



Alde, Teaño honored for perfect International

Benchmark Tests

Both vow achievement consistency for next academic challenges

by Gabriel Ian B. Maddara, photo by Ivan C. Magyani

Two students from The Philippine School are among the top students in the world, who executed intelligent performances among thousands who took the International Benchmark Tests (IBT).

Consecutively, Aeron Deine A. Alde and Andrea Mae M. Teaño got perfect scores in the field of Mathematics and English. IBT was initiated by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) in Dubai and was conducted at The Philippine School on November 24-26, 2014.

Aeron, a grade 5 student, was very successful with the Mathematics IBT exam this year. According to him, one of the ways to get a perfect score is to study constantly. Recalling his relative achievement in 2012, the young student had also scored perfect in English.

Alde's manner of acing exams was comparative with Andrea Teaño, who is a grade 9A student. Andrea, who had managed extensive reading, did sincere effort to perfect a score of 45 in the English IBT exams. She added that one must need to pay attention to the details of the test because she believes that excellence is in the details.

"I've been reading books since I was two-years old, but these are not merely children's books. I was reading fiction books and encyclopedias, so I have a lot of stock knowledge. Reading a lot helped me think deeper, therefore, helped me a lot with the exam, she added."

500 AED cash prizes were given to each of them by ACER.



Next to honour distinction is the appreciation of it.

The school principal, Ms. Jocelyn M. Sollano (center), awards the IBT recognition certificates to Aeron Deine A. Alde (left) and Andrea Mae M. Teaño (right) for their excellence and high academic intentions.

Student invited to share stage with prominent poets; claims poetry not her cup of tea

by Jizeth Rose G. Ibarra, Photo by Neil C. Madelo



Reasons why you can! Sophia Gabrielle Q. Tuason receives complimentary support from TPSian schoolmates after her literary delivery. They were accompanied by Ms. Dinah C. Goc, (2nd from right), the English Language Department Head of The Philippine School.

Sophia Gabrielle Q. Tuason, who thought that poetry writing was not her most significant skill, received an invitation from "The Poetic Heart" organization that conducts an annual literary event.

This is participated by renowned poets and aspiring poets from the different schools in Dubai. The event was

held at the Cultural and Scientific Association Center in Al Mamzar, Dubai on February 8, 2015.

"When the competition was announced, my teacher said that if we will participate and submit entries, we would get extra points for our English subject. I then grabbed the opportunity," she stated.

Her poem was entitled "Friendship" which depicts her personal close friend. During the stage presentation, she stated that there were no unnecessary struggles; however, she has the tendency to get stage jitters (communication apprehension).

She related that she had a personal interaction with Dr. Qais Ghanem, who is an author, a poet, and a radio host. He was awarded for Martin Luther King Citation for 2015, and the most prestigious being the 2015 Order of Ottawa Medal in recognition of outstanding leadership and meritorious service to the City of Ottawa, Canada. Sophia personally received from the author a book which was entitled "From left to right."



Dr. Qais Ghanem
Canada - Based Poetry Author
President,
Canadian Authors Association

Academic head receives ADEC nod

Esguerra advances as school principal for TPS Abu Dhabi

by John Marcel E. Villanueva



Mr. Jonathan H. Esguerra
School Principal
The Philippine School -
Abu Dhabi

After serving his vice-principal term for seven years at The Philippine School – Dubai, Mr. Jonathan H. Esguerra had officially assumed as the school principal of The Philippine School in Baniyas Street, Abu Dhabi. This was after the release of the interview result and his appointment from the Abu Dhabi

Educational Council (ADEC). He officially joined the new institution on March 15, 2015

The educational leader, who initially started his teaching vocation in the UAE since 2008, was known by his contemporaries for his professional dedication to service. He informed Insights that his main concerns for the administration of teaching and learning are the *Quality Level of Instructions and Assessment Standards and Utilization*. It can be noted that he had been responsible for checking the alignment of The Philippine School in terms of International Benchmark Standards or basically mindful if TPS meets the international standards in various academic aspects.

While organizing critical inputs to TPS Abu Dhabi, Mr. Jonathan plans to set the pace of the institution in different sectors of school operation, to carry - out effective benchmarking strategies, and to build positive human relations.

Mr. Jonathan H. Esguerra finished his Bachelor of Science in Education– Major in Biological Science degree at the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines; thereafter, he took his graduate studies (Master of Science in Education) at the Philippine Normal University in 1996 and another degree for masters (Master in Biology Education) at the Ateneo De Manila University in 2006.

HOT INSIGHTS!

Quezon City Salutorian Krisel S. Mallari sends disposition to TPS Insights after controversial graduation speech

Salutatory speech gushes online and rouses reflections and arguments. p13

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OPINION



The JS Promenade 2015 8



Is K-12 a boon or a bane? 11



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NEWS

Seniors attend Gulf Education and Training Exhibition

credits to GETEX, GulfNews Retold by: Margaritha Yvonne B. Lacson
photo by Mr. Allan T. Cariaga



GETEX Dubai
TPS senior students inquire scholarship programs from the admissions staff of the Australian institution - Murdoch University of Dubai.
L-R Darlah Leonardo, Andrea P. Ocampo, Lyanne Sayon

Graduating students of The Philippine School -Dubai (TPS) attended an international education fair last April 16, 2015 at the World Trade Center, Dubai.

This is believed by the seniors as an excellent opportunity for all those who plan to pursue further studies abroad, such as the UAE, USA, UK, Australia, Canada, Germany, France, India, and other country preferences.

Every year, the GETEX attracts over 35,000 local and expatriate students, who are offering them with a wide array of learning and training avenues, as much as over 2,500 options, across more than 40 countries.

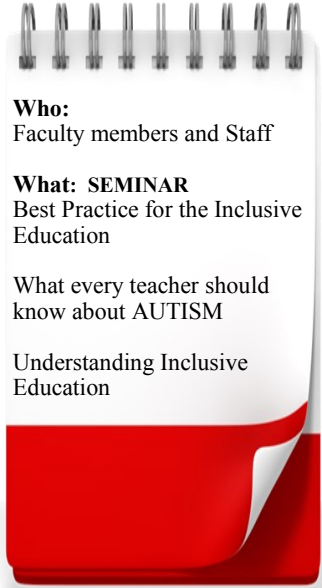
GETEX (Gulf Education and Training Exhibition) is one of the most awaited education and student enrollment events in the Middle East and Asia. Held under the patronage of

the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, GETEX comes at a time when the GCC's dynamic education sector is expected to witness exponential growth in the coming years. (thanks to the region's booming population and economic prosperity) Industry reports predict that the number of private school students in the GCC will triple in the next seven years.

Furthermore, university admission teams are at hand to answer student queries, process registrations, and firm up student admissions. In addition, career guidance counselors are available to assist individuals looking for direction on choosing education programs that would lead them to a career path suitable to their talents and skills.

SEN Center Advisory

By Dr. June P. Maglasang



Who:
Faculty members and Staff

What: SEMINAR
Best Practice for the Inclusive Education

What every teacher should know about AUTISM

Understanding Inclusive Education

Where :
The Philippine School—Dubai
When : August 27, 2015
Time: 9:00 –11:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker :
Ms. Hiba Bahsoun

Ang Pagdiriwang ng Wikang Filipino at Araw ng mga Guro

ni Clarisse C. Rodriguez

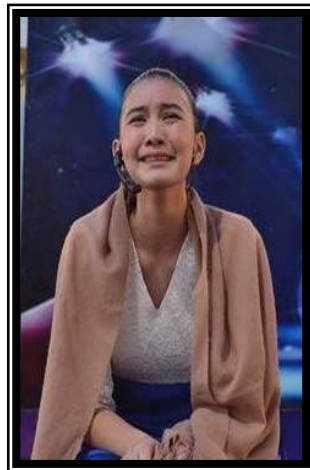
Ipinagdiwang ng The Philippine School ang Araw ng mga Guro at Wikang Filipino noong ika-26 ng Abril 2015. Ang programang nasa-bing selebrasyon ay isinagawa sa covered court kung saan ang mga mag-aaral at mga guro ay nagsuot ng kani-kanilang mga pambansang kasuotan bilang pakikiisa sa pagdiriwang.

Bukod dito, nagkaroon din ng munting salu-salo sa bawat silid-aralan tampok ang mga pagkaing Pilipino.

Nagdaos din ng mga pagtatanghal ang bawat baiting bilang pagpapahalaga sa ating sariling kultura at tradisyon bilang mga Pilipino. Ang mga mag-aaral na nasa ika-7 at ika-8 baitang ay nagtanghal ng maikling dulang mga piling bahagi mula sa mga akdang Florante at Laura at Ibong Adarna. Naghandog naman ng isang monologo si Erica Collantes mula sa ika-9 na baitang habang ang mga piling mag-aaral mula sa ika-10 baitang ay nagkaroon ng balagtasang tungkol sa pagiging bayani ng mga guro na nagsisilbing ating mga pangalawang magulang sa paaralan. Ang mga mag-aaral naman mula sa kindergarten at elementary ay

nagpakita ng kanilang husay sa pag-awit at pagsayaw sa mga katutubong awiting “Leron Leron Sinta” at “Paruparong Bukid”. Ang mga estudyante ay gumawa rin ng mga tula at naghandog ng mga munting regalo para sakanilang mga guro. Ang mga ito ay binigkas at ibinigay noong unang bahagi ng programa.

Isa sa mga pinakaaabangang bahaging selebrasyon ay ang pagtatanghal ng mga mag-aaral mula sa Grade 8 ng kanilang sariling pagsasadula ng mga piling tagpo mula sa akdang “Florante at Laura” ni Francisco Balagtas. Ang mga nagsipagganap ay naging mahusay sa pagbibigay buhay sa mga karakter na kanilang ginagampanan sapagkat naipakita nila ang mga angkop na emosyon sa bawat tagpo na siyang ikinatuwa ng mga manonood. Lubhang inabangan ang tagpo kung saan nagpahayag ng kani-kanilang pag-ibigang mga pangunahing karakter na sina Florante at Laura. Naging matagumpay ang kanilang naging pagtatanghal sapagkat ang bawat eksena ay naisagawang maayos at malinaw nilang naiparating sa mga manonood ang mensahe ng dula.



