



BRaVo!

Welcome to the fourth edition of **BRaVo!**, Blangah Rise's very own newsletter written by students for students. In this issue, our budding writers share with you some of their unforgettable experiences of incidents captured in and out of school and also of people who have impacted them. Other interesting reads include a feature on two of our school's unsung heroes, a showcase of inspiring works by our Photojournalist of the Year and their viewpoints. Included in this issue is also a section of fun and interesting facts with some games and quizzes for you to have some fun with!



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Bravo! is produced by members of the APEXEL Writing Programme, led by Teacher Ms. Esther Teo, and mentored by Editor cum Instructor, Ms. Alison Koh. It aims to challenge the students to tackle a variety of writing styles and work collaboratively from the conception of an idea through drafting and editing their writing for publication.

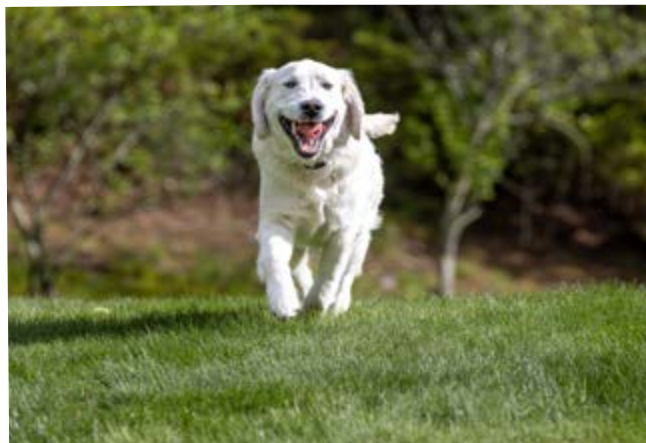
Unforgettable Experiences and People

“We do not remember days, we remember moments.”
– Cesare Pavese, Italian Poet.

I will never forget the day that horrifying incident happened to such a perfect afternoon.

At five o'clock, I was walking my dog when we came across a pet zone in my neighbourhood. My dog had never been to a pet zone before. So I opened the creaking metal gate, took off his leash and my dog ran eagerly far deep into the pet zone.

Just a few minutes into the fun, I heard the sound of stomping feet from a distance and before I could turn away, this huge furry creature with big ears and a drooping face pounced on me like a wrestler! My head hit the ground. Thankfully, I was conscious and could see a figure come running faster than a bullet train and dragged the giant away.



As soon as I got up, I ran to my dog and picked up the leash. “Click!” I buckled the leash to my dog’s collar and darted out of there like a tsunami was coming. Once I got home, I ran to my mother and told her what had happened.

“I am never going back there again!!” I bellowed. “I thought you loved dogs?” My mother replied in surprise. “Well, not that kind!” I said. I would never go back there again.

Temperance Lee 4S

It was the first two and a half months of primary school. Being the social butterfly that I am, I tried to make some new friends but that did not work. No one wanted to be my friend because I was too soft spoken. I was quite sad as this has never happened to me. Before, everyone at kindergarten was friends with one another. I was left with no friends until a few weeks into the term when I met the funniest and prettiest girl I knew. She had tanned skin, pearly white teeth and beautiful sparkling brown eyes. She was very smart and one of the top students in my Mother Tongue class. During recess we would sit and eat while chatting, then go to the field or playground to play when it was sunny. She was always smiling and gave off positive vibes. She always joked around, laughing and smiling. She was always cheering me up when I was feeling down and even helped me when I was hurt. I remember the time when I fell and scratched my knee and she helped me up to the general office. I am thrilled to say that she is still my best friend now in Primary Five.

Naziha Nasir 5T

Everyone of us has stories to tell, moments we do not forget easily. This one for me goes back all the way to my kindergarten days. Having transferred from Little Thoughts to MOE Kindergarten in Blangah Rise, I was so excited that when I went to the school for the first time, I was jumping up and down! Little me was elated, as my brain was filled with playing, learning, and having fun. There was one thing that I missed though -- my old friends. However I was adjusting quite well and it didn't take long before I made quite a few friends. Every day was a fresh new day for me, full of adventures and fun, and never a day was upsetting for me, or so I thought...

Just a few weeks after I had settled into my new school, the incident happened. Much of the details were a blur in my head, but I remembered the sight of a particular scene vividly. When the teacher brought us to the toilet, everyone rushed in and fought over who got into the cubicles first. I obediently lined up, and soon it was my turn. To a five-year-old me, it did not bother me one bit that the toilet was not strictly for girls only. So just when I was in the cubicle, I heard a voice from outside, "Hey! Who are you in the toilet?"

Hesitating, I replied, "Me. Ser Yen." See, I know this was a silly thing to do, but this was five-year-old me. Thankfully, I was the only one left in the toilet, and who would have guessed what happened next? The 'voice' pushed open the unlocked door, and there, I saw a five-year-old boy staring, while I was sitting over the toilet bowl...

Wow, that was the funniest yet scary incident that happened. I was glad the principal talked to him about it. Looking back from now, I actually thought those silly incidents were just ridiculous. Funny they are now, but not for five-year-old me!

Phua Ser Yen 5T

It was an early morning. I was focusing on my homework when my friend called. He excitedly greeted me, "MORNING!" I had to say, "Please don't shout!" What I heard next from him BLEW MY MIND. "Wait are you serious? Are you sure it will be a good idea? What if we got caught!" I queried. "What's the worst that can happen?" he said.

It was Monday. The sun was out and I nervously approached the school gate. In class I looked anxiously at my friend and the wall clock. "RINGGGGGGGG" Everybody waited until the teacher told us to go out and line up for recess. During recess, we gathered "them" all up and shouted, "COMICS GET YOUR OWN COMICS FOR JUST 20 CENTS EACH!" We were as loud as howling monkeys in the zoo. We realised that we had just embarrassed ourselves. All ignored us except for one. My friend came to the rescue when he bought one of our comics. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!! We had a party and celebrated.

