Welcome to the last issue of PEN for this academic year! We have had an exciting year with the Knowledge-Building International Projects (trips to Singapore and Barcelona); even more spectacular English Weeks and students winning an impressive amount of awards in the Speech Festival and writing competitions. When I look back on the school year, it’s hard for me to pinpoint exactly what stands out in my mind – everything we’ve achieved is worth mentioning!

Towards the end of this month, the Grade 6’s will be going on camp. Unfortunately, this being the last issue of PEN, we won’t be able to run a feature on the camp. Let’s take this opportunity to bid all our Grade 6 students a fond farewell and wish them all the best in secondary school. In this issue, you can read about some of their feelings at having to leave primary school and move on to secondary education.

English Week was held just before the mid-term break last month. In this issue, we write about everything that went on during English Week, from Tongue Twisters to Spell Hunts.

As always, we have our monthly Grade-level features where you can read all about what your child has been up to in and out of the classroom. Some examples are inventing mind-boggling devices; writing letters to one another; studying the mummification process; taking a walk in someone else’s body etc.

Have a lovely weekend and see you next year!

Ms Jennifer Lopez
Primary English Panel Head
This month the Grade 1 students have been busy learning about many different things in class.

We have now begun Module 4 Our Community.

In this module we are learning about people in our family, school and local communities. The children are learning about the roles and responsibilities of these people and how our community works with all these people in it. We have begun by writing personal profiles about ourselves. We had a lot of fun sharing and talking about ourselves, and asking our friends questions to find out about themselves and their families.

We have also been thinking about ways in which we can care for other people in our community. We thought of many different ways including using good manners and kind words, sharing and helping other people. The children have been caring for each other in class and they wrote thank you letters to their friends who showed a kind and caring attitude towards them.
The Grade 2 students are little writers! In module 3, they have been learning about the names of different internal organs, their functions and how they work. As an extended activity, the kids were asked to write a story about an adventure inside someone’s body. Some chose to go into their friends’ bodies, some chose family members’, but the teachers’ bodies were the most popular choice!

Before writing, they watched a cartoon of the related topic to brainstorm for ideas. They were also introduced to the proper structure of a story, i.e. a title, beginning, middle, and end. Then, they did their pre-writing by drawing their ideas out on a graphic organizer. After that, they finished their first draft in class, and proceeded to the peer-editing stage, in which they helped each other proof-read the work, to see if the spelling and the use of tense were correct. They took the job seriously. After making some amendments, they copied their work onto the final draft, and their unique stories were born! They are so proud of their work that they could not wait to share it with others!
The Writing Process

Example of the graphic organizer

Example of the first draft

Example of the final draft
As we have come to the end of Module 2 – Different Countries. Grade 3 students are now working on their module project!

Students choose their favourite country around the world. They make a mural introducing the things related to that country. They also include pictures or descriptions to reflect the culture, food, festivals, people, sports and landscape of that country.
Besides projects, students also write poems, postcards, travel journals, riddles; and they do art and crafts about different countries around the world.

**Chinese Dragon Face Mask**

**Egyptian Mummy Models**
We are almost coming to an end with our last module “Mystery and Madness”! This year we learnt about the “Rainforest”, “Natural Disasters, Recycling and Pollution” and “Ancient China”. In this school year at Pui Kiu College, grade 4 students learnt a lot of things, most of which had to do with learning outside the classroom.

Students' motivation was always heightened during classroom or group activities. In these pictures, students worked on a project which made them more aware of environmental issues. This project has helped our students realize just how important recycling is.

Students work together to design games which help them apply the grammar points they’ve learnt in class.
The pictures below show a group of students explaining grammar studied by engaging classmates in a two-way exchange that lets them explore ideas rather than just answer questions.

This game is a great way for a group of people to learn to work together. They have to co-operate to solve problems.

Grade 4 students gathered valuable information regarding ‘Ancient China’. Look at some of the project work and activities from the 'Ancient China' module.

Below are pictures of the volcanic eruption demonstration. In this activity, students learn how volcanic eruptions affect global climate.

Students made a model volcano for a school project and had it erupt by using bicarbonate of soda, vinegar and food colouring.
Well, here we are at the end of May, as Module 3, “Inventions” comes to an end. Despite the week-long break, May was a busy month for us. Besides finishing all our regular work such as grammar and writing, we also had an outing and a cool project!

In the second week of May, the last of our Grade 5 classes made the trip to the Science Museum in Tsim Sha Tsui. In our limited time available, we explored each of the floors and what they had to offer. Many students were excited by the numerous hands-on activities at the museum, such as discovering that your body can conduct electricity (tingly!).

Before breaking for holidays we also sent home a Project Letter! Students were given the choice of an in-class presentation on an invention or ... making a video to show off their invention! Unsurprisingly, quite a few students chose to use video to do their presentations. Perhaps we’ll be able to show a link to some of the videos in a future issue of PEN – in the meantime, Grade 5 students can check Eclass!
Would you want to be an Egyptian mummy? Now cast yourself back 3,000 years. You are a wealthy ancient Egyptian on the point of death and you want to make yourself immortal. To achieve this, you will have to go through the expensive and complicated process called ‘mummification’.

Do you have any answers for the questions below?

- Who would perform the procedure?
- How many steps are there for mummifying a dead body?
- What would you need for the process?
- How many days would it take to wrap you up?

What would you need for the process?