“Ang Monologo ng may Pananampalataya” - orihinal na katha ni Erica H. Collantes, Grade 9



Gng. Rachel S. Malaluan



Gng. Jocelyn S. Molina



Ginawaran ng parangal si Ginoong Jessie De Guzman bilang Best Teacher sa sekondarya nina Neil David Madelo, ang kinatawan Student Council, at Gng. Luz Divino, ang Filipino Department Head.

Binigyang parangal naman ang mga nanalo sa “My Best Teacher” na sina Ms. Jocelyn S. Molina, Ms. Rachel S. Malaluan, at Mr. Jessie De Guzman na nakakuhang pinakamataas na boto mula sa mga mag-aaralang primary, elementary at high school. Sila ay nakatanggap ng mga bulaklak, chocolates, at iba pang mga regalo mula sa kani-kanilang mga estudyante.

Sa huling bahagi ng programa ay nagkaroon ng paligsahang Battle of the Bands na nilahukan ng mga mag-aaral sa sekondarya. Tatlong mahuhusay na pangkat ang naglabanlaban at sila ay ang sumusunod: Hyperpandas, The Kitties, at Out in the Suburbs. Ang bawat isa sakanila ay inatasang mag handa ng isang orihinal na komposisyong

handog sa kanilang mga guro at pumili ng isa pang kantang hindi sila ang may likha. Sa pagtatapos ng kompetisyon, ang Out in Suburbs ay nagkamit ng ikalawang pwesto, ang The Kitties ay nagkamit ng ika-unang pwesto, at ang Hyperpandas ang tinanghal na kampeon.

TPS laments former teacher's demise

by Ace B. Bernabe



Mr. Melvin Mendoza, 45, served as an English Language Teacher in TPS from 2008 to 2013.

Former TPSian educator Mr. Melvin Mendoza peacefully passed away in Qatar on January 13, 2015. TPS Family condoles and sympathizes with his loving family in great bereavement.



“You still live in the hearts and minds of the loving family you left behind.”
- TPS Family





TPS participates in TIMSS 2015



by Ms. Elreggie D. Tongio
School Coordinator, TPS-Dubai
TIMSS Assessment 2015,
Science Department Head

The Philippine School participated in the Trends in International Math and Science Study (TIMSS 2015) which is being conducted through the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) as the National Centre.

TIMSS is a research based studies sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). It is designed to measure and interpret differences in educational systems to improve the teaching and learning of Mathematics and Science worldwide.

The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) has been appointed to KHDA as the agency to assist with the implementation of TIMSS in Dubai.

The test instruments for TIMSS include multiple-choice and free-response questions in a variety of formats. Every student in the selected classes will also be asked to complete a Student Questionnaire about their backgrounds and learning experiences. Teachers teaching Mathematics and Science to the selected students will complete a Teacher Questionnaire.

The school principal completed a School Questionnaire while parents of the selected grade 4 classes completed a Home Questionnaire (Early Learning Survey). Their responses will be included in the final analysis. Results are expected to be released before the end of 2016.

The study isn't in any way an effort to evaluate the performance of individual students, teachers, or school principals.

To document the quality of the administrative procedures, the national center sent a Quality Observer (Ms. Noura –a KHDA Representa-

naire while parents of the selected grade 4 classes completed a Home Questionnaire (Early Learning Survey). Their responses will be included in the final analysis. Results are expected to be released before the end of 2016.

She didn't interfere in the testing in any way. She observed from 8:00 am – 10:00 am, grade 4E, in particular. She witnessed whether the standardized procedures instructed and required were followed.



Mascuñana, Martinez rank 3rd among thousands in UAE interschool coloring and writing competition

by Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla



Rica Louise S. Mascuñana



Heber Nathaniel N. Martinez

Two TPSians joined the Pen Nosy Creative Writing and the Periwinkle Coloring Competition at Sharjah Expo Centre on April 22 and 23, 2015.

Rica Louise S. Mascuñana and Heber Nathaniel N. Martinez both won 3rd place in the different interschool categories, which

were also joined by middle school and high school students from around the country.

Rica strived in the coloring competition while Heber participated in the writing competition.

They both received a glass trophy, bag of treats, and goodies as prizes.

Gaspar qualifies for ADMU

by Margaritha Yvonne B. Lacson



After several months of self-review, Genesis Isaiah Paul G. Gaspar passed the Ateneo De Manila University entrance exams with a degree program in Fine Arts. The result was released by ACET (Ateneo College Entrance Test) on January 10, 2015.

Gaspar, who is a currently a senior student of the Philippine School, will join ADMU in August 2015.

Gratitude expressed prior to Philippine Consul departure

by John Marcel E. Villanueva,
Photo from Richard Zulueta's Facebook page



Hour of meeting and of farewell

Consul General Frank R. Cimafranca (center) and wife Lu Cimafranca (5th from left) on moment of gratitude from the TPS Administration at the Principal's Office

The Philippine School administration expressed gratefulness to Consul General Frank Cimafranca during his visit to TPS on April 23, 2015. Cimafranca paid a visit to bid farewell to TPS and to the management.

The consul will leave his post at the Philippine Consulate Dubai in April.

In relation to this, the TPS management minded a program to express thoughtfulness while remembering the great efforts extended to TPS by Cimafranca.

Cimafranca had always been an active inspirational speaker to TPS concerning academic, social, and extra-curricular concerns.

TPSians awarded at Earth Day Drawing Competition

By Margaritha Yvonne B. Lacson, Photo credits to Ms. Hilda Aguila



L-R Januel Z. Pitoy, Nicholas B. Trajeco, Anne Beatriz C. Libranda with other participating students in Dubai during the special acknowledgement



The TPSian artists together with the Visual Arts adviser Ms. Hilda Aguila (2nd from left) during the Children's City competition

After drawing the earthly goodness, Children's City organization in Dubai prized three skilled TPSians for stroking the best thoughts of saving the earth.

Anne Beatriz Libranda achieved first place, Januel Andrei Pitoy ranked third, and Nicholas Andre Trajeco received a consolation price during the drawing competition at Dubai Creek Park on April 22, 2015.

The Dubai-based Children's City is the first educational institution in the UAE devoted to children between two and fifteen years old where they can investigate, explore, play, discover, and learn about the world in which we live. It's mission is to create an excellent city that provides the essence of success and comfort of sustainable living.

TPS ENROLMENT SLATED FOR S.Y. 2015-2016

Family names beginning with letter	Inclusive Dates	
A	June 2015	01-04 & 06
B	June 2015	07-11
C	June 2015	13&18
D	June 2015	20-25
E,F,G	June 2015	27-30
H,I,J,K,L	July 2015	01,02&04-05
M	July 2015	06-09
N,O,P	July 2015	11-14
Q,R	July 2015	15,16&18-19
S	July 2015	19-22
T,U	July 2015	20-23&25
V,W,X,Y	July 2015	26-30

Note: Those who can't meet the given schedule must see the Registrar's Office. Those family names that fall on Eid holiday will enroll on their convenient schedule from June 1 until the end of July 2015.



FEATURE

New teachers on overarching passion

by Erin Mitchell J. Abadilla



Mr. Marlon S. Garcia Jr.

Major in MAPEH,
Masters in Physical Education
University of Cagayan Valley,
Cagayan, Philippines

Sir Marlon Garcia Jr. feels fulfilled when he imparts his knowledge to his students and see them apply it in real life. Quite a religious, he adheres to the saying that "Every person has his or her own talent given by God," and he feels that it is his mission to develop every student's skills.

"I make sure that the class is not boring. I usually tell jokes that will not make my students sleepy. I do ice breakers in encouraging my students," answered Sir Marlon. He also believes that a student-centered class is the best atmosphere in a classroom. He wants his students to learn and discover on their own while he facilitates.

He also said that he was inspired to become a teacher because his mother was once an educator.



Ms. Andrea Amor C. Reyes

Major in Physical Education
University of Manila,
Manila, Philippines

Ms. Andrea always wants her students motivated and ready for the lesson. She starts with a snap motivation that involves rewards, incentives, and appreciates her students' skills and talents.

She gives more enjoyable lessons by facilitating games related to the lesson in hand.

Ms. Arlene Sandoval, the Grade 6 key teacher, commended her after she demonstrated, and said that she was all set to start on the same day. "The class enjoyed the discussion, no dull moments, and the lesson was delivered well," commented Ms. Jocelyn Sollano during the post-conference.

"I teach not just because this is my profession. I teach because I am committed to my job, and I love kids. That's it!" exclaimed Ms. Andrea.



Ms. Angelica Marie S. Laguras

Major in Home Economics
Bohol Island State University,
Bohol, Philippines

Ms. Angelica also motivates her students by giving them extra points when she teaches higher grades and stars and happy faces for Kindergartners. Being a teacher, attitude and behavior is always a must. She always reminds her students to follow the rules, to be respectful, and to be obedient.

Ms. Laguras believes that every child has his or her own intelligence. She always asks herself what she wants her students to know and how her students like their lessons taught. Ms. Angelica always adapts to her students, at the same time, injecting into them the wisdom they need to know.

"I teach because I feel the noble calling of teaching. It allows me to work on hearts and minds and guide people in becoming empowered individuals. Teaching reminds me of my childhood memories. I feel so fulfilled even after a stressful day; it is a reward that always brings me great dignity and self-worth," uttered the Kindergarten teacher.

Ms. Angelica also thanks TPS for giving her the opportunity to educate. "Thank you TPS for giving me this chance. This strengthened my enthusiasm to teach. This is a privilege!" answered Ms. Angelica.



Ms. Sheillamyr G. Bustamante

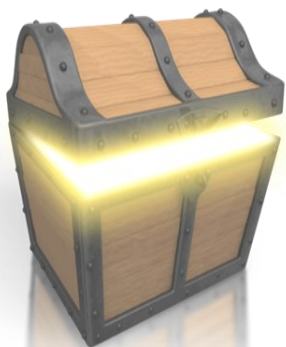
Major in English Language
General of Jesus College,
Nueva Ecija, Philippines

Teaching her students is like having casual conversation. Ms. Bustamante believes that sharing ideas and concepts keep the class going and running. Talking to her students and asking them their thoughts is a part of the learning process.

