ibu dan ayahku.

"Adik selalu menerima perhatian daripada ibu dan ayah. Ibu dan ayah selalu membeli hadiah untuk adik," keluh aku dalam hati. Setiap kali aku mengenangkan bagaimana aku seperti dianak tirikan oleh keluargaku sendiri, mataku yang bulat akan mula berair.

Peperiksaan PSLE kini hampir tiba. Ibu dan ayahku tidak memberi aku kata-kata rangsangan untuk membangkitkan semangatku. Betapa aku berasa hampa dan tertekan dengan sikap mereka. Ibuku tidak bertanya tentang keadaanku. Aku menenangkan fikiranku dan terus bekerja keras untuk peperiksaan yang amat penting untuk diriku. Aku cuma berusaha tanpa pertolongan ibu bapaku.

Beberapa hari berlalu. Peperiksaan PSLE pun bermula. Aku masih berasa kecewa dengan sikap ibu bapaku yang seolah-olah tidak menghiraukan aku yang sedang menduduki peperiksaan penting. Aku menangis setiap kali aku selesai menduduki kertas peperiksaan. Aku berasa tertekan sehingga aku hilang selera makan dan mengalami kesukaran untuk tidur. Aku berasa hampa dengan sikap ibu bapaku yang berat sebelah. Aku mula berasa bahawa aku tidak penting kepada mereka.

Apabila peperiksaan PSLE sudah tamat, aku beresa lega. Namun, aku masih berasa kecewa dan buntu. Kawan-kawanku sudah mula berehat dan meluangkan masa dengan keluarga. Aku berasa cemburu kerana mereka mendapat kasih sayang dan perhatian yang adil dan saksama antara adik-beradik mereka.

Seminggu selepas peperiksaan PSLE sudah tamat, aku menghidap demam tinggi. Aku tidak mahu memberitahu ibu bapaku tentang keadaanku kerana aku tidak mahu menggangu masa mereka dengan adikku yang merupakan anak emas mereka. Tiba-tiba, adikku masuk ke dalam bilikku dan ternampak mukaku yang pucat seperti mayat. Adik menjerit memanggil ibu dan ayah kami. Mereka memasuki bilikku dengan segera apabila terdengar jeritan adik.

Aku hanya mendiamkan diri. Suhu badanku amat tinggi. Ibuku terus menelefon ambulans. Aku menunjuk sikap keras hatiku terhadap mereka kerana aku masih kecewa dengan sikap mereka. Setelah beberapa minit berlalu, ambulans pun tiba. Para paramedik mengusung aku ke atas usungan dan membawa aku ke hospital. Aku terpaksa ditahan di hospital untuk mengelakkan jangkitan kepada ahli keluargaku yang lain.

Rupa-rupanya, ibu dan ayah menyedari kesilapan mereka dalam mendidik kami adik-beradik. Selepas kejadian itu, ibu dan ayahku sering menjenguk aku di hospital. Walapun sekadar lawatan sahaja, aku amat menghargai kehadiran mereka. Mereka mula memberi aku perhatian yang aku dambakan selama ini. Inilah hadiah yang amat aku hargai.

Nurul Nadhira Binte Muhammad Fizul
6 Confidence

Hikmah Hari Raya

Jam sudah menunjukkan pukul sembilan malam. Aku dan ahli keluargaku yang lain sibuk menyiapkan juadah Hari Raya, membersihkan rumah dan menggosok baju kerana esok hari raya. Semua ahli keluarga menyingsing lengan dan bergotong-royong untuk persiapan Hari Raya Aidilfitri yang bakal menjelang tiba. Nenek, ibu dan ibu saudaraku bersengkang mata untuk menyediakan masakan untuk sajian di pagi raya. Ibu tidak lupa untuk menyiapkan lauk kegemaranku iaitu ayam masak merah, ketupat dan luah lodeh. Aku terliur apabila teringat akan juadah yang bakal menjadi santapanku esok. Kampung nenekku riuh-rendah dengan gelak tawa keluarga besar aku. Kelihatan pelita yang dinyalakan melemparkan cahaya di seluruh kawasan rumah nenek. Betapa aku amat teruja setiap kali melihat suasana kampung yang amat meriah ini.

Namun, di sebalik kegembiraan dan wajah ceria yang terpancar di wajah kamu, terselit juga perasaan sakit di hati aku dan keluargaku. Semua ini disebabkan ketiadaan Abang Zul, abang sulungku yang menghilangkan diri hanya semata-mata untuk mengejar impiannya.

Malam bertukar siang. Terdengar takbir raya yang berkumandang dari masjid yang berdekatan dengan rumah nenek. Kami semua pergi ke masjid untuk menunaikan solat Aidilfitri sebelum pulang untuk menikmati hidangan hari raya yang telah disediakan dengan air tangan nenek, ibu dan ibu saudaraku yang lain. Setelah selesai menunaikan kewajipan kami, kami mula berjalan pulang ke rumah nenek. Kaum wanita bergegas pulang supaya dapat menghidanghkan juadah hari raya.

“Assalammualaikum! Kami sudah balik,” laung ayah dari pintu.

