

WESTWOOD BUZZ

Vice-Principal's Address

We started this year with renewed hope and confidence that having fought Covid-19 for the past year, things would take a positive turn. Nevertheless, we recognise that even at the national and global levels, challenges have been aplenty. That said, as you flip through the pages of this newsletter, you would notice that at Westwood, our aspirations of positivity continue to shine through. Without ceasing, our dedicated staff have been learning from past experiences and growing not just their spirit of grit, but also of innovation to create joyful and meaningful learning opportunities for our pupils. For instance, our Year Head, Mdm Tan, as well as covering Year Head, Mdm Long, and all our P6 teachers have not only been working hard to prepare our graduating cohort for the PSLE, but also trying hard to eventuate a

Virtual Overseas Learning Journey for them too! Even though the year is coming to a close, over at Westwood, our hope for every pupil to enjoy learning, be positive, resilient and engaged, charts our journey ahead.

Our full appreciation also goes out to all parents/guardians, SAC, PSG, partners and stakeholders for your continued partnership and unwavering support. Through your role-modelling of care, civic-mindedness and social responsibility, we were able to multiply our efforts and keep Westwood Primary a safe and conducive environment for teaching and learning to take place.

Taking inspiration from some song lyrics that go, "Come what may, there is no mountain too high to climb, no river too wide to

cross..." we know that as a Westwood Family, we have each other's strength of character and demonstration of resilience to surmount all challenges ahead. As we forge ahead to create many more celebratory moments – 2022 is Westwood's 10th Anniversary! – and seize opportunities for our pupils to flourish and thrive, let us spur one another on to **Stay Wonderful, Stay Well, Stay Positive, Stay Strong – Stay WWPS!**

*This too shall pass but
Together we forge
better days ahead!*

Mrs Ruth Tai
Vice-Principal



Positive Parenting Reflections



The PSG members appreciate all Westwood teachers. Happy Teachers' Day!

It was mere weeks before Teachers' Day when I received a text from the Parent Support Group (PSG) co-chairman, Mr Raymond Tan, asking me if I could help out with some handicraft work for the teachers and staff at WWPS. We answered his call without reservation. I said, "Teachers Bao Sua Bao Hai", or literally translated, "Teachers Cover Mountains Cover Sea", and they deserve our recognition for nurturing our children.

We came together as a group and brainstormed, hoping to prepare something meaningful for the teachers who have made a difference in our children's lives.

We selected the 3D heart with the theme, "Leading with a Teacher's Heart". The hearts were stacked in layers of colours symbolising the different attributes a teacher possesses – kindness, passion, care, love, empathy and

countless more. Whether you are a teacher by profession or a teacher by nature, these few words are for you.

Teachers spend their days imparting wisdom through lessons of love, compassion and inspiration. In turn, students grow into more capable, informed and mature versions of their former selves. They take their teachers' guidance and go on to accomplish more than they can ever imagine. Standing patiently by their students, teachers instil the essence of life and consistently prove that learning can be a joyful and pleasant experience. They pour their hearts into every student, every day, without ceasing.

Every teacher is rewarded not by monetary gains but by the progress of their students. A teacher's love is always extended to his/her students wherever life may lead them, always wanting to keep in touch and to know how far they have aspired.

A teacher will always be a teacher throughout life.

Our WWPS PSG would like to say a big "Thank You" to all our teachers!
Happy Teachers' Day!

Michell Teo (PSG member)
Mother of Sofya Pang

Bundles of Joy

We rejoice with the proud parents as they welcomed their bundles of joy!



Ong Sei Li, baby boy of
Mdm Sophia Tan



Leahya Jerry, baby girl of Ms
Malathy

POSITIVELY WESTWOOD

Thriving Together As A School

Hari Raya Celebrations

Hari Raya Aidilfitri is the day that marks the end of Ramadan. There was a mini celebration in the midst of the pandemic. One of the highlights was the Pre-Assembly Moments (PRAM) video where selected Westwood staff gave their well-wishes to their Muslim colleagues.