She also conducts activities that are in line with her students' interests. New and innovative ideas make her students curious and more interested in the lesson.

"Teaching is a vocation and the noblest profession. I teach because I want to open minds and add something to the blank sheets of the children," exclaimed Ms. Bustamante when she was asked why she does what she does.

Ms. Sheillamyr Bustamante is also the adviser of Grade 5-C.



TPSian educator : Star Ka Na In The UAE— 2nd Season contender

Performer seeks support votes

By Margaritha Yvonne B. Lacson

TPS teacher, Mr. Angelo C. Marana, was one of the qualified competitors of the 2nd Season of the Star Ka Na in the UAE singing challenge.

Star Ka Na in the UAE is a long term reality singing competition which gives every talented Filipino to showcase their innate talent in singing. It also molds the young artists to become a whole idol package through rigid vocal workshops given by the known OPM composer Mr. Vehnee Saturno.

"We're just given tentative dates for the next showdown or completion after May 8, 2015. The second showdown will be in August

and the final will be in October this same year," Maraña stated.

The educator seeks support and informed that the 100 percent of result is divided into two parts. The first 50 percent is through voting by means of I-votes which costs 10 AED per ticket and through Facebook likes. (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Star-Ka-Na-in-the-Uae/>)

To make the vote valid, the fans or followers will like first the Star Ka Na in the UAE page before liking the picture of their chosen contestant. The other 50 percent will be evaluated on the day of showdown or Face off.



Mr. Angelo C. Maraña



MR. MARK CHRISTIAN DELA CRUZ

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
STI College Quezon City, Philippines

Even a computer professional realizes that computers, while they are magnificent tools for the realization of our dreams, no machine can replace the human spark of spirit, compassion, love, and understanding.

This, he asserted could be the one of the main beliefs in his current venture in the academe.

Mr. Mark functions as an IT support service person, and he deals with networking and server related issues.

FEATURE ||||



Another Kidzania title up for grabs

by Yana Abriel M. Bautista



One more Kidzania baby! The Grand Winner Elysha Mari S. Diaz (2nd from left) and the challengers during the awarding ceremony in Dubai Mall on February 27, 2015. The Musical competition category is between 4-9 years old.

Given heart to sing! At the young age of three, Elysha Mari S. Diaz had started singing with an immense dream of becoming a successful artist. The young singer also wanted to share her talents. These artistic desires were inspired by her mother, who motivated her to join Kidzania Superstarz this year.

Joining a competition for the first time could be very nerve-wracking and it goes the same for Elysha, a grade 2 student of TPS. She managed to astound her audience by singing Jennifer Hudson's 'And I Am

Telling You'. 'The experience brought her excitement and it made her feel braver,' she remarked.

“He who sings scares away his woes.” - Cervantes



Adrienne's music is what feelings sound like

by Yana Abriel M. Bautista Photo by Abdon Camaya

One of the wishful competition participants from TPS turned out as a very favorable star after she established to the audience and judges that singing is an expressive thing.

Adrienne Labiaga had chosen the song "It Will Rain" by Bruno Mars for the reason that she feels the message of the composition. She said that there's a part of her that is really connected to the song. With the eager support of her mom in choosing the song, she believes that the song suits her voice range.

According to her, she joined the said event due to her love and interest for music. "Aside from my love for music, my family is my biggest inspiration when it comes to music. They encourage me more. As a matter of fact, we have this "Karaoke

Singing" as a family bonding during weekends," she said. She appreciated more the support of her parents.

Even though she felt uneasy while she faced the judges, she also felt excited because of the chance of being able to perform in front of a huge crowd. That it helped her gained more self-confidence, boosted her self-esteem and taught her to believe in everything she does. "It also taught me that I can achieve my goals little by little and that I just need to wait for the right time for it to happen," she indicated. "As what other people say, "Good things happen for those who wait," so for the other kids out there who also have their dreams, never give up," she concluded.



Proud moment Adrienne Labiaga (right) picks up a very impressive award from Kidzania. The founder of Kidzania himself, Mr. Xavier López Ancona, honors her in Dubai Mall, Ice Rink on February 27, 2015.

“I can see you (referring to Adrienne) tour the world one day.” - Pritti Malik, DJ Vrgin Radio Dubai

Teaching to the standards

TPSian teachers on previous political and military affiliations

by Isabella Y. Manlangit

Mr. Romeo Ancheta

Probably you want to hear more significant stories about the noble profession? Two TPSian teachers can practically talk more about them. These are stories on why they prioritized school teaching than other professions.

After nine years of service in the politics, Ex-Political Vice Mayor Romeo Ancheta decided to continue his teaching profession at TPS because of his commitment and dedication to it. "Nobody pushed me to return to the teaching profession because even when I'm serving as an elected official, I still practiced my profession in a private school," he said. His students inspired him to teach, especially when he sees their initiative, skills, discipline, and achievement." When asked how he would see himself if



Formerly, a political vice-mayor (from 2001-2004) of the Municipality of Maria Aurora, Baler, Philippines, Mr. Romeo Ancheta now serves as the TLE Department Head and the president of the TPS Faculty Club.



he didn't enter the teaching profession, he replied, "If I'm not in the teaching profession, I suppose I would be a musician." But to him, teaching is incomparable. While politics is a very challenging field, teaching is more enjoyable in the sense that learners look up to you. You are the facilitator or mentor and what is fulfilling to me is you are seeing

the students - changing their lives for the better."

Mr. Amir Barrios

Once a soldier undertaking a mission in one of the markets in Mindanao, Mr. Amir experienced wounded from an explosion that nearly took his life. "After I recovered, I returned to Manila," he said. "There my wife said to



Once a Technical Sergeant of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, (AFP) Mr. Amir Barrios turns out as the respected Citizens' Army Training (CAT) commandant.

me to stop my military services," he added.

After the incident, he returned to teaching. His goals were similar to that when he was in the military. "In the military, you have to fight to maintain peace and order. In teaching, it's the same thing. I want to fight ignorance to help society by educating students," he elaborated. If he didn't become



a teacher, he said he still sees himself as a soldier, still serving our country.

Mr. Romeo's and Mr. Amir's final answers reflected the same beliefs. When asked if returning to teaching was worth it, they both answered an easy yes. Both agreed that seeing students excel and change their lives for the better makes it all worth it.

"Benevolence alone will not make a teacher, nor will learning alone do it. The gift of teaching is a peculiar talent, and implies a need and a craving in the teacher himself." ~John Jay Chapman



III FEATURE

Why Not The World?

by Margarete Ashley M. Castillo and Sherilyn Mae A. Pangan

Travelling to the other countries probably passed through your mind before, and it sparks a fire in you. You are probably curious about the humanity and the earthly reality in other countries.

Then, why not learn somewhere else about the knowledge of the world, and substantiate human realism and social reflections? A lot of probable, interesting, and very significant reasons BELOW.

Find more expressions of interesting human experiences and significant travelling reasons

Rianie De Ocampo in SWITZERLAND

Travel dream turned dad's gift

Rianie said that they went there because it was her dad's birthday gift to her mom. His father's plan was made because Rianie and her mom dream for the travel.

While in Switzerland, Rianie learned that the people from the country speak dominantly the languages such as German, Romanic, Italian, and French..

According to her, they had a very nice adventure in Switzerland because of the unfamiliar landscapes and different structures of buildings.

One of her many thrilling experiences there was the snow. She toyed with it, rolling it into shapes, and took pictures of it. She also played with the dog, running away from it or chasing after it; had tons of photography ideas, and really had a nice time, just walking around the streets.

She said the she would recommend the place for people who love nature, photography, the cold touch of winter, serene places ,and long train rides.



Erla Marie Masangkay in SOUTH KOREA

Timely experience of the real snow

Erla went to Korea because the trip was a gift to her from her parents. They knew that Korea was one of her favorite places she had been visualizing to go to.

She had heard and seen the different traditional Korean music and one was that being performed by the Pansori , which only had a singer and a drummer.

Erla said that she would definitely recommend Korea because if you just love cold weather in the winter season, experiencing real snow for the first time was just really memorable.



Jendrich Aira Quiambao in UNITED STATE OF AMERICA

Appreciating the American casual way of life

Jendrich went to America because her family accompanied her sister for college education , and it also became an opportunity to visit relatives.

During her stay in California, Jendrich noticed that the native people there were very friendly. There, it seemed like it was normal to get to talk to a random stranger in the park or when you're waiting in line in a fast food restaurant. Their lifestyle was generally casual. They usually wear shorts or jeans, t-shirts, Converse or running shoes going to school or even to work.

Jendrich said that it felt amazing and that she liked how she could be free there; wearing whatever she wants to wear, buy or eat anything she wants. She loves how her dream of going to California came true. She said that she would want to live there if she will have the chance too.

" There are a lot of amazing places to visit in California. Here are just a few of them: Universal Studios, Hollywood sign, Golden Gate Bridge, Disneyland, and the Hollywood Walk of Fame. I'm pretty sure that anybody would enjoy to visit a place like California!" she exclaimed.



Mr. Felipe De Leon in BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Travelling is relief

Mr. Philip visited the place because of Ramadan and he wanted to feel the celebration of the Eid Al Fitr. The King of Brunei opened his palace and anyone was allowed to enter, eat and commemorate.

While in Brunei, Sir Philip noticed that the people there were pure Muslims. The locals there looked as if they were Malays. According to him, the environment of Brunei is peaceful and serene. They went there for two days to explore different tourist spots, such as the Golden Mosque ; however, they were only allowed to see it from afar since at that time they were not Muslims yet.



FEATURE IIII



Arden Aguilar in **KRUMBA, MALDIVES**

Maldivian stories to tell

Arden and his family visited the place in March this year to relax on the white sandy beach. They experienced swimming in the protected crystal clear lagoon. They have explored the underwater world on vibrant house reef.

He identified that each island is a resort and they have also experienced dolphin watching, snorkeling, sunset picnic and an enjoyable glass boat ride where you can see the sharks from the boat's platform



Mr. Bethoven Filomeno in **VIETNAM**

Travelling teaches appreciation of the country's contribution to the world

Mr. Bethoven travelled to Chi Minh City, Vietnam for a short term mission trip.

