

# The Raffles Wave

JUNE 2011

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



### School closure

The School will be closed from  
3 – 5 June 2011 due to the  
Shangri-La Dialogues  
held annually  
at Shangri-La Hotel.

Dear Parents

As term 2 comes to a close, we look back at some of our key achievements just as we look forward to the activities in the coming months. This, our inaugural newsletter, is put together to provide you with an update of what's happening in the school. Titled 'The Raffles Wave', it is a hello wave to parents just as we continue to make waves in the education arena. We will be sending regular updates to parents henceforth as we continue to build a tight-knit community with RGS parents. We hope that you will find this newsletter beneficial. Do email us at [karen.lim@rgs.edu.sg](mailto:karen.lim@rgs.edu.sg) for any feedback or comments.

Warm regards,  
Raffles Girls' School

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **RGS Arts Tapestry, 1 July 2011**

RGS Performing Arts CCAs are vehicles in our holistic education plan with the goal of cultivating culturally appreciative citizens who will play a role in fostering a gracious society.

Arts Tapestry, RGS' own Arts Festival, will take place on 1 July 2011 and the Arts Tapestry NIGHT EXTRAVAGANZA concert will be held at 7.30pm in the Evelyn Norris Hall. This multifarious concert will showcase the different performing groups in RGS including English Drama, Choir, Guitar, International Dance and many more.

Tickets are priced at \$8 and are available for student purchase.

### **Talk by Nobel Laureate Professor Ada Yonath, 1 July 2011**

In 2009, Israeli scientist Professor Ada Yonath received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for her groundbreaking work in the field of ribosomes. She is only the fourth woman to win the Nobel chemistry prize. Professor Yonath, who is head researcher in the field of structural biology and biochemistry at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, is widely considered the pioneer of ribosome crystallography. Professor Yonath will be in Singapore for a speaking engagement at the International Conference on Materials for Advanced Technologies organised by Materials Research Society Singapore; in association with NUS, NTU and A\*Star.

RGS is honoured to have Professor Yonath speak to our RGS Y3 and Y4 girls on 1 July 2011, sharing her experiences and providing inspiration for our girls as they continue to train their minds in the discipline.

## JUNE HOLIDAYS



Groups of RGS girls will be going on Overseas trips this June for overseas learning opportunities and competitions.

29 May – 1 June  
Social Studies Trip - Malaysia

25 May – 5 June  
Odyssey of the Mind World Finals - Maryland, USA

30 May – 3 June  
Y3 Regional Studies Programme - Penang, Malaysia

30 May – 11 June  
Science Trip - Wales and England

4 June – 16 June  
Future Problem Solving International Conference & Home Stay  
- Wisconsin, USA

19 June – 23 June  
Y2 Regional Studies Programme & Twinning with Tunku Kurshiah  
College - Seremban, KL & Malacca, Malaysia

20 June – 24 June  
Biology Trip - Tioman Island, Malaysia

### RGS 1:1

From 2012, RGS introduces RGS 1:1, a 1-to-1 learning environment that uses Infocomm Technology (ICT) to integrate Pedagogy with Technology to provide RGS girls with the 21st century life-skills for the digital world. RGS 1:1 is not only a tool for learning but also a means for greater productivity. Students will purchase their own Apple ICT device (specifics to be determined) based on a manageable hire purchase scheme that will include warranty and insurance coverage. For students who may require financial assistance, they can apply for the financial assistance schemes provided by the school. RGS 1:1 will be rolled out in different phases to ensure smooth implementation

- Year 2012: All Y1 students
- Year 2013: All Y1&2 students
- Year 2015: All RGS students

### ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational programme that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through to college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competitions at the National and World levels. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the programme.

10 teams from RGS participated in this year's competition in Singapore and all 10 teams represented Singapore in the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals held in Maryland, USA, from 27-30 May. In total 27 teams represented Singapore in the finals.