Mendengar salam ayah, kami bergegas dari dapur untuk menghidangkan sajian. Aroma juadah hari raya memang memikat hatiku. “Hidangan sudah siap. Jemput makan!” kata nenek.

Mendengar kata-kata nenek, semua mula bekerumun di meja makan. Mula kedengaran suara ahli keluarga dan sanak-sauadara yang teruja dengan hidangan

makanan seperti ketupat, lemang, kuah lodeh, rendang dan sebagainya yang disediakan. Semua menikmati masakan dengan senyuman terpancar di wajah masing-masing. Betul kata ibu. Ibu berpesan bahawa kita mesti putih hati apabila melakukan sesuatu agar orang lain juga dapat menikmatinya. Aku memandang ke arah setiap dari ahli keluargaku. Semua kelihatan segak dan cantik dengan pakaian tradisional Melayu. Hatiku meluap-luap dengan perasaan gembira dan sayang melihat mereka berkumpul beramai-ramai untuk menyambut hari raya bersama-sama.

"Boom!" Tiba-tiba, kedengaran letupan kecil di luar rumah.

Terdengar jeritan dan latah dari beberapa saudaraku yang lebih tua. Aku ketawa berdekah-dekah selepas meletupkan beg plastik yang berisi udara. Memang itulah kerja aku pada hari raya, mengusik orang.

Selepas itu, semua ahli keluarga dan sanak-saudara, tidak kira tua atau muda, beratur untuk meminta maaf antara satu sama lain. Bagi yang kecil, tujuan utama kami bukan untuk meminta maaf tetapi untuk mendapatkan duit raya! Setelah selesai sesi meminta maaf dan tangis-menangis, kami dikejutkan dengan suara seseorang memberi salam. Semua saling berpandangan. Siapakah yang datang? Kami bergegas keluar. Alangkah terkejutnya kami apabila terpandang akan tetamu yang datang itu.

Terpacul wajah Abang Zul di hadapan pintu rumah nenek. Abang Zul yang sudah lama menghilangkan diri, kini pulang ke kampung halaman. Aku susah untuk menerima kehadiran Abang Zul yang tiba-tiba muncul pada hari ini. Aku memandang ke arah ibu. Air matanya mula mengalir. Aku tahu hati ibu remuk. Aku dapat rasakan apa yang ibu rasakan pada masa itu. Ibu menghalau Abang Zul pergi. Abang Zul kini sudah menempah nama dan menjadi popular. Aku tidak faham sebab dia pulang sedangkan dia telah menyakiti hati semua orang. Dia langsung tidak mengirimkan berita tentang dirinya sepanjang dia tiada dengan kami. Pelbagai soalan bermain-main di mindaku.

Abang Zul menarik tangan ibu dan ayah lalu memohon maaf kepada mereka. Abang mula menjelaskan sebab dia pergi meninggalkan kami beberapa tahun lepas.

“Abang…abang pergi kerana abang tidak mahu lagi melihat keluarga abang susah. Abang berani mati untuk mencari wang demi membantu keluarga kita. Kini, abang sudah berjaya. Abang akan bantu keluarga kita. Abang minta maaf kerana tidak mengirimkan khabar kepada sesiapa,” luah abang dengan suara tersekat-sekat.

“Abang tidak balik kerana ingin menolong keluarga kami tetapi abang masih boleh pulang sekali-sekala, bukan?” aku mula menyoalnya dengan nada marah.

Melihat keadaan aku yang semakin emosi, ayah menyabarkan aku. Kemudian, ayah menarik Abang Zul ke dalam pelukannya dan mendakapnya dengan erat.

“Ayah maafkan kamu, nak,” ayah berkata kepada abang.

Ayah memanjat syukur kepada Illahi kerana Abang Zul sudah pulang. Abang Zul meminta maaf kepada semua ahli keluarga yang lain kerana kehilangannya itu.

Ibu mula mengukirkan senyuman. Ibu juga meminta maaf kepada Abang Zul kerana sikap ibu yang bersikap muka tembok apabila beliau menceritakan tentang aib Abang Zul yang mengabaikan keluarganya selama ini.

Menyedari bahawa semua orang membuat kesilapan, aku pun memaafkan Abang Zul. Melihat kami yang saling meminta maaf, ahli keluarga besarku bersorak kegembiraan. Kami semua masuk ke dalam rumah nenek untuk menyambung sambutan hari raya kami.

Akhirnya, keluargaku kini lengkap. Abang telah menunaikan janjinya untuk membantu kami sekeluarga. Hari raya kali ini sangat bermakna. Aku bersyukur kerana kepulangan Abang Zul dan kehadiran ahli keluargaku yang amat memahami. Inilah hikmah hari raya.

Qistina Maisarah Binti Jumali
6 Brilliance

Insaf

“Bosannya duduk di dalam rumah!” teriak Azlinah.

Azlinah bertanyakan kepada kakaknya jika dia ingin bersiar-siar bersama-sama di taman. Kakaknya bersetuju. Mereka pun pergi ke taman yang berdekatan dengan rumah mereka.

Setibanya mereka di taman tersebut, Azlinah mahu membeli keropok. Mereka pun membuat bayaran bagi keropok itu lalu bersiar-siar di sana.