After a few weeks of selling comics, we decided to recruit some of our friends too. Another month of selling comics and the unimaginable happened... someone told the teacher! The teacher scolded us and asked us to hand in the goods (I mean money not the comics). In those few months we 'earned' almost \$30! We gave the money back and there were no consequences.

What took place was simply UNFORGETTABLE!

Titus Han 4T





As I stepped into the quiet room, I was engulfed in freezing temperatures and my eyes sparkled with excitement. It was the first time the teacher brought us to the library. I looked around, in a daze but happy, as I was surrounded by multitudes of books on shelves. It felt like an eden. As I selected a book that piqued my interest, I noticed the comfortable couch and soon I made my way over to the sitting area. The book was quite interesting and it talked about some Greek mythology.

When I finished, I placed it on the black shelf and spun on my heels to the "Fiction Area". It was filled to the brim with books of many genres that caught my attention but I felt compelled to pick one on the bottom shelf. It stood out from the rest. I read some chapters and before I knew it, we had to go back. I felt a bit disappointed but then I realised that I could borrow it.

As I queued up to borrow the book, I noticed that it would take a while since four other students were in front of me. The first person faced some error with the system and it took longer than expected. I was relieved when it was my turn and I was able to borrow my books without any problem. The teacher then led us quickly and silently back to class.

Visiting the library each week became habitual then on. Though it may seem like an ordinary and non exciting experience for others, each visit still feels like paradise for me.

Federico Abigail 4S

Everything in school was fun and I thought nothing bad would happen until one time when I needed to go to the dentist!

Stepping into the room, I saw a friendly woman wiping some equipment. The friendly dentist told me that one of my teeth needed to be pulled out and it would not be painful, not even the slightest bit. The dentist took out some metallic equipment that looked very sharp. The other equipment looked like weapons to me. It felt like I was about to be attacked by an evil monster. The dentist told me to stay calm and still. She took something that blew wind into my mouth and a sharp piece of equipment to take all the dry bacteria out of my mouth. It was very painful as it kept on touching my gums and it was bleeding. She gave me a cup of mouthwash to wash the blood away but it continued bleeding and made it more painful! After a few minutes, it finally stopped bleeding. Then she put a ball of cotton into my mouth and told me to bite into it and keep my mouth close for some time.

Back in class, I wanted to answer a question but it was so difficult to talk. I felt like the cotton would drop out every time I opened my mouth. The cotton did not taste good and I wanted to vomit. I wished that I could quickly have it removed.

Every time I walk past the dental clinic, I will always remember the frightening experience,

Marvell Tjong 40



I was in the locker room warming up and getting ready for THE match against our rivals. Our coach reminded us to show teamwork on the pitch.

When the whistle blew, the opposing team easily scored 1-0. The keeper punched the lush green field in anger because he could not catch the ball.

Our team's forward, David, was as proud as a lion that he even shot from a distance so far that the defenders easily intercepted the ball.

Captain Jake hollered at David, "I was open! Why did you not pass the ball to me!" David put up his hand to apologise.

It was my first day of school. My body was shivering and my heart was pounding as I tried making small steps into my new class. I had just moved from Malaysia to Singapore. This school was recommended by my grandmother because she had a good experience in Blangah Rise Primary School.

I made my first friend, A. He was a kind and funny friend, as he always made me laugh by telling me jokes every day. I also met my form teacher, an understanding lady. Knowing that I was new to the school, she was comforting and encouraging, helping me and telling me more about the school. She was like a friend to me.

The next year, I made many friends and most of them, boys. I had this teacher who was strict and serious about everything but when it was time for fun activities, she would make jokes. Mathematics naturally became my favourite subject for the year.

Towards the end of the year, I met B, a helpful, kind and very understanding person. Since then, we became fast friends.

These four people have made a difference in my life and helped to make me feel I belong in BRPS.

Batrisya 40

I made an attempt to score a goal but the last line of defence caught the ball!

Determined to win, Captain Jake called us in and reminded us to show teamwork. With lifted spirits, we ran for at least an equaliser. My teammate did a skillful cross to me, and I craftily shot.

Goal! We jumped up and down for joy as we had equalised the game! We learnt not to hog the ball but to pass it to our teammates if not we would lose another game.

After that day, we learnt that soccer is not a one man sport.

Titus Han 4T



Projects for me are super fun! I started really liking them in Primary Three.

During a Social Studies lesson, I was sitting there, with these dark eyebags and my cheek resting on my hand, doodling away. It was then my teacher announced a 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' Project to the whole class. Honestly, I didn't think much of it at first. But as we got into it, I realized projects can be fun if you really get into them. You know, like putting your heart and mind into it. It's about focusing, making it look awesome, writing down all the content and finding answers to questions. I really enjoy presenting in Social Studies, and I love reading all the cool information I find.

It feels so satisfying.

It's pretty straightforward, too. All you have to do is write, type, share ideas, and learn together. The best part is when you work as a team, even if we have different thoughts and beliefs. We can always try new ways to make our project cool, whether it is using computers or making a physical poster. So yeah, projects are awesome!

Daniah Ibrahim 5T

Never judge a book by its cover. That was what I learnt in Primary Three. In that year, Covid rules were relaxed and we were, as before, allowed to join our desks together. I was sitting with my best friend. I was as happy as a lark sitting next to her and was hoping to be able to sit next to her for the rest of the school year.

Now in my class, there was a student, Zane who was seated right in front of me. He had peach skin and black hair. Zane would talk back to teachers and the classmates find him annoying. Our teacher initially had students who did not talk a lot to sit beside Zane. But in the end they talked to him constantly. So the day came, when our teacher decided to put me beside him. My heart raced and I felt a knot form in my stomach. I was unable to move or speak for a moment as I did not know what was going to happen next. "What will he say? What if he bullies me for being short?" My whole body shook just thinking about it.

