



Asian Institute of Technology International School

BULLETIN

Volume 8, Issue 9, May 2017

Mission Statement:

AIT International School provides holistic elementary education (Nursery – Grade 6) in a stimulating and caring international environment that will help build a positive attitude towards learning. Our education is based on values that will support the growth of a reflective and responsible member of the society.



**AITIS ANNUAL &
GRADUATION DAY**

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Dear Parents and Friends of *AITIS*;

My sincerest congratulations to all of our wonderful students for their excellence in academics this past school year.

Together *AITIS* experienced great growth and progress in the holistic development of our students.

I am very proud of our students, our teachers and our staff for their fantastic commitment to excellence this past year.

I thank all "Parents and Friends" of *AITIS* for your loving support throughout the past school year.

Soon, sadly, we will be bidding farewell to three of our fine staff:

Mrs. Debra Brown, 1st Grade Teacher

Mrs. Abbie, 3rd Grade Teacher

Mrs. Zarish, 4th Grade Teacher

Mrs. Debra has taught *AITIS* students for 25 years. A remarkable achievement that definitely has touched the future!

I commend Mrs. Debra for her commitment, dedication, professionalism and kind heart. We have been blessed to have you with us. We wish you much happiness in your retirement.

Mrs. Abbie is a remarkable, caring and professional teacher whom we all will miss. Finding a replacement for you will be impossible!

We wish you much happiness in your new adventures with your husband.

Mrs. Zarish has done an outstanding job in the 4th Grade this past school year. She joined us under very challenging conditions and I sincerely thank her.

We wish you much happiness in all your future endeavors.

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Throughout this past school year we have been guided by the phrase “**Together We Can**”.

It is heartening to see how much the students, parents and teachers have embraced that concept and made it a reality.

When we put ourselves together to make a positive impact on our student’s lives there truly is no challenge that we can’t overcome.

Looking into the future of next school year I believe it would benefit all of us at *AITIS* if we continue the “**Together We Can**” theme.

“Summer Camp” is scheduled to begin on 14 June 2017. It will run for ten (10) days providing exciting and new learning experiences for our students. Further information will be sent home to parents.

We look forward to having your child join us!

As always I sincerely thank you for your continuing support of *AITIS*.

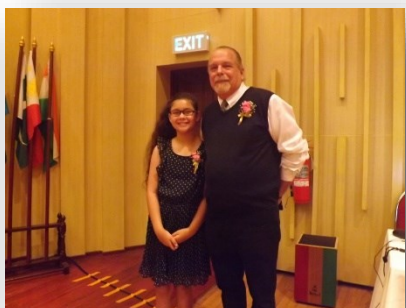
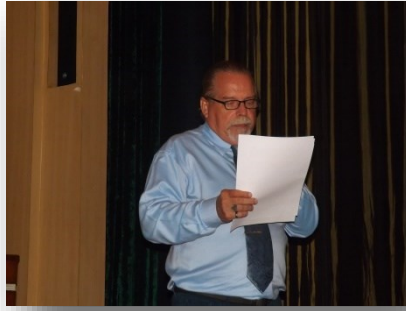
Sincerely,
Kevin Mauritsen, M.Ed
Principal/Director



Annual Day Pre-K Section



Annual Day Elem. Section



AITIS GEMSTONES SEMESTER 2, 2016-17

AITIS is once again excited to announce the AITIS Gemstones for the Second Semester of SY 2016-2017. The objectives of this program is to recognize and promote the character development, self-esteem, and perseverance of elementary students. This is one way in which the school works towards improving the overall quality of student behavior, peer relationships, school attendance, and student achievement. Additionally, the AITIS Gemstones Program provides teachers with a tool to reward students for special achievements.

Award Categories:

DIAMOND AWARD: Academic Award

A minimum grade of A in all the core subjects (Social Studies, Math, Science, English)

A student with good character traits. He/she is someone who exhibits good:

- Class Attendance and Punctuality
- Character/Attitude/Disposition
- Responsibility and Leadership
- Work Ethic and Diligence
- Discipline and Conduct

RUBY AWARD: Exemplary Character Award

(Leadership, Helpfulness, Courage, Civic Responsibility, etc.)

Endorsement by a teacher for having demonstrated good moral character and values in a consistent manner.

A minimum grade of B in all the core subjects

A student with good character traits (see above)

EMERALD AWARD: Special Award (Music, Arts, Sports, Theatrical Performances, Specific Subject)

Endorsement by a teacher

A minimum grade of B in all the core subjects

Student with good character traits (see above)

SAPPHIRE AWARD: School Pride Award (Off-Campus Achievement) (Inter-School Spelling Bee/Art/Dance/Singing/Band/Music Competition)

Students are recognized for bringing pride to the school.

Students who represent the school well in academic and other extracurricular events.

AITIS Gemstones Committee

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Gemstone Awards Recipients

DIAMOND**Academic Award****Grade 1A**

Hrithik Anish Madathil
Ilan Nerasing
Jia Xuan Olivia
Nuanploy Buranajaroenkij
Umar Abdul Aziz
Karynne Lois Lipiten

Grade 1B

Punya Werarak
Thanyachanok Grace
Chanyathada Buttorobon
Kavya Shree Guragain
Puntalinee Chaiyasang

Grade 2A

Melisa Chatpunnarangsee
Ranesha De Silva
Teesta Datta
Chevan Stuart
Pal Siyapan

Grade 2B

Sasakorn Bunchooratanapab
Aemplee Keereeta
Phyo Thiri Win
Tham Laphasonoi

Grade 3A

Bavinee Shrestha Thapa
Khang Do Huy
Punn Kanitnate
Saura Kumar
Thanakrit Chiamchanya
Wiss Jittathorn

Grade 3B

Alexander Koravit Caszo
Arya Krishna
Kanyatorn Vannavart
Kritamate Suttiratanakorn
Raan Petchusri

Grade 4A

Angelina Belle Borongan
Shruti Thapa
Tanawit Thammasittirong
Kitipoom Piriyalapha
Timothy Bramantya Prajogo
Anushka Karna

Grade 4B

Jan Riyamel Diopenes
Krish Ganerawal
Nathnia Santoso
Mereoline Sasha Pilongo

Sahaja Shandilya

Grade 5

Van Anh Nguyen
Kait Erin Mauritson
Phakamon Suphaveerapat
Mai Thao Hoang

Grade 6

Anisha Singh
Ella Pilongo
Fauzan Abdullah
Karah Mayelle Lepiten
Pyae Phyo Min
Rit Parnichkun
Thanumi Abeykoon
Thunyamas Thanasung

RUBY**Exemplary Character Award****Grade 1A**

Mahya Barakzai
Vishayaporn Abeytung

Grade 2A

Rungrujee Phanhiranpruek

Grade 3B

Arya Krishna

Grade 4A

Kimberly Linda Ross

Grade 5

Van Anh Nguyen

EMERALD**Special Award****Grade 1A**

Karyanne Lois Lepiten
(Music)
(Visual Arts)

Grade 1B

Kavya Shree Guragain
(Visual Arts)

Grade 2A

Rungrujee Phanhiranpruek
(Music)
Chevan Stuart Punyarata-
bandhu
(Visual Arts)

Grade 2B

Phakin Rodanat
(Excellent Diligence)
Chichaya Jitwinkul
(Visual Arts)

Grade 3A

Saura Kumar

(Music)

Christian Tirtadinata Siagian
(Excellent Diligence)
Bavinee Shrestha-Thapa
(Visual Arts)

Grade 3B

Arya Krishna
(Visual Arts, Music)

Grade 4A

Shruti Thapa
(Music)
Anushka Karma
(Visual Arts)

Grade 4B

Jan Riyamel Diopenes
(Visual Arts)
Heather Mary Ross
(Music)

Grade 5

Kait Erin Mauritson
(Visual Arts)
Van Anh Nguyen
(Visual Arts)
Mai Thao Hoang
(ICT)

Phakamon Suphaveerapat
(Music)

Grade 6

Rit Parnichkun
(Music)
Tosita Uthaichai
(Visual Arts)
Terapat Koomsap
(Physical Education)

SAPPHIRE**School Pride Award****Grade 2A**

Kiragorn Promma
(Piano)

Grade 3A

Martin Ariyanithithawesuk
(Ice Hokey)

Grade 3B

Ananya Sangsuk
(English Contest)

Grade 4A

PemikaTangjitjaroen
(Piano)
Lalana Thuesat
(Dance)
(Gymnastics and Fitness)

MORE PRECIOUS THAN SILVER AND GOLD

This personal experience I will share is one that is simple and yet glittered with valuable life lessons that hope to inspire you. It hopes to help you discover that in life there are things that are far more precious than silver and gold. I am thankful for this opportunity to share with you my recent amazing experience.