“Mmm, sedapnya! Keropok berperisa cili ini kegemaran saya,” kata Azlinah.

Setelah makan keropok tersebut, Azlinah pun membuang pembungkus makanan itu ke lantai. Kakaknya berasa terkejut dengan perbuatannya. Dia pun menyuruh Azlinah memungut kembali pembungkus makanan itu. Azlinah tetap berdegil dan tidak mengendahkan kata-kata kakaknya.

Dengan penuh perasaan marah, kakak Azlinah mengutip pembungkus makanan tersebut. Pada masa yang sama, dua orang pemuda di hadapan mereka juga sedang bersiar-siar sambil makan pisang.

“Mmm…sedapnya pisang ini!” kata pemuda yang memakai baju bercorak garisan.

Lelaki tersebut membuang kulit pisang itu ke lantai sejurus setelah dia habis makan pisang tersebut. Rakannya yang berada di sebelahnya tidak mengambil peduli kerana dia masih lagi makan pisang tersebut.

“Aduh!” jerit Azlinah.

Dia terpijak kulit pisang itu lalu terjatuh. Azlinah meraung kesakitan kerana lukanya perit sekali. Kakaknya berlari ke arah Azlinah dan ternampak luka tersebut. Dua pemuda itu melarikan diri kerana ketakutan.

Kakak Azlinah mengangkatnya lalu membawanya ke bangku yang ada di sebelah mereka. Azlinah menunduk malu. Dia meminta maaf kepada kakaknya kerana bersikap degil.

Mujurlah keadaan Azlinah tidak mencemaskan. Di klinik, doktor menyarankan agar Azlinah menyapu krim bagi lututnya yang cedera. Azlinah turut disuruh berehat di rumah. Azlinah benar-benar insaf. Dia berjanji tidak akan lagi membuang sampah sembarangan di tempat awam.

Ariel Miqael Bin Jumah
6 Aspiration

Permainan Sembunyi-Sembunyi

Saya dalam perjalanan ke kedai runcit. Kedai runcit itu terletak agak jauh dari blok saya. Dalam perjalanan saya ke sana, saya ternampak lif yang agak usang. Lif itu mengingatkan saya akan peristiwa yang pernah berlaku setahun yang lalu.

Saya memberikan cadangan kepada adik-beradik saya agar kami bermain di taman yang berdekatan dengan rumah. Mereka teruja apabila mendengar cadangan saya. Mereka pun bersetuju untuk bermain bersama-sama. Kami segera ke dapur untuk meminta kebenaran ibu sebelum ke taman.

Namun, setelah kami keluar dari rumah, hujan mula turun dengan lebatnya.

“Aduhai, malang sungguh nasib kami,” rungut Hafiz.

Kami berasa sedih kerana terpaksa pulang ke rumah. Saya berdiam diri sambil memikirkan aktiviti yang lain. Saya tetap ingin berseronok memandangkan peperiksaan akhir telah tamat seminggu yang lalu.

“Hafiz, Sarah, ayuh kita bermain permainan sembunyi-sembunyi!” kata saya dengan suara yang lantang.

Mereka menoleh ke arah saya sambil mengukir senyuman yang lebar. Mereka berasa gembira mendengar cadangan saya. Saya memberitahu mereka agar permainan itu diadakan di kolong blok sahaja.

Sementara Hafiz dan Sarah mencari tempat untuk bersembunyi, saya menutup muka saya dan memulakan kiraan hingga sepuluh. Saya dapat melihat bayang-bayang bahawa Sarah sedang mengintip di belakang pintu lif.

“Sarah! Hafiz!” saya menjerit ketakutan.

Saya berasa terkejut. Sarah benar-benar berada di dalam lif itu. Saya tidak tahu perkara yang harus saya lakukan. Nasib saya baik kerana Hafiz datang ke arah saya dengan segera. Meskipun Hafiz terkejut setelah mendengar penjelasan saya, dia tetap membantu untuk menenangkan keadaan.

Kami ke lobi lif lalu menekan butang lif itu berkali-kali. Apabila pintu lif itu akhirnya terbuka, kami ternampak Sarah menangis teresak-esak. Dia kelihatan amat takut. Saya dan Hafiz pun memujuk Sarah dan memimpin tangannya dalam perjalanan pulang ke rumah.

Terdengar suara seorang wanita menegur saya. Suara itu mematikan lamunan saya tadi. Rupa-rupanya, wanita itu merupakan ibu saya. Saya pun berjalan ke kedai runcit bersamanya sambil menceritakan kejadian yang berlaku setahun yang lalu.

Alif Anaqi Bin Mohamad
6 Diligence

Satu Hadiah yang Berharga

Aku baru sahaja selesai mesyuarat dengan syarikat yang paling handal di seluruh dunia. Aku tidak akan berjaya seperti ini jika ayah tidak mengajar aku tentang menabung. Aku teringat akan kehidupanku semasa aku kecil.

"Ayah, saya mahu air batu Malaysia," aku memberitahu ayah.

"Kita boleh buat sendiri di rumah, lagi sedap!" jawab ayah sambil menunjukkan jari cap jempol.

