2022 | ISSUE NO. 2 Woodlands Primary School Newsletter

Rbythm in the Woods

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Woodlanders and Parents.

2022 has been a fulfilling year indeed. With the further relaxation of SMMs, I am glad to share that we have managed to resume all school activities this year, and have put in place even more quality programmes to cater to the needs and interests of our students.

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WDP continues to emphasise the importance of student engagement and the joy of learning. From incorporating photography into the teaching of the English Language, students making and launching their own parachute as part of the Sci-sational Discovery programme, to our young musicians composing their own music with the aid of technology, the school has curated customised learning experiences that seek to ignite and sustain students' passion to learn. We continue to focus on character building and leadership development. Students were given the opportunities to be active contributors to the community, through projects such as the P6 Garage Sale and through the preparation of care packs for our migrant workers. Students were also equipped with leadership competencies and skills, through their involvement in planning key school events such as Core Values Week. Even our P1 students had the opportunity to lead as they hosted groups of K2 student visitors this year. We can never underestimate how much our students can achieve, and I am so proud of them!

We also want to celebrate WDP's many successes with you. From the National School Games, the Singapore Youth Festival, to creative writing competitions, our Woodlanders have achieved stellar results, and this list is not exhaustive. Our teachers have done well as well and received much recognition. One example is our Head of Mother Tongue Department, Miss Ong Suan Hong, who was awarded the 2022 Most Distinguished Chinese Teacher award. This is a prestigious award, and Suan Hong is 1 of only 8 recipients nationwide, selected from a pool of more than a thousand nominations. Well done!

To our team of dedicated teachers and non-teaching staff, thank you for the hard and heart work, and for always striving to give the best to our students. Of course, all these would not have been possible without the unwavering support from all our WDP parents. Thank you for working alongside us to bring out the best in the children. A big thank you to WDP's Parent Support Group the school really appreciates your enthusiasm and generosity with your time for the students. I look forward to an even better year with all of you, as we develop each child to become a Gracious Woodlander with the zest to excell

Mrs Lillian Chen Principal



Scan or click on the QR code to hear what they shared



Shreejita Sahoo (Respect 4)



Mizuki Hiroshima (Respect 7)





Goh Ing Eng (Respect 7)



Eiliyah Faiqa Binti Mohammad Faris (Resilience I)





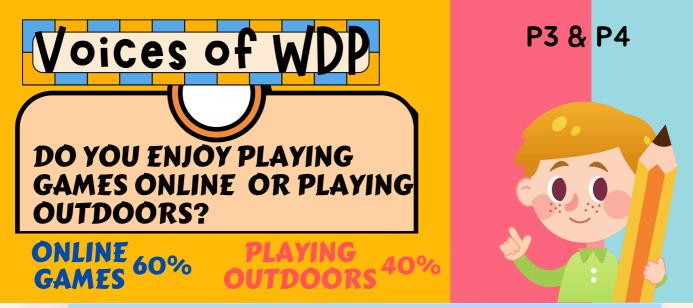
Dhiya Luthfiyah Binte Mohammad Hafiz (Resilience I)





Melody Goh (Resilience 2)





Scan or click on the QR code to hear / view what they shared



Wong Huay Ray (Passion I)





Misaki Hiroshima (Adaptability I)





Sasish (Passion 2)

Vanian Valappil Swathi





Parineetaa Harikrishnan (Adaptability I)





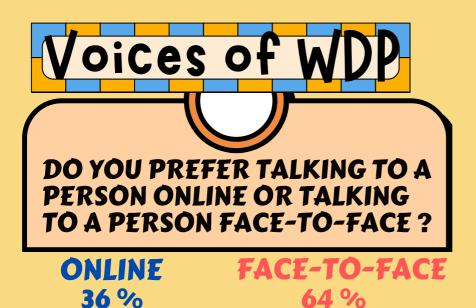
Diong Jia Kye (Passion 2)





Alphaeus Chai Cheng Jun (Adaptability 2)





Scan or click on the QR code to hear what they shared



Loi Kim Sheng Shawn (Collaboration 2)









Cheong Jia En, Jen (Collaboration 3)





Lam Xin Kai, Ethan (Innovation 2)

P5 & P6



Melissa Binte Mohamad Jaffar (Innovation 3)



Prabakar Kirthisree (Innovation 3)







PI Visit to Kampung Admiralty

The Primary 1 pupils went to Kampong Admiralty to explore the neighbourhood and learn how they could show care for these places.