My story begins with a late night call from a dear friend with an urgent request to cover his coaching engagement immediately the next early morning. The team I would be coaching was called "Asian Rookies"; a Basketball Team composed of young boys aged eleven and below and competing in a grueling Youth Basketball Thailand Summer Basketball Tournament. We were to play in a series of fast-paced matches from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. at BPro On nut.

It is never easy to coach a team I never met. Making things a lot more complicated was knowing the following crucial details about my team with just a few minutes before the actual tournament day began; (1) my players had come from different schools (2) most of them had just met that same morning and (3) they had no experience playing as a team, not even one practice. These details are huge factors in order for a team to play decently at least, especially in a basketball game where teams rely heavily on familiarity and team play for a more effective play execution.

It is important to mention that the other four teams who participated represented either a school or a basketball club. They were well prepared and well experienced in these types of tournaments and surely have had lots of team practices and scrimmages. Winning all but one game in the initial series made us qualified to compete in the semi-finals. The team we squared off at the crucial semi-final was the lone team that beat us in the qualifying round.

With a combination of good discipline, unwavering faith with each other, perseverance and dedication, it was really a surprise to finally win in the semi-finals. And that game was followed by the final game between us and a really formidable team.

My player's tremendous love for the game and unwavering dedication eventually lead our team to its glorious finish and became the U12 Tournament Champions.

Our team was so blessed to be winners of the tournament. Think about this; my players and I met that morning as complete strangers. The struggles that we faced together helped us to form a strong bond. At the end of the day, we walked away from strangers to friends. The games we played helped each of us to make the team more mature in just a day. From Rookies we walked away Champions.

Mr. Anjelo Mungcal, Health & PE Teacher



THE SILENT TRAGEDY AFFECTING TODAY'S CHILDREN (AND WHAT TO DO WITH IT)

Source: <https://yourot.com/parenting-club/2017/5/24/what-are-we-doing-to-our-children>

There is a silent tragedy developing right now, in our homes, and it concerns our most precious jewels - our children. We can witness this tragedy unfolding right in front of our eyes. Our children are in a devastating emotional state! Talk to teachers and professionals who have been working in the field for the last 15 years. You will hear concerns similar to mine. Moreover, in the past 15 years, researchers have been releasing alarming statistics on a sharp and steady increase in kids' mental illness, which is now reaching epidemic proportions:

- 1 in 5 children has mental health problems
- 43% increase in ADHD
- 37% increase in teen depression
- 200% increase in suicide rate in kids 10-14 years old

How much more evidence do we need before we wake up?

No, "increased diagnostics alone" is not the answer!

No, "they all are just born like this" is not the answer!

No, "it is all the school system's fault" is not the answer!

Yes, as painful as it can be to admit, in many cases, WE, parents, are the answer to many of our kids' struggles!

It is scientifically proven that the brain has the capacity to rewire itself through the environment. Unfortunately, with the environment and parenting styles that we are providing to our children, we are rewiring their brains in a wrong direction and contributing to their challenges in everyday life.

Yes, there are and always have been children who are born with disabilities and despite their parents' best efforts to provide them with a well-balanced environment and parenting, their children continue to struggle. These are NOT the children I am talking about here.

I am talking about many others whose challenges are greatly shaped by the environmental factors that parents, with their greatest intentions, provide to their children. As I have seen in my practice, the moment parents change their perspective on parenting, these children change.

What is wrong?

Today's children are being deprived of the fundamentals of a healthy childhood, such as:

- Emotionally available parents
- Clearly defined limits and guidance
- Responsibilities
- Balanced nutrition and adequate sleep
- Movement and outdoors

Creative play, social interaction, opportunities for unstructured times and boredom

Instead, children are being served with:

- Digitally distracted parents
- Indulgent parents who let kids "Rule the world"
- Sense of entitlement rather than responsibility
- Inadequate sleep and unbalanced nutrition
- Sedentary indoor lifestyle

Endless stimulation, technological babysitters, instant gratification, and absence of dull moments

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Could anyone imagine that it is possible to raise a healthy generation in such an unhealthy environment? Of course not! There are no shortcuts to parenting, and we can't trick human nature. As we see, the outcomes are devastating. Our children pay for the loss of well-balanced childhood with their emotional well-being.

How to fix it?

If we want our children to grow into happy and healthy individuals, we have to wake up and go back to the basics. It is still possible!

Set limits and remember that you are your child's PARENT, not a friend.

Offer kids well-balanced lifestyle filled with what kids NEED, not just what they WANT. Don't be afraid to say "No!" to your kids if what they want is not what they need.

Provide nutritious food and limit snacks.

- Spend one hour a day in green space: biking, hiking, fishing, watching birds/insects
- Have a daily technology-free family dinner.
- Play one board game a day. (<https://yourot.com/familygames>)
- Involve your child in one chore a day (folding laundry, tidying up toys, hanging clothes, unpacking groceries, setting the table etc.)

Implement consistent sleep routine to ensure that your child gets lots of sleep in a technology-free bedroom

Teach responsibility and independence. Don't over-protect them from small failures. It trains them the skills needed to overcome greater life's challenges:

Don't pack your child's backpack, don't carry her backpack, don't bring to school his forgotten lunch box/agenda, and don't peel a banana for a 5-year-old child. Teach them the skills rather than do it for them.

Teach delayed gratification and provide opportunities for "boredom" as boredom is the time when creativity awakens:

- Don't feel responsible for being your child's entertainment crew.
- Do not use technology as a cure for boredom.
- Avoid using technology during meals, in cars, restaurants, malls. Use these moments as opportunities to train their brains to function under "boredom"

Help them create a "boredom first aid kit" with activity ideas for "I am bored" times.

Be emotionally available to connect with kids and teach them self-regulation and social skills:

- Turn off your phones until kids are in bed to avoid digital distraction.
- Become your child's emotional coach. Teach them to recognize and deal with frustration and anger.

•Teach greeting, turn taking, sharing, empathy, table manners, conversation skills,

Connect emotionally - Smile, hug, kiss, tickle, read, dance, jump, or crawl with your child.

We must make changes in our kids' lives before this entire generation of children will be medicated! It is not too late yet, but soon it will be...

Mrs. Hasmina Guiani Ambor
Counselor/ Special Education Teacher



Pre-K Section Activities

Nursery

Nursery children learned about "Favorite Stories". They made crowns and had fun wearing them as a prince and princess. The children enjoyed their Role Play dressing up as their favorite story character. (See pictures 1-2)

Pre-K 1A

What a delight for PreK-1A children to color and do finger painting about 'Rain Day' when the rain is pouring heavily outside. Everyone is so happy and excited.

(See picture 3)

Pre-K 1B

Rain or shine, these little ones from PreK-1B always find a way to make their day. In different types of weather, it's never a bother. In laughter or after tears, they still play with their peers. Such beauty in a child's life! (See picture 4-5)

Pre-K 2A & B

PreK-2A children are enjoying indoor Thai traditional game while Pre K 2B children are feeling so proud to show their drawings. (See picture 6-7)

KG A

KG A - Dynamic Dolphins children are trying to divide the slices of bread into halves as they learn about Symmetry and Halves in their Math lessons. (See picture 8)

KG B

KG B tried on the graduation caps. We are ready to move to 1st Grade class. We will surely miss our Kindergarten class! (See picture 9)



Pre-K 1A, 4



Pre-K 1B, 5



Pre-K 2A, 6



Pre-K 2B, 7



Nursery, 1



Nursery, 2



KG A, 8



Pre-K 1A, 3



KG B, 9

Funny Stories

By G-1 Doves

Too Much

In the classroom, while the news of the 1 million baht winner prize was celebrated, the teacher asked the students if they have one million baht, what will you do.