Aku berasa sedih. Sikap ayah yang selalu ingin membuat segala-galanya sendiri di rumah. Ayah aku agak berbeza daripada ayah yang lain. Akibat sikap ayah yang sentiasa ingin berjimat dan membuat sesuatu dengan tangan sendiri, ayah aku dikenali sebagai seorang yang kedekut. Aku akan selalu diejek oleh kawan kerana mereka berkata bahawa aku mempunyai ayah yang kedekut.

Aku ingat akan satu peristiwa yang menyedarkan aku tentang sikap ayah yang sebenar. Pada waktu itu, aku meminta ayah membelikan baju bak puteri untuk hari lahirku. Ayah hanya tersenyum dan menganggukkan kepala. Aku berharap kali ini, ayah tidak akan bersikap kedekut terdadap aku. Dua hari kemudian, selepas makan tengahari, ayah memanggilku. Ayah menghulurkan sebuah kotak kepada aku. Hadiah!

Aku berasa tidak sabar untuk membuka hadiah itu. Aku membuka penutup kotak. Aku terperanjat. Baju bak puteri yang diperbuat daripada perca kain diberikan kepadaku. Walaupun baju itu berwarna-warni. ada bahagian baju tersebut yang kelihatan buruk.

"Ayah buat baju ini sepanjang hari, kamu tahu!" kata ayah dengan bangga.

Aku bertekad untuk membeli baju bak puteri untuk diriku sendiri. Dengan perasaan marah yang meluap-luap dalam diriku, aku masuk ke dalam bilik dan menghempaskan

pintu. Aku memecahkan tabungku dan ternampak banyak wang dan syiling. Tiba-tiba, mataku terpandang kepada sepucuk surat yang terselit di celah-celah syiling dan wang. Kelihatan tulisan ayah pada surat tersebut.

Aku membaca surat itu. Rupa- rupanya, ayah yang menabung duit untuk aku. Dalam surat itu, ayah telah memberi nasihat tentang berjimat cermat. Ayah juga menerangkan sebab dia mengajar aku agar sentiasa berjimat dan tidak berbelanja dengan boros. Aku menangis teresak-esak kerana banyak kesilapan yang telah aku lakukan kepada ayah. Aku keluar dari bilik tidurku dan mengucapkan terima kasih kepada ayah kerana mengajar aku banyak perkara tentang menabung dan berjimat cermat. Aku memeluk ayahku. Hingga sekarang, aku akan ingat akan jasa dan pengorbanan ayah.

Qistina Maisarah Binte Jumali
6 Brilliance

Sikap Bertimbang Rasa Tanggungjawab Bersama

Pada hari Rabu yang lalu, saya dan adik saya, Sarah, ke taman yang berdekatan dengan rumah kami.

“Kakak, saya lapar,” kata Sarah.

Saya membawanya ke kedai untuk membeli sepaket keropok. Sarah makan keropok itu sambil berjalan. Kami hendak ke taman permainan itu sebelum waktu senja.

Setelah Sarah selesai makan keropok itu, dia membuang pembungkus keropok itu ke lantai. Saya berasa terkejut. Sarah tidak pernah bersikap seperti ini. Lazimnya, dia akan membuang sampahnya ke dalam tong sampah.

“Sarah, kita harus membuang sampah ke dalam tong sampah,” tegur saya.

“Tidak mengapa. Pekerja pembersih akan mengutip sampah itu,” balas Sarah tanpa berfikir panjang.

Sarah terus berjalan tanpa menghiraukan kata-kata saya. Saya berasa amat marah. Saya mengutip sampah itu lalu membuangnya.

“Ah!” jerit Sarah apabila terpijak kulit pisang.

Sarah jatuh terduduk. Dua orang budak lelaki menoleh ke arahnya. Mereka kelihatan bimbang.

“Saya minta maaf. Saya yang membuang kulit pisang itu,” kata salah seorang budak lelaki itu dengan nada panik.

Sarah meraung kesakitan. Saya berlari ke arah Sarah. Lututnya cedera. Saya pun mengeluarkan sehelai tisu dan menekapnya ke lutut Sarah yang luka itu. Saya juga mengambil peluang keemasan itu untuk menegur mereka dan memberitahu mereka akan kepentingan membuang sampah ke dalam tong sampah. Wajah budak itu berubah menjadi merah kerana dia berasa malu dengan teguran saya.

Semenjak kejadian itu, Sarah sedar akan kepentingan membuang sampah di tong sampah. Dia juga turut menasihati rakan-rakannya agar tidak membuang sampah sembarangan. Sarah pelajari bahawa sikap bertimbang rasa terhadap keadaan sekeliling merupakan tanggungjawab bersama.

Erryn Edriyana Binte Mohamed Idwar
6 Confidence

Sayang Anak

Sayang seribu kali sayang
Anak yang aku sayangi
Yang aku kasihi
Aku telah membunuhmu
Namun, bukan itu niatku
Gopoh telah merasuk tubuhku

Apakan daya
Nasi sudah menjadi bubur
Anakku tiada lagi
Kini hidupku merana kembali

Cikgu Noor Azleen Binte Sarbini & Cikgu Nur Syahirah Binte Sa'adon
Guru-guru Bahasa Melayu Sekolah Rendah West View

எண்ணும் எழுத்தும்

கண்ணெனத் தகும்.