I was excited as it was my first time going out with my friends and teachers.

Kong Szei Tian (Respect 3)



We saw places such as the supermarket, medical centre and Starbucks!

FairPrice

Ashrita Shakti & Venaasha (Respect I)





The Primary 2 pupils went on the Little Green Fingers guided farm tour. They had a chance to touch, smell and taste some of the vegetables and fruits, herbs and spices, and medicinal plants.

I saw the King coconut at the farm.



l enjoyed exploring the farm with my friends.



Queena Ng (Resilience 4) The guide showed us a 'lipstick' plant. I found it facinating.



S. Krishalini (Resilience 5)

P3 Zoo Trip

Reported by: Chew Zi Le Leah (Adaptability I)

The Primary 3 pupils had an enriching outdoor learning experience to find out more about the characteristics of animals they had learnt during their science lesson.

I learnt about the animals in the zoo. My favourite part was the bird show as I got to see a lot of birds flying around.

> Sheng Yea (Passion 4)







Hessa Intisar (Passion 4)

l enjoyed watching the seals swim.

WDP EXPLORES

P4 Virtual LJ to Chinatown

Reported by: Adam Zidan Bin Mohamad Afizukil (Adaptabiity I)



The more stringent Safe Management Measures that were in place earlier this year did not hamper our experiential learning. Instead of visiting Chinatown in person to learn about the Chinese culture and traditions, our fellow Woodlanders from the Primary 4 level went on a virtual learning journey. We learnt the names of spices that were traded in Chinatown in the past. In addition, we were given descriptions of the spices and were tasked to identify each one of them accurately. The online experience presented us the opportunity to use an interactive map to search for streets and places of worship within the Chinatown vicinity. It was a rich learning experience, made possible by technology.



Mohamad Eray (Adaptability 6B)

I liked the part where we had to observe the spice samples and paste them on our activity book based on the description given. I enjoyed exploring the different places using the IPad.



Nur Hana Medina (Adaptability 4)

P6 Visit to Sungei Buloh

Reported by: Akshayaa Thevaranjan (Collaboration I)

Recently, our school mates from the Primary 6 level went on a field trip to Sungei Buloh. Here's what Diya Abhilash from Innovation 1 has to say about her trip.

We walked around Sungei Buloh to learn about the variety of flora and fauna there. An experienced tour quide educated us on the different adaptations by the animals and plants in Sungei Buloh. We saw bats, monitor lizards, barnacles, different species of crabs, a spot-tailed needlefish, an archerfish and a golden web spider. I found the trip very interesting, fun and educational. We learnt a lot about adaptation which was the topic we were studying for our Science lessons then. However, I felt that we could have gone at a better time so that we could have seen even more animals.







Reported by: Tay Jia Xuan (Collaboration I)

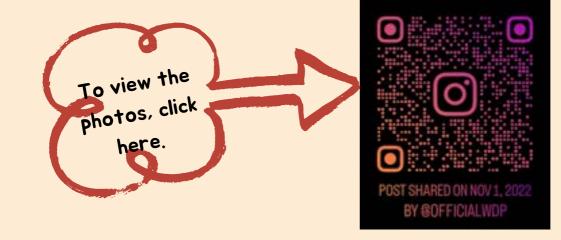
After a two-year hiatus, our school mates from the Primary 5 level attended an overnight camp from the 13th to the 15th of October. We participated in many activities. One such activity was kayaking. I really looked forward to it as I had never been on a kayak before. First, we had to learn how to wear our life jackets securely. Then, we chose a partner and took our paddles. Before we went into the water, the instructor taught us how to paddle on land. This process is called dry paddling. Finally, the instructor brought us to the beach where we kayaked. We had to carry the kayak ourselves and bring them into the water. Many instructors were there to help us get on and off the kayak. We really had a lot of fun. Thankfully, my kayak did not capsize! Everybody enjoyed themselves.

P5 Camp

We also went on a night walk. We had to walk through the forest without a torchlight. Only the instructor had a torchlight. At first, I was really scared as there was no light to guide me. However, my friends and I helped each other to walk on the right path. The instructor gave instructions to the students nearest to him. These students repeated the instructions and warned us if there were any obstacles in our path. I really appreciated the way we cared for each other. The instructors hung warning lights on plants along the way. If these lights were not switched on, it meant we were safe. If the lights were switched on, it meant that we had to keep a look out for dangerous tree branches, narrow paths and other types of danger.