Max: "I will buy a lot of sweets".

Danny: "I will buy a lot of toys".

Jenny: "I will buy beautiful clothes".

As the children scrambled to answer each other joyfully, Ben sat back and looked sad.

Teacher: "Are you not happy if you have one million baht"?

Ben said sadly, "Teacher, it's too much money. My little piggy bank would not fit in so much money!"

Smith, G-1 Doves

My Funny Uncle

I had to write a story with 200 words. I decided to ask my funny uncle to help me. So he said, that's easy to do. Let's start writing.

One sunny day, we went to the zoo to see animals. The first animal we saw was a monkey. The monkey goes uuueeahah uuueeahah. My uncle suggested writing it 50 times. So I did! Uuueeahah uuueeahah x 50.

Then we saw tiger. It goes ggrrr ggrrr. My uncle said write it 50 times. So I did! ggrrr ggrrr ggrrr x 50.

After that we saw exotic birds like Macaws and Parrots. They make so much noise like pipipi tweettweet orkork.

My uncle said write it 50 times. So I did! Pipipi tweettweet orkork x 50.

Lastly, we went to see my favorite animal, horse. They make funny sounds like brrrbrr neeiigh neeiigh. My uncle said write it 50 times. So I did! Brrrbrr neeiigh neeiigh brrrr x 50.

That's how my uncle helped me write 200 words story. Very easy!

Ilan, G-1 Doves

The Cat

Last night, I saw my cat trying to fly. She was jumping three times then stopped. I saw her saying "MEOW" talking to another cat. After that she jumped three times and fell on the birthday cake. When she fell on the cake the cat's face was covered with cake. People laughed at the poor cat covered with cake. My sister gave her a bath. But the cat didn't want to take a bath. The cat was trying to run away. My sister chased it but she herself fell on the pie. She left the cat and gave herself a bath. I asked my sister why you

took a bath. She answered; the cat made me fall on the pie. Then I chased the cat but the cat was gone. So my sister and I cleaned the cat's mess.

Karynne, G-1 Doves

The Messy Cake

One day, I was making a cake. It was a two layer cake. One layer fell off the table. I did not see that falling.

I slipped and fell on the cake. I said, "It's ok". Soon, I was covered with cake!

So I went to take a hot bath and then I was clean and feeling good.

Mahya, G-1 Doves

Today is a Holiday

On Tuesday night, my mom told me that Wednesday is a holiday.

In the morning I went to take a bath and I prepared my bag for school.

I came down. I saw my mom and dad not preparing anything.

I said to my mom to make me some breakfast.

My mom asked why I was wearing my uniform. Today is a holiday.

"Is today Saturday or Wednesday?" I asked.

"Today is Wednesday but your school is closed!"

Before my mom could say anything I went back to bed.

Jia Xuan Olivia Ooh, G-1 Doves

The Missing Bus

One day, Tom woke up at 7:30 and woke up his mom. Tom said, "We need to go to school". His mom told him, "Wait for the bus". "What bus"? Tom said, "It's already 8:00 Mom. I missed my bus. Now, Mom, you need to take me to school".

Pasu, G-1 Doves

In a Restaurant

One day, my uncle went to the newly opened restaurant. It was a fine day and a lot of people were outside to try their new menu in it. He sat in one of the vacant seats near the door. A waiter came near him and asked, "Hello Sir, are you going to eat?"

My uncle said, "No, I am here to help the chef to cook. Would you also like me to help you with the customers?"

"Wow! I will not only sit. It will be fun and your business will also grow".

Mary, G-1 Doves

My Chocolate Sticks

One day, I was very hungry. I tiptoed to the kitchen and grabbed the chocolate Pocky sticks. I ate many sticks.

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I went to mom and when mom looked at me, she started laughing.

Meanwhile, my brother came and got scared of my teeth.

I went and looked at my teeth in the mirror and started laughing because of my weird looking teeth. It looked so funny.

Amrith, G-1 Doves

My Perfect Grade 2 Class

When I came to grade 2, I felt a bit scared but I liked my grade 2 class.

In Social Studies, I learned about map, globe, urban, rural, and suburban areas, land forms, continents and oceans, needs and wants, private goods and services, public goods and services and taxes etc.

In science we learned about matter, solids, liquids, gases, day and night, what do living things need, how do plant parts help plants, how do living things change their habitats, why do animals change their habitats, the changing environment, how big were dinosaur. Dinosaurs that I like are Corythosaurus, Velociraptor, Tyrannosaurus, Allosaurus, Anatosaurus, Lambeosaurus, Iguanodon, Pachycephalosaurus, Nasutoceratops, Pachyrhinosaurus, Ankylosaurus, Toujiangosaurus, Triceratop, Stegosaurus, Parasaurolophus, Amargasaurus, Tapejara, Pterodactyls, Pteranodon, Brachiosaurus, and Brontosaurus.

In grammar, I learned to read and write. I learned about naming words, one and more than one, adding (es), nouns that change spelling, special nouns, naming yourself last, verbs that tell about now, action verbs, adjectives, nouns, ran, run and came, come, saw, seen, went, gone, is and are, was and were, contractions, how something sounds and feels and many more topics.

In spelling, I learned about spelling short a sound words, spelling with (sh) or (ch), words that end with (s) or (es), words that end with (nd), (ng) or (nk), the vowel sound in ball, the vowel sound in moon and book and so many more.

In creative writing, I wrote many stories. The story that I wrote on my own is the 'Scary House' which is my best story.

In Math, I learned like adding in any order, counting on to add, adding double facts, using double facts to add, adding 10, making ten to add, counting back to subtract, subtracting from numbers to 15, subtracting from numbers to 20, problem solving, writing a number sentence, subtracting to compare, naming numbers, fact families, problem solving, choosing the operation, money, subtracting two-digit numbers, geometry, frac-

tions, multiplication, division, measurement, perimeter, kilograms, and liters.

I feel very sad to leave my grade 2 class!

Pannawit Jaewtrakul, G-2 Trail Blazers

My Lovely Grade 2 Class

When I first started Grade 2 Class I was so happy. I felt so good as we began the class when all my friend were ready to learn.

My teacher's name is Mr. Elvis. He always jokes so it is fun to learn. Mr. Elvis taught us every subject and topic well.

Mr. Elvis gives us a lot of activities like project work, group work, and sharing our work with others. It was fun to do all the activities.

Mr. Elvis taught us about Simple Machines. Simple machines are something that make work easy. A simple machine has few or no moving parts.

In Math we learned about multiplication and division. Some of the topics that we did were count by twos, fives, tens, and adding equal groups which I liked very much.

Mr. Elvis taught us about taxes. Tax is something which people pay money to their community or government. This money is called tax.

There are four subjects in Language Arts like Creative Writing, Grammar, Reading, and Spelling and Vocabulary.

I like Grade 2 class so much and when Annual Day ends means we will go to Grade 3. I will miss Mr. Elvis because of all the fun things we did in the class.

Kaweewat, G-2 Trail Blazers

The Sun

By G-1 Eagles

Our sun is so big.

It's even bigger than a pig.

Without the sun, it will be dark.

And we can hear the dog bark.

The sun is yellow.

But it is not as soft as a pillow.

Kavya

What a hot, hot, hot sun.

It can even turn.

The sun is far.

It is a star.

Can the sun move?

Maybe it's all of the above.

Tristan

My Cool Grade 2 Class

When I came to Grade 2, I had to try hard every day so my mom and dad will be happy for me and my elder brother and sister too.

I always like my cool Grade 2 class because Mr. Elvis always give us lots of jokes.

We did different projects like paper toys. I also love Science because we can learn and experiment with things.

I like Math because I am learning to solve problems with numbers.

Social Studies also teaches me to know different things around us.

Creative Writing lets me draw my ideas and write my own stories.

The last day of school is almost here. I will miss Mr. Elvis a lot. He is always ready to help me and my friends until we move to Grade 3. Thank you Teacher!

