

The Raffles Wave

RGS Parents and Alumni Newsletter

OCTOBER 2011

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RAFFLES GIRLS' SCHOOL

*Nurturing
Daughters of a Better Age*



PRESIDENT'S SCHOLAR

RGS alumnus Xiao Yifei is one of four President's Scholars for 2011. Yifei, who plans to study International Relations at the University of Pennsylvania, attributes much of her success to the support she received from her parents and teachers.

She says, "There is a culture of bold possibilities at RGS. It taught me to never be afraid of expressing myself, to enjoy the fun that comes with challenges and to just go for it."

In addition to doing well academically in school, she was also a basketball player, directed and acted in plays, was president of the Boon Lay Youth Club and volunteered in Meet-the-People sessions in Boon Lay.

We congratulate Yifei on her achievement and wish her all the best in her endeavours.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

CCA Awards Day

The RGS CCA Awards Day recognises the passion, dedication and talent of RGS students in CCA. Awards are given for outstanding performance in sports, performing arts, uniformed groups, clubs and societies. Qualities such as leadership, teamwork, resilience and service are recognised. Among the awards given out will be the Raffles Colours awards in outstanding Leadership, Service and Performance, as well as the National and Zone Colours Awards. This year, the RGS CCA Awards Day will be held at RGS on 31 October.

Farewell Alma Mater (FAM)

Every year, RGS celebrates the graduation of our Year 4 students. This year, FAM will take place at the Marriott Hotel on the evening of 15 November. The theme for this year is Movie Premiere. To add to the celebratory mood of the night, there will be a performance segment during which the Year 4 students will represent their classes and showcase their various talents, as well as a lucky draw. It will definitely be a night to remember for the graduating classes!

Staff retreat and seminar

The 2011 staff retreat and seminar will take place on 11 and 14 November, with the purpose of updating staff on the school's developments, charting the school's direction for the next few years and strengthening the bonds between all staff. There will be an RGS Council review of 2011 and planning for 2012 will ensue. The Staff retreat and seminar will be held in RGS this year.

Speech Day

RGS Speech Day was on 17 September this year. Parents armed with cameras and buzzing with pride at the awards their daughters would be receiving gathered with RGS BOG, guests and teachers at the Evelyn Norris Hall. At 9.20am, the Guest-of-Honour, Mr Laurence Lien, CEO of the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre, arrived and the Speech Day ceremony got on the way.

RGS Principal, Mrs Julie Hoo, started the ceremony by giving a report on the school's achievements over the past year. Guest-of-Honour, Mr Lien, encouraged the RGS girls to engage in meaningful service to the community and to make a difference.



Guest-of-Honour, Mr Laurence Lien

The Rafflesian award, the most prestigious award given to a daughter of the RGS family who epitomises the values and ideals that define the ethos of the school, was bestowed on Ms Zhang Aidi who excelled in both the aesthetics and academic domains.

Parents, guests and visitors were also entertained by a lively concert performance put up by Year 1-3 students in some of our performing arts groups.



RGS Guitar ensemble

We congratulate all our award recipients and look forward to another great year in 2012.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Teachers' Day Celebration (1 September) and staff night dinner (31 August)

Teachers' Day celebration commenced after an energetic ACES Day workout. Teachers and students gathered at the school's amphitheatre where the school's gymnastics team kicked things off with a jaw dropping show of agility and discipline followed by a series of student performances specially prepared for the occasion. Not to be left behind, the teachers reciprocated by putting together a skit of their own.

Staff Night dinner was held at the Fairmont Hotel. With the theme "RAP" - which was the acronym for anything that started with the letters R, A and P - all staff enjoyed themselves over a generous dinner, table games and lucky draw. Not to forget, the awards for the best dressed female and male for the night (to theme of course). The accolade went to Senior Deputy Principal, Mrs Shirley Tan and teacher, Mr Chua Hai Lee.