Another activity we engaged in was a hike. During the hike, we were tasked to match three pictures to our surroundings. Unfortunately, the distance of the hike was shortened for some groups due to the increasingly bad weather. After the activity, we walked back to the camp site to have our dinner. On our way back to camp, we saw an otter!

Finally, the instructors debriefed us. After which we proceeded to clean up the camp site. While the others were cleaning, my group had some time to spare and we chose the games that we could play. We really enjoyed the camping experience as we were the first cohort of students who were able to camp after two years of the pandemic restriction. We faced challenges and had to adapt to a new environment but we worked with one another to overcome the odds.



Heartbeats

Reported by: Akshayaa Thevaranjan (Collaboration I) and Ng Ke En Annette (Adaptability I)

Singapore Youth Festival (SYF)

The Performing Arts CCA Groups, which consist of Chinese Dance, Malay Dance, Indian Dance, Choir, and Handbells and Handchimes, took part in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) this year. All the performers trained with persistence to ensure that their respective performances were exceptional.







P4 Leadership Fiesta

Reported by: Parineetaa Harikrishnan and Misaki Hiroshima (Adaptability I)





Our fellow Woodlanders from the Primary 4 level participated in the Leadership Fiesta in June, this year. The day started off with team building activities that were conducted on our school's premises. Our school mates enjoyed the games! This was followed by lunch and thereafter, a trip to Sentosa where the team building activities continued and were facilitated by external vendors.

The students were thrilled to complete the tasks that were assigned to them. One such task was to guess the places that were marked on maps. Another task necessitated participants to collaborate with one another to plan a route such that they may complete a race in the shortest time.

Many of our school mates opined that they had so much fun at the fiesta!

I enjoyed the race across Sentosa, when we had to decode different types of clues. Overall the experience was a meaningful one, with opportunities to learn and work together with the members in my team.



Kylie (Adaptability 3)

Reported by: Shazneen Binte Omar (Adaptablity 3)

School Pride Week

School Pride Week encourages Woodlanders to nurture a love for our school. It is a platform for us to learn and appreciate the history of WDP.

This year, the most memorable activity was writing about our love for WDP. Our teachers handed us a sticky note each. On the note, we wrote what we loved about our school. Thereafter, we drew designs on the note to make it look beautiful. All our notes were displayed on the wall near the bookshop. I had lots of fun completing the activity and reading about our fellow Woodlanders' love for our school!

Another activity that many of us loved was posted on SLS. We had to rap or sing about our love for WDP. It was challenging to think of just one aspect of WDP which we loved but we enjoyed the rap and song creation process, nonetheless.

During Social Studies, we learnt a lot of new information about WDP, such as the names of previous Principals who served at WDP. It was very meaningful to learn our school's history.

The commemoration ended on a joyful note.



Racial Harmony Day





Reported by: Ravichandran Roshan (Collaboration 2)

I believe everyone eagerly awaited the commemoration of Racial Harmony Day at WDP. Many students were dressed in their respective ethnic wear. This day always presents an interesting experience as we get to look at the traditional attires worn by people of different races.

We also discussed our traditional food and the festivals celebrated by the different races.

I, particularly, loved the cartoon that we watched in the hall. The two animals in the story did not get along well as they were very different from each other. However, despite their differences, they became the best of friends at the end of the story. The message was a heartfelt one - we can forge a bond despite our differences. Following the video, we learnt about monumental buildings and artifacts. A quiz segment was featured thereafter. We had so much fun answering all the questions. Some of us who answered the questions accurately received prizes.

We look forward to next year's Racial Harmony Day!

EL Reading Fest

Reported by: Nur Afifah Binte Mohammad Azhar (Adaptability I) and Qayumi Sara Binte Shufaat (Collaboration 2)

In Term 3, we celebrated the EL Reading Festival from the 25th of July to the 29th of July. The annual festival aims to promote the joy of reading. This year, the theme was Around the World in 80 Days and the focus was on classic adventure stories.

We were entertained by a presentation during the morning assembly. Mr Lee dressed up as Mr Fogg - the main character from the book Around the World in 80 Days - to brief us about the planned activities. A variety of language- and literacy-based activities, centred on classic adventure stories, were planned for us. Our younger Woodlanders were tasked to piece jigsaw puzzles of book titles. They were also asked to colour bookmarks that contained scenes from selected book titles. Our older Woodlanders went on a treasure hunt. They also received puzzles, featuring famous adventure story characters, to complete. Classes were rostered to go to PaRTS to participate in these activities so that all of us stood a fair chance to experience these fun activities!