Hamna, G-2 Trail Blazers

My Lovely Grade 2 Class

When I came to grade two I was so scared. I was scared if someone talked to me in English because I didn't know anything in English. When it was snack time, someone called me in my language. She was a girl. She became my first friend and my best friend. Her name is Ranessa.

I love my teacher Mr. Elvis. He is so funny. He likes to make us laugh almost every day. I think Mr. Elvis is the best teacher in the whole world.

Spelling is my first favorite subject. My favorite topic is "Ending with ed or ing." Actually, every subject is hard, but I like to do hard work.

My second favorite subject is English. Third is Math and fourth creative writing.

Among other subjects, Mandarin is my favorite because I want to go to China so I want to learn Chinese language. I really wish to go there one day.

Now it's going to be the sad part when I leave grade two. I will be so sad because Mr. Elvis is my first teacher and my best teacher.

Lesandu, G-2 Trail Blazers

My Best Grade 2 Class

When I came from grade 1, I felt very nervous. But once Mr. Elvis started teaching us with his jokes, I didn't feel nervous anymore.

Social Studies is awesome. One of my favorite topic is Goods and Services. I got to learn which ones are goods and which ones are services.

In Math, I love subtraction. It is cool. If I can do subtraction, I can do division too!

I love simple machines. They make your work

easy. I love levers .We can lift heavy things easily. I also like learning about germs because you can learn how to protect yourself from germs and how to prevent germs from spreading. So you don't get sick.

Mr. Elvis shows us so much videos for our studies. He even picked a song 'That Power' for our Annual Day.

I like my teacher. He makes us laugh and have lots of fun. Learning is fun in our class.

I like language arts. In Epic my favorite story is 'The Kitten'. You get to learn all good stuffs here. We get to read these stories from the iPad whenever our work is done.

I like grade 2. It's fantastic. I'm really going to miss grade 2.

Teesta Datta, G-2 Trail Blazers

The Sun

By G-1 Eagles

I see a big sun!

I sweat when I run!

The sun is bright,
Brighter than an electric light.

Can I touch it?

I can't even sit on it.

Thanyachanok Grace

The sun is big.

It's like a wig.

The sun is hot.

But it's not a pot.

The sun is far.

It's a star.

Tanishka

What a hot sun!

Hotter than a burned bun.

Is the sun big?

I think it's bigger than a pig.

Is the sun blue?

Who can give a clue?

Chayakorn

The sun is huge.

It is 1,000 years old of age.

Its color is red.

It sleeps on a bed.

A sun is god.

It can hold tons of load.

Changhyun

My Creative Grade 2 Class

When I first came to this class I was shy. But when I learned in this class, I liked it very much! I like my Teacher Mr. Elvis. Sometimes he is so funny.

I like Strega Nona's Magic Lesson where Big Anthony was dressed like a girl called Antonia and he couldn't do any magic. I like to play games and watch some videos. I like doing project work on time line.

In Math, we learned about comparing three-digit numbers, problem solving, making a table etc. Math is also my favorite subject.

I like science because we learned about simple machines, what makes me sick, and many more topics.

But when I need to leave grade two, I will be so sad and maybe I will cry.

kritchayarn , G-2 Trail Blazers

My Wonderful Grade 2 Class

When I first came to class,
I felt so nervous and scared.
But when we started learning,
I liked it very much!
I love my teacher Mr. Elvis Anthony Caszo.
He's so funny, (maybe even funnier than a clown!)

He's my most favorite teacher ever!
I love Creative Writing
It's my most favorite subject.
I like it when we write stories,
because I like to be creative!
I like English because it's easy.
Plus, it's so much fun!
I liked "Ending Sentences and Commas in Dates."

I love Reading!
Reading books is my most favorite hobby.
I learn new things and new words.
I love the story "Pulin and Miga."
I love to skip count. I am talking about Math.
Calculating is really fun.
Especially when you get it right.

We watch videos, play games, do tests, have quizzes, and many more things.

I mostly like to play games and watch videos.
So, now it's almost time to leave Grade 2, and I'm going to miss my friends and teacher!

Ranesha , G-2 Trail Blazers

Science Journal

Science is a fun subject because there are so many experiments that are fun. We can see science everywhere. Science is Art, Math, and much more. The first thing that we learned was the

Kingdom of living things. We had fun experiments and we watched in a video how fast light is. We made oobleck and it was fun. Oobleck is a solid and liquid at the same time. The last 2 topics were light and sound. Sound and light travel in waves. When we learned about it, we had so much fun.

Sahaja Shandilya, G-4 Fantastics

The Sun

By G-1 Eagles

The sun is bigger than our Earth.
It is hotter than a pan.
It is even bigger than a window.
The color is yellow.

Iyaluck

The sun is hot,
But it's not a pot.
The sun is a star,
But not a car.
The sun is big,
It is like a twig.

Puntalinee

The sun is like a ball.
It cannot fall.
My friends like to talk about the sun.
They said it's like a bun.
I wish I can touch it.
Even only a little bit.
The sun is in the space.
It's a very far place.

Punya

How big is the sun?
It's bigger than a bun.
The sun is so big.
It's bigger than a wig.
The sky is so blue.
But the sun has a clue.
It will make the sky white.
With its bright light.

Phonphan

What a hot sun!
The sun is fun.
The sun can go round.
The sun is 1,000 pounds.

Prasanna

Report on Peacocks



The most interesting thing about the peacock is the colorful features of this Pheasant family. There are three species of this bird.

Wild peacocks live in several locations. The blue peacock species live in India and Sri Lanka. The green peacock inhabits in the regions of Java, Myanmar.

The main body of the Peacock is bluish green in color. They are long and slender with a long face that has black and white colors on it. They have a small bill that is very sharp on the end of it. The colorful tail of the peacock fanned out to be able to show dominance and for attracting a mate. Peacocks beautiful feathers and plumes are used for decoration and in many cottages industries for various fancy items.

The peacock feeds on a variety of food items. Grains is one of the most common items that they eat.

Arya, G-3 Unique Unicorns

Report on Giraffes



There is no way to mistake a giraffe for any other animal out there in the world, it is so unique. Giraffes have long necks, brown and white body, and little white and black ears.

Giraffes are found in the plains of Africa. The great Savannah plains of Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe are home for giraffes.

Giraffes eat buds and leaves from vegetation. They forage from trees, bushes and shrubs and occasionally dine on grass.

Like all animals, giraffes prefer to sleep lying down. Unfortunately, their long necks make it awkward for them to do so, and that makes them vulnerable to predators.

The giraffe is the largest rudiment and tallest land mammal. This is not due to its long neck alone. The adult giraffe's legs are taller than an average human.

Giraffe has a strange way of walking. It moves both legs on one side, and then it moves both legs on the other side. This is called pacing.

Kanyatorn, G-3 Unique Unicorns

The Sun

By G-1 Eagles

What a very hot sun!
It's always hotter than a pot.
Can I touch it?
I cannot touch it a little bit.

Natthida

Can we touch the sun?
That will be fun.
The sun is hot.
It looks like a pot.
The sun is big.
No one can sit on it or dig.

Weechayut

It is a hot sun.
It's like a gum.
The sun is a big star.
That is really far.
The sun can't fall.
It is like a ball.

Chanyathada

Report on Seahorses



Seahorses live in the sea and they are very unique. There are many types of seahorses with pretty, unique, and different colors.

The common name of a seahorse is 'seahorse', group name is called a 'herd', scientific name is 'hippocampus', and family name is 'syngnathidae'.

Seahorses are carnivores. They eat planktons, small fishes, and shrimps very commonly. When seahorses find food, they suck it up through their snouts like a vacuum cleaner. Their snouts can expand if their prey is larger than the snout.

Seahorses are among the marine animals that can change color. Color changes help seahorses communicate emotions and intentions, especially during courtship.

Eyes of a seahorse don't move together, each eye moves on its own. It has a tiny fin, a tail that can hang on something, covered with bony plates -no scales, and long snouts.

Seahorses live in various oceans around the world. They live very close to the ocean floor and attach to coral and other objects under the water.

Seahorses sleep nearly for 12 hours a day. Seahorses sleep by staying where they are. A seahorse sleeps at night. It tend to attach its tail to a rock or coral and then it will allow its body to remain in an almost horizontal position.