Hari Raya celebrations with School Leaders

Pupils learnt about the Malay traditional costumes, weaved ketupat bookmarks and created Hari Raya greeting cards and origami envelopes.

Prefects' Investiture & CCA Leaders' Investiture



Welcoming the New EXCO Prefects



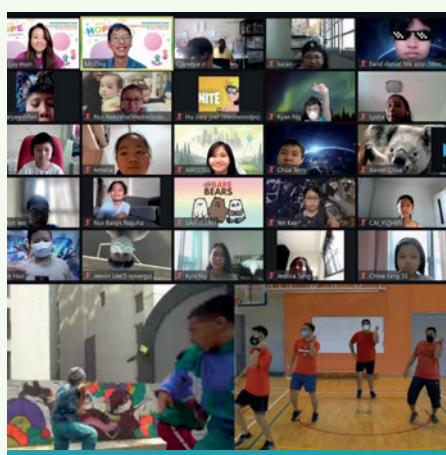
Appreciation Certificates and Plaques for the CCA Leaders

On 28th June 2021, Westwood's annual Prefects' Investiture, held through YouTube Live, recognised prefects as pupil leaders who serve the school's populations and raised awareness of what it means to be a prefect. The Prefectorial Board offered their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to their outgoing EXCO members as they welcomed their 8 new EXCO members, as well as 39 new prefects.

The CCA Leaders' Investiture was held on 2 August to recognise our CCA Leaders' contributions in their respective CCAs. We also witnessed the appointment of new P5 CCA Leaders.

Children's Day

Home-based Learning did not dampen our spirits as we celebrated Children's Day online with our individual classes. Pupils were treated to a morning workout followed by an e-Concert "Choose Hope - Let's Do It Together!" featuring pupil voices on what hope means to them, a Hip Hop Assembly, dedications, as well as learning about self-care and caring



Choose Hope! A unique Children's Day e-celebration this year

for others through a skit by our Parent Support Group (PSG) and a video by Community Chest. The e-celebrations ended on a high note with our teachers hosting an exciting game for our pupils!

Launch of the Inter-House Challenge

To promote sportsmanship and camaraderie among P3 to P6 pupils, our school held her annual Inter-House Sports Carnival. Pupils were trained in basketball, football and skipping during P.E. lessons. After two weeks of training, pupils embarked on an intense 2-week competition. Every point each pupil scored during their PE lessons contributed to the overall House scores. Pupils were given the opportunity to watch the "live scores" of each House displayed in the Canteen during recess. Will the Future-ready defend the Foxes or will another house beat them to it? All will be revealed at the finale of the WWPS IHSC 2021!



Pupil shooting into the Basketball hoop

Racial Harmony Day

Racial Harmony Day was commemorated on 13 July 2021. The theme for this year is, 'Common Spaces, Connected Communities'.

The celebration started off with a video skit entitled, 'Perfect Harmony'. Pupils did crafts of different cultures, took part in Kahoot Quizzes and did reflections on racial harmony which were made into a class mural or collage. One special activity was the TikTok video where staff, pupils and parents learnt to speak in a language of another race, tried out the different traditional games and even sang songs in a different language.



Pupils and teaching staff dressed up in ethnic costumes

Mother Tongue Language Fortnight

This year, in Term 3, for the Mother Tongue Language Fortnight (MTLF), the MTL Department screened a series of PRAM videos to highlight the fun way of learning the MT languages. In addition, pupils had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich and vibrant cultures and languages through many interesting activities.



Pupils immersed in their lesson activities

Westwood Secure Week

As part of keeping Emergency Preparedness warm in our school and leading up to the 56th National Day celebrations, we had the Westwood SECURE Week where exhibits showing SG SECURE messages were arranged in the School Hall to allow pupils, teachers and support staff to view the educational messages from 2 to 5 August.