In addition, there was a book sale. We were able to buy storybooks which were donated by the students of WDP. Each book was priced at a dollar. The proceeds of the book sale were donated to SWAMI Home, so it was all done for a good cause as well. We enjoyed reading the books we bought.

To enthuse our fellow Woodlanders to read classics, members of WDP's EL Excel Club acted out scenes from classics such as Robinson Crusoe, Swiss Family Robinson, Gulliver's Travels and Around the World in 80 Days. During our CCA sessions, we made our own props and wrote the scripts ourselves. It was a pretty exciting experience indeed. Our videos were played to all students during the festival. These classics were displayed in the school library for pupils to borrow.

We look forward to the EL Reading Festival, next year!



P5 NE Show

Reported by: Nur Sofhea Isabel Binte Mustafa Kamal and Selvakumar Rashini (Collaboration 2)

After a two-year hiatus, our school mates from the Primary 5 level attended the National Education (NE) show at The Float @ Marina Bay on the 9th of July 2022 to celebrate our nation's 57th birthday. With the easing of Safe Management Measures, we felt thrilled to attend an outdoor event with our masks removed. Many of our school mates used their hand phones to capture the many exciting moments of the celebration. The most awaited segment was the dazzling display of fireworks that concluded the event. We watched in awe as the fireworks dotted the sky.



Reported by: Lee Quan Hui Regis (5 Collaboration I)

National Day Celebrations

The theme for this year's National Day was Stronger Together, Majulah! We looked forward to celebrating it as a school when the Safe Management Measures eased.

On the day of the celebration, when we arrived in school, we were told to assemble at the parade square. After the National Anthem was played, Ms Irene led us to sing the 2022 National Day Theme Song. The song was music to our ears. The whole school sang with gusto. It was a wonderful experience.

When we went back to class, we participated in an online quiz. Everyone was excited, and there were some challenging and tricky questions. All the classes were roaring with laughter and buzzing with enthusiasm. Although my class did not emerge as one of the top three winners, we showed good sportsmanship and did not jeer at the winning classes.

After the quiz segment, we went to the hall to watch a concert. The dancers danced gracefully and we enjoyed the performances, especially the Indian Dance. When it ended, all the teachers, students and even Mrs Chen clapped. We felt that it was a wonderful performance as they danced gracefully like swans.

I would like to thank the teachers for organising the celebration as we had immense fun!



Reported by: Andrea Ong Zi Ying (Adaptablity 3)

Mid Autumn Festival



The celebration at WDP commenced with a video that showed the genesis of the Mid Autumn festival. It was a very touching story about the Jade Rabbit's sacrifice for the Jade King. At the end of the video, the schedule of festive activities at WDP was shared. This video was uploaded onto the SLS platform for all to view.

The Mid Autumn Festival marks the end of the autumn harvest in China. In the past, the Mid Autumn Festival was traditionally a time to thank the gods.

A lantern- making competition was conducted. Pupils made lanterns out of recycled items. They decorated their home-made lanterns by drawing on them. It was a fun experience for everyone to make their own lanterns as the activity allowed them to demonstrate their creativity. Three winners from each level were identified. Their lanterns were displayed at the foyer area in the school. They were so beautifully decorated that they caught they eyes of many pupils and teachers.

In addition, there were many recess activities planned for the pupils . The first required that we use both our feet to jump into four hula hoops. We competed with our friends to jump the farthest. The second activity had us throw two balls into beautiful castle-shaped cardboard backdrops. The third activity was a fun and creative activity. We dipped our fingers into coloured water and stained the bookmarks that were provided to us.

Many of us wished the festival would continue all year long!

MT Languages Fortnight

Reported by: Adam Zidan Bin Mohamad Afizukil (Adaptability I) and Endra Edryan Bin Erwan (Collaboration 2)

The annual Mother Tongue Languages Fortnight event at WDP encourages us to learn more about our culture. Two of our friends were selected as emcees to introduce the event to our WDP family through a video.