He related that Vietnam was colonized by France that's why most of the buildings had a touch of French architectural designs. However, he added that as an Indo-Chinese country, Vietnam holds its Asian touch, most especially in their way of living.

He realized that travelling into different parts of the world gave him more ideas on the significance of each nation; how they live as a country and their great contributions in the world. Also their culture gives satisfaction for tourists to appreciate whatever they have and they can offer.



Althea Margaret Dela Cruz in **PARIS, FRANCE**

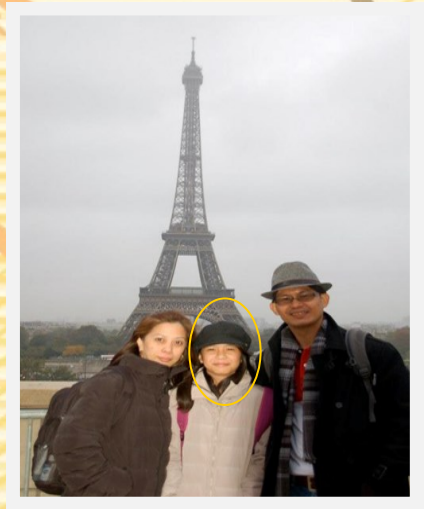
Thea feels thankful, Paris travel is an opportunity rare to many

Althea mentioned that her father had been set for a business trip to Paris in 2012, and his father took the opportunity to bring them there. While on their approximate landing, she was delighted by the French white clouds and alps. The Alps are the highest and most extensive mountain range system that lies entirely in Europe.

Althea visited the Eiffel tower where she saw along the sideways the statue of bears as big as humans which represent different countries

She said that travelling is satisfying and she felt lucky because at a young age she experienced going to Paris - an opportunity that is rare to many.

She learned that she feels the need to visit more countries for the reason to gather more experiences to have more wonderful stories to cherish.



Mr. Randy Gumban in **DUBAI**

Visiting the famous tower of the Arabs

During holidays in Dubai, Mr. Randy often uses his time to relax. After several years working in Dubai, he finally visited the popular Burj Al Arab, which is a 7 star luxury hotel located on the sandy beach of Jumeirah. It is the only 7 star hotel in the world, and it is also the world's tallest hotel at 321 meters above sea level.

Franchesca John Ellis Gaspar in **HUNGARY**

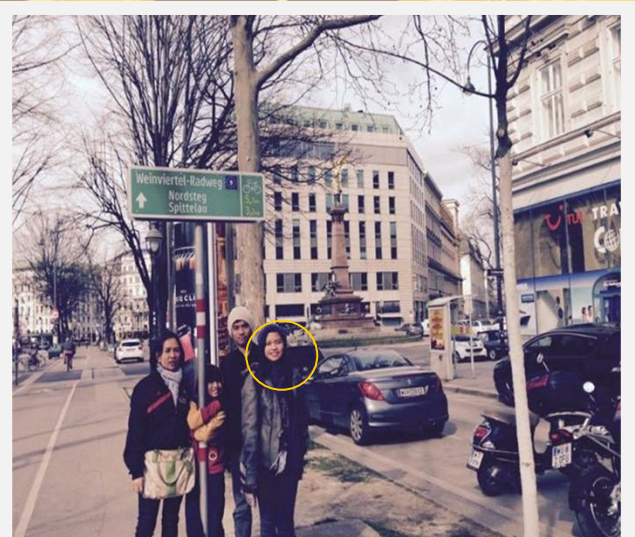
The people of Hungary likes to keep a piece of their history in their hearts—Franchesca

Franchesca went there because her dad was rewarded for his hard work last year (2014).

While in Hungary, Francesca said that she remembered feeling all excited wherever they'd go, because of the different places that seemed unfamiliar to her. She also said that it was very cold there.

The place was very lovely and was surrounded by nature. She also knew that Hungary does not have skyscrapers and the buildings were old fashioned but it was truly a work of art. The people like to keep a piece of their history in their hearts.

"I would recommend it because Hungary is such a beautiful place. Trees and the buildings there were old-fashioned. It felt like I was somewhere in the 1880's. The flowers are colorful and the morning breeze was relaxing," she remarked.





FEATURE



JS Promenade titleholders



Photo by: Bethoven Filomeno



The transferring of the Key of Responsibility and the Book of Knowledge

L-R SC Vice- President Martin Andrei G. Marquez and SC President Mark Nicole T. Umayam



THE PROM KING AND QUEEN
Rolando E. Figueres and Patricia L. Yeh



Mentors teach students to see the vitality in themselves.



The Philippine Consulate Officials led by Consul General Frank Cimafranca, TPS Management, Teaching Staff



MR. & MRS. SENIOR
Anthony J. Carlos and Allyza Mae Mamolo



Playful and joyous energy



Great time at prom



Enjoy like a gentleman !



MR. & MS. JUNIOR
Justin Roy M. Balisan and Marielle Lois Ann P. Garcia



Classy, Special night! They let it be.



Be their own kind of beautiful !



The 007 Gesture



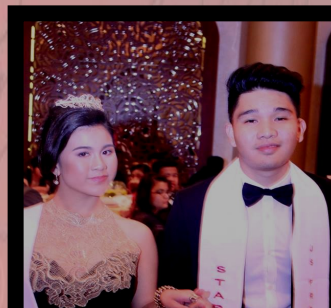
Youth and pleasure meet



DANCING KING AND QUEEN
Neil C. Madelo and Charisse P. Sulit



BEST DRESSED
Mark T. Umayam and Lyanne Sayon



STAR OF THE NIGHT
Andrea S. Mascuñana and Rommel V. Alabado



Happiness never decreases by being shared.

FEATURE IIII



The English Day Musical Dramatization Competition! March 26, 2015

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS OFFERED ACROSS

By Simond Lars Darwin G. Lenon
Photo by: Ivan C. Magyani

Take advantage of every opportunity to practice your communication skills so that when important occasions arise, you will have the gift, the style, the sharpness, the clarity, and the emotions to affect other people.”

This quotation from Jim Rohn was a clear mindset for the English language teachers of the Philippine School who did concerted efforts while very mindful to transfer and develop the language skills to the students.

The English day activities were organized in March by the English Language Department Head Ms. Dinah C. Goc, and The Philippine School carried-out set of language activities attached to the theme “English Communication in Multilingual Society.”

There are a number of students who deserve recognition and they treasure one another with recognition.



L-R The hosts on beauty and confidence! Unna L. Rimerata in Belle (Beauty and the Beast) costume and Althea E. Dela Cruz in Hatter (Alice in Wonderland) costume



Grade 8 D was awarded with the *Best in Choreography* and the *Best in Choice Piece Play*. Group presents the “Me Scene,” an excerpt from the Beauty and the Beast. Roles were portrayed by Carl Lorenz L. Melias as Gaston , who is pursuing Kylle Ivy Q. Perez as Belle.



ABS- CBN Actor DM Sevilla supports the dramatization competition by being the chairman of the board of judges. He was a finalist of the Star Circle Quest Batch 2 in 2004, together with actress Erich Gonzales. Sevilla appeared in numerous television series. He had portrayed as Romeo in “Princess and I ,” starring Daniel Padilla and Kathryn Bernardo.



Lian P. Gracia and Jeric D. Tribiana portrays (Anna and Hans respectively) the lead roles of the Disney Frozen’s—Love Is An Open Door Musical . This is the *Choice Contest Piece* of Grade 8A



Mindful evaluation ! The Board of Judges study the drama criteria prior to the competition.

L-R Mr. Bethoven M. Filomeno (TPS MAPEH teacher (with significant dancing performances at the Cultural Center of the Philippines) , Professional photographer,) ; Mr. Randy Gumban (TPS MAPEH teacher) (the most instrumental dance moderator/ choreographer of the Philippine School) ; Mr. Albert Versoza (TLE teacher, a school theater performer and stage manager of a school production in the University of Sto. Tomas, Manila); Ms. Josephine Salinel (English Language Teacher, member of the Philippine Educational Theater in Manila (PETA)); Mr. Dm Sevilla (Philippine / Television actor)



Thanks to the competence! The best actors and actresses L-R Lian Garcia (lead) Aaron B. Arnedo (lead), Julieta Demecillo (Ensemble) , Vaughn A. Delos Santos (Ensemble)



Grade 8C on their Choice Piece Presentation (I’ll Make A Man Out of You) from Disney’s Mulan



The Silly Girls in the show (Arlyn F. Carmelo, Lizaline I. Yambao, Niña C. Tababa)with Gaston (Ivan S.Aquino) extreme right and Le Fou (Vaughn A. Delos Santos)



The Musical Drama Chorus! L-R Neil C. Madelo, Margaritha B. Laeson, Shama Zamora, Jonel Almario, Lyanne Sayon and Mark T. Umayam



Banners High! Grade 8 A goes marching into battle.



Awarding the Certificate of Appreciation to the Guest Judge DM Sevilla (center) by the Principal Ms. Jocelyn M. Sollano (right) and the Dramatization Moderator Mr. John Marcel E. Villanueva (left)



FEATURE

FACULTY

TEAM BUILDING IN MARCH

Coral Beach Hotel, Sharjah, UAE

Interdependent people combine their own efforts with the efforts of others to achieve their greatest success. - Stephen Covey



Photo by: Bethoven Filomeno
Carol Cureg
Allan Cariaga
John Marcel Villanueva

"Teampayer: One who unites others toward a shared destiny through sharing information and ideas, empowering others and developing trust."