Pupils learning about the Lockdown Drill

In addition, all pupils and staff participated in a Lockdown Drill to continue to stay prepared for emergencies.

Talking Point & Project L.E.A.D

Talking Point was initiated this year to promote civic-mindedness amongst pupils and nurture a passion for the community. Pupils posted issues which concerned them as Singaporeans on Padlets and discussed them in class. Our upper primary pupils embarked on Project L.E.A.D. which stands for Leaders Exemplify Action and Determination. Two of the pupils' ideas sparked the collaboration between the VIA and Maker Teams to raise funds for SPCA by designing shrinking art keychains with motivational care for our animals messages, as well as to express gratitude to our migrant workers by creating DIY hand-sanitizer holders.



Teacher facilitating discussions on current issues affecting pupils as Singaporeans

National Day & Maker Challenge for the Westwood Family



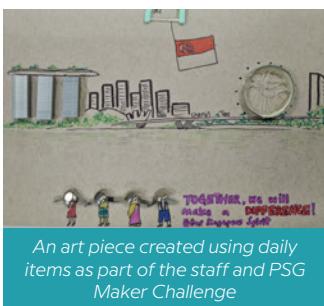
National Day hand tattoos



Our marching contingent representing the 6 aspects of Total Defence

We celebrated our nation's 56th birthday by having a live observance ceremony. Our marching contingent was led by pupils from our CCA groups and also the prefectorial board, representing the 6 aspects of Total Defence. Pupils performed National Day songs in sign language and skillful dance moves. In class, pupils enjoyed putting on National Day hand tattoos. The Dance Workout by the PE teachers was greatly enjoyed by the pupils.

Our innovative spirit was also manifested in Maker Challenges amongst staff, parents and pupils, where we created artefacts related to our national spirit.



An art piece created using daily items as part of the staff and PSG Maker Challenge



Pupils' Maker Challenge

Joy of Learning

The Joy of Learning Video Challenge is a platform for pupils to share their learning in the subject area of their choice via self-directed video recording. Pupils can work solo or form a pupil team as part of the video project. When we showcased the videos during PRAM, it was a tremendous eye-opener for the pupils, igniting the curiosities of our young minds.



Joy of Learning

Westwood Superstar Talent Contest and Teachers' Day

The Aesthetics Department organized the 'Westwood Superstar' to provide a platform for our pupils to showcase their talents in the performing arts. We were very proud to see how the pupils found new ways to get around the constraints and challenges faced during the pandemic to display their creativity and wonderful musical talents.



Our SAC Chairman, Mr Raymond Goh's message to all the teachers



Our Vice-Principal, Ms Tai, presenting the certificate and voucher to our winning soloist.

English Fiesta



Our Star Performers

Unravelling the mysteries of myths and legends in Singapore this year, our pupils listened to stories such as, "The Legend of Bukit Timah Hill", and "The Sisters' Island". Beyond the classroom, pupils took part in online quizzes to learn about these fascinating

tales. Our EL Drama and Debating Club also put up a skit on, "The Legend of Badang". An E-bookfair was organised to share interesting books with our pupils, re-igniting the joy of learning and reading in them.

Go Green Recycling Competition



Pupils helping out during the recycling drive

The Go Green Recycling competition is a monthly affair for Westwood Primary as part of our initiative for environmental conservation education. Pupils are encouraged to donate their recyclables and the items are sold to raise funds for Conservation International, a non-profit environmental organisation. To date, Westwood has contributed a total of 2431 kg of recycled items this year. Bravo!

Be a Westwood Encourager

In an effort to encourage and motivate our Primary 6 pupils to strive to do better and excel further, our prefects initiated a movement called, "Be a Westwoodian Encourager". Through this initiative, pupils from P1 to P5 penned down their well-wishes and thoughts for the graduating cohort. With everyone's creativity and contribution, we came together to present the Encourager Gumball Machine, Motivational Notes and Bookmarks of Encouragement to the P6s!