It was a fun event filled with many activities. One such activity involved riddles. Every day, throughout the two weeks, each level was tasked to solve unique riddles during our respective recesses. It was really fun to rack our brains to solve these mindboggling riddles that were written in our mother tongue languages! Groups of students were seen gathering and discussing the answers. A lucky draw was used to decide the winners for this activity.

In addition, we went to PARTs to learn more about our tradition and culture. The most interesting displays, to us, were of the respective races' wedding outfits, food and decoration.

Reported by: Chloe Tan and Natania Goh Jing Hui (Collaboration I)

Teachers' Day Celebration



Every year, the teachers of WDP are treated to a special concert on Teachers' Day. This year was no exception. We celebrated the day on the 1st of September.

Our Deputy Head Prefects, Flora and Jayden, introduced the activity leading up to the celebration. The activity was based on characters from the Mr Men and Little Miss Series. We were given a sheet of paper that featured some of the characters from the series, such as Mr Funny, Little Miss Fabulous and Little Miss Wise. The students had to nominate teachers whom they thought best suited the character. We dropped our votes in the boxes that were placed in the canteen.



The Teacher's Day concert commenced with grandeur. All our teachers walked into the school hall. The theme of the concert centred on travel. Accordingly, our student emcees, Nila and Lucas, were dressed as flight attendants and spoke like them too. Groups of students entertained our teachers with their performances. The concert concluded with the presentation of the Mr Men and Little Miss Awards.

After school, throngs of ex-Woodlanders excitedly gathered at the school hall to speak with teachers who had once taught them.

To all teachers - thank you for all that you do for us.

Children's Day Celebration

Reported by: Natania Goh Jing Hui (Collaboration I) and Parineetaa Harikrishnani (Adaptability I)

The theme for this year's Children's Day was, "The Star I Want To Be". Leading up to the day, our teachers handed us star-shaped paper. On it, we wrote what occupation we wanted to pursue in the future. To facilitate this, the names of various occupations were displayed in alphabetical order in the canteen to inspire us. Our helpful Parent Volunteers collated these 'stars' and displayed them along the school's hallway.

On Children's Day, during recess, there was a carnival held at the school's basketball court. There were lots of different game booths. We could redeem cotton candy, a bag of popcorns or a mystery prize once we received 2 stamps from the game booths. We had a lot of fun playing the games and enjoyed the snacks.

The celebration concluded with an entertaining skit that was performed by all our teachers.

It was a memorable day for all of us. We hope that the next Children's Day celebration would be just as fun as this year's.





Glee Fest

Reported by: Yen Qian Bai & Tan Yan Ting, Hillary (Collaboration I)



The Glee Festival is an annual event that sees the whole school gather to have fun and celebrate the joy of learning. This year, the theme was "Traditions into Beginnings". Leading to the actual Glee Fest Day, we had a variety of fun-filled activities organised by the Art, Music and PE departments.

For Art, Primary 1 to 3 pupils took part in the Tangram Challenge. Pupils had to work in groups of 3 to 4 to piece the puzzle together. Origami Aeronautics was organised for the upper primary pupils where they could take part in the "Fly My Plane" challenge during recess. They had to ensure that their plane either reached the finish line or flew the furthest.



The PE teachers organised games such as goli painting for the lower primary, five stones for the middle primary and hopscotch for the upper primary pupils. In addition, the Primary 5 pupils had the chance to design their own P5 camp t-shirt!

On the actual day, we had live performances during our recess breaks. Selected pupils were paired with our teachers and school leaders to showcase their musical talents to the school. The day ended with the famous content creator, Annette Lee, sharing her journey of how she became a social media sensation with us during assembly.

The Glee Festival this year was amazing! It was surely a day that we will continue to remember with glee.

Reported by:

Natania Goh Jing Hui (Collaboration I) and Parineetaa Harikrishnani (Adaptablity I)

Our fellow Woodlanders from the Primary 4 and 5 levels staged various performances to reinforce the importance of our school's core values.

Students of the Primary 4 level presented class cheers that were based on the core values that are emphasised and taught to us at WDP. The students enjoyed creating these cheers with their classmates and teachers. They opined that it was a fun activity that allowed them to bond.

Students of the Primary 5 level presented the values of collaboration and innovation as they worked in groups to create parachutes made out of recycled materials. The most interesting part of the presentation was when they tested the effectiveness of their respective parachutes by dropping them from a height. We watched in awe as the parachutes flew down smoothly.

Our Student Leaders, too, participated in the Fiesta by staging a play that explained the importance of values and how we may demonstrate them.