- Dennis Kinlaw



OPINION

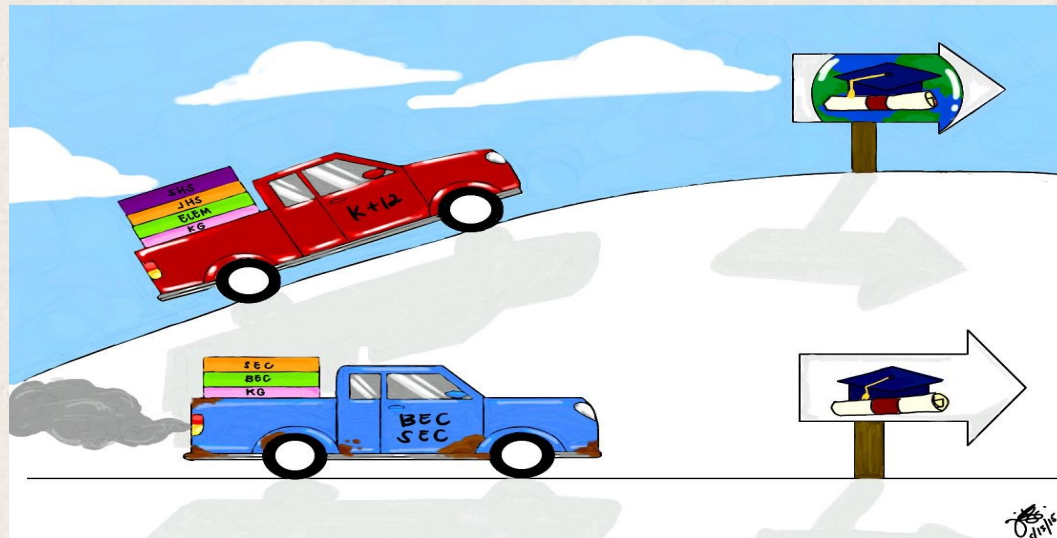


Is K-12 a boon or a bane?



DESERT PEN

Margaritha Yvonne B. Lacson
Editor in Chief, TPS Insights



EDITORIAL

How do you perceive the additional two more years in high school? It seems undesirable but we must elaborate a positive significance. Evidently based on a personal experience, *the implementation of K-12 is wise and beneficial for TPSians in terms of applying for international college admission.*

In April 2015, during the senior TPSians' recent visit to GETEX, which is an educational convention at the World Trade Center in Dubai, they were able to meet professional - training providers:

advisors, staff, and fellow students from varied international schools such as the American University of Dubai, Zayed University, University of Wollongong, Canadian University, Middlesex University, Murdoch University, Herriot-Watt University, and Amity University.

Students thought that the exhibition would be of great help for them in choosing the university for college; however, none of those said schools would them enroll to their undergraduate tertiary programs. Here's the reason. TPSians were not hit by the K

-12 reform. TPS is still under the Secondary Education Curriculum (SEC) which concludes high school education at Grade 10. We are graduating this end of May and we will be the last batch in TPS who will be graduating at Grade 10. The implementation of K-12 in TPS started with the Grade 7 students in 2012, who are currently Grade 9 this school year.

They can pursue two more years after the next school year. This means a complete program for K - 12 from TPS that is already acceptable for international schools. Does the addition of two more years

sound constructive now?

According to the school principal of TPS, Ms. Jocelyn M. Sollano, TPS is applying for Grade 11 and 12 to the Department of Education, and if it will be approved, the school can already cater services by S.Y. 2016-2017 for those who need K11 and K12. What happens to those who will graduate until Grade 10 only? They are like us and the other Grade 10 senior graduates this year. They can go through the Foundation Program of the tertiary international schools. The so-called program is the one that

is comparable to secondary schools that cover grades 11 and 12. Taking the foundation program could be an advantage to Grade 10 students who excel academically. In the case that they will have an outstanding performance for their first year, they may be exempted from taking the remaining years of the foundations program. How about for the general sake of the grade 10 graduates? Wouldn't it be best for everyone to pursue continuously the additional two years of K -12?

The curriculum program is worth discussing because many are clouded with its real efficiency. Many students and parents deserve clarification and leading.



Puerto Princesa, Palawan—The Vice-Principal of the Student Affairs Mr. Richard R. Zulueta(left) together with the Secretary of the Department of Education and K-12 leader Hon. Br. Armin A. Luistro during the 13th Conference of the Philippine Schools Overseas

Never release a careless idea



COLLAR

John Marcel E. Villanueva
Adviser, TPS Insights

"Accuracy, Accuracy, Accuracy"

These were the three - word answers that the late publisher of the Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI) Mr. Isagani M. Yambot had solicited from the members of the different publishing organizations in the Philippines. He may advise the same thing to the PDI writers who recently and hastily released erroneous details about Mary Jane Veloso's firing squad in Indonesia.

During the Publishers' Association of the Philippines (PAPI) seminar in Baguio City, Yambot raised a relative question: What words could best describe the characteristics of factual details when writing the news? He gave a hint that all answers begin with the alphabet A, and not one person expected that the answers were repetitive words. He wanted to point out that accuracy with the details when reporting must be the most significant sense.

Realizing this, if Mr. Yambot is still living, we believe that he will restate this news writing significance of accuracy to the PDI staff, to whoever delivers the news or to whoever gives informative details. Let's present the feedback by considering Edward Murrow's quotation: *To be persuasive, you must be believable.*

On April 29, 2015, Inquirer released an erroneous newspaper headline concerning Mary Jane Veloso's issue of probable human trafficking and of supposed firing squad execution in Indonesia. The PDI headline: **Death came before dawn**, became fictitious because of the sudden twist of events. The Indonesian President Widodo gave a last minute amnesty to Veloso due to reasonable causes. Confirmed the same Veloso reprieve story.

The headline information of PDI was then falsified because the news didn't happen. Previously, PDI assumed that the death execution to Veloso will toughly ensue; however, the fast delivery of the news details became untrue and unsympathetic to the family.

According to a quotation from Arundhati Roy, "Fast is fine, but accuracy is everything." Being careless can make readers love the facts a little less.

Well, what was decent for the PDI was they apologized and they made a statement of revamping their news processes. With due respect to PDI, we believe this was not intentional. They have admitted the limit of their knowledge in this particular issue, and this becomes the truest sign of their knowledge.

However, we also agree that the news value of honesty was tarnished here. The harm was done and there will be a lot of action plans to make and do.

The best constructive-criticism is not to release a careless detail so that people will trust your beliefs. Know the value of whatever you are saying.

More on K-12 Advocacy



L-R CFO Undersecretary Mary Grace A. Tirona, DFA Ambassador Renato Pedro O. Villa, Dr. Rosalinda D. Miranda (TPS), Ms. Arlene L. Sandoval (TPS), Mr. Richard R. Zulueta (TPS) Ms. Jocelyn M. Sollano (TPS), Ms. Leticia M. Manial (TPS), DOLE Labor Attache David Des T. Dicang, OWWA Director Jocelyn O. Hapal during the 13th Conference of Philippine Schools Overseas

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insights@thephilippineschooldubai.com





OPINION

Bakit dapat panatilihin ang asignaturang Filipino sa kolehiyo?

ni Crizel P. Sicat – De Laza

Sa pamamagitan ng *Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Memorandum Order No. 20, Series of 2013*, aalisin na ang Filipino bilang bahaging General Education Curriculum (GEC) sa kolehiyosa 2016 kung kailan buong-buon na ang implementasyon ng K-12. Tinutulan ng mga guro at propesor mula sa iba't ibang kolehiyo at unibersidad sa buong bansa ang panibagong kurikulum sa iba't ibang dahilan.

Naninindigan ang mga guro na kailangang ipatupad ang probisyon ng Konstitusyong 1987 sa Artikulo XIV, Seksyon 6 nanagsasabing ang Filipino ang dapat maging midyum ng opisyal na komunikasyon at ng sistemang pang-edukasyon. Hindi maisasakatuparan ang ganitong antas ng Konstitusyon kung walang asignaturang Filipino sa lahat ng antas ng edukasyon. Sa asignaturang Filipino, lilinangin ang kasanayan ng mga estudyante sa paggamit ng wikang pambansa sa intelektwal na diskurso na kinakailangan sa epektibong paggamit nito bilang midyum sa iba pang asignatura.

Sa napipintong pagsapi ng Pilipinas sa pang-ekonomikong integrasyon ng Asya (ASEAN Economic Integration), nararapat lamang na patibayin ng mga Pilipino ang sariling wika, kultura, at identidad upang makapag-ambag

ang mga ito sa proyektong rehiyonal na integrasyong sosyo-kultural. Sa panahon ng globalisasyon, higit na kailangan ang pagpapanatili ng Filipino sa lahat ng antas ng pag-aaral upang patatagin at pagyamanin ang ating pagkapi-Pilipino. Ang ambag sa intelektwalisasyon at pagsulong ng pananaliksik sa bansa ay kapaki-pakinabang para sa Pilipinas lalo pa sa aspektong paghikayat sa iba pang mga mananaliksik sa buong mundo na pumunta sa Pilipinas bilang sentro ng pananaliksik hinggil sa wika at kulturang Timog-Silangang Asya. Umiiral na ang programang Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI), sa mga unibersidad sa Estados Unidos gaya ng Cornell University, Michigan State University, Northern Illinois University, Ohio University, University of California-Berkeley, University of California-Los Angeles, University of Hawaii-Manoa, University of Michigan, University of Washington, at University of Wisconsin-Madison at may kahawig ding mga programa sa ilalim ng Philippine Studies program na may tuon sa wika at kulturang Filipino ang ilang unibersidad sa Europa, Estados Unidos, Japan, at mga karatig na bansa sa Timog-Silangang Asya. Nagpapatunay ito na malaki ang aktwal na potensyal at



Si Crizel P. Sicat-De Laza ay kasalukuyang instructor ng wika at panitikan sa Unibersidad ng Santo Tomas (UST). Kasalukuyan din niyang tinatapos ang Ph.D. Philippine Studies sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas-Diliman.

Siya'y nagbigay ng opinyon sa TPS Insights kaugnay sa paksa upang mas maunawaan ng mga mambabasa ang kahalagahan ng asignaturang Filipino.

benepisyo ng pagpapalakas ng programang pag tuturong Filipino sa mataas na antas, sa kontekstong globalisadong edukasyon.

Kaugnay pa nito, halos lahat ng malalaking unibersidad sa buong mundo ay may asignaturang Filipino at/o Philippine Studies program at malaki ang potensyal namakabuo ng ugnayan sa mga institusyong ito. Wikang global na ang Filipino at itinuturo bilang asignatura at/o programa sa mahigit isang-daang unibersidad at kolehiyo sa buong mundo kabilang ang University of Hawaii-Manoa, University of Michigan, Osaka University, Kyoto University, Sor-

bonne University (France), Beijing University, University of Queensland (Australia), University of Malaya (Malaysia), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Stanford University, Moscow State University at napa karami pang iba. Kung itinuturo bilang asignatura sa mga unibersidad na ito ang wika at kulturang Filipino, sa atin pa kaya?