Gumball Machine

POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Lower Primary

P1 & P2 PAL



A pupil paying attention to the fine details as he draws the outline of a leaf he likes.



Pupils listen and observe the outdoor sounds and sights during a lesson on Outdoor Education.

The conducting of PAL (Programme for Action Learning) lessons amid the pandemic required adjustments to ensure the safety of the pupils. With SMM rules in place, it was a challenge to continue doing group work. Nonetheless, PAL teachers focused on the essence of the SEL (social and emotional learning) aspects of each lesson.

Bucket Filler Activity

Our Lower Primary pupils know that there is always something to be grateful for even though the road ahead seems uncertain. They penned down notes of encouragement for their classmates, thanking them for the chance to meet and play while staying safe in school. They told their buddies how much they meant to them. All these acts of care and affirmation helped to keep the spirits of the little ones up!



Our dear P1 pupil, Husna, was caught in action penning down positive notes to her classmate.



Look at their eyes! They were very happy to receive the cards from one another.

Reach for the STARS Programme

In Semester 2, the Lower Primary pupils were introduced to a new title, Star Leader, in the Reach for the STARS programme. That encouraged our pupils to take ownership of their classroom leadership roles and carry out their duties well.



Lower Primary pupils nominated in the Reach for the STARS programme. Congratulations little STARS!



Design and Innovation Workshop

Have you ever stopped to look at a bunch of Strawbees and wondered what you could do with them? If you have not, then you should take a look at what the youngest group of creative minds in Westwood came up with during the Design and Innovation Workshop held in Term 3!



Can you guess what I've created?



I have created a table and a chair!



I made a zipline as well as a windmill that can generate electricity. Bzz!

POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Middle Primary

P3 Mother Tongue Cultural Camp

For the P3 Chinese Cultural Camp, we were deeply honored to be able to invite the author and illustrator of 《我的守护熊》 to share on his new book 《我的守护熊2——真正的超级英雄》. Pupils had first-hand experience on how the characters in this book were created and received special tips on how the main characters were illustrated by him. Our P3 pupils had a most fun and fulfilling sharing session during the myriad of hands-on activities.



Pupils immersed in their activities



A pupil immersed in the activity

P3 Tamil Cultural Camp



We are ready to dance!

Student Peer Supporters



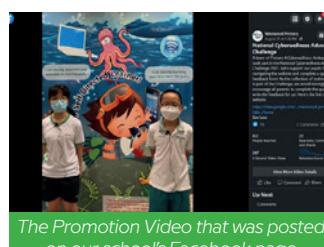
Showing care and concern for a fellow pupil



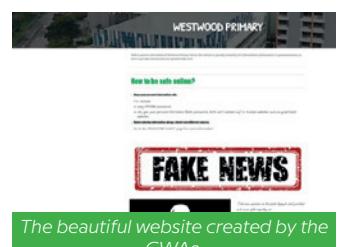
Student Peer Supporters

National Cyberwellness Advocacy Challenge 2021

A group of P4 Cyberwellness Ambassadors took part in the National Cyberwellness Advocacy Challenge 2021. The theme for this year's challenge was, "Fake News: Spot It, Evaluate It, Remove It". The pupil ambassadors were tasked to design interesting and relevant content that would engage parents in the active promotion of Cyberwellness. They created a website that allows the audience to learn more about fake news through videos and slides.



The Promotion Video that was posted on our school's Facebook page



The beautiful website created by the CWSAs

P3 Malay Cultural Camp

During the P3 Malay Cultural Camp, our Malay pupils learnt more about Dikir Barat, which is a musical performance art that is native to the Malay Peninsula. It involves singing in groups with or without instruments. Pupils even created their own mini performance as a level.



