

# The Raffles Wave

RGS Parents and Alumni Newsletter

September 2013

[www.rgs.edu.sg](http://www.rgs.edu.sg)



Speech Day 2013 concluded on a high as the RGS family, together with student performers from groups such as the Chinese Orchestra and Strings Ensemble, gave a rousing rendition of 'If We Hold On Together'.



**RAFFLES  
GIRLS' SCHOOL**

*Nurturing Daughters  
of a Better Age*

## President Scholar Stephanie Siow

Stephanie Siow Su Lyn from the class of 2010 has been awarded the prestigious President's Scholarship, making her the only female recipient of the award this year.

As an all-rounder, the 19-year-old not only excelled in academics but was an active member of the basketball team and student congress and was also Class Chairperson in 2008 and 2009. At Raffles Institution, she was vice-president of the student council. Stephanie also had a stint in the Youth Olympics as a student announcer!

Stephanie will go on to read economics at Yale University on her Public Service Commission Overseas Merit Scholarship.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Drama Nite

Year 1s and 2s are in for a treat as Drama Nite this year will see the introduction of a poetry slam competition in the lead-up to the annual event. Competition details will be released soon. Parents of the Year 1s and 2s, as well as alumni, are most welcome to join in the event for an evening of literary pleasure.

Drama Nite is scheduled to be held on 29 October 2013, 6.30pm to 9.30pm at the Evelyn Norris Hall.

### CCA Awards Day 2013

A yearly affair since 2010, CCA Awards Day acknowledges and recognises the Rafflesian's passion, dedication and talent in CCA. Over 400 awardees this year will receive awards in categories such as Outstanding Achievement Awards (Sports, Performing Arts & Uniformed Groups), Outstanding Leadership and the Singapore Schools Sports Council National Colours, with some of them clinching double awards.

CCA Awards Day is scheduled to be held on 29 October 2013, 7am to 11am at the Evelyn Norris Hall.

### Other upcoming events include:

New Campus Fundraising Banquet, 26 September 2013  
Music Elective Programme Annual Concert, 22 October 2013  
Netball Carnival (Years 1 - 3), 23 to 24 October 2013  
Graduation & Farewell Assembly, 31 October 2013

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### Racial Harmony Week 2013 (15 to 19 July)

The RGS community came together for Racial Harmony Week (RHW), with students, staff and parents participating in a spread of activities planned for a week-long celebration.

With the theme of 'Celebrating Singapore', the highlight of Racial Harmony Week this year was the display of cultural crafts and costumes by PRGS, where visitors tried their nimble hands making ketupat, attempting Chinese calligraphy and uncovering the secret to wearing a sari the correct way!

The week-long festivities were also packed with cultural performances by the Chinese Orchestra, Angklung Ensemble and the Indian Orchestra.

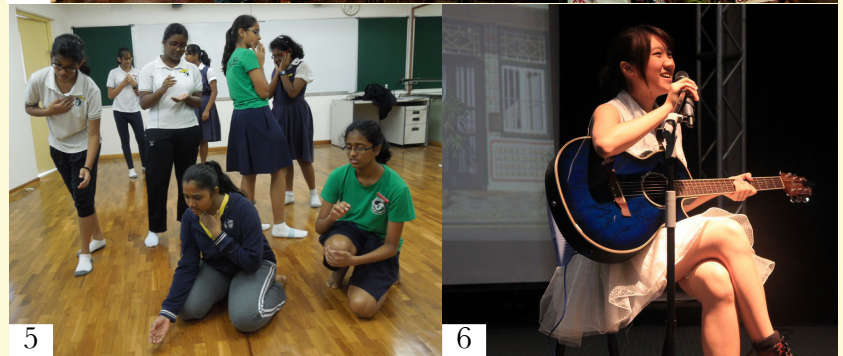
(1) Chu Phuong Anh (402) tries her hand at making *Murukku*, a South Indian snack made of rice and *urad dal* flour. (2) Students getting henna tattoos which are also known as *Mehndi*. (3) Besides trying out the various cultural crafts, students also got a first-hand look at the various cultural costumes on display. (4) The wonderful team of PRGS members and parents who contributed to the success of RHW!