Mahalaga rin ang asignaturang Filipino at paggamit dito bilang wikang panturo upang maipatupad ang dakilang layunin ng edukasyon na humubog ng mga mag-aaral na may pagpapahalaga sa kahusayan at paglilingkod sa bayan. Wikang Filipino ang wikang pambansa at makabansang diskurso. Ito ang wikang ginagamit ng nakararaming mamamayan sa pagtalakay ng kanilang mga aspirasyon at pakikiisa sa mga pambansang adhikain. Ito ang wikang humihikayat sa mga mamamayan na mag-isip, magtalakayan at makilahok sa mga isyung pambansa.

Ang lahat ng nabanggit na pagsusumikap sa larangan ng Filipino ay tiyak na hihina kung aalisin ang Filipino bilang asignatura na mag titiyak sa intelektwalisasyon at pag-unlad nito sa pinakamataas na antas ng edukasyon.

QC Salutatorian Krisel Mallari sends disposition to TPS Insights after controversial graduation speech

By Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla

The recent clash between the now famous Quezon City Salutatorian Krisel Mallari, and her school - Santo Niño Parochial fill the pages of Philippine newspapers and is currently the talk of the town. Krisel Mallari, claiming that cheating was somehow involved in the computation of school grades, stood up in front of everyone, and delivered her thoughts during the Graduation Day. In relation to this, on May 9, 2015, Mallari sends her disposition to TPS Insights. This is following the controversial news on the media.

“ TPS Insights,

Ito ang pangyayari nung 3rd Year ako.

Top 2 ako nung third year ako. Hindi ko kaklase ang top 1 pero nabalitaan ko na sa classroom nila ay binigyan ng +10 ang mga nagbayad ng princessia tickets. Siyempre alam ko mali un. Hindi matutumbasan ng pera ang talino ng isang tao. Kaya nagreklamo ako at nagkaroon ng meeting na kung saan ay kaharap ko ang mga guro, pero wala ring nangyari. Sinabihan nalang ako na bumawi sa susunod na taon.

Ang ilan sa mga guro nung meeting ay naging teacher ko din nung 4th year. Sa pagbibigay nila ng grades ay halatang pinag-iinitan nila ako, pero nagpakatatag ako. Bakit ako matatakot kung alam ko namang nasa tama ako? Naniniwala ako na makakayanan ko ang pagsubok na ito. Ipagpapatuloy ko ang lumaban ng patas.

Halos buong statement ng SNPS ay pawang kasinungalingan lamang. Unang una sa lahat, ang ginawa kong speech ay may layon na buksan ang isip ng bawat mamamayan sa kung ano ang nagaganap sa aming eskuwelahan. Hindi ito paninira sa valedictorian o kahit anu pa man sa aking alma mater. Ito'y pagsisiswalat lamang ng katotohanan. Pangalawa, ang aking ama ay hindi nagreklamo taun-taon. Nagreklamo lamang siya nung third year ako at nitong fourth year.

Walang harassment na naganap nung mga araw na hinihingi ng daddy ko ang computations ng grades ko. Sa katunayan, kasama niya ako sa pagpunta sa bawat guro. I niwasan nila ang tatay ko sa tuwing lalapit ito sa kanila at hindi nila maibigay ang computation ng grades ko. Hindi grades ang hinihingi niya sa valedictorian, kundi ang mga re-evaluation lamang ng mga test papers nito. Hindi kasi pinare-check ang mga test papers nung huling trimester.

... continue to page 13

Too fast, too furious: Post Graduation Blues

High school graduation is a milestone that some of us knew, almost since birth, was bound to happen. As we added notches to our belts — getting your driver's license, taking your special someone to prom, acing your exams, etc. — graduation seemed as far away as our 30th birthdays.

During the first three years of school, graduation was not the talk-of-the-room, instead the weird girl on your kindergarten orientation you completely forgot about until the day you literally ran right into her on your senior year.

I remember when I was in high school, the fact that I, myself, graduating did not even cross my mind until the day I woke up and there I was, a senior student. All of a sudden, people actually expected me to know what I wanted to do with my life.

For the next nine months, I anxiously looked toward graduation day, not-so-secretly hoping it would never come.

Months after graduation, as I sat at home on a Sunday night, binge-watching Pokémon, I found myself deep in the throws of the five stages of post-grad grief.

Denial

Stage one can set in as early as the first day of senior year. It may involve various activities, ranging from overloading

one's Instagram captions with #GraduationIsComing, #TimeIsSoFast, #FourMoreYearsAgainPlease and #NeverLeaving. Snapping at the girl who constantly reminds everyone that this is the “last” anything, completely removes the word graduation from your vocabulary and pretends that it doesn't exist. Tears don't accompany denial, yet. Instead, this stage is filled with that one last shot you told yourself you needed as you shouted, “YOLO.”

Anger

The nine months of denial are over. Graduation has come and gone. You walked across the stage, tossed your perfectly decorated cap in the air and probably shed a few (a river of) tears.

The anger phase hits you smack in the face during the time you chose to forgo reality for as long as possible and spend a few extra lazy days, or weeks of enjoying your high school life.

For a second, you hate everything about your alma mater: You hate that you fell so in love with it, how the strict guards block-off strange visitors, the bleachers where you'll hang-out with your friends, those Thursday-after-classes when you'll go to Deira City Center to chill, and the Friday mornings reserved for

more and more sleep. You hate how happy you were and that's where the anger comes from.

Bargaining

This one's simple. These are the nights you sit at home, back stalking your Facebook photos until you can't see straight anymore. You tell yourself you would legitimately trade a kidney to be back at school.

Bargaining is usually followed by frantically checking all modes of transportation to see the quickest and cheapest way to get a ride on your visit to your alma mater — tomorrow.

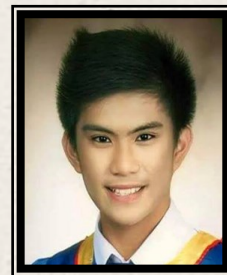
Depression

If there's anything you want out of the summer after, it's to make it through the depression stage before all your younger friends start heading back to campus in August.

Acceptance

This is the metaphorical pizza at the end of a long Thursday night. Acceptance is easy to define but hard to obtain. It's realizing that no, you will never be as young, happy and carefree as you were during your high school years, but that's okay. You'll never be the person you were in high school, but you're the person you are today because of it.

You'll find other things that make you happy in ways you have never imagined, but you will always have your memories. Yes, high school may



Robert Dominic D. Gonzales

TPS Alumnus and currently an Engineering student at the University of Santo Tomas, Manila

Former Supreme Student Council President

TPS Cass Valedictorian Year 2012-2013



OPINION



The fine lines between high school and college



Alyssa A. De Gala
TPS Alumna,
Business Accounting Student
Middlesex University
Knowledge Village, Dubai

Enjoy the high school moment but prepare for the anticipated and sometimes enigmatic challenges in college. Reflect on the responsibility for ongoing college survival.

BE MINDFUL ON VARIED REMINDERS

In my opinion, college is more diverse from high school. In high school, your teachers always remind you of the due dates in any aspect of requirements such as the upcoming tests, projects, and quizzes; in contrast, in college once the professor had listed the dates on the course calendar, there may be a teacher's assumption that the students are independently responsible. In which, you are capable of obtaining this information or instructions on your own or without the constant reminders. This is reasonable. Without continuous reminders, you will have the opportunity to figure out how to organize your academic and personal things. In life, there isn't always somebody to do things for you.

ON IDEA ANALYSIS

In high school, students are often spoon-fed with all the required information; with a focus on facts and memorization. However, in college, students are expected to think deeper, learn, and come up with their own thought-provoking ideas.

You should not depend merely on the lessons presented by the teacher. The entire lesson is limited. Students are required to decipher through independent research, and dig more possible sources of information.

TUITION FEE IS AN EDUCATION INVESTMENT

Being a college student who's studying in an international university is challenging. One reason could be the cost of tuition fee. I wish to reiterate that parents work and earn for students' education. They invest education for you. Who gains

for the benefits? No other than you. Realize.

CURRICULUM CHANGE

I made a lot of adjustments in order to cope with teachers teaching style and lessons. Be flexible and anticipate changes.

BE AWARE OF MATURITY

Additionally, most of my classmates are four years older than me and they have different nationalities; thus, this makes a lot of difference and adjustments with my social life. Learn how to deal with people with different age types.



Salutatory speech gushes online and rouses reflections and arguments

My thoughts about the graduation speech

(appertained to Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla's article on page 11)

By Jordan Habbiling
Literature Teacher
in Baguio City, Philippines

MICRO-THOUGHTS

I read the whole transcript of her graduation speech, and I must say that half of its content was too personal, almost to the point of ranting and borderline tactless. It was inappropriate for a graduation speech.

Sadly, she took advantage of that moment to discuss her ill feelings against the school. That was a bit uncalled for.

On the other hand, taking the content of the speech aside, I believe that what the school officials did during her speech was downright REPULSIVE. You don't just go near a speaker (let alone your student), grab the mic, and tell them to stop and sit down. Let the kid say what she has to say. It sounds cliché to bring up freedom of speech in the discussion, but that is actually the central issue here. The girl's right to free speech was taken away from her. If the officials thought that she had slandered the school, then they could have dealt with her AFTER her speech. It was too late to do some damage control at that moment. Their actions actually did the school more harm than good. It was thoughtless, rude, and unbecoming of a school stakeholder.

In her speech, Krisel hinted at the school's lack of fairness, and how she was robbed off of her valedictory title. The school later gave their statement regarding the incident denying any allegation of manipulation of grades and claiming that the father had verbally attacked the teachers. As to whose claim is more truthful, we are not sure. Obviously, there are two sides of the story.

QC Salutarian Krisel Mallari sends disposition to TPS Insights after controversial graduation speech

... from page 12

By Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla

Hindi naman siguro aabot na mag-speech ako ng ganito, kung pinakinggan lang sana nila ang hinaing ko. Nung mga araw na pumupunta ang daddy ko sa school, pinag-chichismisan ako ng mga guro. Paano ko nalaman ito? May isang elementary teacher na pumunta sa classroom ko at pinapaturong sa classmate ko kung sino si Krisel Mallari.