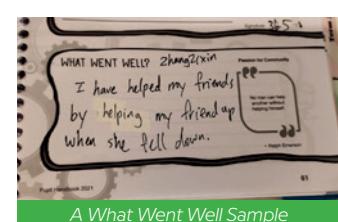
P3s learning the 'Dikir Barat' moves with the vendors via Zoom

What Went Well

Aligned with Westwood's Positive Education and our THRIVE Framework, our Middle Primary teachers took up the role of facilitators as they led each class through 'Circle Time' and sharing sessions to build on peer bonding among our pupils. They provided support as the class revisited the positive moments that had happened throughout the week.



A topic given to pupils



A What Went Well Sample



P3s having fun coming up with their own moves to include in their performance

POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Upper Primary

P5 Camp

Westwood Primary School held its annual P5 Adventure Camp within the school's compound on 6 August, and together with National Day round the corner, the pupils had a camp experience with the theme, "Together, Our Singapore Spirit". The P5 pupils experienced an activity that was linked to Singapore's landscape, allowing them to learn about the past, present and future of Singapore.



Mr Chow presenting prizes to the two of the best campers

Many activities required them to apply the various outdoor education skills they acquired during lessons. Pupils were also challenged to construct various transportation systems using skipping ropes, papers and strings. Two best campers were chosen from each class for their efforts throughout the camp.

Prefect and CCA Leaders' Training



Prefects presenting their ideas confidently



Bonding activity to build teamwork and chemistry among prefects

This year, our Upper Primary Prefects and Exco Prefects took part in four enriching and meaningful leadership training sessions conducted for them. The training comprises hands-on activities to help prefects build team leadership, values and resilience.



Exco prefect Hao Kai engaging the trailers via Zoom



Our Exco pupils were able to relate to the interesting yet relevant examples

In Term 3, we started our very first leadership training programme for P5 Exco Prefects and CCA Leaders. The programme, titled, 'Heroes of Halo Island', uses applied drama methodology to help our pupil leaders develop exemplary leadership, effective communication and the ability to stay calm, work and think under pressure.

Acknowledgement of P6 Maker Ambassadors

Our P6 Maker Ambassadors have displayed a strong passion for making. They have been putting in lots of effort to guide their peers in change-making, and also contributing to the school's Maker Education. We would like to take the opportunity to show



Attending Maker workshops before the pandemic



Receiving a certificate of appreciation from our Principal, Mr Mah

appreciation to them as they graduate, and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Motivational Talks by Mr Mah for P6 Pupils

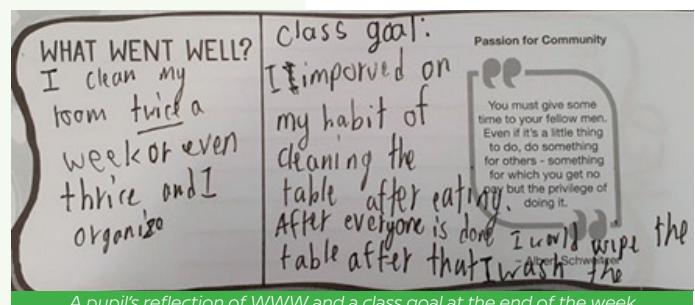


P6 Motivational Talk

In Term 3, P6 pupils were given a series of motivational talks on goal-setting, time management, and strategies for better coping with pressure during the morning THRIVE lessons. Useful strategies such as how to take mindful breaks, and how to draw up a study schedule were shared with the pupils. Mr Mah, our principal, personally took them through the various sessions and engaged the pupils in thinking about their aspirations, goals, and how to take positive actions in order to achieve them.

What Went Well

The school conducts regular "What Went Well" (WWW) moments in the classroom on Fridays for pupils to reflect and write about a "What Went Well" moment in the week. Teachers will also share their personal WWW moments with pupils. By constantly getting pupils and staff to reflect upon WWW moments, the process leads staff and pupils to think about positive memories which in turn lead to emotions of positivity, establishing a better teacher-student relationship, and leading on to a positive learning environment.