The Grade 6 students are able to give you the best answers since they have learnt about this fascinating topic in the Ancient Egypt module. They worked in groups to write about the mummification process. They generated the information and put them in the format that appealed to them the most, like a poster, a board game, a comic strip, a chart and so on. Let’s take a look at their work! You will be amazed by the intelligence of the Ancient Egyptians!
After reading all that, you wouldn’t want to be an Egyptian mummy after all, would you? 😊
For this English Week we decided to add a competitive element to the activities in order to encourage our students to read and speak more English than ever before! So we introduced the points system; for all the various activities and competitions we held there were points available for the students to win. At the end of each day a ‘points monitor’ from each class put all the points into a bag and brought it down to the scoreboard outside the staff room where the teachers would tally the marks. At the end of the week the class with the most points won!

Here’s a brief glimpse at the different activities that were held:

**Tongue Twisters**

During recess the students could go to special English ambassadors who would listen to how well they recited the tongue twisters and award them based on how they performed.

**Bookathon**

Starting from the Friday before English week up until lunchtime of the final day we ran a bookathon. Each student would try to read as many books as they could and keep a record of them. At the end of the week their points were tallied, five points per book, and added to their class’ score.

**Spell Hunt**

During recess, teams from each class searched for letters that were hidden around the school and tried to make words out of them; points were awarded according to the words they could make up as well as how fast they found them.

**English Spies**

For the whole duration of English Week all the English teachers acted as spies and whenever they overheard students speaking English to each other they would reward them with an English point card!
Also, throughout the duration of English week, we held performances every lunchtime in the small assembly hall; this time it was the turn of Grades 1 and 3 and they did superbly! Every day the hall was filled with an eager audience keen to see performances featuring singing, acting, speaking and dancing!

Each performance day had some memorable moments such as the dancing delights performing “Mamma Mia!” to the crazy cool “Animal Rappers” into the brave “Bear Hunters” and many more.

This English Week certainly rounded off the year in the best way possible - the whole school got into the spirit of things and the students certainly raised the level in terms of their speaking and reading English. We can’t wait until the next English Week!

Here are a few pictures from the week…
I am going to secondary school this year in September and I am excited. I am nervous too. I will need to get used to secondary school life. However, maybe I will be exhausted because my sisters in secondary school are always exhausted when they get home from school every night. I will definitely miss my primary school life and my teachers – they are all so important to me. Some of my classmates will not go to Pui Kiu Secondary school with me but I’ll make sure we keep in contact.

I always think that the Grade 9 and Grade 10 students are sometimes rude to us, therefore in the past, I wanted to be in primary school forever. Now I know that I need to grow up!

Tyra Tsim, 6C

It has been great learning here, even though I only came here in the 5th grade. I can’t believe that I am already going to secondary – time goes by very fast! I hope when I go to Grade 7 I will also have a good time, like in primary. I hope I will still meet my primary teachers. I want to wish all my classmates and primary teachers good luck!

Zoe Tsang, 6P

Our class will soon graduate. I think these five years have gone by very fast. I really want to make time pass slower so we can stay together longer or forever!

I think this year is the most remarkable year that I’ve ever had – this is the first time I will have a graduation ceremony and maybe some of my friends might go to another school or study abroad. I really hope I can see them all in Grade 7 next year.

I hope the school won’t separate us!

Ken Leung, 6P

I am glad that the exams are coming because this means that I am going to secondary school! Well, I think that primary school life is brilliant! It seems to be more comfortable than secondary school. The primary uniform seems smarter than the secondary one, though.

I am looking forward to secondary school and I hope that there will be more activities and that the teachers are kinder than the primary ones. But I think we will have more fun in secondary school.

Marc Ko, 6C
Hi! I am Teacher Angela. I am glad that I have the opportunity to share something about me with you here.

When I was young, I always wanted to be a psychologist. To fulfill this dream, I studied psychology in high school and majored in psychology during my tertiary years. Psychology is the study of the human mind and behaviour. I love studying psychology because it is fun! It requires us to observe what happens around us; and to carry out experiments to test the hypotheses that we derive based on our observations.

Though I am not a psychologist now, I have found another career that I want to devote myself to. Yes, it’s teaching! In my eyes, teaching is a challenging yet fulfilling job. There are many roles that a teacher needs to perform, for instance, a counsellor, a judge, a facilitator, an actor, a story-teller, and many more. I am still learning how to be a good teacher. Luckily, I have many colleagues here who give me valuable advice and support. I have really learnt a lot from them!

During my spare time, I love doing yoga. I have practised it for two years now. Yoga is a sport that originated from India. It is the practice of physical postures or poses. To be frank, I am not a professional yoga practitioner. There are still many postures that I cannot do well. However, I am delighted to see that my flexibility and strength has improved a lot! I will definitely keep working on it. I hope that I could do more difficult postures later.

“Do what you like, like what you do”. I am happy that I am now doing what I like, and I have been trying my very best!
This is a children’s book that I read recently. It is written by Judi Barrett and illustrated by Ron Barrett. The story is about two children, Henry and his sister, who listen to their grandfather tell the story of the town of Chewandswallow. In Chewandswallow, no food stores can be found as people don’t need any. The sky supplies all the food that people could possibly want. The weather come three times a day, at breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and it is always food and beverages. The rain is juice and soup, the snow is mashed potatoes, and the wind brings hamburgers. When the townspeople go outside, they carry their eating utensils and napkins with them. In this way they would always be prepared for any kind of weather. Isn’t it interesting? I think the only disadvantage of living in Chewandswallow is that one cannot choose what to eat for each meal. Therefore, don’t move to that town if you are picky about food!

I am sure that some of you may have watched the movie version of the book in the cinema. However, I still think it is worthwhile to read the book version. This might give you a different feeling of the story.