The lower primary students were visibly excited as it was their first Core Values Fiesta!



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Core Values Fiesta

Reported by: Akshayah Thevaranjan (Collaboration I)

Deepavali is the festival of lights that is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains worldwide. The festival signifies the victory of light over darkness; good over evil; and knowledge over ignorance.

On the day of the Deepavali celebration at WDP, our teachers and schoolmates of all different races wore traditional Indian attires. They paraded their outfits on stage to raise fellow Woodlanders' awareness of the Indian culture.

Members of WDP's Indian Dance CCA danced to a folk song. Thereafter, Rishitha, a student from Primary 6, entertained the audience with her graceful dancing skills. She danced so beautifully.

As the finale item, all our teachers and school mates who wore traditional outfits gathered on stage. At that moment, confetti popped from the confetti cannon, surprising everyone.

The hard work of the teachers and students who organised the celebration truly paid off. It was a wonderful day for everyone.









Deepavali

SwimSafer

Reported by: Isabelle Chan Yu En and Nur Zara Nabilah Binte Hisham (Adaptability I)





SwimSafer is a national water safety programme developed to raise the standard of swimming proficiency in Singapore. Created specially for children below 16 years old, this programme seeks to help each child develop his/her skills and grow from a non-swimmer into a good swimmer (Swimsafer, 2018).

The weekly lessons for our WDP students were conducted nearby at the Singapore Sports School. At the venue, we would gather in groups based on our swimming proficiency. Members of the different groups were identified based on the colour of our swimming caps. The different groups were taught varied swimming techniques.

During the last session, some of us were assessed on our ability to float while others were assessed on their ability to dive and swim. Many of us found it challenging but we persevered.

In addition, we also had a theory test. The questions for the less-experienced swimmers centered on rules for swimming at the beach and deep waters. The questions for the more-experienced swimmers centered on survival skills.

Participants shared that the sessions presented many opportunities for resiliencebuilding in a joyful manner.



Games Day was carried out this year from 9 November to 11 November. All the Primary 3 to 6 pupils had the opportunity to play games on their allocated day. Unlike last year where pupils had to play individually using an app , this year, the pupils formed teams and represented their classes.

It was really a fun and memorable experience. The Primary 5 pupils played the games "Ultimate", "Wall breaker" and "Bounce off". Our alumni came down to facilitate the games and it was nice meeting them as some of them were my friends.

Although we won some matches, our class did not emerge as the overall winner. Nevertheless, we had lots of fun and we were thankful that we had a chance to experience Games Day this year. We look forward to the many fun-filled activities next year!





Reported by: Shazneen Binte Omar (Adaptability 3)

Traffic Games

The students of the Primary 4 level attended the Traffic Games in Term 4. We took on the roles of various road users such as cyclists, Go Kart drivers, traffic marshals and pedestrians. I was assigned the role of a cyclist. As we played the games, we learnt to observe traffic rules that would keep us safe on the road. I had a lot of fun as I cycled around the venue. Whenever I was acknowledged for adhering to the rules, I felt happy.

It was a stressful yet awesome experience! I did break some traffic rules while I was driving the Go- Cart. It was not easy to follow traffic rules while driving.





Dear Woodlanders,

It is with a heavy heart that I am leaving Woodlands Primary School. I have been with the school for 5 years and my time here has passed by in the blink of an eye. I have many fond memories of the school and the best ones spent with the staff and students of WDP. I will remember our corridor and canteen interactions, the happy waves, nods and cheery smiles as I walk past the classes and more recently the 'Hi Cher' from the upper primary classes when I go in to teach or relief occasionally.

Saying goodbye is indeed difficult. I take comfort that I am leaving you in the good hands of Mrs Chen, Mdm Wong and our committed staff of WDP. I look forward to hearing about your progress, success and achievements when I meet up with the school leaders and teachers.

I hope that I have made a difference in you like how each and every one of you has made a difference in me. I wish you all the best in your in your education journey and may all of you continue to be imbued with the school's vision to be gracious woodlanders with the zest to excel.

With Best Wishes, Mdm Komathi



Our Newsletter Editorial Committee

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Mdm Komathi Govindasamy Vice-Principal (Advisor) Mdm Jolyn Chua Ms Doreen Chan Mrs Lim Swee Ee Advisors

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Teachers-in-charge

Special thanks to the Junior Reporters from English Excel Club.