At first I did not feel comfortable as he kept taking my eraser. And if I did not give it to him, he would pester me no end with "eraser, eraser". However, over time, as I got to know him, he actually turned out to be like a friend to me. We helped each other with our work. At the end of Term One in Primary Four, our teacher said that Zane had improved a lot in his behavior. When I first knew him as only a classmate, I never thought I would ever talk to him, let alone befriend him! He may seem annoying but he can be a very good friend. But of course, he still gets into trouble, especially with teachers!

Natalie Lawenko 4T



It was Total Defence Day and we were making posters, quizzes, and talking about Total Defence. We were told there would be a lockdown drill on February 14th. I was excited even though it would be a fake lockdown. So, the big day arrived and the whole school went into lockdown mode.

We were just having our regular assembly and it was around 8.34 am when the alarm suddenly went off. "Ding, Ding, Ding, Debbie's class, please go to the canteen, thank you." That was the alarm telling us there was an "intruder" in our school.

Everyone from Primary One to Six turned off the lights, closed the doors, and some even hid under their tables. At first, I was excited, but then I felt my heart racing and butterflies in my stomach. It was a mix of excitement and nervousness. About 30 minutes later, the bell rang, and we were told to go to the field. After a quick briefing, we went back to our classrooms, and the rest of the day was just normal lessons. Now, looking back, I sort of wished the lockdown didn't end.

Some of my friends had mixed feelings like me, while others were celebrating the drill. Some kids were crying loudly like elephants, and some were sobbing quietly like mice. I know that if it were a real lockdown, I'd be like, "Is this for real? No way, it can't be!" Then, "Am I scared? Yup, I'm really scared right now." And my third reaction? Probably shaking with fear. Those would be my mixed-up feelings. Well, I can't wait for the next lockdown drill, but I really hope this never happens for real.

Mahisha Shafiha 40

Fun and Interesting Facts

The BRavo! team takes you into the realm of soccer, sustainability, sparkling gems and sorcery (more specifically, fiction on manga).

Fancy using an inflated pig bladder as a soccer ball? Gross? Well, this was what people used to play or kick around before rubber soccer balls were invented.

Here are more quick facts about the history of soccer.

In earlier times, it was first called "socca". The World Cup is the most popular event watched. 'FIFA' stands for the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, a super long name. Brazil has played in almost every World Cup Final. An average player usually runs at about six miles per hour. It is like running on a basketball court 350 times in 90 mins, which is how long a game is played.

How well do you know about soccer?

Q1, Who is the highest paid player in the world?

(Clue:He is paid £240 million/year)

Q2, Which is the home of Liverpool FC?

(Clue:it .It has a seating capacity of at least 53,000)

Q3, Which team amassed eleven League titles at the English Football League and four European Cups?

If you have gotten all the correct answers to the questions, It's a **GOAL!**
Congratulations!

Answers :

1. Neymar Jr (Al Hilal)
2. Anfield
3. Liverpool

Esher Leong 40



Sustainability is development that meets the needs of us now, without affecting the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This sentence may seem confusing, so how about some interesting facts for you to understand this topic better?

1.We all like the cool breeze when we step out into nature, right? However, without the wind, how does our body stay cool? Green rooves and walls keep things cool! They boost oxygen levels, reduce temperatures and enhance water balance, and many more. The walls are often seen with an increase of bees, butterflies and more animals.

2.Do you use LED lights? What is it even, you may think. LED Lights use 75% less energy! Compared to the halogen counterparts, LED lights use less energy and can help a family save approximately \$650 on their electricity bills over a decade.

3.Worms combat global warming! They consume microbes which help reduce the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere.

4.Have you been using fewer grocery bags? It takes a 15-year-old tree to produce 700 grocery bags! Yes, a 15-year-old tree just to produce 700 grocery bags, or 15 years!

Phua Ser Yen 5T

Sapphire, Ruby, Opal, Topaz and Emerald. What are they? If you guess that they are our class names, you are absolutely right! If you guess 'gemstones', you are also correct! Come with me to discover more fun and interesting facts about gemstones! We start with A, like in my name...

Alexandrites shine red in lamplight and green in sunlight. Hence, the saying Emerald by day, Ruby by night. Isn't that fascinating?

Ambers are organic gems that are created from hardened and fossilized ancient tree sap. Some even have insects fossilized inside!

Amethysts received their name from an ancient Greek word "amethystos", meaning "not drunk". I wonder if a drunken sailor first discovered this...

Emeralds are rarer and often more expensive than Diamonds. When it comes to rare and expensive gemstones, most of us immediately think of Diamonds, but, in fact, Emeralds are more than 20 times rarer than Diamonds. Therefore, they often command a higher price.

Painites are not just the rarest gemstones, but also the rarest minerals on earth. Painites hold the Guinness World Record for it. After their discovery in the year 1951, there existed only 2 specimens of Painites for the next many decades. I think they look like Rubies!

Sapphires are gemstones that are blue, and they are second only to Diamonds in beauty. They have been popular for centuries, and they are symbols of royalty. Gorgeous!

Rubies and Sapphires come from the same mineral, Corundum. Traces of Titanium and Iron are what give Sapphires their intense blue color. Rubies get their red color from Chromium. Their hues can range from pinkish-red to blood red and dark cherry.

Topazs were believed to be able to change color when near food or drink that had been poisoned. A piece of Topaz has also been tied to the moon! Intergalactic!

Opals are believed to be gems that bestowed powers of foresight and prophecy upon its owner. In Arabian folklore, it is said that the stone fell from heaven in flashes of lightning. The Oriental traditions referred to them as the anchor of hope and Lucky Gemstone. How phenomenal!

Diamonds are formed billions of years ago and are extremely rare because so few are able to survive the difficult journey from the pits of the earth to reach the earth's surface. From the Diamonds that are being mined today, only about 50 percent are thought to be of high enough quality to be sold on the Diamond market. I had no idea it was such a difficult process!