எனக்குப் பிடித்த கதைநூல் மதிப்புரை

இன்று நான் என் ஆசிரியருடன் நூலகத்திற்குச் சென்றேன். அங்கே நான் பல தமிழ் புத்தகங்களைப் பார்த்தேன். நான் எனக்குப் பிடித்த புத்தகத்தை அங்கும் இங்கும் தேடினேன். இறுதியில் , " திரும்பித் தாக்கிய ஈட்டி ", என்ற ஒரு புத்தகம் என் கவனத்தை ஈர்த்தது. அந்த புத்தகம் மாலேசியாவில் இடம்பெற்ற ஒரு கதையாகும். இதை தமிழில் மீண்டும் எழுதியவர் திரு எ. சகாதேவன் ஆவர். இந்தக் கதையின் முகப்பு அட்டையைப் பார்ப்பதற்கும் மிகக் கவர்ச்சியாக இருந்தது. நான் அந்தப் புத்தகத்தை இரவல் வாங்கினேன். அந்தப் புத்தகம் வாசிப்பதற்குச் சுவாரசியமாக இருந்தது.

கதையில் சில முக்கியக் கதாப்பாத்திரங்கள் என் சிந்தனையைத் தூண்டினர். அவாங், அவனது தங்கை டயாங் மற்றும் அவர்களது பெற்றோர்கள். டயாங் ஒரு பேரழகி. அவளது அழகில் மயங்காதவர்கள் எவரும் இல்லை. அவள் அழகைப் போலவே அவளும் மிகவும் மென்மையான குணம் கொண்டவள். அவள் பிறருக்கு உதவும் தன்மையைக் கொண்டவள்.

அவாங்கும் அவனது தாயாரும் அதிகமாகக் கோபம் கொள்ளும் சுபாவம் கொண்டவர்கள். இந்த இரண்டு பாத்திரங்களையும் எனக்குப் பிடிக்கவில்லை. அவாங்கும் அவனது தாயாரும் எதையும் யோசிக்காமல் காரியத்தில் இறங்குவர். அவர்களின் கோபத்தினாலும் அவசரப் புத்தியினாலும் அந்நாட்டு அரசன் அவர்களை நாடு விட்டுத் துரத்தினான்.

இந்தக் கதையிலிருந்து எதைச் செய்தாலும் நிதானமாகச் செய்யவேண்டும் என்றும் கோபப்படக் கூடாது என்றும் நான் கற்றுக்கொண்டேன். கதையில் " ஆத்திரக்காரனுக்குப் புத்தி மட்டு ", என்ற சீரியக் கருத்தையும் கற்றுக்கொண்டேன்.

Aswath
3 Aspiration

குரங்குகளின் குறும்புத்தனம்

அது ஒரு வெப்பமான நாள். ஓர் அடர்ந்தக் காட்டில் ஒரு பழ வியாபாரி நடந்துகொண்டிருந்தார். அவருக்கு மிகவும் தாகமாக இருந்தது. அவர் அந்த காட்டில் தண்ணீர் தேடி அலைந்தார். ஆனால் எங்கும் தண்ணீரைக் காணவில்லை. இறுதியில் அவர் ஓர் ஏரியைக் கண்டார். அவர் அதை நோக்கி மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் நடந்தார். தண்ணீர் பார்ப்பதற்குக் குளிர்ச்சியாக இருந்தது.

அவர் தனது பழக் கூடையை ஒரு மரத்தின் நிழலில் வைத்துவிட்டு ஏரியில் தண்ணீர் குடிக்கச் சென்றார். அப்போது மரத்தில் சில குறும்புக்காரக் குரங்குகள் இருப்பதை அவர் கவனிக்கவில்லை. அந்த குரங்குகளுக்குப் பசித்தது. எனவே, அவை அப்பழங்களைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டே இருந்தன. பழ வியாபாரி வருவதற்குள் அவை பழங்களைச் சுவைத்து உண்டு முடித்தன. பழ வியாபாரியின் தொப்பியையும் கூடையையும் தூக்கிக்கொண்டு குரங்குகள் மரத்தில் உயரமாக ஏறின.

பழ வியாபாரியின் தாகம் தீர்ந்தது. அவர் மரத்திற்குத் திரும்பும்போது குரங்குகளைப் பார்த்தார். குரங்குகள் அதிர்ச்சி அடைந்தன. பழ வியாபாரி அவற்றின் கைகளில் அவரது தொப்பியையும் கூடையையும் கண்டு கோபம் கொண்டார்.

அந்த பழ வியாபாரி கோபத்தில் ஒரு குச்சியை எடுத்து குரங்குகளின் மீது வீசினார். குரங்குகள் பழ வியாபாரியின் கூடையையும் தொப்பியையும் கீழே எறிந்தன. பிறகு குரங்குகள் வேறொரு மரத்திற்குத் தாவித் தப்பித்தன.