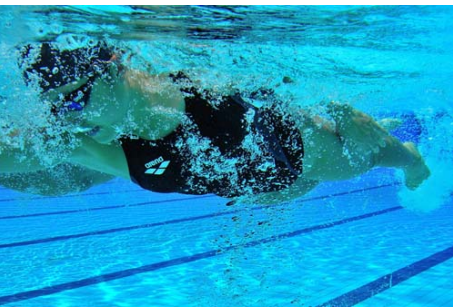
**Results update\*: 5 RGS teams finished in top 6 positions and 8 RGS teams in top 10 positions.**

More than 850 teams (all divisions) from around the world shared their ideas and work.

\*In their divisions.

### FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING

Founded by creativity pioneer, Dr. E. Paul Torrance, Future Problem Solving Programme International (FPSPI) stimulates critical and creative thinking skills, encourages students to develop a vision for the future, and prepares students for leadership roles. FPSPI engages students in creative problem solving within the curriculum and provides competitive opportunities. FPSPI involves thousands of students annually from Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, and the United States. Teams from Singapore presented their works at the Singapore National level and 4 RGS teams have been selected to participate in the Future Problem Solving International Conference held in Wisconsin, USA from 9-12 June. A total of 10 teams from Singapore will be at the conference.



### CCA Standdown

CCA standdown dates in view of end-of-year exams 2011 as follows:

Yr 4 official standdown: 15 July (Term 3 Wk 3). **HOWEVER**, Yr 4 CCA leaders may be asked to assist in the CCA leaders handover (aka transition of cca leadership) for their respective CCAs in Wk 4 & 5 of Term 3.

Yr 1-3 official standdown: 16 Sept (term 4 Wk 1).

CCA will resume again after EOY, the same date as the start of post-exams activity.

## SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL (SYF) AND THE NATIONAL INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS COMPETITIONS

RGS has done exceptionally well in this year's SYF and National Inter-School Sports competitions. The haul of awards speak volumes of the talent, hard work and commitment of our girls, the encouragement of the teachers and strong support by parents during the busy competition period.

### Singapore Youth Festival

Gold with Honours – Choir, Dance International, English Drama, Indian Dance

Gold – Anklung Ensemble, Band Symphonic, Chinese Drama, Chinese Orchestra, Guitar Ensemble, Indian Orchestra, Handbell Ensemble (Raffles Ringers), String Ensemble (Raffles Strings)

Silver – Malay Dance

A special mention must given to this group of Malay Dance girls. The girls are from different races and in fact only 4 girls out of the group of 16 are Malays. While they may not have won Gold, we are very proud of them for their ability to look beyond ethnicity and culture to learn, embrace and excel in Malay dance.

### National Inter-School Sports Championships

**15** 1st-positions – Badminton 'C' Division, Golf 'B' Division, Gymnastics (Artistic) 'B' Division, Gymnastics (Rhythmic) 'B' & 'C' Divisions, Fencing 'C' Division, Sailing 'B' & 'C' Divisions, Shooting (Air Rifle) 'B' Division, Squash 'B' & 'C' Divisions, Table Tennis 'C' Division, Swimming 'B' & 'C' Divisions, Netball 'C' Division

**7** 2nd-positions – Fencing 'B' Division, Shooting (Air pistol) 'C' Division, Shooting (Air pistol) Individual 'C' Division, Shooting (Air Rifle) Individual 'B' Division, Table Tennis 'B' Division, Tennis 'B' Division, Ten-pin bowling "C" Division

**5** 3rd-positions – Gymnastics (Trampoline) 'B' Division, Shooting (Air pistol) 'B' Division, Tennis 'C' Division, Tenpin bowling 'B' Division, Badminton 'B' Division

RGS is also the defending champions in the following sports – Gymnastics (Rhythmic) 'B' Division (9 consecutive years), Badminton 'C' Division (8 consecutive years), Swimming 'B' & 'C' Divisions (7 consecutive years), Sailing 'B' Division (4 consecutive years), Table Tennis 'C' Division (3 consecutive years), Gymnastics (Artistic) 'B' Division (3 consecutive years).

Top Sports School for Girls accolade by the Straits Times 14 out of 15 years since its inception in 1995 till 2010.

In celebration of this year's tremendous achievements in the arts and in sports, a **holiday on 1 August** has been declared. Just our way of saying 'thank you' to the students and teachers for their hard work and passion in doing their best for RGS.