A pupil's reflection of WWW and a class goal at the end of the week

POSITIVE COMMUNITY

Making a Difference

Greening for Sustainability

Pupils from Class 4 Synergy had the opportunity to plant lettuce on 30 August 2021. This is part of the P4 Greening for Sustainability Programme. Pupils cooperated with one another as they learnt to loosen the soil and plant the lettuce seedlings well. It is heartening to note that the vegetables were subsequently harvested by our non-teaching staff on 24 September 2021, in collaboration with our pupils' efforts.

We are certainly confident that the planting activity has helped to reinforce the message about promoting sustainability to all our pupils and stakeholders.



Planting lettuce seedlings together

Delivering Food Packs by P6s to NTUC Health Senior Activity Centres

Our P6 pupils packed a total of 240 food packs which comprised of necessity items like rice, oil and canned food for their VIA project. They also created and shared healthy recipes. These food packs and recipes were then delivered by our teachers as part of the Staff VIA to six Senior Activity Centres across Singapore to benefit our elderly.



Teachers helping to deliver the food packs as part of our Staff VIA

Kindergarten 2 Outreach (A Virtual Tour)

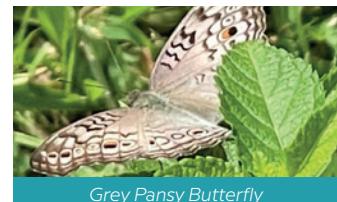


children could have fun making the coin box while getting to know more about Westwood Primary.

We organized our annual K2 Outreach online again this year due to Covid-19 safe management measures. Visitors could virtually see our facilities from the comfort of their homes and learn more about our school, curriculum and programmes. This year, we designed a limited edition DIY coin box so that the K2

Biodiversity @ Westwood Gardens

We are proud to share that our school's gardens are thriving grounds for both flora and fauna.



Grey Pansy Butterfly

We have been archiving the sightings of various animals since 2016. So far, we have included 10 species of birds, 21 species of butterflies, 8 species of dragonflies and 17 species of other organisms!

It was a joy to spot our 21st species of butterfly on 1st September 2021. It is the Grey Pansy Butterfly, which is the rarest of the four pansy butterflies in Singapore.

You can access the following site to find out more about our sightings in our Westwood Gardens:

<https://sites.google.com/moe.edu.sg/biodiversitywestwood/home>

Let us all continue to appreciate and conserve biodiversity!

Donation-in-kind Masks to Club Rainbow

Our P5 and P6 pupils learnt how to create digital art using Microsoft Powerpoint during Term 1's Design and Innovation Workshop. Recently, the Applied Learning Programme (ALP) department donated these 165 masks designed by our pupils and staff to a charity organization, Club Rainbow. Apart from benefitting the children in need, we hope that the colourful and cheerful designs would bring smiles to them. We believe this initiative has exemplified our school's ALP's focus of Positive Design - having designs that will make a difference to the community.



Lovely masks designed by pupils and staff

Parent-child Bonding Maker Workshop

The PSG and ALP/Maker Team had a successful Parent-Child Bonding Maker Workshop, 'Slime Making' held via Zoom. Three student facilitators led the workshop. Other than making slime, the participants took part in an Instant Challenge that required them to build the tallest structure that could stand for 10 seconds with 3 items found in the house. Many of our parent-child participants mentioned that they enjoyed the activities and bonding, and looked forward to attending similar sessions in the future!



The colour changing slime. Guess what causes the slime to change colour?

Maker Social Entrepreneurship SPCA E-bazaar

The Maker Social Entrepreneurship Project combines elements of both Maker Education, which is a key signature of our Applied Learning Programme, as well as service to the community, which is one of the pillars of our school's Learning for Life Programme.

This year, with the aim of raising funds for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), our Design and Innovation Club pupils designed badges, cards, stickers and shrinking art plastic keychains. These creations, along with SPCA's own set of merchandise, was made available for sale at our E-Bazaar. All sale proceeds went to SPCA.