Latha Iyappan Jonneshwar
3 Aspiration

சந்தையில் ஒரு நாள்

உதய சூரியன் உச்சி வானத்திற்கு வந்துவிட்ட நடுப்பகல் நேரம். வெயில் சுள் என்று காய்ந்தது. அப்போது, ரம்யா தன் அம்மாவுடன் ஈரச்சந்தைக்குச் சென்றுக்கொண்டிருந்தாள். அவர்கள் சந்தைக்குள் நுழைந்தபோது அங்கிருந்தக் கடைக்காரர்கள் தங்களுடைய பொருள்களைச் சத்தமாக கூவிக் கூவி விளம்பரப்படுத்திக் கொண்டிருந்தார்கள்.

சந்தைக்குள் கூட்டமாக இருந்தது. அங்கு பல கடைகள் இருந்தன. அதில் அவர்கள் காய்கறி கடையை நோக்கிச் சென்றார்கள். அவர்கள் அங்கு தக்காளிப் பழங்கள் மற்றும் கீரைகள் வாங்கினார்கள். அதன் பின் கடைக்காரர் அவர்கள் எடுத்துக் காய்கறிகளை பைகளில் வைத்து அவர்களிடம் கொடுத்தார். அவர்கள் அதை பெற்றுக்கொண்டு வேறு கடைக்குச் சென்றனர்.

ரம்யா கைகளை வீசி நடந்தாள். அப்போது முட்டைக் கடையிலிருந்த முட்டைகள் கீழே விழுந்து உடைந்தன. அதைக் கவனித்த கடைக்காரர் அவளிடம் கோபமாக , " ஏன் என் முட்டைகளை உடைத்தாய்? இதனால் எனக்கு எவ்வளவு நஷ்டம் என்று உனக்குத் தெரியுமா? ", என்றுக் கத்தினாள். அதைக் கேட்ட ரம்யா திரும்பி உடைந்த முட்டைகளைப் பார்த்தாள். அதைக் கேட்ட ரம்யா திரும்பி உடைந்த முட்டைகளைப் பார்த்தாள். அதன் பின் அவள் கடைக்காரரிடம் மன்னிப்புக் கேட்டாள்.

அம்மா முட்டைகளுக்கான பணத்தைக் கட்டினார். இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியின் மூலம், ரம்யா தன் கவனக்குறைவால் தான் முட்டைகள் உடைந்தது என்றும் அதற்காக அம்மா பணம் கட்டினார் என்றும் உணர்ந்தாள். ரம்யா தன் தவற்றை எண்ணி வருந்தினாள். ரம்யா இனி கவனத்துடன் இருக்க வேண்டும் என்று உறுதிக் கூறினாள்.

K. Sarvesh

3 Aspiration

திருட்டு

ஒரு மாலைப் பொழுது, ரவியும் அவனுடைய பாட்டியும் பொங்கல் சந்தைக்குச் சென்றார்கள். அங்கே அவர்கள் நிறையப் பொருள்களை வாங்கிக்கொண்டு இருந்தார்கள்.

திடீரென்று பாட்டியின் பணப்பையை ஒரு திருடன் திருடிக்கொண்டு ஓடினான். பாட்டி மிகவும் சத்தமாகக் கூச்சலிட்டார். அதைக் கேட்ட ரவி அதிர்ச்சி அடைந்தான். இதையெல்லாம் கண்ட வழிப்போக்கர் ஒருவர் திருடனைத் துரத்திக் கொண்டு ஓடினார். அவர் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்பட்டுத் திருடனைப் பிடித்தார்.

ரவி உடனே காவலர்களுடன் தொடர்பு கொண்டான். சிறிது நேரத்தில் காவலர்கள் அங்கு வந்தனர். அவர்கள் திருடனைக் கைது செய்தனர். பிறகு ஒரு காவலர் அவனிடமிருந்த பணப்பையை வாங்கிப் பாட்டியிடம் திருப்பிக் கொடுத்தார். பாட்டியும் ரவியும் அவருக்கு நன்றி கூறினார்கள். பாட்டி, “மிக்க நன்றி! நீங்கள் தக்க நேரத்தில் உதவி செய்தீர்கள்,” என்று வழிப்போக்கரிடமும் சொன்னார். ரவி மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் பாட்டியோடு வீடு திரும்பினான்.

Amirthini
4 Dilligence

எதிர்பாராத உதவி

நிலா பணியார விழா நெருங்கியது. ரவி அவன் வீட்டுக்கு அருகில் உள்ள சீனத் தோட்டத்துக்குச் செல்ல விரும்பினான். அங்கு விளக்கை வைத்துக்கொண்டு தோட்டத்தைச் சுற்றிப் பார்க்கலாம். இதைப்பற்றி ரவி தன் பெற்றோரிடம் சொன்னான். அவர்கள் தோட்டத்திற்குப் போக சம்மதித்தார்கள். ரவி மிகவும் மகிழ்ச்சி அடைந்தான். அந்த விழாவுக்குச் செல்ல ஒரு விளக்கு தேவைப்பட்டது. அதனால் அவர்கள் 'சைனா டவுனின்' கடைத்தொகுதியிலிருந்து ஒரு மீன் விளக்கை வாங்கினார்கள்.