Seahorses are found all over the world! They are good in camouflaging, but bad swimmers. So don't forget to see and meet a seahorse!

Saura, G-3 Bright Owls

Report on Spiders

Spiders are excellent hunters. They have poison glands in their mouths that they use to kill or paralyze their victims. Some even eat fish, lizard or birds!

Spiders can thrive and live in almost any place: on the edges of the ocean, and even over the water. Spiders are seen on almost every continent.

All spiders are carnivorous, which mean they eat a variety of insects. Large spiders are able to eat small vertebrates like mice and small birds.

Spiders don't sleep all night like us instead they take a little nap all day and all night. Other kinds of spiders live in burrows underground where it is safe to nap whenever they need to. And other spiders build bedroom for themselves on a wall or plant and snuggle up inside. Also, different kinds of spiders go to sleep in difference spaces-some build safe spots on their web and take a litter nap there.

Spiders have two body segments. The front segment is called the Cephalothrax. Most spiders have eight eyes, but some have less. Spiders also have these tiny little leg-ish things called "pedipalps" that are beside the fangs. They help to hold prey while the spider bites it.

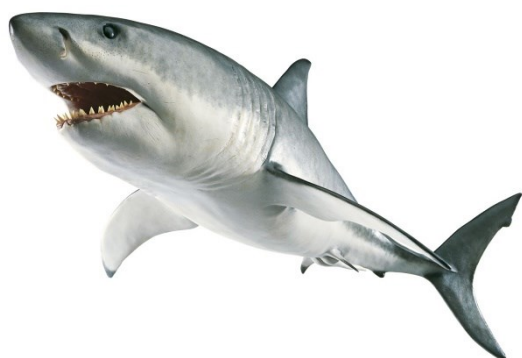
The sound part of the body is called the abdomen. The back end of the abdomen is where the spinnerets, the silk producing glands, are. The spider's body has an oil on it to keep the spider from sticking to its own web.

Spider's legs are covered with many hairs. The hair pick up vibrations and smells from the air. At the end of the legs are at least two small claws. Spiders have 48 knees. Yup, count them eight legs with six joints on each.

Sarisa, G-3 Unique Unicorns



Report on Great White Sharks



What size and weight is the great white shark?

Great white sharks are the world's largest predator fish, according to discovery. They grow to be about 15 to 20 feet (4.6 to 6.1 meters) or more and can weigh more than 5,000 lbs. (2,286 kilograms). Though massive, the great white shark is not the biggest shark. This classification goes to the whale shark, which is not considered a predator fish.

What is the habitat of great white shark?

Great white sharks are mostly found along the coast of Australia, South Africa, California and the North Eastern United States. They are also found in fewer numbers around Brazil, the Caribbean, North Western Africa, Eastern Africa, Madagascar, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Northern Australia, New Caledonia, the Philippines and Hawaii.

They prefer warm, salty temperate coastal seas. The great white shark can swim not only on the surfaces but also more than 820 feet (250m) deep, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

What is their diet?

Great white sharks are carnivores. Their diet consists of small toothed whales, sea lions, sea turtles and carrion (dead animals), according to National Geographic.

Martin, G-3 Bright Owls

Report on Sloths



Sloths are extremely slow mammals found in the rainforest canopies of Central and South America.

Sloths have a very roundish head, sad looking eyes, tiny ears and stubby tails.

Sloths find food to eat in the night, mostly they eat leaves but sometimes they may also eat fruits.

Millions of years ago, the ancestor of today's sloth were the size of an elephant. Sloths are related to anteaters and armadillos.

Sloths can only move 2 meters per minute. Sloths can extend their tongues 10 to 12 inches. Sloths can weigh up to 40 pounds. Sloths have four inches long claws. Sloths can turn their head to 360 degrees. A sloth's body is about 50 to 60 centimeters long. Sloths sleep for 15 to 20 hours a day. Their claws are also their only natural defense against predators.

Wiss, G-3 Bright Owls



Dear Mrs. Zarish

I am in Pai and it is freezing cold here. The stars shine so bright at night that it lights up the whole sky. And in the morning, when you wake up, you can only hear silence. The hot springs are so hot here as if those were volcanos. The moon looks like a pumpkin, big and round, but sometimes it seems to be smiling at me so I smile back. I am enjoying at this place and I wish you were here too.

Love
Jan Riyamel Diopenes

My trip to New Jersey

I went on an airplane to New Jersey in America. There were so many people in the plane. It was pretty cool and I could see a lot of clouds. It was amazing!

The plane was very shaky and it sounded very weird and loud. I even had to wear ear plugs. I felt super- duper excited. When I arrived, I was more excited to see the snow! I jumped out of the plane and went to my brother's house. He lives with his grandmother, mom and dad. There was a lot of snow and it was very cold. But I loved it! My brother has a dog and I played with it inside the house. I met my mom's friend and few other people. I then built a snowman with my brother.

It was a wonderful experience and I hope my mom will take me back to New Jersey again!

Junnarada, G-2 Kestrels

My First Train Journey

The first time when I went on a train, it looked so long that I thought it would never end! It had a kitchen, a toilet and a chair which could transform into a bed. It sounded as if the tires were screeching. I felt scared and excited at the same time!

It was black, old and rusty on the outside and white, clean on the inside. The train stewards gave us breakfast. There were cabins with beds inside to sleep in. I met a little kid who was from the same country as me, Myanmar! I didn't know his name but I had a lot of fun with him.

When I reached Chiang Mai, the station was the shape of a whale. I met my friend. Her name was Bell. We had a small talk then I said bye to her. We went to the museum to see dinosaur fossils. They were awesome! Next year I'd like to take the train back there to have another look at the fossils.

Pjyo Thiri Win, G-2 Kestrels

My Happy Grade 2 Class

When I first came to second grade, I was nervous.

I like the activities like the wish kite. I like reading on the iPad, my favorite book is 'Soccer-Great Moments and Facts.'

My favorite art activity was when we made a helicopter with plastic bottles. I painted mine green, blue and navy blue. I also like painting and drawing. I also draw at home.

I like Robotics and robot animals. I read things about robotics. My favorite book is 'NASA Robots.'

I like Science experiments with soil. I have an experiment book at home. My teacher teaches us

important things about Science.

In Language Arts, I like Spelling. Each lesson in the book has about five pages. I like Homophones. Homophones are words that sound alike, but do not have the same spelling or meaning.

I am feeling sad to leave grade 2.

Chevan, G-2 Trail Blazers

My Great Grade 2 Class

When I came to grade 2, I was very much excited.

My teacher is funny and intelligent. Mr. Elvis is my most favorite teacher than everyone else. He makes many jokes and we have fun learning. I like his class very much.

My fun activities are, watching lessons on YouTube, playing games in the computer, practicing the Annual Day dance and reading many books in the iPad from Epic in my class.

I like when I read Science textbook. The first lesson that I read, it was about solids, liquids, and gases. The textbook color is orange.

I like Math because we can use Math when we grow up. If we don't learn Math we can't use it. Math is fun and never makes people sad. It makes us happy and makes us to think a lot. But sometimes some people think that it is not fun. We have a textbook with an orange cover.

I like Social Studies because it is awesome. It makes us explore many things. Exploring things without going places, just by reading the Social Studies book or watching lessons on You Tube. Social Studies makes us know about History.

I like Language Arts because it helps us know how to write a story and help us to spell more words because Language Arts have more subjects. I like Spelling, Reading, and Creative Writing. We can get new words from the stories too. The reading textbooks are 'Silly Things Happen' and 'Come one, Come All.' Silly Things Happen textbook has a picture of an alligator sleeping on the bed. The spelling textbook has a picture of an apple.

When Grade 2 ends, I will go to Grade 3 and learn Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. I will remember and miss Grade 2 always.

Rungrujee, G-2 Trail Blazers

My Fantastic Grade 2 Class

When I first started grade 2, I felt excited, and a bit scared, but as I went on learning, it was getting easier and I was having fun.