### Mother Tongue Fortnight (15 to 27 July)

Mother Tongue Fortnight created an immersive environment for the learning and appreciation of Mother Tongue languages, during which a wide range of activities related to the Chinese, Malay and Indian culture were organised by the RGS Languages Department to demonstrate how language is tied very closely to culture.

(5) Tamil students participated in a Drama Workshop, where interest in their Mother Tongue language and culture was simulated through the portrayal of various characters. (6) As a culmination of Mother Tongue Fortnight, the National Chinese Literature Camp was held, where participants from various secondary schools uncovered their understanding of Chinese literature through activities like the singing and writing of Mandarin songs.



### Really Arty Week (22 to 26 July)

Really Arty Week at Raffles (RAWR) was organised to nurture an appreciation for the arts by engaging students in arts-related activities. It also provides a platform for student practitioners to share their passions in their chosen art forms.

(7) Students all dressed-up as their art pieces, one of the many ways of sharing their handiworks with the rest of the RGS community. (8) Showcase performances by the various performing arts CCAs like the Strings Ensemble, an arts bazaar and workshops added to the potpourri of activities lined up during the week. 'Potpourri' was the theme for this year's celebration.



Photos courtesy of the RGS Photographic Society.

**Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr Lim Swee Say, visits RGS (16 August)**



(9) Mr Lim, who is also Secretary General for NTUC, watches a video that the students made in conjunction with the recent Singapore Kindness Movement campaign to appreciate the security guards, canteen vendors, cleaners and other non-teaching staff at RGS. (10) A heart for them: Mr Lim's visit was part of efforts to learn more about low-wage workers at RGS and the school's continual efforts in making sure they feel appreciated.



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**Career Day Talks 2013 (30 July)**

Career Day this year was a homecoming affair that saw over 35 alumni share on their life and career experiences with the Year 4s. Each successful in her own right, the former students were enthusiastic and keen to share about carving a career in their respective industries.



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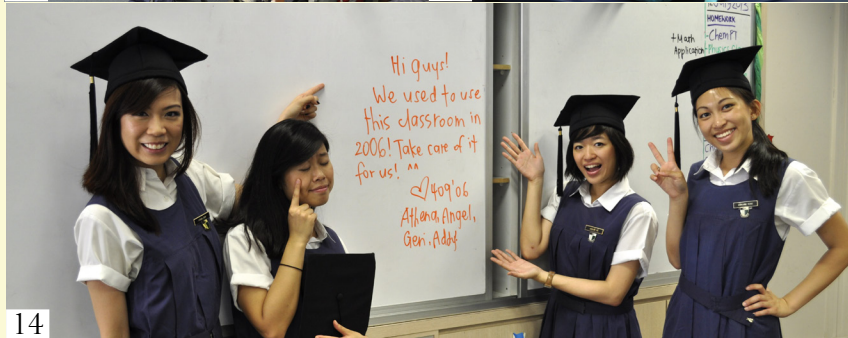


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(11) Shannon Su from the class of 1998, shares her experiences working in the media and entertainment industry. (12) Associate Prof. Lim Lei Theng, class of 1985, fields questions from students about the legal industry. (13) The Year 4s were kept engaged in the various career talks by the alumni who come from all types of industries, ranging from the medical profession, the legal and engineering industry, to social and humanitarian work and the civil service.

**Picture-perfect memories**

Nothing brings back memories quite like a Kodak-moment does. That, along with the school's impending relocation, were some of the reasons why Athena Chew and her friends chose to return to RGS for their graduation photo shoot and relieve the yesteryears of their secondary school life.



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(14) From left: Athena, Adeline Sim, Angeline Tan and Geraldine Yeong. On one of their location choices for the photo shoot, Athena said: "Our old Secondary 4 classroom! It was where we shared laughter, tears and even fights, but most importantly, it was where many of us sealed our friendships for life." (15) The amphitheatre was also one of their must-shoot locations as "it was where everyone gathered to celebrate special occasions as one big Rafflesian family!" recalled Athena.



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*Graduation photos courtesy of Athena and friends.*