இரண்டு நாள்கள் கழிந்தன. விழா நாள் வந்தது. அன்று இரவு ரவியும் அவன் பெற்றோர்களும் தோட்டத்திற்குச் சென்றார்கள். அங்கே மிகவும் கூட்டமாக இருந்தது. அந்தக் கூட்டத்தில் ரவி தன் நண்பர்கள், மாறன் மற்றும் மாலா ஆகியோரைக் கண்டான். மூவரும் பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தனர். திடீரென்று ரவியின் விளக்கு கீழே விழுந்தது. அது தீப்பிடித்துக் கொண்டது. அவர்கள் பதற்றத்துடன் மாலா வைத்திருந்த தண்ணீர் புட்டியிலிருந்த நீரை ஊற்றினார்கள். தீ அணைந்தது.

ரவி அழத் தொடங்கினான். அவனுக்கு அந்த விளக்கு மிகவும் பிடித்திருந்தது. அவனின் நண்பர்கள் அவனைச் சமாதானப்படுத்தினார்கள். மாலாவும் மாறனும் அவர்களின் விளக்கை ரவியிடம் கொடுத்தார்கள். ரவி அழுகையை நிறுத்திவிட்டு, "மிக்க நன்றி! நீங்கள் நல்ல நண்பர்கள்," என்று கூறினான்.

“ஆனால், உங்கள் விளக்குகளை எடுப்பது சரியில்லை. நான் தோட்டத்தைச் சுற்றிப் பார்க்கப் போகிறேன்,” என்று சொல்லிவிட்டு நடக்கத் தொடங்கினான்.

Jencillaa

4 Dilligence

கண்களைப் பாதுகாப்போம்

தேவி தொலைக்காட்சி பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்தாள். அவள் மேசைக்கு முன்பு உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டு தொலைக்காட்சி பார்த்துக்கொண்டு இருந்தாள். அவள் நீண்ட நேரம் பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்தாள். அதன் பிறகு அவள் தூங்கச் சென்றாள்.

அடுத்த நாள் வந்தது. தேவி பள்ளிக்குச் சென்றாள். அவளுக்கு வெண்பலகையில் ஆசிரியை எழுதிய வார்த்தைகள் தெரியவில்லை. அவள் ஆசிரியரிடம் அவளுக்குக் கண் தெரியவில்லை என்று கூறினாள். அதனால் அவர் தேவியின் அம்மாவை அழைத்துத் அவள் கூறியதை அவரிடம் சொன்னார். தேவியின் அம்மா அவளைக் கண் மருத்துவரிடம் அழைத்துச் சென்றார். மருத்துவர் அவள் கண்களைச் சோதித்தார். பிறகு தேவி மூக்குக் கண்ணாடி அணிய வேண்டும் என்றார்.

அன்று முதல் தேவி தொலைக்காட்சியின் அருகே அமர்ந்து படம் பார்ப்பதில்லை. அதோடு அவள் அதிக நேரம் தொலைக்காட்சி பார்ப்பதில்லை. அவள் தன் கண்களைப் பேணிக் காப்பது முக்கியம் என்பதை அறிந்துகொண்டாள்.

Mukhil Vijay

4 Dilligence

எதிர்பாராமல் கிடைத்த உதவி

நமது பூமியை எவ்வாறு பாதுகாக்கலாம் என்பதைப்பற்றி என் ஆசிரியர்கள் பலவாறு கற்றுக்கொடுத்தனர். விடுமுறையும் தொடங்கியது. பூமிக்குப் பங்காற்ற விடுமுறையின் முதல் வாரத்தில் என் பள்ளி ஆசிரியர்கள் மேற்குக் கடற்கரைக்குச் சென்று அதைச் சுத்தம் செய்ய எண்ணினார்கள். அவர்கள் என்னையும் என் நண்பர்களையும் இந்த நடவடிக்கையில் ஈடுபடத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தார்கள்.

அன்று கடற்கரையைச் சுத்தம் செய்யும் நாள். நான் பள்ளியை நோக்கி விரைந்தேன். அங்கு அடைந்ததும், நானும் என் நண்பர்களும் பேருந்தில் ஏறினோம். நாங்கள் விரைவில் கடற்கரையை அடைந்தோம். எங்கள் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர் எல்லாருக்கும் குப்பை போட ஒரு பையைத் தந்தார். அவர் எங்களைக் கவனமாகச் செயல்படச் சொன்னார்.

நான் குப்பையைப் பொறுக்கொண்டிருந்தபோது சிவப்பு நிறத்தில் ஏதோ கீழே இருந்தது. நான் சிறிதும் யோசிக்காமல் அதை எடுக்க முயன்றபோது அது என் கையைக் கடித்துவிட்டது. அப்போதுதான் அது நண்டு என்பதை உணர்ந்தேன். வலி தாங்க முடியாமல் நான் அழுதேன். “ஐயோ! என்னைக் காப்பாற்றுங்களேன்!” என்று நான் அலறினேன்.

தூரத்திலிருந்த என் நண்பன் ஓடி வந்து எனக்கு உதவினான். அவன் என் கையை நீர் ஊற்றிக் கழுவிவிட்டுக் கட்டுப் போட்டான். நான் அவனுக்கு நன்றி கூறினேன்.