We learned many things in social studies. I like it a lot. It's very interesting. I learned about Abraham Lincoln, how a man built a community. Social studies makes your brain smart. Continued on p. 20

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In language arts, I like creative writing and my best work so far is 'Spy Pirate Underground.' It's very good, fun, awesome, and thrilling. I really like something where you can express your feelings in a story. I also like spelling. There are always challenges. I like it. Sometimes it's hard, but it's challenging and I like challenging work. I like Grammar. The best lesson would be saw, seen and went, gone. It's easy, you get to learn and learning is fun.

My favorite subject is reading. I like the story 'Best Friends'. I like where characters can imagine things. There are so many stories to read. 'Clean Your Room Harvey Moon', 'My first American Friend', 'Strega Nona', and many more. These can help me a lot in my future, to know new words and improve my understanding by reading and reading and reading. Reading is good for you. It can help you improve your understanding skills.

I love science. My best part is about dinosaurs. It's so interesting how the world changed as the years passed by. There were so many dinosaurs like; Herrerasaurus, Raptor, Cursor, Gojirasaurus, Coelophysoids, Ceratosaurus, and Liliensternus. Other dinosaurs' names are Cryolophosaurus, Dilophosaurus, Monolophosaurus, Baryonyx, Suchomimus, Spinosaurus, Allosaurus, Carcharodontosaurus, Giganotosaurus, Sinraptor, Albertosaurus, Tyrannosaurus, Guanlong, Proceratosaurus, Compsognathus, Morganucodon, Megazostrodon, Eomia, and Elasmosaurus.

There are more things we learned in science like how are living and nonliving things different, what do living things need and simple machines and how they can help make work so easy, what lives in a desert habitat, why do different things live in different habitats, how do living things use their habitats, where do animals find shelter, how do body parts help an animal, what was the earth like a long time ago, how big were the dinosaurs, how do we know about animals of long time ago, how do fossils form over time, and how does the night sky change? Oh and beaver dam too! Beavers cut one big and long tree across a river. Some water will still be flowing, but it's mostly going to form a lake. The beaver will use mud, twigs, some dry leaves, and seaweed to build the dam, so that it can't hurt the beavers. Then it will build a lodge for the young beavers. I have done a group project on beaver dams. The people in my group are Pannawit, Rungrujee, Napat, and me. All of us did it and other groups did underground home and polar habitat. These are all awesome,

interesting, fun, and thrilling stuffs.

In math we learned about add in any order, count on to add, add double facts, use double facts to add, add 10, make ten to add, count back to subtract, subtract from numbers to 15, subtract to compare, problem solving, write a number sentence, names for numbers, fact families, problem solving, choose the operation, numbers and patterns to 100, data and graphing, money, subtracting two digit numbers, geometry, fractions, multiplication and division, and perimeter.

I will miss grade 2 a lot. I will miss my teacher.

Melisa, G-2 Trail Blazers

My First Cruise

From outside, the ship looked ENORMOUS! It sounded as if we were in the stomach of a whale shark! I was so scared at first. The ship was bouncing and I felt that we were going to sink! Then I sat down for a little longer. Ahh, it was much better now.

Inside, it looked like a five star hotel! My father said his ears were blocked and he was sad there was no Wi-Fi. There was an indoor playground too! There were a lot of balls and balloons that were shaped like coconut trees. We went with a Japanese named Kenichi, my father's friend.

When we reached New York, we saw the Statue of Liberty! I met many new people. It was a wonderful journey and I enjoyed it very much!

Chichaya, G-2 Kestrels

My First Flight

The airplane looked awesome. It was red and white. The plane was Air Asia flight. The sound was very loud inside. I felt my ears getting blocked. Inside, it looked nice. There was a blanket and an ear phone to listen to music. They also gave us yummy food to eat.

We reached the place in Phuket. The place was big and had some beaches. I met my aunty. I went to the beaches with my aunty, sister, and brother. I played in the water with my sister and brother. The water was clean. Then I went to the museum. I saw the bone of the dinosaur and went on the dinosaur ride.

Next time I will take the train to go Chiang Mai because I want to see Chiang Mai city and I like to travel by train!

Virada, G-2 Kestrels

My Dream Job

My dream job is to be a scientist! To be one, I need to learn about chemical reactions, tools, plasma, liquids, solids and gasses.

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I'll invent good things that will help people and I'll also do lots and lots of research and experiments to discover more plants and animals. I'll also learn about physics and math! I'll have my own lab and I'll name it Science Birds. I want to experiment with liquid nitrogen the most because it can freeze things very easily. That I think is very cool! So THAT is my dream job folks!

Aemplee, G-2 Kestrels

Rain

One rainy day, I was sitting in the class looking outside the window for a chance to go out and enjoy the weather. The class seemed so noisy, since it was a free period! Everyone was enjoying playing and talking, except me? I was alone, wondering to go out and have fun in the rain, splash water here and there, and jump around. Drip drop, drip drop.... It sounded so much delightful to the ears. It was raining so heavily that it felt as if there is a flood.

How much I wished to go out and play! Soon it was time to go home, we barely heard the bell rang because of the torrential rain, as if it is bucketing down the water. Thanks God, I had a raincoat and an umbrella for some extra protection, so that I don't get sick. But then still, I couldn't restraint myself. However I had to follow my mom's rule! Therefor rules are rules...

When I reached home, I smelled something being sizzled! Hmm... Smells appetizing! The whole house was filled with the fragrance of the chicken nuggets being frizzled. I felt like eating them as fast as I could because I was dying of hunger! Sadly, the nuggets where burning hot. Even if I take a single bite, my mouth would burn because of heat. So all I could do, was to wait patiently until the nuggets cooled down.

Suddenly the rain became even more heavy and the winds became more gusty. Sounded as if someone was knocking down the earth! It felt so good looking out through the foggy window while eating some nuggets. I asked my mom if I could go out and play in the rain... She strictly said "NO"!

Guess what happened after a while? The rain became quieter like a noisy classroom becomes quiet as the teacher enters. My mom then gave me the permission to go out and splash water, and jump on water puddles. Why to enjoy this time alone. So without hesitating, I called my friends and then we all started to enjoy together and we had so much fun that I could never forget this time in my life. It was one of the best days ever for me and I guess for my friends too.

Oh yes, I forgot to tell you one thing! Rainy days are the best days to spend with your family sitting in the gallery while having some refreshments such as drinks and snacks! You would have a great time! And it is also the reason why I like rainy days!

Anisha, G-6 Explorers

Medieval Times

Medieval times was an old time in Europe. Many countries had wars in that period. Peasants there had to work a lot. There were many cultural events, systems and buildings. The first system that we read about was feudal system. In the Feudal system the king was on the top then the lords then the knights and in the end came the peasants. The peasants would give their money to the knights keeping a portion to themselves and the knights would give the money to the lords. Lords would then keep a certain portion to themselves and give the rest of the money to the king.

Later there came a change and new system called Guilds was introduced. Guilds was a group of craftsmen that controlled the system of marketing. There were different guilds e.g. baker's guild.

Then we read about the Journey to Knighthood. Only rich and wealthy people could go to this journey and become Knights. The first position was known as a Page followed by a Squire and ultimately a Knight. The weapons and armors were the most important things to become a Knight.

Sahaja Shandilya, G-4 Fantastics

It was 1347. Oh, no! It's the Black Death so many people were dying. In Paris, 800 people died in ONE day! In Europe, one third of the people died.

Let's go a little more back.... People living in the middle ages had a tough time and at that time there was a system called Feudal System. First there were Surfs, then Knights, then Lords, after that Kings and then Church was on the top. Most of the surf class wore rags and usually ate bread and stew. They lived in small houses and sometimes animals also lived inside the houses.

Let's jump a bit forward...Aaah! 1215, King John of England signs the Magna Carta because the Barons were fed up with King John and the system.

Then there was a period called The Hundred Years War that didn't actually last for a 100 years but it was 116 years precisely. The war started when Edward III claimed he was rightful King of France.

Mareolin Sasha Pilongo, G-4 Fantastics

Light Bends

What happened to the straw in the glass? Did someone break it? No! What you are observing is another property of light which is known as refraction.

According to <https://www.sciencelearn.org.nz>, refraction is the bending of light (it also happens with sound, water and other waves) as it passes from one transparent substance into another.

