

THE RAFFLES WAVE



**RAFFLES
GIRLS' SCHOOL**
*Nurturing Daughters
of a Better Age*



Performances by the Chinese Orchestra, Chinese Drama and Dance International, along with the arrival of the God of Fortune had everyone in a festive mood to usher in the Year of the Goat! View more photos from the Lunar New Year Concert courtesy of the Photographic Society [here](#).

ONE HEART, ONE VOICE



The RGS community is made up of people from all walks of life. Each member coming together to learn, to create possibilities, and to seek new frontiers in advancing our timeless mission of nurturing Daughters of a Better Age.

“**One Heart, One Voice**”, the school theme for 2015, emphasises the importance played and contribution made by every member of the RGS community in fulfilling our mission. It reinforces the virtues of being united, of being whole-hearted and true in our aspirations to collectively work towards a shared vision. Our learning draws inspiration from diverse sources, bound by the spirit of fulfilling one goal, to actively create a better age for all.

In developing the RGS girl, it is our wish to see that she discovers her sense of belonging, interacting with her peers and developing the capacity to move others towards shared goals for the good of the nation and community. Over the years, the RGS girl has not only been the face of the school but has become very much a part of the fabric of our nation. As Singapore celebrates SG50, let us reflect on how we have become a nation together and how we will forge our future together with “**One Heart, One Voice**”.

RIDING THE GREEN WAVE

Two teams of RGS Year 4 students have done the school proud in the 2014 Green Wave Environmental Care Competition organised by Sembcorp, winning a Commendation Award and an Encouragement Award for their respective projects.

Launched in 2003, the competition aims to inspire the younger generation to take ownership and proactive action in caring and protecting the environment. It also seeks to nurture participants' passion in translating their creative ideas into green innovations for environmental improvement.



(From left) Elena Lee Ruoxi, Teng Chu Yu, Sheryl Ang Xiu Qi, and Kimberly Tan Min-En received an Encouragement Award for their prototype design on adopting the Seebeck effect in thermoelectric generators to charge small electronic devices, while Amarinda Tan Ying Shan, Rachyl Tan Syn Yee, Joanne Nai Min-Er and Zenn Wong Shi Hui received the Commendation Award for their Track My Water app.

THE HE(ART) OF OUR FOOD HERITAGE

One of the key tenets of an RGS education is contribution to community and nation. As part of that, over 30 RGS students from the Art Club have spent more than 20 hours on a mural that features familiar local food items and symbols close to our hearts. Co-organised by the National Heritage Board and the National Environment Agency, this is an Art and Heritage Initiative that involved 75 schools and organisations, creating site-specific murals inspired by Singapore's heritage and food culture to raise public appreciation of hawker centres.

The mural created by our students can be viewed at Blk 127 Toa Payoh Lorong 1.



Wang Yuxing (right), the designer of the mural, said of her painting, "With our rich multi-cultural heritage, Singapore serves up a true melting pot of flavours. Food has always been a large part of our cultural identity and our hawker centres have certainly helped cultivate and maintained our food heritage. As Singapore's infrastructures progress over the years, our food heritage will hopefully transcend time and space, and be passed on for generations to come."

OFFICIALLY A RAFFLESIAN!

The start of the new academic year saw the school welcoming a new batch of Year 1s. As with previous years, the Year 1 Orientation Programme helped our newest members of the Rafflesian family transit to life at RGS with activities such as talks on the school's history and programmes, CCA Orientation and learning of the school song "From High Olympus".

Also, for the very first time, parents were invited to the Badge Initiation Ceremony, where they witnessed their daughters become a true Rafflesian as they received their school badge and have it pinned on their uniforms by their Year 4 sisters.

Click [here](#) to view more photos from the Badge Initiation Ceremony, courtesy of the Photographic Society.



Year 1 student Woo Hoi Yuet (left) received her school badge for the very first time from her Year 4 senior Keran Wei.



A sea of candlelights at the Amphitheatre during the passing of the flame ceremony, symbolic of the Rafflesian spirit that has been sustained through generations, and passed down from senior to junior, sister to sister.



Some of our girls in action.

PORTRAIT OF A RAFFLESIAN

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

In this issue, we speak with two of the newest members of our Rafflesian family Liu Fanxi and Asiola Bte Hassan on their journey so far at RGS.

Attraction of RGS

Asiola - "Apart from the accessibility, I was very much attracted to the extensive programme which will enable me to stretch myself to be a more self-directed and confident individual. On top of that, the student development programme offered by RGS is very appealing."

Fanxi - "I attended the 2014 RGS Open House and felt that the subjects offered here were very interesting, and the seniors were very friendly. It was a good impression, which made me want to study here."



Year 1 students Fanxi (left) and Asiola both hope that their new experiences in the months ahead will help them grow to be more independent individuals.

Adjusting to secondary school life

Asiola - "While I was the only person from my primary school, being part of my class' EXCO allowed me to get to know more people. The learning experience in RGS is different from my primary school."

Fanxi - "The first two months are still manageable in terms of workload, but I do feel it starting to increase."

Coping with schoolwork

Asiola - "I have a notebook to keep track of all the deadlines and homework. On top of that, I also have an online version of my homework checklist. This way, I can make sure that I will not miss a deadline."

Fanxi - "We should not procrastinate and leave things to the last minute to do. That is when we'll really feel the pile of workload! During lesson time, we should ask immediately when we have a problem. If we just let our questions accumulate, we would find it tough to revise."

Hopes for the year ahead

Asiola - "I hope to get to know and be friends with my batchmates. I also hope to grow to be a more independent and outgoing individual."

Fanxi - "I hope to become more independent and learn in-depth the things taught in my CCA."

SNAP, POST AND WIN!

The "My RGS Story" photo competition is now open and we would like to invite all parents and alumnae to participate in the competition. Organised by the Strategic Communications Department, the competition will serve as a platform for the RGS community to capture the essence of "What Makes Us RGS", with the emphasis on four main components of Dynamic Culture, Inspired Teachers, Impact on Society and Timeless Mission.



The story of RGS is one that arose from humble beginnings of a class of 11 girls, and over 136 years, the school has progressed and adapted herself continually to the on-going changes in the educational landscape. Through the photo competition, we would like you to capture and submit images that resonate with you based on the RGS Story, together with a short write-up of your story as inspired by the captured images. Entries can be submitted as an individual, with your daughters or former RGS classmates. As long as you're part of the Rafflesian Family, together, we can create a collection of beautiful images and stories about RGS from the RGS community! For more information, please visit our website [here](#).

BANNERS UNVEILED!

After weeks of suspense, the five House banners were finally unveiled during morning assembly on 10 February. Uniquely designed and created by each House, the banners were put up for a vote by staff and students to vie for the title of "Most Popular Banner", which eventually went to **Waddle! Tarbet's** banner was also awarded "Best Banner Design" by a panel of judges. Congratulations to both houses and great job too **Buckle, Richardson and Hadley!**

RGS was the first school in Singapore to implement the House system during the late forties. Introduced by former RGS principal Miss M. M. Hadley, the House system encourages friendly competition among students and helps to further cultivate a sense of belonging to the Rafflesian community.



The five House banners on display at the parade square (from left): Tarbet, Buckle, Richardson, Waddle and Hadley.