

The Raffles Wave

RGS Parents and Alumni Newsletter

JUNE 2012

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Year 4 RGS girls



RAFFLES GIRLS' SCHOOL

*Nurturing
Daughters of a Better Age*

School closure

The School will be closed from 1-3 June 2012 due to the Shangri-La Dialogues held annually at the Shangri-La Hotel

Odyssey of the Mind (OM) 2012 World Finals

Held in Iowa, USA from 23 - 26 May, OM is an international educational programme that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 countries participate in the programme.

8 RGS teams represented Singapore in the World Finals and achieved the following results in the respective problem categories:

Problem 1 - Ooh-Motional Vehicle:
Division II - 20th; Division III - 5th

Problem 2 - Weird Science:
Division II - 18th; **Division III - 1st**

Problem 3 - To Be or Not To Be:
Division III - 7th

Problem 4 - You Make the Call:
Division II & III - 13th

Problem 5 - Odyssey Angels:
Division III - 5th

Congratulations to all the girls for their excellent efforts and achievements.

More information on the results can be found by clicking link - [Results](#)

CONCERT BY THE RGS ANGKLUNG ENSEMBLE (with a special performance by the children from the Care Corner Student Care Centre)

With a long-term commitment to working with the less fortunate, the RGS Angklung ensemble initiated a project to share their skills and passion for angklung as a way to connect with the children from the Care Corner Student Centre - a subsidised before-and-after school care centre which aims to look after the welfare of latchkey children (7 - 14 years old).

The community service project began in January this year. The RGS Angklung girls started with getting to know the children, introducing the instruments to them and providing an understanding of what was to take place over the next couple of months. During the weekly sessions, the children learned the basic techniques of playing the angklung, music concepts and rhythm patterns. They were introduced to simple songs, the dynamics of music, movement and performance techniques, practised on-stage performance style and underwent intensive concert preparation.

Through the project, the RGS Angklung girls grew not just as a group but as individuals. Teamwork was fostered through shared experiences and leadership skills as well as a greater sense of responsibility were inculcated in each member.

The work by the girls will come together in a concert featuring the RGS Angklung ensemble with a special performance by the children from the Care Corner Student Centre.

Concert details:

Date: 29 June

Time: 7:30pm to 9.00pm

Venue: Evelyn Norris Hall, RGS

For more details, please email rai.hana.abbas@rgs.edu.sg

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Renaissance Faire (22 May)

As an exciting finale to the exploration of Shakespeare and the exciting world of Elizabethan Renaissance by the Y2 girls, the English and Literature Department presented the Raffleshire Renaissance Faire. The Faire is a collaboration between all Y2 girls, Fashion Cluster, Raffles Mindsports, Symphonic Band and ELDS girls, all of whom were dedicated to bringing the Renaissance to life at RGS. An exciting array of activities were planned and executed by the girls that showed off their talents and enthusiasm for the subject. Activities included:

- An exciting opening to the Faire featuring trumpeters and a Renaissance fashion show
- Sword fighting demos by knights in real armour equipped with longswords and shields
- Archery demos, both modern and ancient, followed by a hands-on experience
- A game of Human Chess between teachers and students
- Booths put up by each class reflecting Renaissance sports, beliefs and culture including Jousting tournaments, Renaissance hair braiding, Apothecary, Dream interpretation and many more

RGS Open House (19 May)

The RGS Open House committee spent many months preparing for this year's Open House and all the hard work and detailed planning came to fruition on 19 May. A massive turnout of more than 3500 girls and parents showed the high level of interest in the school as all were eager to find out more about the RGS programmes and to get a feel of the RGS culture and experience.



Open House booths

RGS Sports Fest (25 May)

As the last school event for Term 2, the annual RGS Sports Fest is always highly anticipated by the staff and girls. Held at the Toa Payoh Stadium, the Sports Fest started at 7.30am and was graced by Guest-of-Honour Professor John Wang, Head, Physical Education & Sports Science at NIE, NTU. This year, in addition to the track and field events and the Inter-House cheerleading cum dance display competition, the inaugural Sports Fest Challenge was introduced where spectators were invited to participate in challenging and fun activities on the field. The ultimate prize, the 'Champion House for Sports Fest' went to Tarbet House this year. Congratulations Tarbetians!