Ariel Sum 4S



Here is an unusual one from Titus... facts about fiction.

Are you a Gojo fan like me?

If you do not know who Gojo is, he is a character in Jujutsu Kaisen, which is a manga (Japanese comic) and an anime series.

If you are, then this quiz is for you!

Question 1. Do you know how many times Gojo can cast his domain expansion?

Question 2. When was Gojo able to perform cursed/positive energy?

Question 3. What anime does Gojo love?

Question 4. What resembles Gojo's eye within?

Question 5. Do you know why Gojo never runs out of cursed energy?

Let's see if you got all of them correct.



Answers:

1. Gojo can cast his domain expansion multiple times a day, while others are limited to once a day.

2. When Gojo was a teenager, he could not perform cursed technique until he was able to truly create positive energy.

3. Satoru Gojo is a huge fan of Gundam. He has a collection of these models too.

4. The eye within Gojo's domain expansion is that of a black hole, or at least, resembles a black hole.

5. Gojo's six eyes, also known as the Rikugan, reduces Gojo's cursed energy consumption allowing him to never run out of cursed energy.

If you got all of the answers correct, よくやった (well done!)

Titus Han 4T

Next up, our animal enthusiasts take you on an exploration adventure into the Animal Kingdom. Have you ever mistaken a coyote for a fox? And is a flying fox a fox? Which is the only mammal that can fly? If you like to know the answers to these questions, read on!

Well, foxes and coyotes are both members of the Canidae family. Did you know...

... that the Arctic Fox does not hibernate and its fur changes colours with the seasons?

The reason for the colour changing fur is because different seasons can mean different climatic conditions. So its fur colour can change between seasons. How amazing!

... that the females give birth in the spring? But why is that so interesting? It is interesting because most animals give birth after the start of summer.

... that they are primarily solitary animals? Arctic Foxes live on the Arctic tundra, which is a vast and treeless place. I wonder how life is like there!

... that they live in burrows with extensive tunnel systems? That's so cool!

Natalie Lawenko 4T



What about Coyotes?

How fast can they run?

Coyotes can run up to 40 Mph while chasing prey. They run at an average speed of 43 Mph. This is thanks to their strong hind legs. Usain Bolt should start training!

Can they swim?

Coyotes have a robust set of paws for swimming, which helps them keep their head high above the water. Their fur is buoyant to help keep them afloat in the water, and the thickness helps trap air, hence they do not sink under the weight of their fur. Imagine tiptoeing the whole day? That would be tiring! But coyotes can because they are digitigrades which means they walk on their toes.

Wow! Coyotes have 42 teeth, compared to a human with only 32 teeth. They really have big mouths!

Temperance Lee 4S



Is the flying fox a member of the Canidae family too?

No! A flying fox is not a fox. It's actually a bat! It is the only mammal that can fly. They come from the family, Pteropodidae. Also known as fox bats, they usually migrate in camps or colonies from 15,000-100,000 depending on the 60 over types of flying foxes. They are actually vegetarians which feed on fruits from rainforests and vines. There are around 4 species of flying foxes in Australia which is the most commonly found in the entire world as well as in mainland Asia.

Federico Abigail 4S

Which is another animal, not a mammal but a bird, that can fly and is nocturnal like the fox bat? Did you guess the owl? You are right! Did you know...

... that an owl can turn its head 270 degrees? It can do that because a blood-pooling system collects blood to power its brain and eyes when neck movement cuts off circulation.

... that owls eat their own kind? I would not want to be the Barred Owl as I would have to run for my life from the Great Horned Owl!

... that the smallest owl, the EFL (interestingly it is not spelt ELF) Owl is as short as 13 centimeters? It weighs about 42.5243 grams. So cute! In contrast, the Great Gray Owl's height is about 81.28 centimeters! So tall!

... that the Barn Owls eat up to 1000 mice a year? That's an average of 83 mice a month!

Marvell Tjong 4O



Acknowledgement

<https://animegalaxyofficial.com/15-interesting-jujutsu-kaisen-facts-that-you-didnt-know-about/>; <https://facts.net/soccer-facts/>; <https://www.stockland.com.au/shopping-centres/everyday-ideas/gallery/fun-facts-about-sustainability/>; <https://www.ecofriendlyhabits.com/sustainability-facts/>; <https://www.audubon.org/news/13-fun-facts-about-owls/>; <https://resources.arctickingdom.com/10-fun-facts-about-arctic-fox/>; <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gemstone>

Let's have some fun with the interesting facts of the English Language! Our BRAVO! team got creative and put together some challenges for you to try on Anagrams, Palindromes and Pangrams.

What are **ANAGRAMS**?

Anagrams are words formed by rearranging the letters to create new ones.

Examples of Anagrams: angle \leftrightarrow angel, lips \leftrightarrow slip, part \leftrightarrow trap

Rearrange the letters of each word below and find the answers in the word search puzzle!

1. Listen 2. Race 3. Peach 4. Night 5. Save 6. Break
7. Stressed 8. Fried 9. Lemon 10. Heart

B	H	M	R	T	A	R	A	K	R	A	B	R	D
A	E	C	T	E	V	A	S	E	N	E	S	E	A
D	A	H	H	R	I	L	R	V	R	E	R	C	A
E	C	E	F	C	E	H	H	A	R	I	V	L	I
S	A	A	N	H	D	N	E	A	F	T	R	E	E
S	E	P	N	C	G	E	C	T	R	E	E	A	P
E	A	T	O	H	R	N	C	R	E	C	K	A	T
R	I	R	C	S	I	S	I	B	L	S	A	C	N
T	A	K	T	D	M	N	R	H	D	T	B	T	E
S	E	A	V	S	E	S	S	T	T	E	V	C	L
G	T	S	E	E	L	C	C	R	G	B	N	B	I
N	R	E	V	S	O	B	L	A	R	M	A	B	S
S	T	N	A	U	N	N	E	E	U	I	H	E	N

Marvell 40

What are **PALINDROMES**?