In our experiment using a glass with water and a straw inside the glass, we found out that the bending of light occurs because the speed of light varies depending on the material through which the light travels. As the light changes speed, it bends. Light from the top of the straw passes through the air and the glass to our eyes. But light from the bottom part starts from water and passes into the glass and then into the air. We also inferred that each time the light enters a new material, it bends slightly because it changes speed. By the time it reaches your eyes, it is coming from a different angle than the light from the top of the straw. As a result it appears to be bent or broken.

Anushka, Angelina, Kimberly,
Pemika, Phunthita, G-4 Edelweiss

The Frogs Who Liked to See the City

Two frogs had lived in a village all their lives. They thought they would like to go and see the big city that was about ten miles away. They talked about it for a long time, and at last they set off to see the city.

It was a hot day, and they soon began to feel tired. They had only gone a little way when one said to the other, "We must be nearly there. Can you see the city?" "No," said the other frog; "but if I climb on your back I might be able to see it." So he climbed up on the back of the other frog to see the city.

Now, when the frog put up his head, his eyes could only see what was behind, and not what was in front. So he saw the village they had just left. "Can you see the city?" asked the frog who was below.

"Yes," answered the frog who had climbed up. "I can see it. It looks just like our village." Then the frogs thought that it was not worthwhile going any farther. They went back and told the frogs around the village that they had seen the city, and it was just like theirs.

Thip-Bhunga, G-4 Edelweiss

Why elephant seals look very dark in color?

Slow and clumsy on land, elephant seals are

quick and graceful in the water. They swim but stroking with their large hind flippers and by swinging the back parts of their flexible bodies from side to side. The front flippers are used mainly for steering. Diving is an important part of life at sea, and elephant seals are excellent divers, able to dive deep and stay down a long time. Since all seals are air-breathing mammals, they have the same requirements as human divers who do not use special equipment. They must hold their breath while they submerge and must keep going without a fresh supply of oxygen. They must also avoid injuries caused by increased pressure underwater.

Like other mammals, elephant seals can stay under water for a much longer time than any human diver. The muscles of elephant seals and other kinds of seals contain large quantities of oxygen stored in a red substance called myoglobin. <http://www.earthguide.ucsd.edu/elephantseals/>. This oxygen supply helps the animals to keep moving during a long dive. Seals have so much myoglobin that their muscles look very dark, almost black, in color.

Timothy, Kitipoom, Ritesh, Robin

Acrostic poems **MOTHER**

Mother always loves me
Only works at day time
Teaches me a lot of things
How good she is!
Every day she lets me practice running
Reading stories at night is always fun!
Chanachai, G-2 Kestrels

My mom loves me,
One who gave birth to me,
Tries to get everything right for me.
How does she get money
to buy these things?
Every time at night when I get sick,
she's there.
Riding a train with mom is fun.
Sasakorn, G-2 Kestrels

Things Around Me

Takeru is my name.
My jokes are lame.
I'm very short
But I like sports.
I'm smart in math.
And I don't like wearing a hat.
I'm half Japanese and half Cambodian
But I live in Thailand.
My brother runs fast.
He is never the last.
My mom cooks for us to eat.
My favorite food is meat.
My dad travels miles.
The souvenirs make us smile.
I like my family.
But they are all silly.
My funniest friend is Tul.
He is fast like a bull.
I like to play with Kim.
We make a good team.
Pluem is so crazy.
But he is not lazy.
Jori is pessimistic even if he is not sick.

Chiiko is my cat.
She is not fat.
She is grey.
She likes to play.
I want to have a pet.
But my mom won't let.
Either a cat or a dog.
But not a frog.
My life is great.
Because there is nothing I hate.
I'm really happy with everything.
So I'm always singing.
I want to keep myself happy.
As much as I can.

I will be an awesome guy.
Now it's time to say good bye!
Takeru, G-5 Voyagers

The Rao Family

Hi! My name is Vince Arthur.
Some people call me Vincey.
I'm the only child in my family.
I will tell you about my family.
About my daddy, mommy and me.
I will tell you about my mommy.
She loves daddy and me dearly.
She loves me and helps me study.
She takes care of me even when she's dizzy.
My mom works at AIT.
That's why she is so busy.
Now, I'll tell you about my daddy.

He loves me but spans me when I'm naughty.
He plays LEGO and tennis with me.
He also cooks for mommy and me.
He also works at AIT just like my mommy.
Finally, I'll tell you about me.
I love playing LEGO and watching TV.
I also play sports like tennis and swimming.
I also play piano and guitar.
Especially strumming.
I love my parents, oh so dearly!
I will be a responsible child.
Just like what my parents say.
So I will follow house rules and obey.
Listen and respect the people around me.

Thank you for reading.
About my family and me!
Vince, G-5 Voyagers

The History of Pinky

My name is Pinky.
Not so stinky.
I am not pimply.
Not at all hippy.
I always mess up slinkies.
Then I feel crazy.
I am mostly angry but not that kinky.
Shyness is my signature.
Slyness is my nature.
Spying is my future.
And crying's not my feature.
My height is short.
I'm delighted in sport.
I dislike big courts.
I also dislike big shorts.
I love to eat Tom Yum.
No, I don't chew gum.

My mom doesn't eat a dumb meal.
She eats apples with its peels.
My father is English.
Though he is not ticklish.
He doesn't talk gibberish.
His nose is always pinkish
Phakamon, G-5 Voyagers

My Family Rhyme

My family has three members
Or four I don't remember.
I also have a pet cat
It likes chasing fat rats.
I love my mom dearly.
She always cares about me.
She's afraid I will catch a cold.
Although, she's already forty three years old.
My grandma is beautiful as a rose flower.
But if you are naughty, she will turn sour.
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Whenever she cooks it is a mess.
But do I love her? Of course, yes.
My sister is the youngest.
She is not always honest.
She loves munching chocolate.
And playing in my closet.
My dad is very tall.
He likes watching football.
My family is the best.
And now I will take rest.
Van Anh, G-5 Voyagers

My Friends and I

My name is Kim and I like my school.
Because I have a friend named Tul.
He doesn't act like a bull.
He's just so cool.
My friend's name is Pun.
She likes to have some fun.
She makes good puns.
That's why she is not a nun.
Andy and Mandy are twins.
And they have thick skin.
They always play with clay.
On a hot summer day.
Takeru is so fast.
That's why he's never the last.
Takeru is funny.
And he likes a bunny.
Jori is lazy.
But not so crazy.
Jori is smart.
And really good in art.
Kim, G-5 Voyagers

All About Me

I like music.
And I learned piano when I was six.
I want to play a drum.
While I chew a gum.
I learned Thai xylophone.
My mom takes video with phone.
At school I learned guitar.
I want to perform in a bazaar.
I plan to go to Hong Kong.
Because I like the Kowloon Hong Kong song.
When I was seven years old I went to Laos.
but I stayed in a house.
I like the house with swimming pool.
Because I think it's very cool.
I also like camping.
Sometimes I also sing.
I have a dog named Soo.
And my dog is not blue.
My dog also has babies.
One baby died so I feel sorry.

My dog lives at my Grandmother's house.
Not in the farmhouse.
My Grandmother is busy.
She can not take care of my dog.
Who wants Nintendo 3DS?
It's a great game, yes!
It is very fun.
You don't even have to play in the sun.
You can bring it anywhere.
Even in a fair.
I can play any game with it.
Not just a little bit.
Teerapat, G-5 Voyagers

My Lovely Life

My name is Farrah.
A happy life I live.
I like vanilla.
I really like to sing.
I have a brother, he is two.
I have a father, he likes green and blue.
I have a mother.
She cares a lot.
Just like my father.
She worries too much.
I have friends, old and new.
Here and there, I don't feel blue.
Now that I am ten.
In Grade 5, we don't use a pen.
I really like it here.
I feel like I am Shakespeare.
Farrah, G-5 Voyagers

A Happy Life, I'll Live Forever

Did you know Maithao is my name?
I love to play, and I don't think it's lame.
I'm sly and slick, like a spy kind of quick.
I sleep late because I'm always wide awake.
I have a cat named Navi,
In our Math class, I made her a trolley.
My dad likes candy,
Especially when he is happy.
I have a friend named Kait,
Most of the time she's late.
Farrah has good timing,
And she's always good at rhyming
Namthai is my brother,
Compared to me he's taller
He is really quite the guy,
And he wishes he could fly.
I'm ten turning eleven,
Not soon I'll go to heaven.
I live a happy life.
I'll fight and survive.
Mai Thao, G-5 Voyagers

A Surprise Birthday Party

It was Monday, 20th of April. I was excited like a toddler who was going to go to Disneyland! Well, maybe even more than that. It was the day, when I planned to give my best friend a surprise birthday party! I was so happy that I could just scream! I ordered a yummy looking cake, bought some gifts, and started cleaning the house. I was very mad at my friends because they didn't come on time.