An example of the merchandise created by the pupils

POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Our Pride and Joy

Startathon Junior Challenge 2021



Presenting our ideas to the judges

A group of P4 and P5 pupils participated in the #Startathon Junior Challenge 2021 organised by River Valley High School. They clinched the First and Second placings. They were also presented the Young Innovators Award. We are so proud of them!

Zoom Sharing by Science Lead Teacher, Mrs Naseema Ansar

On 11 August 2021, several Science teachers from the W6 cluster and other schools in Jurong attended a zoom sharing by our Science Lead Teacher, Mrs Naseema Ansar.

Mrs Ansar shared how Differentiated Instruction could be incorporated in the Primary Science classroom to cater to the different learning readiness of our pupils.



Teachers from the W6 cluster participated in a ZOOM sharing session

National Mathematical Competitions 2021

Kudos to all the pupils who took on the challenge to go beyond the school curriculum and take part in the National Mathematical competitions, the following are some of the competitions and our pupils' achievements.

- 1) National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) by NUSH
- 2) Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools (SMOPS) by HCI
- 3) Raffles Institution Primary Mathematics World Contest (RIPMWC)
- 4) River Valley Mathematics Challenge by RVHS



National Maths Competition Winner receiving the SMOPS Award

National School Games – Wushu

Westwoodian Wushu representative – Megan Lim Shun En from Class 6 Diligence, has done well to snag 4th position for her Changquan event in the National School Games. In her other pet events, she attained 7th position with no deductions. Congratulations to Megan for persevering with the training amidst the challenges faced!



In-action for the Changquan event

Destination Imagination Global Finals 2021



18th place out of 41 competing teams

In June, two groups of our very own WWPS pupils represented Singapore globally and pitted themselves against the other international teams in the virtual Destination Imagination Global Finals 2021. Our heartiest congratulations to all our pupils and teachers for their hard work and achievements. This was no easy feat, especially when the pupils and teachers had to meet

online instead to prepare for the instant challenge videos during the Phase 2 Heightened Alert in June. We are so proud of you!

Raffles Science Olympiad 2021

Avidly passionate in Science, many Westwoodians took part in the Singapore Primary Science Olympiad organised by NUS High School of Math and Science. We applaud participants for going the extra mile in their learning of Science beyond the Primary Science Curriculum. Here are some of their achievements:

Name

1. Ryan Ong, 5 Resilience
2. Tang Shao Kai, 5 Teamwork
3. Aston Ong, 5 Resilience
4. Deepra Banerjee, 6 Synergy
5. Kyan Ng, 5 Synergy

Award

- | |
|--------------|
| SPSO, Silver |
| SPSO, Silver |
| SPSO, Bronze |
| SPSO, Bronze |
| SPSO, Bronze |

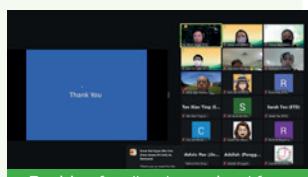
2021 Creative Writing Programme



Snippet of The Four Seasons by Kyla Ng

The Creative Writing Programme (CWP) is organised by the Gifted Education Branch, Ministry of Education, developing the P5 pupils with a sense of authentic and mature writing styles. These pupils crafted their portfolios, consisting of short stories and poetries, and a challenge piece, vying for a chance for their work to be published in the Mementoes 2021 publication.

Maker ETD Sharing with our Education Fraternity



Positive feedback received from the participants

The ALP/Maker Team did a sharing with the fraternity on the school's Maker Education Programme and how we aim to provide opportunities for Westwood pupils to develop 21st Century Competencies. In this webinar, the team shared how maker activities were conducted in our school with curriculum integration and staff capacity building, as well as how our school adapted our Maker Education Programme to overcome challenges posed by the pandemic situation, to ensure learning still continues.