Mom backwards and forward is...MOM!

Dad backwards and forward is...DAD!

Sis backwards is...SIS!

Figured it out?

Now test your knowledge on Palindromes!

1. Another word for "Mid day"
2. Another word for "Town or City"
3. Another word for "Canoe or Boat"

Mahisha 40

What are **PANGRAMS**?

A pangram is a sentence that has every letter of the Alphabet. What are the missing letters in each of these pangram?

1. The __ ox saw the __ ebra in the ____ ay and quickly __ umped over the __ ate.

Natalie 4T

2. A quic __ turtle complete _ the race while the ver_ lazy hare was sleepin__ under a fig tree.

Kai Siang 4T

Turn to pg 13 for Answers

Our Unsung Heroes

Can you imagine the scenario when buses and cars pass through the school gate all at once in the early hours of the morning with no one to guide the traffic, causing massive jams and posing danger to the students? Or when in the Computer Lab, you are locked out of your device due to wrong password and cannot proceed with your work? Who comes to rescue the situation?

In this issue, we turn the spotlight on two of our school's service staff, working conscientiously behind the scenes. Our teams of reporters, Ser Yen, Marvell and Mahisha, Brian and Abigail set out to interview them to find out more.



"Car SWM1479G is coming up to Car Park A!" Mr Lau, speaks into the walkie talkie in his hand. His full name is Lau Chor Choon, a familiar face at the school gate. Security Officers like Mr Lau, are the first persons students see early in the morning when passing through the gate. They can also be spotted holding the walkie talkies, or waving at the cars passing through as well. But is that all they do? While the students and teachers are in school, patrolling is a large part of their job to ensure protection and safety for all. So what exactly do they do in a day?

Before he became a Security Officer, Mr Lau, who has an O-levels education, worked as a shipbroker. The 63-year-old wanted, at first, to retire after being a shipbroker, but then decided to learn new skills and has been working at BRPS for the past 2 years. His work begins as early as



6.30am and ends at 7pm. One of the things he likes about his job is patrolling the school. Right after Assembly and throughout the school hours, he has specific points to check all around the whole school. He calls these clocking points, using an app on his phone. On each of the rounds, he will, for example, check for holes in the fence, ground, or suspicious items or vehicles and report on them.

One challenge that Mr Lau faces in his job is difficult parents. He shares that some are hard to communicate with. One thing that makes him happy on the job is hearing students say thank you to him.

When he is not working, Mr Lau likes to jog and eat. He believes that one good way to relieve stress is by not thinking about it unnecessarily.

Mahisha, Marvell & Ser Yen

“Click click click” The sound of the keyboard echoed throughout the Computer Lab. At one of the terminals, a bespectacled composed looking figure sat with a Primary Three student looking on beside him. Without missing a beat, Mr Urwin Ng swiftly reset the password with ease.

Meet Mr Urwin Ng, our ICT Manager, who is part of the ICT team at BRPS. He did not start off as an ICT Manager but rather ‘grew into’ the job. Coming from a non IT background, Mr Ng boldly made a switch to join the school. He first started as a Facilitator for the Computer Lab lessons at the school a few years back. Gradually he got involved with teaching students software apps. His work covers procurement and management of hardware and accessories. He also troubleshoots IT issues, such as rescuing students from their locked out accounts, much to their relief!



Although he enjoys most aspects of his job, he doesn’t like students who cause trouble like not taking care of the computers they use. He will not hesitate to counsel them when they misbehave.

An avid photographer himself, Mr Ng also helps the students out whenever they have the “Young Photographers” Programme. Students learn from him how to use a camera and the photography rules. The students like him as he is firm yet comfortable to be around.

Abigail & Brian

Answer Key to pg 11:

<p>Anagrams</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Silent 2. Care 3. Cheap 4. Thing 5. Save 6. Baker 7. Desserts 8. Fired 9. Melon 10. Earth 		<p>Palindrome</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. civic 2. noon 3. kayak <p>Pangrams</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. f, z, h, j, g 2. k, d, y, g
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WISHLIST

We continue from the previous **BR**avo! issue with the second part of our wishlist: *If there are changes in the school you can make, what would that be?* Nine Blangahnites took to this space to express their honest views and wishes... do they echo yours?

I wish...

- for healthier food like vegetable and fruit salad for examples, apple, strawberry, avocado, papaya, lettuce, carrots, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins, cheese and sauces like maple, mustard, peanut, cilantro, avocado and BBQ sauce.
- for artificial grass in the field so that we can play in the field even when it is wet or muddy without getting our shirt and shoes muddy, dirty and smelly.
- for a bigger playground with slides, swings and rock climbing walls because I think when it is bigger, more students can play and it will be more fun for students who like doing sports.
- for more PE lessons so that everyone can stay fit and healthy.
- for more decorations in and around the school compound like students' work, painting on walls etc. for visitors to see the decorations and for the school to stand out around the neighborhood.
- for more learning journeys like going to parks, museums etc. because we can learn more about other things rather than just learn from our textbook.
- to change the school uniform to the PE t-shirt material because wearing the school uniform makes me feel very uncomfortable especially on humid days.

1. The playground -- to be bigger and a little taller. If it is renovated someday, rules such as no vandalism must be added.

2. The library -- the point system to be brought back such that it is opened during recess time and after school to allow students to either study or to read. Some students have no quiet location to study or a peaceful place to relax.

Daniah Ibrahim 5T



A bigger basketball court. We can do more running and it is good for health. The net could be higher so we can practise our strength. The basketballs could be a bit bigger (like around size 7) because we can practise our strength to make us stronger.

Teo Kai Xiang 4T



1. Bigger playground to play at and remake the playground with slides or swings or a rock climbing wall! It is time for a new playground!