Nung araw ng graduation, matapos ang speech ko ay tinanggal sa akin ang award kong Best in Religion. Pagkatapos ng ceremony, wala man lang sa kanila ang nag-approach sa akin matapos ang kanilang pambabastos sa akin nung ako'y nagspeech. Nasa proseso ngaun ang kasong ito. Hindi pa nila ini-issue ang certificate of good moral without valid reason. God is good. Naniniwala ako na magkakaroon din ng hustisya. God is not sleeping.

Ang mensahe ko sa kabataan: "Ang kabataan ay pag-asa ng bayan." We must have the courage to fight for what is right. Speak out.

For my last words: I am Krisel Mallari, A Filipino citizen who would rather choose to fail with honor than win by cheating. Adios!"

- Krisel S. Mallari

We cannot entirely assess the truthfulness of both claims. We cannot play judge because, for one, we are not directly involved.

We don't know the entirety of it. Be that as it may, an investigation is being done, so let's leave the verdict to the authorities. We can only come up with a few conclusions from the video clip taken during the speech:

1. that the girl has gone overboard with her remarks. She could have been more tactful.
2. that the school administrators who stopped her didn't think of the repercussions of their actions, thus committing a big mistake.
3. a certain level of DECENCY could have been considered by both parties.

MACRO-THOUGHTS:

The said incident is reflective of our societies' twisted perception of SUCCESS (From students, to teachers, to parents). NUMBERS have become the measure of an individual's success. Instead of pressuring the individual to be on top of the academic ladder and be up against each other, the academe and the home must learn how to foster young minds with an environment that inculcates respect for others and self-worth.

Supreme Student Council caps achievements



We have supported the Parents' and Students' Safety forum by facilitating the said activities. We have also helped our PTC during the KG Family Day by being their emcees.

Here in SSC, we sincerely believe that the virtue of helping is a very important characteristic that must be instilled in our students. We have joined a Flea market charity fund drive and the Christmas chari-tree fund drive where collections will be used in helping the outreach club fulfill their goal in reaching out to our less fortunate students back in the Philippines.

We have also attended the "Rebuild Palestine, Start with Education" drive where we helped in packing school materials for students who have been victims of the chaos in their country.

We have also sponsored Christmas party games for all out student in order to spread the Christmas spirit. We also had dedication and jail booth during the intramurals to add fun and thrill to the students.

During our Filipino Day, we have collaborated with the Filipino department and decided to celebrate the World Teachers' day at the same time. During the said event, we have sponsored "My Best Teacher" where students were given the chance to vote for their best teacher and whoever gets the highest number of votes will be declared as the winner.

There was a winner in each category. During the same day, we have conducted the Finals for the first-ever Battle of the Bands and we hope that this activity will be continued in the coming school years.

As the end of the school year is about to come, we hope that the student body is satisfied with the job that we have done. We know that we have our shortcomings and for that, we would like to apologize. But we want you to know that we tried everything we could in order to make your year more memorable.

For transparency purposes from the membership collection, Halloween pictures, Booths we had during several activities, *we would like to inform everyone that we have a total collection of AED 10,400 (Ten thousand and four hundred Dirhams)* and we plan to use this amount of money in improving the learning experience of the students. We will keep you updated to where this money would go.



Ms. Marites Vardeleon
SC Adviser
S.Y. 2014-2015



Toe the line

Mark Nicole T. Umayam
TPS' Student Council President
S.Y 2014-2015

The B.E.S.T. (Benevolent and Enthusiastic Students to Trust) Supreme Student Council was formed during the first quarter of the S.Y. 2014-2015. As we come close to the end of this year, we would like to take this opportunity to inform everyone about the projects that we have conducted or sponsored for the student body as well as for our teachers.

We have attended several Green Hope UAE conferences wherein we were educated on, and shared how to care for our Mother nature more.

We have continued activities that already existed such as the celebration of the Halloween Party, but we have added the Haunted and Wonder room in order to make our students feel the Halloween spirit more. We have also continued celebrating the Valentine's Day where we had booth to sell flowers, doughnuts, photo booth, and the hunt-the-heart contest for the students.



SPORTS

TPS Dubai trounces TPS Abu Dhabi in exhibition game

by Frances Aleah M. Mercado



Edrick Nabung (left) nabs TPS DXB's first possession as he goes head-to-head with TPS Abu Dhabi's Aaron Rubilla (right).

The Philippine School Dubai's high school basketball boy's team prevailed in their tune-up game against TPS Abu Dhabi (TPS AUH) as they ended it with a staggering 14 point lead. This friendly game was held at TPS AUH on March 7, 2015.

TPS DXB scored their first three-point shot of the game carried out by Kurt Paras. This was followed by two consecutive two-pointers from Anthony Carlos, granting DXB an advance 7 point lead in the first quarter.

Team Dubai dominated the second quarter knocking down two free throws and five two-pointers while AUH solely scored 4 points; bringing the second quarter to an end with 12-24 on the scoreboard.

However by the third quarter, Team AUH began to chase the score by notching up 8 points including a crucial three-pointer by Jozef Samano of Abu Dhabi which concluded the third quarter with AUH just trailing behind by 9 points, identifying the scores of 20-29.

With the numbers closing up, TPS Dubai showed no mercy and started shooting heaps-- sinking in two back-to-back layups, a shot from outside the arc and an easy fast break. Abu Dhabi's leading scorer Jericho Flores nabbed all 8 points for his team in the fourth quarter. But despite his tremendous efforts, TPS Dubai still prevailed with Paras landing his third three-pointer of the game, sealing the deal and finishing the game with 30-44 digits in favor of Dubai.

Badminton team humbles other Filipino Schools

by Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla

"Observation, rigid training, and dedication"

This was TPS Golden Dragons Badminton Champions' motto as they crushed opposing players of other Filipino schools last 12th FISAA season.

Training was on course during the whole month of January with Mr. Allan Cariaga (High School Coach) and Mr. Noel Lavadia (Elementary Coach) along with TPS's alumnus and Badminton player Juan Rafael Vargas. He shared advices and witnessed the training of The Philippine School's Badminton Team.

After 1 month of mastery and observation of professional Badminton players, their hard work was finally shown through their many awards that brought honor not only to them, but also to the school. Players who received awards were Carlos Miguel P. Garcia (Champion), Matthew Diamzon (2nd runner-up), Bianca Abuan (1st runner-up), Matthew Villanueva (1st runner-up), Ron Mijares (Champion), Rosa Jenine Bedua (2nd runner-up), and Althea Mae S. Satira (gold medalist).

Carlos Miguel P. Garcia, Matthew Diamzon, and Bianca Abuan were TPS Golden Dragons' Badminton players in the elementary division with Garcia and Diamzon for the boys and Abuan for the girls.

Carlos Miguel P. Garcia (Champion) of Grade 6- A is a Badminton enthusiast. In fact, his whole family - mother, father, and two sisters are Badminton enthusiasts. Even his younger brother, Matt Gabriel P. Garcia, looks very eccentric holding the Badminton racket and watching his siblings and parents play Badminton every



The TPS Badminton Champion Team at the City University College of Ajman on February 27, 2015 after the FISAA related Badminton Competition

Friday.

Matthew Diamzon and Bianca Abuan claimed 2nd runner-up and 1st runner-up respectively, despite it being their first year in joining FISAA.

The high school division's Matthew Villanueva (Grade 8) and Ron Mijares of Grade 9 reached the 5th set with a decision game. Villanueva, a transferee from another Filipino school in the UAE, also plays Badminton every Friday with the Elementary Boys' Champion - Carlos Miguel P. Garcia. Ron Mijares, on the other hand, is not only an adept Badminton player, but also a skilled lawn tennis player.

In the high school girls' division, Rosa Jenine Bedua ranked 2nd runner-up. Bedua was in similar circumstances with Matthew Diamzon and Bianca Abuan, who are first timers in joining FISAA. She also plays every Friday along with Matthew Villanueva and Carlos Miguel P. Garcia.

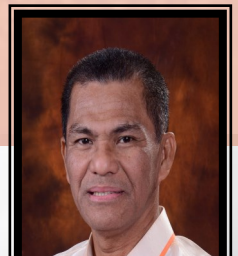
Althea Mae S. Satira, a senior student, brought home a gold medal. It was mentioned in the interview that she wouldn't have achieved such high goals without the support of her mother, coaches, and her friends in Badminton. Her championship game against Mariah Samson of FEPS arose in victory for Satira as she hogged 3 out of 5 sets of the game.

According to Mr. Allan Cariaga, "TPS players are indeed athletes by heart."



Sepak Takraw Golden Dragons clobbers NFPS in championship game

by Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla



Mr. Noli Duquen/ Coach



Using his head Kaiser Judge Guevarra during a FISAA preparation practice at TPS grounds

Riding high on excellent strikes, feeding techniques, and flawless timing; TPS Golden Dragons Sepak Takraw ripped NFPS in their championship game by 21-12, 21-7 in favor of TPS in the last 12th FISAA season.

After pummeling FEPS, TPS Sepak Takraw set to clout NFPS in the winning game. The championship game between NFPS and TPS started and stopped in the first Regu with 2 sets. TPS Golden Dragon Sepak Takraw won both sets in a row, which made the game end immediately with TPS as the victor.

With Mr. Noly Duquen's technique of 'kick, aim, kick,' TPS was able to win the two consecutive sets.

All the players applied the technique; thus,

making them win. By kicking the synthetic ball, suspending it midair, taking the aim, then kicking upwards or striking (with the head) it to the opponent (for the left side and right side players) or to the left side player (for the tekong), they made its win in the first set.

In the next crucial set that may declare TPS as the champ, a similar technique was applied. However, all players have observed their opponents and their weak points in set 1 and used it to their advantage.

TPS Golden Dragons victory was the first recorded win in FISAA's Sepak Takraw game as the sport was a new addition. Not only did TPS gain the title of the first win, but they also claimed 2 spots of the Mythical 3; namely, Jonesthy Licudan (Jersey 12) and Jethro Alden Roman (Jersey 18), and the award 'Best in Tekong' was entitled to Kaiser Judge Guevarra (Jersey 34).

Mr. Noly Duquen (the coach) and Mr. Zainoden Ali Marohom (assistant coach) were very proud of their team and wished that this will only be one of the many triumphs of TPS Golden Dragons in the national sport.