Clockwise from top:

Tarbet House - 'Champion House for Sports Fest'; RGS students enjoying the Sports Fest Challenge- Cross Hopper and Wiggle Jiggle; Getting ready for the race

INTERNATIONALISATION PROGRAMMES DURING THE TERM 2 HOLIDAYS

Future Problem Solving Program

4 -15 June

USA (Bloomington, Indiana)

Odyssey of the Mind World Finals

21 May - 2 June

USA (Iowa)

Biology Field Trip

16 - 20 June

Malaysia (Pulau Tioman)

Science Field Trip

27 May - 9 June

UK (Wales and London)

Geography Field Trip

28 May - 3 June

Hong Kong

Geography Field Trip

4 - 6 June

Malaysia (KL)

History Field Trip

29 May - 8 June

France and Germany

Social Studies Bridges of Engagement

16 - 19 June

Malaysia (Malacca and KL)

RSP Immersion Trip (Y4)

26 - 31 May

Indonesia (Yogyakarta)

Raffles Art Overseas Learning Journey

26 May - 4 June

USA (New York City)

Track & Cross Country Training Trip

4 - 8 June

Malaysia

Shell Singapore Youth Science Festival (SSYSF)

SSYSF is an annual celebration of science learning and is organised by the Science Teachers Association of Singapore, the Singapore Science Centre and Shell Companies in Singapore. In the recent SSYSF, RGS girls Edith Loo (402) and Tan Li Yin (413) won the Gold Award for their project titled 'The anti-cancer properties of traditional Chinese medicine' and Liu Chang (402), Divya Durai (404) and Cho Hsiao Hsin Hope (401) won the Silver Award for their project titled 'Investigation of antimicrobial activity of spices against oral Streptococcus'.

ACHIEVEMENTS

CHAOS

CHAOS (Creative and Heuristic Applications of Science), jointly organised by MOE Gifted Education branch and Faculty of Science NUS, is a multi-disciplinary Science competition which focuses on utilising creative and critical thinking skills in problem solving. More than 10 schools participated in it and RGS was the only school with 2 teams presenting in the finals.

RGS team 1 consisting of team members Andrea Low (211), Alicia Ong (211), Chan Wei Ting (213) and Wang YiXi (204) emerged overall champions winning the championship trophy and \$400 book vouchers while RGS team 2 consisting of team members Qiu Jiayu (213), Rosemond Tan (204), Helen Lin Jia Qi (209) and Nai Kei Teng received a Commendation Award and \$100 book vouchers.

Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF)

RGS alum Low Kay Yi (Class of 2010) has won the Third Award in the category of Medicine and Health Sciences for her project titled 'Treatment of BRAF(V600E) in Colorectal Cancer' at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) 2012 held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from 13 to 18 May. The Intel ISEF, the world's largest pre-college science fair, is held in the USA annually and provides the platform for top science and engineering talents of different nationalities to showcase their projects. Intel ISEF is often regarded as the 'Olympics' of science research competitions. In each topic category, First, Second and Third awards are given out. For her win, Kay Yi received a cash prize of US\$1,000.

Singapore Science and Engineering Fair (SSEF)

SSEF is a national competition organised by MOE, A*STAR and the Singapore Science Centre. It is the highest tier of science fairs in Singapore for pupils and is affiliated to the prestigious Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF). SSEF is open to all secondary and pre-university pupils between 15 and 21 years of age.

3 RGS teams received awards:

- Merit Award: Teo Si-Yan (401) and Zhang Boyu (403) for their project titled 'Synthesis of novel hydrogels for anti-cancer drug delivery'
- Silver Award: Ng Ruixin (414), Ang Shi Hui (413) and Law May Ning (402) for their project titled 'Small molecule breast cancer stem cell inhibitors'
- Silver Award and Broadcom Masters Award: Amanda Kang Yu Chen (402), Judith Ow (411) and Ee Rui Qi Rachel (401) for their project titled 'Establishment of a proof of concept high content screen for small molecules inhibiting glioma growth'

RGS alumni (all from the class of 2010) also represented the school well in the competition with Gold Awards going to Low Kay Yi and Lydia Liu for their respective projects; Silver Award to Cai Anni and Silver Award to Mao Haitong and Vanessa Chiam for their joint project and the Bronze Award to Josephine Lee.

2012 A*STAR Talent Search (A*TS)

A*TS is an initiative to reward pupils who have performed well in scientific research. It is organised by A*STAR with the support of the Singapore Science Centre. RGS alumni once again represented the school well with Lydia Liu receiving the 1st prize, Low Kay Yi receiving the 2nd prize and Josephine Lee receiving a commendation.

Tan Kah Kee Young Inventors' Award (TKKYIA) 2012

The TKKYIA is awarded to inventors for inventions that are original, practical and which can be commercialised to generate wealth for the country. Organised by the Tan Kah Kee Foundation, A*STAR and DSTA with the support of Science Centre Singapore, the TKKYIA seeks to stimulate creativity amongst the young and to promote scientific and technological research in Singapore. RGS girls Faith Nadine Choo Yun Sum (302) and Gabrielle Ong Hui Min (312) received the commendation award for their invention titled 'Sure Can', a specially moulded plastic lid which effectively seals open drink cans, preventing spillage and escape of gases from carbonated drinks, and also minimizes exposure to surrounding contaminants.