2. A school nurse to go to if you fall and get a bruise.

3. More lunch time. Same thing for recess! I would like at least 5-10 more minutes to eat, play or buy things.

4. More field trips.

5. Last but not least, that students who have fever or headache may be excused to rest and also to have one extra day to do homework.

Naziha Nasir 5T

Artificial grass, as the field can get too muddy.
Air conditioning, as the classrooms are too hot.
A bigger playground, as it is more fun and enjoyable for the students.

A greater variety of food, as students will enjoy recess more.

More HBL lessons, as we can learn online more often.

Brian Lee 5T

1. Bigger playground because it would have more space for other people to play.
2. More learning journeys so we can learn more.
3. More reading time because reading time during recess is only for 5 minutes and it is hard to stop reading.

Natalie Lawenko 4T

- More counselors so more students can talk about their feelings and hardships.

- A bigger playground for the students to play so they can be more agile and get stronger.

- More prefects to support the misbehaving students.

- Longer recess reading so students can enrich their minds more.

- A more fun recess countdown so students can have fun even without playing.

Temperance Lee 4S

More classrooms could have air conditioners so that the students and teachers will not be so sweaty and they can concentrate better.

HBL day on every Thursday so that the students do not need to wake up so early and they can have a 1 day break from school.

More computer labs and laptops so that more classes can go to the computer lab at the same time.

School could start later so that the students do not need to wake up so early and get sleepy during lessons.

Marvell Tjong 40



1. We can have a new CCA such as baking CCA so students can learn how to bake.

2. We can add some more stalls selling Indian, Chinese, Western and Malay food so we can have more food options.

3. We can upgrade our school library, with more books, more space and a cozy corner to read so we can have a calm and cozy time reading.

4. We can have a guard dog for school in case an intruder comes so we can prevent attacks from intruders.

5. We can do more school field trips such as going to the zoo, beach and nature

walks so students can have a little break from studying.

6. We can take turns in the morning to go to the garden, maybe once or twice a week so students can have a breath of fresh air before the lessons.

7. We can add a CCA (can be called Naturewalk) to the nearby Hill Park or Labrador Park so students can have a walk in nature.

8. We can do a picnic or walk a jog (like in 2022) before the school term ends as it is a great way to end the term.

9. Girls can join soccer CCA so girls can also join in the fun.

10. We can have more playing equipment in the school playground such as slides, swings and a small trampoline so students can have a whole of a time playing.

Mahisha Shafiha 40



Reflections on NP-BRPS Partnership

For the first time this year, our school partnered Ngee Ann Polytechnic, School of Film and Media Studies, in a collaboration that allowed the APEX students the opportunity to embark on an enriching educational journey while at the same time, enabled NP students to contribute to their community.

Across four engaging sessions, the Ngee Ann Polytechnic team came over to the school to teach the students a spectrum of skills, from content ideation to video editing using Capcut, crafting interview questions to the art of photography and framing. These are what the students themselves have to say...

The experience with the Ngee Ann team was fun and interesting because they were very nice to us and helped us if we had any trouble. They were also very kind and generous because they gave us some of their snacks that they got. My favourite part of the experience was when we first got to know them, because when they introduced themselves, they also told us about a little bit of their lives, and their lives were really, very interesting. They taught us how to interview others and how to make articles. They spoke to us with kind words and anytime when we started a new session, they would greet us with a kind smile. I love the experience we shared with the Ngee Ann team!

Ariel 4S

I personally enjoyed my time with the Ngee Ann students. I had such a fun time editing and interviewing. First I interviewed my friends. I was really nervous when interviewing, in front of the camera... Then I edited it. I made the video from plain boring to funny by editing. **Brian 5T**

The Ngee Ann Students taught me to edit scenes and videos. They were really patient with me and all the others students. They were welcoming and cheerful. **Naziha 5T**

I've realised that I learnt a myriad of things, like how to write and plan an interview, how to be flexible and importantly, how to ask questions to lead the interviewees to elaborate on their experience. When I look back at the experience, I saw some mistakes I could improve on such as giving the interviewees a time frame and allowing them to talk more freely than I did before.

Something that was difficult was when one of my interviewees was being very vague. I tried leading the person to talk more but could not get the details. In the middle of the interview, I realised I was asking many closed questions instead of open-ended ones. I started to ask many questions that allowed them to express themselves.

As of now, I would not say that I am great but I would like to say that I learnt the basics and I try my best to apply what I learnt.

Abigail 4S



Firstly, it was very exciting to meet them. I felt very elated for the first time meeting them. I learned how to write descriptive and creative writing! I also learned some nice phrases for my writing! My challenge was coming up with ideas. Natalie and I brainstormed new and out of the box ideas. Kai Ting told us that our ideas were amazing and we are very active listeners! **Mahisha 4O**

I enjoyed the Ngee Ann Polytechnic sessions as I learnt how to write interesting stories about what I have interviewed. The NP students also helped us with our linking of paragraphs. Once during the interview, the person gave me so many answers. I was over the moon but I had to jot down the points on my paper very fast. All in all, I enjoyed the Ngee Ann Polytechnic sessions. **Kai Xiang 4T**

Well, I really had fun because they were really friendly and interesting. I got to pick up a new skill that I have never learnt before. On the other hand, it was also really challenging as I had to do many interviews and had to remember how to edit the interviews in this app called "Capcut". We went to take photos of plants in the 2nd last lesson. It was really amazing! They taught me to edit the interviews, how to plan my questions properly and how to take pictures by making the picture darker or brighter. My topic was about the National Gallery of Singapore. I learnt many things when doing the interview like being flexible about asking the questions and also to express myself. I wish there will be more of these sessions! **Kayden 4S**