SPORTS ||||



More guts to gold medal

by Regina Sophia G. Mapanao



Hans Jared Basilio's (2nd from left) achievement welled up to gold medal.

Hans Jared Basilio of grade 7-A, who had attained a purple belt on his Karate career became the champion of an event organized by Middle East Karate Academy last March 20, 2015 at Al Ahli sports club.

Different nationalities were there to participate and witness the event. Hans, together with his fellow Tpsian Francheska, showed the crowd how skilled and experienced Filipino students are when it comes to martial arts.

Insights: "Since when did you start your career in karate? Is it your first time joining in an event like this? What did you feel when you got the gold medal?"

so happy, I finally achieved my dream."

Insights: "What do you want to tell those who are aspiring to become a gold medalist like you?"

Hans: "If you really like what you're doing then you should really practice until you can achieve your goal. Especially in karate, I learned to never underestimate your opponent."

Hans: "It's been two years since I started practicing karate. It was also my second time joining in an event like this. During my first time I won 1 silver and bronze medal. It was actually my first time winning gold and I'm

Gardiano, Veloria dominate Chess' Intermediate Level Tournament

by Frances Aleah M. Mercado

March 26, 2015- Sixth graders Rushialyn Veloria and Kurt Gardiano emerged as champions respectively in the boys' and girls' divisions.

A Chess Club Tournament was held at the Grade 10 classrooms from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. This was conducted by the Chess Club moderator Mr. Edwin Caliyon. Both players won all their matches throughout the tournament, thus granting them an undefeated record and the champion title in their division

When asked why Gardiano joined the tournament and how he felt during his matches, he said that he wanted to gain more experi-

ence in tournaments

Rushialyn Veloria was also asked the same set of questions and mentioned that her mother motivated her to join. "It's because I'm good at it and my mother encouraged me too," she remarked. She remembered being nervous. Veloria mentioned that her remedy for that was to just think of the tournament as a simple game and stay calm for the rest of her matches.

After being asked how they felt subsequently seeing the results of the tournament Gardiano declared he felt "relieved and happy" that he was the only one who had no losses while Veloria add-

ed that she was "very happy and thankful" for becoming the champion in her division.

The said event was open to the students of the intermediate level. Girls and boys from Grades 4-6 who wish to join can have the chance to participate, compete and put their skills into action.

Mr. Edwin Caliyon stated, "This tournament will gauge the strength and evaluate how far we have gone in our training every club day." There were a total of 52 competitors, 43 participants for the boys' division and only 9 for the girls'. These players came from the different sections of the grade levels 4, 5 and 6.

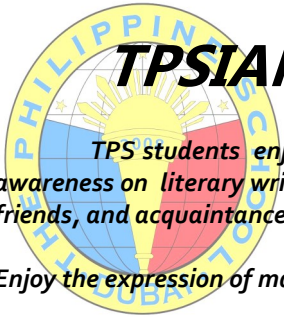


Forethought winners Intermediate level chess players during the awarding ceremony

Filipino Inter-School Athletic Association 2015

Photo by Ivan C. Magyani, Jose G. Ledesma, Rania P. Mamayog





TPSIAN CULTURAL RESEARCHERS AND AMBASSADORS

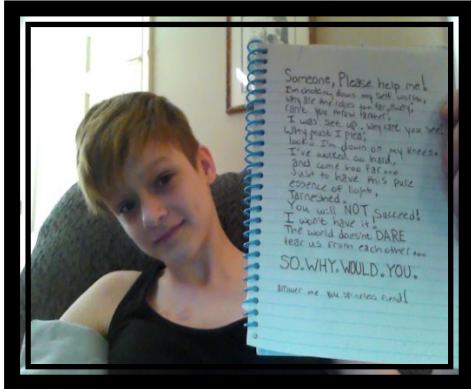
Collated by: Clarisse C. Rodriguez, Erin Mitchel J. Abadilla

TPS students enjoyed a distinguished activity that is adopted from the Knowledge and Human Development Authority. This heightens students' awareness on literary writings around the world. TPSians diligently researched different original literary writings from direct or personal sources, relatives, friends, and acquaintances studying or living in other countries.

Enjoy the expression of man's best thoughts from around the world. This promotes international goodwill and it promotes cultural awareness.

Broken family tree

By Kelsie Dunn, Female, 16, Texas, USA



I am one of many
 Small branches of a broken tree
 Always looking to the ones above
 For guidance, strength and security.
 One little branch trying
 To keep the others from breaking away
 Who will fall?
 And who will stay?
 Now I stand alone
 Looking at the earth through the rain
 And I see the broken branches I knew
 Scattered about me in pain.
 There are those who have taken an axe
 To the root of our very foundation
 And who have passed this destruction
 Down to every new generation.
 If I could take that axe
 I would toss it deep into the sea
 Never to return again
 To harm the generations that follow me.
 I am one of many
 But alone I will go
 And plant the new seeds
 Where a beautiful tree will grow.

Poem from USA
Submitted by the Author to Erin Abadilla

"How I Wish"

by Jack Darcy Whale, Rochedale State Highschool
Brisbane, Australia,

Today is a beautiful, bright sunny day
 but how I wish our loved ones were here, and not so far
 away.
 When your health is good and your worries are less,
 it is surely a good day.
 All I have done is good and nothing bad,
 it is surely going to be a wonderful and special day.
 I heard a lot of good news from friends and my family to-
 day.
 What a lovely and nice day!
 How I wish my loved ones were here and not so far away.
 I'm sure it could have been my best day.
 I hope, soon we will have more better days,
 when we are together and not far away.

Submitted by the author to Julieta Marie Demecillo

Umbrella

By Yeju Kim (김예주), Kkachiul Middle School,
Gyeonggi, South Korea

Submitted by: Rachel Anne Dipasupil, 8A

Author's Information:

우산

비가오는날이면 나의지붕이되어주는우산
 빗방울들이 우산대에 대롱대롱 매달려서 인사한다
 나도 우산에 매달린 빗방울들과 함께 거리를 걷는다
 우산은 비가내리는날이면 빗방울과 만날수있게해준다

English Translation:

Umbrella

The umbrella became my roof when it's raining
 Raindrops are falling from the long post of the umbrella
 I am walking on the street with raindrops hanging from the umbrella
 The day when there comes a rain, umbrella makes it so that I can
 meet the raindrops

Submitted by the Author to Rachel Anne Dipasupil

A Poem about Canadian's Hospitality

by Juno Miguel O. Deanon, Grade 8
student from Westlawn Junior High,
Edmonton Canada

The kindness of Canadians
feels like a warm feeling.

Like a hot chocolate on,
a cold day, comforting and healing.

This is why I've become fond of Canada,
though it might be cold.
The Canadians' hospitality and kindness
is: to me, valued as gold.

Submitted by the Author
to Chezka Dennise Balagtas

My Mom

By Racquel Lian Jackson, Nichols In-
termediate School, Jacksonville, USA

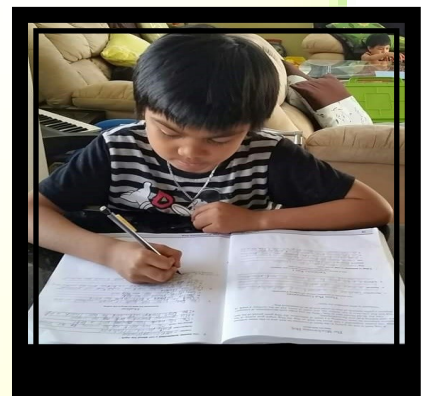
My mother isn't here but the person
who acts like my mom is my dad. My
dad cooks, cleans, and works very hard.
Dad makes people laugh a lot even in
bad or good times.

Dad cooks a lot of great food. My
favorite is tuna patties, fried fish, fried
chicken, and fruit shake. I would die for
his famous fruit shake. All his food was
made from love.

Dad comes home wanting to sleep
but if anything in the house is dirty, he
cleans it up before he rests up from
truck driving. He cleans everything he
sees as he goes around the house every
day. Sometimes I clean up from him so
he can rest.

The Flies and the Honey Pot

By Aesop, as retold by Pascal Ganta-
la, Grade 4, Santa Clara, California



A group of flies were drawn
toward a container of honey. Placing
their feet in it, they ate greedily. They
became so smeared with the honey
that they couldn't use their wings for
flying. They were suffocated. They
exclaimed, "O foolish creatures that
we are, for the sake of a little pleasure,
we have destroyed ourselves".

Pleasure, brought with pains, hurts.

The Elements of Friendship

By: Neil David Madelo, The Philippine School- Dubai |
10 - A

Earth, Air, Water and Fire
These are the elements that keep balance
The ones who cause change
The Elements of Friendship

Like earth,
I'll be a firm ground
In times of trouble
I'll assist you when you stumble

Like air,
I'll always be there
To talk to in times of need
Or a shoulder to cry on

Like water,
I'll continuously flow
To wash away your sorrow
And give you new hope

Like fire,
When you're alone
I'll be there to give love
With my warm embrace

Earth, Air, Water and Fire
These are the elements that keep balance
The ones who sustain
The Elements of Friendship

LITERARY ESSAY

By Christian Alfonso, The Ockendon Academy, United Kingdom

During the time I was reading the statement, it has lead me to agree without any hesitation. Young people today are taking social media for granted. They are making full use of it for hours whenever they have the opportunity to, which is bad for the eyes as you will be straining them for long periods of time. Social media also prevent the people from doing whatever is needed to in the real world. Once they get access to social media, it's almost like they get chained to it and they can't escape; they are succumbed in the world of technology-appearing to be like robots with their index finger or thumb constantly tapping away the "like" or "retweet" button.

Did you know that 1 in 3 students can't spell as well as people who don't use social media? It has been proven that students alter the spelling of a word whenever they leave comments on social media or chat away with other people. The cause of the alteration will lead their brain to remember how they have spent a specific word or abbreviation, for example: "instead of going to" people may remember it as "gonna." This will of course, weaken their performance during exams, which is why students are encouraged for competitions now a days. It is not being used for its purpose, however by how many "friends" or "followers" you've got. It seems that, now, quantity is king and quality counts for nothing.

Submitted by the author to Althea Dela Cruz