But luckily, my friend Karah and her sister Karyenne came to help me after a few minutes. We swept the living room and arranged the tables and chairs. Can you guess where all the things such as toys and books went? All the things were thrown in to my room! So my room was the official garbage bin! But anyway, I didn't care; instead, there were many other things to care about.

Around 3.30 p.m, Ranessa, Avishi, Arya, Sasha, Ella, and Renaya arrived. I said, "Why are you so late? Were you stuck in a traffic jam or something?" I said it in my mind, so no one heard it, except me. But I was glad because they came at last. As soon as they arrived, we rushed to 7 eleven and Lawson to buy some snacks and beverages. I bought 13 or 14 ice cream cups according to my list of the number of people and their favorite flavor, Renaya bought a sprite bottle, Ranessa bought some chips, and Karah and Karyenne bought a coke bottle, cups, plates, and spoons. Ella and Sasha brought some muffins, and Arya brought Malee apple juice and orange juice. Well for Avishi, she gave me some money to help me buy the ice cream cups. So altogether there were chips, coke, sprite, juice, muffins, ice cream, and a big yummy cake! What a marvelous feast! We had everything we could think of. Well, maybe not everything, because we didn't have pizza.

We were done with shopping, but now we had to plan the treasure hunt! And there was less time left! I panicked so much that I yelled at everyone! I didn't mean to do it, but I couldn't stop thinking that my best friend would come any minute! After 15 to 20 minutes, we were done with preparing the clues. Next, we hid them along with the gifts, so that each time she finds a new clue, she will get a present!

So we were all set. Everything was perfectly ready, just as I wanted. No matter how many minutes we waited, but she did not come. Which is why me and Renaya went to get her. We asked her if she was coming to play or not. And she said, "I was actually going to come, and you also came!" She came downstairs with her brother,

and we walked back to my house. So there we were, standing in front of the door. As soon as she opened the door of the living room, we all shouted "Happy Birthday Anisha!" I named her as the queen of the day. But Renaya said, "Her birthday was yesterday, right? So she is actually the queen of yesterday!"

We started with the treasure hunt. To me, it was really fun watching her struggling with the clues. But to others, I think it was a bit annoying because they couldn't wait to taste the food. Let me tell you few of the clues which we gave to her on that day. "Around you might see, a kingdom of elephants it will be." (It was under a cushion with elephant designs.) "Look around something round." (That was easy! Just under a paper plate!) "It keeps you cool so you don't look like a fool." (Behind the fan, not behind the air conditioner.) "Look under a big white sheet near something brown." (She spent so much time, but it was just behind the curtain, which was near a brown chair! If it wasn't for Ella's clues, I don't think she will ever find it!) "Open the box but don't be surprised if it is not a fox." (Well it was the last clue, and she got a nice teddy bear, which was not a fox.)

Treasure hunt was successfully over. Now it was time for the big feast! Some were munching on the chips and muffins, while some others were enjoying the beverages. It seemed like everyone liked soft drinks more than juice, since there were plenty of juice packs left. But for some people who don't like or are allergic to soft drinks, juice was the best option they could ever think of.

Next event was to cut the birthday cake! Unfortunately, I had forgotten the candles! Oh no! It was a terrible disaster! But anyway, we didn't do anything because everyone said it was okay. I can still remember how everyone stampede just because of the cake. They were like, "I want this! I want that!" It truly annoyed me so much! Why can't they have manners during a party? But anyway, that is a normal thing that happens during parties. So I told myself not to care about that. Well, anyone can go wild if they see a cake with chocolates, oreos, and tasty cream, right? It tasted awesome! Actually, that was the best cake I've ever tasted!

After the cake, we ate ice cream. But just as I distributed the ice cream cups, I realized something weird! How can there be 2 cups left? Yes, I bought 1 extra, but whose one is the other one? That is when I checked my guests list.

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We had been very busy, and we had completely forgotten Tanishka! "But I reminded her to come during the lunch break! So what could have happened?" I thought. "Anyway, if she didn't come, that is not my fault, is it?" I asked myself. Soon after, I completely forgot about that. After the party, we all went outside and played. It was a great day, which I can never forget.

Everyone seemed to be very happy, even Anisha's brother Abhishek! But Anisha didn't seem that much happy or surprised! That is a mystery which I am still struggling to solve. Who could have betrayed me and told her? Or did she suspect our behavior during the last week? Or, is it the way how she expresses her happiness? What do you think? How could that have happened?

Thanumi, G-6 Explorers

A Trip to the Nunobiki Herb Garden

When I was visiting Japan, I went to the Nunobiki Herb Garden, which is located on top of the Mount Rokko in Kobe. It is known as Japan's largest herb garden consisting of 75,000 herbs and flowers.

I went up by riding on the cable car from downtown Kobe and I really enjoyed looking at the view. When I looked down, I noticed that the buildings were getting smaller and smaller every second we were going up. You could also see the Bay of Kobe, shining from afar. Almost halfway through, everyone noticed a beautiful waterfall. The Nunobiki waterfall is the most beautiful waterfall I have ever seen. Although the sound of water pouring down the waterfall was very loud, I felt calm just by listening to it. There were many kinds of trees and shrubs. Other than that, there were also trees with orange and yellow leaves. Below the ropeway, I saw a pathway with shrubs. Some people were walking up there. I waved at them and waited for anyone to wave back. No one noticed me. I shrugged and continued taking pictures.

When I stepped out of the cable car, the first thing I noticed was the view from below. You could see the bay and almost the whole city of Kobe. I was mesmerized because of the view. The bay was even prettier than seeing it from the cable car. Although the sky was gloomy, it was one of the views I will never forget. The wind was quite strong and it almost carried my beanie away from my head. The buildings were very small and the people who were walking downtown were barely even visible. The only way to see them properly was to use a binocular, which cost a few yen.

The Herb Garden had many flowers and herbs as expected but the flowers were not that pretty. In the brochure, there were tulips, roses, lilies, sunflowers, orchids, etc. but actually, it was mostly plants and flowers that could only be planted in winter like violets. At least I was not disappointed and I understood that they were like that because we visited in winter and the weather in winter was quite harsh.

We explored the front area and there were shops for souvenirs and a hotdog stand. I walked in deeper and there was a fountain right in the middle with more flowers and shrubs. They had a theater surrounding the fountain with other buildings. I walked inside the theatre and I could feel the warm air from the fireplace. The feeling was very different from outside. They had couches and tables with decorations. The second floor of the theatre was very large. The windows were tall and the roof was curved into a dome. There were many chairs arranged in rows for people to sit and watch. When we exited the dome, there was more area at the back filled with trees, flowers, and shrubs but my family decided to stop because it looked like it was going to rain.

On our way back to the cable car, I glanced back at the herb garden. It was a wonderful place and I had a wonderful time there. I absolutely loved this place and I would love to come back here again.

Thunyamas, G-6 Explorers

My Happy Life

My name is Anusha.

I have a sister, father and mama.

I really like pizza.

And I am from India.

I am eleven.

My favorite number is seven.

I like sour things like lemons.

And for fruits, I like melons.

My mom takes care of all of us.

Just like a fuss.

She worries too much.

So I should keep in touch.

My sister, she is four.

She says, "Everything is mine and yours."

For me she is really a good friend.

And I think that's really a good trend.

My life is so lovely.

I am totally carefree.

I have to tell you this, it isn't a lie.

Of course, it's time to say "Good bye"!

Anusha, G-5 Voyagers