They were also really nice and funny. I would like to improve with this experience by having more weeks with them as we did not have a lot of time to complete our work. In the sessions we also learnt how to take photos, how to interview and how we are supposed to write. I really enjoyed it and I hope to have another event with the Ngee Ann Poly Students. **Natalie 4T**

It was a great experience. We were very lucky to be working with them. We got to learn how to interview. My favourite part in one of the sessions was when towards the end, they let us have some free time to take photographs of the different plants in the "Tranquil Garden", **Batrisya 4O**

Firstly, I enjoyed interviewing as I could learn more things about other people. Secondly, I liked editing the videos because I liked doing things on the Ipad and I could learn the functions of CapCut. Some challenges I faced were removing some pauses in the video and thinking of questions to ask the person I was interviewing. **Marvell 4O**

Through this whole experience, I'm pretty sure everyone learned something. I am interested in video journalism (vox-pox)...it was fun, trying something new, like interviewing. I even got to interview younger students! After the interviewing, the newer part came -- editing. This was something most of us in the group have not done before. The students from the group taught us how to do many things with the editing app, and turn the video from, for example, 10 long clips to 1 short clip and adding subtitles to the clip! We even learnt cool effects such as transitions... I also didn't know much about editing, only the basics, until I got to try it again, and this time I learnt a lot. **Ser Yen 5 Topaz**



BRLC EL Writing Competition

Welcome to a garden of creativity and imagination as we celebrate the outstanding entries from our BRLC English writing competition, centered around the theme, "Our Blooming Gardens." This competition was a vibrant canvas where students sowed the seeds of their creativity and nurtured them into blossoming pieces of art. With a focus on creative writing and poetry, our young wordsmiths embarked on a journey to explore the world of written expression and cultivate the joy of writing. In this lush literary landscape, they painted scenes of nature's beauty, emotions, and vivid stories that flourished like vibrant blooms.

The Blooming Garden

The flower was young,
now it has grown into beautiful flowers.

The birds sung,
light rain showers.

The flowers bloom,
as colourful as a rainbow.

Most flowers are used for perfume,
it explodes with fragrance like a volcano

Bees buzz,
caterpillars munch.

The flowers makes young like it once was,
the flower's soft petal touch.

By Alara Lila Lum 6 Topaz

Today

Today is the day I make an impact
I use less water, I use less plastic.

I take the bus, I ride my bike,
I go outdoors, I take a hike.

Today is the day I make an impact
I stop to listen, lend a hand,
help a friend, take a stand.

Today is the day I make an impact.

By Gail Lien Zhao Xin 6 Sapphire

Nature's Masterpiece

Beneath the sky so blue

Flowers blossom like morning dew

Birds are chirping and singing

Butterflies are calmly playing

Magnificent colours in my view

Nature's masterpieces forever true

By Valerie Huang Jiaxuan 2 Topaz

Blooming with Similes Garden

Our Garden as enchanting as a rainbow
With plants dancing like the aurora borealis in a row

Held up tall by stems so high
Peppered with flowers like stars in the sky

The humble leaves busy as bees making food
For everyone's health and good

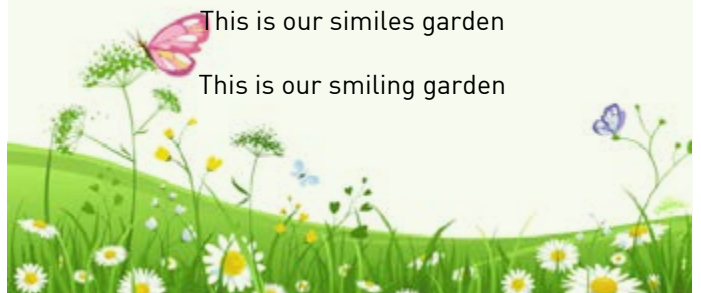
The soil may seem gloomy and lonely
But roots and earthworms are their family

Butterflies fluttering their wings like a nervous heart
Sipping the nectar in the flower bud

Tiptoeing Blangahnites curious like cats
Seeing scary spiders making them scramble like rats

This is our similes garden

This is our smiling garden



By G. Aarya 3 Ruby

Viewpoints

The Young Photographers Programme is part of Viewpoints, where all students are equipped with valuable skills to create and communicate stories through their lenses. From their photographic products, the learning is then extended into the language arena, as creative or poetry writing in the English or Mother Tongue languages. This photograph was taken by Phua Ser Yen (5 Topaz) which was exhibited at the 18th Ngee Ann Photographic Exhibition 2023, Student Category. It was also selected to be part of the permanent collection by the organiser.



"I like to experiment and try new things. This is my first time capturing the landscape by using a lensball. The landscape of Labrador Nature Reserve appears as an inverted image in the lensball. This image resonates with me as it reminds me of being creative, flexible and looking at things from different perspectives, especially when we are facing difficulties."

By Phua Ser Yen, 5 Topaz

Photojournalist of the Year

Our photography competition was back for the third year! This was an opportunity for our students to apply photography skills gleaned from our distinctive programme, Young Photographers.

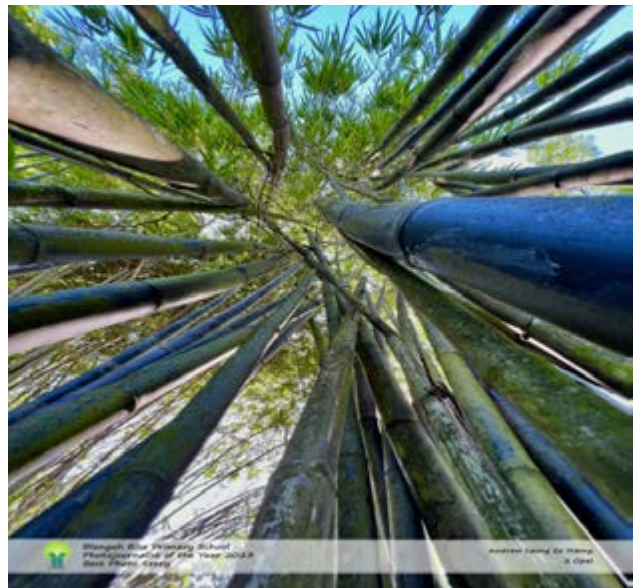
The main theme for the competition was **The Environment : Save Our World.**

Sub-themes : Primary 2 Special Plants, Primary 3 and 4 City in Nature, Primary 5 and 6 Water

In alignment to our school's Leader for Life programme, which focuses on creating environmental awareness and action, the competition was a platform for our students to depict the environment and encourage the development of positive habits for action through their photographs and writings. Our photographers' lenses captured the fragility and beauty of our planet, conveying a powerful social commentary. Photojournalist of the Year was also a journey of self-discovery and artistic expression for our students. Our students had a meaningful learning experience!