இந்த அனுபவத்திலிருந்து நான் யாராவது ஆபத்தில் சிக்கினால் வேடிக்கை பார்க்காமல் அவர்களுக்கு உடனே உதவ வேண்டும் என்பதை உணர்ந்தேன். ‘அன்பான நண்பனை ஆபத்தில் அறியலாம்’ என்னும் பழமொழியின் கருத்தை அன்று தெரிந்துகொண்டேன்.

Shirley Flora

5 Dilligence

மரம் வளர்ப்பேன்

தாத்தா வைத்த தென்னையுமே,
தலையால் இளநீர் தருகிறது!

பாட்டி வைத்த கொய்யாவும்,
பழங்கள் நிறைய கொடுக்கிறது!

அப்பா வைத்த மாஞ்செடியும்,
அல்வா போல பழம் தருது!

அம்மா வைத்த முருங்கையுமே,
அளவில்லாமல் காய்க்கிறது!

அண்ணன் வைத்த மாதுளையும்,
கிண்ணம் போல பழுக்கிறது!

சின்னஞ்சிறுவன் நானுமொரு
செடியை நட்டு வளர்ப்பேனே....

Mohnish Bala

6 Empathy

ஏளனம் நீயும் செய்யாதே!

மனிதர் வெறுக்கும் சேற்றிலே
மலர்ந்து நிற்கும் தாமரை;
புனிதமான கடவுளை
பூஜை செய்ய உதவுதே!

உடைத்துக் கிடக்கும் சிப்பியில்
வெள்ளை முத்தைக் காணலாம்;
கழுத்தில் நல்ல மாலையாய்
கட்டி மகிழ உதவுதே!

ஊசி போன்ற முள்ளிலே
உயர்ந்த ரோஜா மலருதே;
வீசி நல்ல மணத்திலே
விரும்பி அணிய செய்யுதே!

மோசமான இடத்திலும்
மிகுந்த நல்ல பொருளுண்டு;
யோசிக்காமல் எவரையும்
ஏளனம் நீயும் செய்யாதே!

Jonel Dalton
6 Empathy

Acknowledgements

To our school leaders, thank you for your guidance

Mr Eddie Foo (Principal)

Mr Quek Swee Nee (Vice Principal)

Mrs Chia-Lai Seow Poh (Vice Principal)

Ms Chong Huey Leng (Vice Principal)

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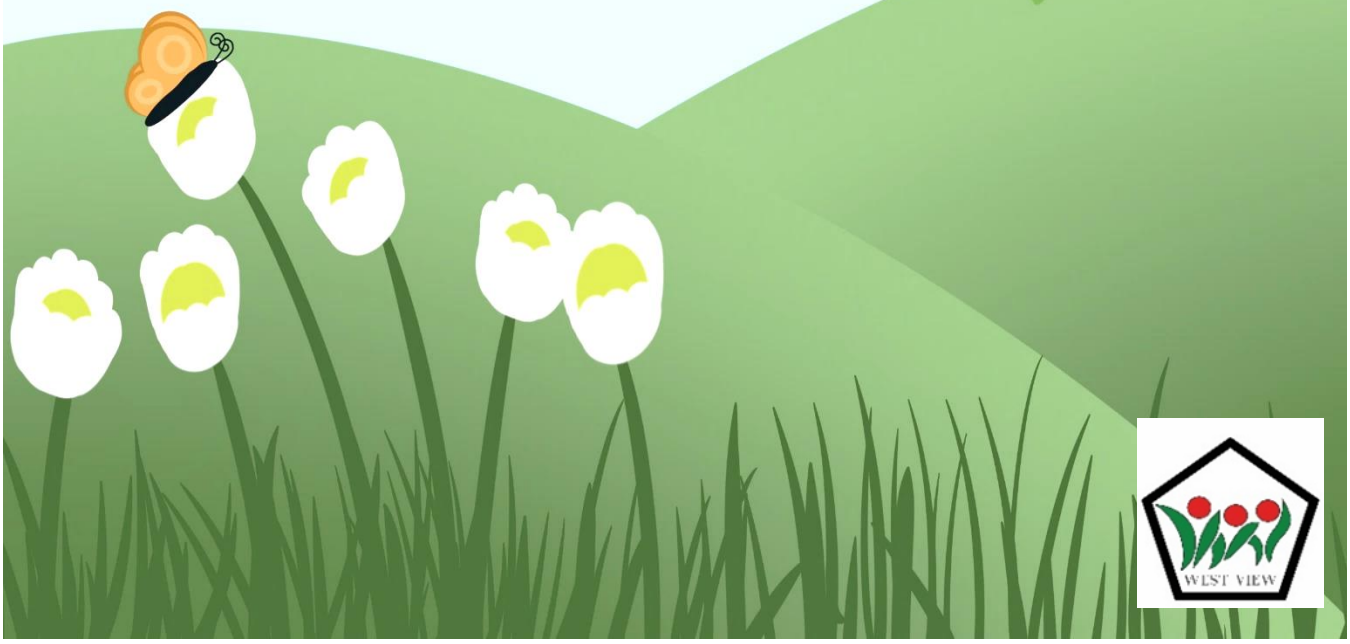
Digital Artwork

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