Left picture: Senior Deputy Principal, Mrs Shirley Tan (right), receiving the best dressed female award



Right picture: Teacher, Mr Chua Hai Lee (right), receiving the best dressed male award

PRGS Staff Appreciation Lunch

We would like to thank the parents from PRGS for the resplendent RGS Staff Appreciation Lunch on 14 September. The wide selection of dishes, meticulously put together by RGS parents, rivaled that of any found in the best restaurants. To top it off, the teachers' appreciation cake where the RGS logo was made from a huge block of dark chocolate, added the sweet spot to a lunch every RGS teacher anticipates with great eagerness every year!



RGS senior management and parents from PRGS

LEADERSHIP BOARDS

The following students have been elected to leadership positions in the respective Houses and Leadership Boards for 2012.

Houses

Buckle

Captain - Yao Hui Wen Sarah (301)
Vice Captains -
Woon Xin Hui (310)
Kimberly He Yuqi (205)
Tan Hui Ying (210)

Hadley

Captain - Lim Xin En Michelle (301)
Vice Captains -
Chong Yin Jean (206)
Ma Katrina Beatrice (211)
Melissa Tang Shou Hui (211)

Richardson

Captain - Chua Jia Min (310)
Vice Captains -
Sabrina Leong Wei (304)
Ragini Verma (202)
Cai Minglu (212)

Tarbet

Captain - Lee Bao Yi Pauline (310)
Vice Captains - Tan Li Yin (313)
Vanessa Chen Hui En (203)
Tan Jia Li Kelly (208)

Waddle

Captain - Ong Wei Ling Louisa (310)
Vice Captains -
Siow Chun Yen (305)
Yap Li Yin (204)
Koh Jing En (209)

Peer Support Board

Chairperson -
Rachel Lim Jia Hui (312)
Vice Chairpersons -
Jasmine Yak Jie Min (302)
Ang Yu Xin (302)

Student Congress

Congress Speaker -
Louise Marie Lee Shuying (302)
Deputy Speakers -
Wee Yen Jean (306)
Cheryl Huang Yu Wei (302)

AWARDS

Singapore Kindness Movement

The Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM) aims to encourage Singaporeans to make a positive commitment to gracious living through simple acts of kindness in their daily activities. The 'Friend of Singa' programme was organised by the SKM and the award ceremony was held on 20 September. RGS students Rachel Lim Jia Hui (312), Jasmine Yak Jie Min (302), Ong Chu Yi Elizabeth Jane (312) and Christina Wong Yi Zhen (207) received the 'Friend of Singa' gold award on behalf of the project team for their kindness project that was inspired by a friendly RGS security guard.

Biodiversity of Singapore Symposia

Every year, RGS Year 1 students participate in ICCS (International Coastal Cleanup Singapore) as part of their service learning project. ICCS aims to remove debris and collect data on the debris from the shorelines, waterways and beaches around the world. The information is used to educate the public on marine debris and to encourage positive changes to enhance aquatic environments. RGS students have participated in this effort every year for the last 20 years, the only local school to take part in ICCS annually since its inception.

At the Biodiversity of Singapore Symposia which was held on 24 September, RGS was awarded the Symposia award in acknowledgment of the 20-year environmental education contributions to the ICCS and service to the community.

F1 in Schools World Finals

F1 in Schools is a multi-disciplinary challenge in which teams of students aged 9 to 19 deploy CAD/CAM software to collaborate, design, analyse, manufacture, test and then race miniature gas-powered balsa wood F1 cars.

The challenge inspires students to use IT to learn about physics, aerodynamics, design, manufacture, branding, graphics, sponsorship, marketing, leadership/teamwork, media skills and financial strategy, and apply them in a practical, imaginative, competitive and exciting way. This year, the F1 in Schools World Finals took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 17 to 22 September.

Team Trident Racing, made up of RGS students V Divya (410), V Ramya (412), Keerthana (403) and Iyer Vaishnavi Srinivasan (412) and four students from Sebastopol College (Australia) won the Collaboration Award.

26th SEA GAMES 2011

Jakarta-Palembang, Indonesia 11 to 22 November 2011

Five RGS students will be representing Singapore in the 26th SEA Games.

They are:

Elisa Yukie Yokoyama (202), Sailing
Phaan Yi Lin (409), Rhythmic Gymnastics
Koh Hui Yu (414), Swimming
Samantha Louisa Yeo Ginn (205), Swimming
Chelsea Lin Fuchs (306), Swimming