Bamboos are special plants because they can be used to make many things like fences, baskets, huts, musical instruments, and brooms. Bamboos can also be used as mugs, cups, or for cooking meals. This makes the bamboo plant a very special plant! I used the leading lines technique for the photograph.

By Andrew Leong, 2 Opal



Each and every individual may have different opinions, be it different angles or different spots.

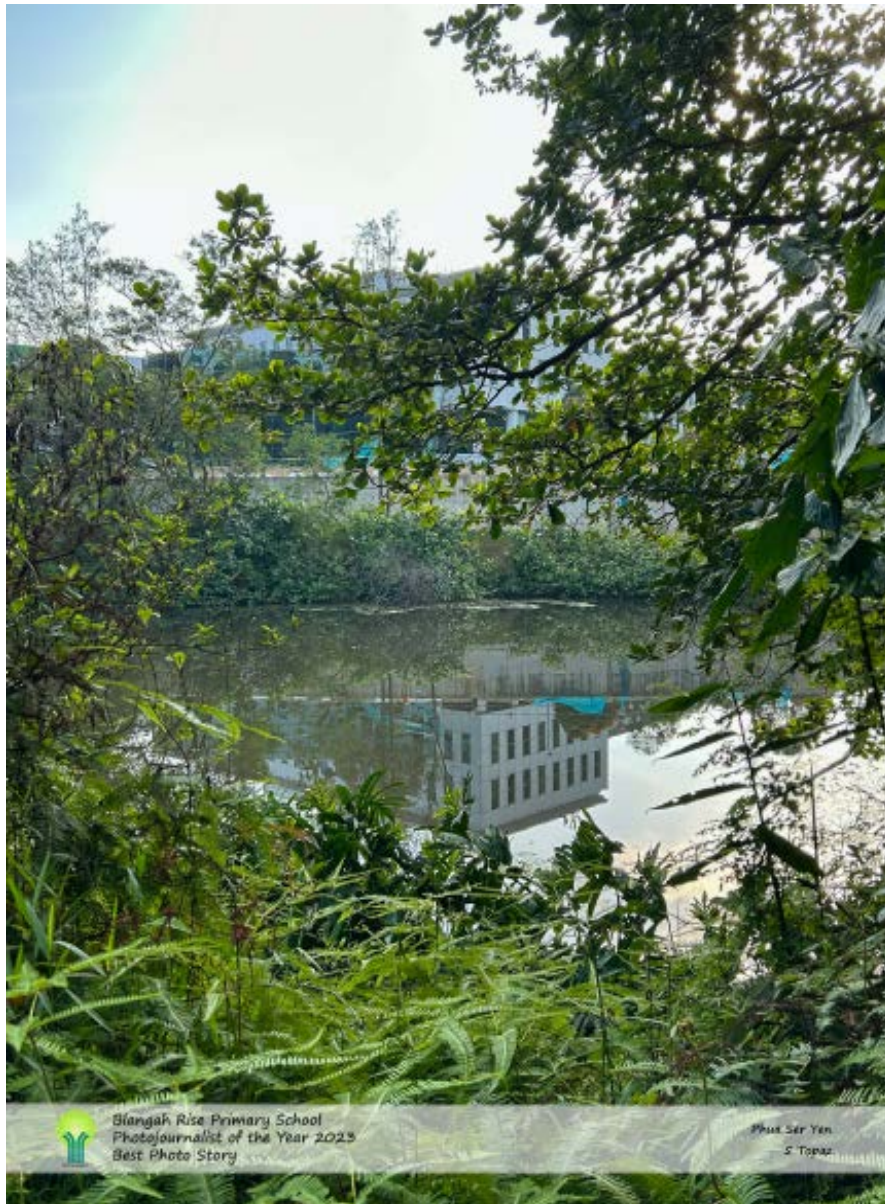
As one short little girl, this photo represents what I saw as I looked up high at the sky when I was strolling around in nature and apart from the city.

This scene always reminds me of peacefulness and joy. I really enjoyed the fresh air and greenery. It was a quiet walk but I felt safe as I know a city was just steps away.

I am grateful that I live in a city in nature, surrounded by trees and greens.

Nature nourishes and nurtures us. We should do our best to protect our environment and Mother Nature.

By Teo Kai Ting, 3 Sapphire



By Phua Ser Yen, 5 Topaz

Water. A beauty of its own. A precious natural resource that all humans need. When we see water, we think about how it is used in our daily lives. However, have you only appreciated the beauty of water and not only how useful it is?

The first photograph shows that water can be used for many things, and even to beautify our surroundings. Everyday, it is there, showing us a different view of ourselves through reflections.

The second photograph shows that water is there waiting for us to admire its beauty, waiting for the flora and fauna to talk and play with it. It is right there, waiting for the buildings to see its reflection in it, as water tells of how unique each reflection is. Water also shows us a different view of ourselves through our reflections.

Not only does water have a calming effect, it is something we need in our lives. Water is important and beautiful in many ways, and I hope that we will all learn to treasure this important resource and not waste it. We must let it show its beauty and importance in all its ways!

